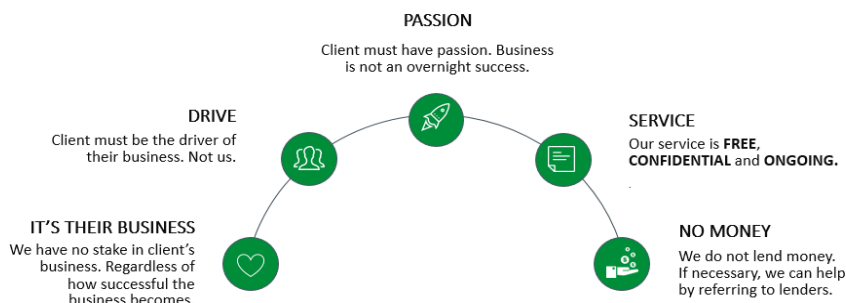


Buchan Region Recovery Update

SEPTEMBER 2022



OUR PRINCIPLES



The set of principles that guide the Business Boost program.

Business Boost program

Our Economic Development team recently welcomed Kirstie Pearce as Entrepreneurial Facilitator in Council's new initiative, the Business Boost Program. Business Boost initially launched across the Buchan and Bruthen districts. It is funded by a Victorian Government Local Economic Recovery grant and is supported by Council's partner, Ignite Small Business Start-ups.

The program aims to help entrepreneurs and business owners to achieve their goals by matching a team of business professionals and skilled volunteers and students with entrepreneurs, to provide volunteer or low-cost customised professional support.

Business-savvy people with a knack for seeing opportunities, the

passion for passing on skills and a can-do mindset are invited to join the program as part of its Resource Team and will be provided training by Ignite throughout the program. As the first point of contact for the Business Boost program, Kirstie will connect each entrepreneur with the right match on the Resource Team. If you know of someone who may benefit from this program or want to find out more about joining the Resource Team, contact Kirstie on 03 5153 9500.

Buchan Recreation Reserve update

Council staff met with the Buchan Recreation and Hall Committee and the Buchan, Gelantipy, and Districts Renewal Association representatives in August to discuss redevelopment of this project. The next step is the engagement of a design consultant in September to work with community and begin

the draft concept plans for the staging of these works. Stage 1 will see the demolition of the old courts and delivery of new netball and tennis courts.

In addition to the \$1.2 million allocated by Council from the Federal Government's Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program, a further \$3 million is being allocated from bushfire recovery funding. Announcement of Local Economic Recovery Round 3 funding remains pending, but if successful will provide increased flexibility to include additional components.

Consultation with Netball Victoria regarding upcoming fixtures will reduce impact on seasonal sports during the construction phase.

Buchan - Main Street and Linkages Project update

Heritage Victoria recently granted a permit for the proposed shared path project linking the Buchan township to the Caves Reserve Information Centre.

This is a big milestone for the project and has taken many months of collaboration between Council, Heritage Victoria, Parks Victoria and GLaWAC.

With the tender period now closed for both the construction of the shared path into the Caves Reserve and the link from the township to the swing bridge through John Flynn Reserve, we look forward to progressing this project with an estimated start in mid-October and finish in April 2023.

To find out more contact your Place Manager or visit the project page on

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Place Manager Rebecca Steenholdt and Community Recovery Support Officer Hilary Vale in the new co-working space at the Old Buchan Post Office.

the YourSay East Gippsland website,
yoursay.eastgippsland.vic.gov.au

Recovery co-working space

The Old Buchan Post Office has been established as a co-working space for visiting services and organisations, individuals, and community groups. The Place Manager will be onsite most Wednesdays to assist you in your recovery needs. Community members who wish to work from this space can contact the Buchan Place Manager; a virtual booking system will soon be established.

Resilience planning

How Local Incident Management Plans (LIMPs) and Emergency Relief Centres fit within the emergency management framework were topics at the Person-Centred Emergency Preparedness meeting. The meeting was held at Buchan Neighbourhood House in June. The Buchan LIMP was reviewed, finalised and distributed to community. The W Tree LIMP is being worked on within the community. We would like to extend our appreciation to Pam Harrison for leading this, and to Evelyn Schmidt who was instrumental in the compilation of the Buchan LIMP.

Foot and Mouth Disease

Agriculture Victoria officers recently briefed Council on the risk FMD could have on Victoria's farming industry.

The East Gippsland Livestock Exchange is prepared for any FMD outbreak. The facility has a saleyard standstill plan and all agents who sell through the yards have been briefed on its

detail. All livestock that are sold or go through the yards in transit are traceable via the National Livestock Identification System (NLIS), and staff are in the process of sourcing equipment such as foot baths and personal protective equipment to ensure they are fully resourced if an outbreak occurs.

With these exceptional biosecurity practices the facility is one of the safest and most bio-secure facilities in the region. We encourage all farmers remain vigilant in their NLIS practices and ensure their farm biosecurity plans are up to date. For more information about Foot and Mouth Disease, Disease, upcoming workshops and the precautions you can take, please visit the Agriculture Victoria website: <https://bit.ly/3R1Xvf2>

International study targets East Gippsland farmers

International researchers have approached East Gippsland Shire Council to collaborate on worldwide research looking into the impacts of extreme events on farmers. Lund University, in conjunction with the University of Montana (United States), is surveying agricultural producers in the United States (Montana), Sweden (Skane), Bangladesh, Cambodia,

Martinique and East Gippsland.

Dr Guy Jackson, from Lund University Centre of Sustainable Studies, said they are reaching out to specifically understand the experiences of East Gippsland and Wellington agricultural producers who have experienced extreme weather events, such as drought, heatwaves, floods and bushfires. The opportunity to share lived experiences of some of the most challenging circumstances with international researchers is testament to what our farmers have been through, their resilience, and that East Gippsland is a valued contributor to this sector. The survey and related information can be accessed at: https://lucsus.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_2iwTeMGbTzvbD0i

Surveys are also available at Council's customer service centres and libraries or by contacting Agricultural Development Officer Kaylene Wickham.

Grants available

East Gippsland Community Foundation has grants available with applications closing 9 October:

- Youth specific grant - maximum \$50,000; available to support local projects that strengthen youth recovery.
- Small community grant - maximum \$5,000; available to support events, projects, and minor equipment purchases.

Both grants are aimed at community groups, incorporated entities, and associations to support their recovery.

For further information on the grants, visit www.GiveToEastGippsland.org.au/grants/ or contact your Place Manager.