



# Gippy AGchat April 4, 2011 – Issue 41

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 3644 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](http://www.aginc.wordpress.com)
- Our postal address is PO Box 1312 Warragul 3280.
- Email us at [ptarmigan1@internode.on.net](mailto:ptarmigan1@internode.on.net) or [ptarmigan2@internode.on.net](mailto:ptarmigan2@internode.on.net)
- Phone us 9456 9791 or 0402 267 802
- Fax us at 9459 9699

**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) ...**

## **New board member joins Agribusiness Gippsland**

We welcome East Gippsland councillor Cr Michael Freshwater to the board of Agribusiness Gippsland Inc. A former mayor, he is a long-time resident of Lindenow with extensive interests in horticulture. He brings sector-specific knowledge and region-wide contacts to help boost the organisation's work promoting farming and agribusiness.

## **Tourism spotlight with Gippsland lunch**

If your interest is tourism, travel writing/photography, food tourism or agritourism...here's a chance to meet one of the most influential men in the Victorian industry.

Jeremy Bourke, the editor of Royal Auto, will be addressing a lunch in South Gippsland on April 13. He will discuss trends in regional Victorian tourism – with particular emphasis on agritourism/food tourism.

Not only will he offer insights into a major industry for Gippsland, it will be an occasion to press the flesh of a man who is possibly the most influential person responsible for Victoria's discretionary recreational travel spend.

The lunch will be hosted by Renee Deason and Kevin Wheeler, the committed young couple behind the Kernot Food and Wine Store. The provender eatery offers speciality pies made on the premises using local ingredients where possible. Read about them at [http://www.weeklytimesnow.com.au/article/2011/03/23/309081\\_country-living.html](http://www.weeklytimesnow.com.au/article/2011/03/23/309081_country-living.html)

The April 13 lunch costs \$32 and offers a choice of beef/onion and red wine pie or chicken/leek pie or vegetarian quiche – all served with salad then followed by some real down-to-earth favourites... Chocolate Ripple Cake or scones/jam/cream made by Renee's grandmother! Real stick-to-your-ribs fare for Autumn... with the bonus of an influential speaker. Tax invoices can be issued for businesses.

The venue is at 1075 Loch-Kernot Rd, tucked away in glorious countryside between Loch and Bass, about an hour from Melbourne. The lunch goes from 12.30 to 2pm, numbers are limited and bookings are necessary. Phone 5678 8555 to book, or email [ptarmigan@internode.on.net](mailto:ptarmigan@internode.on.net).

## Special deal for vineyard promotion

And while we're at it... 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)**

## Come and say 'hi' at Coal Creek

Come and visit our stand at the South Gippsland Sustainability Festival, Coal Creek Historical Village on Saturday, April 9. It is the second year that Agribusiness Gippsland has attended the event, which this year also sees the launch of the South Gippsland Public Fund. The festival goes from 9am-2pm and focuses on sustainable living options including alternative energy, local produce, self-sufficiency skills, sustainable products, local entertainment, educational activities, practical demonstrations and workshops.

**More? Christine Hamilton 5662 9314 or [christineh@southgippsland.vic.gov.au](mailto:christineh@southgippsland.vic.gov.au)**

## Talks for prosperity in East Gippsland

Agribusiness Gippsland's executive officer Sue Webster visited Buchan on March 16 to join speakers in a discussion entitled 'Our Community, Our Livelihood', a wide-ranging community strategy planning evening.

Building on similar recent community consultations, East Gippsland Shire Council is holding a series of workshops run by Michael McAllum from Global Foresight Network. The workshops will be held in the:

- Recreation Centre, Omeo, April 11, 6.30-8.30pm (Light refreshments from 6pm)
- Johnsonville Hall, Princes Hwy, April 12 from 7-9pm (Followed by light refreshments)
- Buchan Recreation Pavilion on Wednesday, April 13 from 6.30-8.30pm (Light refreshments from 6pm)
- Metung Bowling Club on Friday, 15 April from 7-9pm (Followed by light refreshments)

Follow up sessions will be held between 10am-12pm the day after each workshop for those unable to attend workshops or wanting further discussion. RSVP to reserve a place.

**More? [Abbie Hughes 5153 9500](mailto:Abbie Hughes 5153 9500)**

## 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](mailto:admin@ruralfinance.com.au) or visit: [www.ruralfinance.com.au](http://www.ruralfinance.com.au)**

## Professor Ross Garnaut to attend LaTrobe committee meeting

Renowned climate change advisor, Professor Ross Garnaut, will attend Latrobe City's inaugural Low Carbon Transition Committee meeting on Tuesday, April 12. The committee has been formed to lead Latrobe City Council through the low-carbon transition period.

## ...And now for something in a different time signature...

A good friend of GippyAgchat is international concert violinist Jonathon Glonek who sends an occasional email. Guest professor in violin in Bangkok, he is also a part-time resident of Bendoc in far East Gippsland. He rang the other day saying he was coming home for a couple of weeks and would love to do a performance in Orbost or Omeo. He is committed to performing fine classical works to audiences that would otherwise not hear such music – he's already organised to perform at Delegate. HeJohn started touring internationally aged 12 and received scholarships to study in Europe. His repertoire has been heard from London to Jakarta, Kiev to Adelaide. And in Gippsland? Ring Sue (0402 267 802) for contact details.

## 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 or email karen.thomas@dpi.vic.gov.au](mailto:karen.thomas@dpi.vic.gov.au)

## Latest grain/hay prices

31 March, 2011		Grain							
		Wheat		Barley		Maize		Sorghum	
<a href="#">Gippsland</a>	Price Range	\$242	\$252	\$247	\$257	\$227	\$237	\$205	\$215
	Change	Down \$5		Down \$3		Steady		Steady	

Prices from the latest grain and hay report circulated by Dairy Australia. Prices are estimates based on delivery to dairy farms with allowance for freight, storage, and marketing costs, but exclusive of GST. Wheat prices are for the relevant stockfeed wheat (ASW or AGP or 70-10) or FB1 for barley. Hay prices are based on shedded hay without weather damage, of good quality and colour. Prices are indicative for a mid-range product.

## Thorpdale farmers urged to check their dams

Southern Rural Water is warning Thorpdale landowners to check the safety of their farm dams after the collapse of a dam in the area. Owners of dams showing damage should immediately phone Southern Rural Water or a qualified engineer with farm dam expertise.

[More? Southern Rural Water 1300 139 510 or visit www.srw.com.au](http://www.srw.com.au)

## Residents invited to attend free eco-tour

Residents interested in eco-friendly options can join Cardinia Shire Council on a free tour of the Eco Living Display Centre in Mount Martha on April 14. The centre displays a range of water, energy and waste efficiency features. The bus will depart Cardinia Life, Olympic Way, Pakenham at 10am and return at 2.30pm. Places are limited. RSVP by April 12.

[More? Cardinia Council 1300 787 624](http://www.cardinia.vic.gov.au)

## GippsDairy wants red-headed cockchafers

GippsDairy wants farmers to help with a census of red-headed cockchafers. Farmers are being asked to dig up grubs or adult beetles and place them in a plastic container with a mixture of 70% methylated spirits and 30% water for at least two days. The liquid can then be drained and the specimen wrapped in tissue paper. Post samples to GippsDairy at PO Box 1059, Warragul, 3820, with details of when and where the cockchafers were collected.

[More? GippsDairy 5624 3900](http://www.gippsdairy.com.au)

## Make it Meeniyán ...

Meeniyán 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. Meeniyán 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, Meeniyán. Phone 5664 0030 or visit [www.meeniyánmotel.com.au](http://www.meeniyánmotel.com.au).

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



### Looking for a sales outlet?

Melbourne-based CERES recently launched a social enterprise delivering locally-sourced, organic fruit baskets to city offices. Organiser Dori Ellington said: "We work with local growers directly, paying them a fair price for their sustainably produced fruit, employ disadvantaged folk and all profits go toward helping CERES continue its environmental educational work.

[More? Dori 9389 0123 or http://www.ceres.org.au/organicmarket](http://www.ceres.org.au/organicmarket)

### Beef up your beef know how

The BetterBeef Network awareness conferences entitled 'Australian Beef Industry – A Changing Playing Field', cover what's driving current beef prices and what to expect in the future, making better trading decisions, building herd numbers and pestivirus. Guest speakers include John Webb Ware from the MacKinnon project and Trevor Caithness, the More Beef from Pastures producer advocate. The session will be held on April 5 at Bairnsdale.

[More? Darren Hickey 5152 0496 or darren.hickey@dpi.vic.gov.au](mailto:darren.hickey@dpi.vic.gov.au)

### Financial support for promoting economic development

East Gippsland Shire Council is inviting applications from groups seeking financial support for projects that promote economic development within the region. The shire's Economic Development Discretionary Fund aids projects of economic significance in the areas of marketing and business development, and small infrastructure projects that impact positively on the economic development of the region. Deadline is April 6.

[More? Danny McDonald 5153 9500](mailto:danny.mcdonald@egsc.vic.gov.au)

### 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. All resolutions for conference consideration must be received by the UDV office no later than 5pm on Friday, April 8. Nominations for UDV president and vice president must be returned to the UDV office by 5pm Friday April 8.

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

### 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](mailto: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, -2.30pm
- 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](mailto:cwadmin@wellington.vic.gov.au)**

## Update your own Landcare website

Training is available to teach Landcare group members how to update their own group's websites. Free training will take place on Thursday, April 7 at either Forestech or Bairnsdale.

**More? Penny 5161 1365 or [penny.gray@dpi.vic.gov.au](mailto:penny.gray@dpi.vic.gov.au) or visit [www://eastgippsland.landcarevic.net.au](http://www://eastgippsland.landcarevic.net.au)**

## Noxious weeds around channels – who does what?

Southern Rural Water (SRW) has released a fact sheet to clarify who is responsible for what when it comes to noxious weeds. Landowners are responsible for managing weeds on their own property and any SRW easements through their property. SRW is responsible for managing weeds in, on the banks and berms of the channels. It is also responsible for managing weeds on any reserves that it owns. Landowners spraying on easements close to channels should only use herbicides that are registered for use in or near waterways.

**More? Southern Rural Water 1300 139 510**

## AgriFood ambassadors sought

AgriFood Skills Australia is inviting expressions of interest for its Ambassadors Program. This is an opportunity for dynamic leaders in the agrifood industry to promote innovation, professionalism and the benefits of education and skill development. Ambassadors will be appointed for 12 months and offered 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 on 30 April.

**More? Click on [Ambassadors Program](#)**

## Look for what the flood dragged in

The DPI warns that the recent floods have increased the risk of weeds, plant pests and diseases establishing themselves in new areas. To report an unusual plant pest or disease call the Exotic Plant Pest Hotline on 1800 084 881. **More? Jim Moran 5430 4479**

## 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.

## 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](mailto: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 on Friday May 27.

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

## 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](mailto:bmp@rabobank.com)**

## Racing centre of excellence a step closer

A world-class country racing and horse training precinct at Tynong is a step closer with a planning permit for the \$600m-plus development now on public exhibition and comment until April 8. The development is expected to create more than 1600 jobs – boosting local employment by up to 4%. The planning permit is for the largest grass track in Australia and a world-class synthetic track designed specifically for night racing.

**More? Cardinia Shire Council 1300 787 624 or visit [www.cardinia.vic.gov.au](http://www.cardinia.vic.gov.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](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.

KABV Awards celebrate community action taken every day by Victorians to make their communities special, sustainable and liveable. Councils, community groups and organisations, schools and individuals can enter initiatives 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 (new this year).

Entries for the Sustainable Cities and Clean Beaches Award Programs close on April 8. Tidy Towns Sustainable Communities award entries close June 3.

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

## 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](http://www.business.vic.gov.au/workshops)**

## Get out your gumboots for a big day out!

The Dahlsens Lindenow Cup Farmers Big Day Out will be held at the Bairnsdale Racecourse on April 23. The day includes a gumboot throw for both open and junior, plenty of free kids' activities and an Easter egg giveaway. Book an umbrella package or enjoy all that the Grandview Dining Room has to offer.

**More? Alanna Pomeroy 5152 4057 or [alanna.pomeroy@countryracing.com.au](mailto:alanna.pomeroy@countryracing.com.au) or visit <http://www.bairnsdaleringclub.com.au>**

## East Gippsland river flows strongest in years

Rivers and stream flows in East Gippsland are the best seen for many years, according to Southern Rural Water. Local management rules for each river system have been developed to determine trigger levels for rosters and restrictions. Local management rules can be found on the website at [www.srw.com.au](http://www.srw.com.au).

**More? Southern Rural Water 1300 139 510**

## Local to address NZ Landcare meeting

Kellie Nichols of Bass Coast Landcare will be addressing a Landcare NZ strategy meeting in Hamilton on April 15. A Landcare Travel Fellow, she will outline the many innovative activities in the network's area.

**More? Kellie Nichols 5678 2335 or [www.landcare.net](http://www.landcare.net)**

# Rural Areas Forum

## What should our rural areas look like in the future?

Don't miss the second **Community Conversation** event as we build on BawBaw2050 to explore the opportunities and threats facing our rural areas. Discussion will include trends in agriculture, demand for housing and subdivision, future food production, enhancing our natural environment and more.

This is an opportunity to hear guest speakers and contribute your thoughts about the biggest issues facing the future of our rural areas.

**Date:** Monday, April 4

**Time:** 9am- 3pm (for a 9.30am start)

**Venue:** Fountain Room, West Gippsland Arts Centre, Warragul

**Bookings:** This is a free event, but as numbers are limited, you must book in advance by phoning West Gippsland Arts Centre on 5624 2456 by March 28.

For more information, go to **[www.bawbawshire.vic.gov.au](http://www.bawbawshire.vic.gov.au)**

or contact the Baw Baw Shire Council on 5624 2411



## Be aware when burning off

Despite recent rain and cool weather, Bass Coast residents are reminded to take care when burning off on rural properties. Read the [Burning Off Guidelines](#) created by the council and the CFA. Open air burning is not allowed in residential areas without a permit.

[More? Bass Coast Council 1300 226 278 or visit \[www.basscoast.vic.gov.au\]\(http://www.basscoast.vic.gov.au\)](#)

## 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. The cost of series is \$1,895 per participant

[More? Kelvin Slade 5622 8526 \[kelvins@gippstafe.edu.au\]\(mailto:kelvins@gippstafe.edu.au\) or visit \[www.regionalleadership.ahri.com.au/\]\(http://www.regionalleadership.ahri.com.au/\)](#)

## 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 that contribute to the community. Information sessions will be held in the Fountain Room, West Gippsland Arts Centre, Civic Place, Warragul on:

- Wednesday, April 20 from 6-9pm
- 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. The closing date for submitting applications is at 5pm on Tuesday, May 31.

Application forms and guidelines available to download from: [www.bawbawshire.vic.gov.au](http://www.bawbawshire.vic.gov.au).

[More? Joy Russell 5624 2483 or \[grants@bawbawshire.vic.gov.au\]\(mailto:grants@bawbawshire.vic.gov.au\)](#)

## 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 \[tammylogan@bigpond.com\]\(mailto:tammylogan@bigpond.com\)](#)

## Market better beef

Improving the profitability of the beef enterprise through better marketing skills is the focus of a practical beef marketing course in the Central Gippsland region commencing in April.

The course, run by DPI and RIST, is run on farm over eight days, with one session held each month. In this very "hands on" course, a group of steers will be tracked throughout the year to assess weight gains, growth rates, fat and muscle score and suitability for different markets.

The course provides two units towards a diploma of agriculture and the cost is approx \$400.

[More? Claire Geri 0448 335 479 or \[claire.geri@dpi.vic.gov.au\]\(mailto:claire.geri@dpi.vic.gov.au\)](#)

## East Gippsland Regional Landcare Awards now open

Nominations for 2011 East Gippsland Landcare awards are now open. Celebrate outstanding Landcare activities in East Gippsland by nominating an individual or an organisation for one or more of the award categories: Individual Landcarer; Primary Producer Award; Sustainable Agriculture; Community Group Award; Education Award and Young Landcare Leader Award

[More? Visit \[www.gippsland.landcarevic.net.au/\]\(http://www.gippsland.landcarevic.net.au/\)](#)

## 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.

At the conclusion of the eight kilometre ride, there will be a barbecue lunch and an awards ceremony. Prizes will be awarded in the following categories:

- Champion Rider – Hotspur Trophy
- Mayor's Choice – King Robert The Bruce Trophy
- Best Presented Group – Kay Irving Trophy
- Best Horse Drawn Vehicle – Grace Darling Trophy
- Most Australian Rider – Ned Kelly Trophy
- Best Western Turnout – Sir William Wallace Trophy

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

The ride will commence at 10 am. All riders who participate in the event must wear an Australian-approved equestrian safety helmet for safety. Early bird registration fees are \$5 for individuals, \$15 for families (of no more than four riders), and \$40 for groups (minimum of 10 riders). After April 22, fees are \$15 for individuals, \$30 families and \$65 for groups.

**More? City of Casey Customer Service 9705 5200 or visit [www.casey.vic.gov.au/ridingofthebounds](http://www.casey.vic.gov.au/ridingofthebounds)**

## 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](mailto:r.jenzen@basscoast.vic.gov.au)**

## Low-energy dairy cleaning launched

A Jindivick dairy farm last month hosted Victorian Sustainability Minister Ryan Smith officially launching the Green Cleaning system that has recorded a 75% cut in energy use, a 65% cut in water use and possibly halved chemical use during its 15-month pilot.

Co-developers Rob Greenall and Gabriel Hakim estimate that, at current prices, the unit costing up to \$50,000 fully installed and could see payback in five to seven years. Installed and operating efficiently, the system could save 35-40t of carbon dioxide emissions annually, they added. GippsDairy has been a major backer of the world-first project, undertaken with Sustainability Victoria and the Gardiner Foundation.

The milking machine cleaning system operates at low temperatures, reusing chemicals and using renewable energy via heat exchange from milk. It moves away from the conventional three-step process and replaces sanitising rinses of about 85 degrees, with chemicals that work effectively at below 50 degrees.

It includes an automated cleaning unit capable of capturing, storing and re-using wash solutions. The launch took place at Steve Ronalds' 300-plus cow farm and a public display was held on March 30.

**More? 03 5611 1020**

## Women in Business Breakfast

Wellington Shire Council and Westpac Sale Branch co-hosted the inaugural Women in Business Breakfast in the Wellington Room at the Civic Centre, Sale, on Thursday March 17. Forty women from across the shire and beyond travelled to Sale to hear insights on business success from Wellington Shire Councillor Jane Hildebrant, local Business Women Jodie Willis from Work Hire and Annita Wilkinson from Celsius Boutique.

**More? [Wellington Shire Council 1300 366 244](http://WellingtonShireCouncil.com.au)**

## **Festival celebrates the Eucalypt**

Celebrate Australia's most iconic plant during the Eucalypt Festival at the Royal Botanic Gardens Cranbourne. Live music, a native animal display, roving performers, face painting, fun walks, workshops, family programs and kids' activities will be on offer during the Easter weekend, from April 23–25.

[More? Royal Botanic Gardens Cranbourne 5990 2245](#)

## **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](#)

## **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. Upcoming Workshops are:

- Wednesday, April 20 from 7-9pm at the Warragul Community House
- Wednesday, May 18 from 2.30pm at the Warragul Community House

[More? Steve Walsh 56523 2857 or stevew@dcsi.net.au](#)

## **Mentoring service available for Latrobe city businesses**

The Latrobe City Council small business mentoring service provides an experienced business mentor for a free, one-to-one, mentoring session for local small business. The initial 45-minute consultation with a representative of the Small Business Mentoring Service is free, and subsequent sessions are charged at a nominated fee.

[More? Emilio Di Sisto 5128 55510 or emiliodi@latrobe.vic.gov.au](#)

## **Find out about firewood**

Firewood buyers should seek to obtain their wood from a reputable source with accurate measurement information provided. Ensure it is:

- not collected from areas where threatened native species are present
- well seasoned with a moisture content less than 20%
- harvested from plantation and sustainable managed native forests
- not painted or impregnated with chemicals
- sold with a unit of sale that is accurately measured and described with species, moisture content and weight or volume.

## **Young professionals on the move**

The next meeting of the South Gippsland Agribusiness Professionals (SGAP) will be held in Inverloch on Wednesday, May 2. The inaugural meeting, held on March 3 with guest speaker Paul O'Sullivan, was attended by 16 people with positive feedback from all. Future meetings will be held on a bi-monthly basis.

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

## 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.

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

## 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 carpark fee applies.

**More?** Craft Markets Australia 5976 3266 or visit [www.craftmarkets.com.au](http://www.craftmarkets.com.au)

## Understand your financial statements

Learn how to read and use financial statements to make sound business decisions based on fact and not fiction at a seminar at Suite 7/61 Smith Street, Warragul from 6-8pm on June 21. The cost is \$20. Refreshments provided.

**More?** Visit [www.business.vic.gov.au/workshops](http://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](mailto:mark@lardnerpark.com.au), visit [www.lardnerpark.com.au](http://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](mailto:susanw@ptarmigan.com.au) or via [www.aginc.wordpress.com](http://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](http://www.farmday.com.au)

**More?** Deb Bain 1300 367 036 or [deb@farmday.com.au](mailto:deb@farmday.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, April 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, 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, April 9.

**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, April 16.

**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, April 17.

**More? Non Blair 0419 345 750 or [blairnd@bigpond.com](mailto:blairnd@bigpond.com)**

## Greenhills is among south-east's best

Cardinia Shire's Greenhills Propagation Nursery has been named Best Medium Enterprise and Best Environmental and Sustainability Enterprise at the 2011 Melbourne's South East Business Awards last month. Greenhills Propagation Nursery competed against 53 nominations from the across the south east for seven business award categories.

## Want to enjoy your own fresh eggs?

Experienced hen enthusiasts will provide practical advice on keeping your own small flock of birds on Wednesday April 6, 7-8.30pm at the Poowong Hall, Supper Room.

This is a free event sponsored by the Poowong Produce Swap. RSVP by April 4

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

## 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.

**More? [Click here](#)**

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

Meetings this month are:

- Apr 7: Sale
- Apr 23: Bairnsdale
- Apr 24: Tambo
- Apr 24: Stony Creek
- Apr 25: Moe

And next month are:

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

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

## Prowl the night gardens

Enjoy a bush barbecue at the Woodland picnic area before heading into the bush land to discover the native animals that emerge at night at the Royal Botanic Gardens Cranbourne Night Prowl and Bush Barbecue.

The event will be held on Thursday April 21 from 5.30-9pm. The cost is \$26 adult, \$22 child/concession. Bookings are essential.

[More? Royal Botanic Gardens Cranbourne 5990 2245](#)

## Residents urged to take control of rampant weeds

Cardinia Shire Council is calling on landowners to manage noxious weeds on their properties as soon as possible.

Weed control grants of up to \$500 are available to landowners to help in eliminating weeds such as ragwort, blackberry, Paterson's Curse, spear thistle and sweet pittosporum.

Application forms are available [online](#) or by contacting Council on 1300 787 624. Grant funding is allocated on a 'first come, first served' basis subject to [selection criteria](#).

Council is issuing warning notices to landowners who fail to manage weeds on their property.

[More? Cardinia Shire Council 1300 787 624 or visit \[www.cardinia.vic.gov.au\]\(http://www.cardinia.vic.gov.au\)](#)

## Camp fire cook-off creates fierce competition

The fourth Great Victorian Camp Oven Festival will be held on the weekend of April 9-10 at Wallaby Rise Caravan Park, Glenmaggie. There are a range of camp oven cooking competitions, country music entertainment, camp oven food tastings, damper throwing competitions, billy boiling competitions and more. Prizes will be awarded in both professional and amateur sections.

[More? Paul 5148 0376 or \[wallabyrise@bigpond.com\]\(mailto:wallabyrise@bigpond.com\)](#)

## 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 April 9.

[More? Phoebe Hicks 5633 2304](#)

## New CEO for the WGCMA

The West Gippsland Catchment Management Authority recently appointed Martin Fuller as Chief Executive Officer for the next five years. Martin replaces CEO of eight years, Geoff Hocking, who retired at the end of last year.

[More? Mikaela Power 5175 7862 or \[mikaelap@wgcm.vic.gov.au\]\(mailto:mikaelap@wgcm.vic.gov.au\)](#)

## 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](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

Apprentice required. Australia's most innovative dairy farm, Clover Hill Dairies located at Jamberoo on the beautiful NSW South Coast is seeking a dairy apprentice. A background in the dairy industry is not essential. Commitment to best-practice animal welfare management is and computer skills a advantage. Email CV to [lynnestrong@cloverhilldairies.com.au](mailto:lynnestrong@cloverhilldairies.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 [ltslattery@swin.edu.au](mailto: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](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. Contact 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



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### 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: vecci's wayne kayler-thomson, agritourism ideas, rabbit farm gillingal east Gippsland, goat breeder giffard, agribusiness think tank, 2009 agribusiness summit, Latrobe city council blog

### 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](mailto:ptarmigan2@internode.on.net).

### Gippy Diary

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION	CONTACT
Apr 4	Rural Areas Forum	Warragul	Jayne Cluning 5624 2594
Apr 5	'Australian Beef Industry – A Changing Playing Field' Conference	Bairnsdale	Darren Hickey 5152 0496

Apr 6	Hen keeping information night	Poowong	Tammy Logan 5659 2308
Apr 7	Landcare website training	Forestech or Bairnsdale	Penny 5161 1365
Apr 7	Country Race Meet	Sale	1300 139 402
Apr 9	Coal Creek Farmers Market	Coal Creek	0459 629 000
Apr 9	Rokeyby Community Market	Rokeyby	Rhianna 5626 8523
Apr 9	South Gippsland Public Fund Launch	Coal Creek	
Apr 9	Trafalgar Produce Swap	Trafalgar	Phoebe Hicks 5633 2304
Apr 9-10	Great Victorian Camp Oven Festival	Glenmaggie	Paul 5148 0376
Apr 11	Better Future planning scenario workshop	Omeo	Abbie Hughes 5153 9500
Apr 12	Better Future planning scenario workshop	Johnsonville	Abbie Hughes 5153 9500
Apr 13	Better Future planning scenario workshop	Buchan	Abbie Hughes 5153 9500
Apr 14	Cardinia Shire Eco-Tour	Mt Martha	Cardinia Council 1300 787 624
Apr 15	Better Future planning scenario workshop	Metung	Abbie Hughes 5153 9500
Apr 16	Drouin Community Market	Drouin	Bill Petschack 5625 3360
Apr 17	Emerald Community Market	Emerald	Non Blair 0419 345 750
Apr 20	Domestic Energy Workshop	Warragul	Steve Walsh 5623 2857
Apr 20	Baw Baw Shire Council Community Development Grants program information session	Warragul	Joy Russell 5624 2483
Apr 21	Bush Barbeque and Night Walk	Cranbourne	Royal Botanic Gardens and Cranbourne 5990 2245
Apr 23	Country Race Meet	Bairnsdale	1300 139 402
Apr 23	Yarragon Community Craft and Produce Market	Yarragon	Allison Butterworth 5634 2209
Apr 23	Gippsland Heritage Park Market	Moe	5127 3082
Apr 23-25	Eucalypt Festival	Cranbourne	5990 2245
Apr 24	Country Race Meet	Tambo	1300 139 402
Apr 24	Country Race Meet	Stony Creek	1300 139 402
Apr 25	Country Race Meet	Moe	1300 139 402
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	Rokeyby	Karen Thomas 9785 0103
Apr 28	Sustainability Strategy stakeholder workshop	Sale	Wellington Shire Council 1300 366 244
Apr 28, May 5	Feeding Pastures For Profit program	Leongatha	Frank Mickan 5624 2259
Apr 30	Gippsland Heritage Park Market	Moe	5127 3082
May 1	Poowong Produce Swap	Poowong	Tammy Logan 5659 2308
May 2	South Gippsland Agribusiness Professionals	Inverloch	James Clark 0427 344 356
May 2	Finding Funding Workshop	Loch	Darren Randle 1300 366 244
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 pic exhibition	Fish Creek	Karen Thomas 9785 0103

May 8	Country Race Meet	Sale	1300 139 402
May 10	Your Business On-line seminar	Warragul	<a href="http://www.business.vic.gov.au/workshops">www.business.vic.gov.au/workshops</a>
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 13	South Gippsland Landcare Network Landcare (SGLN) Awards	Dambulk	
May 14	Rokeyby Community Market	Rokeyby	Rhianna 5626 8523
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	Country Race Meet	Moe	1300 139 402
May 18	Domestic Energy Workshop	Warragul	Steve Walsh 5623 2857
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	Finding Funding Workshop	Gormandale	Darren Randle 1300 366 244
May 22	Emerald Community Market	Emerald	Non Blair 0419 345 750
May 26	Country Race Meet	Sale	1300 139 402
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
June 21	Understanding financial statements seminar	Warragul	<a href="http://www.business.vic.gov.au/workshops">www.business.vic.gov.au/workshops</a>
Jun 22	Agfutures- land capability and diversification	Inverloch	Roslyn Jenzen 5951 3317
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
Jun 29	Finding Funding Workshop	Wellington	Darren Randle 1300 366 244
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](http://www.aginc.wordpress.com)