

WAIREWA CRC GRAPEVINE

What's On

Saturday 6 November
10.00am: Wairewa Hall

**The Recovery of Nature:
Post Bushfire**

**Free Field Day and lunch
with Dr Graeme Lorimer
from Biosphere Pty Ltd**

**(hosted by FEVL & Wairewa
& District Landcare)**

Wednesday 10 November

12:30pm Wairewa Hall

CRC Meeting

Wednesday 10 November

5:30pm Wairewa Hall

Landcare Meeting

Friday 20 November: 5:30pm

Community Catch Up

Wairewa Hall

Wednesday 24 November
12:30pm

CRC Meeting Wairewa Hall

Saturday 27 November
12pm to 3pm

Wairewa Community Debrief

**BBQ lunch and Community
Debrief hosted by EGSC**



Vale Sandra Huggins.

Wairewa CRC, Hall Committee and community are deeply saddened to hear of the passing of Sandra Huggins and offer heartfelt condolences to the Huggins Family. Sandra worked tirelessly to support our community, particularly during and after the bushfires. She will be profoundly missed.

FRRR Funding Announced for Hall Kitchen

Wairewa Hall CoM has successfully applied for a grant of \$14,509.00 to update the kitchen including new cabinetry, benchtops and flooring. Along with IKEA kitchen storage units supplied by GIVIT and planned repainting, the kitchen will have a long overdue facelift.

Foundation for Rural & Regional Renewal



Building Back Better in Bushfire Affected Areas

Bushfire Recovery Victoria Grants

In a Media Release on 7 October, Jaclyn Symes MLC Minister for Emergency Services announced that Wairewa Public hall was granted \$49,967 funding under the Community Facilities Grants available through Bushfire Recovery Victoria. The upgrades will improve amenity and safety at the hall for the community, particularly by upgrading the tennis court surface and lights, improving storage and accessibility.



East Gippsland Timber Milling Project

Debbie Brient from East Gippsland Timber Milling Project has provided an update to the Wairewa CRC & community on the Lucas Mills project and timelines. The millers are still working in Sarsfield and each property takes 3 weeks to a month to complete. Between Sarsfield and Mallacoota are 60 properties on the wait list and many more landowners who do not know about the project yet. The millers will not get to the 7 properties registered in Wairewa until next year. In the meantime if you are on the wait list, **fill out in full** the form you have been sent and return to Debbie ASAP at: debbiebrientegmp@gmail.com or call her on 0456 603 987. If you don't fill out the form then the millers cannot plan the scope of work required.

Wairewa Community Debrief & BBQ Lunch

Saturday 27 November 2021 - 12pm to 3pm at the Wairewa Hall

This is a facilitated opportunity to come together as a community after the 2019/20 Summer bushfires. Agency and Council staff will be in attendance to listen and learn. We would like to have a conversation about what worked well and not so well, what more we can do to be better prepared from individual, community and agency levels. For more information please contact Paula Jorgensen at paulaj@egipps.vic.gov.au or 0400 871 856.



**Contribution Deadline 5 days
before end of the month:**

wairewacrc@gmail.com

Wairewa CRC meetings are open to everyone. Come along to the meetings and contribute your ideas and energy.



COVID Safe Event

GOOD SHEPHERD LAUNCH ME BUSHFIRE RECOVERY MICRO-ENTERPRISE PROGRAM



While the Good Shepherd organization is new to East Gippsland it is a long established not for profit agency active in a broad range of social issues. Good Shepherd has been running micro-enterprise programs in South Australia and in the Dandenong and Latrobe Valley areas for several years. It has now been funded by Bushfire Recovery Victoria to run its Launch Me micro-enterprise program in East Gippsland for 12 months. The program essentially can assist people who are looking to establish self-employment OR who have an already established business that has suffered due to the impact of drought / bushfires / COVID.

The eligibility criteria are quite basic – people with an income of less than \$45,000 (from whatever sources) OR in the case of existing business – a turnover of less than \$75,000 and NOT registered for GST. For those businesses needing assistance but with a higher turnover there are other supports available. Good Shepherd has employed 2 micro-enterprise coaches to deliver the program – Cherie Draper and Neil Smith who will contact you if you register.

Anyone interested in the program can register an expression of interest on the website:

<https://goodshep.org.au/services/launchmevic/>

The program provides coaching and access to specialized services (such as accountants, lawyers, website developers, etc). There is also access to a range of training courses as well as access to the range of other services available through Good Shepherd. Coaching can be provided for up to 6 months. To date there has been a good response from the East Gippsland community and Cherie, Neil and Good Shepherd are keen to ensure the program is of great benefit to both individuals and communities. If you would like to find out more visit the website listed above or call Cherie – 0477 992 435 or Neil – 0477 963 461.

Free Mental Health Coaching from Wellways

New Access is a free mental health coaching program for men and women over the age of 18 who may be experiencing symptoms of mild to moderate stress, anxiety and depression across Gippsland. It is completely private and confidential, and you do not require a referral from a GP or a mental health treatment plan to access the service. New Access consists of 6 free coaching sessions that can be done via phone or face to face.

Referrals can be made by calling our Intake team on 1300 921 535 or through the website:

<http://wellways.org/our-services/newaccess>

Update on O'Grady's Bridge

Wairewa CRC has applied to the Federal Government's Black Summer Bushfire Recovery Fund for an \$88,000 grant to improve the area around O'Grady's Bridge. We will know by Jan/Feb 2022 whether or not we are successful. Fingers crossed.

Update on Wairewa Hall

The toilets have been fully completed, the BBQ shelter structure has been delivered but can't be erected until after Christmas. As you all know, shed construction in East Gippsland has a very large backlog as everyone rebuilds. Once the shelter is up, the concrete will be poured for the base and the sprinkler system can be finalised. The cabinet to house the O'Grady's Bridge model has been ordered as have the storage units. Construction on the storage is likely to be after Christmas also.

"What a Load of Rubbish", an exhibition by Leanne Davies, Wendy Palmer and 6 year old Sam Davies was a beautifully eclectic and quirky exhibition with a great sense of history (and fun) underpinning many of the pieces. The tiny rock and wood exhibit *Family* was a little gem and very moving. It was impressive to see how found objects such as microwave plates, toilet rolls, pebbles, chainsaw blades, twigs and twine can be used so cleverly to make art. Wendy was also able to give old objects new life with her talent for painting.

Lemon Hill Gallery continues to be a unique and very local space for regional artists.



East Gippsland Clock (above) made with 12 local souvenir spoons from Ramsdell's Mill, Slab Hut (Orbost), Metung, Falls Creek, Sea Spray, Antique Car Museum (Lakes), Licola, Mallacoota, Cann River, Newmerella and Buchan Black Marble Hut. The face is an old pizza tray.



Sam Davies exhibited works showing many things...from the solar system to apple trees and honey bees. Very clever. Wendy's *Assorted Birdlife* on canvas is to the right of Sam's work above.



Leanne's *Chess Mosaic Table*. A piece many Masters would be proud to play on,



Historic Wairewa District Photos included Wairewa School 1973, O'Grady's Bridge in it's working days, Mount Nowa Nowa and Stringer's Knob Lookout Towers, Wairewa School Teacher's Residence and Wairewa Public Hall circa 1969.

The next exhibition at the gallery opens on Sunday 14th November at 2pm

Personal Expressions

by

Gwenneth Poore





Introducing — East Gippsland Community Foundation

Michelle Dowsett, Executive Officer of the newly formed East Gippsland Community Foundation attended the Wairewa CRC Meeting on 27 October to brief the community on what the organisation offers.

East Gippsland Community Foundation will only fund projects delivered within East Gippsland or which directly benefit those who live in East Gippsland including:

- Activities which have ongoing benefit to communities in East Gippsland
- Innovative undertakings
- Projects which are in keeping with the mission of the East Gippsland Community Foundation
- Project development activities that will assist the preparation of applications to other major grant programs. For example, the preparation of business plans, socioeconomic assessments, project design and costings
- In any Youth Support grant stream, assistance may be provided to individual students or groups of students or other young people.

The Foundation has \$8.8 million of Victorian Bushfire Appeal funding for activities related to bushfire recovery, disaster preparedness and planning.

Community Enterprise Foundation (the philanthropic arm of Bendigo and Adelaide Bank) and the Victorian Government are providing running costs and payments for directors and staff so it is not coming out of donations.

1st round of funding will open Friday 28th October; successful projects will be notified before Christmas. Next round will open February 2022.

A Scholarship fund will be launched in November for the younger cohort in bushfire affected areas. \$7000 for travel and accommodation related to applicants education.

EGCF funding will be complementary to funding rounds offered by other agencies and not double up on existing grants (ie: Community Facilities and LER).

If you are a local community group or have a great idea for a project in East Gippsland get on their website:

<https://givetoeastgippsland.org.au/about-us/#staff>.

You can also donate to them and all donations are tax deductible.

