



Mayor Mark Reeves, Councillors and Council staff visited Lindenow and surrounds on Monday 5 September where they spoke with business owners including some of Australia's leading vegetable growers and Sally-Ann Kelly, co-director of antenna maker ZCG, pictured here (front row, second from left).

Focus on Lindenow and Bengworden

Mayor Mark Reeves, Councillors and Council staff hit the road for a two-day trip September 5-6 that took in Lindenow, Bengworden and surrounding districts.

In Lindenow, the group met with locals and business owners who are passionate about their community, starting at produce business Bonaccord Ingram.

Ross Ingram, who oversees the office, finance, marketing and freight at the Australian-owned business is one of the many Ingrams who runs the operation.

Ross spoke about the work involved in growing fresh produce that is picked, cooled, packed and freighted for purchase the next day in stores across Victoria and

interstate. He noted that staffing issues, including housing, and water security were two key issues facing the farm.

At nearby Lindenow Bowling Club, the Mayor, Councillors and staff spoke with hard-working and committed members of the Lindenow Recreation Reserve Committee of Management and Lindenow South Recreation Reserve Committee of Management. Lindenow Recreation Reserve oval, at the same site as the bowls club, is getting a \$265,000 lighting upgrade, support to install a solar system, a stretch of new fencing and a cricket wicket upgrade. A grant of \$50,000 has also been awarded for the refurbishment of Lindenow Hall.

Read more page 2 >>>

Acknowledgement of Country

East Gippsland Shire Council acknowledges the Gunaikurnai, Monero and Bidjawan people as the Traditional Custodians of the land that encompasses East Gippsland Shire. We pay our respects to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people living in East Gippsland, their Elders past and present.

Roadshow addressing local issues

Continued from page 1

Lindenow's Long Paddock restaurant hosted Council and some of the region's key food and fibre business leaders and industry representatives, including key figures from winery Lightfoot and Sons, Food and Fibre Gippsland, Busch Organics, Lanteri Farms, J&C Hine and more.

A short trip to the backstreets of Lindenow took the group to antenna maker ZCG, which is a world-leading producer of antenna and radio frequency accessories. ZCG researches, designs, tests, and manufactures its products onsite and supplies customers including BAE Systems, the Department of Defence and the Capital Radio Network.

Final stop on day one was Bulmer Farms, one of Australia's leading vegetable growers. Andrew Bulmer took the

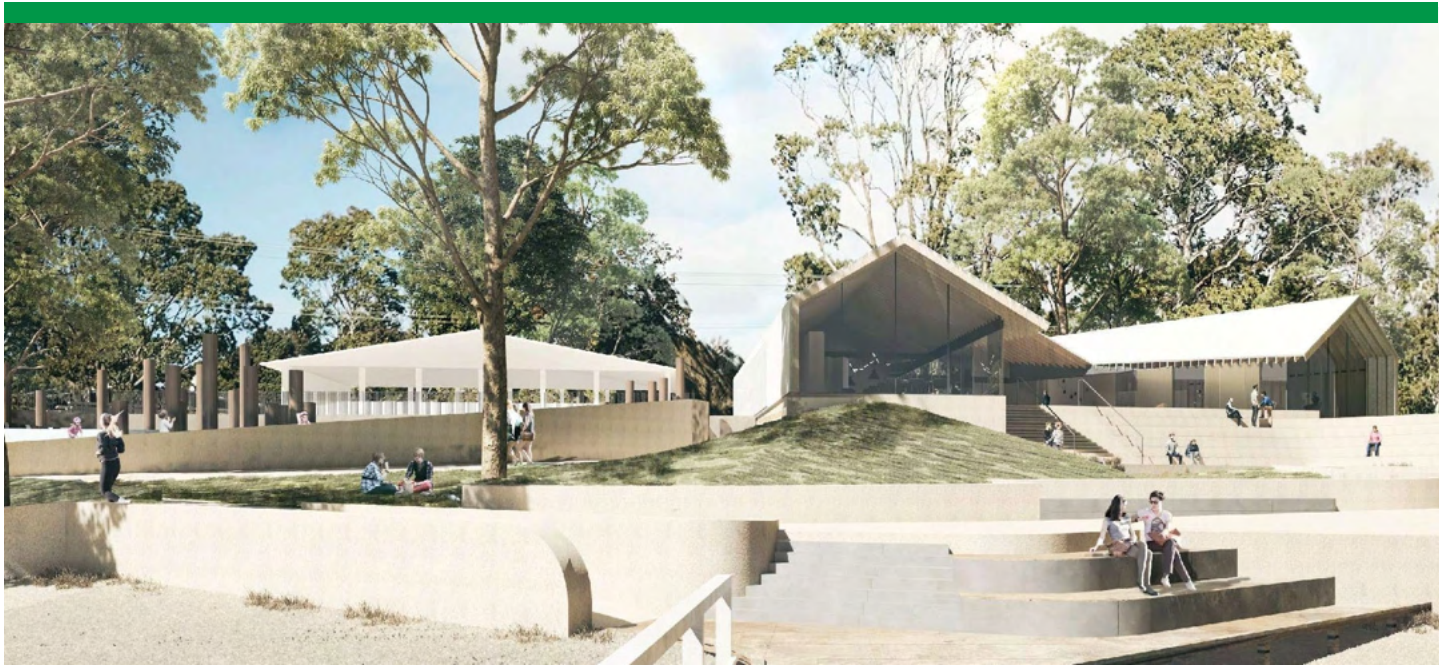
group on a tour of the Lindenow Valley farm and spoke of issues around transportation and road access, water security and staff wellbeing.

Day two saw the Mayor, Councillors and staff visit Bairnsdale Aerodrome to discuss runway upgrades and construction of an onsite agriculture centre.

Morning tea took place at the quaint Bengworden Hall where farmers and Landcare groups, Agriculture Sector Advisory Committee members and Gippsland Agricultural Group discussed soil, roadside and African lovegrass issues. Final stop was Bullumwaal Road Reserve, where the group spoke with Southern Rural Water about water security and allocations for the Lindenow Valley.

We thank everyone who took the time to represent their businesses, committees, and communities.





Construction begins on hub for Eagle Point

Construction of the much-anticipated Eagle Point Foreshore Hub began Monday 19 September.

The town serves as a major tourist destination for boating enthusiasts.

Eagle Point foreshore, located on the shores of the Gippsland Lakes, is surrounded by flora and fauna reserves and joins onto the Eagle Point Caravan Park.

The new multi-functional 'hub' building – being delivered by local building company, Eastern Victorian Construction Group - will feature a café, caravan park kiosk, accessible toilets, a community space and more.

Outside, the project will include a playground, walkways, formalised parking and the relocation of a public road.

The redevelopment also includes erosion control and beach stabilisation measures.

Eagle Bay Drive will be closed to traffic until work is completed, however, pedestrian access will remain until late January 2023. Most of the area will remain accessible to the public and impact is expected to be minimal during peak times.

Construction is due for completion in mid-2023.

For more information, visit yoursay.eastgippsland.vic.gov.au.



11 October: Council meeting, Bairnsdale, 6.00 pm

25 October: Statutory meeting, Bairnsdale, 6.00 pm

8 November: Council meeting, Bairnsdale, 6.00 pm

Want to take part in a Council meeting?

The community are encouraged to ask questions or present to Council on an agenda item or other matters at a Council meeting. View our [website](https://yoursay.eastgippsland.vic.gov.au).



Roles and awards for young people

Are you aged 12-25 and live, work or study in East Gippsland?

If yes, we have some opportunities you may be interested in. We're looking for a new batch of Youth Ambassadors. As a Youth Ambassador, you'll have a platform to discuss issues, create and lead projects for young people, have meaningful engagement with the established Council and have a say about the future of your community.

Youth Ambassadors participate in free training and development opportunities, community consultations and events as well as develop and implement their own action plan with goals and ambitions they work towards achieving each year.

AND this year there is the additional opportunity to be part of the Gippsland East Youth Project, Youth Programs Committee, and be paid for your time!

To apply to be a Youth Ambassador, see the **Youth page on our website.**

Gippsland East Youth Project

The Gippsland East Youth Project (GEYP) supports a mobile youth space (a bus) travelling throughout East Gippsland to support activities which build community resilience and connectedness. This is a super exciting project for East Gippsland!

Exactly what activities the GEYP team does is guided by the Youth Programs Committee – East Gippsland Youth Ambassadors.

These meetings will be held monthly on a Wednesday night, in addition to the regular Youth Ambassador meeting. Participation on this committee is paid.

Circular economy reforms supported

We have thrown our support behind a push for a new State-funded Local Government Circular Economy Funding Program.

The Municipal Association of Victorian (MAV), supported by us, has requested that the Victorian Government establishes a new two-part funding package for local government to the tune of \$120 million over four years. This would include:

A \$100 million (over four years) Local Government Circular Economy Infrastructure Fund to contribute to the capital costs of implementing household recycling reforms, and construction, upgrades and improvements of council transfer stations, material aggregation sites and resource recovery centres.

A \$20 million (over two years) Local Government Circular Economy Capability Fund to support councils to prepare, review and update waste

and recycling policies, strategies and plans; undertake feasibility studies, risk assessments and audits; engage third party expert advice and assistance; training and professional development. Mayor, Cr Mark Reeves said the program would help minimise the cost impacts on households of implementing and delivering the Victorian Government's ambitious circular economy reforms.

"We recently wrote to the Hon. Lily D'Ambrosio, Minister for Energy and Minister for Environment and Climate Action, outlining our support for the Government's ambition for an accelerated transition to a circular economy. But we also outlined the need for funding support to deliver any reform at a community level," Cr Reeves said.

"The speed and scale of recent recycling reforms has created significant resourcing and cost pressures on councils, with the requirement to

standardise bin lid colours and reform household services expected to come at a significant cost to the ratepayers of East Gippsland.

"Recognising the already significant cost pressures on households, we are working hard to minimise the cost impacts of these reforms on our residents. However, the combination of increased landfill levy rates, new service and infrastructure requirements, population growth, and ballooning capital works costs makes this a very difficult challenge."

To minimise unnecessary administrative costs, we have asked that funding support be made available as a non-competitive grants package.

"Moving to a circular economy is a shared responsibility and we look forward to working with the Government to minimise the direct financial impact of reforms on local government and in turn local communities," Cr Reeves said.

Celebrating

AUSTRALIAN CITIZENSHIP

17 SEPTEMBER



Mayor Cr Mark Reeves congratulates Zoe Chin, joined by her partner Daniel Aries, on becoming an Australian citizen.



Emmanuelle and Guillaume Samson with Mayor Cr Mark Reeves.



Tim Bull, Member for Gippsland East, Cr Jane Greacen and Mayor Cr Mark Reeves congratulate Patchanne Sanchez on becoming an Australian citizen.



Fourteen new citizens call East Gippsland home.

National Citizenship Day celebrated new Aussies

We officially welcomed 14 of our nation's newest citizens to the community on National Citizenship Day – Saturday 17 September.

The ceremony marked the 21st anniversary of National Citizenship Day.

Mayor Cr Mark Reeves said Australian Citizenship Day was launched in 2001 to increase community awareness of Australian citizenship.

"The day is marked on September 17 because it

is the anniversary of the renaming of the Nationality and Citizenship Act 1948 to the Australian Citizenship Act 1948," Cr Reeves said.

"Australian citizenship is the bond that unites all Australians, regardless of whether we were born in Australia or have decided to make Australia our home. It was great to be able to celebrate with 14 of our newest citizens and their families.

"Our conferees on National Citizenship Day, from America, Britain,

Canada, France, Malaysia, Philippines and Thailand, formally pledged their commitment to Australia. Our newest citizens are already contributing to our region in a variety of ways and it's great that they have made the choice to become official Aussies."

Zoe Chin is one of the East Gippsland residents who became an Australian citizen.

Zoe moved to Australia from Malaysia in 2015 to further her education. She studied in Queensland and Darwin

before settling in East Gippsland, where she is a pharmacist at Bairnsdale Regional Health Service.

"Becoming a citizen makes Australia our home. The Australian people have been so welcoming to us, and we have such a wonderful quality of life here in East Gippsland," Zoe said.

Ninety-one people have this year taken the oath and become Australian citizens in ceremonies hosted by Council.

Watch the ceremony 



The rollout of EV fast chargers is progressing, with line markings put down at some sites, including this one in the carpark at 101-121 Nicholson Street, Bairnsdale.

EV stations charging ahead

We're switched on and charging ahead with the region's first public electric vehicle (EV) fast-charging network with stage one of the project progressing well in Bairnsdale, Cann River, Omeo and Orbost.

The charging stations will create an important charging network supporting the growing number of local residents and visitors with electric vehicles.

Construction started Monday 12 September on the Cann River EV charging sites. Cann River has been identified nationally as a key connector for EV charging.

The Cann River project is a partnership with Tesla and we are just a few short weeks away from commissioning the site. We will install its own EV charger next to the Tesla chargers.

Council installed EV chargers at all sites will be equipped with CCS2 and CHAdeMO dual plugs, which fit most EVs.

Concrete pads are down for the main

switchboards and charging station units at all sites.

Line marking to define the charging spaces has been completed in Omeo and Bairnsdale.

All of the sites are waiting on AusNet three-phase power upgrades, which is needed for the chargers.

Stage one is set to be completed by the end of the year.

Stage two, which will see EV stations installed in Buchan, Mallacoota and Lakes Entrance, will finishing rolling out by June 2023.

The 50kW DC units will charge an EV in an hour, and one charger will supply two car parks to allow for dual charging. Council's low charging cost will be 40 cents per kilowatt hour, meaning it will cost between \$20 to \$35 for a full charge depending on the type of car.

For more, see: yoursay.eastgippsland.vic.gov.au/electric-vehicle-charging-stations

Don't miss rates instalment



Have you opted to pay your rates in instalments?

The cut-off date for payment of your first instalment is Friday 30 September.

If you pay after that date, it is treated as a part payment and you will need to pay the remainder of your outstanding annual rates amount by 15 February.

If you need extra time to pay your rates, contact any of our customer service centres or call 5153 9500

For more on rates, visit www.eastgippsland.vic.gov.au/council/rate-payment-options-and-timetable.

Temporary closure - 6 October

We will be closed from 12.00 pm on Thursday 6 October to support staff training and development. Staff across the organisation will not be available, except in the event of an emergency. For urgent matters you can contact us by phone.

Waste and recreation facilities and caravan parks will remain open as normal.

Our sites will close as follows:

- Bairnsdale Corporate Centre, from 12pm
- Bairnsdale Library, from 12–5pm, reopening 5–9pm
- Lakes Entrance, from 12pm
- Paynesville Service Centre, from 12pm
- Mallacoota Service Centre, all day
- Omeo Service Centre, from 10.30am
- Orbost Service Centre, from 11am
- Visitor Information Centres (Bairnsdale and Lakes Entrance), from 12pm



Mayor Cr Mark Reeves attended Marlo Primary School earlier this month for Gippsland's Biggest PJ Day to raise funds and awareness for A Better Life for Foster Kids - a Gippsland charity that supports children and carers in the out-of-home-care system.

Traction for Omeo Mountain Bike Trails

Stage 1 of the Omeo Mountain Bike Trails project has commenced.

The full Common Ground Trails team, which is creating the trails, arrived in the first week of the month, and the machines (cleaned to ensure they are contaminant and weed free) have started work.

Common Ground's lead crew have already been tagging trail alignments within the state park and the town has welcomed the team in their hi-vis shirts to the township.

Stage one will see the first 56 kilometres of a 121km trail network constructed.

Stage one is funded by Council (\$1.52m), the Federal Government's Building Better Regions Fund (\$1.5m) and Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program Phase 3 (\$1.506m), and the Victorian Government Regional Tourism Infrastructure Fund through Regional Development Victoria (\$1m).


While it is anticipated that there will be no impact to public access to Livingstone Park, some walking trails may be closed for periods. Common Ground will provide updates and install signage as works progress.

Stage two is fully funded and will another 64km of trails and turn the Alpine town into an international mountain bike destination.

Council meeting in brief

At the Council Meeting, 20 September, Council:

- Unanimously carried a motion offering Council's deepest condolences to His Majesty King Charles III, the Royal Family, and all those mourning the loss of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.
- Voted to support a request that officers report on improvements that could be made to Nicholson Street, Bairnsdale.
- Mayor Mark Reeves acknowledged an award won by Yeates Media at the East Gippsland Business Awards.
- Voted to liaise with the Australian Government on potential development of offshore renewable energy off the Gippsland coast.
- Accepted a tender for a bridge to be built in Omeo's Oriental Claims area that forms a key part of the town's mountain bike trails project.
- Unanimously adopted a revised Advocacy Strategy, which highlights advocacy priorities ahead of the Victorian State Election.
- Unanimously adopted a Media Policy that better reflects Council's relationships with media, residents and ratepayers.
- Adopted a revised Chief Executive Officer Employment and Remuneration Policy.
- Said yes to a multi-lot subdivision on Christmas Street, Metung.

Watch the meeting 

At the Council meeting on Tuesday 30 August, Council:

- Approved an amendment to the Governance Rules to make permanent the temporary emergency provisions relating to electronic attendance and participation at meetings of Council and Delegated Committees.
- Addressed two items of confidential business

Spotlight on our advocacy priorities

A suite of advocacy priorities has been developed to push the case for East Gippsland at the upcoming State Election.

This month Council adopted its updated Advocacy Strategy, which includes 37 priorities that fall under the Council Plan 2021-25 themes of **Our Communities, Our Place, Our Environment, Our Economy** and **Our Council**.

Mayor, Cr Mark Reeves said the list was a blend of the immediate, medium and longer-term needs, challenges and opportunities for the shire.

"The priorities consider the environmental, waste and social issues, infrastructure projects, policy, Council's responsibilities, and the shire's economic prosperity," Cr Reeves said. "Having a current and fluid list of priorities is important, particularly during election periods. Many of the priorities are targeted at the Victorian Government and we look forward to

engaging with the current Government and elected representative, and candidates ahead of the November polls."

Council adopted its first Advocacy Strategy and priorities list last November.

"I'm pleased to report that, so far, we've been able to deliver on several priorities. These include securing funding for the upgrade of the Bairnsdale Aerodrome (\$9.9 million), support for bushfire recovery services, youth programs, and community resilience projects; and the Buchan Recreation Reserve upgrade," Cr Reeves said.

"We have successfully advocated for the development of an agricultural training hub (\$1 million) at Gippsland Agriculture Group site near the Bairnsdale Airport, and support for an increase in public housing."

"With others, Council has advocated for critical projects and investment in East Gippsland commensurate with

the impact of the 2019/20 fires. This resulted in more than \$30 million of investment in projects as part of the Black Summer Bushfire Recovery Grants."

Cr Reeves said advocacy on behalf of the community was an important role for Council.

"Our advocacy efforts are strong throughout the year, and as issues arise we are proactive. An election provides more opportunities to explain our community's priorities and seek support and commitments. We look forward to meeting with candidates ahead of the November polls," Cr Reeves said.

We will provide all relevant Australian and Victorian government Ministers and Shadow Ministers, local MPs and State Election candidates with detail on the new suite of advocacy priorities. We will also invite candidates for the seat of Gippsland East to meet ahead of the election.

PRIORITIES WITH A STATE ELECTION FOCUS



Homelessness – a dedicated (non-competitive) funding allocation from the Victorian 'Big Housing Build' to address homelessness and the lack of affordable housing.



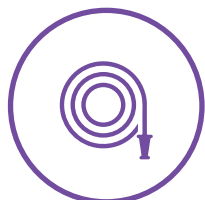
Long-term bushfire recovery and community resilience – support for bushfire recovery services until at least year five.



Active ageing – awareness campaigns, events, activities and programs.



Mitchell River Bridge duplication – funding for detailed design of the bridge and realignment of sections of the Princes Highway into a road reserve managed by the State.



Shared approach to fire management – funding for local governments to review emergency management strategies to ensure appropriate resourcing.



Bairnsdale Aerodrome upgrade - \$6 million for the development of terminal building upgrade and taxiway improvements.



Bullumwaal Road (Wy Yung), Marlo Road (Orbost-Marlo), Benambra-Corryong Road and Great Alpine Road upgrades.



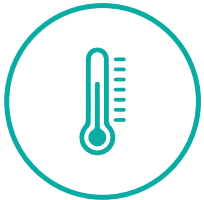
Industrial land supply – direct intervention and sufficient funding to enable planning for and rezoning of industrial land.



Coastal hazards and assets renewal – ongoing funding to support aspirations of the Marine and Coastal Act.



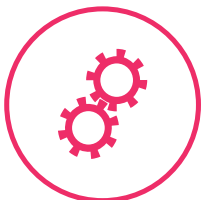
Lakes Entrance Indoor Stadium – funding for the design and planning for the relocation and expansion of a multi-court complex.



Environment – climate change mitigation, a Gippsland Lakes health audit, coastal risk management, strategic firebreaks and roadside vegetation, returning 50% of landfill levies back to Council for waste management initiatives, and natural resource management strategic partnerships.



Education - \$600,000 for the next phase of transforming the Bairnsdale Hub into a collaborative education centre, and finalisation of funding to upgrade Bairnsdale Secondary College.



Native timber industry transition – extending Local Development Strategies funding to impacted communities, replacing clear-fell harvesting with a new approach to silviculture, providing sawlogs for timber processing and support the use of forest resources by a range of users.



Rate capping - engagement with local government in advance of the next setting of the rate cap.



School crossing supervision – that the State fully funds school crossing supervision and does not impose costs on ratepayers and residents for a service unrelated to core local government functions.



Community meetings next step in service review

Councillors are hosting meetings in Paynesville, Omeo, Bairnsdale, Orbost, Lakes Entrance and Mallacoota from 19 to 29 September as the next step in our Service Centre and Library Service Review.

Community members attending the meetings received an update on the process, feedback received during the community consultation process, and the proposed next steps.

Mayor Cr Mark Reeves said Council scheduled the community meetings to provide an update on the completion of the consultation process, and outline the proposed next steps of the review.

"Across five weeks in May and June, we offered significant engagement opportunities for the community about this review. We held six in-person and four online community meetings and offered both hard-copy and online survey options," Cr Reeves said.

"Councillors were provided with all feedback from the community meetings and survey. More than 170 people attended the meetings, there were 925 responses to the survey, and Council has received four petitions.

"Councillors have had the opportunity to review all data and feedback. We have had numerous sessions to develop recommendations for consideration at a future Council meeting. We outlined these recommendations to the community at the sessions."

Recommendations consider:

- Increased investment
- Providing additional services to more people, in more locations
- Providing additional services to communities that currently receive no library services
- Providing additional services to the vulnerable through the provision of an expanded mobile library service

- No change to centre opening days
- Some minor modifications to centre operating hours
- Council services and library programs currently offered at all sites will remain in place
- Council not subsidising private organisations
- Resourcing to supplement the communication channels most used by community members when interacting with Council, which includes online and phone
- A 12-month trial period to monitor community use.

"By reviewing how we provide our services we can increase opportunities for communities to engage with us. This may include more regular visits, more time spent in remote communities, and what services are provided through our mobile library," Cr Reeves said.

Council is required by the *Local Government Act 2020* to deliver services in accordance with the service principles in Part 5 Section 106 of the Act. This review was undertaken for the customer service and library services to assess whether services are delivered in the most responsible and sustainable manner. The review aligns with the Council's service review policy.

Objectives of the review were:

- Services will reflect current and future community needs balanced against the resource capacity and financial viability
- Look for a balance in service equity by identifying areas of over-servicing and under-servicing across our entire council footprint
- Assess whether Council is the most appropriate agency to deliver the service.

The review does not consider the provision of visitor information services, which will be the subject of a separate review.

Getting to know – Andrew Davidson Senior Tourism Officer

With approximately 1.1 million visitors each year, tourism is a major part of East Gippsland's economy.

We recently welcomed a new Senior Tourism Officer to our Economic Development and Tourism Unit.

Andrew Davidson brings more than 20 years of tourism industry experience to the role. He has worked across Australia including at iconic locations such as Uluru, Kakadu and the Blue Mountains.

He began his career in the late 1990s taking international visitors on safari style 4WD tours in Australia's Top End. Having accumulated enough Crocodile Dundee stories he turned south to Ayers Rock Resort as Manager Tour Operations.

"During my time in the Northern Territory, I also served with the Norforce regiment of the Australian Army. I worked closely with Aboriginal communities across the Top End of Australia and gained a unique insight into their culture and

traditional land use," Andrew said.

"I later joined the pre-opening project team at Emirates on the Wolgan Valley Resort (a 7000-acre former cattle property next to the Blue Mountains World Heritage Area). In this role I worked to transform grazing paddocks surrounded by stunning landscape into Australia's premier luxury-experience resort property."

A small business owner himself, Andrew ran luxury tours of Gippsland (Great Southern Escapes) to an international audience with a focus on Wilsons Promontory National Park, Gippsland Lakes and Snowy River National Park.

When speaking about Gippsland, Andrew's passion for the region as an experiential tourism destination shines through.

Like many tourism and hospitality operators, Andrew's business was placed in a state of hiatus during Victoria's response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

"I joined Parks Victoria in the commercial team at Tidal River in Wilsons Promontory National Park."

"I am thrilled to be joining us the team at Council and I am looking forward to working with the local tourism industry to help deliver exceptional experiences in East Gippsland."



Audit and Risk vacancy

We are seeking applications for an independent member to join its Audit and Risk Committee.

Independent membership is a three year, skills-based appointment requiring suitable knowledge and expertise in financial management and risk, and experience public sector management.

About the role

The Committee's primary role is to provide oversight, advice and guidance on Council's frameworks, systems and controls relating to:

- legislative and good governance compliance;
- financial and performance reporting;
- risk management with a focus on strategic risks
- internal and external audit functions.

Skills and attributes required of Committee members include a strong financial management background and/or experience in risk management and/or governance and compliance.

An inquiring mind and the ability to analyse information will assist in carrying out the role of these positions. Independent members of the Audit and Risk Committee are paid for meeting attendance and a travel allowance is paid where appropriate.

The tenure for these positions is for a three-year period commencing 1 December 2022.

We are an inclusive organisation that celebrates diversity because we understand that diversity brings different perspectives and unique ways of thinking which makes our organisation more resilient. We would like a diverse

range of candidates to consider applying for this important position.

For more information and to complete the Nomination for Membership form, visit our **website**.

Nominations must be lodged with the Chief Executive Officer by 12.00 pm on 7 October 2022



Students value Sarsfield visit

Sarsfield hosted students from Gippsland Grammar last month as part of their studies on bushfires in Gippsland.

The Year 11 Geography students are looking at the causes, impacts, and responses to bushfire in Gippsland. They are also investigating the benefits and issues of forest conservation and management in East Gippsland.

Sarsfield Community Recovery Committee President Simon Hof recounted his personal experience of the 2019-20 fires in Sarsfield in an honest and moving talk.



Emergency Management Coordinator Shane Turner spoke to the students about Council's role in emergency preparation, response and recovery.

The town was severely impacted - with one in four homes burnt.

Our Bushfire Recovery and Emergency Management teams also met the students and gave a presentation.

Guest speakers from Bushfire Recovery Victoria, Department Environment, Land, Water and Planning, and Parks Victoria also spoke about their role in bushfire preparedness, response, and recovery processes.

The day gave the students the chance to see how the learning they undertake in the classroom has a very 'real' face and were able to include details from people who are diligently working to help communities drastically impacted by the fires.

The excursion emphasised the importance of the partnership between community, Council, government agencies, and services to deliver recovery;

with all organisations performing an important role.

Feedback was extremely positive from all involved. Student Leah B said "It was a rewarding experience and really put emphasis on what we are learning in class; especially living so close to the affected area. We are grateful for the opportunity provided to us by both the school and the shire."



Gippsland Grammar students had presentations from Council, emergency services and government agencies during the excursion.

Eyes on new hall

A purpose-built community hall is set to be built in Club Terrace after the hall was damaged beyond repair by the 2019/2020 bushfires.

The new community hall, funded by a Bushfire Recovery Victoria grant and sited in the existing Club Terrace Reserve, will serve as a hub for community events, celebrations and gatherings for support during times of need.

The new hall will be a popular addition to the community and may attract increased income for the management committee through hiring fees.



Club Terrace's current hall was damaged beyond repair by the 2019/2020 bushfires.

Mallacoota Airport update

The re-introduction of instrument flight procedures at Mallacoota Airport are expected to come into effect on 3 November.

The Civil Aviation Safety Authority, Airservices Australia and Council remain committed to working together to re-introduce instrument flight procedures as soon as possible.

A statement from CASA on 15 September said the initial date of 6 October relied on the procedures being published by 8 September. While work is well advanced, the 8 September deadline was not met.

Council has developed and lodged the necessary Manuals of Operation.

CASA said that for safety reasons, all changes to flight procedures and flight paths must be notified to industry 28 days prior. This allows navigation database providers to capture the changes as well as appropriate industry notification.

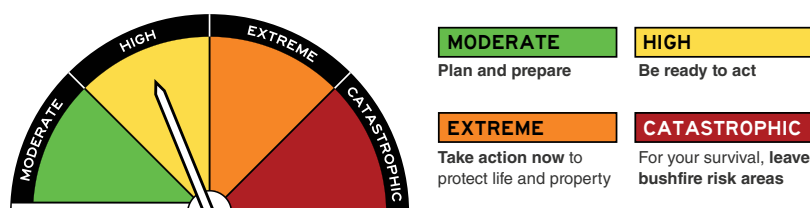
There is a clear plan in place to transition the airport to certification – this remains the case.

Pilots are reminded to review before flight the Aeronautical Information Publications (AIP) and NOTAM for the latest information regarding the status of the aerodrome and its instrument approach procedures.

Mallacoota Airport remains open and functional.



The Australian Fire Danger Rating levels are:



The Australian Fire Danger Rating System (AFDRS) is informed by the new Fire Behaviour Index – a scale of fire danger that takes the latest in fire science and produces outputs across eight different fire behaviour models (compared to the previous two fire behaviour models). The system provides finer detail to support decisions about fire preparedness and bushfire suppression.

The Australian Fire Danger Rating System (AFDRS) Program has redesigned the forecasting of fire by:

- Improving the scientific accuracy behind fire danger predictions.
- Improving the way that fire danger is communicated.
- Providing government and industry with better decision-making tools.
- Reducing the costs associated with bushfire impacts.

For more information speak to:

Or visit: www.firedangerratings.com.au



The AFDRS is a national program funded by the Commonwealth and all the states and territories and delivered by local implementation teams.

The AFDRS is coordinated by NSW Rural Fire Service and AFAC (the National Council for Fire and Emergency Services), with support from the Bureau of Meteorology.

✉ afdrs@afac.com.au

Fire Danger Ratings have changed

Australia has a new Fire Danger Rating System.

For Victoria, this means the number of Fire Danger Rating levels have been reduced to four: Moderate, High, Extreme, and Catastrophic.

Fire danger ratings describe the potential level of danger should a bushfire start. Ratings are calculated using a combination of weather forecasting and information about vegetation that could fuel a fire.

As well as updating the warning categories,

the science behind the ratings has changed. The old system was only designed for a limited number of vegetation types and only two fire behaviour models: forest and grass. The new system uses the latest knowledge and data, as well as fire behaviour models for eight vegetation models including pine, shrubland, and grassy woodland. This will deliver more accurate information to Australians.

For more information visit the **Council for Fire and Emergency Services website.**



Black spot funding

Sydenham Inlet Road, Nungurner Road and Bogong High Plains Road are set for a safety upgrade following a funding announcement last month from the Australian Government.

Part of a nationwide program to improve road safety, we will receive over \$570,000 from the Government's 2022-23 Black Spot Program for the safety upgrade of Sydenham Inlet Road Nungurner Road and Bogong High Plains Road.

This road safety project includes installing safety barriers around the dangerous bends, line marking, and mechanisms to slow traffic. The upgrades are expected to be completed by June 2023.

The Black Spot Program is a valuable source of funding that allows us to deliver additional road safety projects on top of its regular capital program.

Out with the old, in with the new

Lindenow Recreation Reserve's floodlights are being replaced with new light towers and energy-efficient LED lights.

The project, funded by Council, Sport and Recreation Victoria and Lindenow Sports Ground Committee will provide a boost for the town's football and netball clubs, give underrepresented groups a better chance to play and save money on energy bills.

The upgrade meets Active Victoria's game plan to deliver high-quality accessible infrastructure that helps ensure more people can tap into the benefits that sport and active recreation delivers - including improved physical and mental health - and promote more sporting dates on the Victorian events calendar.

New toilet block at Lions Club Park

Another project is complete.

The construction of a single-unit accessible toilet facility at Bruthen's Lions Club Park is now complete.

A big thank you to the Bruthen Lions Club for providing funding for this project.



Facelift for Bruthen

The new streetscape will enhance the functionality of the main street and improve the towns amenity and public spaces to attract more people to local businesses, and encourage visitors and travellers to stop, stay and spend. Works will begin at the end of this month and are expected to be completed by June 2023.



Business Done Different

Have you seen the "Business Done Different" campaign?

The campaign encourages corporate businesses all over Victoria to come to East Gippsland for teams conference, corporate offsite and incentive experiences - all promising a memorable and unique experience.

The campaign is supported by Destination Gippsland and Business Events Victoria. Further training by Business Events Victoria is in the pipeline to assist venue operators locally to maximise these opportunities. Want to find out more,

Visit East Gippsland.



Omeo Justice Precinct

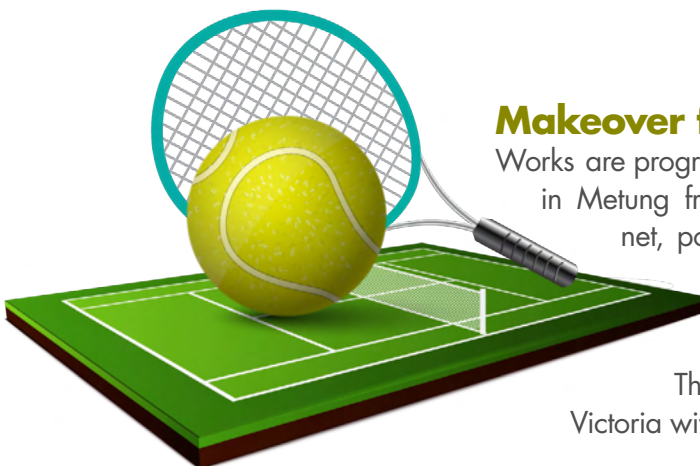
Conservation and protection work for the historically significant Omeo Justice Precinct courthouse buildings has led to our assets team working closely with the Omeo Historical Society to undertake these important works.

DID YOU KNOW

The police cookhouse and stables within the precinct were built in 1883 and the museum is housed in the old courthouse and contains many artifacts of the region's history. It is the only original justice precinct still intact in Australia and the log gaol was built in 1858 with the last prisoner being held in the log gaol in 1981. The old log jailhouse is a great relic of the most lawless goldfield in Australia. The exterior consists of hardwood logs while the internal walls are made from blackwood.

Lake Tyers Beach Hall upgrade

We have secured funding from the Federal Government Black Summer Bushfire Recovery program to upgrade the much-loved Lake Tyers Beach Community Hall. The upgrade will include improved IT facilities, meeting spaces, bathroom facilities and landscaping, including a purpose-built stage for hosting outdoor events.



Makeover for Metung

Works are progressing with the surface upgrade of the existing tennis courts in Metung from concrete to synthetic turf. We have also replaced the net, post and some fencing repair works will be carried out. The goal of the project is to increase the use of the courts and encourage everyone from all walks of life to become active by upgrading to a more forgiving surface treatment.

The project is primarily funded through Sport and Recreation Victoria with a contribution from Council.

What's on calendar

We are proud to support many major arts, sporting, cultural and community events each year. Here are some events hitting our region over the next couple of months.



Victorian Women's Spring Tournament

Players will compete to win the Ruby McKenzie Trophy, named in the honour of one of Victoria's greatest country golfers and former VLGU, Australian Golf Council member and a life member at Woodend GC until her death in 1978.

10-11 October 2022

Bairnsdale Golf Club and Lakes Entrance golf Club

[More information>>>](#)



Metung Food, Wine & Wellness Festival

Showcasing the spectacular array of East Gippsland's best food and wine, the Metung Food, Wine & Wellness Festival is on again at the Metung Hot Springs. You will also be able to indulge in wellness at its finest.

30 October 2022

Metung Hot Springs

[More information>>>](#)



Wild Harvest Seafood Festival

The Wild Harvest Seafood Festival is a food and wine event highlighting the unique abundance and variety of seafood in East Gippsland. The event runs for 3 days with a program encompassing markets, workshops, forums and more.

11-13 November 2022

Mallacoota

[More information>>>](#)



SuperTrail East Gippsland

SuperTrail East Gippsland is part of the SuperTrail running events across Australia. This running event is held over 2.5 days and features trails from the family-friendly 2km tracks to a challenging 55km trail. Prize money available.

18-20 November 2022

Mitchell River National Park

[More information>>>](#)



Cattlemen 100 MTB

Inspired by the legendary Leadville 100 MTB and backed by the local community we are proud to present the second edition of the Cattlemen 100 MTB. First held in 2020, and already named the toughest one-day cycling event in Australia.

There is something for the whole family including, award ceremony, live music, food, beverage and much more.

19 November 2022

Omeo and surrounds

[More information>>>](#)



Alpine Rally of East Gippsland

East Gippsland will be alive with excitement and the sound of engines when the Lock and Load Alpine Rally returns for its 100 year anniversary. Lock and Load is an opportunity for historic car rally enthusiasts to head out on specially selected routes to compete in races.

1- 4 December 2022

East Gippsland region

[More information>>>](#)



What's On at Forge Theatre and Arts Hub

The Forge Theatre and Arts Hub offers a range of shows to suit everyone. Some of our upcoming shows include:



The Official Blues Brothers Revue

Wednesday 5 October, 7.30 pm

The hit movie *The Blues Brothers* was a loveable tale of redemption about the pair of paroled convicts, who set out to save the Catholic orphanage in which they grew up, from the taxation department. As the story goes, they reformed their rhythm and blues band, *The Blues Brothers*, and organised a concert to raise \$5,000 to pay off the debt and save the day.



Steel Magnolias by Robert Hardling

21 – 30 October

Hilarious and touching, this play for six women is set in a beauty parlour in Louisiana.

Through four scenes spanning three years the staff and customers engage in small-town gossip but we see a deep strength and purposefulness emerge when Shelby - a diabetic prepares for a kidney transplant operation.



Two's Company

Thursday 3 November, 7.30 pm

Twice the laughs with two of Australia's favourite comedians. Duck for cover when the jokes start flying!

Richard Stubbs has delivered his inimitable style of anecdotal comedy, based on real life experiences for over three decades, which always proves an immediate winner with his audiences.

Dave O'Neil has been in the business for over 20 years and is one of Australia's most recognisable stand-up comics, having performed at 16 Melbourne International Comedy Festivals and clubs all over the country.



Karen Knowles in concert

Thursday 10 November, 11.00 am

Well known for her Carols and Christmas repertoire, Karen performs regularly with her musical director accompanying her on piano. Starting her performance career on Young Talent Time, Karen moved into recording and became the highest selling Australian female recording artist for two consecutive years.



Bjorn Again

Thursday 10 November, 7.30 pm

Dust off those flares, platform shoes and satins and get ready to sing, dance and have the time of your life on Bjorn Again's Mamma Mia! We are back again! Tour.

Bjorn Again are so excited to be back playing all of ABBA'S biggest hits in an action-packed, highly-entertaining concert that is abba-solute fun for the whole family.



How Sweet It Is

Saturday 12 November, 7.30 pm

Frankie J and Michelle present a unique and entertaining show, which will delight you with its honesty and humour, featuring some of the greatest songs about love, marriage, children and all the facets of being a couple.

For the most up-to-date information on shows or to book tickets, visit the Forge Theatre page on our website.



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Note: When emailing a Councillor, type "Att Cr (their last name)" in the subject line.

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