



Gippy AGchat April 25, 2011 – Issue 42

Since 1997, non-profit group Agribusiness Gippsland Inc has helped support regional agribusiness by working in partnership with other organisations.
 This edition of our newsletter is going to 3923 recipients.

Our partners (and we thank them):



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- 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

If you enjoy reading GippyAgchat, please mention it to your local councillor, or a board member of the West Gippsland CMA or Southern Rural Water. They're the ones who help fund it ... (And we'd love to find some more) ...

Combet coming to town

The Hon Greg Combet AM MP, the Minister for Climate Change and Energy Efficiency, is coming to Gippsland on May 18 as keynote speaker at a one-day forum examining manufacturing and agriculture in a low-carbon economy. The invitation-only day is being organised by Agribusiness Gippsland, the Gippsland Trades and Labour Council and RMIT University with support from Latrobe City Council.

Agripolitics for future farm leaders

Agribusiness Gippsland is looking for young future farming leaders for a day seeing the business of government first-hand. The Speaker of the Victorian Parliament Ken Smith has offered to host a visit and, if timing allows, will seek to include a session with the Victorian Agriculture Minister Peter Walsh. We are organising a free bus and lunch for attendees and are now accepting names of young people (aged up to 40) involved in agriculture and agribusiness who would like get into the corridors of power.

More? Email your contact details to susanw@ptarmigan.com.au

We bring two top agribusiness events to Gippsland

Agribusiness Gippsland has won the right to stage the 2011 Victorian Agribusiness Summit (we staged it at Cowes two years ago). And we are also in negotiation with ABARE to help stage the regional OUTLOOK conference at Lardner Park on June 29. The Federal Agriculture Minister Joe Ludwig is due to be the keynote speaker for that event. Stay tuned for details.

Exploit the advantages

Gippsland has a natural advantage for tourism trade according to the editor of Royal Auto. Jeremy Bourke addressed the Agribusiness Gippsland lunch held at the Kernot Food and Wine Store this month. He explained some of the trends he has noticed while at the helm of Victoria's largest circulation monthly magazine. "The vibes I'm getting is that small is beautiful," he said. "People haven't got a lot of time. They don't want to spend it in the car, and Gippsland tourism operators are well-placed to exploit that."

He advised tourism operators ignore obvious demographic groupings and instead appeal to interests across various age-groups. Share local legends, provide wildlife experiences ("but you've got to guarantee the wildlife will appear") and offer experiences "that only the locals know about". The lunch was attended by guests from Melbourne to Meeniyan and Sale.

Options for damaged dams detailed

Southern Rural Water is holding a special information night for Thorpdale landowners whose dams were damaged after the recent heavy rainfall on Wednesday, May 4 from 7pm at the Thorpdale Football Ground.

More? Southern Rural Water 1300 139 510

Head east for field day fun!

If you didn't score an invitation to the Royal wedding, visit the 25th annual East Gippsland Field Days on April 29-30 instead. East Gippsland's major annual public event includes displays of agricultural and non-agricultural products, services and information. Bairnsdale Aerodrome is again hosting more than 300 exhibitors and 8000 visitors. The not-for-profit event, run by volunteers from the Lions Club of Lindenow, contributes significant funding back into the community. Tickets are \$15/day (\$5 conc.) and \$30 family/day.

More? 03 5153 1398 or <http://www.egfielddays.com>

Agritourism and farmstays under the spotlight

The major national report into agritourism in Australia features East Gippsland, and on May 25 the East Gippsland Shire with Agribusiness Gippsland, will be holding a free morning workshop examining the findings – and picking up tips from other agritourism hot-spots of Australia. Local agribusiness identity Graham Payne will offer his insights. The event will take place at Lakes Entrance. Refreshments provided. Bookings essential.

More? Phil Rickards PhilR@egipps.vic.gov.au

Casey teams with Monash to grow the local economy

The City of Casey has teamed with Monash University's Faculty of Business and Economics in a new partnership to boost local job creation and business investment. Casey's Economic Development Department has recently relocated to the Monash University Berwick Campus. The move will allow both parties to work on a range of initiatives to help strengthen the local economy and create more local jobs.

More? [City of Casey 03 9705 5200](http://www.cityofcasey.vic.gov.au) or caseycc@casey.vic.gov.au

Ryan launches new Committee for Gippsland

Deputy Premier and Member for Gippsland South Peter Ryan officially launched the Committee for Gippsland at Wild Dog winery in Warragul this month. A steering committee was formed three years ago by several private business people and enterprises. "The Committee for Gippsland has been modelled on similar regional committees such as the Committee for Geelong which has achieved inspirational results in that area," Mr Ryan said.

Land use change discussed at forum

The DPI AgFutures project, local shires and Agribusiness Gippsland are organising a range of forums to examine causes and effects of land use change and future farming opportunities. The spotlight will be on farming in Baw Baw Shire on April 28 from 10am-3pm at Rokeby Hall. Speakers include DPI social researcher Neil Barr, farmer Maria Armistead who redirected her business into direct-sale meat after the 2009 bushfires, and Miranda Sharp discussing establishing an accredited farmer's market. Registrations close April 26.

More? [Karen Thomas 9785 0103](http://www.dpi.vic.gov.au) or email karen.thomas@dpi.vic.gov.au

Special deal for vineyard promotion

The RACV website is extending its coverage of cellar door vineyards and is looking to Gippsland. Sara Schwarz is the person organising the project, part of the RACV's 'Show your card' scheme enticing visitors to visit and buy. A listing on the site, which attracts 35,000 visitors a month, costs \$480/year but, as a special deal for GippyAgchat readers that deal will be for 15 months. Mention GippyAgchat when you speak to Sara.

More? [Sara 0424 379 996](http://www.visitvineyards.com) or sara@visitvineyards.com

Make it Meeniyān ...

Meeniyān Motel provides comfortable and affordable accommodation close to the Prom. It's a great place to stay for old-fashioned country hospitality.

Recently refurbished, the motel has earned a reputation for friendliness and modern amenities.

Meeniyān Motel is suitable for business and leisure travellers, with free wireless internet in all rooms.

Choose from standard, twin, family and spa suites.

All rooms feature ensuite and air-conditioning. The

motel features saltwater swimming pool, BBQ and ample parking and is located at 119 Whitelaw St, Meeniyān. Phone 5664 0030 or visit www.meeniyānmotel.com.au.

Online booking is available. **Meeniyān Motel is a sponsor of Agribusiness Gippsland Inc. Please support them and you'll support us.**



Dairy industry looks to the future

This year's UDV Conference will be held at the Esso BHP Billiton Wellington Entertainment Centre in Sale on Thursday, May 19 and Friday, May 20. The conference looks at market competition, the role of regulation, developing issues such as carbon tax and future dairy representation.

More? [Vin Delahunty 1300 882 833](http://www.vff.org.au) or visit [http://www.vff.org.au/](http://www.vff.org.au)

Flood restoration grants extended to Casey/Cardinia

The Victorian Government Rural Finance Clean-up and Restoration Grants have been extended to include the February flooding in Casey/Cardinia. Up to \$25,000 is available to primary producers who suffered direct physical damage as a result of the floods in Victoria. The funds can be used for clean-up, removal of debris and business restoration.

More? Rural Finance 5448 2600 or admin@ruralfinance.com.au or visit: www.ruralfinance.com.au

A request for mulching knowhow...

A request has come in from Sue O'Donoghue of Green Olive at Red Hill who writes: "We have an olive grove and vineyard on the Mornington Peninsula. We serve breakfast and lunch consisting of farm grown produce. I am wondering if someone can point me in the direction of a reliable cardboard mulching machine or give me some ideas on how to efficiently mulch the many cardboard boxes we receive in our business. I was thinking of a shredding/mulching machine so we could then mix this product with our chook manure, etc. in a compost system and ultimately put it back into the herb and veggie gardens.

More? Sue O'Donoghue 5989 2992 or www.greenolive.com.au

Grow grain for profit

The final entry date for the Southern Farming Systems (SFS) 2011 Dry Land Wheat Competition is June 1. The best crop challenge is open to all SFS Gippsland members. Any variety of wheat grown without irrigation is eligible to enter. Crops will be judged by four impartial grain industry representatives on apparent yield and gross profit margin.

More? Nikki Hellyer 0418 528 715

Challenges for changing climate presented to Commissioner

Gippsland community and business had the opportunity to discuss the challenges and opportunities presented by the changing climate with the Commissioner for Environmental Sustainability, Prof Kate Auty, as she toured the Gippsland region from April 11-15. The Commissioner visited several locations in the Gippsland region to share local actions and stories to further her understanding of the effects of a changing climate and the challenges of ensuring economic, social and environmental sustainability.

The Commissioner will use information gathered from the tour to inform and influence her work on the development the State of Environment Report which is due in 2013.

More? Yvonne Ryczkowski 8636 2066 or yvonne.ryczkowski@ces.vic.gov.au

Is your organisation preparing for a low carbon future?

Harry Freeman from RMIT University writes: "I'm conducting a survey for the DSE and Gippsland Climate Change Network to find out about organisations that are running programs or in some way preparing themselves or their constituents for a low carbon future for the region. I'm familiar with what Agribusiness Gippsland does, I see Alex at the GCCN meetings and I receive GippyAgchat (which, incidentally, I thoroughly enjoy! Thankyou). Are any other groups involved in agriculture or related industries across the region responding to the changing climate or preparing their members for the changes?"

More? harry.freeman@rmit.edu.au

Help available to achieve financial success

Hear what the experts have to say on maintaining cashflow and learn strategies that could spell the difference between success and failure in a Cashflow and Profitability seminar run by Small Business Victoria at the City of Casey Civic Centre, 1 Magid Drive, Narre Warren Thursday, May 26 from 6-8pm. The cost is \$20 per person. To book log onto Small Business Victoria and search for Event ID 5351 at www.business.vic.gov.au/workshops

Feed pastures for profit

In the Feed Pastures for Profit program, farmers can gain skills and confidence in making two major decisions that can significantly impact on farm profit: daily pasture allocation and the optimal amount of supplement to feed in the 'profit zone'.

The course involves two theory days, followed by five on farm days over the year and includes an individual consultation/farm visit. The cost of program is \$375 per person.

The program will commence with day 1 on:

- Wednesday, April 27 from 10.30am-2.30pm in Poowong (day 2 May 4)
- Wednesday, April 27 from 1pm in Athlone (day 2 May 4)
- Thursday, April 28 from 10.30am-2.30pm in Leongatha (day 2 May 5)
- Tuesday, May 1 from 10.30am-2.30pm in Maffra (day 2 May 10)

More? Frank Mickan 5624 2259 or frank.mickan@dpi.vic.gov.au

Find funding

Wellington Shire Council is running a series of workshops to assist people in finding funding. The workshops will cover what you need to think about before applying, tips for writing good applications, and what grants are currently on offer.

The workshops will be held:

- Monday, May 2 at Loch Sport Hall, 7-8.30pm
- Tuesday, May 21 at Gormandale Community House, 7-8.30pm
- Wednesday, June 22 at Maffra Hall, 1-2:30pm
- Wednesday, June 29 at Sale, Wellington Room, 7-8.30pm
- Tuesday, July 5 at Yarram, Pelican Room, 7-8.30pm
- Tuesday, July 5 at Yarram, Pelican Room, 7-8.30pm
- Wednesday, September 28 at Maffra Hall, 7-8.30pm

More? Darren Randle 1300 366 244 or cwadmin@wellington.vic.gov.au

AgriFood ambassadors sought

AgriFood Skills Australia is inviting expressions of interest for its Ambassadors Program, a 12-month project offering training in media and public speaking. A commitment of 10 days is required. Applicants should provide a CV, including referees and a supporting statement about how their industry and leadership experience would promote the agrifood industry. Applications close 30 April.

More? Click on [Ambassadors Program](#)

Pick of the veggie crop

Lindenow vegetable grower Andrew Bulmer has been named young grower of the year at the AusVeg conference in Brisbane. Mr Bulmer, who farms with parents Bill and Bernadette on 280ha at Lindenow, Walpa and Wy Yung, was a finalist in last year's awards.

...MEANWHILE: Deborah Corrigan of Clyde North won the Women in Horticulture award.

Lean to green

AgriFood Skills Australia is running a Lean to Green Program for food processors to assist understanding of resource utilisation, efficiency and wastage, and plan for a long term sustainable competitive advantage. The program, at the Punthill Apartment Hotel in Dandenong, will be delivered on two, half-day sessions, three weeks apart, and follow-up participants' presentations six weeks later. The suggested schedule for the program is:

- Session one: 9am–1pm, Thursday, April 28
- Session two: 9am–1pm, Thursday, May 19
- Participants' presentations: 9am–1pm, Thursday, June 30.

The cost to participate \$79.95. Places are limited.

More? Angela Petty 02 6163 7208 or angela.petty@agrifoodskills.net.au

Agricultural census coming soon

Next June sees the Bureau of Statistics again collecting data for the agricultural census. A total of 170,000 agricultural businesses throughout Australia will have 14 days to fill in the form and get it back to ABS in a reply-paid envelope. Preliminary data are expected to be published before the end of 2011. All information is kept strictly confidential.

Get back to (tax) basics

Tax issues relevant to owning and operating a small business and practical tips for business will be covered at a free ATO Tax Basics seminar on Monday, May 23 from 9.30am-12.30pm at the Casey Civic Centre, 1 Magid Drive, Narre Warren. Bookings are essential.

More? 1300 661 104 or vic.taxbasics@ato.gov.au or visit www.ato.gov.au/seminars

Make your building design and appliances energy efficient

A series of workshops are being held to provide information on what can be done to make homes and offices more energy efficient and save money. A sustainable architect and owners will discuss design, fittings and appliances and a home sustainability assessor will undertake a mini-audit. The free workshops will be held from 10am–1pm on:

- Saturday May 7 in Wonthaggi
- Sunday May 8 in Cowes
- Saturday May 21 in Fish Creek
- Sunday May 22 in Poowong

The location of each workshop will be provided upon RSVP

More? Cassie 5674 8242 or cassiewright@naturematters.com.au

Rising to the fertility challenge

A series of free sessions run by the DPI across Gippsland will investigate possible responses to the fertility challenge. Attendees will gain insights into reproduction and find out how extended lactation could bring reproduction flexibility. Workshop presenters include Jock MacMillan, a world leader in reproduction science with decades of experience in Australia and NZ, Greg O'Brien from DPI Ellinbank, and case study farmers describing how they value extended lactation as a flexible management tool. The sessions will be held at:

- DPI Ellinbank on May 10 from 11am-1pm. Lunch provided.
- Dakers Centre, 23 Smith Street, Leongatha on May 10 from 7-9pm. Supper provided
- DPI Maffra – May 11 from 11am- 1pm. Lunch provided.

Please RSVP to assist with catering.

More? Ashleigh Michael 5662 9901 or ash.michael@dpi.vic.gov.au

VFF announces conference dates

The VFF Annual General Meeting and Conference, and associated commodity conferences, will be held at the Mercure Ballarat Hotel and Convention Centre in Ballarat from Thursday, June 23 until Friday, June 24. The VFF Branch of the Year competition will be awarded at the Gala Dinner at this year's conference. The winning branch will receive \$1500 prize money to support branch activity and the runner up will receive \$500. Nominations close Friday May 27.

More? VFF 1300 882 833 or visit <http://vff.org.au/>

Describe your energy saving mechanisms and win

As part of the Energy Saver initiative from Bendigo Bank and Carbon Down small to medium sized businesses are asked to describe, in 150 words or less, their energy saving ideas.

Along with a major prize of \$10,000 to the business who best describes how they can reduce energy consumption, the first 5000 entrants will receive an energy saving power board. The competition closes at midnight on May 31.

More? Visit www.bendigobank.com.au/campaign/energy-saver-initiative-apr11/index.asp

DPI extension officer to link into Gippsland grain industry

Shayne Mathews has been recruited from NSW by Maffra DPI to build the Gippsland grain industry. Shayne is moving around the district and trying to get to know everyone.

More? Shayne Mathews 5147 0844 or shayne.mathews@dpi.vic.gov.au

Dinner for VFF

The Warragul and district VFF biannual dinner will be held at Drouin Golf Club on May 27. The evening, with MC Mick Urwin, features inspirational speaker Pam Haig from Warragul and starts at 6.30 for 7pm. RSVP by May 18.

More? Linda 5623 5136

Opportunities exist in China

The Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF) is seeking applications from groups in the agriculture, fisheries and forestry sectors looking to enhance cooperation and develop linkages with China, including:

- farm, forestry, aquaculture and seafood enterprises
- industry groups
- rural and regional associations
- education, research and academic institutions.

Six delegations of four Australians will visit China between January 1, 2012 and June 30, 2013. Most expenses including flights and accommodation will be covered. Applications close 5pm Friday, May 27.

More? DAFF 1800 019 193 or acaca@daff.gov.au or www.daff.gov.au/acaca

Make genetic improvement work for you

A series of SELECTABULL workshops is open to all dairy farmers and industry service providers to help make genetic improvement to build breeding objectives and simplify bull selection using a web-based tool. The workshops will be held on:

- Monday, May 2 from 10:30am-2pm at the National Centre for Dairy Education Australia (NCDEA), 424 Mason St Warragul
- Tuesday May 3 from 10:30am-2pm at the National Centre for Dairy Education Australia (NCDEA), Corner of Smith St and Peart St, Leongatha
- Tuesday May 17 from 10:30am-2pm at the Department of Primary Industries, 1 Stratford Road, Maffra
- Wednesday, May 18 from 10:30am-2pm at the Yarram Community Learning Centre, 310 Commercial Rd, Yarram.

Registration is essential, as numbers are limited.

More? Ashleigh Michael 03 5662 9901

Helping small businesses succeed

A series of free workshops and seminars are being run in response to research by the Wellington and East Gippsland Shire Councils and the state government that show many new small businesses are ill-equipped to financially manage a business.

The workshops aim to assist businesses understand taxation requirements and other aspects of running a business such as invoicing, debt management record keeping and cashflow.

The seminars include:

- Financial Management and Taxation for Small Business on May 5 from 5-8pm in the Wellington Room, 70 Foster St, Sale. A working dinner will be provided.
- Financial Management for Small Business on May 25 from 6-9pm in the Wellington Room, 70 Foster St headquarters in Sale. A working dinner will be provided.

More? Paula Duncombe 5142 3487 or paula.duncombe@wellington.vic.gov.au

Learn stacks about tax

The Australian Taxation Office is offering a free 'record keeping' workshop in Bairnsdale on May 5 from 9am-12.30pm at the Bairnsdale RSL, 2 Forge Ck Rd, Bairnsdale. Register at:

<http://www.ato.gov.au/corporate/Seminar.asp?state=VIC&program=TB&alias=seminarsvic>

Get the best from your website

Discover easy-to-use strategies for increasing website traffic, using key words to improve page rank, the art of blogging, measuring traffic and much more at the Your Business On-line seminar. The seminar suits those with existing websites. It will be held on May 10 from 6-9.30pm at Suite 7/61 Smith Street, Warragul. The cost is \$30.

More? Visit: www.business.vic.gov.au/workshops

Welcoming the world

Learn to showcase your tourism business through online videos and social networking hubs at a "Welcoming the World" Web Works workshop. The workshop also look at tools for measuring the effectiveness of online presence, online marketing campaigns and tracking the customer, client and supporter sentiment. The workshop will be held on Thursday, May 5 from 5.45-9pm at the Civic Centre, 1 Magid Drive, Narre Warren. This is a free event but bookings are essential. Book online at:

www.chisholm.edu.au/studyAreas/CABS/BEC/Pages/WebworksforBusiness.aspx.

More? Business and Enterprise Centre 9238 8550

OH&S policy made available to all

An OH&S policy that could be useful for dairy farmers is available online for free.

The policy, developed by DemoDAIRY in Western Victoria, is now available for farmers to adapt for their own enterprises.

The policy has been developed in consultation with industry experts and the People in Dairy website and has incorporates details from the CGU Insurance Risk Radar program.

The 44-page document covers plant use, seasonal labour hire, chainsaw safety, induction of workers, chemical and hazardous substances and working in isolated areas.

It is available at www.demodairy.org.au under the 'policies' section.

Young farmers invited to apply for management program

Applications for the 2011 Rabobank Farm Managers Program are open until April 29 with the number of participants limited to 36. The program will be held at Clear Mountain Lodge in Brisbane from June 20-24.

More? Nerida Sweetapple 02 8115 4139 or bmp@rabobank.com

Ride the dairy roller coaster

How to manage the farm business in a variable climate will be discussed at a Dairying for Tomorrow workshop in Yarram on May 24. The day will cover:

- Managing Farm Finances on the Roller Coaster Ride – Colin Wright, Phillipson's, Sale
- Managing Farm Business Risk in a Variable Climate – John Mulvany, OnFarm Consulting
- Understanding the carbon future and impacts on dairy businesses – Neil Baker, Macalister Demo Farm

This is a free event with lunch provided. RSVP essential by May 20.

More? Gillian Hayman 0428 345 493 or ghayman@dcsi.net.au

Drought assistance still available

Property owners may be entitled to \$5500 worth of free professional advice, through Professional Advice and Planning Grants, as a result of farming in a Drought Exceptional Circumstances-declared area. The Exceptional Circumstances provision has been extended to April 30 for Central and East Gippsland. Applications for the funding must be made before June 12. Eligibility is not affected by the level of farm income or off-farm income.

More? Drought Assistance Hotline 13 23 16 or visit

http://www.daff.gov.au/agriculturefood/drought/ec/victoria/central_east_gippsland

Win awards for keeping clean

The 2011 Keep Australia Beautiful Victoria (KABV) Tidy Towns – Sustainable Communities Awards, Sustainable Cities and Clean Beaches Award programs are calling for entries. Councils, community groups and organisations, schools and individuals can enter in the following categories: Community Action; Cultural Heritage; Towards Zero Waste; Protection of the Environment; Community Government Partnerships; Water Conservation; Efficient Energy; Young Leaders; Friendly Beach; Community Leadership. Entries close June 3.

More? KABV webpages at <http://www.sustainability.vic.gov.au/www/html/2890-kabv-awards.asp?intSiteID=4>

Learn to lead

The enrolments for the Traralgon Regional Leadership Series, presented by Gippsland TAFE and the Australian Human Resources Institute (AHRI), are now open.

The series will run as eight sessions from May to early December:

- May 12 – Introduction to leadership
- June 9 – The Totally intelligent leader (emotional intelligence)
- July 7 – Strategic leadership
- August – 11 Creativity and Change
- September 8 – Problem Solving
- October 13 – Aligning Strategy and Culture to Drive Performance
- November 10 – Sustained Success and Succession
- December 8 – Review and Action Learning

The series will be held at the Century Inn, 5 Airfield Road, Traralgon. Each session runs from 7-10am and includes a fully-catered breakfast. Cost: \$1895/participant

More? Kelvin Slade 5622 8526 kelvins@gippstafe.edu.au or visit www.regionalleadership.ahri.com.au/

Baw Baw community grants open soon

The Baw Baw Shire Council 2011 Community Development Grants program offers non-profit organisations, groups and associations assistance with projects, programs, equipment or events. Information sessions will be held in the Fountain Room, West Gippsland Arts Centre, Civic Place, Warragul on Monday, May 16 from 6-9pm. A separate training workshop for those interested in applying online will be held with the date to be confirmed. Deadline 5pm, Tuesday, May 31. Application forms and guidelines at: www.bawbawshire.vic.gov.au.

More? Joy Russell 5624 2483 or grants@bawbawshire.vic.gov.au

It's time to share!

The Poowong Produce Swap occurs on the first Sunday of each month at Poowong Public Hall, Nyora Rd. The next swap is May 1. An annual registration fee of \$5 covers advertising and workshop costs.

More? Tammy Logan 5659 2308 or tammylogan@bigpond.com

Participants sought for paddock scale wheat trial

Southern Farming Systems has grower members planning an on-farm paddock scale trial of comparative cropping systems for wheat. If you are intending to plant wheat (any variety) this season, your participation is welcome.

More? Bruce Dixon 0417 154 945 or bdixon@sfs.org.au

National Alpaca Week celebrated with open farm event

Julana Alpacas is celebrating National Alpaca Week by holding two open farm weekends that include information on alpacas and farm set-up, alpacas and fleece available to handle, and alpaca products available for purchase.

The open farm at 69 Marslens Road, Hill End will be held from 10am-4pm on:

- Saturday, May 7 to Tuesday, May 10
- Friday, May 13 to Sunday, May 15.

More? Julie Parker 5635 4288 or julanalpaca@bigpond.com

Maximise ryegrass and forages

Joe Jacobs and Neil Lane highlight gains in perennial ryegrass management and forage options trialled in the 3030 project at field day at Ben and Peta Thexton's property, 1961 Hyland Hwy, Gormandale on Tuesday, May 3 from 10:30am-2pm.

More? Neil Lane 0413 200 224

SFS elects new committee

The recent Southern Farming System AGM saw the election of the 2011 committee:

- Ben Morris- President/Chairperson
- Trent Anderson – Vice President
- Trevor Caithness – Director
- Gary Condron – Industry Representative
- Shayne Mathews – DPI Representative
- Courtney Ferguson
- Murray Stewart
- Patrick Feeney

More? Nikki Hellyer 0418 528 715

Farmers making more from healthy soils

A healthy soils field day will be held on Darryl and Margret Hook's property 320 Pound Creek Rd, Pound Creek on Thursday, May 5 from 10am-3pm. The field day features:

- DPI's Damian Bougoure explaining nutrient cycling in the context of healthy soils, soil biology, why it is important and how it can be measured and monitored.
- Darryl Hook discussing the use of chook poo and compost teas to replace traditional fertilisers, levels of production and costs of inputs, and eliminating the acid root mat through grazing and nutrient management
- Gerhard Grasser (Soil Health Consultant) talking about the practical aspects of making compost teas.

The day includes a BBQ lunch. Please RSVP to indicate your attendance. Buses to the field day will leave from two departure points at 9.30pm and return by 4pm.

More? Dave Bateman 0488 399 151 or d.bateman@basscoast.vic.gov.au

Agfutures plans a full program of events

Bass Coast Shire Council, South Gippsland Shire Councils and the Department of Primary Industries are running a number of Ag Futures events over the coming months.

The next three events will be held in Inverloch and will cover the following topics:

- Climate variability with speaker Dale Grey DPI Climate Variability Agronomist on Thursday, June 9 from 10:30am-2:30pm at the Inverloch Community Hall
- Land capability and diversification on Wednesday June 22 (TBC) from 10:30am-3pm at the Inverloch Community Hall
- Value adding and marketing on Thursday July 7 (TBC) from 10:30am-3pm at the Inverloch Community Hall.

More? Roslyn Jenzen 5951 3317 or r.jenzen@basscoast.vic.gov.au

Riding of the Bounds rides again

The City of Casey will hold its 22nd Riding of the Bounds event on Sunday, May 1 when riders gather to honour a tradition begun in Casey's sister city, Berwick upon Tweed in the UK, more than 500 years ago.

The Riding of the Bounds will start at Akoonah Park, Berwick with registrations from 8 am.

The ride commences at 10 am. Entry costs \$15 per person, \$30 families and \$65 for groups.

At the conclusion of the ride, there will be a barbecue lunch and an awards ceremony.

More? City of Casey Customer Service 9705 5200 or visit www.casey.vic.gov.au/ridingofthebounds

Swap your excess produce in Yarragon

The Yarragon Produce Swap now meets at 2.30pm on the first and third Wednesdays of each month at St. Mark's Anglican Church, Loch Street, Yarragon. Product swaps will be held on May 4 and 18.

More? [Tom Nevell 5633 3245](tel:56333245) or tomn_123@hotmail.com

Power bills explained

Bring your electricity and gas bills for the past 12 months to free, domestic energy workshops developed by the Baw Baw Sustainability Network. The workshops help save money on electricity and gas bills, which also helps the environment. The next workshop is on Wednesday, May 18 from 2.30pm at the Warragul Community House.

More? [Steve Walsh 56523 2857](tel:565232857) or steve@dcsl.net.au

Young professionals on the move

The next meeting of the South Gippsland Agribusiness Professionals (SGAP) will be held in Inverloch on Wednesday, May 2.

More? [James Clark 0427 344 356](tel:0427344356) or sgap@live.com.au

Trawl projects are steaming ahead

Simon Boag, from Lakes Entrance-based South East Trawl Fishing Industry Association (SETFIA), reports that the introduction of seabird management plans for otterboard trawl vessels is ahead of schedule, with more than 50% of vessels covered. All are due to have plans by the end of 2011. He also reports completion of the at-sea portion of the \$1.5m orange roughly acoustic survey that SETFIA is managing with CSIRO. A project report will be released in late April.

Help available for your water works

DPI's Farm Water Solutions team works with service and training providers, water authorities, retailers and farming communities to develop up to date information and resources, design and deliver extension programs and build capacity in the areas of farm water supply.

More? [Valerie Little 5573 0714](tel:55730714)

Research for a better dairy future on display

A snapshot of the research investment by the DairyFutures Cooperative Research Centre and the Australian Dairy Herd Improvement Scheme that enables farmers to make confident decisions to improve herds will be given in two workshops on April 28.

Guest speakers are Dr Ben Hayes of the Department of Primary Industries Biosciences Research Division describing the work to identify cows that have inherently better feed conversion efficiency, and Michelle Axford of the ADHIS.

The sessions will be held on:

- Thursday April 28 from 7:45–9:30am at DPI Ellinbank, 1301 Hazeldean Rd, Ellinbank. Continental breakfast provided
- Thursday, April 28 from 3:45–5:30pm at the Maffra DPI office 1 Stratford Road, Maffra. Afternoon tea provided

Please register your intention to attend.

More? [Darold Klindworth 5624 2269](tel:56242269) or Darold.Klindworth@dpi.vic.gov.au

Roles and responsibilities explained

Register your place at the "Roles, responsibilities, liabilities and protections of boards and committees" session scheduled to take place on Wednesday May 25 from 9:30am-12:30pm at the City of Casey Civic Centre, Magid Drive, Narre Warren. This workshop, presented by PilchConnect, is suitable for staff and boards of community organisations and explains the roles and legal responsibilities in running an effective community organisation. Places are limited. Register at <http://www.vcross.org.au/clearinghouse/>

More? [Hayley Peck 9654 5050](tel:96545050) or hayley.peck@vcross.org.au

Rural business scholarship opens for young Australians

Woolworths is offering 30 young Australians the opportunity to attend the 2011 Woolworths Agricultural Business Scholarship program.

The 12-day course offers a broad academic perspective on the business of agriculture from University of Western Sydney lecturers, Woolworths business leaders and industry experts. Woolworths will fund the cost of your domestic travel to and from Sydney and will pay for accommodation and meals during the 12-day course. Applications close Friday May 13.

More? <https://woolworths.taleo.net/careersection/5/jobdetail.ftl?lang=en&job=100110>

Follow the label and keep our markets open

Fungal diseases in cereal crops are expected to have a big impact on the 2011 cropping season and to ensure continued market access growers are being urged to take care when using fungicide chemicals. To maintain access to markets, growers should ensure they carefully follow product label directions used to treat rust.

More? David Rumbold 5430 4444 or visit <http://new.dpi.vic.gov.au/agriculture/farming-management/chemical-use/>

Feeding rain-damaged crops to cows

Dairy farmers are reminded to ensure they receive a by-product vendor declaration when purchasing rain-damaged fruit and vegetables for use as stockfeed as it may have been treated with various agricultural chemicals, including insecticides and fungicides.

Although the chemicals may be registered for use on human food crops, they might not be registered for use on crops destined for use as stockfeed.

By-product vendor declarations are available from Meat and Livestock Australia (MLA) website, www.mla.com.au.

SafeMeat Australia has also conducted specific risk assessments on the use of certain by-product stockfeeds. These are available from www.safemeat.com.au.

Further information on managing chemical residue risks in by-product stockfeed is available from your chemical reseller or manufacturer, industry body or from the Department of Primary Industries website, www.dpi.vic.gov.au/chemicalstandards.

Trial producing healthy soil outcomes

A healthy soil field day will be held Thursday, May 12 at Lee and Stephen Storti's Property, 44 Brownes Rd, Kongwak. The day will feature:

- Grassland Management Consultant Graeme Hand discussing holistic management
- Lee Storti speaking about maintaining production levels with minimal inputs and reducing cape weed and increasing water retention through extended grazing
- Kimberly Damsma from Monash University presenting the soil health scorecard results, what they tell us about soil health and how this connects to extended grazing.

BBQ lunch provided. Please RSVP if you are interested in participating in this field day.

More? Dave Bateman 0488 399 151 or d.bateman@basscoast.vic.gov.au

Changing rural landscape

Neil Barr, DPI rural social researcher will speak at a DPI Agfutures forum on Wednesday, May 4 in Buffalo/Fish Creek. He will discuss:

- what influences terms of trade decline
- why the farming goalposts keep moving
- the cause and effect of rural population and land use change on our communities
- South Gippsland Shire and making the most from the change.

This free event includes a photo exhibition for which landholders are invited to contribute digital photos depicting: 'Your changing rural landscape: past, present and future'.

Awards will be present in four categories: best overall photo, best historical photo, best future photo, and honourable mention. The dinner and exhibition will be held from 5.30-9:30pm at the Fishy Pub, Old Waratah Rd, Fish Creek. Please RSVP or send photo entries to Karen Thomas by Wednesday, April 27.

More? Karen Thomas 9785 0103 or karen.thomas@dpi.vic.gov.au

Understand your financial statements

Learn how to read and use financial statements to make sound business decisions based on fact at a seminar at Suite 7/61 Smith Street, Warragul from 6-8pm on June 21. The cost of attendance is \$20. Refreshments provided.

More? Visit www.business.vic.gov.au/workshops (ID: 5429)

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/Gippsland attendees.



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

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

Apply now for Cardinia business awards

The seventh Cardinia Shire Business Awards are open with large and small local businesses encouraged to enter. With 13 categories, the annual awards celebrate the excellence, success and innovation of Cardinia Shire's business operators. Winners will share in over \$5000 in prizes to be presented at a gala dinner at the Cardinia Cultural Centre on Friday, May 20. Application forms are available [online](http://www.cardinia.vic.gov.au) at <http://www.cardinia.vic.gov.au>.

More? Cardinia Shire Council Business Development Officer 1300 787 624

Open your gates to urban dwellers

FarmDay encourages farmers to open their gates on the weekend of May 28-29 and invite an urban family to share a day with them to help build urban support for agriculture. Registrations are open. Those willing to participate can register online at www.farmday.com.au

More? Deb Bain 1300 367 036 or deb@farmday.com.au

DPI helps dairy farmers pump up the protein

MilkPlus, a project that could see more protein in Victoria's milk and more money for dairy farmers, was launched recently at Terang by the Geoffrey Gardiner Foundation, Warrnambool Cheese and Butter Factory (WCBF) and the DPI. The three-year project, led by Dr Adriana Robaina, pinpointed cost-effective ways to boost protein content of milk. The project found that high-protein-producing farms fed high-protein meal to herds, had moderate use of N-fertiliser and fed concentrates during transition. Pasture management, including growing later-maturing ryegrasses, endophyte-resistance and varieties that were more digestible as well as an emphasis on feeding silage, were found to be important. Other factors were maximising growth and harvest of home-grown feeds and managing heat stress in cows.

More? Visit <http://milkplus.wcbf.com.au>

Casey community grants program opens

The City of Casey offers financial assistance of up to \$3000 to not-for-profit community groups and organisations providing services that benefit the community through: art and cultural; events; diversity and harmony; and health and wellbeing. Applications close May 13.

More? Visit <http://www.casey.vic.gov.au/fundingandgrants/>

Community markets open to all

The Yarragon community craft and produce market is held on the fourth Saturday of the month from 9am-2pm at the Yarragon Public Hall. The next market is on Saturday, May 28.

More? Allison Butterworth 5634 2209

The Gippsland Heritage Park Market is held on the last Saturday of the month from 10am-2pm at Gippsland Heritage Park, Moe. The next market is on Saturday, April 30.

More? 5127 3082

The Rokeby Community Market meets at the Rokeby Reserve on the second Saturday of month from 8am-1pm from September to May. The next market is on Saturday, May 14.

More? Rhianna 5626 8523

The Drouin Craft and Produce Market is held on the third Saturday of month from 8am-12.30pm at Drouin Civic Park. The next market is on Saturday, May 21.

More? Bill Petschack 5625 3360

The Emerald Community Craft and Produce Market is held on the third Sunday of the month from 9am-3pm. The next market is on Sunday, May 22.

More? Non Blair 0419 345 750 or blairnd@bigpond.com

Maffra Variety and Farmer's Market is a fresh produce and make it/bake it and full variety market with over 40 stalls in Johnson St, Maffra. The next market is Sunday, May 1.

More? Mark Watson 0408 057 772 or squirtmark@bigpond.com

The Heyfield community market is held on the first Saturday of each month from 8am-12.30pm at the Dr John Graves Memorial Park in Temple Street. The next market is May 7.

More? Heather Cahill 5148 2780 or hjcahill@bigpond.net.au

Sale Farmer's Market is a fresh produce and make it/bake it market held on the third Saturday of each month from 8am-12pm at Skate Park lawns, Foster St, Sale. The next market is Saturday, May 21.

More? Mark Watson 0408 057 772 or squirtmark@bigpond.com

The Stratford Community Market is being held 9am-1pm on Sunday, May 22 at Apex Park Stratford.

More? Mark Watson 0408 057 772 or squirtmark@bigpond.com

Managing small beef herds

Half-day workshops are being run at a property in Allambee by the Department of Primary Industries to help the owners of smaller farms better understand what is involved in setting up a beef enterprise. The workshops will be held on:

- Saturday, April 30 from 9am-12.30pm focussing on cattle health and selling cattle
- Saturday, May 14 from 9am-12.30pm focussing on growing better pastures

The cost is \$15 per workshop to cover morning tea and printed materials. Please register your intention to attend.

More? Fiona Baker 5624 2234

Burning off timber affects soil acidity

Scientists from Charles Sturt University and Farming Horizons found it is possible that burning of timber stacks and windrows on land recently cleared for agriculture may add alkali to soil. They found significant increases in soil pH and extractable Ca to at least 0.20m for up to 20 years after timber had been burnt.

More? Soil Research 49(3) 223-230 doi:10.1071/SR10076

Take action on training

A Training Action Forum has been organised as part of the Eastern Gippsland Industry Workforce Development Strategy, after research highlighted local workforce development issues for priority industries including the availability, relevance and quality of training. The three-hour forum provides a unique opportunity to learn about changes to the funding of training in Victoria and how best to get training needs met.

The Workforce Training Action Forum will be facilitated by Brian Spencer from Optin Solutions and will be held in the Wellington Room, Sale Civic Centre, 70 Foster Street, Sale on Monday, May 9 from 2-5pm. Registration essential for catering purposes.

More? Geoff Sheehan 0488 678 467 or gsheehan@optinsolutions.com.au

Market gets crafty

Lardner Park Market features regional arts, craft and fresh produce in a diverse range of stalls. From the traditional to contemporary, an eclectic mix of textures, materials and surfaces make up a huge range of products all hand made from original designs. The market will be held on Sunday, May 15 from 10am-3pm. Entry is free but a \$3 car park fee applies.

More? Craft Markets Australia 5976 3266 or visit www.craftmarkets.com.au

Open call for applications for Caring for Our Country grants

The Australian Government Caring for our Country funding is available for successful projects that will contribute to the achievement of targets listed in the priorities for investment section in the 2011-12 business plan.

This is the main avenue for competitive Caring for our Country funding. Proposals are invited that will deliver against multiple targets in an integrated way, or deliver against a single target.

More? www.nrm.gov.au/business-plan/11-12/index.html

Watts the new Executive Officer's name?

Dr Nicola Watts has been appointed East Gippsland Food Cluster Executive Officer. Cluster members currently include Bonaccord, Bulmers Family Farm, Dennison Foods, Frais Farms, Kerton Farms, Patties Foods, and Vegco. The cluster, together with East Gippsland TAFE, is about to launch e-learning materials to support training and development for the food sector.

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

Meetings next month are:

- May 8: Sale
- May 17: Moe
- May 26: Sale

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

Swap your excess produce in Trafalgar

The Trafalgar Produce Swap meets second Saturday of each month from 9-11am at St Mary's Anglican Church, corner Contingent St and Church St, Trafalgar. Bring along anything you have on hand to share and or swap – flowers, seedlings, cuttings, vegies, fruit, preserves, jams, chutney or anything made from your garden. The next produce swap is May 8.

More? Phoebe Hicks 5633 2304

Beanie bonanza for a better future

Creative people are needed to make and donate beanies and tea cosies to help raise money for children in Farkwa, Tanzania. There will be an exhibition and sale of beanies from 10am-1pm at 'The Stables, 58 Service St, Bairnsdale on Saturday May 21, followed by a dinner of international cuisine, a beanie auction, African music and photographs of Farkwa. Dinner is \$30 per person. Bookings are essential.

More? Anne 5156 2579 or rosemary@netspace.net.au

Young social pioneers sought

The Foundation for Young Australians' Young Social Pioneers Program is looking for 14 inspiring, young people, who are working with purpose and passion for a social cause. Each pioneer receives \$22,000 of in-kind support for themselves and their project. This includes 12 months of tailored skills development; including airfare and accommodation costs; matching with an experienced mentor; and exclusive professional networking opportunities.

Applications close June 3.

More? Visit www.youngsocialpioneers.org.au/

Financial accounting for boards explained

Accounting concepts in plain English and practical and relevant financial management examples will be presented at a one-day workshop for staff and boards of community organisations. The workshop is presented by Matrix on Board at the Nambur Wariga Room, Latrobe City Corporate Headquarters, Morwell from 9am-5pm on May 26.

More? Hayley Peck 9654 5050 or hayley.peck@vcoss.org.au

Professor Garnaut visit productive

The visit of climate change advisor Professor Ross Garnaut to address Latrobe City's Low Carbon Transition committee has been hailed a success.

Latrobe City mayor, Councillor Darrell White, said that having Professor Garnaut attend the inaugural meeting was a significant highlight for the committee and provided a clear context for taking the necessary steps to be prepared for what the future may bring to the region.

More? LaTrobe City Council 1300 367 700 or latrobe@latrobe.vic.gov.au

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 OFFERED:

Seeking short-term farm manager

A temporary farm manager is required to milk on a 220 cow farm in Gippsland. If you can be available for a few days or through to a week please call.

More? Gavin 0425 825 288

Are you available to give a (dairy) hand?

Dairy farm hand required. 400 cow farm in Pakenham.

More? Will 0428 611 008 or j_oceans@hotmail.com

WORK SOUGHT:

Need the skills of an IT or accounting graduate?

Organisations are being sought to host international students for a 12-week internship as part of Swinburne College's Professional Year Programs in Accounting and Computer Science.

The program is aimed at former international students who have a bachelor or master degree in accounting or information technology from a recognised Australian institution.

The Skilled Migration Internship Program: Accounting has been developed in conjunction with CPA Australia, the Institute of Chartered Accountants and the National Institute of Accountants. Internships are unpaid and there is no financial cost to the host organisation.

More? Leo Slattery 9214 8080 or ltslattery@swin.edu.au or visit

<http://www.swinburne.edu.au/college/professional-year-programs/host-companies.html>

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



Want to reach the right audience? More than 3900 '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

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 a current ABN and 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 gregorynlewis@southernphone.com.au

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: agribusiness logo, agince, dieldden affected areas in Victoria and DPI and vegetables, agritourism + environmental sustainability.

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
Apr 27, May 4	Feeding Pastures For Profit program	Athlone	Frank Mickan 5624 2259
Apr 27, May 4	Feeding Pastures For Profit program	Poowong	Frank Mickan 5624 2259
Apr 28	Forum: Causes and effects of land use change on farming in Baw Baw Shire	Rokeby	Karen Thomas 9785 0103
Apr 28	Sustainability Strategy stakeholder workshop	Sale	Wellington Shire Council 1300 366 244
Apr 28	Lean to Green Program- Session One	Dandenong	Angela Petty 02 6163 7208
Apr 28	Service Provider Update on Genetics	Ellinbank, V	03 5624 2269

Apr 28	Service Provider Update on Genetics	Maffra, V	03 5624 2269
Apr 28, May 5	Feeding Pastures For Profit program	Leongatha	Frank Mickan 5624 2259
Apr 29-30	East Gippsland Field days	Bairnsdale	
Apr 30	Gippsland Heritage Park Market	Moe	5127 3082
Apr 30	Managing small beef herds workshop	Allambee	Fiona Baker 5624 2234
May 1	Poowong Produce Swap	Poowong	Tammy Logan 5659 2308
May 1	Riding of the Bounds	Berwick	City of Casey 9705 5200
May 1	Maffra Variety and Farmer's Market	Maffra	Mark Watson 0408 057 772
May 2	South Gippsland Agribusiness Professionals	Inverloch	James Clark 0427 344 356
May 2	SELECTABULL workshop	Warragul	Ashleigh Michael 5662 9901
May 2	Finding Funding Workshop	Loch	Darren Randle 1300 366 244
May 3	SELECTABULL workshop	Leongatha	Ashleigh Michael 5662 9901
May 3	Maximising Ryegrass and Forages Field Day	Gormandale	0413 200 224
May 3, 10	Feeding Pastures For Profit program	Maffra	Bree Walshe 5147 0834
May 4	Reproductive performance workshop	Cobden	Rachael Campbell 5233 5507
May 4	Agfutures dinner and picture exhibition	Fish Creek	Karen Thomas 9785 0103
May 4	Yarragon Produce Swap	Yarragon	Tom Nevell 5633 3245
May 4	Damaged dam information night	Thorpdale	Southern Rural Water 1300 139 510
May 5	Financial Management and Taxation for Small Business	Sale	Paula Duncombe 5142 3487
May 5	Record keeping workshop	Bairnsdale	http://www.ato.gov.au/corporate/Seminar.asp?state=VIC&program=TB&alias=seminarsvic
May 5	Welcoming the World (Tourism and Hospitality) internet workshop	Narre Warren	9238 8550
May 5	Healthy soils field day	Pound Creek	Dave Bateman 0488 399 151
May 7	Energy efficient building design and appliances workshop	Wonthaggi	Cassie Wright 5674 8242
May 7	Heyfield Community Market	Hayfield	Heather Cahill 5148 2780
May 8	Energy efficient building design and appliances workshop	Cowes	Cassie Wright 5674 8242
May 8	Country Race Meet	Sale	1300 139 402
May 8	Trafalgar Produce Swap	Trafalgar	Phoebe Hicks 5633 2304
May 9	Workforce Training Action Forum	Sale	
May 10	Your Business On-line seminar	Warragul	www.business.vic.gov.au/workshops
May 10	Reproductive performance workshop	Ellinbank	Ashleigh Michael 5662 9901
May 10	Reproductive performance workshop	Leongatha	Ashleigh Michael 5662 9901
May 11	Reproductive performance workshop	Maffra	Ashleigh Michael 5662 9901
May 12	Soil Heath Field Day	Kongwak	Dave Bateman 0488 399 151
May 13	South Gippsland Landcare Network Landcare (SGLN) Awards	Dumbalk	
May 14	Rokeyby Community Market	Rokeyby	Rhianna 5626 8523

May 14	Managing small beef herds workshop	Allambee	Fiona Baker 5624 2234
May 15	Lardner Park Market	Warragul	Craft Markets Australia 5976 3266
May 16	Baw Baw Shire Council Community Development Grants program information session	Warragul	Joy Russell 5624 2483
May 17	SELECTABULL workshop	Maffra, V	Ashleigh Michael 5662 9901
May 17	Country Race Meet	Moe	1300 139 402
May 18	Manufacturing and agriculture in a low-carbon economy forum	Morwell	5133 7684
May 18	SELECTABULL workshop	Maffra, V	Ashleigh Michael 5662 9901
May 18	Domestic Energy Workshop	Warragul	Steve Walsh 5623 2857
May 18	Yarragon Produce Swap	Yarragon	Tom Nevell 5633 3245
May 19	Lean to Green Program- Session Two	Dandenong	Angela Petty 02 6163 7208
May 19,20	UDV conference	Sale	Vin Delahunty 1300 882 833
May 20	Cardinia Shire Business Awards Gala dinner	Cardinia	1300 787 624
May 21	Drouin Community Market	Drouin	Bill Petschack 5625 3360
May 21	Beanie Bonanza	Bairnsdale	Phoebe Hicks 5633 2304
May 21	Finding Funding Workshop	Gormandale	Darren Randle 1300 366 244
May 21	Energy efficient building design and appliances workshop	Fish Creek	Cassie Wright 5674 8242
May 21	Sale Variety and Farmer's Market	Sale	Mark Watson 0408 057 772
May 22	Energy efficient building design and appliances workshop	Poowong	Cassie Wright 5674 8242
May 22	Emerald Community Market	Emerald	Non Blair 0419 345 750
May 22	Stratford Variety and Farmer's Market	Stratford	Mark Watson 0408 057 772
May 23	ATO Tax Basics seminar	Narre Warren	1300 661 104
May 24	Managing the farm business in a variable climate	Yarram, V	0428 345 493
May 25	Financial Management for Small Business	Sale	Paula Duncombe 5142 3487
May 25	Roles, responsibilities, liabilities and protections of boards and committees seminar	Narre Warren	Hayley Peck 9654 5050
May 26	Country Race Meet	Sale	1300 139 402
May 26	Cashflow and Profitability Seminar	Narre Warren	www.business.vic.gov.au/workshop
May 26	Financial accounting for boards and committees seminar	Morwell	Hayley Peck 9654 5050
May 27	Warragul and district VFF biannual dinner	Drouin	Linda 5623 5136
May 28	Koala Information Night	Leongatha	Courtney Lever 5662 5759
May 28	Yarragon Community Craft and Produce Market	Yarragon	Allison Butterworth 5634 2209
May 28	Gippsland Heritage Park Market	Moe	5127 3082
May 28-29	FarmDay		Deb Bain 1300 367 036
Jun 5	Poowong Produce Swap	Poowong	Tammy Logan 5659 2308
Jun 9	Agfutures- climate variability	Inverloch	Roslyn Jenzen 5951 3317
Jun 11	Rokeyby Community Market	Rokeyby	Rhianna 5626 8523
Jun 18	Drouin Community Market	Drouin	Bill Petschack 5625 3360
Jun 19	Emerald Community Market	Emerald	Non Blair 0419 345 750
June 21	Understanding financial statements seminar	Warragul	www.business.vic.gov.au/workshops
Jun 22	Agfutures- land capability and	Inverloch	Roslyn Jenzen 5951 3317

	diversification		
Jun 22	Finding Funding Workshop	Maffra	Darren Randle 1300 366 244
June 23-24	VFF Annual General Meeting and Conference	Ballarat	VFF 1300 882 833
June 25	Yarragon Community Craft and Produce Market	Yarragon	Allison Butterworth 5634 2209
Jun 29	Finding Funding Workshop	Wellington	Darren Randle 1300 366 244
Jun 30	Lean to Green Program- Session Three	Dandenong	Angela Petty 02 6163 7208
Jul 5	Finding Funding Workshop	Yarram	Darren Randle 1300 366 244
Jul 7	Agfutures- value adding and marketing	Inverloch	Roslyn Jenzen 5951 3317
Aug 1-2	Australia-New Zealand Climate Change and Business Conference	Wellington, NZ	Elizabeth Edmonds 0413 439 573
Sept 28	Finding Funding Workshop	Maffra	Darren Randle 1300 366 244

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

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