

## Upcoming Events: MAY

**2 May:**

**2pm - 5pm**

**Lemon Hill Gallery exhibition:**

**'Family in a Steel Box'**

Lemon Hill Farm

**9am - 4pm**

**YarnFest 2021**

Nowa Nowa

**7 May: 6-8pm**

**Farmer's Voice Dinner**

Bruthen Hotel

(contact Matt for further details)

**12 May: 12:30pm**

**CRC Meeting**

Wairewa Hall

**19 May: 10:30-11am**

**Morning Tea hosted by Anglican Diocese of Gippsland/Catholic Care**

Wairewa Hall

**21 May: 5:30pm**

**Community Catch Up**

Wairewa Hall

**26 May: 12:30pm**

**CRC Meeting**

Wairewa Hall

**28 May: 12:30-3pm:**

**Farmers Voice Lunch**

Buchan Hotel

(contact Matt for further details)

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

**wairewacrc@gmail.com**

Wairewa CRC meetings are open to everyone. Next meeting 12 May.



## BURGLARIES & CAR THEFT IN WAIREWA.

In the early hours of 14 April, between approx. 2:30 and 3:30am, a number of burglaries and attempted burglaries occurred on five separate properties (including the Wairewa CFA shed) culminating in a car theft from a property while the owner was home and who bravely challenged the offenders. Victoria Police attended on the night, but the criminals had left the valley via Trevaskis Road towards Nowa Nowa. It is a dog act to steal from a community still recovering from bushfire. Shame on the losers who did this.

**Previously on the Grapevine.....**

## NEW PLAYGROUND OFFICIALLY OPENED

On Friday 30 April Elizabeth Blakeman, Victor Davies and Ian Trevaskis (with some young helpers!) cut a ceremonial ribbon to mark the official opening of the new playground at the hall. John Appleby gave a speech about the history of the old playground and recreation reserve, how \$35k of funding was provided by FRRR and thanked local volunteers and a DEWLP crew who showed up to wheelbarrow soft fall mulch from the roadside and then rake it into place under the equipment. Well done all and again, thank you John for all your hard work.



## HOSPITAL CREEK BRIDGE OFFICIAL OPENING

On April 30 Mayor Mendy Urie officially opened the Hospital Creek Bridge at Wairewa in an event held on the bridge itself. As the last bridge built to replace the 13 timber bridges burnt during the horrendous Black Summer bushfires, EGSC councillors and staff took the opportunity to mark the occasion with a speech by Mayor Mendy Urie thanking contractors and staff for their hard work and to acknowledge community recovery efforts in Wairewa. A ribbon cutting ceremony was watched on by locals before everyone convened to the hall for the playground opening and light refreshments. Thanks to Peter Balmer and Karen Walker for arranging the catering on behalf of EGSC & Wairewa CRC.



See over for more.....



## Wairewa Community Hall Updates

- RACV Solar completed installation of the solar system at the hall Tuesday 27 April. The next step is for the electrical inspector to certify the system and it can then be permanently switched on. During its trial run the system offset 9 tonnes of carbon emissions.
- Lions Club Lakes have received on behalf of Wairewa Hall committee the Victorian Bushfire Appeal funding of \$151,645 from Community Enterprise Foundation (TM). As a result, all trades and supplies have been scheduled for works in May, June & August.
- The toilet refurbishment is scheduled for August so the hall will be unavailable for any events during that month.

## Update on O'Grady's

Wairewa CRC now has in place auspice arrangements with Lions Club Lakes Entrance that will enable us to apply for funding in the 3rd round of BRV's Local Economic Recovery funding. The decision was made not to apply in the second round until these arrangements were in place. Eric Sjerp of EthosNRM has provided an excellent strategic concept plan (see last page) and Andrew Sharpe of DEWLP will provide costings for the submission. DEWLP have commenced drainage works at the site.

## Community News

**Community Catch Ups:** May 21 is the next Friday night Community Catch Up at 5:30pm. Come along for light refreshments and a chat. BYO drinks.

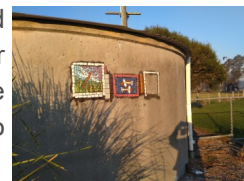
**Wairewa Hall Assets Public Tender:** Items coming up for public tender are: 2 older refrigerators, broken asphalt paving and scrap metal (old play equipment). Register your interest with John Appleby. Tender Process: offer donation to hall, highest donation gets the goods. All items to be removed by the new owner, site to be left level and able to be mown.

## PREVIOUSLY ON THE GRAPEVINE: cont...

### DR ROB GORDON COMMUNITY CONVERSATION: SUPPORT SESSION & DINNER

Wairewa & district locals were given a rare opportunity to listen, meet and talk with Dr Rob Gordon, the eminent psychologist who has been at the forefront of assisting many people impacted by major traumatic disasters, such as Black Saturday and the Bali bombings. The unfortunate concurrent meeting of the CFA AGM notwithstanding, 19 locals attended and to date feedback has been universally positive, with many saying that they felt they had gained good insight and learned techniques to help them understand and process their reactions to their experiences. As Dr Gordon said, everyone's experience is unique to them and recovery will likewise be unique to the individual. He also pointed out that it is important for the individual to talk about their experiences and for the community to come together during the recovery phase and tell their stories. Many thanks to Francine Gilfedder who arranged the catering for the dinner. Thanks also to Rev Cathy Turnbull, Anglican Minister, Louise McCarthy and Cassandra Elliot from BRV who attended on the night to offer support.

**MOSAIC WORKSHOPS** are still being held every Saturday at the hall at 9:30am. Participants have progressed to the stage of rendering mosaics to the water tank. It will look very impressive once all the mosaics are applied. You are still welcome to come along and make a start.



**6 STRAND WHIP MAKING WORKSHOPS;** places are filling fast so contact Elizabeth or Brian to register your interest. **Brian will be demonstrating his whip making skills at the upcoming YarnFest.**

### RACV SOLAR; STARS OF CORPORATE GIVING.

RACV Solar (formerly Gippsland Solar) is the local Gippsland business who donated the fantastic new \$40k solar system installed at Wairewa Hall in April. Owner Andy McCarthy is a close friend of local landowners Kylie Miller and Brett Lowe and so felt a personal connection to our bushfire devastated community. An initial attempt to supply a solar/battery backup system to power the hall while the power was out immediately post fire couldn't be implemented due to road closures. The team at Gippsland Solar instead have provided our community with this wonderful gift. They have been warmly invited by the Wairewa CRC to attend a future official thank you event at Wairewa Hall, once all the upgrades are complete, along with our other wonderful donors.

### MORNING TEA IN WAIREWA HALL

Rev Cathy Turnbull of the Anglican Diocese of Gippsland held a morning tea at Wairewa Hall on April 21 open to all. The Catholic Care Coffee Cart was also there to provide delicious coffee and tea. The cakes were utterly divine and mouths are watering just thinking of the next morning tea to be held 19 May from 10am to 11:30pm. Drop in for a cuppa and a chat!





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

If you are looking to refurbish or replant your garden post bushfire, Anne and Stan Grant 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, bird friendly and easy to maintain. Contact Anne on 0448 565 313.

### **Still have downed timber on your land?**

Lucas Mill—Book via Sarsfield Hub

Matt Zagami recently had a visit from Glen who did an assessment on fallen timber on their property and will be producing milled timber to be used to rebuild cattle yards destroyed by fire among other projects. Call Matt to discuss.

An additional Lucas Mill has been purchased and is operational as there is quite a 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](mailto:Neil.A.Smith@brv.vic.gov.au) or 0408 934 978

### **Fencing Wire/Roadside Trees/Slashing**

Contact Peter Balmer, Place Manager, EGSC

for information: [PeterB@egipps.vic.gov.au](mailto:PeterB@egipps.vic.gov.au) or

Mobile: 0409 701 309

### **LOCAL INCIDENT MANAGEMENT PLANS**

LIMP are currently being updated by EGSC.

If you would like the opportunity to make input Sue Claringbold and Ben Marchbank from EGSC will be holding a consultation session with the Wairewa community at a weekend event yet to be finalised. A copy of the new draft LIMP plan is attached for some light reading.

### **Aussie Word of the Month:**

#### **FURPHY**

Have you ever been told a false story, or spread a rumour? Then you've been part of a *furphy*.

This is a fantastic word that comes from John Furphy, a manufacturer in Victoria of water carts, some of which, during World War I, were stationed near latrines for hand washing and became centres of gossip.

Source: Macquarie Dictionary Blog



**Do you have an awesome idea for a local Landcare project?**

Contact Shirali Dave: [project.officer@fevl.org.au](mailto:project.officer@fevl.org.au) or Penny Gray: 5154 2843

## **Lemon Hill Gallery**

### **Invitation to the fourth exhibition in Lemon Hill Gallery.**

It opens at 2 pm this Sunday May 2nd, with Bernie Rossi playing sax at about 2.30pm and the usual cup of tea or coffee and lemon slice available afterwards, (probably in the adjacent big shed as the weather is cooler now for sitting round outdoors.)

The exhibition will then be open every Sunday afternoon from 2 -5pm till 23<sup>rd</sup> May.

#### **"The Family in a Steel Box".**



I invited 26 members of my family to "have a go" at something creative or "arty". None of them would describe themselves as an artist and none would usually be asked to exhibit in a gallery. I think about 19 have contributed something. I haven't actually seen their work myself so I may be as surprised by it as you may be!

Please note: We have entered this gallery into the East Gippsland Winter Festival of Light from June 12 to July 19 when it will be open on Sunday nights from 7.30 – 9.30 pm, as well as the usual afternoons. There will be extra lights on the horse carriages (maybe floods or maybe fairy lights) and a choice of 3 types of cuppa-soup-in-a-mug in the shed. We hope by then to have a patio gas heater in the shed! So the fence strainers will be on display for 3 Sundays during this period, after which there will be Josephine Jakobi's fine art for 2 Sundays. They will be an excellent contrast!



Best wishes to all. Elizabeth and Brian Blakeman

