

# TUBBUT TATTLER

ISSN 2200 - 5243



**November 2020**

**Tubbut Neighbourhood House**

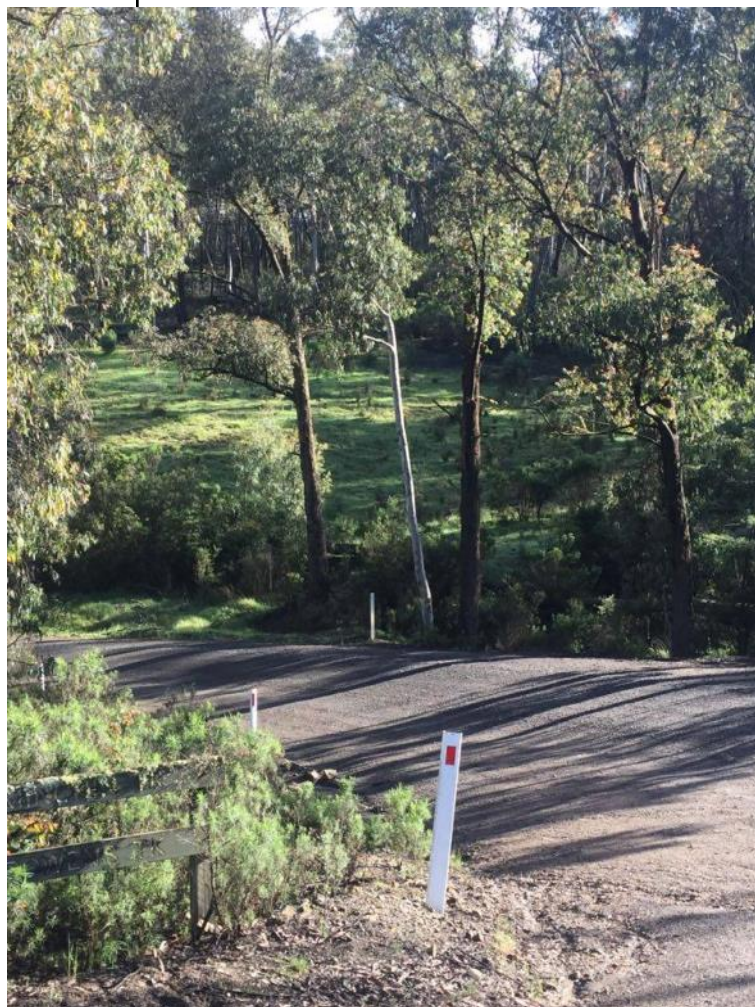
E-mail: [tubbutnh@iinet.net.au](mailto:tubbutnh@iinet.net.au)

Phone: 02 64580295

Open Wednesday, Thursday and Fridays

<http://www.tubbutnh.com> Like us on Facebook

Next deadline: 25th Nov, 2020



Photos taken looking left and right standing in the same spot on McKillops Road at Bonang

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# CLASSIFIEDS

**Available for parties and anything—Tubbut pizza oven (Bonang Hall also has one available for public hire**



## Septic getting full?

Robert Hampshire will pump out your loo. Septic tanks, porta-loos— no problems Truck has capacity to handle 2 tanks/trip Phone: 0417423983  
Please keep your old glass bottles for Robert too as he is a passionate collector.

## Bobcat contractor for hire

Slashing, clearing, small earthworks, levelling, preparation for sheds, carports, water tanks and paving and clean ups  
Ring Steve 0407190258 or email [stephenscroope@bigpond.com](mailto:stephenscroope@bigpond.com)

## Orbost Solar and Electrical

***Happy to come to our area and comes highly recommended by the Tubbut Neighbourhood House***

***Call Ben on 0434038395***



## FOR HIRE

The Tubbut Neighbourhood House has the following for Hire:

Trailer—\$5.00 per day

Wood Splitter—\$10.00 per day

*You can also borrow many of our gadgets:*

Laminator, recording VHS to DVD player, Laptop, tablet, digital photo scanner, convert photos, slides or negatives to digital, record records to USB

**Tattler Contributions:** We welcome your articles, news, reports on local groups, photos from local events, milestones, interesting stories, poems, biographies, births, deaths, historical items, and more. *We also welcome any letters to the editors,*

The Tubbut Tattler is produced by the Coordinators of the Tubbut Neighbourhood House which is funded by the Victorian Government. Material herein is the responsibility of the authors and does not represent the views of the DVICG or Tubbut Neighbourhood House unless stated. We welcome material from, and of interest to, people in the border areas of East Gippsland and NSW.

## WANTED

Old crockery of any colour except white, can have patterns, can be broken.

Please contact Sue Collins 64580287 or the NH, or leave at the Bonang Hall.

These will be used to Mosaic the Pizza Oven at Bonang.

## Delegate Multi Purpose Service Craigie St, Delegate

### Wellness Clinic

Monday 9am –10am

Every week except public holidays.

No appointment necessary.

A clinic where well people come for health monitoring and a variety of nursing procedures such as :

Wound care

Blood pressure readings

Blood sugar readings

Non-urgent and pre-operative Electrocardiograms

Health Assessments

Suture or clip removal

Injections with Doctors written orders

Other procedures that do not require a Doctor

### Pathology clinic (conducted by Pathology West)

Wednesday 9.30am—10.30am

No appointment necessary.

Every week except public holidays.

### Women's Health Clinic

4th Thursday of the month at Delegate MPS

Phone 1800 999 880 for an appointment

**RedSpa Sanctuary**

**Remedial Massage  
Shiatsu  
Bowen therapy**

Over 20 years Experience.  
Home visits available  
By Appointment

**0422 130 569**

**Available for cleaning (only)**  
**Contact Natasha 64588162 or 0408477774**



# Tubbut Neighbourhood House

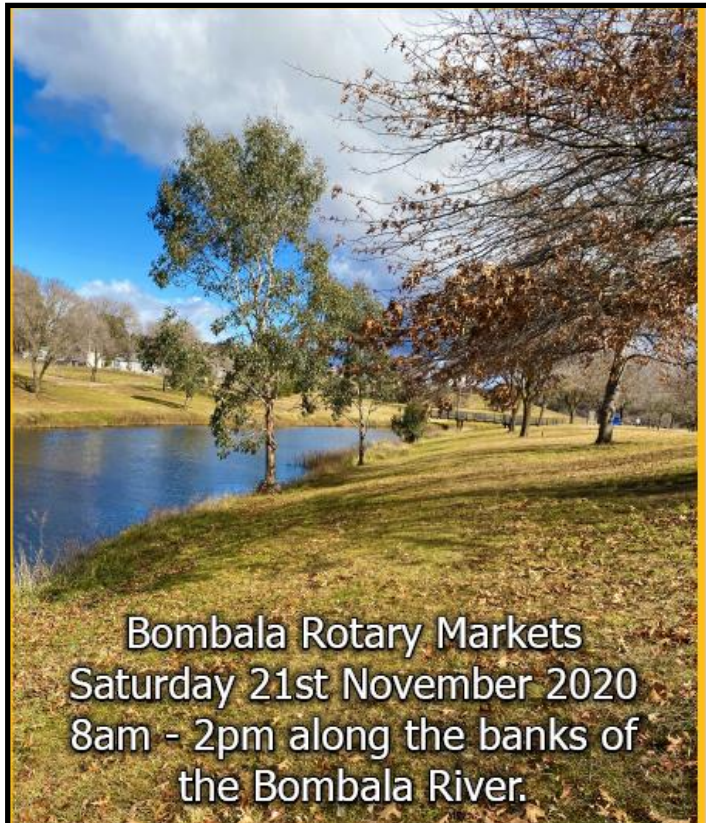
Hello community although we are very limited on what we can do at the House due to the current regulations we are starting to get a few things going again. Our Community Lunch will be happening again on the 5th of November at Tubbut we will of course be following our Covid safe plan. Please come along for a catch up we would love to see you.

Our Bonang Days have been going well and we look forward to when we can run some workshops for you again, speaking of that we are looking at running a build your own veggie box workshop stay tuned for more info.

Also for those passing the Bonang Hall on the days we are operating you may have noticed the lovely new Neighbourhood House banner flying out the front this we hope will draw a few more people in to visit us.

Please, if you have any ideas on what you may like to see us run, give Lisa and Sue a call and we will be more than happy to try to get it happening.

Hot of the press : with the changes to Melbourne's situation we have our fingers crossed that we are all finally coming out the other side of this, just need the borders to open and all will be good.



**Bombala Rotary Markets**  
**Saturday 21st November 2020**  
**8am - 2pm along the banks of**  
**the Bombala River.**



For more information or to  
secure your site, please contact:  
Geraldine Dyer 0448 351 962  
Tanya Ingram 0401 301 813  
or email: [mgdyer@bigpond.net.au](mailto:mgdyer@bigpond.net.au)



## GOONGERAH LANDCARE WORK BEE FUN ADVENTURES REMOVING INKWEED!

10am @ the Goongerah Campground  
Saturday 7th November 2020



The main focus will be removing Ink weed and Honeysuckle from along the Brodribb and nearby areas. Help us locate any willows, elderberry or other invasive weeds. This will be a great opportunity to get out in the bush with like-minded folk and see how our native plants are recovering after the bushfire. Bring a camera for all the orchids and crazy spring blossoms! We will meet at 10am on Saturday 7th November @ the campground. Gourmet lunch will be provided. Please, if you do have any secateurs, digging tools and protective gear bring it along. We will be in long grass and near the river so gaiters and gumboots are the fashion of the day.



EAST GIPPSLAND  
CATCHMENT  
MANAGEMENT  
AUTHORITY



## THE PROSTATE EXAM



One for the gentlemen!

Please remember to get a prostrate check.



SUN, 29 NOV AT 10:30 UTC+11

**AGM in Delegate at the Memorial Park, opposite Pub**  
Delegate, NSW



# Goongerah Grapevine

*Everything that will be happening will be in respect of the covid laws in place at that present time.*

Jarrold and Shelly have begun their new roles working with Errinundra to Snowy communities (DVICG) as Community Outreach Assistant and Recreational Assistant respectively. They had a positive day with the TNH and Birgit (Local Bush nurse) at the Bonang Hall. Various options were discussed in relation to opportunities available for the various communities to access grant funding and build community resilience. The Bonang hall pizza oven was also fired up and a lunch meal shared.

## **27th of October:**

Small business Victoria (SBV) local representative, Michael Anderson, came up to Goongerah to offer assistance and make contact for small business in Goongerah and districts. He can offer financial counselling and support together with Rural Financial Counselling Service Gippsland and has also come connected to a Commonwealth Government entrepreneurs program.

The diversity of ideas for out here in East Gippsland as small businesses was interesting to see. If you are interested please get in contact with either Jarrold or Shelly or directly with Michael Anderson on 0404126602

[michael.x.anderson@ecodev.vic.gov.au](mailto:michael.x.anderson@ecodev.vic.gov.au)

**19<sup>th</sup> November:** Goongerah Community Meeting and Re-opening of the Goongerah Community Hub 1pm-3pm.

A community meeting will be held for all Goongerah residents to attend and re connect now that Covid restrictions are being eased.

There are various grants available for individuals and community organisations and there are opportunities to develop our community and create resilience. If you have ideas or suggestions in this space please feel free to talk to Shelly or Jarrold about finding the right support and/or opportunities.

Please come along and share a big lunch that is being catered for by the Hope Seed gang.

Once a month on a Thursday the Community hub will be opening again with a different event being planned each month.

Again this will also be a great opportunity to drop in and share any ideas you would like to see happen with the community space.



## **Goongerah Community Hall**

Notice is given of a

### **Public meeting**

To be held at the Goongerah Community Hall on the 28/11/2020 commencing at 6 pm

The purpose of the meeting is to nominate no less than three (3) or more than nine (9) persons as the Committee of Management for the Goongerah Community Hall for the term of three years. The current committee's term will expire in September 2020. Due to covid

All positions will be declared open and nominees will be accepted prior to or on the night. Nominations from women, Aboriginal people, people with disabilities, young people and people from culturally diverse backgrounds are encouraged.

Further information, nomination forms and nominee declaration forms may be obtained by contacting your local Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning Office or at the meeting. For further enquiries please contact the secretary, Lorelee Cockerill on 0427850457



# Goongerah Good Foods

## PRODUCE

### FLOUR

Besan	\$5.30
Plain flour	\$3.47
Polenta	\$4.60
Self raising flour	\$3.77

### NUTS & SEEDS

Almonds	\$38.13
Black chai seeds	\$16.15
Black sesame seeds	\$14.77
Brazil nuts	\$55.90
linseed	\$11.05
Pepitas	\$10.18
Poppy seeds	\$8.81
Sunflower kernels	\$6.24
Tri quinoa	\$9.51
white sesame	\$8.89

### RICE & GRAINS

Barley	\$3.80
Basmati rice	\$4.48
Brown rice	\$6.28
Buckwheat	\$5.80
Couscous	\$5.09
Quick oats	\$4.94
Rolled oats	\$6.70
Rye	\$4.62

### BEANS & PEAS

Chana Dal	\$6.28
French lentils	\$8.31
Green split pea	\$4.80
Mung beans	\$6.24
Red kidney beans	\$6.59
Red lentils	\$3.25
Soy beans	\$5.04

## PRODUCE

### SPICES

Black peppercorn	\$39.00
Brown mustard seeds	\$26.00
Cinnamon powder	\$42.90
Cinnamon sticks	\$80.60
Cumin powder	\$54.60
Cumin seeds	\$50.60
Indian curry	\$45.50
Onion flakes	\$35.10
Paprika	\$52.00
Turmeric	\$24.70
White peppercorn	\$70.20
Whole cloves	\$70.20

### MISC

Apple cider vinegar	\$5.25
Cacao	\$12.64
Chamomile	\$53.43
Cocoa	\$20.28
Coconut flakes	\$11.96
Cranberries	\$6.00
Dates	\$4.83
Epsom salt	\$2.63
Popping corn	\$5.03
Psyllium husk	\$16.15
Raw sugar	\$2.60
Roasted dandelion	\$51.09
Slendier (gluten free)	\$5.90
Tamari	\$12.13

### Errinundra preserves

Pepperberry sauce	\$5.50
Tomato sauce	\$5.50
Hot chilli sauce	\$5.50
Hot chilli chutney	\$5.50
Quince Paste	\$5.50
Crabapple jelly	\$5.50
Mixed plum jam	\$5.50
Native superfood	\$14.00

# The Local Rag

## 16 EARLY SETTLERS AT BONANG

Many have travelled the winding Bonang Highway. Some fear it others are indifferent, but most of us have been charmed by the green valleys that appear unexpectedly and the dense forests that step right up to the road's edge. The following is an account of Bonang's history written by the children of the Bonang School.

Bonang is situated on the Bonang River. Mount Bowen in the south-east, is about 4,500 feet high. Mount Coolanbablon, to the east is about the same height. Mount Tingaringy reaches 4,500 feet.

YESTERDAY AND TODAY

In the early days there were no roads - only bush tracks for bullock waggons, but now there is a good road from Bonang to Orbost and Delegate. There is also a store, a Post Office, a telephone exchange and a fairly up to date school. Hundreds of wild horses used to roam these hills and also hundreds of wild blacks. The last one of the black tribes died in his camp in Bendoc last year and was buried in the Bendoc cemetery. His name was Tongihi.

### THE MARRIOTS

The first people to settle in Bonang were the Marriott brothers -- James, Robert and William and their wives. They settled somewhere about the year 1850 on the land which now belongs to Mr V.J. Ingram. Before settling in Bonang they lived at Cameramm about four miles from Bonang on the Delegate River. Bob Marriott and his wife came to Bonang about 120 years ago. Mary Anne Marriott used to drive a bullock team for logging and

ploughing. Near her first home was a big gum tree which the blacks used to climb and call out for tobacco and sugar. Miss Mary Anne Marriott planted 45 "Black Heart" cherry trees in Bonang almost 110 years ago. She was only four years old when she came to Bonang. The Marriott family lived to ages ranging from 70 to 101 years.

### THE FIRST BUSINESS MEN

The butcher's shop was started by Bob Johnson. Beef was sold at 4d. lb. and kangaroo at 2d. lb. Mr. Clancy owned the hotel. It has only recently fallen down. A man named Jones owned the store but on all groceries brought from N.S.W. a duty was paid at the border until Federation.

### THE FIRST SCHOOL

The first school was "Honey-suckle Cottage" in the area called "The Range". The teacher was Mr. Armstrong.

### MAIL DELIVERY

The mail was brought from Buchan over the Snowy River every fortnight. It was brought on horse-back until the "Little Bill Road" to Orbost was opened. Messrs. Hugh and Frank Matthews drove the mail coach.

### GOLD MINING

Bob Marriott and his wife came from England in a ship

# The Local Rag—continued

called "Cutty Sark," and when they found gold they decided to stay. The Marriotts were gold digging at Chinaman's Creek. Three men, Tom, Bill and Jim, found the "Rising Sun Mine." A company bought it and took £44,000 in gold from it. The cost of putting in a race and water wheel plus the laying of tramlines was £10,000 so the "New Rising Sun" company made a net profit of £30,000 after paying £4,000 in miners' wages.

School Children of S.S. No. 2808.

H.T., A. Rickard.

The article above appeared in The Gap Magazine 1963 on page 33. It was accompanied with a photo of Mr. W. Marriott and Mrs. W. Marriott which unfortunately we will not be able to reprint. In the same magazine was some interesting statistical information on page 29. It listed the schools in the Bairnsdale Inspectorate and an inventory of the equipment held by each school. I have reproduced the statistics relating to the schools around us, below. Many thanks to Ethel and Tom Burton for lending this copy to us.

	BENDOC 1166	BONANG 2808	GOONGERAH 4545	SARDINE CREEK 4593	TUBBUT 4593	ORBOST 2744-
ENROLMENT	38	22	11	8	7	205
CLASS ROOMS	2	1	1	1	1	7
TEACHERS	2	1	1	1	1	9
CHILDREN CONVEYED	10	1			4	3
ABORIGINAL CHILDREN						
CENTRAL LIBRARY		1	1	1	1	1
GRADE LIBRARY	2					
CONCRETE ASSEMBLY	1	1				
ASPHALT ASSEMBLY						1
GRAVEL ASSEMBLY			1	1		
RADIO	1	1			1	1
P.A. SYSTEM						1
PROJECTOR (SLIDE)		1				1
PROJECTOR (FILM STRIP)						1
RECORD PLAYER	1	1				1
MOTION PICTURES						1
S.R.A. LAB.						
FIRE EXTINGUISHER	1					2
DUPLICATOR (INK)						
DUPLICATOR (SPIRIT)						1
CUISINAIRE SETS	3	1	2	1	1	32
CRICKET PITCH						1
TENNIS COURT		1				
BASKETBALL COURT						1
PARALLEL BARS					1	1
HORIZONTAL BARS	1	1				1
HORIZONTAL LAODER	1	1				1
Vaulting HORSE						1
GRADED BARS				1		1
JUNGLE GYM			1			
GYM COMBINATION		1			1	1
TUMBLING MATS				1		1
HURDLES						1
HAND MOWER	1					
POWER MOWER		1				1



# The Local Rag -continued

Talking with Bonnie (Alan Neven's sister) at Tubbut.

Fiona  
Cameron

I was seven when I first came up to Tubbut. It wasn't when Pa first selected, but when Ma first came up to stay. They had all they owned in an old Chevy truck, belonged to Pa's brother Dave I think. There was also the car, which was a real workhorse. They started off in tents. Then when they moved up the back, they built a bark hut. Up where the big dam is now.

THE  
CHEVY.  
TRUCK →



I can picture that hut.... with the old Dutch stove sitting out on the stones outside the hut. It was one that had the door opening down.... and we slept in the tents; had a bath in a big old tub, that would be taken into the bark hut, and carried out again. You had to boil the water in kerosene tins. We used to get the water from a spring up there, which runs into the big dam now. They dug a well on that spring. Used to haul water from there. That was also where we kept anything cool, we put them in bags down the well. It was clear as clear, that water... beautiful, not mineral at all.

We were up there mainly because the boundary fenceline had to be done, and that was a central place. I don't think we had a horse at that stage, had to walk. Used to cart fence materials to the fence with the old car. When that copper mine was working down Deddick, they used to bring the copper out past there from the mine on a big old dray with horses. (Who was it, Rub and Feltus?) There was no road up from Deddick then, the road only went down as far as Teddy's place. Teddy must have been there then. Later on, I can remember Don Ingram, Ted's brother, building a place up near Mutch's Creek. Mona lived there for years, that's how Ted and Mona got together. Part of that house Don Ingram built is up at Jimmy Cameron's now, part of the existing house.

We camped at Brodribb while Pa cut sleepers. I remember, there was this cyclone came through, jungle growth of bush all round, and all mum could think of was "Get Allan down to the river.."(Allan was only a baby) Didn't matter whether the trees fell on me getting him there!



# The Local Rag- continued

I also remember a six-foot goanna was up one of the kitchen poles while we were having dinner.... then later, a six-foot snake. And the lyrebirds...they were in droves there at Brodribb. You'd wake up in the morning thinking the blokes had started cutting up sleepers! But it was the lyrebirds.

CAMP  
@

CABANANDRA →



We had a camp at one stage at Cabanandra, near the Jingallalla river. We used to ride over to Lydie's (otherwise known as Min) in 1930. Before Frank and Min, I think there was a Marriot, and there was Cecil Ingram. (Refer photo of camp at Cabanandra.) *see above!*

When the road camp came through (depression employment gang, Ed.) we were still living up the back. But we grew vegetables down on the flat near the school (Tubbut school didn't exist then).

Some time later, Ma and Pa were camped down at the Amboyne when the road crew was working there. Ma used to make plum jam and bottle it in beer bottles with the tops cut off, two shillings a bottle, and make bread. I think she also had a couple of men come and had cooked meals there. She also made tomato pickles to sell.

Q. Did you ever eat any wild plants, like rosehips, or make jam with them? Or any other plants?

A. No I don't remember that at home. But I remember Lydie used to cook up nettles, stinging nettles and chickweed, when she had no greens. Carrot pie she also made.

Q. Eat any wild game? Kangaroo?

A. Kangaroo tail soup we used to have. That was all though. People didn't eat kangaroo steak often then. Of course we ate rabbits and more rabbits. An occasional hare was caught at Delegate River. And there used to be odd quail here which we ate.

I had a healthy childhood on the whole. Only time I was sick was when I was really sick. John Hickford and I were the only two kids in the whole of Tubbut at that time. We both went to Orbest hospital at the same time, on the same day. Mum got John's mother to call in on her way to take John to Orbest hospital, he had gastroenteritis. She took one look at me, and said: "For God's sake get her to hospital." I had an appendix on the verge of bursting. Mum had thought it was just gastric trouble. We went down in that old car in the photo.

# The Local Rag- continued

From local rag issue  
46 January 1983.

That old car went everywhere. I remember being stuck out near Delegate River once in that car all night. Went backwards and forwards slipping, but couldn't see enough to get out. It was near Miles' (Janet's grandmother) on the corner, so mum walked down there and got a lantern to hang on the car in case somebody ran into it. In the morning, mind you, we got out in a few minutes.



At one stage when there was a drought and the Depression, all there was, was rabbits and rabbiters. Everyone used to rabbit, it kept you going. Ruby and Arthur Fennell used to come down and rabbit. There was a freezer truck came along regularly, and some of the time you could sell the skins for a good price. It was then that Pa was so ill; for eight months he was in bed, slept nearly all the time. They didn't know what sort of sickness it was then. He went to a Delegate doctor. Mum grew potatoes up there on the hill. We'd go up and help dig them, the horse would bring them back in the sledge bag at a time. That helped us survive. We had a cow too. We also used to grow oaten hay up there, and cart it loose. Frank Matthews and Lydie lived over where Alf is now then, and Frank helped me cart it in because Pa was sick. I remember I used to build a stack till I couldn't get up on it, till I slid off it, then fork it up to him, and he would fork it up the rest of the way. I felt it was a lot wetter then, on the whole, the growing season was longer. I remember carting the hay in on New Year's day. . We didn't water the potatoes, and they were beautiful. Five shillings a bag then of course. We used to cut them up for the sheep and also for the cow.



# News from the Departments



**FIRE SAFETY**  
OUTREACH PROGRAM  
GIPPSLAND COMMUNITIES

**It's difficult to get us all together right now so the Fire Safety Outreach Program is coming to you! If you want to be Fire Safe all year-round check this out.**

The Fire Safety Outreach program is a free service for community members and professionals to access information and fire safety education from trained CFA community education officers.

Our community education officers will get in touch at a time that suits, via whatever communication method works for you.

**Find out about:**

- Bushfire planning for your household
- Property preparation for bushfire
- Understanding the fire danger ratings
- Where to gain trusted information during emergencies
- Fire restrictions, what you can and cannot do
- Home fire safety information
- Support education sessions for your community groups and clubs



To register your interest for the program please contact  
E: [firesafetyoutreach@cfa.vic.gov.au](mailto:firesafetyoutreach@cfa.vic.gov.au) or M: 0419 874 484 (BH)  
We will then make contact with you and refer you to one of our  
CFA Community Education Officers

For further fire safety information head to: [www.cfa.vic.gov.au/plan-prepare](http://www.cfa.vic.gov.au/plan-prepare)

## Zoom with us!

Easy steps to join Zoom  
video meetings



Stay in touch with friends and family around  
Australia with your phone, computer or tablet

### Step 1. Download Zoom

Zoom is available on your computer, smart phone or tablet. It is free to download and easy to set up.



#### How to set up on your computer

Go to <https://zoom.us/> to download the program or click on the 'Join zoom meeting' link in your email invitation.



#### How to set up on your iPhone or iPad

Go to your Apple App Store -> search 'Zoom cloud meetings' -> Click 'Get'

#### How to set up on your Android phone or tablet

Go to your Google Play App Store -> Search 'Zoom cloud meetings' -> Click 'Install'

### Step 2. Join the Zoom meeting

After you install Zoom, to join a meeting you can do any of the following...



#### Click the link in your invitation email

If you get an email invitation, click the 'Join Zoom meeting' link. A new tab will open and Zoom will appear.

#### Go to Zoom website

- Go to <https://zoom.us/join> and enter the 9 digit meeting ID from the email invitation you received. If the meeting requires a password, you can find this in the email invite.
- Click 'open Zoom'
- When your Zoom window opens click either 'Join with video' or 'Join without video'
- If you use video other people in the meeting can see you, if not they will only see your name
- Click 'Join with computer audio' to allow others to hear you. You can mute yourself if you just want to listen and not be heard

#### Dial into the meeting on your phone

You can use your phone to dial into a meeting if you don't have access to a computer or smart phone. The number to call to join will be in your Zoom email invite or request the dial in number, meeting ID and password from the meeting hosts.



## Preparations step up for bushfire season in Gippsland

Forest Fire Management Victoria (FFMVIC) is continuing work to prepare Gippsland for the upcoming bushfire season, building on fuel management works conducted throughout the year to reduce bushfire risk for communities and the environment.

FFMVIC has recruited additional seasonal firefighters, with more than 250 fixed-term and permanent firefighters to be in place across the region from mid-November.

Gippsland's acting Deputy Chief Fire Officer, Kelly Rash said: "Teams of emergency specialists will be on standby for Incident Control Centres across the region from as early as November, ensuring FFMVIC and partner agencies are ready to respond to emergencies 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

"Testing and servicing of our fleet of specialised firefighting vehicles is also underway, and we will have 10 aircraft based at the Latrobe Valley, Benambra, Heyfield and Balmssdale in summer.

"In the coming weeks fire lookout observers will be stationed in Gippsland's 18 fire towers," Ms Rash said.

"This preparation builds on FFMVIC's fuel management works throughout the year, including planned burning, slashing and mulching to reduce the speed and intensity of potential bushfires in Gippsland.

"Since mid-last year, planned burning by FFMVIC in Gippsland has covered 2,377 hectares, with crews taking every opportunity to conduct burns when conditions allow and it is safe to do so.

"This has included planned burning to reduce bushfire risk around townships, with the highest-priority burns conducted near Nowa Nowa, Buchan, Briagolong, Coongulla, Hill End and Noojee.

"In the same period, mechanical works covered more than 1,900 hectares, with crews using heavy machinery to mulch flammable vegetation to reduce fuel near Loch Sport, Port Albert and Lakes Entrance townships.

"We are well-resourced and well-prepared for bushfire season and are continuing to build on our year-round program of works to reduce bushfire risk for communities and the environment."

"Fire preparedness is a shared responsibility – and that's why we're also working with the CFA and communities to help residents understand the actions they can take to reduce their own bushfire risk."

All FFMVIC crews are adhering to appropriate public health and hygiene guidelines to ensure operations can safely continue across the state.

## CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) EXTREME HARDSHIP SUPPORT PROGRAM



Emergency financial assistance for people living in Victoria

### Who is this program for?

Applicants must meet all of the following:



live in Victoria



be unable to access Commonwealth income support (including JobKeeper and JobSeeker) OR the International Student Emergency Relief Fund



have zero or very limited income, savings or community support



be a temporary or provisional visa holder, or undocumented migrant

### What support is being provided?

Limited cash payments to cover basic needs, such as food, bills and medicine. A single person may receive \$800. Families may receive more.

Red Cross can also provide information about other supports available to people living in Victoria on temporary visas.

**For more information and to apply go to  
[redcross.org.au/vicrelief](http://redcross.org.au/vicrelief)**

If you have questions you can call us on 1800 855 240, including with an interpreter.

Forest Fire Management Victoria consists of specialist staff drawn from the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning, Parks Victoria, Melbourne Water and VicForests. These staff work alongside CFA, other emergency services and communities across Victoria to protect people, property and the environment.



# News from the Departments

## Progress of the Inquiry into the 2019-20 Victorian fire season

The Victorian Government has responded to my first report into the 2019-20 Victorian Fire Season, accepting all 17 recommendations. As the Inquiry is being run over two phases, this report represents my Office's work under Phase 1 focusing on sector and community preparedness and response to the 2019-20 fires.

The **Inquiry into the 2019-20 Victorian Fire Season: Phase 1 Report** also represents the contribution of many Victorians who shared their views and experiences by joining a community meeting, writing a submission or completing our survey. These contributions have helped inform the 66 observations, 36 findings and 17 recommendations made in identifying good practice and opportunities for continuous improvement.

Included in its response, the government has also released Igem's **Review of 10 years of emergency management reform**, accepting all five recommendations. This review should be read in conjunction with the Phase 1 Fire Season Inquiry Report as its recommendations are relevant to the findings of the Inquiry and are referenced throughout the report.

You can read the reports and the government's response from our website [www.igem.vic.gov.au](http://www.igem.vic.gov.au).

The Inquiry provides yet another opportunity to understand where and how communities and government can further improve overall readiness, capability and capacity to reduce the risk of major bushfires. However, there are limitations on what can be achieved simply by conducting an Inquiry.

Opinions and ideas for possible improvement are never in short supply. Tailored, realistic strategies and action plans embraced by communities are harder to find. Just as preparing for, and responding to emergencies is a shared responsibility, so too the opportunity to improve must be shared between individuals, organisations, government and communities.

In completing this first phase of the Inquiry, I am hopeful that this report will trigger outcome-focused discussion, improved policy making, providing a catalyst for the consideration of a less complicated and more effective hazard reduction regulatory regime.

Most importantly, it is my hope that this Inquiry will influence change that results in better community engagement, closer cooperation within and across jurisdictional boundaries, well informed decision-making and ultimately, better outcomes for all Victorians.

### Inquiry Phase 2 - Relief and Recovery

Phase 2 is underway and is considering the progress and effectiveness of Victoria's immediate relief and recovery arrangements with the final report to be delivered by 30 June 2021.

Over coming months, we'll be offering a range of ways to participate and provide feedback. These will be promoted through local outlets and social media. At the moment you can share your views through:

completing the online submission or online survey

- picking up a printed survey from a local community recovery hub or calling 0409 249 054 to have a survey sent to you
- requesting a telephone survey by calling 0409 249 054
- email to [igem@igem.vic.gov.au](mailto:igem@igem.vic.gov.au)
- mail to Inspector-General for Emergency Management, GPO Box 4356, Melbourne VIC 3000.

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the Inquiry for your willingness to provide your experiences, and I look forward to staying in touch over the coming months as we focus on Phase 2 – relief and recovery.

**Tony Pearce**

## Airlift Operation To Bring Forest Back To Life After Bushfire

The Victorian Government is undertaking the largest forest restoration effort in the state's history with a \$7.7 million operation that airlifted tonnes of eucalypt seeds into areas of forest devastated by last summer's fires.

Funding from Bushfire Recovery Victoria's \$110 million *State Recovery Plan* is helping recover thousands of hectares of burnt Mountain and Alpine Ash forest and enabling seed to be collected from healthy bushland to ensure the re-seeding work can be ongoing.

Between May and July more than 4.5 tonnes of eucalypt seed, 3 tonnes of which came from VicForests' contingency reserves, was spread by helicopter across nearly 11,500 hectares of fire ravaged country, an area the equivalent of about 5,650 MCGs.

Thousands of the seeds are currently growing into stunning giants of the Australian bush, including the iconic Mountain Ash – the tallest flowering plant in the world – and, Alpine Ash which also reaches a significant size.

The re-seeding focuses on areas of nationally distinctive forests in Gippsland and North East Victoria that also suffered the impacts of fire in 2003, 2007 and 2014, and were severely burned again in the 2019/20 season.

The 2019/20 summer fires severely impacted Alpine Ash forests in both State forests and national parks, creating concern that without action some plant species could be compromised. The BRV funding will also support research to better understand the impact of high severity bushfires to guide future forest restoration efforts.

The project is being delivered by the Department of Environment Land Water and Planning in partnership with VicForests, Parks Victoria, and contractors from regional Victoria.

More than 56 people have been working on the reforestation project. All activity has complied with DHHS requirements to prioritise the safety of the Victorian community as well as staff.

### Quotes attributed to Minister for Energy, the Environment and Climate Change Lily D'Ambrosio

*"This airlift operation has seen helicopters drop tonnes of eucalypt seeds across areas devastated by the latest fires. It is the largest forest restoration operation in Victoria's history."*

*"These seeds, which are unfurling on our forest floors right now, will create giants of the bush that will outlive us all, and develop ecosystems to protect Victoria's unique animals and plant life."*

### Quotes attributable to Minister for Agriculture Jaclyn Symes

*"This reseeded project is a fantastic partnership – it makes the most of VicForests' skills and knowledge of the forests to support the regeneration of bushfire-impacted areas."*

*"Through this project, the Government is ensuring the survival of these forests for future generations and helping the ongoing effort to recover from last summer's fires."*



# News from the Departments

## BENDOC POLICE NEWS



Hi All,  
Welcome to the October edition of Police News for Bendoc and surrounding areas.  
Great to see some of the restrictions being lifted for us regional folk think we will be wearing masks for a little longer though...  
Well our renos at the station residence are almost completed and looking great. The accommodation will enable police to stay in Bendoc overnight.  
We are very excited to be offering the Bendoc community a greater police presence over the coming months and are hoping once Covid restrictions are lifted, we can hold a community meeting for residents and police to catch up and discuss local issues/concerns.  
The old house directly next door will be demolished in the coming months to pave way for more parking for police and emergency services vehicles visiting the area.

### Current Events:

Local police conducted 2 operations in October targeting illegal deer hunting in the Bendoc/Bonang areas. Police spoke with several campers all from Victoria and were happy that no offences were detected on either occasion. Police did not locate any illegal hunters but will continue to conduct random operations through out the coming months.  
Thank you to those community members who keep us informed of the illegal hunting in the area. This assists us with our intel for upcoming operations.

Police continue to visit Bendoc on a weekly basis and encourage community to contact the member at the station or call Police if they require assistance.

### **Report incidents or contact police in the following ways.**

**000 for immediate police attendance or urgent matters**

**Police Assistance Line on 131 444 for any non-urgent matters, to report a crime or leave a message for a police member to contact you**

**Online Reporting [www.onlinereporting.police.vic.gov.au](http://www.onlinereporting.police.vic.gov.au)**

**Crime Stoppers 1800 333 000**

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## Rare tadpoles reveal a bright future for a vulnerable Gippsland frog

Almost 330 Giant Burrowing Frog tadpoles were found in ponds by Conservation Regulator contractors in the remote Maramingo area near Genoa as part of the Forest Protection Survey Program. Adult frogs were also recently seen and heard in forest areas near Nowa Nowa.

There were concerns the frogs, which are only found in Gippsland and parts of New South Wales, were wiped out after most of their habitat was destroyed during the summer bushfires.

Special protection zones have been created where the tadpoles and frogs were found to protect the immediate habitat needs of the species from timber harvesting.

The Giant Burrowing Frog is one of six frog species protected under the Code of Practice for Timber Production.

The frog surveys use a range of techniques including hi tech remote audio recorders to detect frog calls. Tadpole searches of waterways and pools as well as night-time spotlighting are used to try to detect the frogs.

These surveys are conducted by highly qualified and experienced ecologists, that are engaged by the forest protection survey program.

The Forest Protection Survey Program aims to protect animals and plants that are either threatened or of high conservation value in areas of State forests that are scheduled to be harvested. More information can be found online:



<https://www.forestsandreserves.vic.gov.au/forest-management/forest-protection-survey-program>.

# In the Garden

## I want to start my vegie patch after the fires – how do I do it?

Planting vegie gardens and edibles directly into the soil and ash left behind after a bushfire is not recommended. It's unlikely anything would establish in the ash bed and damaged soil, and the potential for contamination of crops from burnt structures poses issues around human health. So, the answer is – go up! Whether it's a **Wicking Bed**, a **Simple Raised Garden Bed** (or **something totally different**), there are a couple of tips that all gardeners rebuilding there patches should consider when they start:

1. Wherever possible, try to minimise the negative impact of heavy machinery, building activities and construction on the soil, and the sites of future gardens. Dedicating specific 'pathways' for machinery to move along, and ensuring rubble, rubbish, and debris is disposed of in a designated area and not just dumped through the garden will minimise compaction to garden areas. If you have tradespeople onsite (or you're doing it yourself), make sure that paintbrushes, concrete mixers and chemicals are not washed and tipped into garden areas (or future garden areas).
  2. Now comes the planning – find a sunny location for your edibles, and don't worry too much about size at this stage (it can always get bigger later). A patch about 1m to 1.5m wide is ideal, as it allows access to all sides of the patch. Peg or mark out this site.
  3. Remove any large debris from the proposed garden area. Remember, this may be contaminated, so wearing protective gear and a dust mask is recommended.
  4. Remove ash from garden site, again wearing protective gear and appropriate mask. Ash is notoriously difficult to rake out when dry (but much harder to do when it is wet), and can be a bit tricky. With a flat blade shovel, skim the ash off the surface of the soil, as you would strip paint from a wall. When only a small amount of ash remains (a light dusting at best), use a nail rake or similar to "scruff" this into the soil.
- Now it's time to **improve the soil** and get building!

## Soil Contamination Following Fires

If your garden was impacted by fire, consider what was in place and adjacent to the area before – were there built structures containing asbestos, old railway sleepers or treated pine used for garden edging, retaining walls or fencing? If so, there is a chance the soil and ash is contaminated with the chemicals contained in these products. Treated pine, also used by the construction industry, is generally impregnated with a mix of either copper, chromium and arsenic (CCA) or ACQ (ammonia, copper-quaternary), meaning they have termite and rot resistant properties, making them an excellent choice for bush areas. However, it is these very properties that contaminate soils and ash once burnt.

Also consider whether a fire-retardant was used on the property, which, in many areas of Australia is an ammonium phosphate product (Phos- Chek). Fire retardants have been shown to lower soil pH, increase soil salinity, increase soil phosphorus levels and impede successful seed germination, but the majority if these effects will resolve within twelve months.

If you think your soil may be contaminated, consider getting your soil professionally tested, especially if you are wanting to grow edibles, whereas ornamental gardens may be started with low levels of some contaminant. There are loads of places that will do this for you, and getting accurate testing done can give you a really good base to work from in your garden, to work on soil repair and remediation, and get everything growing again – safely!

*Both articles from Gardening Australia*



# Recipes

## Lemon Slice Bars

1 cup condensed milk  
220g butter  
450g Arnott's Nice biscuits (or any other plain sweet biscuit)  
2 cups desiccated coconut  
The rind from 3 lemons  
4 ½ cups icing sugar mixture  
90g butter at room temperature  
The juice of 2 lemons



- 1) Process the biscuits until they reach sand-like consistency. Place in bowl with coconut and lemon rind.
- 2) Over low heat, melt the butter. Once well combined pour over biscuit mix and stir well. This will form the base of your slice.
- 3) Using the tips of your fingers, push biscuit mixture into a baking paper-lined dish (dish to be at least 5cm high) and place in the fridge to set for at least 1 hour
- 4) To make the topping, combine the icing sugar (sifted), butter, and lemon juice in a bowl. You want this to be toothpaste consistency. If too runny, add more icing sugar, if too dry, add more water or lemon juice.
- 5) Spread this over the biscuit base and sprinkle with desiccated coconut. Place back into the fridge to set (at least another hour)

## Super-healthy banana, apricot and date oat bars

### INGREDIENTS

3 large ripe bananas  
3 cups traditional rolled oats  
1/4 cup finely chopped dried dates  
1/4 cup finely chopped dried apricots  
1/4 cup slivered almonds  
1 teaspoon ground cinnamon  
1 1/2 teaspoons vanilla extract



### Step 1

Preheat oven to 180°C/160°C fan-forced. Grease a 16cm x 25.5cm (base) slice pan. Line with baking paper, extending paper 2cm above edges of pan

### Step 2

Mash banana until smooth. Add oats, dates, apricots, almonds, cinnamon and vanilla. Stir until well combined. Spoon into prepared pan. Using the back of a spoon, press evenly into pan. Bake for 30 to 35 minutes or until golden. Cool completely. Cut into small bars. Serve.

# November 2020

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
						1
2	3	4	5 Community Lunch Computers with Sharon	6	7 Goongerah Landcare Working Bee 10:00am at the Campground	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21 Bombala Rotary Market 8am - 2pm	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						