

WAIREWA CRC GRAPEVINE

Upcoming Events: July

Sunday 4 July: 2pm to 5pm

Josephine Jakobi's exhibition

"A Benign Conspiracy"

Lemon Hill Gallery

Wednesday 7 July: 12:30pm

CRC Meeting—Wairewa Hall

Friday 9 July 11am

Book Launch—Local Author

'Heroes of Black Summer' by Kylie Miller and Craig Sheather. Illustrated by Karen Erasmus.

The Hon Darren Chester, Federal Member for Gippsland to launch the book

Nowa Nowa General Store

14 July:

**Colour & Creativity Workshop
9:30am**

**Morning Tea hosted by Anglican Diocese of Gippsland/Catholic Care
10:30 - 11am**

Wairewa Hall

15 July 2021: 9am to 12pm

Psychological First Aid

2pm to 5.00 pm

Trauma-informed Care (TIC)

Orbost Golf Club

16 July: 5:30pm

Community Catch Up

Wairewa Hall

18 July: 12pm

Community BBQ and Debrief

Wairewa Hall

21 July: 12:30pm

CRC Meeting Wairewa Hall

On the Grapevine...

PSYCHOLOGICAL FIRST AID TRAINING 15 JULY

Wairewa and other local CRCs have liaised with Phoenix Australia to arrange the delivery of these training opportunities in far East Gippsland.

Free trauma-related training for frontline workers and community leaders supporting Victorian communities after disaster.

Two free trauma-related workshops on Thursday 15 July at the Orbost Golf Club in Orbost.

9:00am–12:00pm | Psychological First Aid (PFA)

2:00pm–5:00pm | Trauma-informed Care (TIC)

About *Psychological First Aid (PFA)* PFA is a practical, flexible, and recommended approach to helping people in the aftermath of trauma, such as a disaster, workplace accident, or assault. It can also be used to support people even years afterwards when they become distressed when reminded of the trauma.

About *Trauma-informed Care (TIC)* TIC uses strengths-based approaches to help build a person's sense of safety, control and empowerment after experiencing trauma. This workshop is designed for frontline workers to support you in your work with communities and colleagues who have experienced a potentially traumatic event such as a bushfire.

Register now: The workshops are each limited to 30 participants.

PFA – follow this [link](https://events.humanitix.com/psychological-first-aid-training-for-victorian-frontline-workers-and-community-leaders-orbost) to register (press ctrl & click). Or copy this address into your browser: <https://events.humanitix.com/psychological-first-aid-training-for-victorian-frontline-workers-and-community-leaders-orbost>

TIC – follow this [link](https://events.humanitix.com/trauma-informed-care-training-for-victorian-frontline-workers-and-community-leaders-orbost) to register (press ctrl & click). Or copy this address into your browser: <https://events.humanitix.com/trauma-informed-care-training-for-victorian-frontline-workers-and-community-leaders-orbost>

Funded by the Victorian Government's Mental Health and Wellbeing Bushfire Recovery Package. The Victorian Department of Health has engaged Phoenix Australia – Centre for Posttraumatic Mental Health to deliver free training programs to aid frontline workers in order to better support community members affected by the 2019-20 bushfires in North East Victoria and East Gippsland.



LOCAL AUTHOR LAUNCHES CHILDRENS BOOK 9 JULY

Kylie Miller with co-author Craig Sheather and illustrator Karen Erasmus are launching their book *"Heroes of Black Summer"* Friday 9 July at 11am at Nowa Nowa General Store. Darren Chester, Federal Member for Gippsland will launch the book. The authors are donating 500 copies of the book to children and communities impacted by bushfires across the region, and 25 per cent of proceeds from sales will be donated to the Gippsland Emergency Relief Fund. The book was published with support from a One Good Community Wellbeing Grant through the Gippsland Primary Health Network.

See over for more.....

Contribution Deadline 5 days before end of the month:

wairewacrc@gmail.com

Wairewa CRC meetings are open to everyone. Next meeting 7 July.

Come along to the meetings and contribute your ideas and energy.





ON THE GRAPEVINE: cont...

MOSAICS ARE UP!! Under very muddy conditions, the intrepid (and gumbooted!) mosaic artists applied their creations to the tank outside the hall. Below are some photos, but come down to the Community Catch up 16 July and see for yourself. Many thanks to Penny-Ann Clark for braving the elements and cold to teach us how to create such lasting works of art.



LEMON HILL GALLERY ART EXHIBITION: 'WIRE STRAINERS THAT WORKED'

Elizabeth and Brian Blakeman opened Lemon Hill Gallery's fabulous exhibition 'Wire Strainers That Worked' on 6 June to celebrate the resourcefulness and good spirit that is rebuilding farms in this valley. The exhibition honoured the men and women who have, so far, rebuilt 123kms of fences burnt out by bushfire. BlazeAid and their wonderful volunteers were acknowledged for their invaluable assistance in the aftermath of the disaster.

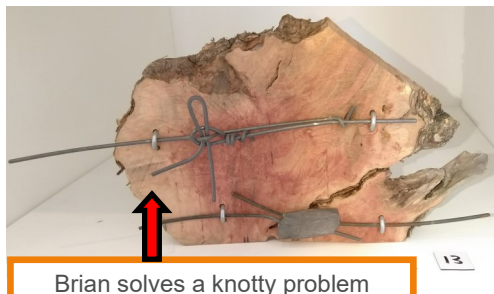
Contributing exhibitors were John Appleby, Mick Whelan, Vaughan Hibbs, Brian Blakeman, Robert Geddes, Ted Trevaskis, Gus Henderson, Julian Davies, Ian Trevaskis, Elizabeth Blakeman, Francis Davies, Victor Davies, Wayne Jenkins, Bill Downey.

Brian Blakeman gave a rousing speech on how he feels about wire strainers and...well...the strain of using them! Casual mention was made of crushed hands, scratches, steep hills, overstretched muscles and blood blisters but despite the dangers (and using one of the exhibits), Brian bravely showed us how to go about the business of tightening fence wires without swearing!



Brian Blakeman under strain!

The oldest strainer (1885) was exhibit 18 shown by Ian Trevaskis which belonged to his grandfather



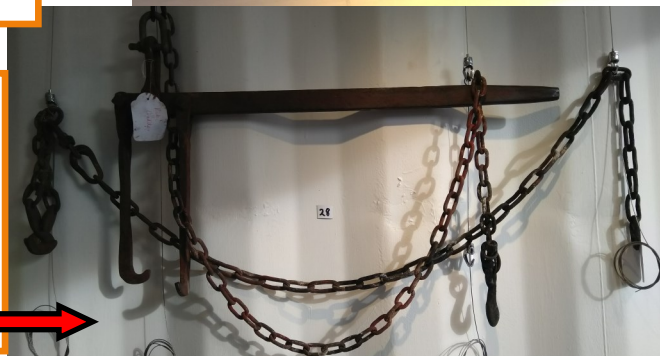
Brian solves a knotty problem



Meanwhile, Hot Dog had a Pinocchio moment!!



A unique, one of a kind. Hand forged here in Wairewa by Rob Geddes' Great Uncle Frank who used a milk separator as a forge!





Wairewa Community Hall Updates

- New air con units were installed Thursday 3 June. The hall is a LOT(!) warmer. Thanks Landers Electrical, especially Holly for her sub floor crawling!



- The EGSC provided BAL report has been completed and works needed to bring the hall to standard will commence soon.
- An application for \$49967 has been lodged under BRV's Community Facilities Upgrade funding stream. Upgrades applied for include resurfacing the tennis court, new lockable storage cupboards in the small meeting room, improved disability access and a purpose built display cabinet for the O'Grady's bridge model.
- A further application for \$15,000 has been submitted to FRRR for a kitchen renovation, including to replace flooring. Some kitchen items have been supplied already by GIVIT, which will greatly improve amenity at the Hall.
- QR Code registration is now available at the hall and sign-in is mandatory when attending events.

Update on O'Grady's

Andrew Sharpe, Forest & Fire Officer, DELWP has provided Wairewa CRC with quotes for a viewing platform, path access to same and picnic table/interpretive shelter structures for use in future funding applications. This has saved us a LOT of work. DELWP has also undertaken the following works; new headwall at the culvert, cleaned the inlet, tree hazard work to improve safety of access to any future viewing platform and removed ballast from the bridge to reduce strain on the timbers. Andrew also plans to integrate the old I-beams from the burnt section into the car park/picnic area construction which is to commence soon.

Wairewa CRC thanks Andrew for his assistance and work by providing engineering reports, arranging much needed drainage improvements and structural works and quotes for us as we all work to preserve O'Grady's Bridge.

ON THE GRAPEVINE: cont...

MORNING TEA AT WAIREWA HALL

Rev. Cathy Turnbull of the Anglican Diocese of Gippsland arranged another delicious morning tea at Wairewa Hall on June 16 although unable to attend herself due to storm damage on her property in Central Victoria. However, Madelaine Schumann and Aaron Armenopolous from Catholic Care Coffee Cart still provided yummy coffee and cake for Wairewa. The next morning tea will be held 14 July from 10am to 11:30pm. Drop in for a cuppa and a chat!



Colour & Creativity Workshop

Madelaine Schumann held a Colour & Creativity Workshop provided by Catholic Care Victoria's Bushfire Community Recovery Service. Participants enjoyed the chance to learn about complementary colours and techniques to create one off pieces of art. The next workshop will be 14 July starting 9:30am at the Wairewa Hall.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Community Catch Ups: July 16 is the next Friday night Drinks and Nibbles at 5:30pm. Come along for light refreshments and a chat. BYO drinks, tea & coffee supplied

Anne & Stan Barker - Native garden plant offer for Wairewa residents affected by fire

Anne and Stan Barker of Toorloo Arm have, in conjunction with Australian Plant Society and Lakes Entrance Garden Club, potted up a large range of species to plant in your garden. Native plants are low water & easy to maintain. Contact Anne 0448 565 313.

Still have downed timber on your land?

Lucas Mill—Book via Sarsfield Hub

Get your name on the waiting list. Logs need to be at least 450mm in diameter. Please contact Neil Smith, BRV to be added to the waiting list if you would like to utilise this service. Give a rough estimate of number and size of logs for an assessment by the mill operators.

Neil.A.Smith@brv.vic.gov.au or 0408 934 978

Below is the use one local has put their timber to.



Fencing Wire/Roadside Trees/Slashing

Contact Peter Balmer, Place Manager, EGSC for information:

PeterB@egipps.vic.gov.au or
0409 701 309





EUCALYPTUS GALL WASP INFORMATION

After reading last issue's article on galls contributed by Elizabeth Blakeman, Alison Orchard has provided the following information and advice:

That looks a lot like *Leptocybe invasa*, the "blue gum chalcid wasp". It's a pest species imported from Queensland via forestry. It *could* be a sub-species because no one has done extensive work on local species here. All the work on *L. invasa* is restricted to global forestry plantations because they can ruin young plantations pretty effectively.

If the tree was overwhelmed by it it's most likely *L. invasa*, which might be worth reporting to the local forestry branch – they probably already know - but if this is the first time a local has seen it in the valley it's worth reporting anyway. Tell people to smush them humanely [eds note: can you *humanely* smush?]. They infect *Eucalyptus grandis* most seriously and can destroy plantations.

WAIREWA COMMUNITY BBQ & LIMP DEBRIEF

Sunday July 18 12pm at Wairewa Hall. EGSC will host a Community BBQ and Debrief which is the next step in developing the Wairewa Emergency Management Plan, including the revision of the 'LIMP', leading into the development of a long term Action Plan based on preparedness and resilience for the future for the valley and surrounds.

Previous steps in this process were the IGEM sessions, the Rob Gordon sessions and now the Debrief will bring the Wairewa community together with the agencies that were at the scene of the 2019-20 bushfires, and after, plus those you have been working with 'other aspects' of disaster preparedness based on previous experiences and those that have been working more broadly across the Shire in preparation for the next disaster.

The community and the agencies will work together to talk about their experiences, and use skills and knowledge to determine how things will be better done next time. The process is based on 'co-design' of all relevant parties.

The facilitator is an independent consultant not aligned with any agency or department.



BILL CREEK CROSSING - FLOODING ON WAIREWA ROAD

Wairewa CRC has been trying to get a resolution for the ongoing flooding at Bill Creek on Wairewa Road. The culvert is manifestly not doing its job. We have emailed and sent photos of the flooding each time it occurs to Fiona Weigal, General Manager, Assets & Environment, EGSC. We have also spoken to Bec Hemmings of EGCMA to try to resolve this issue of the road interfering with water flow. Peter Balmer, Place Manager at EGSC for Wairewa community sent the following email on 30 June:



"I have just now spoken with the Shires Assets & Projects Supervisor asking for an update on Bills Bridge flooding situation.

EGSC have now commissioned Neil Streeter, Engineer to do a comprehensive survey of the site with the aim of developing options to address the flooding. Neil should get back in the coming weeks. I asked throughout the Shire's works area and Neil Streeter about previous reports but it seems nothing was available so the process is starting (more or less) from scratch. I will keep you informed."

These two photos were taken May 12 and 10 June by J Saunders



Lemon Hill Gallery

Invitation to the sixth exhibition in Lemon Hill Gallery.

The gallery is now waiting for **Josephine Jakobi's exhibition "A Benign Conspiracy"** which opens on Sunday July 4th.

This is to **invite you to the opening at 2pm** when Bernie will play saxophone, as usual, and Josephine and I will each say a few words before the doors open. After viewing you are most welcome to a cuppa and lemon slice in the Shed Café next door!

The exhibition is open every Sunday afternoon thereafter from 2 to 5pm until July 25th so if you cannot be here this time I hope to see you another Sunday.

Please note that there will also be two night viewings for this exhibition from 7.30 to 9.30pm on the 4th and 11th July, with a cuppa-soup to warm you. The lighting at night is modestly spectacular!

Josephine's work is plant based and is most distinctive and unusual. Her work is in public galleries and private collections and is also in public spaces in the Shire. It is fine, unique and sensitive. You will not regret seeing it. Or indeed buying it!!

