

Bendoc Wheel

or 04 1267 5253

**January 1st, 12:00am:
Thank god 2020 is over.
This year will definitely be better!**



Opening Hours

9:00- 2:30

Wednesday only, for
permits

(Subject to change)

Contact us on

02 6458 1402

04 1267 5253

Or

bendocpa@bigpond.com

Okay, this year is postponed. Many people have had to cancel or postpone important personal events, parents of school children are “enjoying” schooling their kids at home, and travel is a thing of the past. We have very little to talk about this month as everything is put on hold again, but we will try to keep you informed on the changed dates for upcoming events.

Until COVID restrictions ease, the Bendoc Resource Centre will only be open to the public on Wednesdays from 9—2:30 to help with COVID travel permit applications. If we can help at all with this very important service, please contact us here at the Centre. When visiting the Resource Centre, you will need to adhere to social distancing guidelines and wear a mask.

Covid vaccinations at Bonang

Orbost Regional Health will be at Bonang Hall again on the 14th September to offer COVID vaccinations. For more information please call Birgit on 04 9109 0452.



Royal Flying Doctor Service Dentist

The Royal Flying Doctor Service Mobile Dentist has been delayed many times over the last few months. The Mobile Van was involved in a minor road accident, however, the repairs have been continuously delayed, preventing the van from returning to the road. Additionally, COVID restrictions have hampered the repairs.

We know that the last time the Mobile Dentist visited Bendoc it was extremely popular and many people were eagerly awaiting its return. The continued unavoidable delays are frustrating, but we have received confirmation from the Royal Flying Doctor Service that they do still intend to visit Bendoc. The next visit is scheduled for the week of the 27/09/21 to make a start on the waiting list for those who have already booked appointments. They will be providing comprehensive examinations and x-rays on those clients on the waiting list. They will then re-book them in for their treatment requirements from there.

For anyone wishing to add their name to the list, please contact the Royal Flying Doctor Service.

03 8412 0407

Or

andrea.boland@rfdsvic.com.au



KID'S SECTION

JOKES!!!!!!

What did the ocean say to the pirate?
Nothing he just waved!

When do ducks wake up?
At the quack of dawn.

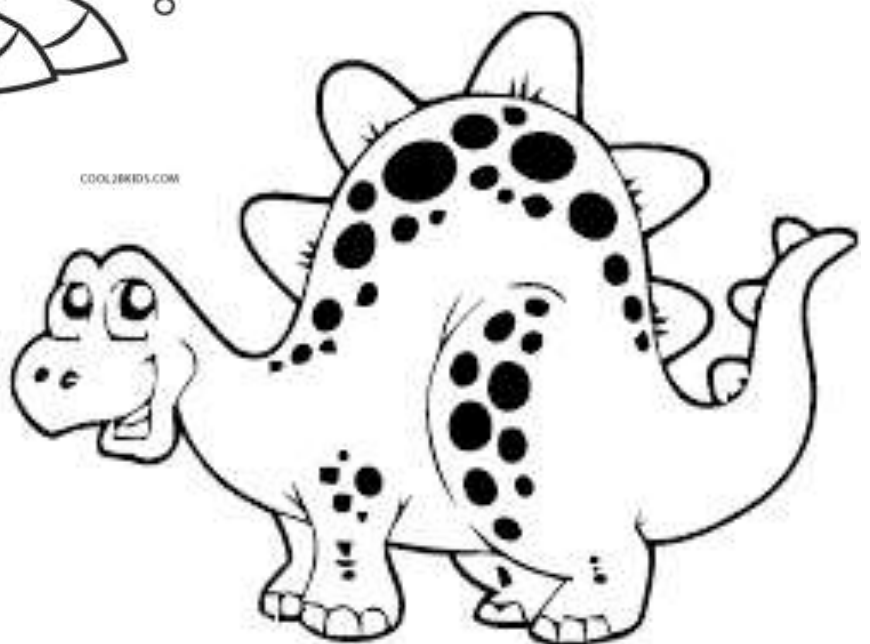
What did one toilet say to the other?
You look flushed

What do you call a dinosaur that doesn't take a Bath?
Stink- o-saurus.

Colouring



COOL2KIDS.COM



The Major Event Review of Regional Forest Agreements

Sustainable, active and adaptive management and use of Victoria’s forests.

You may be aware, the Government is committed to a review of the Regional Forest Agreement, following the 2019/20 East Gippsland Fires. As part of this process, a community consultation phase has been launched and a number of on-line sessions scheduled across east Victoria.

The link below gives some context on the Regional Forest Agreement review.

<https://www.delwp.vic.gov.au/futureforests/what-were-doing/the-major-event-review-of-regional-forest-agreements>

The table has links to register for one of the sessions, if you wish to participate or encourage others to have their say

Have your say!

The Australian and Victorian Governments are undertaking a Major Event Review (MER) into the impacts of the 2019-20 bushfires on the five long-term forest management agreements between the Australian and Victorian Governments, known as Regional Forest Agreements (RFA).

The MER is being conducted by an independent Panel comprised of:

- Dr Gillian Sparkes, the Victorian Commissioner for Environmental Sustainability;
- Ms Katherine Mullett, a proud Gurnaikurnai, Ngarigo Monero woman with a strong background in Culture Heritage Management and Land Management; and

Dr Tony Bartlett, who has experience working in Australian and international forestry.

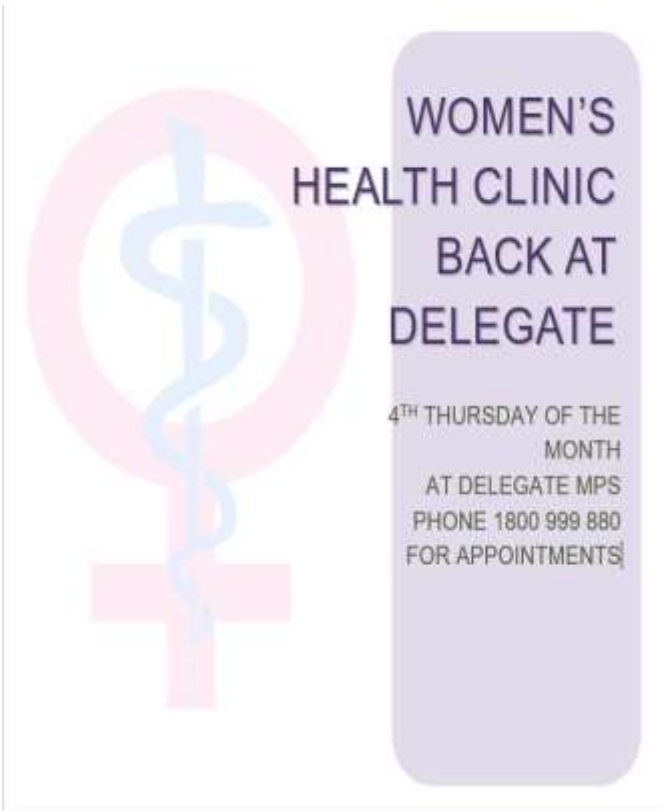
As part of the MER, the Panel would like to hear directly from communities on the impacts of the 2019-20 bushfires. This may include views on the impacts of the bushfires on forest management, environment and heritage including cultural heritage, economic and social values of forests, stability of forest industries and impacts on forest species and communities and any remedial actions you think could be taken.

A range of open sessions are available. If you would like to (come along) and share your views with the Panel, please register using the links below for the community closest to you.

Community	Registration link
Mallacoota	30 August 6.00pm – 7.30pm
	31 August 6.00pm – 7.30pm
Bairnsdale	30 August 7.45pm – 9.15pm
Orbost/Omeo	31 August 7.45pm – 9.15pm
Corryong	6 September 6.00pm – 7.30pm
Myrtleford	13 September 6.00pm – 7.30pm
East Gippsland	14 September 6.00pm – 7.30pm

More information on the RFAs can be found via the [Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment](#) website or via the [Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning](#) website.





SO, ladies, if you need to speak with a professional in women's health issues and feel more comfortable talking with a female, save yourself a trip to Bombala or further and contact the centralised intake number on the left to make an appointment locally at Delegate!



The Delegate Multi Purpose Service

Wellness Clinic – Delegate MPS 02 6459 800

Wellness Clinic

Monday 9am—10am every week except public holidays. No appointment necessary.

Procedures include:

- Wound care
- Blood pressure reading
- Blood sugar readings
- Suture or clip removal
- Injections with doctor's written order

Pathology Clinic:

Wednesday 9:30—10am every weekday, no appointment needed.

Victorian Visits:

Community nurse visits with Victorian clients fortnightly. For referral call Orbest Regional Health 03 5154 6666

AUGUST 2021 AGRIBUSINESS NEWS

East Gippsland Farmer Survey – closes 14 September 2021

Recognising the significant role farmers play in the local communities and economy of East Gippsland, Council is seeking to gain information from farming business operators that will assist us in understanding the current status of the farming sector.

The information collected will be used to support Council and the Agriculture Sector Advisory Committee identify priorities and plan their work and assist with advocacy

Agribusiness Program Opening for 3 more Farmers – closes 30 September 2021

The Agribusiness Program is an exciting opportunity for small farms and agribusinesses that will guide them through diversification and/or value adding opportunities for their business, this can lead to increased income and income security particularly in times of drought.

There are three places remaining in the last stream commencing in Omeo in September for interested farmers. The drought agribusiness brochure is online at: <https://www.eastgippsland.vic.gov.au/community/drought-assistance>

Interested in learning more? Please contact Leigh Crocker on 0419 359 409, or email lcrocker@iongroup.com.au.

Succession Planning – Rural Financial Counselling Service

RFCS Gippsland has partnered with Agriculture Victoria and Centrelink to offer a **free information session** helping Primary Producers understand all options and available support to prepare your farm's lifecycle, succession and retirement plan. Stay for a free lunch and chat with presenters and local support agencies.

In case of COVID restrictions, please register your interest to receive event confirmation or rescheduling details, [Click here to register](#) or call RFCS Gippsland on 1300 045 747.

Dates and Times: Omeo Tuesday 7th September 10:30am
Orbost Wednesday 8th September 10:30am
Bairnsdale Thursday 9th September 10:30am

Understanding Psychological First Aid at Bruthen Neighbourhood House – Friday 3 September

Psychological first aid is an approach to helping people affected by an emergency, disaster or trauma, which aims to reduce initial distress, meet current needs, promote flexible coping and encourage adjustment.

Understanding PFA is a 4-hour face to face workshop designed to give participants an understanding of the principles of psychosocial support and how and when to provide psychological first aid.

Contact Annie at Bruthen & District NH to register for Friday 3 September training 03 4141 5302 or 0497 544 490.

Farm First Aid Training at Bruthen Neighbourhood House – 28 September 2021 Supporting drought and bushfire affected communities

On-farm accidents are a major concern, incidents involve workers and bystanders (including children) and occur in a range of circumstances on a variety of farm and agricultural enterprises. Learn first aid skills to provide support in an emergency and improve farm and rural workplace safety by enrolling in the Red Cross Farm First Aid course delivered by an accredited First Aid trainer. Participants are provided with the knowledge and skills to assist themselves, and others, to cope with accidents and injury both from a physical and mental wellbeing perspective.

Contact Annie at Bruthen & District NH to register for 28 September 2021 on 03 4141 5302 or 0497 544 490.

Gippsland Food and Fibre Awards for 2021 – closes 17 September 2021

The awards are open now and seeking entrants from the Food and Fibre sector in Gippsland.

Gippsland Food and Fibre Awards are a Gippsland region-based Awards program to recognise, celebrate & reward excellence in collaboration and innovation. The competition adopts a two-tiered approach with three premier awards, Gippsland Agribusiness of the Year, Young Agribusiness Leader and Female Agribusiness Leader, followed by a range of category awards across the entire food & fibre supply chain.

The program crosses all food and fibre sectors to recognise farm businesses (pre-& post farmgate) that have demonstrated innovation/excellence <https://www.foodandfibregippsland.com.au/gippsland-food-and-fibre-awards>.

Future Drought Fund - Drought Resilience Innovation Expression of Interest (EOI) and Grants Program – closes 8 September 2021

The Australian Government is inviting Expression of Interest applications via an open competitive process for grants under the Future Drought Fund - Drought Resilience Innovation Expression of Interest (EOI) and Grants Program which closes on the 8 September 2021.

3 grant types are available in this EOI and grant opportunity.

- Ideas Grants will provide \$50,000 (GST inclusive) for one year.
- Proof-of-Concept Grants will provide funding of up to \$120,000 (GST inclusive) for one year.
- Innovation Grants will provide funding of between \$300,000 to \$1.1 million (GST inclusive) per year for a maximum of 3 years.
- This grant opportunity will run through a 2-part process.

The Innovation Grants will provide between \$300,000 to \$1.1 million (GST inclusive) per year for a maximum of 3 years to support projects that contribute to improved drought resilience and are focused on development, extension, adoption and activities to prepare for commercialisation. These grants support new ideas being developed, tested and shared across farms, industries, communities and regions. Innovative concepts may come from a variety of sources, including from but not limited to:

- farmers that have been trialling new techniques and/or technologies on their farms
- good practice developed from one region that may be adapted to another region (for example, new farming or community practices and transition strategies)
- knowledge and research that has not been synthesised, communicated, extended or applied at scale.

The grant supports large projects and provides an opportunity to draw research and knowledge through to end users in ways that are tailored for farmers and agricultural-dependent communities and businesses to implement new practices and technologies that focus on drought resilience.

For more information see: <https://www.communitygrants.gov.au/grants/future-drought-fund>

Regional Jobs Fund

The aim of the Fund is to attract new investment, create new jobs and retain existing jobs in regional Victoria and to support businesses to improve their productivity and competitiveness. The Regional Jobs Fund (RJF) looks to support projects which create employment opportunities across industry sectors where regional competitive advantage exists. This includes, but is not limited to :

- food and fibre
- advanced manufacturing
- professional services
- new energy technology
- medical technology, life sciences and healthcare
- transport, defence and construction technology

For more information see: <https://www.rdv.vic.gov.au/grants-and-programs/regional-jobs-fund>.

VFF – Making our Farms Safer

The Making Our Farms Safer project is a great opportunity for all Victorian farmers to access **free** farm safety advice from the VFF's new Farm Safety Advisors. The Farm Safety Team can present at workshops and events and is keen to come along to producer group meetings and demonstrations. For more information see: <https://www.vff.org.au/project/making-our-farms-safer/>

Contacts: John Darcy, mobile: 0432 156 223, email: jdarcy@vff.org.au

Richard Versteegen, mobile: 0499 772 472, email: rversteegen@vff.org.au

DELWP – Private Overhead Electric Line (POLE) Scheme

Victorian Government, Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) has allocated \$5 million to replace bare-wire private overhead powerlines in Victoria's highest risk bushfire areas. Interested applicants who wish to apply for the POEL Scheme must meet the following requirements: The POEL must be bare wire, the type of conductor which presents the highest risk (not insulated more than 50 per cent).

There must be no defect notice attached to the POEL, except where the defect notice relates to damage caused by the 2019/20 bushfires. For more information see: <https://www.energy.vic.gov.au/electricity/powerline-replacement>

Agriculture Victoria – On-Farm Energy Grants and Rebate – closes 15 December 2021

Farmers can apply for grants of up to \$250,000 to help reduce energy costs and boost productivity. The State Government's Agriculture Energy Investment Plan is a 10-year strategy that helps farmers install infrastructure and technology that will make their farms more competitive and sustainable.

For more information see: <https://agriculture.vic.gov.au/support-and-resources/funds-grants-programs/agriculture-energy-investment-plan>

Solar for Business

The **Solar for Business Program** is a new initiative designed to support Victorian small businesses to reduce their energy costs by accessing the benefits of renewable energy.

This initiative will bring down energy bills for small businesses by reducing the upfront cost of the installation of an approved small-scale solar PV system up to 30kW.

To support the economic recovery of Victorian small businesses and the broader solar sector, 15,000 solar PV rebates will be available over the next three years <https://www.solar.vic.gov.au/solar-small-business>

Small Business Victoria, Disaster Resilience for Business

An easy to use small business disaster resilience and recovery kit for emergency preparation.

Includes:

- What is business resilience, preparedness, response and recovery?
- Checklist for business response.
- Disaster resilience for business toolkit.

For more information see: <https://business.vic.gov.au/business-information/protect-your-business/risk-management/business-resilience>

Prioritising better mobile and broadband connectivity in Victoria – closes 20 September 2021 **Experiencing poor mobile and internet coverage? Identify problem locations and get it on the list.**

The Victorian Government is collecting information that will form the basis for improvements to the mobile and internet coverage network. The Connecting Victoria web site states: "The program will focus on getting more Victorians access to business-grade broadband and upgrading mobile coverage, improving 4G mobile coverage, helping more places become 5G ready, and improving access to safety information during bushfires and other emergencies."

Follow the Connecting Victoria link and scroll down the page to add an address or location on the map that you think needs attention at: <https://engage.vic.gov.au/connecting-victoria>.

Gippsland Red Meat Conference POSTPONED 26 OCTOBER in Bairnsdale

The Gippsland Red Meat conference is an annual conference developed to provide information, inspiration and connections for Gippsland's red meat industry. The program is developed by a producer-led advisory team, which ensures the event is relevant, valuable, respected and represents sheep and cattle producers.

Lucas Mill Project to mill logs felled as a result of last years fires

A partnership project between Rotary and Lions (supported by DELWP; Dwyers; Riviera Trailers; Bendigo Bank and BJ Crane).

The project is to mill into useable timber (fence posts; stockyard fencing and shed timber etc) logs from trees that have been felled or fallen as a result of the 2019 / 2020 fires – using a Lucas Mill (portable sawmill). Logs need to be at least approx. 450mm in diameter and can be up to 6m length.

The logs will be milled at no cost to the landholder. The team operating the mill are currently being professionally trained and the project will observe all OH&S issues as well as having comprehensive public liability insurance. Those registering will be placed on a waiting list.

Anyone wanting further information is welcome to contact Debbie Brient 0456 603 98.

Other support as required by the community. Farmers can contact is Glenda Carter 0427 754 498 or call 1300 327 624



Council

Kaylene Wickham

Drought Assistance Officer □ East Gippsland Shire

P: 03 5153 9450 **A** PO Box 1618, Bairnsdale, Vic 3875



Bushbubs Wildlife Shelter Bendoc

0488719233

(No birds or reptiles)

For bird and reptile care please call 03 5154 0196

2021		September				
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
30	31	01	02	03	04	05
06	07	08 Open 9-2:30	09	10	11	12
13	14	15 Open 9-2:30	16	17	18	19
20	21	22 Open 9-2:30	23	24	25	26
27	28	29 Open 9-2:30	30	01	02	03
04	05	Notes:				