



Gippy AGchat September 20, 2010 – Issue 33

Ten years and growing ... Agribusiness Gippsland Inc is a non-profit group that helps support regional agribusiness and works in partnership with other organisations. This edition is going to 2687 recipients (*that's 104 sign-ups in the last three weeks!*)

Our partners (and we thank them):



Future farmers' forum looks to be a sell out	2
Free-range chicken meat farms sought	2
Alternative energy project has wings	2
Agriculture or asphalt?	3
Women find their voice	3
Gunai/Kurnai native title claim agreement reached	3
Agribusinesses feature in business awards	3
Warning to check farm dams	4
Draft strategy for sustainable water released	4
Sustainability strategy on display	4
Baw Baw Shire conducts agribusiness survey	4
Storing carbon in soil – a climate change solution?	4
Parading the champions	5
Morwell Power Plant works application resubmitted	5
Dairy showcased in Poowong Expo	5
Nothing paltry about these awards	5
Launch for Gippsland's largest private land covenant	5
Phonebooks want local facial features	5
Register now for the DPI climate webinar series	6
The way we were	6
Fire-affected communities set to upgrade their halls	6
Prepare your masks for the Mayoral masquerade ball	6
Families are sustainable, too!	6
Learn to find funding	6
Women on farms gather to plan for future	6
Dairy wastewater is safe: Korumburra research	7
Seeking Baw Baw's new producers and outlets	7
Special Olympics in Gippsland seeks support	7
Learn more about business	7
Keeping the town tidy	8
Bedding down the pipes	8
Youth grants on offer	8
A cow gets out among the horses	8

It runs in the family	8
Dubai organics trade mission set for November	8
Green film nights introduce environmental issues	8
Forum works for low carbon growth	9
Stallholders sought for farmers' market at Coal Creek	9
Opening the gates on farmer health	9
East Gippsland seeks Australia Day nominations	10
Country racing is off and ... well ... racing	10
The farmer, the soil ecologists and the cook	11
Agritourism dossier available	11
JOBS: A free feature in GippyAGchat	11
Gippy Diary	12

- Have you visited our website? <http://agribusinessgippsland.com.au>
- Or blog us at www.aginc.wordpress.com
- Our postal address is PO Box 1312 Warragul 3280.
- Email us at ptarmigan1@internode.on.net or ptarmigan2@internode.on.net
- Phone us 9456 9791 or 0402 267 802
- Fax us at 9459 9699

Future farmers' forum looks to be a sell out

Only two days after we started publicising our Young Agribusiness Professionals Forum, we're nearly booked out.

October 13 sees Victoria's future farming leaders really getting stuck into it at Pakenham. There's 20-plus coming from western Victoria and a busload from east Gippsland to hear a day of inspirational speakers explaining how to take their business up to the next level.

The day starts with leading ABC TV journalist Tim Lee from Landline discussing the three most impressive people he's ever met.

Other speakers include the man hand-picked by a major Asian company to run its Australian operations; a dairy farmer who bought an extra farm every four years and a survivor of agri-politics talking about successful lobbying.

There's a stack more: A major trendster discussing changes ahead for Victoria's rural communities and leading growers in horticulture and wool.

One special session will see Marcus Oldham College students newly returned from China will share their experiences with a Chinese-born, Melbourne-based ag student.

The day is FREE to full or part-time students, thanks to DAFF's Next Gen Farmer funding and NABagribusiness. For others, the cost is \$45 which includes notes and morning/afternoon tea and lunch and GST.

The venue is the Cardinia Cultural Centre. The date is Wednesday, October 13 and it goes from 10am to 5pm. And if many more people sign up, we'll have to book a bigger room!

BOOKINGS: Email ptarmigan2@internode.on.net or phone 9456 9791 or visit <http://agribusinessgippsland.com.au> or www.aginc.wordpress.com.

Free-range chicken meat farms sought

Are you interested in diversifying your farm? Do you have a property of 200+ acres? Do you live west of Traralgon/Leongatha? Agribusiness Gippsland been contacted by a well-known Australian company seeking to expand its free-range broiler (meat chickens) operations. All training, management etc provided.

More? Email ptarmigan2@internode.on.net and we will link you up.

Alternative energy project has wings

Victorian company Algae Enterprises and Monash University will receive almost \$1.5m for a pilot alternative energy project at DPI Ellinbank. The dairy effluent management project will trial an anaerobic bio-digester for biogas production as well algae cultivation technologies for possible production of bio products including biofuels.

Agriculture or asphalt?

The Big Question gets the Big Airing over two lunches in October, each with a speaker to really stir your thoughts on the way we plan to house, feed and water our future population. Agribusiness Gippsland is launching its lunchtime forums, and we're hugely proud to offer these first two speakers – one on Friday, October 22 and the other on Monday October 25. Come to one or come to both. Maybe even stay for the weekend!

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 22, Leongatha: **Ian Wills** is Honorary Associate Professor at Monash University's department of economics. He holds a PhD (Agricultural Economics) from the University of Illinois and a MAgrSc (Hons) University of Melbourne. In early 2008 he was elected Distinguished Fellow of the Australian Agricultural and Resource Economics Society. He argues it makes better economic sense to mass-transport food than create a mass-commute from far-flung residential developments.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 25, Cowes: **George Seitz MP** is Chair of the Outer Suburban/Interface Services and Development Committee. He led the State Government Inquiry into Sustainable Peri-Urban Agri-Business which held a hearing in Gippsland. Now he returns to the region to detail what his panel recommended and why.

Tickets cost \$45 (includes GST) each for a two-course lunch. The October 22 venue is to be confirmed but October 25 sees George Seitz at the unique hideaway eatery, the Silverleaves General Store near Cowes. Tucked away in a leafy residential enclave, this is a gourmet provender disguised as the corner milk bar. They're hoping to serve us the first of the season's snapper caught by local fishermen. They sell seriously good Gippsland wines too. Numbers are very limited. **BOOKINGS:** Email ptarmigan2@internode.on.net, phone 9456 9791 visit www.aginc.wordpress.com or <http://agribusinessgippsland.com.au>.

Women find their voice

One course...so many outcomes...the final wrap-up session for the West Gippsland Women find their voice project on September 6 revealed a remarkable leverage affect.

One participant has since helped launch a community foundation, and another two have been approached to join other committees. One woman is going to start a regional growers' group while another is getting a farm-based business group underway. Two others have since received awards, several have applied for jobs or found more work after the course and a part-time worker is shifting into full-time mode as an indirect result of the course. Many participants have given talks and all are ready for public speaking gigs. Get them for your group, school or club by visiting <http://agribusinessgippsland.com.au>.

We enjoyed the magnificent setting of Golden Creek Olives, home to course participant Lyn Jamieson, and gained insights into her business. Lyn also served a knockout minestrone and dukkah, and the recipes are at <http://agribusinessgippsland.com.au> or aginc.wordpress.com. The East Gippsland group have their wrap-up session next month. We expect to hear more heartening stories of women farmers finding their voice.

Gunai/Kurnai native title claim agreement reached

Baw Baw Council has agreed to sign the native title claim consent determination agreed to by the Victorian State Government and representatives of the Gunai/Kurnai people.

The consent determination outlines the nature and extent of native title rights and interests that will be acknowledged as existing in the claim area and specifies the relationship between those rights and interests and the interests of other parties such as councils.

Council will inform all occupiers of crown land managed by Council that native title claim is not expected to have any practical impact on the day to day management of these reserves.

More? Peter Finlayson 5624 2431

Agribusinesses feature in business awards

Congratulations to Leftrade Limited of Lakes Entrance for winning the Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries award in the annual Gippsland Business of the Year awards recently. Wild Dog Winery of Warragul won the tourism category, Waverley House Cottages won the accommodation award, Araluen Park Cottages won the environmental award and Tamba Vale Nursery and Gardens at Nicholson won the access award. And cheers to the Tinamba pub for winning the hospitality award.

Warning to check farm dams

Southern Rural Water is warning landowners to check the safety of farm dams. Recent heavy rains mean some dams might fail if they have not been properly maintained. Look out for:

- ensuring the spillway is of adequate size and is free of debris or long grass
- if a compensation pipe is installed, that it works and is easily accessible
- the dam slopes are not showing signs of leaking or slippage
- the dam crest is even and not eroded and there are no cracks present

More? Southern Rural Water 1300 139 510

Draft strategy for sustainable water released

The draft Gippsland Region Sustainable Water Strategy plans for secure water supplies over the next 50 years.

The strategy looks at Gippsland's current water resources and water demands, and how challenges such as drought, climate change, increasing water demands and land use changes may affect water resources. It also identifies ways to manage Gippsland's water resources into the future, and raises issues for consideration.

Public submissions on the proposals and challenges can be made until December 3.

Community forums will be held to discuss the strategy on:

- September 20 1.30-3pm at the Sporting and Convention Centre, 117 Great Alpine Road, Bairnsdale
- September 21 from 11-12.30pm at the Football Club Rooms, Lochiel Street, Orbost
- September 24 from 11-12:30pm at the Century Inn, 5 Airfield Road, Traralgon

The draft strategy, accompanying fact sheets and submissions form is available at:

www.ourwater.vic.gov.au/programs/sws/gippsland

More? West Gippsland CMA 1300 094 262 or East Gippsland CMA 5150 3567 or gippsland.sws@dse.vic.gov.au

Sustainability strategy on display

The South Gippsland Shire Council Sustainability Strategy has progressed to a preliminary draft which will be discussed at a community meeting on September 21 from 2- 4pm in Meeting Room One, Leongatha Memorial Hall. Please register your intention to attend.

More? Desirae Hancock 5662 9311 or desiraeh@southgippsland.vic.gov.au

Baw Baw Shire conducts agribusiness survey

The second Baw Baw Shire Agribusiness Survey is being undertaken to help the Baw Baw Shire Council understand of the needs, desires and concerns of farm-based businesses. The survey, conducted every three years, seeks information on farm sizes, staffing issues, products grown, value adding, interest in organics, export issues, tourism, issues limiting growth, GM, impact and preparedness for climate change impacts, marketing and future directions. The 2010 survey has been posted to all rural farm properties.

More? Baw Baw Council's Economic Development Unit 5624 2523

Storing carbon in soil – a climate change solution?

A report on soil carbon sequestration in Victoria was tabled by the Chair of the Environment and Natural Resources Committee in Parliament in early September.

The report is significant because it is the first holistic assessment of the potential of carbon storage in Australian soils. It contains 15 recommendations including:

- carbon sequestration rights be clarified under Victorian law
- a feasibility study be conducted on the establishment of a commercial-sized pyrolysis (biochar) facility in Victoria
- policy options including on-farm demonstration sites, education and extension programs and incentive mechanisms be explored
- the potential of soil carbon sequestration as an economic opportunity to generate investment in NRM and repair degraded landscapes be investigated
- Victorian Government fund long term trials and research on the most promising management practices for soil carbon sequestration.

More? John Pandazopoulos 0408 310 733

Parading the champions

Kardella dairy farmers Lucas and Kylie Liccardello have been named the 2010 Genetics Australia Share Dairy Farmer of the Year at the Royal Melbourne Dairy Show. Other winners included Wayne and Lisa Kuhne of Bushlea Farms, Leongatha who were awarded supreme champion Jersey exhibit with their six-year-old cow First Choice Bellmada Brunette, which also won the supreme champion dairy cow title and champion Jersey udder. Intermediate champion Holstein, Avonlea Spirte Figsie (ET), was exhibited by HT, VJ and JH Gardiner of Five Ways. Combined breeds intermediate champion and best udder was Roland Lodge Queen Bee (ET) exhibited by the Canobie Partnership Drouin West, which also scored junior champion ribbon with Roland Lodge Corn Flower (ET). Congratulations to Declan Patten from Sale who took out the champion parader award.

Morwell Power Plant works application resubmitted

EPA Victoria has received the resubmitted works approval application from Dual Gas Pty Ltd to build a Morwell power plant using coal gasification supplemented by natural gas. Public submissions will be accepted until October 6. A public information session will be held at 7pm on September 23 at the Quality Inn Latrobe Convention Centre, 5601 Princes Hwy, Traralgon. [More? 03 5173 9800, epa.gippsland@epa.vic.gov.au or http://www.epa.vic.gov.au/bus/comments/default.asp](mailto:epa.gippsland@epa.vic.gov.au)

Dairy showcased in Poowong Expo

The South Gippsland Dairy Expo, organised by the Strzelecki Lions Club, will take place on September 29-30 at the Poowong Recreation Reserve, Poowong. This year the Dairy Expo will hear from Matt Harms and the Money Machine, a panel discussion session supported by the South Gippsland Shire Council and Rabobank at 11am on September 30. [More? Deanne Kennedy 5659 4219 or deanne@jaydee.net.au](mailto:deanne@jaydee.net.au)

Nothing paltry about these awards

Phillip Island winery Purple Hen scored top honour at the fifth annual Gippsland Wine Show. Maria and Rick Lacey won the wine of the year and red wine of the year titles for their 2009 shiraz and also were named most successful exhibitor. Other prize-winners were the pinot noir created for Koongunya Winery of Leongatha South by Marcus Satchell and wine from Bull at a Gate (Tarwin Lower), Djinta Djinta, (Korumburra) and Windy Ridge (Foster). The awards attracted 209 wines from 44 wineries across 19 categories.

Launch for Gippsland's largest private land covenant

Trust for Nature is celebrating the largest area protected on private land on the Gippsland Plains with an open day and guided walk on 700 ha of nationally endangered grasslands and grassy red gum woodlands at Strathfieldsaye, Bombing Range Rd, Perry Bridge.

The launch, a lunch and a walk will take place on October 10 from 11am.

The area is home to 12 vegetation types, 10 of which are classified as endangered and six of which had not been previously recorded in Gippsland. The area boasts more than 200 species including 30 species of native grass and 20 orchid species, among them the nationally endangered Yawning Leek Orchid *Prasophyllum chasmogamum* and the nationally endangered shrub, Dwarf Kerrawang *Rulingia prostrate*.

After a BBQ lunch there will be a two-hour walk. BYO walking shoes, sunscreen and hat.

GETTING THERE: Take the Bengworden Road (C106) from Stratford or Bairnsdale. Look for Clive Disher Institute road signs and Trust for Nature signs on the day. RSVP October 1.

[More? Geordie Kuzniarski 0447 764667 or geordiek@tfn.org.au](mailto:geordiek@tfn.org.au)

Phonebooks want local facial features

Sensis is seeking a noteworthy local face to feature on the cover of next year's phone books. The theme is 'Australians Creating a Better Future' and judges want "to recognise people who are thinking beyond themselves and making positive contributions from an economic, social and environmental standpoint." Nominations up to 200 words must be lodged by October 15.

[More? www.whitpagescommunity.com.au/nominate](http://www.whitpagescommunity.com.au/nominate) or coversprogram@sensis.com.au

Register now for the DPI climate webinar series

A free webinar series looking at the latest climate and emissions information for Victorian farm businesses starts on the Department of Primary Industries' website. The series focuses on the Victorian Government's Climate Change White Paper. The webinars will be held:

- October 5, 10-11 am – The Climatedogs – What rounds up Victoria's rainfall?
- November 9, 2-3 pm – Adapting Agriculture to Climate Change and Variability

To register for a webinar, go to www.dpi.vic.gov.au/climaterisk.

The way we were

The GRDC is launching a national program and competition which will give three Australian grain growers the opportunity to visit some of the world's leading grains research facilities. Three growers will undertake an international study tour, visiting facilities in Syria, Russia, Mexico and the USA. The GRDC's The Way We Were campaign encourages Australian growers to reflect on the industry's progress, and tell their personal stories.

More? Visit [http://waywewere.grdc.com.au/](http://waywewere.grdc.com.au)

Fire-affected communities set to upgrade their halls

Jindivick, Labertouche and Longwarry will all upgrade their halls after they were identified as a priority by each of the Community Recovery Committees (CRC) in the wake of the 2009 Black Saturday bushfires. The upgrades will be funded through funding from the Victorian Bushfire Appeal Fund (VBAF).

More? Sharon Coffey 5624 2441

Prepare your masks for the Mayoral masquerade ball

Baw Baw Shire Council is holding a Mayoral charity masquerade ball on October 23 at Lardner Park to support the Blackwood Centre for Adolescent Development.

Tickets are \$95 per person or \$900 for a table of 10, including a three-course meal and drinks, live performances and entertainment.

More? 5624 2497 or visit www.bawbawshire.vic.gov.au

Families are sustainable, too!

Maffra farmers are invited to a free Sustainable Farm Families workshop on October 14-15 at the Macalister Demonstration Farm. Sustainable Farm Families is the prize-winning program backed by the DPI and the Western District Health Services that sees farmers tracked over three years as they are offered one-on-one assistance with health issues and stress management. Participants are helped to map out a personalised healthy lifestyle plan. Registration closes September 17.

More? Neil Baker 5141 1712 or neilbaker@aapt.net.au or visit www.sustainablefarmfamilies.org.au

Learn to find funding

Free roadshows offering 'how-to' information on applying for grants will be held at:

- Heyfield Resource Centre, October 5, 7-9pm
- Stratford Hall Supper Room, November 3, 7-9pm

Presenters include: Regional Arts Victoria, Gippsport, Department of Planning and Community Development, Regional Development Victoria, Kilmany Uniting Care, Westpac Bank and Wellington Shire Council.

More? Wellington Shire Council Community Wellbeing Unit 1300 366 244

Women on farms gather to plan for future

A planning weekend on October 1-3 will discuss progress for the Women on Farms Gathering, "Past Women Future Women" to be held in Buchan in March 2012. Accommodation at the Buchan Log Cabins is available. The event will be self-catered. Please RSVP to arrange accommodation and meals.

More? 5155 9216 or buchanbnh@bigpond.com

Just Released

THE EASY 'DO IT' GUIDE FOR EVERYMAN

Most men hate seeing a doctor or talking about their health. This is the Doctor's guide that comes with a good laugh and covers every aspect of men's health, from young boys to men hitting the century mark.

Dr Bernie Crimmins knows and explains the latest in preventative care and good health. Bernie's brother, Peter, was the star Hawthorn rover who died tragically of cancer at too young an age. Bernie devoted years to being a doctor at the Hawthorn Football Club and today continues to work as a GP.

Bernie's message to the men of Australia is, 'Boys, we've got to do it ourselves!'

With cartoons by Paul Harvey, Blokes Health is an informative and entertaining read at a bargain price of only \$9.95! You can order online at www.wilkinsonpublishing.com.au Every order is backed with a 100 per cent money back guarantee.

Dairy wastewater is safe: Korumburra research

Gippsland research has cleared reused dairy factory wastewater from contaminating waterways and soils.

Burra Foods and Monash University, Churchill assisted the study into reusing wastewater to irrigate the Korumburra recreation oval. Scientists analysed wastewaters and drainage from irrigation and rainfall, looking for volatile organic compounds.

The study found wastewater P levels were "not dissimilar to those measured in runoff from dairy pastures in the Korumburra region and ... N levels in the recreation oval soil appeared to be low." Salt levels were higher in the reuse water and no phenols or N-containing compounds were traced.

More? <http://www.iuss.org/19th%20WCSS/symposium/pdf/1106.pdf>

Seeking Baw Baw's new producers and outlets

Baw Baw Council is seeking to expand the number of categories, producers and outlets in its 'Great local Products – Great local Outlets' campaign, and seeking locally grown, produced or designed food, beverage, body care and clothing items available from locally owned outlets. It is producing a wholesalers' directory and, for the public seeking information on retail outlets for local products, weekly adverts in the local newspapers and a range of marketing materials.

More? [Jean-Francois Barallon 5624 2527 or j.barallon@bawbawshire.vic.gov.au](mailto:Jean-Francois.Barallon@bawbawshire.vic.gov.au)

Special Olympics in Gippsland seeks support

Shane Murphy from Longwarry Food Park especially asked us to include this request from Special Olympics Victoria Gippsland. The organisation runs a program for people with an intellectual disability or cognitive delay (which includes autism) aged eight or over in basketball, aquatics, athletics, bocce, tenpin bowling and soccer. It is seeking donations, volunteers or participants.

More? [Trevor Holmes 0407 948 879](tel:0407948879) or sovgippsland@gmail.com or visit www.specialolympics.com.au

Learn more about business

Places are still available in the following Business Victoria's low-cost regional workshops/seminars:

- Access to Finance: Leongatha (October 12)
- Managing Stock, Suppliers and Debtors: Leongatha (September 14)

More? [Business Victoria 132215](tel:132215) or <http://services.business.vic.gov.au/ems/default.do>

Keeping the town tidy

Baw Baw Shire Council has been announced as a finalist in both the 'Towards Zero Waste' and 'Water Conservation' categories in the 2010 Keep Australia Beautiful Victoria Tidy Towns – Sustainable Communities Awards, for efforts in water conservation and waste recycling. Winners will be announced October 9.

More? www.sustainability.vic.gov.au

Bedding down the pipes

As more farms consider installing sub-surface drip irrigation, new research suggests laying pipes in specially prepared beds might further improve water use efficiency. Scientists addressing a recent Australian soil conference reported up to 6% less water needed, while deep drainage water loss fell up to 5% by laying the sub-surface pipes in beds of bentonite, silica gel and volcanic tuff. Experiments on golf courses in Spain and Belgium found more benefits in humid areas.

More? <http://www.iuss.org/19th%20WCSS/symposium/pdf/1142.pdf>

Youth grants on offer

National Youth Week grants are available to fund events that celebrate and recognise the contribution of young Victorians to their community. Applicants can apply for one of two types of grants: EITHER \$2000 for young people working with an organisation to deliver a local community-based project OR \$2000 for young people working with an organisation to deliver an event that raises awareness of depression and anxiety. Applications close on 15 October.

More? Visit www.grants.dpcd.vic.gov.au

A cow gets out among the horses

Dairy Australia's 2010 AGM will be on November 26 at Flemington Racecourse.

More? Dairy Australia 9694 3777 or visit www.dairyaustralia.com.au

It runs in the family

Heritability of traits will be discussed at the East Gippsland Young Dairy Development Program (YDDP) 'Pot and Parma' night by Peter Thurn from Genetics Australia discussing:

- Breeding goals.
- How long does it take to improve undesirable traits?
- Gene marking
- How does GA select their bulls?
- How do we select the bulls we use?

The event will be held at the Newry Hotel, September 22 from 7pm. Cost: \$10 for a pot and a parmigiana (the meal has been subsidised by YDDP). RSVP for catering purposes.

...MEANWHILE: Peter Thurn and Dave Morris, vet from Bass Valley Embryo Service will address the South Gippsland YDDP at Fishy Pub, Fish Creek, at 7.30pm on September 23.

More? Kylie Barry 5624 3900 or yddpgipps@gippsdairy.com.au

Dubai organics trade mission set for November

The Victorian Government is putting together an organics trade mission to Dubai, Abu Dhabi and Doha in November 2010. The Victorian Government Business Office in Dubai will provide on-ground support and arrange meetings with buyers, importers and distributors.

More? Mark Morley 9651 9213 or visit <http://www.rdv.vic.gov.au/about-us/news/2010-trade-mission-to-middle-east>

Green film nights introduce environmental issues

The current series of 'green' film nights are being held in Casey and Cardinia. The next movie is 'Who Killed the Electric Car?' about the release of the EV-1 electric car, its sudden removal from the market, and subsequent destruction, screening on September 22 from 7pm at Emerald Library. Organic popcorn provided!

More? Ella Boyen 1300 787 624 or e.boyen@cardinia.vic.gov.au or Abbie Lane alane@casey.vic.gov.au or 9705 5200



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www.portphillipshop.com.au, as an enthusiastic marketer of Australian-made products, (e.g. R M Williams and Akubra) is now actively promoting Merino Gold and Geccu – two outstanding brands of pure merino wool knitwear. There are not many left. We are promoting our Port Phillip label of merino wool socks made by Rizzi.

Special offer: To introduce you to these quality Australian knitwear manufacturers we are making a special offer. Merino Gold and Geccu knitwear will be delivered freight free anywhere in Australia. (a \$2 handling charge applies) With each order a free pair of merino wool socks will be supplied. For a short time all our knitwear is marked down by up to 20% off the recommended retail price.

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Australia
Ph (03) 56234575

Berwick Store
73 High St
Berwick 3806
Ph (03) 97699935

Kind regards,
Ian Wenzel



Forum works for low carbon growth

The Gippsland Climate Change Network and the EPA's Carbon Innovators Network will bring Anna Skarbek and John Thwaites to present on Climate Works Low Carbon Growth Plan for Australia at Monash University, Churchill on October 12 from 9.30-1pm, includes lunch.

[More? Scott Ferraro scott.ferraro@epa.vic.gov.au](mailto:scott.ferraro@epa.vic.gov.au) or **5173 9800**

Stallholders sought for farmers' market at Coal Creek

Applications are open for prospective stallholders at a new Farmers' Market at Coal Creek, to be held in the car park on the second Saturday of each month, 8am-1pm, from October 9.

[More? 5655 1811 or farmersmarket@coalcreekvillage.com.au/ or www.coalcreekvillage.com.au](mailto:farmersmarket@coalcreekvillage.com.au)

Opening the gates on farmer health

A charter for farmer health will be developed at the inaugural conference of the National Centre for Farmer Health from October 11-13.

[More? Sally Stevenson 5551 8587 or www.farmerhealth.org.au/page/conference](http://www.farmerhealth.org.au/page/conference)

East Gippsland seeks Australia Day nominations

East Gippsland Shire is seeking nominations for its annual Australia Day Awards. Nominations are sought in three categories: Deadline, October 20.

- Australia Day Citizen for those 27 or older by January 26, 2011.
- Australia Day Young Citizen those younger than 27 at January 26, 2011.
- Community Event of the Year for the person or group that has staged the most outstanding community event during the year.

More? Mike Quist 5153 9500 or visit www.egipps.vic.gov.au

Country racing is off and ... well ... racing

Meetings this month are:

- September 23: Sale
- September 27: Moe

And next month:

- October 3: Bairnsdale
- October 14: Moe
- October 23: Sale
- October 30: La Trobe Valley

More? Call 1300 139 402 or visit www.countryracing.com.au

The farmer, the soil ecologists and the cook

The 2008 NSW Farmer of the year will rub shoulders with soil ecologists and an organic cook at the Organic Food and Farming conference at Bairnsdale on November 8-9 at the Riviera Christian Centre, 103 Bairnsdale/Dargo Rd, Bairnsdale. Register by November 3; early bird deadline October 15.

More? Stephen Cross scross@wideband.net.au 5153 2204 0447 368 312 or www.organicagriculture.asn.au

Agritourism dossier available

What are the common factors that determine a successful agritourism venture? What do the failures always do wrong? Agribusiness Gippsland has completed a literature review as part of last year's study of Gippsland's agritourism sector. We have compiled the findings into a fascinating, easy-to-read dossier. Drawing on local, Australian and overseas studies, it presents the financials of agritourism, the trends in Gippsland, the challenges, and some early data on regional agritourism operations, along with ideas from existing successful operators. The cost is \$30 plus GST. Email orders at susanw@ptarmigan.com.au or via www.aginc.wordpress.com

Looking for a venue for 20 people? Or 20,000? Look at Lardner Park, near Warragul. We have a reputation for large-scale events, such as Farm World, Trucks In Action and the Civil Works Expo.

We also have flexibility for smaller meetings, conferences and workshops. The Lardner Park board room and pavilions are ideal for equipment and product launches. Our location is convenient for Melbourne and Gippsland attendees.



For further information email mark@lardnerpark.com.au, visit www.lardnerpark.com.au or phone 5626 1373

JOBS: A free feature in GippyAGchat

Times being what they are, we are running free job ads. If you're seeking work, or workers, please flick an email to susanw@ptarmigan.com.au and we'll give you a free plug. No large files, no photos, no sales pitches and full contact details, please.

WORK AVAILABLE:

Biofuels industry development:

The Department of Innovation, Industry and Regional Development (DIIRD) is seeking responses to appoint an appropriately experienced and qualified contractor to manage the development of the biofuels industry in Victoria.

A Request for Tender can be found at:

<https://www.tenders.vic.gov.au/tenders/tender/display/tender-details.do?id=777&action=display-tender-details&returnUrl=%2Ftender%2Fsearch%2Ftender-search.do%3Faction%3Dadvanced-tender-search-open-tender>

WORK SOUGHT:

Fire management planning

Consultant available to prepare sustainable fire management plans for your property or small reserve. Contact Helen Bull 0400 310 188 or h.bull@bigpond.com

Need staff?

Try 12 or six months of cost-effective undergraduate recruits from accounting, sciences, marketing, HR and PR/comms/media. Candidates available for paid full-time or half-time placements.

More? Annette: Issibl@swin.edu.au or ph: 9214 8753 or Karen: kpomeranz@swin.edu.au or ph: 9215 7136

Positions wanted

Seeking admin/clerical work

For any type of administrative/clerical type work (consulting, part time or job share – even if it is only a few hours per week). I have tertiary qualifications in business studies, taxation and financial planning and am looking for work in these areas.

More? Greg Lewis on 0439 523 871 or gippswealthadvice@bigpond.com



Want to reach the right audience? More than 2600 'yes-please' subscribers read GippyAGchat. Farmers, farm consultants, agronomists, stock agents, catchment management and DPI staffers, local councils, regional and federal politicians... everyone who makes agribusiness grow across Gippsland. And you don't get lost in the display advertising crowd. GippyAGchat offers a good-value, targeted ad medium with a stand-out factor. Corporate membership is only \$200 plus GST and that gives you a free ad in the readership that matters to your business. Phone 0402 267 802 or 9456 9791

Consultant available to undertake:

- vegetation assessments, net gain assessments or offset reports
- whole farm plans
- environmental management plans
- facilitation of meetings, planning sessions, or any group process
- education and training sessions

Please ask me for a quote! Cassie Wright cassiewright@alphalink.com.au

Ph: 5674 8242/ Mob: 0429 061 161/ 35 Sail Street, Cape Paterson, VIC 3995.

Classifieds

With more than 2400 ag readers, we've been asked if we could run some ads. So, here we go! If you have something to sell or seeking something to buy, place an ad for \$20, plus GST for up to 30 words. (Jobs ads are still free). Email to ptarmigan2@internode.on.net Deadline a fortnight from this edition.

Information published is intended to provide general information only. Agribusiness Gippsland Inc (AGInc) does not endorse or recommend any of the listings, nor does it guarantee every job advertisement represents an actual job vacancy. AGInc reserves the right to refuse an item. In no event will AGInc be liable for any decision made or action taken as a response to information contained on or omitted.

Filling in the Gippy-gaps

The rapid growth of GippyAGchat has left us with a data gap ... we don't know who you all are! Could you please underline which of the following best describes you, and forward this message to madfuj@yahoo.com.au.

1. Farmer/landowner/agri-tourism operator
2. Consultant/service provider
3. Government employee or agency
4. Food processor/manufacturer
5. Other

The most important item in this entire e-newsletter

Annual subscriptions to Agribusiness Gippsland Inc are only \$50 plus \$5 GST individual/or a farm business and \$200 plus \$20 GST corporate. And we are always keen to talk sponsorship deals. Our postal address is PO Box 1312 Warragul 3280.

More? 9456 9791, <http://agribusinessgippsland.com.au> or www.aginc.wordpress.com

Hunting in AGInc hyperspace

Recent top searches on our blogsite (www.aginc.wordpress.com) are: warragul people photos, agribusiness, mcav melbourne@yahoo.com.au, prue mcnaughton, goat farming Gippsland, logo ideas, agribusiness logo, aginc, jane burton ccv, tourism logo

Anyone we've forgotten?

Gippy Agchat is prepared by Sue Webster (0402 267 802 or 9456 9791) and Madeline Toner for Agribusiness Gippsland Inc and circulated in Word format to subscribers and supporters.

Please circulate this newsletter by email or printout/fax to your colleagues. GOT NEWS?

Ph/email news to ptarmigan2@internode.on.net.

Gippy Diary

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION	CONTACT
Sep 20	Gippsland Region Sustainable Water Strategy community Forum	Bairnsdale	West Gippsland CMA 1300 094 262
Sep 20	Gippsland Region Sustainable Water Strategy community Forum	Orbost	West Gippsland CMA 1300 094 262
Sep 21	Bioenergy Australia quarterly meeting	Canberra	
Sep 21	South Gippsland Shire Council Sustainability Strategy	Leongatha	Desirae Hancock 5662 9311
Sep 22	Heritability of Traits dinner discussion	Newry	Kylie Barry 5624 3900
Sep 22	Green film night	Emerald	Ella Boyen 1300 787 624
Sep 21-22	Farming Ahead 2010 Conference	Sydney, NSW	
Sep 23	Country Race Meet	Sale	1300 139 402
Sep 23	It's all in the Breeding	Fish Creek	Kylie Barry 5624 3900
Sep 23	Morwell Gas Plant Information Session	Traralgon	03 5173 9800
Sep 24	Gippsland Region Sustainable Water Strategy community Forum	Traralgon	West Gippsland CMA 1300 094 262
Sep 25	Casey-Berwick Farmers' Market		
Sep 26	Botanical Illustrators display	Cranbourne	RBG Cranbourne 5990 2245
Sep 26	The secret life of orchids -talk	Cranbourne	RBG Cranbourne 5990 2245

Sep 27	Country Race Meet	Moe	1300 139 402
Sep 29-30	South Gippsland Dairy Expo	Poowong	Deanne Kennedy 5659 4219
Oct 1-3	Women on Farms planning weekend	Buchan	5155 9216
Oct 3	Botanical Illustrators display	Cranbourne	RBG Cranbourne 5990 2245
Oct 3	The secret life of orchids -talk	Cranbourne	RBG Cranbourne 5990 2245
Oct 3	Country Race Meet	Bairnsdale	1300 139 402
Oct 5	Finding Funding Roadshow	Heyfield	Wellington Shire Council 1300 366 244
Oct 5	Webinar: The Climate dogs – What rounds up Victoria’s rainfall?		www.dpi.vic.gov.au/climaterisk
Oct 9	Tidy Towns – Sustainable Communities Award Night	Beechworth	
Oct 12	Access to Finance seminar	Leongatha	13 22 15
Oct 12	Climate Works Low Carbon Growth Plan for Australia	Churchill	Scott Ferraro 5173 9800
Oct 13	Young Agribusiness Professional Forum	Pakenham	Sue Webster 0402 267 802
Oct 14	Country Race Meet	Moe	1300 139 402
Oct 14-15	Sustainable Farm Families workshop	Maffra	Neil Baker 5141 1712
Oct 16-17	‘Growing Friends’ spring plant	Cranbourne	RBG Cranbourne 5990 2245
Oct 17	Ride-to-the-gardens Day	Cranbourne	RBG Cranbourne 5990 2245
Oct 23	Baw Baw Mayoral charity masquerade ball	Warragul	Baw Baw Shire Council 5624 2497
Oct 24	Country Race Meet	Sale	1300 139 402
Oct 30	Country Race Meet	LaTrobe	1300 139 402
Nov 3	Finding Funding Roadshow	Stratford	Wellington Shire Council 1300 366 244
Nov 8-9	Organic Food and Farming	Bairnsdale	0447 368 312
Nov 9	Webinar –Adapting Agriculture to Climate Change and Variability		www.dpi.vic.gov.au/climaterisk
Nov 13	Frogs Frolic		RBG Cranbourne 5990 2245
Nov 26	Dairy Australia AGM	Flemington	Dairy Australia 9694 3777

This regular news digest comes from **Agribusiness Gippsland Inc** which works with farmers, local councils, state and federal government, catchment management authorities, community groups and others to support regional agribusiness and work in partnership with existing regional organisations. Visit <http://agribusinessgippsland.com.au> or www.aginc.wordpress.com.au