



# Gippy AGchat July 18, 2011 – Issue 46

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 4316 recipients.

## Our partners (and we thank them):



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- Have you visited our website? <http://agribusinessgippsland.com.au>
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- 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) ...**

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## Gippsland gets its act together at ABARES/AGI conference

We did it! We organised a conference that booked out motels from Drouin to Morwell. We had more than 100 people each day share insights into agribusiness. And if we didn't completely shift rain clouds to all of Victoria's dry areas we made a good attempt. And all organised inside eight weeks.

Agribusiness Gippsland organised the Australian Bureau of Agricultural Resource Economics and Science (ABARES) regional conference and the annual Victorian agribusiness forum.

The event attracted attendees from Canberra, Sydney and across Victoria, who reported it booked out motels from Drouin to Morwell.

We saw up to 140 people a day plus about 100 people attending the dinner, while the summit included a presentation by the Victorian Minister for Primary Industries, Peter Walsh.

Agribusiness Gippsland hosted the summit – the second time in three years that the not-for-profit group has staged the peak gathering of the state's agribusiness operators.

Agribusiness Gippsland chair, Alex Arbuthnot AM said: "This was a conference of real worth to the agribusiness community. Mick Keogh's description of carbon trading was the first time many of us fully understood this issue, David McKinna's insights into supermarket tactics were a real eye-opener and the influence of Asia's rise was repeated over and over – we ignore it at our peril.

"We got the latest ABARES data on every sector of relevance to Gippsland and heartening news that agricultural lending was among the most robust of all sectors.

"In addition to all that we heard some compelling case studies in cropping from Ben Morris, in dairying from Graeme Nicolls and in horticulture from Helen Armour."

Agribusiness Gippsland secured rights to host the ABARES conference and the summit less than eight weeks earlier. Valuable support came from Regional Development Australia, Regional Development Victoria, Trees Victoria and the Department of Primary Industries.

Mr Arbuthnot added: "Every shire council in Gippsland supports us with seeding funding, and we are proud to return to the region an event of this calibre.

"The quality of the content and the presentation of the event – assembled in such a short time – really stamped Gippsland as a leader in regional cohesion," Mr Arbuthnot said.

...**ALSO:** Addressing the conference dinner Andrew Broad, VFF president warned that horticulture was the big vulnerability for Australian agricultural exports. "We are very good at producing starch and protein, such as red meat and dairy products, and production without large labour resources. But the area where we will be challenged will be with some horticultural products. We're just not competitive on wages, skills and price for the product." He warned that Australia had to build up agricultural exports to counter an eventual downturn in mining. "We are too reliant on the mining boom; that will run down," he said.

Mr Broad noted the decline of Asian language skills in Australian school curriculum, leaving us ill-prepared to deal with our greatest export customer of the future.

He said the EU would slowly lose its capacity to produce food and the US was burdened with massive debt. "The ability of the US to be a global force might be diminishing. There are some factors that are still strong but overall, there are ramifications for us," he added.

...**MEANWHILE:** Agriculture is a star client for Australian banks, according to a leading financier. Addressing the conference, Brenton Sellars from National Australia Bank noted farming's financial rigour.

"In terms of performance, agriculture has been outstanding compared with other sectors," he said. "Your debts and doubtful debts remain very low. As a whole, agriculture is right at the top end of portfolio performance."

He noted that farm prices were a strong economic engine for the sector. "We're facing some scarcity of good land, and also foreign investment in land – that's a strong driver."

However, he said the growth in agri-finance was being driven by family farms seeking to expand rather than corporate investment.

"A lot of the better operators are scaling up their business," he said.

Trends he identified were increased interest in sustainable agriculture funds and foreign investment "They're looking for return, but they're also looking for strong, quality food supply."

Mr Sellars agreed that official figures should incorporate agribusiness, rather than just farming activities. Alex Arbuthnot, chair of Agribusiness Gippsland noted: "By adding agribusiness into the agriculture mix, it would triple the value of the sector and show that, together, we account for about half of the value of the Victorian economy."

Mr Sellars added: "The post-farmgate sector is very dynamic and we could possibly see increased foreign investment in that sector."

...**PLUS:** Gippsland dairy farmers are likely to earn more than the national average in 2010/11, with predicted farm cash incomes of \$127,000. Latest data delivered at the Gippsland OUTLOOK conference revealed the regional dairy farmers out-earned the national prediction of \$100,000. They also out-earned the state average of \$92,000, a figure reflecting the ongoing impact of drought on northern Victoria, according to ABARES Peter Collins. "World butter prices are likely to fall but milk powder and cheese process are expected to hold firm due to high demand from China, Russia and the Middle East," he said. Australian milk production is due to lift 2%, mainly due to increased herd numbers, ("after a decade of decline") and increased yield per cow, Mr Collins said. ...**LASTLY:** A few special thank-yous to Mark Cockerill and the Lardner Park team, Di Carson and Bronwyn Debenham. We also thank the following Gippsland-based businesses that donated products and services: Claire de Lune Winery, Krowera Olives, Meeniyan Motel, Clearly Delicious, Moos at Meeinyan, Tarwin Valley Wines, Mille Fiori Honey and Golden Creek Olives. Please support them as they have supported us.

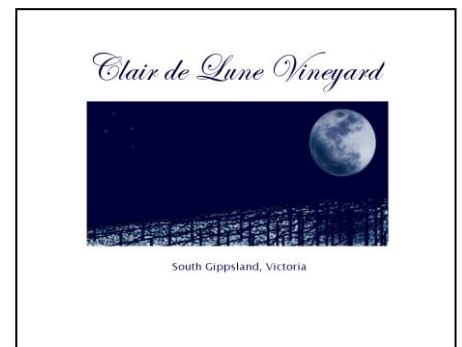
## Reverse rain dance gets some gear off

Belts were loosened, ties unfurled, jackets shrugged off - someone even shed shoes; a room of more 100 people performed the world's first reverse rain dance at Lardner Park, Warragul during a dinner held during the ABARES/Agribusiness Gippsland conference. Rainfall was wished upon other parts of the state as part of the evening's entertainment. An auction and raffle helped raise some funds to keep Agribusiness Gippsland going. Read about it here [http://www.weeklytimesnow.com.au/article/2011/07/01/352985\\_latest-news.html](http://www.weeklytimesnow.com.au/article/2011/07/01/352985_latest-news.html)

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## Clair de Lune

Owner, winemaker and viticulturalist Brian Gaffy creates wines of great finesse and elegance to be enjoyed and celebrated by the wine and food fraternity. The cellar door is generally open every day except Christmas Day and Good Friday. Visitors are encouraged to come and taste wines, maybe bring a picnic to enjoy in the garden and vineyard areas. A BBQ is also available. Please phone ahead on 5655 1032. Brian says a number of newer wines have been selling well, including an attractive, spicy but elegant 2009 Shiraz and a lovely creamy 2009 oaked Chardonnay. Address: 8805 South Gippsland Hwy, Kardella South  
Email: [savourtheflavour@clairdelune.com.au](mailto:savourtheflavour@clairdelune.com.au)  
Web: [www.clairdelune.com.au](http://www.clairdelune.com.au)



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## Preserves supplier sought for Gippy food firm

A successful west Gippsland food business is seeking to outsource part of its food manufacturing and is seeking a regular supplier with a commercial kitchen to make jam/preserves/sauces. Please contact Agribusiness Gippsland in the first instance at [ptarmigan2@internode.on.net](mailto:ptarmigan2@internode.on.net) and we will pass your message on to the company.

## We have a new director

Welcome Nikki Hellyer, agronomist and facilitator of Southern Farming Systems. Nikki attended our hugely successful *Gippsland Women Farmers Finding Their Voice* workshop and we couldn't help but be impressed by her dedication to agriculture. She brings commitment and vision for cropping in East Gippsland, as well as the vitality of a young agribusiness professional. Already we've seen some gains from initial collaborations... (*Hello to newly appointed DPI agronomist Shayne Mathews*) and anticipate more. Just watch!

## KROWERA HILLS OLIVE GROVE

Our olive trees produce award-winning oil with aromatic fruity flavours with a mild peppery finish on the back palate as well as high levels of polyphenols and mono-unsaturated fatty acids that help lower cholesterol. The 2010 harvest won Gold, Royal Adelaide Show; Silver, Royal Sydney Fine Food Show; Bronze, Royal Melbourne and Royal Hobart Fine Food Show. 9532 4282/0408 788 606 or [ehrlchd@netspace.net.au](mailto:ehrlchd@netspace.net.au)



### Learn more=earn more?

Early results from a Gippsland survey of young people employed in farming and agribusiness shows a strong positive correlation between post-secondary schooling and income levels. The survey, covering 57 people aged up to 45 in a variety of professions related to agriculture, showed 97% were 'very satisfied' with their career choice. Asked their financial expectations in the next five years, 75% expected to be better-off, despite voicing concerns about the potential effects of the high \$A and the carbon tax. Four post-grads studying their Masters at the University of Melbourne School of Business and Management spent two weeks conducting the survey in behalf of Agribusiness Gippsland. They presented their initial findings at the regular dinner of the South Gippsland Agribusiness Professionals at Inverloch on July 13.

The four young women – all from China – Chen, Janet, Nicole and Ruth will be completing their survey with the aid of their study supervisors once the semester resumes. We will be presenting the final report when it becomes available.

They stayed on and visited farms and some the experience of helping feeding out, reviving some sick lambs and rounding up some beef cattle. A couple got their first ride in a ute. Despite the cold, they fell in love with Gippsland and a couple have asked if any local accounting firm or other business would consider using them for work experience during the next semester break, as their visa allows this. Contact Sue Elston at the university on [s.elston@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:s.elston@unimelb.edu.au) or 90355642.

HUGE thanks to Bass Coast Shire Council's Ros Jenzen, as well as GippsDairy's Danielle Auldish, SFS's Nikki Hellyer and James and the South Gippsland Agribusiness Professionals Group. Also thanks to Community College Warragul, Des Williams from DPI, Anna Langley and Ian McFee.

### Food visioning kicks off in Gippsland

Gippsland started the planning for a regional food plan – possibly the first in the nation – with two well-attended forums in Bairnsdale and Warragul this month.

About 50 people joined the discussions starting with soil health and ranging across skills and public well-being.

The visioning group is chaired by Dr Nicola Watts from the East Gippsland Food Cluster who wants "a living dynamic, changing plan". Also involved in steering the project are Regional Development Victoria and Regional Development Australia, Agribusiness Gippsland and the DPI.

The meetings were facilitated by Michael McAllum's and after the sessions Nicola reported that the next steps would include

1. continuation of the conversation/engagement process
2. formation of a working group to drive the development of the regional strategy (I am interested in expressions of interest from people interested in being involved in this)
3. development of a strategy

Michael McAllum told the Warragul session: "You cannot have a food production system relying on cheap oil," he said, adding that future customers will be more discerning shoppers. Usual retail structures are being replaced by new forms, for example, online shopping. "The current supermarket system is probably at its limits," he said.

Dr Danielle Auldish the executive officer of GippsDairy said: "We need to keep an eye on the core business as well as encourage other business. We have people who are really good turning pasture into protein." She also noted the need for broadacre farming in terms of trade.

## AgFutures speakers set the pace

The drive and determination of speakers at the final AgFutures session knocked the socks of well-respected farm consultant John Mulvany. He was so impressed he immediately wanted to organise another session to let the speakers present their stories to potential landholders. "A farming-for-beginners' weekend, organised by Agribusiness Gippsland"... *(looks like we've just got another project on our plate ... thanks John)*

Among the speakers to impress him were the Victorian Rural Woman of the Year Angela Betheras who is establishing an alpaca farm, olive grove, photographic studio and farm shop Nickleby's at Darnum. Spin-offs include a knitting club, a skin care line and the potential to eventually operate the venture as a philanthropic trust.

Another speaker, Allambee Reserve's Maria Armistead spent \$5000 to establish, and continue to grow, a farm-direct beef, lamb and pork business. She said the business has attracted 30% of sales through online ordering and – of that total – 60% arrived at the site searching for free-range pork. Such was the demand for her products, including nitrate-free preserved meats that she was now looking for meat from similarly-minded farmers in the region.

The third speaker Eirena Norgard explained the accreditation standards being applied to farmers' markets across Victoria. She noted that most typical customer is aged 30 to 50, with 80% of buyers being women. The average spend on a visit to a farmers' market is \$70, she said.

AgFutures was a project organised by Karen Thomas of the Department of Primary Industries along with Agribusiness Gippsland and the shires of South Gippsland and Bass Coast.

## Make it Meeniyān ...

Meeniyān Motel provides comfortable and affordable accommodation close to the Prom. 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. Choose from standard, twin, family and spa suites. All rooms feature ensuite and air-conditioning. There's a saltwater pool, BBQ and ample parking. 119 Whitelaw St. Visit [www.meeniyānmotel.com.au](http://www.meeniyānmotel.com.au) or ph 5664 0030. Online booking available.



## Are you proud of your agribusiness?

It's Business of the Year time – offering farms, agritourism enterprises, farm service companies and other agribusiness firms a chance to strut their stuff. If you are proud of your farm, your business, your community involvement, your commitment to environmental sustainability why not boast about it? Some awards even have prize money. Check these:

- Baw Baw: Entries for the SP AusNet Baw Baw Business Excellence Awards 2011 close on July 27. The awards celebrate local business excellence, innovation, development and success. The Awards are open to all businesses currently based in Baw Baw Shire, other than clubs, co-operatives, not-for-profit organisations, government supported businesses and agencies. Contact Karen Meyers 5624 2422 or [Karen.Meyers@bawbawshire.vic.gov.au](mailto:Karen.Meyers@bawbawshire.vic.gov.au) or visit [www.bawbawshire.vic.gov.au](http://www.bawbawshire.vic.gov.au)
- The GSI East Gippsland Business Awards 2011 are open. Winners will be announced on the October 7 at a gala presentation and dinner. Nominate now as entries close August 1. Visit [www.eastgippslandbusinessawards.com.au](http://www.eastgippslandbusinessawards.com.au)
- Bendigo Bank Gippsland Business Awards, supported by the South Gippsland, Wellington, Latrobe and East Gippsland Shire Councils: [www.gba.org.au/](http://www.gba.org.au/)
- Mornington Peninsula: nominations open July

## Agriculture named among coal job options

Latrobe Valley is among a handful of areas across Australia due to receive a massive injection of funds aimed at helping coal industry workers into other jobs, notably clean power technologies, food and fibre processing and agriculture, according to a senior Federal Government minister.

Community capacity building, biodiversity and environmental protection were also on the shopping list, said Minister for Regional Development Minister Simon Crean. He was visiting Monash Churchill detailing the funds to be allocated from the proposed carbon tax revenue. He promised to investigate the possibility of concessions for a second tier of trade-exposed industries – such as milk processing factories.

## Agri-politics 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](mailto:susanw@ptarmigan.com.au)**

## Care for our country

Community groups can apply for small grants to help fund local environmental and sustainable agriculture projects through the 2011-12 Community Action Grants round. Funding allows volunteers and local community groups to contribute to the Caring for our Country priority areas of protecting biodiversity and natural icons, coastal environments and critical aquatic habitats, and using sustainable farm practices. Applications close August 1.

**More? 1800 552 008 or [www.nrm.gov.au](http://www.nrm.gov.au)**

## Make money from sheep in dog-affected areas

Making money from sheep in areas affected by wild dogs will be discussed on August 3 from 10am -2pm at Benambra Football Club. The day includes:

- Turning reproductive potential into reality - Jason Trompf, J.T. Agri-source
- Quantifying the benefits of wild dog control for farmers - Dr. John Webb-Ware, McKinnon Project
- Dealing with wild dogs across Australia - Greg Mifsud, National Wild Dog facilitator
- Local perspective - Local farmers having a go

There will be an opportunity to form a Best Wool/Best lamb group. Lunch included. RSVP.

**More? Jenny O'Sullivan 5663 2386 or [osulliva@dcsi.net.au](mailto:osulliva@dcsi.net.au)**



Moo's at Meeniyan is a restaurant/cafe in picturesque Meeniyan, 10 minutes from Leongatha and 1.5 hours from Melbourne.

Enjoy a break on your way to the prom, with great coffee, local wines, good meals and local produce.

Opening hours: Thursday to Monday 8.30am to 4.30pm for breakfast and lunch. Friday and Saturday nights open till 6pm.

Closed Tuesday and Wednesday

Book on 5664 0010 or email [eat@moosatmeeniyan.com.au](mailto:eat@moosatmeeniyan.com.au)



## **Rabobank opens Warragul branch**

Rabobank is opening a new branch at 50 Albert Street, Warragul by August. The branch manager is Michael Croatto and rural managers are Robyn Gray and Tom Treptow and rural officer is John Droppert.

**More? Michael Croatta 0419 250 793**

## **Free-ranging the internet**

The Free Range Farmers Association (FRFA) is almost ready to launch the new version of its website. Visit: <http://freerangefarmers.weebly.com> The FRFA Facebook page is

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Free-Range-Farmers-Association-Inc/214824421880453>

**More? Phil Westwood 0402 070 531 or [www.freeranger.com.au](http://www.freeranger.com.au) or**

**<http://freerangereggs.blogspot.com>**

## **FarmReady Reimbursement Grants re-open**

The Australian Government's FarmReady Reimbursement Grants reopened on July 1 and now support training in agritourism and food tourism management. Participants must contribute 35% towards an approved course. Reimbursement of up to \$1500 and funding of up to \$500 each financial year is available for travel, accommodation and child care.

**More? Visit [www.farmready.gov.au](http://www.farmready.gov.au)**

## **Get on board with GippsDairy**

GippsDairy is seeking dairy farmers and service providers to fill vacancies on its board for the next two years. The closing date for applications is Monday, July 27.

**More? GippsDairy 5624 3900 or [executivcassitant@gippsdairy.com.au](mailto:executivcassitant@gippsdairy.com.au) or visit**

**[www.gippsdairy.com.au](http://www.gippsdairy.com.au)**

## **State government allocates \$1m for Gippsland water study**

A \$1m Mitchell River basin study has been announced by the State Government to investigate water security supply for Lindenow valley vegetable growers.

## **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 or [sara@visitvineyards.com](mailto:sara@visitvineyards.com)**

## **Get the lowdown on leasing land**

Thinking of leasing out your land? Or looking to lease agricultural land? The Rural Industries Research and Development Corporation has just released a really thorough, but easy-to-read guide that includes a lease agreement example. Successful Land Leasing in Australia – A guide for farmers and their advisers can be viewed, free, at the RIRDC website.

**More? Visit <https://rirdc.infoservices.com.au/items/11-052>**

## **Movers and groovers...**

Angus Hume has been appointed chair of the West Gippsland Catchment Management Authority. He was previously DPI east and west Gippsland community relationship manager.

... Di Carson has left the Traralgon/Warragul office of RDV but will be working through the region for a Melbourne-based consultancy group.

... Kelvin Slade has left GippsTAFE to become Manager, Regional Skills & Training at the Gippsland Education Precinct. Lisa Simpson assumes his role at GippsTAFE, having worked there as a consultant for more than 10 years.

... Kevin Hutchings has been appointed MD of South East Water, having acted in the role since February. He has been with company since its inception in 1995

### *Clearly Delicious produce store & gallery*

offers a wide range of gourmet jams, honey, preserves and sauces for discerning palates. All are 100% natural with no added preservatives, flavouring or thickeners. Only the freshest seasonal fruit and vegetables are used and are either grown in our gardens or sourced locally.



Located at Lilloco, Clearly Delicious supplies many restaurants, retail outlets and markets throughout Gippsland and Melbourne, as well as interstate. Come for a tasting, a garden stroll and a visit to the adjoining Lilloco Glass Studio. Visit [www.clearlydelicious.com.au](http://www.clearlydelicious.com.au) or [www.lillicoglasstudio.com.au](http://www.lillicoglasstudio.com.au) or ph 5623 1592.

### **Composting affects vine and berry K**

Applying composted mulch to berry plants and grape vines marginally lifts potassium (K) levels, harming quality, according to Australian research. Scientists from the Centre for Recycled Organics in Agriculture and Industry and Investment applied composted mulch from green waste to six NSW vineyards from 2006-08 and recorded significant increases in extractable soil K.

**More? Soil Research 49(5) 455-461 <http://dx.doi.org/10.1071/SR11084>**

### **There's good value in four-legged fertiliser spreaders**

Dairy farmers should start putting a price tag on manure to get the best value from nutrients on dairy farms, according to DPI's Cameron Gourley, project leader of the Accounting for Nutrients project. He said cows are the forgotten fertiliser spreader. Only 20% of the nitrogen and 25% of the phosphorus consumed by cows ends up in milk, with 75-80% excreted in urine and dung. Dr Gourley said that smarter nutrient use could increase profitability on the average dairying property by \$26,000 and save the dairy industry \$70m annually.

**More? Visit [www.accounting4nutrients.com.au](http://www.accounting4nutrients.com.au)**

### **Call for a low-carbon jobs transition plans to be produced**

The Gippsland Trades and Labour Council (GLTC) has called all major regional industry groups together to prepare a low-carbon jobs transition plan by November to present to the federal government and investment bodies.

**More? Gippsland Trades and Labour Council 5133 7684 or [gltc@wideband.net.au](mailto:gltc@wideband.net.au)**

### **Gippsland forestry jobs saved**

The Victorian Government is providing \$1.27m to VicForests to manage a forest restoration and improvement program in East Gippsland to help secure the jobs of forest contractors otherwise facing unemployment. The new work will incorporate rehabilitation and silvicultural treatment of regrown forests.

### **Gippsland milk production tops the ladder**

May milk production figures, compiled by Dairy Australia, show that Gippsland is making the greatest year-to-date increase in milk production in Victoria, although Gippsland is lagging behind the western region in monthly milk production.

	Month	Year-to-Date
Gippsland	1.6%	5.5%
Northern	-0.7%	-0.5%
Western	8.0%	1.1%

## Get through the wet

A series of field days will be held to help dairy farmers get through this wet winter. The field days will cover practical strategies to minimise pugging damage to pastures, mastitis and lameness prevention and more.

Guest speakers include Jack Winterbottom – Veterinary Officer DPI, Maffra Centre, Frank Mickan - Dairy Extension Officer DPI, Ellinbank Centre, and local dairy farmers.

All field days run from 12-2.30pm and will be held on:

- Tuesday, July 19 at the Catani Soldiers Memorial Hall, Taplins' Road, Catani
- Tuesday, July 19 (12-2pm) at Meeniyon Dumbalk United Football Club, Hanily Road, Meeniyon as part of the Future Ready Dairy Systems Project
- Wednesday, July 20 at the Poowong Football Clubrooms, Drouin Road, Poowong

A hot lunch will be provided. Please RSVP to indicate your attendance.

**More? Frank Mickan 5624 2259 or [frank.mickan@dpi.vic.gov.au](mailto:frank.mickan@dpi.vic.gov.au)**

## Our Courtney gets a twinkle in her toes

Agribusiness Gippsland director Courtney Ferguson's will hit the dance floor for the Dancing with Our Stars fundraiser at Sale on August 20. All proceeds will go towards the 5 Star Project, providing independent living for young people with disabilities. Tickets are \$60, available from WorkHire Australia and Leo O'Brien Property. Finger food and BYO drinks.

**More? WorkHire Australia 5144 7488**

## Candidates sought for Gardiner Foundation Board

The Gardiner Foundation is seeking two directors from candidates with experience of Victorian dairying and dairy science and adoption processes. Deadline August 5.

**More? DW Selection 9592 7979 or [resumes@douglaswalker.com.au](mailto:resumes@douglaswalker.com.au)**



Established in 1999, Golden Creek is an olive grove and olive oil-producing facility at Fish Creek. Their extra virgin oil has a clean palate, with full flavour characteristics. Ph Andrew and Lyn Jamieson 0428 304 477/0413 016 624 or email [contact@goldencreekolives.com.au](mailto:contact@goldencreekolives.com.au)

## Science graduates sought for DPI careers

Applications are open to recent graduates for the Science Graduate Program 2012 intake. The program provides graduates with broad exposure to policy, research and extension, specialist skills and training. Visit <http://www.new.dpi.vic.gov.au/about-us/employment/science-graduate-program/position>. Online applications close August 7.

**More? Roger Henry 5172 2154 or [roger.henry@dpi.vic.gov.au](mailto:roger.henry@dpi.vic.gov.au)**

## Have your say on environment and climate change strategy

Baw Baw Shire Council is seeking comment on the council's draft Environment and Climate Change Strategy. Copies of the draft Environment and Climate Change Strategy are available at Baw Baw Shire Customer Service Centres, libraries and at [www.bawbawshire.vic.gov.au](http://www.bawbawshire.vic.gov.au).

The draft strategy is available for public comment until 5pm on Friday, August 5.

**More? Raj Manihar 5624 2411 or [raj.manihar@bawbawshire.vic.gov.au](mailto:raj.manihar@bawbawshire.vic.gov.au)**

## Vote and you could win!

RACV members can vote for Landcare projects in the vicinity of three RACV Club and resort properties which they believe are the most deserving. Six worthwhile projects are being considered for funding from Landcare Australia through a community partnership with RACV.

**More? Visit [www.landcareonline.com.au/?page\\_id=4695](http://www.landcareonline.com.au/?page_id=4695)**

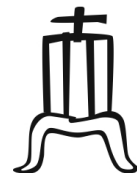
## Join the BetterBeef Network

BetterBeef is a new DPI project for beef producers who receive information on field days, research messages and courses, information on BetterBeef groups being established in your area, access to phone seminars on relevant and timely issues, discounted entry fees to some BetterBeef events, and a copy of the BetterBeef newsletter.

**More? Dougal Purcell 5336 6794 or [dougal.purcell@dpi.vic.gov.au](mailto:dougal.purcell@dpi.vic.gov.au)**

## Tarwin Valley Wines

Sara and Folkert Janssen create wines at Meeniyan. Folkert has worked as a winemaker since the mid-nineties, working across Australia, and as a travelling winemaker in South Africa, Moldova and Mexico. His wines have received numerous gold medals and trophies, and have been well reviewed around the world. Join the Tarwin Valley mailing list at [winemaker@tarwinvalleywines.com](mailto:winemaker@tarwinvalleywines.com) or ph 5664 7462



## Keep your soil vital

A Vital Soils workshop is being held in Poowong on Mondays July 18, 25, August 1, 8. The course teaches an integrated, regenerative approach to soil management. The cost is \$350.

**More? Kathleen Bartlett 0400 141 929 or [kathleenb@wgcm.vic.gov.au](mailto:kathleenb@wgcm.vic.gov.au) or [Download the brochure here](#)**

## Make a map and plan

An electronic iFarm farm mapping course ideal for those with a good grasp of what they want to achieve on their property is being run by the DPI in Bunyip over three consecutive Mondays commencing on July 25. The cost of the course is \$150.

**More? Kathleen Bartlett 0400 141 929 or [kathleenb@wgcm.vic.gov.au](mailto:kathleenb@wgcm.vic.gov.au) or [click here for more information](#)**

## Home-grown hoof healers help hoof health

Gippsland dairy farmer Max Jelbart, like many, has been battling hoof health this wet season and came up with some idea on AusDairyL that are worth sharing.

"Last winter the Caldermeade Farm had quite a lameness issue so we fired up the footbath and the cases of lameness dropped dramatically aided with sawdust on the last 200metres before the dairy. A few years ago I was visiting another dairy farm that used ironstone on the tracks as it was all they could get. In the middle of a wet winter they had 300 cows lame out of 800. We unrolled hay along 750 metres of track. It immediately saved half an hour getting the cows in and within a couple of days there were virtually no new cases of lameness."

## Enjoy a business breakfast with bite

Former Victorian Premier and president of Hawthorn Football Club Jeff Kennett will address a breakfast in Pakenham on July 27 on 'Leadership: thinking outside the square'. Bookings made before June 30 go into the draw for a seat at the table with Jeff Kennett. Cost \$35pp.

RSVP by Monday July 25. To book go to [www.trybooking.com/10880](http://www.trybooking.com/10880)

**More? Cardinia Shire Council 1300 787 624**

## 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 August 7. An annual registration fee of \$5 covers advertising and workshop costs.

**More? Tammy Logan 5659 2308 or [tammylogan@bigpond.com](mailto:tammylogan@bigpond.com)**

## **Gala event supports low income families**

Baw Baw Shire's Mayoral Charity Gala is supporting is Habitat for Humanity helping low-income families build their own home. The gala will be held on August 27 from 6.30pm at the Lardner Park. Tickets are \$65/head or \$650 for a table of 10 for a two-course meal, a drink on arrival and entertainment. Dress code is formal with a touch of purple. RSVP August 18.  
[More? 5624 2497 or www.bawbawshire.vic.gov.au](http://www.bawbawshire.vic.gov.au)

## **Start your own business**

A workshop on July 19 from 9am-12.30pm in Leongatha will investigate starting a business covering assessing the viability of your idea, identifying the best business structure, financial considerations, and preparing a business plan. Business Victoria will provide participants a voucher for a free mentoring session.  
[More? Alycia 5662 9271 or alycias@southgippsland.vic.gov.au](mailto:alycias@southgippsland.vic.gov.au)

## **Plant a tree for Baw Baw**

Baw Baw Council is hosting a series of Sunday morning tree plantings. The plantings will be held from 10am-12pm on:

- July 24 at Robin Hood Reserve
- July 31 at Two Towns Trail, Dowton Park and Longwarry Recreation Reserve.

[More? Baw Baw Council 5624 2411](http://www.bawbawcouncil.vic.gov.au)

## **Look after your soil during wet years**

A free field day looking at reducing the effect of heavy rain on agricultural soil and farm production will be held in Friday, July 29 at Tetoora Road Hall. Topics include preventing and restoring landslips, good drainage and lane design and drainage in waterlogged pastures. Bring a small container of soil (from 40-60cm deep) to test for surface and mole drainage. Please RSVP to indicate your attendance.

[More? Kathleen Bartlett 0400 141 929 or kathleenb@wgcm.vic.gov.au](mailto:kathleenb@wgcm.vic.gov.au)

## **Save this date**

A Healthy Soils Forum focusing on carbon and how it relates to productivity will be held on October 12. The forum includes guest speaker – Jeff Baldock, CSIRO lead researcher into soil carbon.

- findings of trial data across Gippsland released
- future gazing and the big picture – discussion panel.

[More? Tony Gardner 1300 094 262 or tonyg@wgcm.vic.gov.au](mailto:tonyg@wgcm.vic.gov.au)

## **Look out for grass tetany**

Both dairy and beef cattle are susceptible to grass tetany, particularly cattle already under stress such as overweight animals losing condition, or those in poor condition, and cows in peak lactation. Cows affected by grass tetany may become unusually nervous, wary, and excitable. The disease progresses quickly and the first sign of trouble can be dead animals. Grass tetany is caused by a deficiency of magnesium in the bloodstream. Prevent grass tetany by supplementing the cows daily with magnesium, and feed hay when the weather is rough to maintain feed and magnesium intake.

## **Longwarry wants more milk**

Longwarry Food Park is seeking 10-15% more milk to launch a new UHT milk product. Longwarry's managing director Rakesh Aggarwal is looking for between 20 to 30m litres more, or 15 to 20 more suppliers. The company's 120 Gippsland suppliers are being an opener of \$4.92kgMS, up 7c/kg on last year. Mr Aggarwal said a new milk warehouse is planned for this coming financial year.

[More? Longwarry Food Park 5629 9551 or milksupply@longwarry.com](mailto:milksupply@longwarry.com)

## **Business week boasts range of events**

The City of Casey is hosting a range of events as part of the Casey Business Week from September 19-23, including a [Business Breakfast](#) announcing finalists of the 2011 Casey Business Awards on September 21.

**More? Raylene Wilson 9705 5841 or [inbusiness@casey.vic.gov.au](mailto:inbusiness@casey.vic.gov.au)**

## **Swap your excess produce in Yarragon**

The Yarragon Produce Swap is at 2.30pm on the first and third Wednesdays of each month at St. Mark's Anglican Church, Loch Street. The next swaps are on July 20 and August 3.

**More? Tom Nevell 5633 3245 or [tomn\\_123@hotmail.com](mailto:tomn_123@hotmail.com)**

## **Farm and trade carbon**

The Carbon Farming and Trading course offers practical and up-to-date training for those developing carbon abatement projects. The course is facilitated by Australian Carbon Traders and participants will learn the latest approaches to developing and implementing offset projects under the governments' Carbon Farming Initiative. The course will be offered in Lilydale on August 17 and November 2 from 9am-4.30pm and costs \$850per person.

**More? 9214 4440 or visit**

**<http://www.swinburne.edu.au/ncs/Education/CarbonFarming.php>**

## **Landcare Week 2011 is approaching fast**

Landcare Week is from September 5-11. A Landcare Week Event Kit will be available on the Landcare Australia website for groups to use from July 14.

**More? Visit [www.landcareaustralia.com.au](http://www.landcareaustralia.com.au)**

## **Small farms closer to certification for chemical herbicide use**

For many small industries – including olives, herbs, wildflowers and essential oils – the most suitable chemical for weed control is sometimes not registered for use on those crops. However, New Rural Industries Australia (NRIA) is investigating the priority issues around the minor use of herbicides. There are likely to be field trials conducted to verify data on specific crops and the logistics of each of those trials will be determined in the near future.

**More? Visit [www.rirdc.gov.au/weeds](http://www.rirdc.gov.au/weeds)**

## **Master skills in day-long sessions**

GippsTAFE's Professional Development Series is designed to provide Gippsland business, government and not-for-profit organisations with effective single-day master classes for high need skill areas. Classes include:

- Manage Operational Plans – July 20
- Make Conflict Productive – August 3
- Leading Teams – August 17
- Creating High Performance People – August 31
- Recruitment, Selection and Induction – September 14
- IT for non-IT Managers – September 28
- Manage Budgets and Financial Plans – October 12
- Ensure a Safe Workplace – October 26
- Finance for non-Finance Managers – November 9
- Creating High Performance People – November 23
- Strategic Planning and Foresight – December 7

**More? 5622 8500**

## **What workshop do you want in Wellington?**

Wellington Shire Council is a host organisation for Business Victoria and can facilitate workshops. Topics include: 'Starting Your Business', marketing, business planning, 'Green Your Business', getting and keeping the right staff, finance and how to exit a business.

**More? Will Oakley 5142 3615**

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](mailto:mark@lardnerpark.com.au), visit [www.lardnerpark.com.au](http://www.lardnerpark.com.au) or phone 5626 1373

## 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, July 23.

**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, July 30.

**More? 5127 3082**

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, Aug 20.

**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, August 21.

**More? Non Blair 0419 345 750 or blairnd@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 Aug 6.

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

Sale Farmer's Market is held on the third Saturday of each month from 8am-12pm at Skate Park lawns, Foster St, Sale. The next market is Saturday, August 20.

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

Lardner Park Market features CMA regional arts, craft and fresh produce. Entry to the market is free. Parking is \$3. The next market is on Sunday, September 18.

**More? <http://www.craftmarkets.com.au/lardnerpark.asp>**

The Lucknow Market is held at Howitt Park, Bairnsdale on the fourth Sunday of the month from 8am to 2pm, weather permitting. The next market is Sunday, July 24.

**More? Belinda Riddler 5152 4662 or lucknow.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au**

The South Gippsland Farmers Market is held at the Koonwarra Memorial Park, Koonwarra. The next market is August 6 from 8.30am

**More? Rod 0408 619 182**

The Coal Creek Farmers Market is held on the second Saturday of each month at Coal Creek Community Park and Museum, South Gippsland Hwy, Korumburra from 8am-1pm. The next market is August 13.

**More? Coal Creek 0459 629 000 or farmersmarket@coalcreekvillage.com.au**

## Develop skills on and off the field

Kelly O'Donnell, development coach of Melbourne Football Club, will explain the importance of skill development in the world of sport, at a free breakfast, at Casey Fields Sporting Complex, 160 Berwick-Cranbourne Rd on Friday, August 19 from 8-9am. Registration for this City of Casey event is essential and places are limited. RSVP by Monday, August 15.

**More? Raylene Wilson 9705 5841 or inBusiness@casey.vic.gov.au**

## **Trout and salmon closed season has begun**

The annual closed season for trout and salmon fishing runs until September 2. During this period anglers are not permitted to take or possess trout or salmon in rivers and streams throughout Victoria, with the exception of waters classed as sea-run trout rivers. Anglers who target fish in these waters risk prosecution and significant fines. If you suspect illegal fishing activity, call the fisheries offence reporting line on 133 474.

**More? DPI Customer Service Centre 136186 or visit [www.dpi.vic.gov.au/fishing](http://www.dpi.vic.gov.au/fishing)**

## **Get greener, save money and tap into new markets**

A seminar offering an alternative mode of viewing business, saving money and the environment will be held on August 16 from 9.30-11.30am at the RSL Gold Room, Leongatha.

**More? Alycia Stivic 5662 9271 or [alycias@southgippsland.vic.gov.au](mailto:alycias@southgippsland.vic.gov.au)**

## **Country racing is off and ... well ... racing**

Meetings this month are:

- July 23: Bairnsdale
- July 31: Sale

Meetings next month are:

- August 11: Sale
- August 25: Sale
- August 30: Moe

**More? Call 1300 139 402 or visit [www.countryracing.com.au](http://www.countryracing.com.au)**

## **Latrobe City tourism is looking to the future**

Two reports commissioned by Latrobe City Council have provided a comprehensive analysis of tourism within the municipality and a review of the Latrobe Visitor Information Centre, both with a view to strengthening the marketing and potential investment attraction of the region. The reports identified strategic actions and provide direction for capitalising on Latrobe City's assets, maximising marketing initiatives, funding applications and investment attraction.

**More? Linda Brock 1300 367 700 or [Linda.Brock@latrobe.vic.gov.au](mailto:Linda.Brock@latrobe.vic.gov.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 August 13.

**More? Phoebe Hicks 5633 2304**

## **Agricultural studies offered support through scholarships**

Scholarships are available for prospective students planning to study the farm business management or agribusiness programs at Marcus Oldham College in 2012. The scholarships range from \$5000 to \$35,000 in a variety of different fields. The college – a long-time supporter of Agribusiness Gippsland – will hold its open day on Sunday, August 14 from 10am to 3pm at Pigdons Road, Waurn Ponds, Geelong.

**More? Student Services Officer 1800 623 500 or [courses@marcusoldham.vic.edu.au](mailto:courses@marcusoldham.vic.edu.au) or visit [www.marcusoldham.vic.edu.au](http://www.marcusoldham.vic.edu.au)**

## **Bury urea to curb N loss**

Deep-burying urea could help limit the emissions of nitrogen from maize pastures, according to new Australian/Chinese research. Scientists from the University of Melbourne, CSIRO and China's Institute of Soil and Fertiliser Research found that in soil with slow nitrification and denitrification rates and little potential for leaching, deep placement of fertiliser nitrogen was "an effective method for increasing fertiliser use efficiency".

**More? Soil Research 49(5) 462-469 <http://dx.doi.org/10.1071/SR11107>**

## **Baw Baw on world stage at Australian Arab Business Forum**

Baw Baw Shire Council staff attended the Australian Arab Chamber of Commerce and Industry's inaugural Australian Arab Business Forum and Expo at the beginning of May. On Monday June 6, Council staff met with a business and government delegation from Qatar to further promote trade opportunities in the shire.

**More? Visit [www.bawbawshire.vic.gov.au](http://www.bawbawshire.vic.gov.au)**

## **Beware of websites offering access to government grants**

The Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) is warning small business operators and entrepreneurs to beware of unauthorised websites claiming to provide easy access to government grants. The ACCC is also concerned that some overseas-based websites falsely give the impression they are endorsed by the Australian Government. Official information about grants is freely available at the Federal Government's Grant Link at [www.grantslink.gov.au](http://www.grantslink.gov.au) or via the Business Victoria website at [www.business.gov.au](http://www.business.gov.au)

**More? 1300 795 995 or visit the [Scamwatch website](http://www.scamwatch.gov.au)**

## **Cardinia course cover business issues**

Cardinia Shire Council is offering business courses including:

- Your business online – July 19, 6-8.30pm. \$20 per person.
- Improving cash flow and profitability – August 4, 6-8.30pm. \$20 per person.
- Become a 'sales cat' –August 10 from 8.45am-5pm. \$250 per person.

These workshops will be held at the Cardinia Cultural Centre, Lakeside Bvd, Pakenham.

**More? Cardinia Council's Business Development Officer 1300 787 624**

## **Find funding**

Wellington Shire Council is running workshops to assist people in finding funding on Wednesday, September 28 at Maffra Hall, 7-8.30pm.

**More? Darren Randle 1300 366 244 or [cwadmin@wellington.vic.gov.au](mailto:cwadmin@wellington.vic.gov.au)**

## **Produce swap comes to Bairnsdale**

Come and swap your home grown (preferably organic) produce every Friday from 10am-12pm outside the Bairnsdale Neighbourhood House in Dalmahoy Street.

**More? Rebecca Lambie 5153 9500 or [RebeccaL@egipps.vic.gov.au](mailto:RebeccaL@egipps.vic.gov.au)**

## **Finance your business**

The Financing Your Business seminar presents the facts about how finance and refinancing is on Wednesday, August 17 from 6-8pm at the City of Casey Civic Centre, 1 Magid Drive, Narre Warren. The cost of the event is \$20 per person. The event ID is 5353.

**More? Raylene Wilson 9705 5841 or [inbusiness@casey.vic.gov.au](mailto:inbusiness@casey.vic.gov.au) or visit [www.business.vic.gov.au/workshops](http://www.business.vic.gov.au/workshops)**

## **Get your hands dirty on National Tree Day**

Join Cardinia Shire Council on Sunday, July 31, National Tree Planting Day, to plant local plants. Bring along gardening gloves, water bottle, umbrella or coat, and suitable footwear. The planting be at Toomuc Creek Reserve, Pakenham. Meet at the Rotary BBQ area. Baw Baw Shire Council in running tree plantings in Longwarry Recreation Reserve, adjoining the Bandicoot Walking Track; Drouin East along the Two Towns Trail, between Beverley Street and Buln Buln Road and Dowton Park Wetland, Yarragon.

In addition to National Tree Day, there is also Schools Tree Day on Friday 29 July with Buln Buln Primary School, Neerim South Primary School and Longwarry Primary School participating in this event.

**More? Sarah Binks 1300 787 624 or [Enviro\\_admin@cardinia.vic.gov.au](mailto:Enviro_admin@cardinia.vic.gov.au) or Baw Baw Council 5624 2411 or visit: <http://www.treeday.planetark.org/site/48632>**

## Swamps act as emission sponges

Undisturbed mangroves and wetlands soak up greenhouse gases (GHG) but turn into GHG emitters when drained, according to new Australian research.

Scientists from Queensland's Department of Environment and Resources Management found the greatest rates of sequestration occurring in mangrove ecosystems where biomass production is high but CH4 emissions are limited by salinity. They also found that drainage of melaleuca and mangrove forest wetlands in Australia would turn them from carbon sinks into carbon sources, and global warming potential has increased in the 50 years since drainage.

**More? Soil Research 49(5) 377-388** <http://dx.doi.org/10.1071/SR11024>

## 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](mailto:susanw@ptarmigan.com.au) or via [www.aginc.wordpress.com](http://www.aginc.wordpress.com)

## Coffee club supports businesses

The Casey Coffee Club supports micro-businesses within the City of Casey. Business owners can listen to a guest speaker while having something to eat. The next coffee club is Tuesday, August 16 from 7.30-9am at the Civic Centre, Magid Drive, Narre Warren. This is a free event and breakfast is provided. RSVP for catering purposes.

**More? City of Casey Customer Service 9705 5200**

## Optimise your business online

A workshop on optimising business potential online is ideal for business owners wanting to increase their online presence and understand the importance of search engine optimisation. The workshop covers strategies for increasing traffic, use of key words to improve page rank, the art of blogging, how to measure traffic and much more. This workshop suits those with an existing website. It will be held in Leongatha in September 13 from 9.30am to 1pm.

**More? Alycia 5662 9271 or [alycias@southgippsland.vic.gov.au](mailto:alycias@southgippsland.vic.gov.au)**

## Orbost garden food swap soon

The next garden food swap at the Orbost Neighbourhood House will be on August 3, 10am.

Also, the house has a new email address [orbostnh@gmail.com](mailto:orbostnh@gmail.com)

**More? Liz Falkiner on 5154 1570**



**Want to reach the right audience? More than 4000 '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**

## The Agricultural Census is now underway...

Has your agricultural business received an Agricultural Census form? Complete your form online or mail it back to the ABS.

**More?** Visit [www.abs.gov.au/agcensus2011](http://www.abs.gov.au/agcensus2011)

## 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](mailto: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:

East Gippsland Marketing Inc. is seeking a suitably experienced Marketing and Administration Assistant in a part-time capacity (0.6) to help implement the annual regional marketing program. Applications close on July 22.

**More?** Karly McCaskill 5152 3677 or [karly@egmi.com.au](mailto:karly@egmi.com.au)

[www.victoriaseast.com.au](http://www.victoriaseast.com.au) or [www.discovereastgippsland.com.au](http://www.discovereastgippsland.com.au)

### 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 [Itslattery@swin.edu.au](mailto:Itslattery@swin.edu.au) or visit

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

### Fire management planning

Consultant to prepare sustainable fire management plans for your property or small reserve.

**More?** Helen Bull 0400 310 188 or [h.bull@bigpond.com](mailto: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](mailto:Issibl@swin.edu.au) or ph: 9214 8753 or Karen:

[kpomeranz@swin.edu.au](mailto:kpomeranz@swin.edu.au) or ph: 9215 7136

### 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](mailto: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](http://www.aginc.wordpress.com)

## Hunting in AGInc hyperspace

Recent top searches on our blogsite ([www.aginc.wordpress.com](http://www.aginc.wordpress.com)) are: www.long notes of abriculture.com, agribusiness, agribusiness summit gippsland

## Anyone we've forgotten?

Gippy Agchat is sworn at and sweated over 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](mailto:ptarmigan2@internode.on.net).

## Gippy Diary

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION	CONTACT
Jul 19	Your business online – Optimising your potential seminar	Pakenham	Cardinia Council 1300 787 624
Jul 19	Start your own business seminar	Leongatha	Alycia 5662 9271
Jul 19	Getting through the wet field day	Meeniyan	Frank Mickan 5624 2259
Jul 19	Getting through the wet field day	Catani	Frank Mickan 5624 2259
Jul 20	Getting through the wet field day	Poowong	Frank Mickan 5624 2259
Jul 20	Professional Development Series – Manage Operational Plans	Warragul	5622 8526
Jul 22	Yarragon Produce Swap	Yarragon	Tom Nevell 5633 3245
Jul 23	Gippsland Heritage Park Market	Moe	5127 3082
Jul 23	Country Race Meet	Bairnsdale	1300 139 402
Jul 23	Yarragon Community Craft and Produce Market	Yarragon	Allison Butterworth 5634 2209
Jul 24	Robin Hood Reserve tree planting	Drouin West	Baw Baw Council 5624 2411
Jul 24	Lucknow Market	Bairnsdale	Belinda Riddler 5152 4662
July 25, Aug 1,8	iFarm mapping course	Bunyip	Kathleen Bartlett 0400 141 929
Jul 27	Cardinia Business breakfast with Jeff Kennett	Pakenham	Cardinia Shire Council 1300 787 624
June 28	Sustainability Victoria Strategic Review Forum	Traralgon	
July 29	Effect of heavy rain on agricultural soil and farm production field day	Tetoora	Kathleen Bartlett 0400 141 929
Jul 30	Gippsland Heritage Park Market	Moe	5127 3082
Jul 31	Planet Ark's National Tree Day		Tree Day Hotline 1300 88 5000
Jul 31	Country Race Meet	Sale	1300 139 402
Jul 31	Downton Park Tree planting	Yarragon	Baw Baw Council 5624 2411
Jul 31	Longwarry Recreation Reserve tree planting	Longwarry	Baw Baw Council 5624 2411
Jul 31	Toomuc Creek Reserve tree planting	Pakenham	Sarah Binks 1300 787 624
Aug 1-2	Australia-New Zealand Climate Change and Business Conference	Wellington, NZ	Elizabeth Edmonds 0413 439 573
Aug 3	Professional Development Series – Make Conflict Productive	Warragul	Kelvin Slade 5622 8526
Aug 3	Make money from sheep in dog affected areas	Benambra	Jenny O'Sullivan 5663 2386
Aug 3	Yarragon Produce Swap	Yarragon	Tom Nevell 5633 3245
Aug 4	Improving cash flow and profitability	Pakenham	Cardinia Council 1300 787 624
Aug 6	Heyfield Community Market	Heyfield	Heather Cahill 5148 2780
Aug 6	South Gippsland Farmers Market	Koonwarra	Rod 0408 619 182
Aug 7	Poowong Produce Swap	Poowong	Tammy Logan 5659 2308
Aug 10	Become a 'sales cat'	Pakenham	Cardinia Council 1300 787 624
Aug 11	Country Race Meet	Sale	1300 139 402
Aug 13	Trafalgar Produce Swap	Trafalgar	Phoebe Hicks 5633 2304
Aug 13	Coal Creek Farmers Market	Coal Creek	Coal Creek 0459 629 000
Aug 14	Marcus Oldham College Open	Geelong	1800 623 500

	Day		
Aug 16	Environmental business seminar	Leongatha	Alycia Stivic 5662 9271
Aug 16	Casey Coffee Club	Narre Warren	City of Casey Customer Service 9705 5200
Aug 17	Yarragon Produce Swap	Yarragon	Tom Nevell 5633 3245
Aug 17	Carbon Farming and Trading course	Lilydale	9214 4440
Aug 17	Financing Your Business seminar	Narre Warren	Raylene Wilson 9705 5841
Aug 19	Skill Development on and off the Field seminar	Cranbourne	Raylene Wilson 9705 5841
Aug 20	Dancing with Our Stars	Sale	WorkHire Australia 5144 7488
Aug 20	Drouin Community Market	Drouin	Bill Petschack 5625 3360
Aug 20	Sale Variety and Farmer's Market	Sale	Mark Watson 0408 057 772
Aug 21	Emerald Community Market	Emerald	Non Blair 0419 345 750
Aug 25	Country Race Meet	Sale	1300 139 402
Aug 27	Yarragon Community Craft and Produce Market	Yarragon	Allison Butterworth 5634 2209
Aug 27	Baw Baw Shire Council Mayoral Charity Gala	Lardner	5624 2497
Aug 27	Gippsland Heritage Park Market	Moe	5127 3082
Aug 28	Lucknow Market	Bairnsdale	Belinda Riddler 5152 4662
Aug 30	Country Race Meet	Moe	1300 139 402
Sep 3	Heyfield Community Market	Heyfield	Heather Cahill 5148 2780
Sep 4	Poowong Produce Swap	Poowong	Tammy Logan 5659 2308
Sep 5-11	Landcare Week		www.landcareaustralia.com.au
Sep 7	Yarragon Produce Swap	Yarragon	Tom Nevell 5633 3245
Sep 10	Trafalgar Produce Swap	Trafalgar	Phoebe Hicks 5633 2304
Sep 10	Coal Creek Farmers Market	Coal Creek	Coal Creek 0459 629 000
Sep 13	Optimise business potential online	Leongatha	Alycia 5662 9271
Sep 14	Recruitment, Selection & Induction	Warragul	5622 8526
Sep 17	Drouin Community Market	Drouin	Bill Petschack 5625 3360
Sep 17	Sale Variety and Farmer's Market	Sale	Mark Watson 0408 057 772
Sep 18	Emerald Community Market	Emerald	Non Blair 0419 345 750
Sep 18	Lardner Park Market	Warragul	
Sep 19-23	City of Casey Business Week		Raylene Wilson 9705 5841
Sep 21	City of Casey Business Breakfast		Raylene Wilson 9705 5841
Sep 28	Professional Development Series – IT for non-IT Managers	Warragul	5622 8526
Sept 28	Finding Funding Workshop	Maffra	Darren Randle 1300 366 244
Oct 7	GSI East Gippsland Business Awards 2011		
Oct 12	Manage Budgets/Financial Plans	Warragul	5622 8526
Oct 12	Healthy Soils Forum		Tony Gardner 1300 094 262
Oct 26	Ensure a Safe Workplace	Warragul	5622 8526
Nov 2	Carbon Farming/Trading course	Lilydale	9214 4440
Nov 9	Finance for non-Finance Managers	Warragul	5622 8526
Nov 23	Creating High Performance People	Warragul	5622 8526
Dec 7	Strategic Planning and Foresight	Warragul	5622 8526

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](http://www.aginc.wordpress.com)