

TAMBO RAMBLER

Bruthen and District Newspaper
Produced by Bruthen and District Citizens Association

June

2026

NUMBER 319

Our Biggest Morning Tea



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





Morning Tea Success

Op shops had been scoured for cups and saucers, cakes baked, Marg Pearson's donated paintings were hung, tables set, sandwiches made.

And people came!

Volunteers were kept busy in the kitchen whilst the tea ladies went round the tables keeping the cups full.

Lesley gave a talk about this being a fund raiser for Cancer research and about her and Waggs planned Shit Box Car Rally.

Then came the models wearing outfits from Bruthen Op Shop. We must have done ok going by the cheers and applause!

Lay preacher Lili Antonov from Bruthen Bizarre blessed the car which will be driven to Mildura to join others in the rally through the Outback to Townsville. A big thank you to the Bruthen Community and everyone who helped us with the Biggest Morning tea last week. We raised just over \$1,500 with raffles, silent auction and entry fees, bringing our total now just over \$8,000. We have a few days to go till we take off. All funding has gone directly to the Cancer Council.

Thanks to everyone who came and all the volunteers who made it possible.

It was fun!

Kath G & Lesley Czulowski

CWA visits Bruthen

Among the many guests at the highly successful Biggest Morning Tea in Bruthen was a group from the Country Women's Association of Victoria East Gippsland Group, comprising members from the Bairnsdale, Paynesville and Orbost groups.

The CWA of Victoria was formed in March 1928 during the developing Great Depression with the aim of supporting and advocating for women, children and families right across Victoria. It has grown enormously, now having more than 5,000 members, and has continued to engage in a broad variety of philanthropic activities and advocacy, as well as very creative pursuits, for nearly one hundred years. The focus, activities and directions of each member group are very much decided at the local level. Groups are collaborative and inclusive, developing friendships and connections across generations and varied backgrounds.

It was suggested on the day that women in the Bruthen area might be interested in setting up their own local group. If such were the case the East Gippsland group would very happily help in any way. It's worth checking out their Facebook page (CWA of Victoria East Gippsland Group) or the website cwaofvic.org.au.

Picture Left.

Bruthen Primary welcomes new acting Principal



It has been a wonderful start to the term at Bruthen Primary School as we warmly welcome Acting Principal Emily Forbes to the school community.

Returning to Bruthen PS in the role of Acting Principal has been a special full-circle moment for Emily, who attended the school herself as a child.

Emily is passionate about teaching and learning, student wellbeing, and building positive relationships with students, staff and families. Since beginning in the role, she has enjoyed getting to know the students and community and has appreciated the warm and welcoming feel of the school.

"Bruthen Primary School has always held a special place for me," Emily shared.

"It's lovely to return and now be part of supporting the next generation of students in such a caring and connected community."

Bruthen PS continues to provide students with a range of learning opportunities both inside and outside the classroom, with a strong focus on helping every child grow in confidence, wellbeing and learning. Emily is looking forward to working alongside students, staff and families and becoming part of the wider Bruthen community once again.



Bruthen Discount Pharmacy

~Caring for Our Local Community~

- Prescriptions • Health Checks • Meds Check
- Moogoo • NDSS • Webster Packing
- Vaccination & Injection Services • Health & Beauty Ranges
- Local Delivery • **Sleep Apnoea Services (new!)**

⌚ Mon-Fri: 8:30am-5pm | Sat: 9am-12pm

60 Main Street, Bruthen

Ph: 5157 5224 Email: bruthenpharmacy@outlook.com





Tinderella Shines

The members of Bruthen Arts and Events work hard to put on shows in Bruthen.

Behind the scenes is the setting up of the hall, moving tables and chairs, hanging drapes, preparing food, setting the tables, and the bar. Plus, advertising and the sale of tickets.

And financial support from Regional Arts, Victoria.

On Saturday, May 16 we enjoyed a comedy/cabaret by a talented artist Alyce Fisher with the title of *Tinderella*.

Most of the audience didn't know what to expect!

We learnt of the eight unique uses of *Tinder*!

Alyce kept us on the edge of our seats wondering what was coming next, very entertaining and funny.

And based on a true story!

Kath G

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 highlights of Winter Festival

Once again we are about to be treated to a month-long festival of music, art, lights, food and culture as the East Gippsland Winter Festival returns. This year it runs from June 19 to July 19, with events spread right across the region from the high country to the coast.

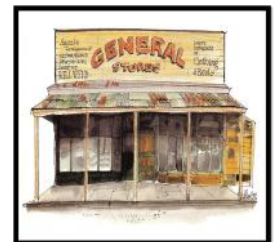
One of the keenly-anticipated events is of course the **Bruthen Medieval Winter Fire Festival** on June 20th, a family-friendly event with knights, flaming sword fights, and a spectacular fire show. The Fire Festival will run from 3 pm to 9 pm (tickets for adults \$15, children under 18 free), while the Main Street gardens will have the **Bruthen Medieval Market** running from 9 am to 4 pm. Along with a terrific array of stalls there will be a **Kids Fantasy Dress Parade**, with prizes for the Best Dressed Kids. The parade starts at 11 am. You can find out more details of these events by checking out the pages of Bruthen Presents and Bruthen and District Neighbourhood House on Facebook.

We are glad to have the East Gippsland Winter Festival as our co-sponsor for this edition of the Rambler. You can access the full program of the Festival at <https://egwinterfest.com.au/>

**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**



EAST GIPPSLAND WINTER FESTIVAL

19 JUNE - 19 JULY, 2026

**IN EAST GIPPSLAND, WINTER ISN'T SOMETHING TO ESCAPE,
IT'S SOMETHING TO CELEBRATE.**

Head east for a month-long festival of luminous art, live music,
long-table feasts, and unforgettable experiences.



Partners

VICTORIA
EVERY BIT DIFFERENT



**EAST
GIPPS
wonder
LAND**

SALTWATER
HOTELS & RESORTS

**METUNG
HOT SPRINGS**

Welcome to Winter: Don't Escape It, Celebrate It!

Winter has officially begun and with less than three weeks until the East Gippsland Winter Festival, it's time to stop procrastinating and start planning an itinerary. Tickets are selling fast and some events have already sold out - so don't delay. The eclectic program has something for every individual, every family and every budget.

Get ready to embrace the chill and celebrate the season! Spanning a full month from 19 June to 19 July, the East Gippsland Winter Festival is packed with over 100 brilliant, celebratory events lighting up the easterly corner of the State, from Bairnsdale to Mallacoota and beyond.

With so much fun packed into the program, we have curated a handful of itineraries to help you navigate the abundance of amazing options. School holiday sorted with our Kids & Family Friendly collection; Art Installations & Exhibitions for the creative and curious, or enjoy a fun night out with Performances & Live Music. Foodies are well catered for with our Food, Wine & Craft Beer events, plus Walks, Wellness, Workshops and more. For those that like a little bit of everything, you can scan through the Free Events or Ticketed Events itineraries until your heart's content.

Festival of Festivals

East Gippsland knows how to celebrate winter and these incredible events highlight just how fun, creative, welcoming and wonderful the region is. Lanterns lit up at night, epic fire dances, huge fire breathing dragon bonfires and illuminated landscapes will surprise and delight even the darkest winter blues.

- Bruthen Medieval Winter Fire Festival 20th June: The Paddock, Bruthen.
- High Country Hooch Scottish Festival 27th June: High Country Hooch Distillery, Glenaladale.
- Metung Winter Festival 27th June: Village Green, Metung.
- Lakes Lights: Gardens of the Galaxy 4th July: Lakes Entrance Foreshore, Lakes Entrance.
- Snowy Steampunk Soiree 18th July: Snowy Rail Bridge, Orbost.
- Tastes of the World at Nicholson Street Mall 18th July: Nicholson Street Mall, Bairnsdale.
- Cann River Winterfest – A Winter Night Out! 18th July: Community & Information Centre, Cann River.

Performance & Live Music

The 2026 program is packed with live music gigs, concerts and performances. Ranging from incredible local musicians, fashion parades, dance performances, comedy shows, adults only theatre, exclusive cinema screenings, Drag Bingo, Scottish bagpipes, Organ and Sax mash-ups, boot-scootin' to a slice of Bollywood!

- Primal: 26th & 27th June: The Forge Theatre, Bairnsdale.
- Pipe Organ, Bagpipes and Saxophone by Candlelight 26th June: Bairnsdale Uniting Church,

Bairnsdale.

- Bollywood Night at Cruiser Club 27th June: The Cruiser Club, Paynesville.
- Todd Cook, Olivia Lay & the Alley Cats Community Choir - Live in Bruthen 3rd July: Mechanics Hall, Bruthen.
- Bruthen Band Hall Bash, Saturday 11th July at the Mechanics Hall Bruthen, featuring four local bands.
- Melbourne International Comedy Festival Roadshow, 11th July: The Forge Theatre, Bairnsdale.
- Becoming (Again & Again): Songs, Stories & Wildness 17th July: Iceworks Studio, Lakes Entrance
- After Dark: The Last Hurrah – featuring 19Twenty, 18th July: Paynesville Hotel, Paynesville
- Wattle Haus Showcase, 18th July: Iceworks Studio, Lakes Entrance
- Sea Wolves Howl, 19th July: The Forge Theatre, Bairnsdale

Food, Wine & Craft Beer

There's no question East Gippsland is abundant with incredible produce, chefs, wine-makers, distillers and brewers! The foodie events this year are selling fast so if you want to experience some of the incredible exclusive experiences happening as a part of the festival you need to act now (tickets available at 1 June).

- Tasting of Vintage East Gippsland Wines. 20th, 21st June: Nicholson River Winery, Nicholson.
- Paddock to Plate, 26th June: Lindenow Farmers Home Hotel (Lindenow Pub), Lindenow.
- Get Cracking: Seafood Boil, 27th June: Paynesville Hotel, Paynesville.
- Tinamba Hotel X Lightfoot Wines Degustation Dinner, 3rd July: Metung Country Club, Metung.
- Food & Fire at Wyanga, 3rd July: Wyanga Park Winery, Lakes Entrance.

CONTINUED PAGE 9



DANIEL CALABRO New Homes - Renovations - Extensions

Mob. 0407 524 256 calabrobuiders@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.

BRUTHEN

July 11

Bruthen Mechanics Hall

4pm till 10.30pm

\$40 per person

Community BBQ

BYO Drinks

Door Prizes For

Best-Dressed Glam-

Funk Punk-Peoples

white
chocolate
diva divine
& da funk

the dusty
minstrel show

the snowy
jammers

short
long way



EAST GIPPSLAND
WINTER FESTIVAL

band hall

BASH

FROM PAGE 7

- Embers & Ales: The Long Night Feast: Sailor's Grave X Paul West, 11th July: Sailors Grave Brewing - Dunetown, Marlo.
- Garden to Ocean: Sodafish X Brown Brothers Winery, 12 July: Sodafish, Lakes Entrance.

Kids & Family Friendly Events

We know how important keeping the kids entertained is - especially over the winter school holidays!. This Itinerary highlights a small selection of the many family friendly events at this year's festival. A large amount of the events listed in the other itineraries are family too - it's one of the things the festival prides itself on, so make sure to look at the program on the Festival website to see just how many there are!

- The Great Alpine Scarecrow Competition, 19th June - 12th July: Swift's Creek & Surrounds.
- Winter Wonderland Christmas Disco (Kids 5-13), 26th June: Slipway, Lakes Entrance.
- School Holiday Lantern Making Workshops, 29th June - 3rd July: Slipway, Lakes Entrance.
- Bush Picnic, Stroll & Art in the Heart of Lake Tyers Beach, 30th June, 7th July: Oneonta. John Ramsdell Memorial Trust, Lake Tyers.
- The Farny Farm, 2nd July: The Forge Theatre, Bairnsdale.
- Disco At The Bistro, 4th July: Buchan Caves Hotel, Buchan.
- Children's Weaving Workshop, 5th July: Swift's Creek Hall, Swift's Creek.
- Kids Pastel Workshop, 11th July: Bairnsdale Neighbourhood House, Bairnsdale.
- Winter Movie Magic, 17th July: Paynesville Football Netball Club, Paynesville.

Walks & Rides

East Gippsland is home to some of the most incredible natural environments. From epic beaches, abundant waterways, mountains, caves, snow covered bushlands and rainforests, it is the perfect place to explore by foot, by bike or by waterway!

- Echo Bend Camping Park - Winter Women's Walk, 22nd - 26th June: Echo Bend Camping Park Glenaladale.
- Mitchell River Womens Packraft, 28th June: Echo Bend Camping Park Glenaladale.
- Walk, Clean Up & Create = Project Interrupt, 6th - 9th July: Slipway Sheds, Lakes Entrance.
- Mystery Ride & Dine, 11th July: Colquhoun Forest, Lakes Entrance.
- Glo Ride Paynesville, 18th July: Gilsenan Reserve, Paynesville.

Wellness Experiences

Make wellness a priority with these extra special classes and experiences. We all know wellness can be hard when we're rugged up for winter hibernation but the events on offer will have you warm in no time!

- Gippsland Jersey Winter Dip 20 June: Slipway, Lakes Entrance.
- Winter Solstice Mini Retreat in Orbost 21 June: Bloom - Orbost Hub, Orbost.

- Kayak To Koho, 21st, 25th, 27th June: Venture Out & Koho Sauna, Lakes Entrance.
- Candlelight Yoga in Paynesville, 28th June, 5th, 12th, 19th July: Swan Cove Yoga, Paynesville.
- Moonlight Mood - Sauna, Plunge, Vibe, 2nd July: Koho Sauna, Lakes Entrance.
- Flow to Italo Disco, 18th July: Johnsonville Town Hall, Johnsonville.

That's just a glimpse into the winter festivities awaiting you! For the full festival program, visit, egwinterfest.com.au, where you can search events by Free or Ticketed, by category, location or dates. Whatever you're into, the East Gippsland Winter Festival has you covered for winter fun. Friendly locals and creative communities invite you to come and experience *How We Winter* in East Gippsland. Round up your crew and book your winter adventures now!

BRUTHEN BOWLS CLUB NEWS

You may have been left wondering about our BIG mid-year raffle, after reading last month's Rambler, when details were omitted. Wonder no longer!!

BIG FIREWOOD RAFFLE

(1st prize: 3 mts; 2nd prize: 2 mts; 3rd prize: bulk bag mill-end), Tickets \$5 each. **Drawn on July 5th, 2026.**

With grateful thanks to Wayne and Clare Morgan, and Fenning Timbers, for their generous donations. There was also an error on the tickets, re: the date for drawing the lucky winners - the correct date is as above. Apologies. And rest assured it will be delivered to the lucky winners.

Another date for your diary is our **Come & Try Day - Sunday, June 14th**. Watch out for posters with all the details, and there will be food! We would love to recruit some new members, and you don't have to be competition-ready (well, not straightaway!!) Coaching and handy hints, as well as bowls, are available.

Our regional primary school competition took place on Tuesday, June 2nd, in Bairnsdale, and we are fortunate to have some very enthusiastic youngsters represent **Bruthen Primary School**.

Our **barefoot bowls** on alternate **Thursday** evenings continue during winter, and are very well-attended. The menu is different every week, always delicious, and is prepared by volunteers. Our bar prices are very reasonable too.

Don't forget our clubroom is also available for any social engagements at a very reasonable price. (*Bruthen Seniors* have lunch here on the first Wednesday of every month). Just contact Len Hooton on 0427 188188, or Don Cameron on 0409 608782 for details.

See us on our active Facebook page, or email (bruthenbowls@gmail.com).

Sunny Saturday Riders

It was surprising to see these three calm and beautiful horses hitched to the trees at the Bullants Nest Just Zap It restaurant on a recent Saturday afternoon. The riders had come directly along the Rail Trail from the Blakk Park Stables at 1306 Tambo Upper Road. The trip had taken just over 40 minutes. These docile and friendly horses are available for trail riding hire. They offer many different experiences such as a 3 day camp and ride this long weekend and a midweek Walk and Trot with a light lunch on Wednesday 10 June for a very reasonable \$25. I was interested to notice the strap-on horseshoes on one of the horses shown in the photo below

Pamela B



Preserved Lemons

(Makes about 1 Litre)

You will need:

- 4-6 lemons (Myer or Eureka work well)
- 4-5 additional lemon for juice
- 60g coarse sea salt (do not use table salt or iodised salt which is too bitter)

Method:

- Scrub the lemons for preserving and dry them off.
- Cut the lemons into quarters, place them in a shallow bowl and cover the cut surfaces with salt, about 1Tbsp for each quartered lemon.
- Cover with a weighted plate to help release the juices, leave for about 30 minutes.
- Pack the salted lemons into a sterilised jar, squeezing them in as tightly as possible.
- Add optional extras according to preference. For example 2-3 bay leaves, some peppercorns, a cinnamon stick, coriander seeds.
- With the quartered salted lemons squeezed tightly into the jar, pour on the juice of the extra lemons to cover the lemons completely.
- Seal the jar and leave overnight in a cool place but not in refrigerator.
- Check the next day, pressing the lemon quarters down to ensure they are submerged. If needed, add lemon juice to cover.
- After 4 weeks they will be ready to use.
- Store in refrigerator where they will keep for about 6 months.

Using Preserved Lemons:

To use, remove lemon quarters from the liquid and rinse to remove excess salt. Scrape out the pulp and slice the lemon peel into thin strips or dice finely. Mix with sauteed vegetables, soups, tagine dishes to add a distinctive salty flavour. Diced preserved lemons can also be mashed with butter and fresh herbs to serve with grilled fish.

Please read the sign

Despite prominent new signage requesting "Please Do Not Leave Donations Outside When Op Shop is Closed", excess out-of-hours depositing of items on the pavement, including directly under the sign, continues to be an issue of concern. Respecting this request would be appreciated so that a dumping problem does not develop as a hazard as well as an eye sore. Accumulated piles of items and bags impact people using the footpath safely and add to the workload of volunteers who need to clear and sort the accumulated pile before they can attend to their regular tasks ensuring quality goods are available for sale. Inappropriate items accumulate as a disposal problem, requiring regular runs to the tip. Complying with the request to donate during opening hours assists with the smooth running of the shop, a valued asset to Bruthen and district. New volunteers are always welcome to meet the demands of backroom sorting and storage, as well as the front-of-house customer service.

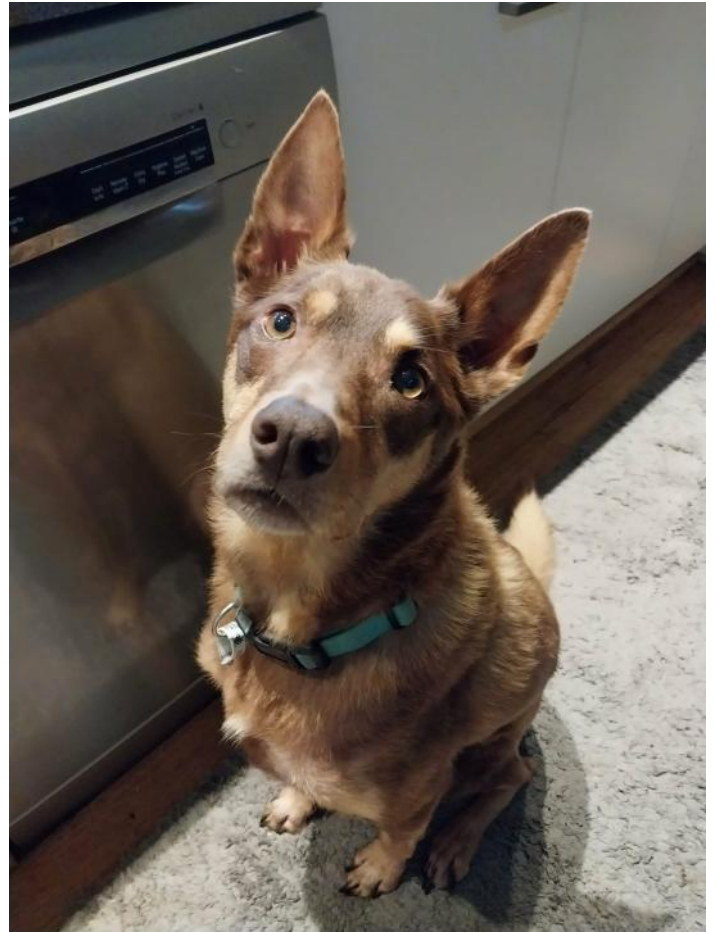


My Pets

My "Dusty"

Dusty is my soul mate and constant companion. We moved to Bruthen three years ago from the city and he just absolutely loves being here, as we do. You will find us walking or riding on the awesome rail trails or exploring the Bruthen walking tracks just out of town. Running up Mt Little Dick to the old fire tower is one of Dusty's favourite runs. Dusty is a pampered kelpie, 6 years old and hasn't shown any signs of slowing up yet!

Sue K



Over 5 million birds counted

Magpies on top after Australia counted a record-breaking 5 million birds in one week

64,000 participants submitted a combined 153,000 checklists

621 different species observed

The results of BirdLife Australia's Aussie Bird Count are in with a record breaking 5 million birds counted during the week-long national bird counting frenzy held in October last year. 64,000 Australians took part in the Count - the 12th year running of what has arguably become Australia's most popular citizen science event.

The Australian Magpie swooped into top spot as the bird Australia sees the most. One in every two surveys completed in 2025 included a sighting of the iconic black-and-white bird, highlighting its ubiquitous presence in Australian life.

The Rainbow Lorikeet claimed second position on the list of our most commonly spotted species, ahead of the native Noisy Miner, the Sulphur-crested Cockatoo, and the Magpie-lark. As in previous years, the Rainbow Lorikeet was the most abundant bird we counted due to regular sightings of colourful flocks.

"Because rainbow lorikeets are more social, hanging out in flocks, when we see them, we see more of them," said BirdLife Australia's National Public Affairs advisor (and chief bird-nerd) Sean Dooley. "But the magpie is the bird we encounter most often. Every second person who did the Count last year added a magpie to their list."

Australia's most commonly seen birds in the 2025 Aussie Bird Count

- Australian Magpie
- Rainbow Lorikeet
- Noisy Miner
- Sulphur-crested Cockatoo
- Magpie-lark
- Galah
- Red Wattlebird
- Crested Pigeon
- Welcome Swallow
- Common Myna

Sightings were recorded in all corners of the country, even in far-flung territories of the Christmas and Cocos Islands and sub-Antarctic Heard Island. Most bird counts though (around 70%) were conducted in built-up areas, adding to a national snapshot of the birds sharing our increasingly urbanised world.

Notable shifts in the overall results from previous years include some birds outside of the top ten climbing the ranks of those we see most often. The Australian White Ibis has climbed from 23rd place in 2021, to 14th last year. In NSW and Queensland the Australian Brush-turkey is also scratching its way up the ladder.

The full results are available on the [Aussie Bird Count website](https://www.aussiebirdcount.org.au). The 2026 Aussie Bird Count will take place in bird week, from 19–25 October. Bird lovers are encouraged to visit the Aussie Bird Count website (www.aussiebirdcount.org.au) to sign up for updates and join the fun in October

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

**GREEN
BOG
STRIPED
SPECIES**

**TREE
WATER
GOLDEN
EGGS**

**FROG
METAMORPHOSIS
POBBLEBONK
VERTEBRATE**

**AMPHIBIAN
TADPOLE
BELL**

**GROWLING
LEGS
BANJO**



Darren Chester
Putting Locals First

#lovegippsland



THE NATIONALS for Gippsland

www.darrenchester.com.au

Authorised by Darren Chester MP, National Party of Australia, Level 1, 69-81 Round Street, Sale VIC 3850

Target Words

L	R	I
A	A	A
S	U	T

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?

Australian Frogs

Australia has over 250 known species of frog, with 36 listed as found in Victoria. Most of these species are found nowhere else in the world.

Frogs are **amphibians**, cold-blooded **vertebrates** (animals with a backbone). The word 'amphibian' comes from the Greek word *amphibios*, meaning "living a double life" or "of both kinds of life". That is because frogs spend part of their lives in water and part on land.

The typical frog life cycle consists of four stages. Most frogs need water to lay their eggs (spawn) and complete their life cycle. The jelly-like eggs hatch into tadpoles which breathe using gills. The tadpoles then undergo a **metamorphosis**. This is a word for a major change in its body structure (think of the way a caterpillar is transformed into a butterfly). They gradually lose their tails, replace their gills with lungs, and grow legs (two, then four), until they can hop or walk about like adults.

One of the frog species found in our region is the Eastern Banjo Frog, which can often be found (and heard) in large numbers, particularly after rain. Its other name is Pobblebonk, because it makes a

distinctive 'bonk' call which some have likened to a banjo string being plucked. Try saying 'pobblebonk' and you'll get an idea of the call.

Frogs are very sensitive to environmental change such as habitat loss, climate change and pollution. While some species across Australia, like the Striped Marsh Frog, are flourishing, others have reduced greatly in number, and four species have become extinct.

There have also been some great successes when projects have been undertaken to restore healthy habitat for frogs. One of these, funded by the Love Our Lakes program, was headed by Martin Potts (yes, the guy who does bass and vocals with local band WRioT!) and involved the creation of multiple 'frog bog' wetlands across areas of West and East Gippsland. Martin and his team from Greening Australia were pretty delighted, to put it mildly, to discover their first metamorph (young) Green and Golden Bell Frog as well as Growling Grass Frogs breeding in 'frog bogs' in the Lower Avon and Perry River areas. Another 'frog bog' has been developed at Macleod Morass in Bairnsdale.

If you want to learn to identify different local frogs by their appearance or their call there are several good online resources, including https://frogs.org.au/frogs/ofVic/East_Gippsland.



Thinking Outside the Shoppe

At Ye Olde Op Shoppe in Bruthen, we are constantly humbled by the generosity of our donors. The support of our local community means beautiful, high-quality clothing and goods arrive through our doors in such abundance that our little shop simply cannot store and sell it all. Rather than let that goodwill go to waste, the Parish of Tambo has been “thinking outside the shoppe” finding new ways to make these donations available to the people and places that can most benefit from them.

Since January 2025, pop-up op shops have become a regular feature of parish life. They have already appeared in Buchan and Swan Reach, and now, at the invitation of local Neighbourhood Houses, we are getting ready to head to Gelantipy and Benambra. These pop-ups are a practical and caring way to support smaller and more remote communities, offering good-quality clothing at prices that make a real difference. Typically, children’s clothes are just 50 cents, while adult clothing ranges from \$2 to \$5. It may not sound like much, but for many people it can mean a great deal.

Alongside these travelling pop-up op shops, the parish also runs clearance sales at our hall in Bruthen, where goods are offered at heavily discounted prices. Both the pop-ups and the clearance sales are part of the same simple idea: to honour the goodwill of our generous donors, to



respect our clientele, and to ensure that quality items continue to be used and appreciated rather than overlooked because of limited space.

Beyond our own parish pop-up shops, Tambo Parish is also very active in supporting Remote Community Op Shops, helping to fill carefully considered lists of requested and much-needed items for Indigenous communities in Central Australia and the far west. This work is another important part of the parish’s outreach, making sure donated goods are not only passed on, but passed on thoughtfully and with purpose.

In every sense, these pop-up op shops have been a wonderful way to repurpose quality clothing and other goods, reduce our footprint, and strengthen connections across communities both near and far. What began as a practical response to an overflow of donations has grown into something much richer: a chance to share abundance, extend kindness, and make sure that generosity keeps moving.



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

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.

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)

Nice one Beryl!

On Sunday May 24, the Bruthen Inn was a perfect location for a lunch to celebrate Beryl Thomas' 90th birthday, which was celebrated by family and friends from near and far. It was a wonderfully enjoyable occasion marked by great warmth, laughter and energy ... particularly noticeable in Beryl herself!

Below is Beryl with grandsons Dylan & Brayden, and son Clay.



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.

admin@devcolec.com.au | 48 Bailey Street, Bairnsdale | (03) 5152 4858



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

Bird of the Month: Jacky Winter

The Jacky Winter is a small grey-brown bird from the Australasian robin family with a more subdued appearance than some other robins. Males and females are very similar in their pale grey, white and brown plumage. They have a faint pale eye-line, a white underbody and a dark tail edged with prominent white outer feathers, noticeable when perching with a wagging tail. Widely distributed in mainland Australia and SE New Guinea, their colour is darker in southern regions and paler in the far north and inland areas.

The name Jacky Winter relates to their rapid vocalisations which sound like “*jacky-jacky-winter-winter*”. Other names attributed to this small bird are Peter Peter which also refers to the song sounding like “*peter-peter-peter*”, and Brown Flycatcher which was commonly used in post-colonial times before Jacky Winter was accepted as the official informal name in 1926.

Preferred habitat for these small insect-eating birds is open eucalypt and mallee woodlands with open shrub layers and access to open ground. They are often seen where woodland meets farmland, the fences providing handy perch sites. Jacky Winters are acrobatic, often seen darting out to snatch flying insects; they dive and twist, hovering and grabbing at passing prey then return to their perch. They also use a ‘sit and pounce’ tactic where they sit on a low perch and dive down to catch food on the ground. They may be seen feeding in pairs, sitting upright on a bare branch, stump or fence, tails wagging and singing their clear and melodious song.

Wooded parklands also offer suitable habitat, although Jacky Winters are sensitive to human disturbance and may become scarce around settled areas. Population numbers have decreased in some areas where land clearing for farming or housing development has reduced habitat security. For example, the Noisy Miner is a competitor that adapts well to human-altered landscapes and is quite aggressive towards other small insectivores such as the Jacky Winter, competing for food and challenging access to nesting materials. The conversion of woodlands to arable land for crops and livestock has reduced grass and shrub vegetation, causing loss of ground-dwelling food sources. Jacky Winters often remain in an area throughout the year with some seasonal movements as visitors to other local areas. This sedentary



A Jacky Winter at Fairy Dell.

behaviour increases their vulnerability when habitat is cleared. However, restoring habitat by revegetation can protect the local fauna and flora diversity including the bird populations.

Breeding season is from July to December. Small cup-shaped nests made from grass and strips of bark bound with spiders’ web are built in an exposed position such as a dead branch. The breeding pair may raise several broods in a season.

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

June 2026 Outings Schedule.

DATE	LOCATION	9AM MEETING PLACE
Monday June 8th	Colquhoun Forest, Quarry Rd.	Bruce Rd. turn-off, Princes Hwy Kalimna.
Sunday June 14th	Stony Creek Trestle Bridge	Old Nowa Nowa Rd off Princes Hwy, Nowa Nowa.
Monday June 22nd	Hollands Landing/Vic Lagoon	Hollands Landing Boat Ramp Car park.
Monday June 29th	Jones Bay-Phillips Lane/The Cut	Car park Phillips Lane/Jones Bay Drive, Bairnsdale

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 July issue is June 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.

Stopping landfill Saving wildlife A Creative Answer

Sculptor and environmental educator, Stuart Gillingham, who lives on the Mornington Peninsula started collecting marine and coastal rubbish washed up on shore when walking his beloved beaches after storms over a dozen years ago. With a passion for saving marine and bird life from distress, injury and often death, plus cleaning the beaches, Stuart would often end up with arms full of discarded rubbish -tangled fishing lines, all sorts of toys, fishing jigs, bottle tops, keys, pens, sunglasses, hair combs, broken fishing rods - an unbelievable array of human discard as well as driftwood. You name it – Stuart found it – in fact in bucket loads!

It was a piece of driftwood which he felt resembled the head of a garfish that gave him his first idea to make sculpture, leading to his creative name 'Seadrift Sculptures'. This realisation led him to see a way of saving rubbish from landfill.

Not only does Stuart make fantastic art pieces, he educates others, including school children about reducing landfill and the pleasure of seeing a positive in what was a negative situation.

I met Stuart on a recent visit to the peninsula and his generosity of spirit and easy friendliness saw me visit his home and workshop – an Aladdin's cave of delights which was an amazingly inspiring experience.

"You wouldn't believe how many combs are washed up," he laughed.

"In my sculptures they can become anything – teeth, gills, feathers or part of a spine."

For the most part Stuart's works depict native birds and animals and his echidna sculpture for example, is a charming creation bristling with spikes, but look closer and you'll notice everyday objects – hooks, forks, combs, bottle tops and pens. Nestled amongst them is a five cent piece which of course features an echidna.

A piece of twisted plastic which once floated in the tide is reborn to help create a fish, a bird or a wave. If you look closely at these works you will see all sorts of known objects which makes viewing one of his pieces an adventure and delight. From a negative situation comes a true positive.

When he's not creating sculpture (often on commission these days), Stuart is collecting his junk as every bag of rubbish removed from the environment is a small act of preservation and every one of his works remind the viewer of what re-use and imagination can achieve and he hopes, hopefully stimulate ideas for others.

You can visit Stuart's work at www.seadriftsculptures.com.au or @seadriftsculptures

Heather R



Litterarty at Lakes ... Fun for Everyone!

Litter picking has never been such a laugh, with accompanying Happy Wandering Clowns. This fun, family-friendly clean-up invites everyone to take part in protecting our local environment by transforming Waste into Art. Just bring your curiosity and community spirit to the Lakes Entrance foreshore! Then on Sunday transform the Litter into Art.

The Program:

Event 1: Walk with the Happy Wanderer clowns along Lakes Entrance Foreshore picking up discarded packaging, lolly papers, tossed bottles and cans (safety equipment provided!!!)

See how Community Action is making a difference to protecting our environment through changing mindsets from Waste to Resource, and through creative community collaborations connecting to country through ecological art and citizen science, all happening in our own backyard!!

Local organisations and businesses are connecting up to care for country, through regular Litter Pick Ups, transforming Litter into Art, developing technology to shred and re-form plastics into Garden Tools and products using 3D Printing. Join us to be part of this wake up call to transform Waste to Resource!

Event 2 (Sunday): Meet at the Slipway Sheds and make the litter that you collected into Art and be amazed at what you create!!

Locations: Saturday: Meet at the Lakes Entrance Footbridge – opposite Myer Street, Lakes Entrance.

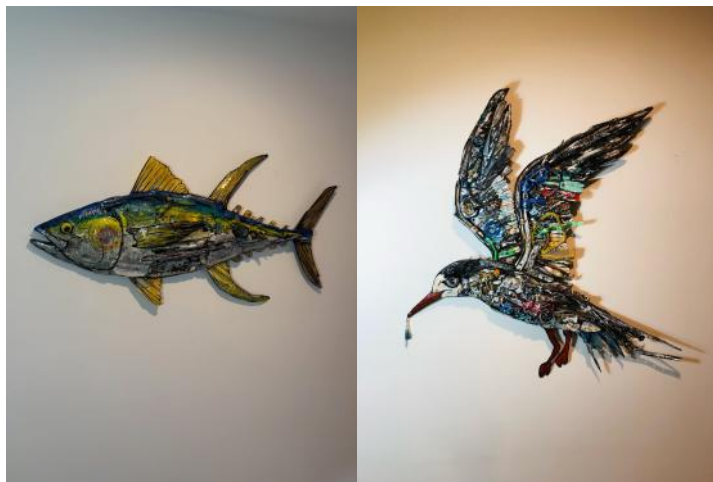
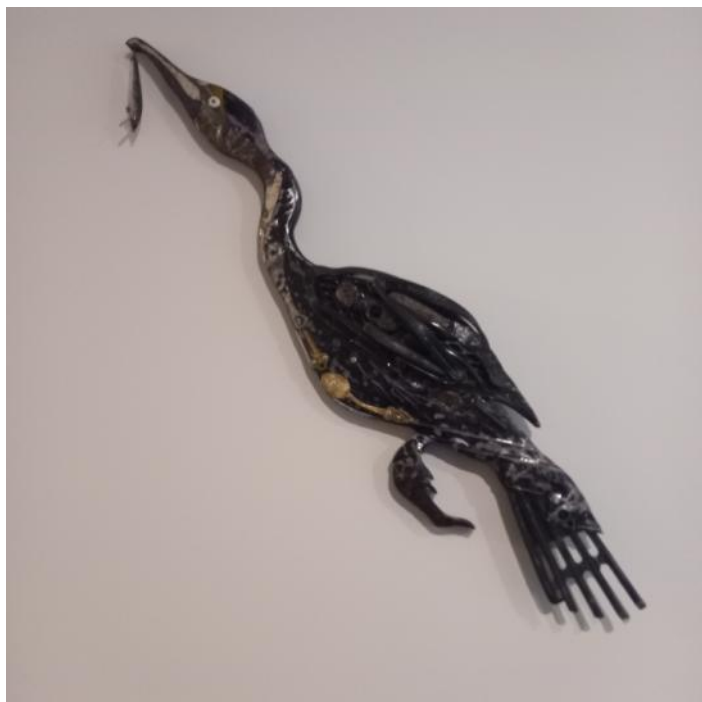
Sunday: Meet at the Slipway Sheds – 480 Esplanade, Lakes Entrance.

Dates: Saturday, 20th June - Sunday, 21st June

Times : Event 1 :20/6/2026 10:00am-12:30pm

Event 2: 21/6/2026 10:00am - 4:00pm

Cost: FREE





**BRUTHEN
PRIMARY SCHOOL**

PREP 2027

School Tours

ENROLMENTS OPEN 20TH APRIL 2026

APPLICATIONS CLOSE 31ST JULY 2026

We encourage families to book a tour and see what our school has to offer.

Benefits of a tour:

- See our classrooms in action
- Meet our friendly staff and students
- Learn about how we support every child to succeed
- Explore our learning programs and facilities
- Ask questions and get a feel for our school community



You can find further enrolment details on our school website:
<https://www.bruthenps.vic.edu.au/>



(03) 51 575 445



bruthen.ps@education.vic.gov.au



Emily Forbes - Acting Principal

We look forward to meeting you!

