



# Bendoc WheeL

bendocpa@bigpond.com 02 64581531 Bendoc.org.au



The Bendoc Progress Association wish all our readers & friends a wonderful & safe time over Xmas — whether you're taking it easy or being adventurous — stay cool



## BENDOC NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE

TUES WED FRI  
9.00-2.00

LAST DAY FOR DEC IS 23RD  
BACK ON 2ND JAN.

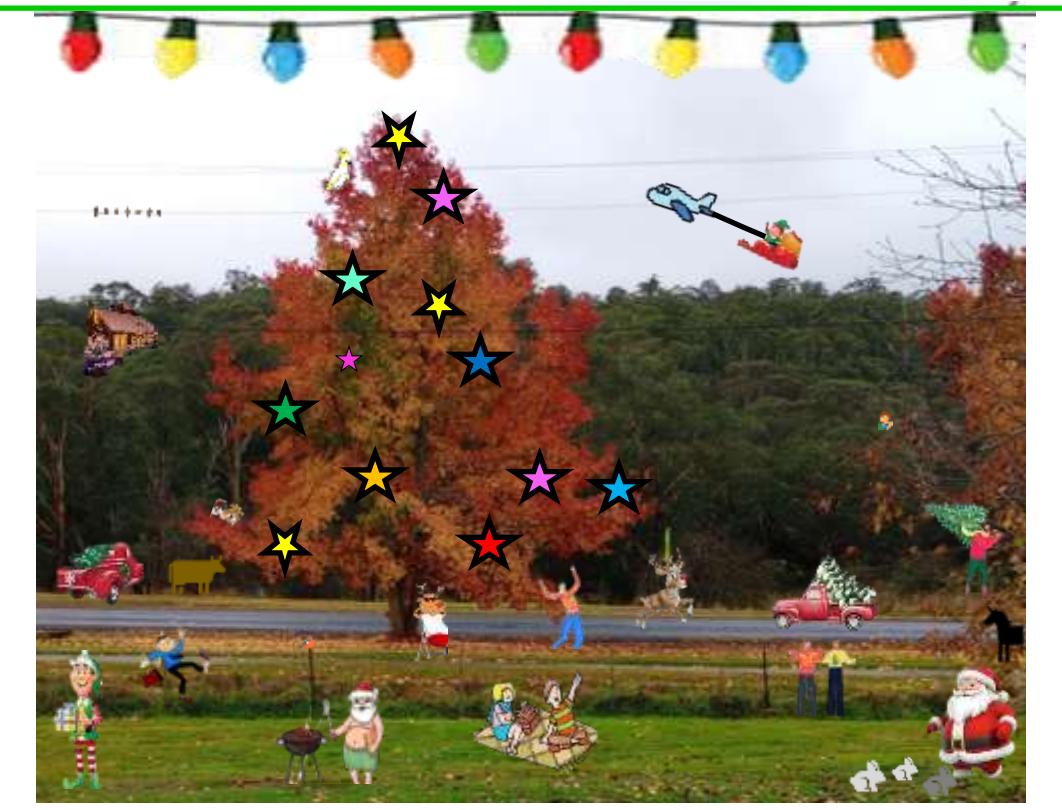
printing, laminating,  
internet, computer, books  
to browse & borrow,  
friendly chats, tea & coffee  
local info  
Council Outreach

Crafts & Get together  
WED am

## THE GREEN SHED

RE-USE, RECYCLE,  
REPURPOSE  
BEHIND BENDOC HALL

NORMAL HOURS  
TUES, THURS, SAT  
9-12 ISH  
Cost by Donation



A SNEAK LOOK AT WHAT'S HIDING IN THE GREEN SHED. See over page for holiday opening times



## EAST GIPPS SHIRE MOBILE LIBRARY

Join, borrow, return or  
order a book from the  
Mobile Bus at Bendoc  
Hall Grounds  
Back in Bendoc  
9th Jan

Thurs 10.30 - 11.30

## WELLNESS NURSE

Reopening 8 Jan  
Bendoc -  
Thursday fortnightly  
Goongerah Tues. Ft.  
Tubbut Wed Ft.

Ring Birgit  
0456167011

## POST OFFICE CLOSED

PUB HOLS  
MON-FRI 12-5  
BENDOC PUB

MON 8-11  
WED 12-3  
SAT 8-11  
Closed public holidays



0403196528

Contact Jim for info

**1 Bendoc Community Resource Centre is Your Centre**



Having a clean up over Christmas?  
Drop off your unwanted usable items for recycling & reusing.  
PLEASE NOTE—We have had a large amount of books, clothes & shoes donated, & due to running out of room cannot receive anymore for a time.

**WE'LL BE HAVING A BREAK IN BETWEEN XMAS & NEW YEARS & OPENING AGAIN ON SAT THE 3RD.**



Bendoc Neighbourhood House will be hosting an information session on recycling early in the new year.

What is Councils role? What happens to our recycled items? What should we be doing?  
Asking for Expressions of Interest

if you would like to attend please email or call in—[bendocpa@bigpond.com](mailto:bendocpa@bigpond.com)

**Bendoc Neighbourhood House will be closed on Wednesday 23rd Dec. We'll be back Friday 2nd January ready as always with cuppas, chats, visitors info, books to borrow & a relaxing place to sit in the sun.**

**There will be no January 'Wheel'**

**Looking forward to readers input & pictures ready for February issue.**



Jim and Marion  
Will be opening the  
Bendoc Hall on  
CHRISTMAS DAY 12 – 3  
You are welcome to join us for a  
simple barbecue & good company.  
RSVP Jim 0403196528  
If you'd like to bring something to share - feel free

## Errinundra to Snowy Wellbeing Spaces

December 2025



## Services include:

Health education	Health checks and health care plans
Telehealth appointments and support	Wound care, dressings, suture removal
Urine analysis	Mental health support
Help navigating health services	Ear Wax Removal/Cleaning
Help filling medical forms, My Aged Care and Home Care Packages	
And more ...	

If you have any questions about call 0456 167 011.

Here is some of what we offer

## Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy start to 2026

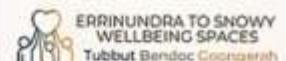
Dear Errinundra to Snowy Community Members,

The E2S Team would like to thank you for your support for the Nursing Service in 2025. It is always a pleasure to work with and for you and we would love to welcome you to the Service in 2026 if you haven't tried it before. Come in and have a chat and find out the many ways we can support your health. Specialists are booked for 2026 visits.

Birgit (Nurse Care Coordinator) 0456 167 011  
Tama (Admin Coordinator) 0448 639 754  
Compliments/Complaints [feedback@orh.com](mailto:feedback@orh.com) 03 5154 6666

### Christmas Break Where / When

- Goongerah  
2025 last day – 9<sup>th</sup> December  
2026 first day – 6<sup>th</sup> January
- Bendoc  
2025 last day – 11<sup>th</sup> December  
2026 first day – 8<sup>th</sup> January
- Tubbut  
2025 last day – 10<sup>th</sup> December  
2026 first day – 7<sup>th</sup> January



Here to Support our Communities

Operates fortnightly in each community – please check the Tubbut Tattler and Bendoc Wheel for updates

**Put this on your Fridge 😊**

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN SUPPORTING HEALTH & WELLBEING IN OUR REGION ?

LOOKING FOR INTERESTED PEOPLE TO JOIN THE  
ERRINUNDRA TO SNOWY GOVERNANCE  
COMMITTEE.

ZOOM MEETINGS ARE HELD MONTHLY (SOMETIMES  
BI MONTHLY) . YOU CAN ACCESS MEETINGS AT  
HOME OR FROM THE NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSES.  
CONTACT TUBBUT 04 82855670  
OR BENDOC [bendocpa@bigpond.com](mailto:bendocpa@bigpond.com) 02  
64581531



Thankyou to everyone who filled out the postcards supporting Victorian Neighbourhood Houses. Bendoc's contribution has been sent off together with thousands of other postcards from Victorian Neighbourhood Houses to their local MP office.



#### DON'T FORGET Power Rebates are still available for Victorian residents

with a Health care card, Pensioner concession card, Veterans Gold Card, Veterans Pensioner concession card. You can apply yourself or Bendoc Neighbourhood House can sort it for you.

It's best to contact us first to ensure we all have what we need.



**NEED SOME HOLIDAY HELP?**

WE CAN HELP YOU APPLY FOR THE **\$100 POWER SAVING BONUS**

FOR ELIGIBLE CONCESSION CARD HOUSEHOLDS  
AND HELP YOU CHECK YOU ARE ON THE BEST OFFER WITH YOUR ENERGY RETAILER

**Neighbourhood Houses Victoria** **VICTORIA Energy**

#### Susie Bady from Mental Health & Wellbeing Local

is

available for visits to Bendoc Neighbourhood House regularly next year. If you would like to drop in for a chat or book a private consultation please ring Susie on **0476112665** or BNH Mental Health & Local wellbeing is an all encompassing mental health program offering support, info & access to specialists online, phone & in person. At 'The Local' your story doesn't get lost

**Message from The Gippsland Public Health Unit**

# Aged between 20 and 59?

You may need another measles vaccine

Protect yourself and your loved ones - get your FREE MMR top-up today

You need two doses of the measles-mumps-rubella (MMR) vaccine to protect yourself and others.

If you were born between 1966 and 1992, you may have only had 1 dose of the MMR vaccine.

If you haven't had two doses, or you don't know, visit your GP or pharmacy.

No Medicare card is required to get a free state-funded MMR vaccine.

Scan here to find out where to get vaccinated



[lrh.com.au/gippsland-region-public-health-unit/free-measles-vaccine/](http://lrh.com.au/gippsland-region-public-health-unit/free-measles-vaccine/)



Department of Health

## SAVE THE DATE WEIGH IN EVENTS

25

OCTOBER

22

NOVEMBER

31

JANUARY



Bendoc Fishing Club

more info to come soon!

We're getting in touch to let you know about a public health initiative now underway across Gippsland. Adults aged 20 to 59 years are being encouraged to get a **free** MMR (measles, mumps, rubella) top-up vaccine to make sure they are fully protected against measles.

Many adults born between 1966 and 1992 only ever received one measles vaccine as children. One dose is not enough for full protection and with measles activity increasing in Victoria this year, this top-up is strongly recommended.

### What's available

The Gippsland Region Public Health Unit (GRPHU) is providing the opportunity to get free MMR vaccination to ensure that adults and their loved ones are protected.

Every poster will have a QR code that links to:

local council immunisation bookings  
participating pharmacies  
providers offering the vaccine at no cost

GPs can also provide the MMR vaccine, although some may charge a consultation fee.

### Why this matters

Victoria has recorded 35 measles cases this year, the highest in a decade, many linked to overseas travel. Measles spreads very easily and can cause serious illness.

Getting an MMR top-up protects:

you  
your family  
babies too young to be vaccinated  
your workplace  
the community

#### More information

#### Book your free MMR vaccine:

[lrh.com.au/gippsland-region-public-health-unit/free-measles-vaccines/](http://lrh.com.au/gippsland-region-public-health-unit/free-measles-vaccines/)

#### Learn more about measles:

[health.vic.gov.au/infectious-diseases/measles](http://health.vic.gov.au/infectious-diseases/measles)

**5 Bendoc Community Resource Centre is Your Centre**



**MEETING 7.00 PM**  
**MONDAY 29TH DECEMBER**  
 at the Bendoc CFA shed

Are you interested in becoming a CFA member?  
 or just looking for information?  
 Ring Secretary Lyn Button - 0488719233

**Emergency (000)**

Vic Emergency Hotline 1800 226 226

CFA Headquarters (03) 9262 8444

Register a Burn Off 18000668511

Firewood can be collected from:

1 March to 30 June (Autumn season)  
 1 September to 30 November (Spring season)

Victorians who use fire to conduct work or an activity need to apply for a fire permit through the [Fire Permits Victoria website](#).

The Fire Permits Victoria website allows Victorians to:

**Check** if they need a fire permit.

**Apply** for a fire permit.

**Notify** authorities that they are using a permit

**Register** a burn-off when fire restrictions are not in place.

<https://www.ffm.vic.gov.au/firewood/find-a-firewood-collection-area>

Forest Fire Management Services Vic

<https://www.ffm.vic.gov.au/permits-and-regulations/fire-permits>

BENDOC NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE IS PLANNING AN AFTERNOON OF FIRE PREP DISCUSSION, RECORDED WEBINARS, RESOURCES, EMERGENCY WORKERS REP. (HOPEFULLY) & SNACKS. MORE INFORMATION NEXT YEAR. IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN ATTENDING OR HAVE ANYTHING YOU WOULD LIKE TO CONTRIBUTE PLEASE CONTACT US.

BENDOCPA@BIGPOND.COM

### Delegate Multi-Purpose Service

11 Craigie St, Delegate  
 (02) 64598000

The Delegate MPS Assessment and Treatment Care Centre (ATCC)

ATCC

The Delegate MPS Assessment and Treatment Care Centre (ATCC) is not an Emergency Department, for all Emergency type presentations please proceed to the nearest Emergency Department at the Bombala MPS, or phone 000 for an Ambulance. The ATCC is open Monday to Friday 8.30am to 4pm, please call Delegate MPS (02) 64598000 to make an appointment. Outside of these hours, please consider if your presentation is an Emergency and therefore not for Delegate MPS.

Our nurse-led ATCC is offering:

Wound Care  
 Nursing Assessments  
 Blood Pressure readings  
 Blood Sugar readings  
 Suture or Clip removal  
 Injections with Doctors written order  
 Other procedures that do not require a doctor



Pathology

Wednesday 9:30am-10:30am. No appointment necessary. Not available on public holidays  
 Other Community Health Services Available – Please Phone Delegate MPS for further information

- Dietician
- Diabetes Educator
- Immunisations
- Podiatry
- Child and Family Health Nurse
- Generalist Community Health Nurse

Please Note— Victorian visits are no longer taking place, this may recommence according to need.

Women's Health Nurse

To refer to any of the above please ring Community Health Central Intake Team on 1800 999 880

[Webinar -Taking stock of feed quality](#)[2 December](#)**When: 2 December****Where: Online****Time: 12:30 to 1:30 pm**

For more information, contact Greg Ferrier on 0438 738 634 or [greg.ferrier@agriculture.vic.gov.au](mailto:greg.ferrier@agriculture.vic.gov.au)

[TPP Webinar Update for fruit industries and nursery](#)[2 & 3 December](#)

In October 2025, Tomato Potato Psyllid (TPP) was detected outside the current Restricted Area in Victoria.

Restrictions will come into effect from Monday 8 December 2025 and growers and businesses will need to comply with these restrictions if they are sending plants and produce interstate.

For further information please contact [publicinformation.STPTEPP@agriculture.vic.gov.au](mailto:publicinformation.STPTEPP@agriculture.vic.gov.au)

[Soil Health Expert & Angus Leader Simon Falkiner](#)[2 & 3 December](#)

Beef Cattle Workshop – Know your numbers BAIRNSDALE Yard Walk.

**When:** Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 5:00pm to 8:00pm

**Where:** Gippsland Ag Centre – Bairnsdale Airport

Register: Click link <https://bit.ly/3Jx0pKj> or text Nat 0436462559

**What to do when it hasn't worked? Ute Drive – Giffard West Hall**

**When:** Wednesday 3rd December 8:00am to 10:00am

**Where:** 3917 South Gippsland Highway

Register: Click link <https://bit.ly/4qVsrf> or text Nat 0436462559

[Dry Seasons Support Extension](#)

[Drought support | Farm management | Agriculture Victoria](#)

[Farm Drought Support Grants – Expense Claim](#)

What's available

**Grants up to \$5,000** (ex-GST) are available for on-farm improvements and other business activities to help manage drought.

**Household Financial Relief** payments up to \$1,000 to eligible farming families and those working on farms affected by drought conditions in south west Victoria to assist with household expenses.

**Farm management advice and planning help** Farm debt mediation support, and a **duties and fees relief package**.

**On-farm Kangaroo Control Rebate Program.**

**Mental health and wellbeing events** are being funded statewide through the Look Over the Farm Gate program to help bring communities together and support farmers under stress.

[Water Efficiency Rebate Program](#)

East Gippsland Water has introduced a new Water Efficiency Rebate Program to assist residents and small business save water and costs.

The program helps customers reduce water consumption by providing incentives to save water, and will run until 30 June 2028.

The Water Efficiency Rebate Program assists eligible customers to maximise their water savings by installing more water efficient products to replace inefficient ones and receive up to a maximum of \$1,500 in rebates for agreed/eligible products, such as mulch, showerheads, water tanks and more.

For more information on which products are eligible and for an application form, visit East Gippsland Water [Rebates | East Gippsland Water](#).

If a friend or a neighbour would like to receive a copy of this newsletter, please email Kaylene Wickham Agribusiness Development Officer East Gippsland Shire Council at [kaylenewi@egipps.vic.gov.au](mailto:kaylenewi@egipps.vic.gov.au) or call 5153 9450 or register online at [Agrinews Newsletter](#).

**The Forge Theatre presents****Sunday 12th April 2026 - 4.00pm****Ross Wilson & The Peaceniks present**

**Now Listen! We're Steppin' Out! 50 Years of Hits Tour**

**Ross Wilson** is hitting the road with his all-star band The Peaceniks to celebrate over “**50 Years of Hits**” including all the **Daddy Cool** and **Mondo Rock** favourites you’d expect along with the latest offering from an almost 6-decade career, tracks from his latest EP on Bloodlines Records, “She’s Stuck On Facebook All The Time”, and everything in between.

**AKMAL****Saturday 28th February 2026**

Stand-up, movies, sketch, TV appearances, radio DJ, talk show host and a published author, Akmal is one of Australia's most respected, successful and accomplished comics.

Lightning quick and a master of unscripted comedy gold, Akmal has an incredible ability to deal with hot topics in an hilarious and slightly offensive way.

[www.alist.com.au](http://www.alist.com.au)

[www.akmal.com.au](http://www.akmal.com.au)

Restricted 15+, no babes in arms permitted

**Ireland the Voyage****Tuesday 10th February - 7.30pm**

From the producers of Celtic Illusion comes a powerful new theatrical experience in Ireland: The Voyage, an epic celebration of Ireland's history, heart, and heritage brought to life through authentic voices, live music, and world-class Irish dance. Emotional, exhilarating, and deeply immersive, Ireland: The Voyage invites audiences to feel the pulse of a nation - its triumphs, its tragedies, its music, and its unbreakable spirit, in a live experience they will never forget.

80 McKean St Bairnsdale

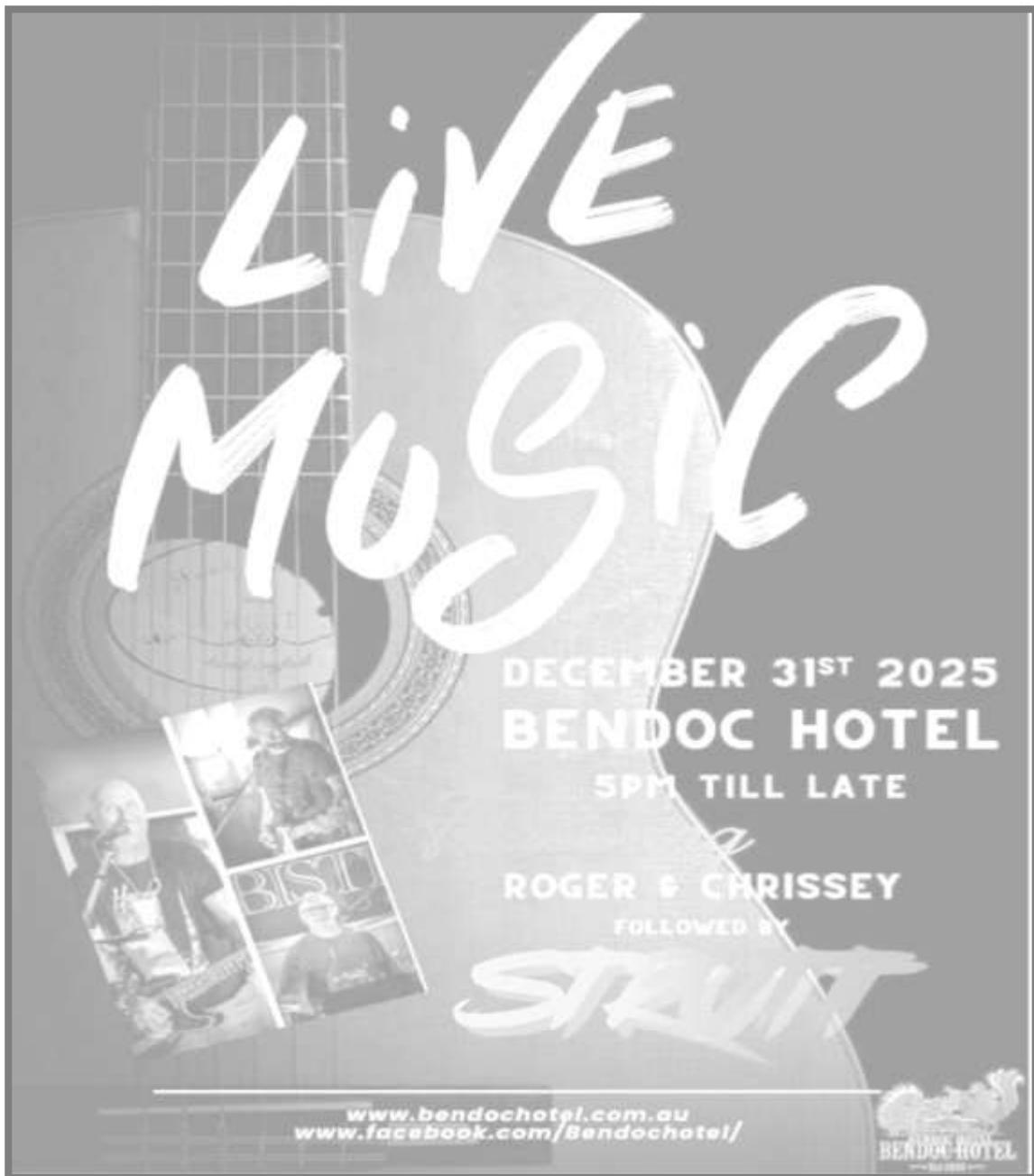
**Book Now!**

**Contact us!**

**Phone:** 03 5152 1482

Our mailing address

is: [boxoffice@egipps.vic.gov.au](mailto:boxoffice@egipps.vic.gov.au)



## HOLIDAY Opening Hours

### CHRISTMAS

December 24<sup>th</sup> 25<sup>th</sup> 26<sup>th</sup>

Closed

December 27<sup>th</sup> 28<sup>th</sup> 29<sup>th</sup> 30<sup>th</sup>  
(12pm - Late)

Open

### Kitchen - OPEN EVERYDAY

Lunch: 12pm - 2pm

Dinner: 6pm - 8pm

### NEW YEAR

December 31<sup>st</sup> - 11am to Late  
January 1<sup>st</sup> - 10am to 3pm

We Wish You a Merry Christmas!



## Delegate Bus

Pick up from  
RTC Delegate  
1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the  
month @ 10.30

Bookings essential

leaving Bombala around  
12.30 - 1.00

please Phone  
6458 8388

DECEMBER 2025

**The Forge Theatre presents****THE BIG CHILLOUT***Celebrating the soundtrack that saved Motown***Saturday 14th February 2026 - 7:30 pm**

Get ready to relive the music that defined a generation in **The Big Chillout**, a joyous, soul-stirring celebration of the legendary [Big Chill soundtrack](#) and the Motown revival it sparked.

This powerful live show brings to life the timeless classics of Marvin Gaye, The Temptations, The Rolling Stones, Aretha Franklin, Creedence Clearwater Revival, Smokey Robinson, Spencer Davis Group, The Band, Procol Harum, and many more — performed by a world-class band and presented as an entertaining narrated show fronted by two powerhouse vocalists.

**Judah Kelly** – Winner of The Voice Australia 2017   **Asabi Goodman** – Acclaimed star of Chicago and Hairspray   **10 piece** – world-class live band

The first act features the smash-hit original Big Chill soundtrack, followed by a second act packed with the Deluxe Edition highlights and Motown's biggest hits.

**The Big Chillout** is a heartwarming celebration of soul, connection, and the classic songs that continue to unite generations.

Whether you're a lifelong fan or discovering these iconic tracks for the first time, this show is an invitation to sing, dance, and **chillout** like never before!

**SING-A-LONG-ABBA!****FRIDAY 12th December - 7.30PM**

It's time to...

**SING-A-LONG ABBA!**

SING-A-LONG to all the hits of **ABBA** with all the words to all the songs on the **BIG** screen, backed by a 5 piece band on stage! The only ABBA tribute where the show is not only **ON** stage but **OFF** stage in the audience!

SING-A-LONG to your favourite ABBA hit songs:

Mamma Mia - Dancing Queen

Fernando - Ring, Ring

Waterloo - S.O.S.

Take A Chance On Me

Honey, Honey

Knowing Me, Knowing You

The Winner Takes It All...

and so, so many more!!

Over 25 hit songs!!

*Most theatre shows make you stay in your seats, this show gets you 'UP on your feet'!"*

-Australian BOS Music-  
Josef Kiss.

All costumes worn by the cast of **SING-A-LONG ABBA** are direct from the "**OFFICIAL ABBA MUSEUM!**"

-Stockholm, Sweden-

Every audience member receives **FREE GLOW STICKS** on entry to get the party started!!  
**WALK IN. DANCE OUT!**

**Book Now!**

**Contact us!**  
**Phone:** 03 5152 482  
**Our mailing address**  
**is:** [boxoffice@egipps.vic.gov.au](mailto:boxoffice@egipps.vic.gov.au)

**Community Matters Newsletter**

The monthly **Community Matters** newsletter shares updates on projects, services, decisions, open consultations and more. The previous community e-newsletter can be downloaded

[The latest news from your Council.](#)

Just a glance at some of the topics in Agrinews

**AGRINEWS—EAST GIPPSLAND SHIRE COUNCIL****Agritourism in Australia - learnings from statistics webinar 28 November**

Tourism Research Australia will present the latest agritourism research, diving into the agritourism growth and opportunity, and wider tourism sector insights, to understand the tourism market in 2025 and beyond.

To attend register at Meeting Registration - Zoom.

**Webinar – Taking stock of feed quality 2 December**

Where: online

Time: 12:30 to 1:30 pm There are a limited number of free feed tests available to Victorian farmers attending, so register early. For more information, contact Greg Ferrier on 0438 738 634 or [greg.ferrier@agriculture.vic.gov.au](mailto:greg.ferrier@agriculture.vic.gov.au)

**Dry Seasons Supports Farm Drought Support Grants- to apply visit [Rural Finance](#)**

**1:1 Advisory Service** <https://agriculture.vic.gov.au/farm-management/drought-support/help-with-farm-decisions>

**Drought support – duties and fees relief** <https://go.vic.gov.au/48FF4bG>

**Group technical events**

**A series of free webinars will be held over November and December** <https://agriculture.vic.gov.au/about/media-centre/media-releases/2025-releases/water-planning-over-morning-tea>

**Rebates - Kangaroo management**

<https://agriculture.vic.gov.au/farm-management/drought-support/managing-kangaroos-on-your-farm>

• For further drought support visit: [agriculture.vic.gov.au/drought](https://agriculture.vic.gov.au/drought) or call 136 186.

There are multiple drought supports that are always available

**What's in your fire preparedness plan this season?**

Fire Preparedness webinar on Vimeo

**Business Skills Mentoring program Available Now**

Expressions of interest close 5 pm Friday 27 March 2026, or earlier if places are filled. [Business Skills Mentoring program](#) - Business Victoria

**COUNCIL INFORMATION****ASAC Meeting 6 November 2025 Summary**

On the 6 November Council met with the Agriculture Sector Advisory Committee which comprises of ten farming enterprises, Food & Fibre Gippsland, EG Catchment Management Authority, Gippsland Agriculture Group and Agriculture Victoria.

**Your Say on Projects** Check out **Your Say, East Gippsland**, a council online platform that lets you share what you think about the projects, services and places that matter to you. Your experience is important to help us understand community needs and interests.

If a friend or a neighbour would like to receive a copy of this newsletter, please email Kaylene Wickham Agribusiness Development Officer East Gippsland Shire Council at [kaylenewi@egipps.vic.gov.au](mailto:kaylenewi@egipps.vic.gov.au) or call 5153 9450 or register online at [Agrinews Newsletter](#).

## As Victorians start ticking off their Christmas shopping lists, fire and safety authorities are urging everyone to think safety first when buying lithium-ion battery products, such as e-bikes, e-scooters, toys and portable devices.

The reminder comes as fire agencies across Victoria continue to respond to a growing number of fires linked to lithium-ion batteries, with incidents occurring roughly once a week across the state. Recent callouts, including a blaze in a Narre Warren North family bedroom sparked by a charging e-scooter and an e-bike found smoking in a Hastings backyard, have highlighted how quickly these incidents can escalate.

As the state's energy safety regulator, Energy Safe Victoria warns it is crucial for people to choose reputable products that meet Australian safety standards, rather than cheap online items that could pose serious fire risks.

"We know tech and battery-powered devices are popular Christmas gifts, but unsafe or poor-quality products can be extremely dangerous," Energy Safe CEO Leanne Hughson said.

"It only takes one faulty or damaged lithium-ion battery to cause a devastating fire. So, before you buy, make sure you're choosing quality products from reputable suppliers."

Lithium-ion batteries are found in an increasing range of household devices, but when incorrectly or over-charged, damaged or exposed to heat, they can go into 'thermal runaway' - a reaction that causes fires that are fast-spreading, toxic and difficult to extinguish.

Fire Rescue Victoria (FRV) and the Country Fire Authority (CFA) have joined Energy Safe in reminding the community to use and charge these devices safely.

CFA Chief Officer Jason Heffernan said Victorians should avoid charging batteries overnight or while unattended and to only use the charger supplied with the device.

"We are really urging Victorians to keep an eye on their e-bikes and e-scooters this summer, and to check their batteries and chargers regularly for signs of damage," Mr Heffernan said.

"The incident in Hastings last month shows how quickly these batteries can fail, and by choosing to keep his e-bike outside and in sight, the resident prevented more serious damage."

FRV Deputy Commissioner Josh Fischer said that by paying close attention to where devices are charged and the condition of batteries, Victorians can help reduce the number of incidents firefighters are responding to.

"Lithium-ion batteries should never be charged in sleeping or living areas or on flammable surfaces, and households should stop using the battery immediately if you notice strong odours, a change in colour or shape, extreme heat or unusual sounds such as popping or hissing," Mr Fischer said

As the festive season approaches, it's an ideal time to remind the community to shop smart and charge carefully, highlighting the lessons from Energy Safe's *Before You Know It* campaign about the risks of unsafe battery use.

### Checklist for safe gifting of lithium-ion battery products:

**Buy:** Choose trusted brands and verified retailers. Check power supply for the Regulatory Compliance Mark (RCM) and ensure they are listed on the [Electrical Equipment Safety System \(EESS\) database](#) to ensure they meet Australian safety standards. Avoid impulse buys from cheap, unknown online sources.

- **Unwrap:** Check for visible damage, bulging and dents before use. Read and follow manufacturer's instructions carefully.
- **Use:** Charge batteries only with the manufacturer-recommended charger in well-ventilated areas, on non-flammable surfaces and away from bedrooms and exits. Never leave devices unattended while charging.

**Emergency:** In event of fire, call Triple Zero (000) and evacuate immediately.

For more information on lithium-ion battery safety, visit:

Energy Safe - [www.energysafe.vic.gov.au/before-you-know-it](http://www.energysafe.vic.gov.au/before-you-know-it)

CFA - [www.cfa.vic.gov.au/batterysafety](http://www.cfa.vic.gov.au/batterysafety)

FRV - [www.frv.vic.gov.au/battery-safety](http://www.frv.vic.gov.au/battery-safety)

<https://news.cfa.vic.gov.au/news/don-t-let-your-christmas-catch-fire>

### Did you know? -

if you are a SES or CFA volunteer you can claim an **Emergency Services rebate from your Rates**  
You can claim for your Principal place of residence, Farmland or Single Farm Enterprise (SFE)

You will need

- ◆ Your member number
- ◆ Bank details
- ◆ Rates notice
- ◆ Identification
- ◆ Access to CFA or SES portal or 'Members Online' site  
BNH can assist with computer access

CFA - [members.cfa.vic.gov.au](http://members.cfa.vic.gov.au)  
SES - [VICSES.volunteer.porthole.sso.ses.vic.gov.au](http://VICSES.volunteer.porthole.sso.ses.vic.gov.au)

Secretary Lyn has your CFA member number  
Your CFA email is (member number).@cfa.vic.gov.au  
Your SES email is SES (member number) @members.ses.vic.gov.au

Please read the guidelines before applying - you may need to provide more info depending on your circumstances  
Department of Government Services [1300 778 931](tel:1300778931)

<https://service.vic.gov.au/find-services/housing-and-property/eligible-volunteers-rebate-scheme>

**FOR CARE OVER HOT PERIODS, THE PRIMARY FOCUS SHOULD BE ON WATERING, MULCHING, AND MAINTENANCE.****Watering and Hydration**

**Water Deeply:** Provide thorough, deep waterings in the weeks leading up to and during Christmas. This encourages plants to develop deeper roots and helps the soil retain moisture longer.

**Water Early or Late:** Water early in the morning or late in the evening to reduce evaporation.

**Use Soil Wetters:** Apply a soil wetter (like a hose-on product) to help water penetrate the soil more effectively, especially in areas where the soil has become water repellent due to heat and dryness.

**Automate:** If you're going away, set up an automatic watering system (drip irrigation for beds, sprinklers for lawns) to ensure plants stay hydrated without constant monitoring.

**Check Pots:** Container plants dry out faster. Dig into the top few centimetres of potting mix to check moisture levels, and use water-storing crystals.

**Garden Maintenance**

**Mulch Heavily:** A thick layer of organic mulch around all garden beds and pots is crucial. It locks in moisture, suppresses weeds, and protects roots from the intense summer heat.

**Raise Mower Height:** Keep your lawn slightly longer (around 5-6 cm). Taller grass blades shade the soil, retain more moisture, and make the lawn more resilient to summer heat and foot traffic from gatherings.

**Prune Strategically:** Deadhead spent blooms from roses and annuals to encourage new flowers. Give hedges a light trim for a tidy appearance, focusing on removing any untidy or dead stems.

**Manage Pests:** Keep an eye out for common summer pests like lawn grubs, beetles, caterpillars, and aphids. Treat them quickly to prevent damage.

**Prioritise:** If time is limited, focus your efforts on key areas where guests will gather or that are most visible.

**Harvesting and Planting**

**Harvest Produce:** Summer vegetables like tomatoes, cucumbers, and zucchinis should be thriving. Harvest regularly to encourage continued production. Citrus fruits will also be ready for picking.

**Add Instant Colour:** For a festive splash, plant "potted colour" (pre-grown annuals) like red geraniums or white petunias around entertaining areas. Poinsettias are led from Yates, Bunnings, simpleton also a classic Christmas decoration that can thrive outdoors in warm, sheltered spots.

**Eco-Friendly Tips**

**Compost Leftovers:** Compost your Christmas meal leftovers and put a separate bin for recyclables during entertaining to manage waste effectively.

**Support Wildlife:** Ensure you provide sources of clean water for birds and other wildlife, which can struggle in the summer heat.

Compiled from Yates, Bunnings, Simplelawns.com.au

**Recipe ideas****DECADENT STICKY DATE PUDDING****INGREDIENTS**

Butter for greasing  
 150g (1 cup) pitted dates, chopped  
 2 tbsp finely grated fresh ginger  
 1/2 tsp mixed spice  
 125ml (1/2 cup) water  
 300g (1 cup) plain self-raising flour  
 300g (1 cup) wholemeal self-raising flour  
 140g (2/3 cup, firmly packed) brown sugar  
 3 eggs, lightly whisked  
 80g butter, melted  
 80ml (1/3 cup) milk

**CARAMEL SAUCE**

140g (2/3 cup) dark brown sugar  
 170ml (2/3 cup) thickened cream  
 40g butter  
 1 tbsp golden syrup

Preheat oven to 180C. Brush six muffin pans with melted butter to grease. Boil dates, ginger and water in a small saucepan for 1 minute to soften dates.

Sift flour and mixed spice, add sugar and mix, form a well in the centre. Add the date mixture, egg, butter and milk, and stir until well combined. Spoon in prepared pans. Bake for 20-25 minutes, check with a skewer inserted into the centres to check if comes out clean. Set aside for 5 minutes to cool slightly.

**Caramel sauce**

Mix together sugar, cream, butter and golden syrup & place over low heat. Stir for about 2 minutes. Increase heat slightly & simmer for a couple of minutes until sauce thickens.

Eat.

**WHITE FRUITY ROCKY ROAD****INGREDIENTS**

- 600g (3 cups) white chocolate, broken into pieces
- 150g (2 1/2 cups) large marshmallows, halved (or use mini marshmallows)
- 75g (1/2 cup) pistachios, plus extra for decorating (macadamia nuts are also an excellent choice)
- 60g (1/2 cup) dried cranberries, plus extra for decorating (dried cherries or mixed berries work well too)
- 45g (1/2 cup) Turkish delight, chopped (optional, for extra chewiness)
- Chopped mint leave lollies

**DIRECTIONS**

Prepare an 8-inch (20cm) square pan by greasing and lining it with baking or parchment paper, ensuring there is an overhang.

Melt the white chocolate in a heatproof bowl in the microwave, stirring at 30-second intervals until smooth. Alternatively, use a double boiler.

In a separate bowl, mix together the marshmallows, pistachios, dried cranberries, and any optional dried fruit or lollies.

Pour the melted chocolate over the dry ingredients and stir until everything is coated.

Transfer the mixture to the prepared pan, spreading it evenly. Decorate the top with extra pistachios and cranberries if desired.

Refrigerate for at least 2 hours to set.

Once set, lift the rocky road out of the pan using the paper and cut it into squares with a warm, sharp knife.

Store the rocky road in an airtight container in the refrigerator for up to two weeks

Dexter Beef sides & partial sides available.

Ring or text 0429436202

wagradexters@gmail.com

Call David for mowing, garden maintenance, hedge trimming 04370 81644

Delegate Rural Transaction centre have a fantastic

range of great quality local  
crafts available for sale.

Please contact for xmas pe-  
riod opening hours

PH 6458 8388  
Fax 64588 374  
E-mail  
dpaoffice@bigpond.com

Place an Ad in this spot  
Free for community Ads      Fees for businesses pg 13

Looking for interested people to join the  
friendly group making up the  
Bendoc Progress Association..

The BPA auspices Bendoc Neighbourhood  
House.& holds meetings around 4-5 times a  
year. Drop in or contact us at BNH

I'm pleased to share that I am relocating my offices and will be establishing new partnerships in the ACT, Cooma, and Bega regions, while continuing to service the broader East Gippsland area. Although I will no longer be based in Bendoc, I remain very happy to accept new clients from the local community, including Bendoc, Delegate, and Bombala. I am fully committed to completing all existing matters for my current local clients—many of whom I have been privileged to assist at deeply discounted rates or on a pro bono basis. I have always aimed to provide the same level of professionalism, personal care, and genuine investment that larger firms often cannot offer, particularly in sensitive cases involving family safety and exploitation. Throughout my career, I have been dedicated to holding powerful people and organisations to account—not for personal gain, but because justice matters. As I prepare to complete my work here, I wish the Bendoc community continued prosperity and all the strength that comes from the merit, mateship, and independence that define rural Australia. I wish everyone a very merry Christmas and a peaceful moment to reflect on the true meaning of the season, as well as on what we have gained and what we hold dear.

STEVEN BAILEY

**W**  
**F**

Founding Director | WEST FIGHT

0400 911 548

REBEL ADVOCATE

legal services | government/legal communications | report writing |  
appeal decisions | banking disputes | grant writing | campaign  
management | political ops & advice | workplace issues | VCAT

For... You! individuals | small business | community orgs | political  
parties | rural orgs | schools | churches | any underdog

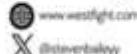
Inquiries...



steven@westfight.com



0400419404



www.westfight.com



facebook.com/WestFightStevenBailey

Western Values, anti-woke | character, not identity | community, not outsourced

# WHERE THE FLICK IS BENDOC



## BENDOC HOTEL

Est 1908

"Little Bush Pub in the  
middle of nowhere"

10-12 DOWLING STREET, BENDOC, VICTORIA, 3888 • PH: 02 6458 1453 • EMAIL: BENDOCHOTEL@GMAIL.COM

WEDNESDAY - DINNER (6PM - 8PM)

Specials Night

THURSDAY - DINNER (6PM - 8PM)

Meat Raffles

FRIDAY - DINNER (6PM - 8PM)

Put 9 Pairs - \$30

SATURDAY - LUNCH (12PM - 2PM)

- DINNER (6PM - 8PM)

Happy Hours - 4:30pm to 5:30pm

Joker Draw - Drawn at 7:30pm

Multiple Raffles - Local Vouchers

HOURS Mon - Thu (12pm to Late)

Fri - Sat (12pm to Late)

Sundays CLOSED

## Bushbubs Wildlife Shelter

Looking after sick and/or injured Australian Wildlife

Lyn Button

Gap Rd  
Bendoc Vic 3888  
0488719233

Bushbubs01@gmail.com



Office space for hire at Bendoc Neighbourhood House.  
Free for Community Services, Suitable for study, admin work,  
medical & welfare services



## ROBINSON'S WINDOWS AND CHIMNEYS

Professional Window Cleaning and Chimney sweeping

Get the job done right with Robinson's  
Windows and Chimneys. We offer fast, friendly  
services for all your window and chimney  
cleaning needs.

Get a free quote for a fast friendly service

Windows include:

Cobweb removal

Interior and exterior wash

Cleaning of flyscreens

Mobile pressure washing available

Chimneys include:

Cleaning flue

Cleaning glass door,

Checking cowl and flue damage

Remove blockages and creosote

Repairs and spare parts

Call Dave: 0497 911 548

Locally owned and operated servicing the  
Bombala Region

## Funnies

My partner asked me where I hid the photos. I said "In the clouds". She replied "Don't be silly, it's clear today, where did you really hide them?"

The perfect password - "incorrect". Every time you forget, the computer will tell you what it is.

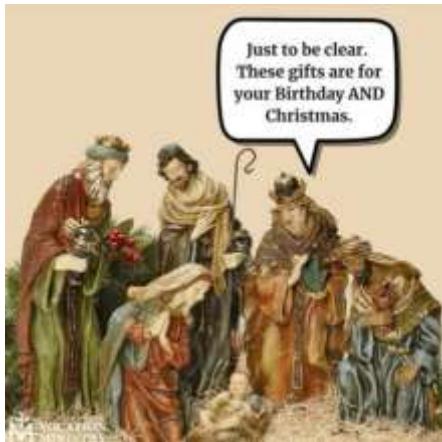


A city fella stops & asks the farmer "if I take a short cut across your paddock will I make the 4.30 train?" the farmer replied, "You'll make it at 3.30 if my bull sees you"

An old farmer was asked "Why are you always talking to yourself?" He said "Because I like to hear a smart man talk & I like to know the person I'm talking to is listening".

A business man stopped a farmer & said "Why has that pig got a wooden leg?" "That pig is special" he said "He pulled me out of a burning tractor & dragged the hose over to me". "That's amazing" said the other guy, "but why the wooden leg?" "Well, a pig that special you don't eat him all at once!"

How to tell an optimist—When there's only 2 inches of dust at the bottom of the rain water tank & they still check the rain gauge.



**BNH invites suggestions, input, points of interest, photos, news & community notices. Contributions are free**

**bendocpa@bigpond.com Ph 0264581531  
18 Dowling St Bendoc PO Box 50 Bendoc 3888  
Website – [bendoc.org.au](http://bendoc.org.au)**

THE WHEEL IS DISTRIBUTED MID MONTHLY THE FINAL DATE FOR ARTICLES IS AROUND THE 15<sup>TH</sup>

**If you would like the 'Wheel' emailed or are local & don't receive it in the post, please let us know & we'll update your details.**

Contributions are readers own input, BNH does not necessarily share all opinions published.

PRICES for Ads are for business ads community notices free

Small spot AD \$5.00	1 issue	6 issues	11 issues
1/4 Page	\$17.50	\$87.50	\$157.50
1/2 Page	\$35.00	\$175.00	\$315.00
Full Page	\$70.00	\$350.00	\$630.00

B & W photocopies free up to 20 A4 copies.. 20c a copy thereafter..  
Colour A4 50c copy  
B&W A3 50c a copy. Colour A3 \$1.00 copy.  
Laminating \$2.50 A4 \$5.00 A3

## Community Notices

**WANTED -**  
More jolly people to join the friendly mob volunteering to keep our services going

**Bendoc Hall Committee** ph Jim 0403196528

**Bendoc Progress Association** ph Lyn 0488719233

Does your septic needs emptying or attending to? Please let us know at BNH ~ if we can gather a few households needing the service we may keep the cost down for all

**DROP OFF YOUR** dead household batteries and MOBILE PHONES at BNH. We cannot take large batteries e.g. Car batteries

If you have any spare vegetable or flower seeds from your own garden & you'd like to add to a collection for sharing or as a small BNH fundraiser — call in.

10c return plastic, cans & glass bottles can be dropped off in our recycling bin outside BNH. These items are collected voluntarily & funds are donated back to Bendoc Neighbourhood House

**IMPORTANT CONTACTS**

Emergency	000
Bendoc Police	0264581523
Delegate Police	0264503360
Bombala Police	0264583444

Report road issues Regional Roads Vic 133778

Bendoc/Tubbut/Goongerah

Wellness Nurse	0456167011
Health Direct	1800 02 2222
Delegate MPS	0264598000
Bombala MPS	0264585777
Orbost Regional Health	0351546777
Bombala Medical Practice	0264583022
Register your burn off	1800668511
Monaro Family support	026458 4888
Delegate Pre School:	026458 8196
Delegate Public school:	026458 8183

Tubbut Neighbourhood House—0482855670

Bendoc Neighbourhood House—0264581531

Wellbeing Local	<b>1300 000 352</b>
MensLine Australia	<b>1300 789 978</b>
Kids Help Line	<b>1800 55 1800</b>
Beyond blue	<b>1300 224 636</b>
Domestic/family violence	<b>1800RESPECT 1800 737 732</b>

S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
<b>21</b>	22 NSW & Vic. School Holidays begin	23 BNH 9-2	24 <b>CLOSED</b>	<b>25</b> <b>XMAS DAY XMAS AT BENDOC HALL</b>	26 <b>BOXING DAY</b> <b>CLOSED</b>	27
<b>28</b>	29 <b>CFA MEETING 7.00</b>	30 <b>CLOSED</b>	31 <b>NEW YEARS EVE</b> BNH CLOSED New Years Party Bendoc Hotel	<b>1ST JAN 2026</b> <b>NEW YEARS DAY</b>	2 BNH <b>OPEN FOR 2026</b> 9-2	3 GREEN SHED OPEN 9-12
<b>4</b>	5	6 BNH 9-2 <b>NURSE GOONGERAH</b> GREEN SHED 9-12	7 BNH 9-2 Craft Morning  <b>NURSE TUBBUT</b>	8 <b>NURSE BENDOC</b> GREEN SHED 9-12	9 BNH 9-2	10 GREEN SHED 9-12
<b>11</b>	12	13 BNH 9-2 GREEN SHED 9-12	14 BNH 9-2 Craft Morning	15 GREEN SHED 9-12	16 BNH 9-2	17 GREEN SHED 9-12
<b>18</b>	19	20 BNH 9-2 <b>NURSE GOONGERAH</b> GREEN SHED 9-12	21 BNH 9-2 Craft Morning  <b>NURSE TUBBUT</b>	22 <b>NURSE BENDOC</b> GREEN SHED 9-12	23 BNH 9-2	24 GREEN SHED 9-12
<b>25</b>	26 <b>AUST DAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY</b>	27 BNH 9-2 GREEN SHED 9-12	28 BNH 9-2 Craft Morning  <b>SCHOOL STARTS VIC.</b>	29 GREEN SHED 9-12	30 BNH 9-2	31 GREEN SHED 9-12  <b>FISHING COMP WEIGH IN</b>
<b>1 FEB</b>	2 <b>SCHOOL STARTS NSW</b>	3 BNH 9-2 <b>NURSE GOONGERAH</b> GREEN SHED 9-12	4 BNH 9-2 Craft Morning  <b>NURSE TUBBUT</b>	5 <b>NURSE BENDOC</b> GREEN SHED 9-12	6 BNH 9-2	7 GREEN SHED 9-12
<b>8</b>	9	10 BNH 9-2 GREEN SHED 9-12	11 BNH 9-2 Craft Morning	12 GREEN SHED 9-12	13 BNH 9-2	14 GREEN SHED 9-12