

TAMBO RAMBLER

Bruthen and District Newspaper
Produced by Bruthen and District Citizens Association

March

2026

NUMBER 316

Blues go off at Bruthen Inn



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.



Meet The Team



03 5155 3133

1/521 Esplanade, Lakes Entrance VIC 3909

shoresidere.com.au

admin@shoresidere.com.au

Blues success for Bruthen

Another successful and exciting Blues Inn Bruthen was held over the weekend of 20-22 February. As your correspondent had important family business in Canberra until the Sunday session, I tasked my friends with providing their thoughts, so it's a bit of a potted wrap-up. Friday night's review from Maz Kelly follows:

People-watching on the Blues Inn Bruthen weekend is fun to do.

As new faces come through the door I like to play, performer or punter.

Performers usually walk with purpose.

Each one expressing gratitude for bringing them our way. I was right with my first pick, and wow did she let us know she was there!

Nicole Nehemia tore open the weekend with her powerhouse voice along with the sonic energy of Safari Motel. If you came to dance, you were in for a treat.

The Southbound Snake Charmers returned to Bruthen with all the raw rockin' riffs promised. The groovers were groovin' as the cigar box guitar was smokin'. What an awesome start to the weekend and they could be heard in Wiseleigh! Maz K

The George McFloyd Blues Band entertained the Saturday afternoon crowd with their down and dirty classic Blues sound. With sax and harmonica adding to the guitars and drums they really delighted fans of traditional blues.

The Heavy Kicks opened the Saturday night line-up, with shades of Pink Floyd and Dire Straits, combining great compositions and excellent covers; they were very tight.

Cam Walter and his band, who have recently returned from placing fifth at the International Blues Competition, were exceptional and brought rock-star energy on Saturday night. "He was tops and the dancefloor was full." (Jenny Cox).

Brett Wood and band showcased their raw and gritty Texas Blues sound with ripping guitar, Pete Murray-esque vocals and a varied mix of genres. I got there in time for the second artist on the Sunday afternoon session as it started earlier than advertised. Josh Batten was awesome by all accounts. Extremely talented, with a fresh new approach, and his own material, bringing the Blues to the modern age. The audience was engrossed. He spoilt the crowd with his electric/acoustic custom Cole Clarke guitar built by legend Lloyd Spiegel.

Aaron Pollock on his first visit here sang old-fashioned standard blues covers and originals, with twangy finger-pickin' guitar. Heartfelt vocals. From his Delta Hotel and his new album (his 11th at the young age of 29), he sang all originals. Andrew Farrell Piano Wizard opened in a smoky club style with a voice reminiscent of Joe Cocker. The piano really rocked on the second song with cool honkytonk cranking - a Gregg Allman tune. His

husky voice really lent itself to his next song - I wish I was in New Orleans, by Tom Waits. Next up was one of my favourites, Dixie Chicken by Little Feat. Pink Floyd's Dark Side of the Moon was excellent and the punters couldn't resist the dancefloor. His deep resonant voice flowed into Wish You Were Here. The Box Tops The Letter, familiar from Joe Cocker's version, segued into With A Little Help From My Friends. He finished up with two fan favourites- Boppin' the Blues, and Walking in Memphis by Bruce Springsteen.

The last band had everyone up dancing too. Kathleen Halloran and Band brought a full-on rockin' blues style. They're all well-known musos. Kathleen is a singer-songwriter and composer as well as playing fabulous shredding guitar for the likes of Kate Cerebrano and Jimi Hocking. Her drummer and bass player are also ranked two of the best in Australia. The bass player also played with the Brett Wood band last night. They opened with a blazing instrumental. She swapped guitars for different styles. Their Stevie Ray Vaughan cover had everyone up dancing and they stayed up. A mix of soulful and rocking originals and covers ended the festival with a joyous bang.

Pamela B.

Thanks to Stretch and the crew, Mikey at Half Brothers Booking for a varied and entertaining lineup and master photographer Sean Clohesy for the use of his fantastic shots of all the action.

Below: Cam Walter impresses the appreciative crowd!



Why We're Doing the Shitbox Rally

Help us raise \$5,000 for Cancer Research with Box Rallies

The chilli bombs

Lesley Czulowski & Jeff Wagstaff are fundraising for the Cancer Council

Shitbox Rally 2026 Winter is not a race, rather a challenge to achieve the unthinkable... To drive cars worth just \$1,500 across Australia via some of its most formidable roads, all in the name of charity



Scan the QR code to donate



Why we are rallying

We're thrilled to announce that we're taking part in Shitbox Rally 2026 - Winter! We'll be hitting the road in our \$1,500-or-less Shitbox, driving from Mildura to Townsville on an unforgettable 7-day adventure. It's not just about the drive—it's about making a real difference in the fight against cancer.

Every participating team is required to raise a minimum of \$5,000. Every dollar raised goes directly to Cancer Council and helps fund vital cancer research, which is why we're doing everything we can to hit our goal. Your support, whether big or small, will have a real impact.

Wag and Lesley are excited to be taking part in the Shitbox Rally, driving our car, **"The Chili Bomb."** We're doing this in honour of our family and friends who have been affected by cancer.

The Shitbox Rally Winter 2026 is a 7 day journey from Mildura to Townsville, with around 70% of the route on unsealed roads. Highlights include the Flinders Ranges, the Birdsville Track, and the Gulf of Carpentaria.

The Shitbox Rally is the largest community led fundraiser for the Cancer Council. Each team must raise a minimum of \$5,000, with all funds going directly to support this vital cause. Fundraising is the toughest part, so any donation is truly appreciated.

Thank you to the amazing Bruthen Community who supported the fun-filled Triva Night in Bruthen on February 7. We raised over \$1700.



Plant of the Month Rosella (Hibiscus Sabdariffa)

An annual hardy shrub 1-2m tall. Plant in full sun with well drained soil. Has dark green red tinged leaves with five petal yellow flowers with dark red centres. Once flowers are finished red calyces form around the seed capsules.

Medicinal uses

The flowers and calyces are used as a tea. Allow to brew for around 5 minutes.

Helps to relieve coughs and reduce cholesterol and fluid retention. Can assist to strengthen the stomach and nervous system. It is also an aphrodisiac.

Culinary uses

Rosella jam is made from the flowers and fruit. The calyces can be used in salads or eaten raw.



Darren Chester

Putting Locals First

#lovegippsland



THE NATIONALS for Gippsland

www.darrenchester.com.au

Authorized by Darren Chester MP, Nationals Party of Australia, Level 1, 89-91 Raymond Street, Sale VIC 3850



DANIEL CALABRO New Homes - Renovations - Extensions

Mob. 0407 524 256 calabrobuiders@aussiebb.com.au

REGISTERED Building Practitioner

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.

Bruthen Arts and Events 2026

We're excited to return with another year of community events in 2026. We've secured two grants from the Small Regional Presenters Program, a Victorian Government initiative delivered through Regional Arts Victoria, supporting the BMX Trick Bike Show and the Cinderella Show.

Program Dates of events for 2026.

Wednesday April 22nd – RAV - Scott's BMX Trick Bike show for kids will be held at Bruthen Primary School.

Saturday May 16th Cinderella Show

A witty, one-woman cabaret-style performance inspired by modern dating and the ups and downs of navigating Tinder. Told with humour, honesty, and music, the show explores relationships, resilience, and the realities of contemporary romance. Designed as a fun "girls' night out," the event is planned as a dinner show with dancing, creating a lively and social evening for the community.

Thursday May 21st 10:30am Australia's Biggest Morning Tea

Join us for Australia's Biggest Morning Tea and enjoy a cuppa, some delicious treats, and great company while supporting a cause that touches us all. This much loved community event raises vital funds for the Cancer Council to support cancer research, prevention, and support services. Whether you come along with friends or meet new faces, every cup shared helps make a difference for Australians affected by cancer. This event is also supporting the Shitbox Rally event.

Saturday June 20th - Medieval Winter Fire Festival – is back again this year

Step back in time and warm up winter at the Bruthen Medieval Winter Fire Festival. This atmospheric community celebration will bring together fire, music, storytelling, and medieval inspired fun in the heart of Bruthen. Expect crackling fires, vibrant entertainment, and a shared feast of sights and sounds as we gather to celebrate winter, history, and community spirit.

More to come in the second half of the year:

18–20 September – Mixed Bag Art Exhibition (Arts Weekend, including a possible writers' workshop)

Saturday 17 October (TBC) – Bruthen's Got Talent

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEERING ?

We are always looking for people to help out when we run our events.

If you're interested in getting involved, please get in touch with Lesley at lesleycz@westnet.com.au.

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

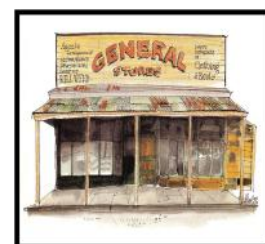
Courtesy bus operates Wed, Fri, Sat nights only

For enquires or bookings contact Bruthen Inn Hotel.

Cheers and beers, Stretch

Phone (03) 51575201

**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

BRUTHEN RECREATION RESERVE

Notice is given of a PUBLIC MEETING

To be held in the Club Rooms at the Bruthen Recreation Reserve, 6 Bruthen Nowa Nowa Road, Bruthen, on **Monday April 13, 2026 commencing at 6:30pm.**

The purpose of the meeting is to nominate no less than three (3), nor more than nine (9) persons as the Bruthen Recreation Reserve Committee of Management (BRRCoM) for a term of three years. The current Committee's term will expire on 28th April 2026. The CoM are appointed by DEECA to run the Bruthen Recreation Reserve and Bruthen Caravan Park (pictured).



All positions will be declared open and nominations will be accepted prior to or on the night. Nominations are sought from individuals from a wide variety of backgrounds.

Nominees are sought for the positions of:

- Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer (can combine Secretary/Treasurer),
- Tenant Club Reps (Cricket, Football & Netball) and
- General Committee representatives.

All positions elected may work across a variety of Recreation Reserve projects. For further enquiries please contact Secretary Brenda Streeter on 0428 385 375. All attendees will have their attendance on the night registered. For expressions of interest in attending the election (so we can get numbers and spacing right), please register your interest to: Committee.RecReserveBruthen@gmail.com. If you wish to stand for a position – please email the listed address for more information.

So you have an idea of annual time commitments to this task – many issues can be sorted out via informal meetings and emails; however, five meetings (excluding the election) are held during the year, on the second Monday of May, July, September, November and February and last for about one and a half hours (some meetings way less). Make a difference to your community and volunteer for a committee position on one of Bruthen's key public assets.

Come along for arts on Friday nights

Friday nights are continuing to be a relaxed and friendly meeting place for Bruthen Artists.

Members share their skills while working on mainly painting or pottery. On recent Friday nights members have demonstrated different skills to the group. For example, how to paint an abstract acrylic background. Friday (Feb 20) how to cut stencils was demonstrated. If you have a skill you would be willing to share, please let us know.

For just \$10 to join and \$2 per night, members have free access to our many paints, clay and equipment, while stocks last. Friday evening from 5pm till around 7 pm during daylight savings. A new time will be decided in the winter. Maybe Saturday or Sunday afternoon? New members are always welcome.

In Term Four last year we held a successful watercolour classes over four weeks with teacher Geordie Webb. If members would like to present classes, or know anyone who does please let us know. We will negotiate the price & times with the teacher and advertise the classes. If enough people enrol (usually around 8) then the class can happen.

Our pottery area is progressing. The shed has been ordered and plans are in place for the kiln and wheels to be stored therein. Once the kiln is in operation, we have a lot of members interested in pottery, both hand building and the kiln.

On Friday, March 6th, collective members Joy and Marg will be having the opening of their art exhibition at the Village Makers in Bruthen. We welcome all members to the opening night at 5.30 for nibbles and bubbles. (Bring some nibbles if you feel so inclined). We'll supply the bubbles. Let Marg or Joy know (so we can book a table) if you'd like to join us after at the Bullant for dinner around 7pm. The exhibition continues throughout March. (Thurs to Sundays).

It would be great so see some more new faces on Friday.

Cheers, Marg

Dancers - no experience required

You may have seen us performing a Wuthering Heights dance, or possibly turning a circular dance at the Medieval Festival last year. We are a group of (mainly) inexperienced dancers looking for any extra people to join us for two upcoming productions to be held in the Bruthen Hall in May. We will have our first "practice" at the hall on March 8th, at 3pm.

Please come along if you would like to join in - it's fun, social and passes as exercise, see you there!

BRUTHEN SENIORS PRESENTS

MARCH-JUNE 2026 SENIOR'S EVENT SCHEDULE



WEDNESDAY
4TH
MARCH

BRUTHEN BOWLS CLUB - Address: 3 Seehusen Ave, Bruthen

Join us for a delightful Seniors Lunch at the Bowls Club, commencing at 12:30 PM!

Enjoy a delicious meal and great company in a friendly atmosphere.

WEDNESDAY
18TH
MARCH

OFF THE WHARF CAFE - Address: 39 Bullock Island Rd, Lakes Entrance 12:30PM

Join us for a relaxed morning/afternoon at the beautiful Lakes Entrance waterfront. To ensure easy attendance for everyone, we are pleased to offer a convenient bus service running directly from Bruthen.

WEDNESDAY
1ST
APRIL

BRUTHEN BOWLS CLUB - Address: 3 Seehusen Ave, Bruthen

Join us for a delightful Seniors Lunch at the Bowls Club, commencing at 12:30 PM!

Enjoy a delicious meal and great company in a friendly atmosphere.

WEDNESDAY
15TH
APRIL

BUCHAN CAVES HOTEL - Address: Caves Hotel, 49 Main Rd, Buchan

Nestled in the breathtaking Buchan Valley, Buchan Caves Hotel is steeped in history and full of character. 12:30 PM

WEDNESDAY
6TH
MAY

BRUTHEN BOWLS CLUB - Address: 3 Seehusen Ave, Bruthen

Join us for a delightful Seniors Lunch at the Bowls Club, commencing at 12:30 PM!

Enjoy a delicious meal and great company in a friendly atmosphere.

WEDNESDAY
20TH
MAY

PAYNESVILLE MOTOR CRUISER CLUB - Address: 80 Slip Rd, Paynesville 12:30PM

Experience absolute waterfront dining at Paynesville Motor Cruiser Club, the town's premier spot for stunning views and a relaxed atmosphere.

WEDNESDAY
20TH
JUNE

BRUTHEN BOWLS CLUB - Address: 3 Seehusen Ave, Bruthen 12:30PM

WEDNESDAY
20TH
JUNE

NICHOLSON HOTEL - Address: 929 Princes Hwy, Nicholson 12:30PM

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



Bruthen Discount Pharmacy

Caring for Our Local Community

- Prescriptions • Health Checks • Meds Check
- NDSS • Webster Packing
- Vaccination & Injection Services • Health & Beauty Ranges
- Local Delivery

Mon-Fri: 8:30am-5pm | Sat: 9am-12pm

60 Main Street, Bruthen

Ph: 5157 5224 Email: bruthenpharmacy@outlook.com

My Pet Story - River

G'day everyone!

My name is River. I am a red/brown Australian Kelpie. About 2 years ago, I was adopted by a couple of people, which resulted in a move from Canberra to East Gippsland. After a small operation, a decision was made to name me River. My family reckon I go from rapid to calm. Well, I am generally calm at the end of the day, when the work is done!

One of the highlights of moving to Victoria was seeing the ocean for the first time at Lakes Entrance. Initially, I was pretty freaked out by all that water. Now I love it. My family often take me to the lake or beach. I have even mastered the stand-up paddle board. The best part is what happens after, a ball throw and play in the water.

Last year, the three of us headed off on an adventure. It was great! We travelled as far as Alice Springs in the Northern Territory and then explored South Australia. Whilst we were touring, I kept hearing people say 'who's a good boy?' I looked everywhere for that good boy!

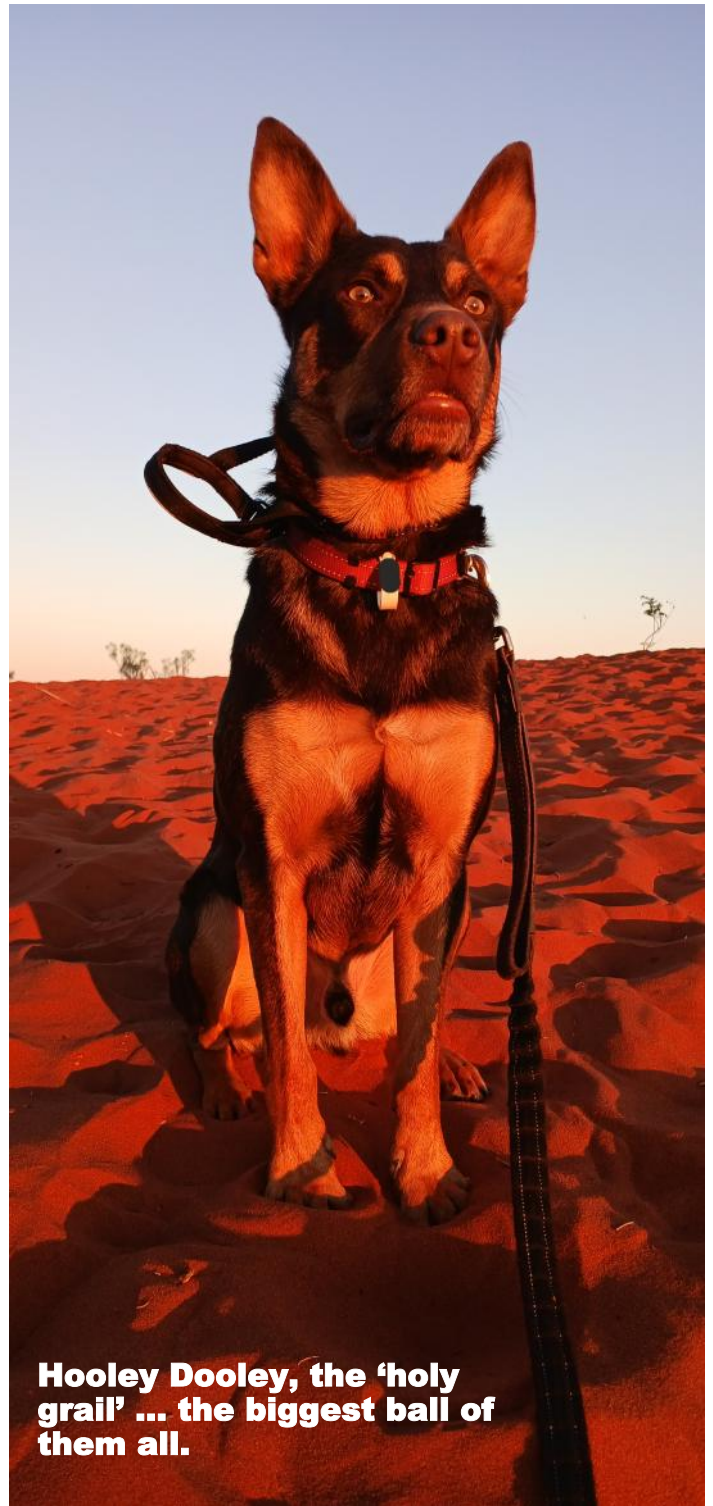
We met many friendly people along the way. A few that were travelling like us, remembered my name, shouting out 'G'day River' when we arrived at places like Orroroo, Coober Pedy, and Yulara. I could not wipe the smile off my face, and let them know I was pleased to see them with a wag of my tail and a lick or two.

At Yulara camping park, we would walk up the hill to watch the sun set over the big rock, called Uluru. While everyone watched Uluru, I kept my eye on that big orange ball in the sky. It moved slowly towards the horizon, getting bigger. I was hoping someone would throw it my way!

Well, that is a bit of info about me. I look forward to meeting you on our walks around Bruthen.

Contributed by Fiona, Daz, and River.

Right: River watching the sun set at Yulara, NT.



Hooley Dooley, the 'holy grail' ... the biggest ball of them all.

Saint Matthew's Anglican Church Bruthen

Op Shop Volunteers – Work a full day or a half day. Make new friends. If you are interested contact the Op Shop.

St Columb's, Swan Reach – Celebrates its 120th Anniversary on Sunday May 3, 2026. Do you have a connection with this church? Please note the date in your diary and join the festivities. All welcome.

Discussion Group – A discussion group will commence at St Columb's Swan Reach on Wednesday 11 March at 6pm. Come along and enjoy the interaction and share a light evening meal.

Bird of the Month: Black-Faced Cuckoo-Shrike

Black-faced Cuckoo-shrikes are attractive large and slender birds with white underparts, blue-grey back, wings and tail and a distinctive black face and throat, hence their name. Interestingly, Cuckoo-shrikes are neither cuckoos nor shrikes, but are called so because their feathers have similar patterns to those of cuckoos and their beak shape resembles the beak of shrikes.

The Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike is widespread and common in many forested and wooded habitats (except rainforests), farmlands and urban areas. Outside of breeding season, large family groups and flocks of up to a hundred birds form. They feed on insects and other invertebrates, which can be caught in the air, taken from foliage or caught on the ground. As well as insects, some fruits and seeds are also eaten.

Their flight is unusual. They flap their wings a few times then glide with wings at their side for a couple of seconds. During this glide, the bird loses elevation until it flaps again, giving the flight a characteristic undulating pattern. Upon landing, they have a curious habit of shuffling of their wings in an exaggerated manner, a characteristic that is reflected in the nickname "Shufflewing". The most often heard call of the Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike is a soft churring, sometimes describe as a warbling "Creearch"

They usually have the same partner each year and use the same territories year after year. The breeding season is from August to February with some variation in more arid areas. The nest is remarkably small for the size of the bird. It is a shallow saucer of sticks and bark, bound together with cobwebs. Both parent birds construct the nest and care for the young birds. The nestling period is 21 days. Young birds resemble adults except the black facial mask is reduced to a black eye stripe.

With a widespread and secure population status, the Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike is not considered threatened at state or national levels. However, the species may be vulnerable to habitat degradation, particularly the removal of mature trees used for nesting and foraging. Urban development, large-scale agriculture and increased fire frequency can impact availability of suitable habitat. Prolonged



drought and climate variability may affect insect prey availability in some regions. General habitat conservation initiatives such as retention of mature trees, planting native vegetation and promotion of insect-rich environments benefit the species. Its tolerance of human-altered landscapes sees it respond well to urban wildlife conservation efforts.

Birdlife East Gippsland welcomes visitors and newcomers

Birdlife East Gippsland meets weekly from 9am to 12pm on most Mondays, and on the second Sunday of each month. 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. If unsure, please check via Birdlife East Gippsland Facebook page or email.

eastgippsland@birdlife.org.au

March 2026 Outings Schedule.

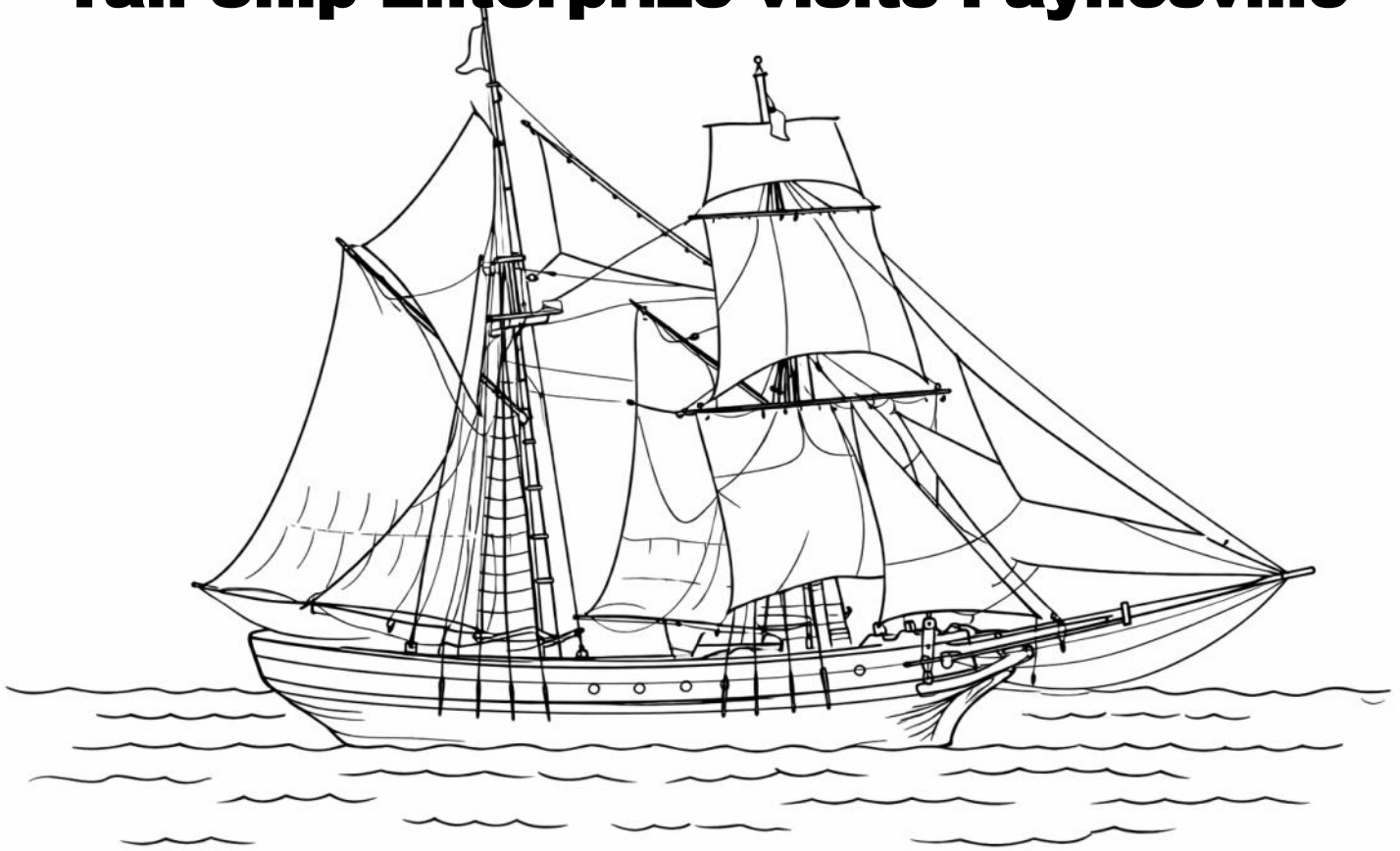
DATE	LOCATION	9AM MEETING PLACE
Monday March 2nd	Lonely Bay.	Burnt Bridge Rd. off Princes Hwy near Cottage Ln.
Sunday March 8th	Macleod Morass.	Entrance Gate, Bosworth Rd. Bairnsdale
Monday March 16th	Newlands Arm, Dinni Biraack Walk.	85 Birrells Rd. Newlands Arm
March 22-27th	BLEG Autumn Camp.	Chiltern.
March 30th	Oriental Claims/Cassilis Rec Reserve	Oriental Claims Car Park, off Gt. Alpine Rd, Omeo

S	S	O	N	H	C	Q	S	K	E	B	S	P	F	D
M	Y	C	U	I	E	D	D	A	R	Q	E	F	S	W
A	Y	L	H	H	A	R	E	R	I	V	E	R	H	E
S	L	D	Z	O	E	T	Q	F	Y	L	E	P	R	R
T	J	P	S	B	O	E	P	L	G	Q	O	O	N	N
K	G	V	M	N	K	N	G	A	S	I	F	R	O	D
W	C	I	R	Z	E	I	E	H	C	C	L	O	I	V
O	T	E	U	W	E	N	I	R	T	A	F	T	T	C
B	T	J	D	J	L	P	E	M	I	T	I	R	A	M
S	Y	I	Z	U	W	R	I	G	G	I	N	G	G	O
L	M	R	Y	R	W	F	S	B	L	I	A	S	I	C
V	T	P	I	C	O	M	P	A	S	S	H	Z	V	C
G	B	G	V	K	G	D	E	P	A	D	D	Z	A	W
K	H	H	H	D	L	Y	Y	F	T	J	S	I	N	W
T	L	E	G	L	C	V	L	I	W	E	L	N	J	A
AFT FORE					BOW HULL					CAPTAIN KEEL				
NAVIGATION STERN					RIGGING TIMBER					SAIL				
										COMPASS MARITIME				
										SCHOONER				
										DECK MAST				
										SHIPWRIGHT				

A Bit of Terminology
Aft: The after (or rear) part of a ship or a location towards the stern.
Bow: The fore end of a vessel. Also called prow.
Fore: The forward part of a ship or a position towards the bow.
Gunwale: Upper edge or topmost planking of the side of a ship or boat. Was also called *gunnel*.
Hemp: Tough, coarse fibres of the cannabis plant, used to make cordage or rope. Also used in creating oakum.
Hold: A large compartment below decks for the stowing of cargo and stores.
Hull: The main body of a ship excluding the masts, rigging and internal fittings.
Jute: The fibre obtained from either of two Asian plants (*Corchorus capsularis* or *Colitorius*) used for cordage and to create oakum.

Keel: The lowest and most important timber of a wooden ship to which the stern, sternpost and ribs are attached.
Oakum: Tarred hemp, flax or jute fibres used for caulking the seams on the decks and sides of wooden ships. Often produced by picking apart old ropes.
Rigging: All the ropes, wires or chains used to support the masts and yards (horizontal spars) and for hoisting, lowering or trimming sails.
Schooner: A vessel rigged with fore-and-aft sails on two or more masts. A topsail schooner sets one to three square sails on the foremast as well.
Square-rigged: Fitted with square sails as the principal sails.
Shipwright: A carpenter who builds and launches wooden vessels. A shipwright would often also be the designer of the ship.
Stern: The rear part of a ship or boat.

Tall Ship Enterprize visits Paynesville



The Paynesville community hosted a fabulous weekend on Saturday 28th February and Sunday 1st March with its Classic Boat Rally. There were so many varied events and attractions, with one of the highlights being the visit by the tall ship Enterprize which had sailed down from Melbourne.

The Enterprize is an all-timber, two-masted topsail schooner, based at Docklands in Melbourne. She was constructed as a replica of a coastal trading ship that was built in Hobart, Tasmania in 1830. In those days, most bulk cargo was transported by sea, and the original Enterprize would have carried food, coal, building materials and livestock such as sheep and cattle. She was eventually taken off the shipping register in 1847 after being shipwrecked on the bar of the Richmond River in northern New South Wales.

Construction of the new Enterprize began in 1991 and she was launched in 1997. The plan was to build her as close to the original as possible. This involved using Australian and New Zealand timbers, much of it recycled: for example, hundred-year old ironbark from old wharves at Echuca, and jarrah floor timbers salvaged from Station Pier in Melbourne. The great sails are hand-sewn from flax cloth that came from Scotland. And all the complicated rigging, that these days would be made from modern materials such as stainless steel wire and synthetic rope, is made from fibre hemp imported from the Netherlands and sealed with coatings of pine tar.

Below deck things are a little more modern, with bedding and living quarters for the crew and passengers. It also has an engine room and up-to-date electronic equipment for navigation ... and any craft these days must meet modern-day safety requirements.

This impressive craft and its operations are managed by the Enterprize Ship Trust, a not-for-profit organisation run mostly by volunteers. It offers a range of experiences for primary and secondary school students as well as other members of the public, helping to preserve knowledge of traditional sailing methods and shipbuilding and Australian maritime history.

It was clear that those locals and visitors who nabbed a spot on one of the Enterprize's hour-long cruises on the waters around Paynesville had a truly memorable experience.

Target Words

H	W	R
K	E	S
C	P	I

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?

WILDLIFE EMERGENCY CONTACTS (2026)

Wildlife Victoria – emergencies 0384 007 300 24 hour emergency response. They will refer you to an appropriate carer.

The following are also willing to help:

Local Wildlife Carers

Kate 0423 088 585 (Mossiface). Possums/wombats/wallabies/lizards/echidnas. No birds/foxes or bats.

Jo-Lee 0401 293 375 (Metung). Birds/possums.

Jade - Wombat Wisdom, 0473 446 161 (Bairnsdale).

Wombats & all other wildlife.

Nikki 0403 688 761 (Metung). Birds/possums/kangaroos/wallabies.

Suzie 0447 470 905 (Waterholes). Kangaroos/Koalas

Wendy 0423 712 397 (Wy Yung). Birds of prey

Main Street Vet Clinic – 5152 6666. Will take and refer on to local carer or if necessary – euthanise.

SNAKES:

Phil 0448 684 368 (Bairnsdale). A snake catcher NOT carer but will relocate if found around house or on road.

Seasonal Harvest Recipe Ratatouille (serves 4)

Ingredients:

- 2 eggplants
- 4 zucchinis
- 2 yellow capsicums
- 2 red capsicums
- 2 onions
- 2 cloves of garlic
- 2 bay leaves
- Salt and pepper to taste
- 150ml of olive oil.
- 3 large tomatoes, peeled and roughly chopped
- ½ cup of fresh basil leaves or 1-2 tsp dried basil
- ½ cup of fresh parsley or 1-2 tsp dried parsley

Method

Roughly chop the eggplants and zucchinis, deseed and chop the capsicums. Slice the onions and finely chop or crush the garlic. Heat the oil in a large saucepan, add the onions and cook over low heat, stirring occasionally for 5 minutes, or until softened. Add the garlic and cook, stirring frequently for a further 2 minutes.

Add the eggplants, zucchinis and capsicums. Increase the heat to medium and cook, stirring occasionally, for several minutes. Add the fresh or dried herbs, reduce the heat, cover and simmer gently for 40 minutes.

Stir in the chopped tomatoes and season to taste with salt and pepper. Re-cover the saucepan and simmer gently for 10-15 minutes.

Serve warm or cold, with a sprinkle of Parmesan cheese over the top.

Ratatouille can be served as a vegetable side dish or as a main dish with pasta, rice or couscous.

Optional extras:

Add cubed haloumi or feta cheese with the chopped tomatoes, stir through the vegetables and simmer for the final 10-15 minutes.

Add fresh or dried chilli to taste, or a touch of chilli paste/jam. Sprinkle Lebanese Za'atar spice over the ratatouille to add a tangy, peppery bite.

Include other seasonal Mediterranean vegetables.



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.

Phone/Fax (03) 5157 5209



AED

IN AN EMERGENCY



AED

Bruthen has Heart Start Defibrillators

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 6m³ & 10m³, Bobcat, Excavator,
Post Hole Boring, Trenching, Slashing.
SUPPLIERS OF SAND, SOIL & MULCH



WE NOW SELL CHOOK PELLETS

ALL AREAS



76 Main St, Bruthen
M: 0429 944 297



C13151

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

Jan 7th & 21st

Feb 4th & 18th

Mar 4th & 18th

Apr 1st, 15th & 29th

May 13th & 27th

Jun 10th & 24th

Phone 5153 9500 with
any queries about
the service.



Bruthen Health Services What's available

Opening times

Mondays & Wednesdays, 8.30 am – 12.30 pm

GP Clinic

Wednesdays – by appointment only

To book, call **5155 8300** and select option 1.

Please let our Customer Service team know you'd like your appointment in Bruthen.

Community Health Nurse

Mondays & Wednesdays

- \$12 per consultation
- \$6 concession

No one will be turned away if payment is difficult.
Bookings via **5155 8300**, option 1.

Pathology Collection

Mondays & Wednesdays, 8.30 – 11.00 am
Nurse fees apply.

Room & Bus Hire

All bookings are managed by our Customer Service team. Call **5155 8300**.

These services are available to Bruthen and district residents.

For more information about Gippsland Lakes Complete Health and our full range of services, visit glch.org.au or find us on social media.



Tim BULL MP MEMBER FOR GIPPSLAND EAST

*Servicing Bruthen and
district community.*



143 Main Street, Bairnsdale VIC 3875

03 5152 3491

tim.bull@parliament.vic.gov.au

Funded from Parliamentary Budget

TAMBO RAMBLER

Battle of the Bands takes over Hooked on Lakes

Hooked on Lakes Seafood & Fishing Festival is taking it next level with their music offering on Sunday 8 March 2026, with an epic Battle of the Bands & Buskers showdown leading into indie-folk crowd favourite headliner, the Pierce Brothers.

From 2-6pm, Battle of the Bands and Battle of the Buskers will take over the Hooked On Lakes stage for an amazing afternoon of live music giving emerging talent the chance to shine. Time slots are available for 12 Bands and 10 Buskers from across the Gippsland region. Prizes on offer include two PA Systems valued at more than \$2000 (donated by Fitzpatricks Entertainment).

Winners of the Battle of the Bands and Battle of the Buskers is by public vote on the day so artists will need to rally fans, friends and family to pop down to cheer and vote on the day. The band and busker with the most votes will win.

If that's not enough, the chance to see the Pierce Brothers again in concert for FREE will have the crowds flocking back to Hooked on Lakes 2026. The renowned band had so much fun last year they jumped on the chance to return and bring along their families for a fun weekend of fishing & seafood - "we are stoked to be back playing Hooked On Lakes at the foreshore reserve overlooking the epic Gippsland Lakes and Ninety Mile beach - it's one of the best stage views we've experienced and the local crowd were incredible!" reflects Patrick Pierce, one half of the dynamic duo.

Hooked on Lakes is based at the Lakes Entrance Foreshore Reserve, and the FREE event will run from 11am till 4pm, with live music, food trucks and drinks continuing through until 8pm.

Other activities at Hooked on Lakes 2026 include:

- Shuttle bus tours to LEFCOL;
- Seafood cooking demos;
- Fish filleting and preparation tips from local co-op LEFCOL;
- Food stands selling seafood including Mitchelson Fisheries;
- Free 'Come and Try' fishing clinics for kids run by Fishcare;
- Kids Zone filled with fun activities for youngsters including fish themed craft activities, story time and much more with the Fisheries education team;
- Fishing and outdoor swap-meet, where you can donate, trade or pick up recycled fishing and outdoor equipment;
- Aquaculture Hub to learn more about the Victorian aquaculture industry with free samples of Victorian-grown produce;
- Women in Recreational Fishing and Boating (WIRFAB) network leaders providing a range of fishing and boating tips;
- Stalls with representatives from Seafood Industry Victoria, Leftrade, AFMA; and
- OzFish running aquatic ecology sessions.

Tambo Rambler Advertising Costs

BLACK AND WHITE Advert Options

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

COLOUR Advert Option 1: Full Page

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

COLOUR Advert Option 2: Half Page

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

COLOUR Advert Option 3: Quarter Page Full Colour Promotional Package

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

Closing date for April issue is March 25.

Please send your articles by e-mail only to:
tamborambler@gmail.com

(Word, Publisher, JPG or PNG format with photos please
PDF format will also be accepted.)

Tambo Rambler is distributed across East Gippsland via email and on the web page at

<https://bruthendistrict.org.au/tambo-rambler/>

We also distribute to Government representatives, Bairnsdale Library, Victorian State Library, and local Historical Societies

Hard copies are available in Bruthen at the P.O, General Store, Oppe Shoppe, Bakery, Bruthen 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.



