



Gippy AGchat December 12, 2011 – Issue 53

Since 1997, non-profit group Agribusiness Gippsland Inc has helped support regional agribusiness by working in partnership with other organisations.
 This edition of our newsletter is going to 5994 recipients.

Our partners (and we thank them):



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Have you visited our website? <http://agribusinessgippsland.com.au>

- Or blog us at www.aginc.wordpress.com
- Our postal address is PO Box 1312 Warragul 3280.
- Email us at ptarmigan1@internode.on.net or ptarmigan2@internode.on.net
- Phone us 9456 9791 or 0402 267 802

If you enjoy reading GippyAgchat, please mention it to your local councillor, or a board member of the West Gippsland CMA or Southern Rural Water. They're the ones who help fund it ... (And we'd love to find some more) ...

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Yo-ho-ho and fah-lah-lah...

In case you hadn't noticed... it's THAT time of year again. Agribusiness Gippsland and Gippyagchat are going to take a breather until January 23ish (depends how well the fish are biting). Thanks everyone...for everything ... and all good wishes for 2012. Sue and Mad

Gippy2Parly ... getting in touch with the top end of town

We had the honour of hosting 20 young agribusiness professionals for a day-fact-finding visit to Melbourne. The group from Lindenow, Sale, Morwell, Inverloch and Warragul mixed with law-makers and opinion-shapers – including our host, the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly Ken Smith, the Minister for Agriculture and Food Security Peter Walsh and the Deputy Premier Peter Ryan. The bus from Littles was sponsored by NABagribusiness and Paul Ford from the Gardiner Foundation gallantly picked up the bill for the sandwiches at lunch. (Speaking of food – thanks for the scones, jam and cream at Parly House, Ken. Hope you enjoyed the thankyou gift of home-made Gippsland marmalade.)

We learned about the workings of State Parliament, the background to the Department of Primary Industry, the support structures of the VFF, the Gardiner Foundation and VECCI and the role of media in driving public opinion and responses. It was sensational. Visit http://agribusinessgippsland.com.au/doc/AGI_20111204_gippy2parly_report.pdf for details. Thanks also to Dr Ron Prestidge (DPI), Ailsa Gibson (VFF), Matthew Gould (VECCI) and the formidable Peter Hunt from the Weekly Times who earned himself a cheer squad for life. A special and HUGE thankyou to AGI director Courtney Ferguson who drove the 22-seater bus through peak hour traffic there and back and also to Dan Spencer from Community College Gippsland who parked it on the street like a pro. A direct spin-off from the visit was an invitation by Ron Prestidge for young farmers to see ground-breaking research on biodigesting and methane mitigation feed systems. If you're a young(ish) person interested in farming's eco-footprint, attend this free day on February 2. Read about IN2it@Ebank below.

Trafalgar abattoir closure shock for goat meat firm

Closure of the Trafalgar abattoirs has left small livestock farmers such as Tarago Goat's Sandra and Terry McPhee of Neerim with no way of supplying their important Christmas BBQ market. Gathercoles abattoir at Carrum does not have the required goat licence and the McPhees face having to send animals all the way to Kyneton. AGI chair Alex Arbuthnot has been following up their predicament with Ag Minister Peter Walsh.

Gippsland emerges an agribusiness winner - twice

Longwarry Food Park has done it again ... last week named Australia's agribusiness exporter of the year at a ceremony in Brisbane. Congrats Rakesh, Shane and everyone.

... MEANWHILE: Gippsland also emerged as Australia's pre-eminent agribusiness region at the NAB Agribusiness Awards for Excellence 2011, on December 1. Robert Radford, of Radford's abattoir in Warragul, was proclaimed Australia's Agribusiness Leader of the Year – an award he celebrated with his wife and three of his five daughters at Crown Palladium in Melbourne. Radford's was also named winners of the Environment and Energy Management Award, narrowly pipping Macalister Demonstration Farm. MDF's Humphris/Tyndall cheer squad travelled from Maffra for the event. The Innovation in New and Emerging Industries ward went to MBD Energy Ltd, known for its algae farming work in the Latrobe Valley. The awards are run by Monash University in association with NAB Agribusiness and are a highlight on the calendar of Australia's agribusiness, food, fibre and beverage sector. Agribusiness Gippsland chair Alex Arbuthnot was on the judging panel and Agribusiness Gippsland attended, sharing a table with the Australian Young Farmer of the Year, Jan Vysktra, MD of Fresh Leaf Herbs at Clyde – (listed last week as one of Melbourne's 100 most influential people) - and partner William Pham – (who turned up in The Age on Sunday discussing food production in peri-urban south-east Melbourne). Tom Kelly of WIN TV was also there. He shouldn't be confused with Tom Zsolt of the City of Casey – which I managed to do ...I blame the excellent red wine that Tim Grainger put in front of me.

Young farmer-types get IN2IT@EBANK!

An agscience R&D sneakpeak will be held on February 2 at DPI Ellinbank. The IN2IT@EBANK! event, organised by Agribusiness Gippsland on behalf of the DPI, allows young farmers and science/agriculture students to see the latest in agricultural research and development at DPI Ellinbank, near Warragul. The free event will be held from 10am-2pm, February 2 at DPI Ellinbank, Hazeldean Rd and is suitable for Year 10 upwards. Please book.

More? Sue Webster 0402 267 802 or ptarmigan2@internode.on.net or visit <http://agribusinessgippsland.com.au/>

NEED A BREAK? Bunyip Home Farm is a restored 1930s, two-bedroom cottage in a spacious and shady garden on a secluded road and surrounded by pasture. Although very private, it is only minutes from Bunyip township. The main bedroom has a queen-sized bed and the equally spacious second bedroom has twin beds plus there is a day bed in a second living area. A cheerful wood heater keeps the home warm on chilly nights and reverse cycle air conditioning keeps it cool. Situated on a dairy farm, it offers fishing at the Bunyip River and free seasonal fruit from the garden.

www.bunyiphomefarm.com.au, 5629 5587 sue@bunyiphomefarm.com.au



Product swaps on one easy map

Clever Dr Graham Moore from the University of Melbourne has compiled for us a Google-map-based listing of produce swaps across Gippsland.

You can view and edit the map at:

<http://maps.google.com.au/maps/ms?hl=en&gl=au&ie=UTF8&oe=UTF8&msa=0&msid=214096387243588959010.0004b24aebdfca229ce4>

Dr Moore, from the Victorian Centre for Climate Change Adaptation Research, led the Gippsland adaption to climate change think tank in August and is a Gippy Agchat reader. "I had a few spare minutes while my computer was backing up, so thought I would produce this map," he said.

Thank you, Graham. Merry Christmas.

Are you a spunk? Prepare for 2012 ... the Year of the Farmer

Are you a spunk? Are you a farmer? The Year of the Farmer has asked Agribusiness Gippsland to source some GORGEOUS sons and daughters of the soil as ambassadors of agriculture. Nominate somebody! Nominate yourself! Email susanw@ptarmigan.com.au or just leave a text at <http://agribusinessgippsland.com.au> or blog www.aginc.wordpress.com

The year involves organising a roadshow that will travel around the country combined with 400 events, launching a range of education and careers advice programs to show the benefits of agriculture and inform schoolchildren about rural Australia.

The Australian Year of the Farmer will also team up with Art4Agriculture to deliver education programs to demonstrate how farmers play a key role in helping sustain the Australian way of life and propel the economy.

More than 9000 primary and secondary schools will participate in a competition where subjects such as visual arts, sciences, maths, geography, English and media studies will use interactive learning materials to create a short story, speech, poster artwork or digital media project. There will be two awards, the Cream of the Crop and the Archibull Prize.

New NRM website launched

A new Australian Government natural resource management (NRM) website has been launched at www.nrm.gov.au for information on funding opportunities and program outcomes relating to Caring for our Country.

More? Visit communications@nrm.gov.au

Congratulations and an apology

Apologies to Graham and Faye Tuchtan from Grantville, who we neglected to include in the list of winners in the recent Landcare Awards. Faye and Graham won the Landcare award for Sustainable Farming for Port Phillip and Westernport Region. Well done!

Nothing to wine about with an increase in milk production

DPI Ellinbank researchers have found that feeding winemaking leftovers to Holsteins lifted milk production by 5% and curbed methane emissions by 20%. Feeding grape marc to the cows also lifted healthy fatty acid levels. The scientists compared responses from Holstein dairy cows fed 5kg grape marc/day with animals fed conventional fodder. Scientist, Peter Moate, said: "I was surprised by the magnitude of the [methane emission] findings, and also happy to see this improvement in the milk fatty acid composition." He said grape marc often is ploughed into the soil. The research was supported by the DPI, Dairy Australia and DAFF.

Gippsland Low Carbon Growth Plan launched

Implementing opportunities identified in ClimateWorks Australia's Low Carbon Growth Plan for Gippsland could reduce the region's greenhouse gas emissions by up to 10% below 2000 levels by 2020. It shows businesses and households could save almost \$100 million per year by implementing energy efficiency, distributed energy and land-based opportunities.

The plan is the first region-wide Low Carbon Growth Plan produced in Australia and identifies emissions reduction opportunities, and next steps to overcome barriers in the manufacturing, mining and freight; commercial and services; household; and land-based sectors.

Developed in consultation with community, business and local government, the plan outlines how businesses and residents can improve efficiency and reduce emissions at the lowest cost possible. [Download the full plan here.](#)

Balancing fire-risk at the urban fringe

Bushfire prone areas south-east of Melbourne are highlighted in a new CSIRO article available online at <http://www.ecosmagazine.com/paper/EC11108.htm>

The scientist behind the findings, Justin Leonard, lives in the Dandenong Ranges foothills and speaks from personal experience. You can hear him speak about [Protecting your home from bushfire \(Podcast 27 Sep 06\)](#).

Howzabout a koala?

A koala donation card through the South Gippsland Landcare Network is the perfect present this Christmas. All proceeds go to the South Gippsland Landcare Fund. Donations of over \$2 are tax deductible.

More? Visit www.sgln.org.au

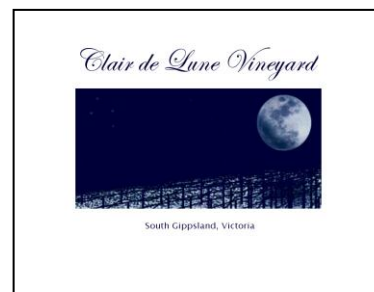
Clair de Lune

Owner, winemaker and viticulturist Brian Gaffy creates wines of great finesse and elegance to be enjoyed and celebrated by the wine and food fraternity. The cellar door is generally open every day except Christmas Day and Good Friday. Visitors are encouraged to come and taste wines, maybe bring a picnic to enjoy in the garden and vineyard areas. A BBQ is also available. Please phone ahead on 5655 1032. Brian says a number of newer wines have been selling well, including an attractive, spicy but elegant 2009 Shiraz and a lovely creamy 2009 oaked Chardonnay.

Address: 8805 South Gippsland Hwy, Kardella South

Email: savourtheflavour@clairdelune.com.au

Web: www.clairdelune.com.au



Horizon Scholarships are now open

The Horizon Scholarship, an initiative of the Rural Industries Research and Development Corporation (RIRDC) aims to increase the number of students studying agricultural science at Australian universities. The scholarship provides a bursary of \$5000 per year, mentoring partnerships, professional development workshops and industry work placements. To be eligible, students must be entering their first year of university, studying a degree related to agriculture. Applications close February 1, 2012. Application forms can be downloaded from www.rirdc.gov.au/horizon

Dairy farmers could get more for milk

Australian dairy farmers could get a lot more from the market for their milk, according to preliminary findings of a research project to be revealed at a Gippsland conference next year. The research looks at the impact of supermarkets and co-operatives on farmgate milk prices. The Freshlogic study will be released at the Australian Dairy Conference, the biggest event on the dairy industry calendar, in February. There will be a special commemorative welcome function on Tuesday, February 21, headlined by Australian of the Year Simeon McKeon. The conference, which attracts more than 450 delegates, will be book-ended by tours:

- Monday, February 20 – tour departing Melbourne for East Gippsland
- Tuesday, February 21 – tour continues, returning to Warragul for the official opening function at Tom Reid Oration at the Warragul Arts Centre
- Wednesday, February 22 – conference and Elanco BBQ dinner at Lardner Park
- Thursday, February 23 – conference at Lardner Park
- Thursday, February 23 – Rabobank gala dinner at Kernot Hall
- Friday, February 24 – visit to Ellinbank Research Centre

More? Esther Price Promotions 1800 177 636 or visit www.australiandairyconference.com.au

...ALSO: Are you a young dairy farmer keen to attend? Agribusiness Gippsland is leaning on some contacts, hoping to get funds to cover registration and accommodation for this important national event. If we can swing it, places will be very limited, Ph Sue 0402 267 802.

Dirty deeds to fund community environmental projects

EPA Victoria is inviting local community groups to seek funding made available through court-ordered penalties for projects to enhance their environment. Courts may direct a company or individual found guilty of environmental pollution to fund a community environmental project instead of, or in addition to, paying a fine.

More? Visit www.epa.vic.gov.au/projects/community-project-funding.asp

Celebrate Christmas by learning about snakes!

Far East Victoria Landcare (FEVL) is celebrating the Christmas wind down by hosting a networking luncheon at the Orbost Exhibition Centre (OEC) on Thursday, December 15 from 11.30am-1pm. Landcare and other community members are invited attend the BBQ lunch and listen to local naturalist Greg Fyfe give a presentation on some of East Gippsland's reptile species and their habits. Please RSVP for catering purposes.

More? Stu Clarke 0458 202 567 or stuclarke@y7mail.com

Is your business expanding and facing new challenges?

MasterClass for Growth is a Victorian Government program for small to medium businesses ready to take business to the next level. Participants attend four master classes and tailored coaching sessions over eight months, starting March 2012. The cost is \$950/business. The City of Casey will fully subsidise three places in the program. To qualify you must:

- have been in operation for at least two years
- have an annual turnover of at least \$500,000
- employ between two and 200 people
- demonstrate a pattern of business growth

More? City of Casey 9705 5125 or visit http://www.business.vic.gov.au/BUSVIC/STANDARD/PC_64197.html

Factsheet features late season herbicide use information

The Grains Research Development Corporation is again promoting its Late Season Herbicide Use factsheet. This publication covers the reasons for late herbicide use, herbicide facts, frequently asked questions and links to further information.

More? Visit:

http://www.grdc.com.au/uploads/documents/GRDC_LateSeasonHerbicideUse_FS1.pdf.

Corinella to again host a sunset serenade

Opera lovers rejoice! Serenade at Sunset will be held again, on February 11 in Corinella.

More? Faye Tuchtan 5678 8366 or fmt@dcsi.net.au



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Need a plot to get vegetable funding?

More than 100 schools around Australia will receive grants of up to \$1000 from Coles and Junior Landcare. Schools, kindergartens, day care centres and youth groups looking to start a garden program can apply for a Coles Junior Landcare garden grant by registering with Junior Landcare. The 2012 closing dates are:

- Round 1: closes Friday February 17, 5pm
- Round 2: closes Friday May 4, 5pm
- Round 3: closes Friday July 27, 5pm

More? Visit www.juniorlandcare.com.au or www.coles.com.au.

Learn to run your self-managed fund

Cardinia Council is holding a self-managed fund seminar on December 15 from 6-8pm at the Cardinia Cultural Centre, Lakeside Boulevard Pakenham.

More? Jeannie Mawditt 5945 0401 or j.mawditt@cardinia.vic.gov.au

Bass Coast seeking input on rural land use

Bass Coast Shire Council is developing a Rural Land Use Strategy and is urging interested community members to fill in the Rural Land Use Survey, which is open until 14 December.

To find out more about the Rural Land Use Strategy visit:

<http://www.basscoast.vic.gov.au/rurallanduse>. To fill in the survey, go to Bass Coast Shire Council's engagement site: <http://consult.basscoast.vic.gov.au/portal>. Register or log in, and go to Rural Land Use Strategy Phase 2.

More? Bass Coast Planning Engagement Facilitator 1300 226 278

Be part of Australia's largest ever trade mission to India

Join more than 100 Victorian organisations on a trade mission to India in February covering cleantech, education, food/ beverage, ICT, life sciences, sustainable urban design and tourism.

More? indiatrade@dbi.vic.gov.au or visit www.trade.vic.gov.au

Women in agriculture to be celebrated at Farm World 2012

Farm World 2012 will celebrate women in agriculture with a lunch on Thursday, March 22, 2012 featuring speakers Qantas chair Margaret Jackson AC, Warragul's Angela Betheras, the 2011 RIRDC Victorian Rural Woman of the Year, and Michelle Winzer Commonwealth Bank's Victorian and Tasmanian regional GM. The event will be held on March 22 from 12-1.30pm at the Lardner Park Exhibition Centre, 155 Burnt Store Road, Lardner. Tickets include entry to Farm World, presentation and a finger food lunch.

More? Lardner Park Events 5626 1373 or pam@lardnerpark.com.au

Farm life goes digital

Farm-themed movement and colour... upload your videos at the newly-launched www.digitalfarmtv.com

More? Mike Cahill 02 9461 0442 or mabc@imcanz.com.au or visit www.digitalfarmtv.com

Food security is still on the menu

A presentation on food security has been organised by the Wellington Health Promotion Network, on Tuesday, December 20 from 9:30-11.30am in the Community Services Building, Central Gippsland Health Service, Sale. Morning tea provided. RSVP by December 16.

More? Barb Radley 5143 8868 or barb.radley@cghs.com.au

Make it Meeniyān ...

Meeniyān Motel provides comfortable and affordable accommodation close to the Prom. Recently refurbished, the motel has earned a reputation for friendliness and modern amenities. Meeniyān Motel is suitable for business and leisure travellers with free wireless internet. Choose from standard, twin, family and spa suites. All rooms feature ensuite



and air-conditioning. There's a saltwater pool, BBQ and ample parking. 119 Whitelaw St. Visit www.meeniyānmotel.com.au or ph 5664 0030. Online booking available.

Deadline for flood relief approaching

Local primary producers who suffered extreme damage in the February floods can apply for exceptional flood assistance loans and grant package worth up to \$650,000. Applicants must show that the initial concessional loans and grant assistance available under the flood recovery program have been insufficient for their recovery needs. Deadline December 31.

More? Rural Finance Corporation 5448 2600 or visit www.ruralfinance.com.au

Ragged future for noxious West Gippsland weed

The Department of Primary Industries (DPI) is cracking down on ragwort after Landcare groups in West Gippsland raised concerns about the noxious weed, particularly in the Mountain View, Poowong, Loch, Nyora and Mount Lyall areas.

Ragwort is an invasive weed and is poisonous to grazing animals, both when fresh and dried in fodder. Ragwort is a regionally controlled weed in West Gippsland and landowners who do not take steps to control the weed are liable for fines of up to \$29,000.

More? DPI Customer Service Centre on 136 186 or visit www.dpi.vic.gov.au/weeds

Are you a looking for a market stall?

Local entrepreneur Mark Watson is seeking expressions of interest from potential food-based smallholders and artisans to part-rent a Sale venue as a year-round market – possibly operating five or seven days a week.

More? Mark Watson 0408 057 772

Grants help communities support natural environment

Applications are now open in the \$20m Communities for Nature grants program for local community groups and organisations looking to improve their natural environment and conserve local biodiversity values. Funding is available for activities such as biodiversity and habitat preservation, revegetation, cleaning up of waterways and control of pests and weeds. This year, two streams of funding are offered: small grants up to \$10,000; and large grants of \$10,000-\$150,000. Applications close on Monday, December 19.

More? Grants Information Line 1300 366 356 or visit www.dse.vic.gov.au/communitiesfornature

Learn how to eat your garden

Come see how to convert a typical back garden into a permaculture, sustainable garden at a practical and easy introduction to organic edible gardening from local who has "no" green thumb on Sunday, December 18 from 10am-12pm at 40 Dava Drive Mornington.

More? Lucy Harvest 0425 748 798 or lucy@harvestconsulting.com.au

Gippsland scholars get good reports

The majority of scholars selected in the Dairy Industry Scholarships Victoria 2012 program are from Gippsland. The scholarships, developed in collaboration between Gardiner Foundation, NCDEA, Dairy Australia and the UDV, encourage and enable selected individuals within the dairy industry to support their continued learning within the dairy sector. The successful Gippsland scholars include:

- Max Johnson, Koonwarra
- Denise Jones, Leongatha
- Andrew Morgan, Nilma North
- Ilene Page, Mt Eccles
- Rene Richards, Loch
- Daniel Van De Burgt, Labertouche
- Natasha Williamson, Warragul

More? Gardiner Foundation 9606 1900 or info@gardinerfoundation.com.au

Bid to display farmgate prices at supermarkets rejected

The Senate has rejected a proposed Bill that would have seen the average farmgate price received by fruit and vegetable growers displayed on Australian supermarket shelves. The concept, proposed by Sen. Nick Xenophon, and the Senate committee report can be read at http://www.aph.gov.au/senate/committee/economics_ctte/constitutional_corporations_bill_2011/report/report.pdf

1080 bait users and dog owners share responsibility

The Department of Primary Industries (DPI) has issued a warning to land holders using the poison 1080 to strictly follow the directions for its use.

Bait users and dog owners have a shared duty of care to prevent domestic animals from gaining access to baits and 1080 bait users must comply with all product label directions and the Directions for the Use of 1080 Pest Animal Bait Products in Victoria.

Misuse of baits under the Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals (Control of Use) Act 1992, can bring fines of up to \$24,000 for cases of misuse.

More? DPI Chemical Standards Officer 136 186

Gippsland cares for the country

The latest Caring for our Country round of grants included a number of Gippsland projects:

- \$20K to Arawata Landcare Group Inc. to plant 17000 trees on 20ha of pre-fenced land in the Leongatha/Korumburra watershed.
- \$20K to Basscoast Landcare Network/Korumburra Landcare Group to link and enhance remnant vegetation in the Foster Creek catchment.
- \$20k to Basscoast Landcare Network/Three Creeks Landcare Group to increase biodiversity in the Three Creeks catchment
- \$20k to Basscoast Landcare Network/Anderson Inlet Landcare Group to increase biodiversity in the Anderson Inlet catchment
- \$20K to Bunyip Landcare Group for integrated pest control to build resilient Southern Brown Bandicoot habitat
- \$20K to Cannibal Creek Catchment Landcare Group to build resilient habitat in Cannibal Creek Catchment
- \$20K to Cardinia Environment Coalition/Westernport Catchment Landcare Network – Central Region to turn farm dams into biodiversity refuges
- \$20K to Gippsland Plains Conservation Management Network/Romawi Landcare Group and Cobblers Creek Catchment Landcare Group to restore woodlands and birds of Forge Creek
- \$20K to Gippsland Plains Conservation Management Network Bengworden/Toms Creek Landcare Groups to tackle threats to Toms Creek's woodlands
- \$20K to Mornington Peninsula and Western Port Biosphere Reserve Foundation to reconnect landscape in Western Port Biosphere Reserve for endangered wildlife
- \$20K to Nindi Ngujarn Ngarigo Monero Aboriginal Corporation for indigenous engagement land protection works in East Gippsland
- \$20K to Phillip Island Landcare Group for sustaining and enhancing Phillip Island's agricultural properties – Stage 2
- \$20K to VFF Farm Tree and Landcare Association/French Island Landcare Group Supporting sustainable agriculture on French Island
- \$19K to East Gippsland Landcare Network to restore red gum grassy woodlands
- \$19K to Menzies (Sages Cottage, Baxter) Connectivity for indigenous flora and fauna
- \$19K to West Gippsland CMA/Kilmany-Pearsondale-Nambrok Landcare Group for the Latrobe –Thompson Wildlife Corridors and Healthy Waterways Project
- \$19K to West Gippsland CMA/Kilmany-Pearsondale-Nambrok Landcare Group for the Kentucky Creek Wetland Restoration Project
- \$19K to Mornington Environment Association for Mills Beach Coast Banksia Woodland Restoration Stage 3
- \$18K to Southern Farming Systems, Gippsland for Alternatives to pesticides: Using Integrated Pest Management
- \$18K to Balnarring Beach Foreshore and Parks Reserve committee of management to reduce weeds.
- \$18K to Cape Paterson Residents and Ratepayers Association for the Cape Paterson Spurge Local Action Team (Sea spurge is an invasive weed working its way along the Bass Coast.)
- \$17K to Merricks Beach Foreshore Reserve committee of management to remove weeds from Merricks Beach Rd
- \$17K to Sunshine Reserve Conservation & Fireguard Group to protect remnant vegetation at Sunshine Reserve
- \$16K to Friends of Flinders Coastline to restore and maintain Mornington Peninsula National Park
- \$16K to Nicholson River Landcare Group to reduce pest animals
- \$12K to Cardinia Environment Coalition for bandicoot monitoring and awareness raising
- \$11K to Phillip Island Nature Parks for the Coastal Ambassadors Revegetation Program

More? Visit <http://www.nrm.gov.au/cag/cag-projects/2011-12/pubs/cag-11-12-all-projects.pdf>



moo's at meeniyán restaurant & café

Moo's at Meeniyán is a restaurant/café in picturesque Meeniyán, 10 minutes from Leongatha and 1.5 hours from Melbourne.

Enjoy a break on your way to the prom, with great coffee, local wines, good meals and local produce. Opening hours: Thursday to Monday 8.30am to 4.30pm for breakfast and lunch. Friday and Saturday nights open till 6pm. Closed Tuesday and Wednesday
Book on 5664 0010 or email eat@moosatmeeniyán.com.au



Young cattle take time to adjust to change

Young cattle transferred from the rangelands to agricultural pastures take four to six weeks to adjust grazing behaviour and resume normal growth, according to new Australian research. This may reduce new pasture utilisation, according to the CSIRO researchers in WA.

More? [Animal Production Science 51\(12\) 1088-1097](#) or <http://dx.doi.org/10.1071/AN11044>

Funding available for fencing, trees and water

Far East Victoria Landcare has funding through Caring for our Country to subsidise fencing, revegetation and off-stream watering. Plants are free and shelterbelt fencing is subsidised up to \$4/m. Landholders interested in starting rotational grazing systems but without water infrastructure may be able for assistance up to a third of the value of development.

More? [Stu Clarke 0458 202 567](#)

National All-Breeds registrations open

The 2012 National All Dairy Breeds Youth Camp will run from January 3-7 at the Royal Melbourne Showgrounds. Those aged between 16-20, who have an interest in the dairy industry are encouraged to apply. Camp participants will develop confidence in handling dairy heifers, learn judging, showing and clipping skills, discuss breeding and new technology. The camp also enables participants to undertake units of competency from the Certificate II in Agriculture qualification through the National Centre for Dairy Education Australia. The cost is \$295 per person for the five-day program. Deadline for applications is December 9.

More? [Sue Bird 1300 062 332](#) or sbird@ncdea.edu.au

Clearly Delicious produce store & gallery

offers a wide range of gourmet jams, honey, preserves and sauces for discerning palates. All are 100% natural with no added preservatives, flavouring or thickeners. Only the freshest seasonal fruit and vegetables are used and are either grown in our gardens or sourced locally. Located at Lilloco, Clearly Delicious supplies many restaurants, retail outlets and markets throughout Gippsland and Melbourne, as well as interstate.

Come for a tasting, a garden stroll and a visit to the adjoining Lilloco Glass Studio. Visit www.clearlydelicious.com.au or www.lillicoglassstudio.com.au or ph 5623 1592.



Showing a less than endearing increase in deer

Deer sightings and their impact on road safety and vegetation has been a cause for concern in Far East Gippsland. Landcare groups are encouraging members to record deer sightings. Please collate deer activity details and pass it on to Landcare coordinator Penny Gray.

Drouin comes alive in February!

The annual Drouin Ficifolia Festiva, from Wednesday February 8 to Sunday February 12 in various locations in Drouin, has something for everyone, including the Festival Gala Opening Dinner at the Drouin Golf Club, a poetry night, Chinese Year of the Dragon street parade, fireworks and movie in the park, artists open studio tour and more.

More? Visit: www.ficifoliafestival.org.au

Time-poor shopping = cash-rich spend

Latest AUSVEG market research confirms that people who shop ahead and in bulk save more than those making snap decisions in the aisles.

Time-poor Australians who lack the time to plan their meals in advance could be spending up to \$4.15 per item in comparison to \$3.78 for those who do a big shop. When shopping outside work hours, Australians bought lower volumes but spent more per item, while those who came to the store during the day and bought larger volumes achieved greater savings. The research, published in Veginsights, shows that higher volumes of unprepared fresh vegetables are likely to be sold during the day with a likely higher demand for convenience items like pre-prepared salads and other easy prepared items outside working hours.

More? Visit www.ausveg.com.au

Council adopts flood overlays

Latrobe City Council has adopted Amendment C9 to the Latrobe Planning Scheme. This ensures measures are in place within the Latrobe Planning Scheme to minimise the effect of potential flooding on around 2500 properties that are affected across the municipality. Based on updated data from four flood studies carried out in Latrobe City, together with revised mapping provided by the West Gippsland Catchment Management Authority (WGCMA), Amendment C9 will provide an improved planning framework for existing and future development within flood affected areas.

More? Mere Naulumatua 5128 5499 or mere.naulumatua@latrobe.vic.gov.au

From horses to horsepower go on show

The theme of the 2012 Bass Coast Summer Agricultural Show is "Horses to Horsepower"—majestic draught horses, purring fergie tractors, a beaut-ute show and everything in between. Patrons will see how things have changed over time.

The show will be held on January 14 from 9am. The cost of entry is \$25 for a group ticket (2 adults, 2 kids), \$10 for adults, \$5 for concession and children under five free.

More? Rosemary Loughnan 5672 3259 or basscoastagshow@hotmail.com or visit www.basscoastagshow.org.au

Food festival is inspired by Gippsland

The Inverloch Food and Wine Festival is the region's largest food and wine event and central to Destination Gippsland's 'Gippsland Inspired' autumn campaign. Regional cuisine from the paddocks and producers, and local boutique wines are available in a relaxed picnic atmosphere or under a huge all-weather marquee, with local musicians providing entertainment. Chefs will provide cooking demonstrations, local producers and Gippsland characters will feature throughout the afternoon. The festival will be held on Saturday, March 3 at The Glade. Entry is \$5/adults and a tasting glass is \$10. Children free.

More? Inverloch Visitor Information Centre 1300 762 433 or www.visitinverloch.org

Your carbon price tool launched

The Climate Institute's "Your Carbon Price" online tool has been launched to assist individuals and families in calculating the price impact of the carbon price on them. The tool also explains the carbon price, along with identifying efficiency measures and their costs.

More? Visit <http://www.yourcarbonprice.com.au/>

Classic case of catch and release

The Victorian High Country Fishing Classic, catch and release event is being held in the Omeo/Benambrabra Region on December 31-January 1. The classic includes a new event with a \$10,000 tagged fish as major prize. Entry forms and information is available online.

More? Stu Freeman 0427 143 159 or vichighclassic@hotmail.com or visit <http://www.vichighclassic.com>

Mallacoota abalone diver convicted on trafficking

A former Mallacoota abalone diver convicted of three counts of trafficking abalone and three counts of making false statements has been given a 23-month jail sentence, suspended for two years. Wade Bowerman, 43, who now lives in Sydney, pleaded guilty to each of the six counts in the Bairnsdale County Court.

Looking for a venue for 20 people? Or 20,000? Look at Lardner Park, near Warragul. We have a reputation for large-scale events, such as Farm World, Trucks In Action and the Civil Works Expo. We also have flexibility for smaller meetings, conferences and workshops. The Lardner Park board room and pavilions are ideal for equipment and product launches. Our location is convenient for Melbourne/Gippsland attendees.



For further information email mark@lardnerpark.com.au, visit www.lardnerpark.com.au or phone 5626 1373

Dairy farmers urged to be alert for facial eczema

Gippsland dairy farmers have been warned that facial eczema, seen across Gippsland in autumn, may cause serious health concerns for cattle again this summer-autumn.

A series of information sessions is being held by Dairy Australia and GippsDairy where experts will provide the latest information on identification of periods of pasture toxicity, and effective and safe control and prevention of the condition.

Information sessions will be held at:

- Trafalgar Footy Club: 11.30am-1.30pm, Thursday, December 15
- Maffra DPI building: 7-9pm, Thursday, December 15
- Club Hotel, Yarram: 11.30am-1.30pm, Friday, December 16.

Lunch / supper will be provided. Please RSVP for catering purposes. Sessions will also be held in Leongatha and Drouin in early January.

More? Melanie 5624 3900

Survey seeks information on chemical record keeping

The DPI and VFF are working together to improve chemical record keeping in agriculture. Initial steps involve determining current record-keeping habits. To assist with this stage an anonymous online survey. The survey is short and will not take more than seven minutes to complete. Contributions will help inform future policy and direct education efforts.

The survey can be found at <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/GJDTH2K>

More? Darryl Harrison 9207 5522

Forthcoming markets

Market	When	Where	More?
Yarragon community craft and produce market	4 th Saturday	Yarragon Public Hal	5634 2209
Gippsland Heritage Park Market	3 rd Saturday	Gippsland Heritage Park, Moe	5127 3082
Drouin Craft and Produce Market	3 rd Saturday	Drouin Civic Park	5625 3360
Emerald Community Craft and Produce Market	3 rd Sunday	Emerald Community House	0419 345 750
Heyfield community market	1 st Saturday	Dr John Graves Memorial	5148 2780
Sale Farmer's Market	3 rd Saturday	Skate Park lawns, Foster St, Sale	0408 057 772
Lardner Park Market	November 20	Lardner Park, Warragul	5976 3266
Lucknow Market	4 th Sunday	Howitt Park, Bairnsdale	5152 4662
Lakes Entrance Surf Club Foreshore Market	1 st Sunday	The Esplanade, Lakes Entrance	0407 098 805
South Gippsland Farmers Market	1 st Saturday	Koonwarra Memorial Park	0408 619 182
Coal Creek Farmers Market	2 nd Saturday	Coal Creek Community Park and Museum, Korumburra	0459 629 000
East Gippsland Farmers Market	1 st Saturday	Bairnsdale Secondary College Oval, Bairnsdale	
Metung Farmers Market	2 nd Saturday	Village Green, Metung	
Bruthen Village Market	4 th Saturday	Mechanics Hall, Bruthen	
Bairnsdale Boot Market	3 rd Saturday	Great Alpine Road, Bairnsdale	
Paynesville Market	2 nd Sunday	Gilsenan Reserve, Paynesville	
Surf Club Market	1 st Sunday	Foreshore Rotunda, Lakes Entrance	
Kongwak Market	Sundays	Kongwak General Store	0417 142 478
Jumbunna Bush Market	1 st Sunday	The Main Hall, Jumbunna	5657 3253
Toora market	2 nd Sunday	Jetty Road, Toora	5688 1237
Prom Country Farmers Market	3 rd Saturday	Main St. Foster	0407 543 371
Inverloch Farmers Market	3rd Sunday	The Glade. Inverloch	5664 0096
Longwarry Fire Brigade Market	1st Sunday	Bennett Street, Longwarry	0419 158 946
Traralgon Farmers Market	4th Saturday	Kay Street Gardens – Kay St, Traralgon	0409 232 715
Gembrook Market	4th Sunday	Puffing Billy Railway Station	0437 664 121
Casey-Berwick Farmers Market	4th Saturday	34 Homestead Rd, Berwick	
Mornington Racecourse Market	2nd Sunday	Mornington Racecourse	
Mirboo North Community Market	4th Saturday	Baromi Park in Ridgway (Strez Highway) Mirboo North	5668-2465
Bittern Sunday market	Every Sunday	Bittern Railway Station, Frankston-Flinders Road, Bittern	0409 417 463
Red Hill Community Market	1st Saturday	Arthurs Seat Road, Red Hill	

Absentee landowners attend city Fire Ready meeting

Approximately 80 absentee property owners were left in no doubt about fire risk when they attended the Fire Ready Information meeting held in Clayton recently.

The meeting, jointly presented by South Gippsland Shire and Bass Coast Shire Councils, featured two CFA presenters, Rachel Leighton and John Henshaw, who pulled no punches about the realities of fire, reiterating the key message: 'Don't be there!'

"If it is an Extreme Rating or Code Red –Don't be there! Leave the night before or early in the morning," they urged. "Write your plan, prepare your home and equipment according to your plan...no deviations: in the stress and confusion it's difficult to think rationally, so stick to the plan!"

[More? Visit http://www.cfa.vic.gov.au/](http://www.cfa.vic.gov.au/)

What workshop do you want in Wellington?

Wellington Shire Council is a host organisation for Business Victoria and can facilitate workshops. Topics include: 'Starting Your Business', marketing, business planning, 'Green Your Business', getting and keeping the right staff, finance and how to exit a business.

[More? Will Oakley 5142 3615](tel:51423615)

Don't forget your sunscreen at the Kilcunda Lobster Festival

The 28th Annual Kilcunda Lobster Festival is a family event with amusements, market stalls, helicopter rides, emergency service displays an animal farm and more. Lobster lunches, hamburgers, hot dogs and sausages are available. The festival will be held on January 29 from 9am at the Foreshore Carpark Bass Highway, Kilcunda.

More? Shelley Applebee 0417 590 881 or kcda@waterfront.net.au

Spartina to be controlled in South Gippsland coastal areas

Parks Victoria will recommence the Spartina control program in conjunction with Melbourne Water and West Gippsland Catchment Management Authority (WGCMA) around the coastal areas of Corner Inlet, Anderson Inlet, Bass River estuary and Tooradin.

The operation involves large-scale spraying activities using a number of methods including helicopter, boat, hovercraft, quad-bike as well as on foot.

If you believe you have Spartina on your property and would like it included in the treatment program, contact Parks Victoria or Melbourne Water.

More? Les Leunig 5683 9001 or Steve Llewellyn 9237 3942

Country racing is off and ... well ... racing

Meetings this month are:

- December 3: Stony Creek
- December 7: Sale
- December 11: Traralgon
- December 16: Moe
- December 19: Bairnsdale
- December 24: Sale
- December 26: Drouin
- December 30: Stony Creek

Meetings next month are:

- January 2: Bairnsdale
- January 8: Woolamai
- January 9: Stony Creek
- January 14: Bairnsdale
- January 21: Moe
- January 21: Bairnsdale
- January 26: Sale

More? Call 1300 139 402 or visit www.countryracing.com.au

Agritourism dossier available

What are the common factors that determine a successful agritourism venture? What do the failures always do wrong? Agribusiness Gippsland has completed a literature review as part of last year's study of Gippsland's agritourism sector. We have compiled the findings into a fascinating, easy-to-read dossier. Drawing on local, Australian and overseas studies, it presents the financials of agritourism, the trends in Gippsland, the challenges, and some early data on regional agritourism operations, along with ideas from existing successful operators.

The cost is \$30 plus GST. Email orders at susanw@ptarmigan.com.au or via

www.aginc.wordpress.com



Don't scattergun advertise, hit your target ... Nearly 6000 'yes-please' subscribers read GippyAGchat. Farmers, farm consultants, agronomists, stock agents, catchment management and DPI staffers, Gippsland, regional and federal MPs ... everyone who makes agribusiness grow across Gippsland. And you don't get lost in the display advertising crowd. Ph 0402 267 802 or 9456 9791

Ag student scholarship on offer

Elmore Charity Ball offers a \$5000 scholarship towards the cost of accommodation for an under-24 student entering their first year of study and intending to enrol in a full-time Australian tertiary institution or TAFE course related to agriculture. Deadline: January 31.

More? 0427 326 311, elmorecharityball@iinet.net.au or www.elmoresummersendoff.org.au

Prepare now for the next fire season

Attend a CFA community meeting to learn about the bushfire risk in your area and how you and your community can turn this awareness into action. Find your nearest community meeting by municipality, township or meeting type on the CFA website www.cfa.vic.gov.au, or phone the Victorian Bushfire Information Line 1800 240 667 or TTY 1800 122 969.

More? Visit www.communityprograms.cfa.vic.gov.au/cfa/landing

Casey seeks feedback on furry friends

The City of Casey is currently developing a new four-year Domestic Animal Management Plan that will provide the strategic direction for animal management within Casey.

To assist in the development of the plan, feedback from both pet owners and those that don't currently own pets is encouraged. Residents with a registered pet will receive the survey in the mail. Alternatively, all residents can complete the survey on Council's website at

www.casey.vic.gov.au/currentconsultations by December 16.

Neerim set to go on show

The 2012 Neerim District Country Show features competitions and entertainment for the whole family including a poet's breakfast, live country music, wood chopping events, steam engine and veteran car displays, best ute competition, equine and showjumping competitions, local farm produce exhibits and carnival activities for the children and youth.

The show will be held in Sunday, January 29 at the Neerim Recreation Reserve.

More? Leon Fewster 5628 1615

Still not got your financial systems in order?

Make 2012 the year you take control. Here are some handy tools to get you started.

- [Three tools for better financial control](#)
- [Handling your debtors better](#)

Focus Farms come to a finish with final field days

The current round of Focus Farms is drawing to a close, with the final round of field days commencing recently. Final field days for the Focus Farms will be held:

- Tuesday, December 13 with Ross and Kelly Anderson, Denison
- Wednesday, February 1 with Mick and Paula Hughes, Willowgrove
- Friday, February 3 with Rod and Lyndell Cope, Middle Tarwin
- Thursday, 9 February with Michael and Ancret Shipton and farm owners Geoff and Deb Bramley, Nar Nar Goon
- Wednesday, February 29 with Kevin and Helen Jones, Foster.

All Focus Farm field days start at 11am with morning team from 10.30am.

The field day notes from Saunders' Maffra Focus Farm are available upon request.

More? John Gallienne 0407 863 493 or gallienne@dcsi.net.au

So long Nikki ... and see you

This edition says goodbye to one of Agribusiness Gippsland's directors, Nikki Hellyer of Southern Farming Systems who is heading up to ANU to study her MBA. Nikki has been a real trouper, mucking into the murky waters of our young farmer inquiry submission, our interaction with Wellington Shire and helping knit cropping into our activities. We met Nikki when she joined our Women Farmers Find Their Voice session with Jen O'Sullivan and quickly recognised her as a gain for Gippsland. We truly hope to see her back.

New manager appointed for Macalister Irrigation District

Terry Clapham has recently been appointed to the role of Manager Water Supply East after spending 24 years with Southern Rural Water and its predecessors in a variety of roles. Mr Clapham will manage the Macalister Irrigation District (MID) and its eastern water storages.
[More? Southern Rural Water 1300 139 510](#)

Retiring to a life of rock and roll!

Dave Beaumont has left his gig as South Gippy Water's comms mogul. "Don't tell anyone," he said. "I'm not really retiring – I'm off to ride my Harley and play harp for a new cow-punk blues band called the Koala-Stomping Jerseys ... dairy-based rock & roll." You read it here first.

Farm women encouraged to join the gathering

The 23rd Annual Women on Farms Gathering will be held in Buchan on Friday, March 16. Women on Farms offers friendship, mutual support and women's perspectives on agriculture to women farmers Australia-wide. With more than 200 delegates attending, the program includes keynote speakers, women's stories, workshops, tours, ecumenical church service and celebratory dinner.

[More? Evelyn Schmidt 5155 9216 or bucharbnh@bigpond.com](#)

Best Bites Food Guide is now available

Mornington Peninsula Shire has launched its Best Bites Food Guide which promotes sustainable food businesses, assessed on measures taken to provide safe and healthy food, use environmentally sustainable business practices, and provide safe and accessible food premises. The Best Bites Food Guide is available for free from customer service centres, tourism centres, participating businesses and from [Best Bites](#)

[More? Peter O'Brien 5950 1050 or obripm@mornpen.vic.gov.au](#)

Get all the facts on storing grain

The GRDC has released a new grain storage factsheet looking at problems associated with high moisture grain.

[More? Visit:](#)

http://www.grdc.com.au/uploads/documents/GRDC_FS7_HighMoistureGrain_FOR%20WEB.pdf

Orbost Agricultural Show gets a sustainable lift

Far East Victoria Landcare Inc (FEVL) is developing a Sustainability Expo to be run in conjunction with the Orbost Agricultural Show on March 12 and is seeking volunteers to assist in idea development.

[More? Penny Gray 5161 1365 or penny.gray@dpi.vic.gov.au](#)

Stay away from irrigation channels this summer

Southern Rural Water is urging all parents to be as vigilant around irrigation channels and farm dams as they would be around major roads and highways.

The channels are sometimes empty, but can fill quickly without warning when water is diverted into the irrigation system - and the water flows very rapidly.

Farm dams can be hazardous for swimming, particularly for small children, and for visiting children due to slippery banks and hidden obstacles **in the water**.

[More? Southern Rural Water's website at www.srw.com.au](#)

Did you read this?

An interesting article on peri-urban development in the City of Casey...

<http://sl.farmonline.com.au/news/state/agribusiness-and-general/general/farming-on-the-fringe/2383138.aspx?storypage=2>

JOBS: A free feature in GippyAGchat

Times being what they are, we are running free job ads. If you're seeking work, or workers, please flick an email to susanw@ptarmigan.com.au and we'll give you a free plug. No large files, no photos, no sales pitches and full contact details, please.

WORK SOUGHT:

Market your business more effectively

Award-winning marketer/business consultant with strong agricultural background can offer strategies to place your business in the public eye.

More? John 0457 065 425.

Work sought on dairy farm

Philip Woolford writes: I have had a lifelong interest in the dairy industry and have valued the opportunity to work on a number of farms in recent years. I am a self-starter, well-organised and can work effectively under pressure. I have worked hard in developing strong communication and relationships skills. I am a fit and healthy 60-year old!

Qualifications and Certificates:

- Diploma of Agriculture (NCDEA)
- Current Victorian Drivers License
- Senior First Aid Certificate
- Farm Chemical Users Certificate
- Quality Assurance 'Milk Care' Murray Goulburn
- Artificial Insemination Certificate – Genetics Australia

More? Philip and Kathy Woolford 5940 0965 or pdwoolford@bigpond.com

Fire management planning

Consultant to prepare sustainable fire management plans for your property or small reserve.

More? Helen Bull 0400 310 188 or h.bull@bigpond.com

Need the skills of an IT or accounting graduate?

Organisations are being sought to host international students for a 12-week internship as part of Swinburne College's Professional Year Programs in Accounting and Computer Science. The program is aimed at former international students who have a bachelor or master degree in accounting or information technology from a recognised Australian institution. Internships are unpaid and there is no financial cost to the host organisation.

More? Leo Slattery 9214 8080 or Itsattery@swin.edu.au or visit

<http://www.swinburne.edu.au/college/professional-year-programs/host-companies.html>

Need staff?

Try 12 or six months of cost-effective undergraduate recruits from accounting, sciences, marketing, HR and PR/comms/media. Candidates available for paid full-time or half-time placements.

More? Annette: Issibl@swin.edu.au or ph: 9214 8753 or Karen:

kpomeranz@swin.edu.au or ph: 9215 7136

Seeking admin/clerical work

For any type of administrative/clerical type work (consulting, part time or job share – even if it is only a few hours per week). I have a current ABN and tertiary qualifications in business studies, taxation and financial planning, and am looking for work in these areas.

More? Greg Lewis on 0439 523 871 or gregorynlewis@southernphone.com.au

CLASSIFIEDS:

Brewers yeast available

Free brewers spent yeast, suitable for pigs, chooks fertiliser – 1000 litres/week. Available from Port Melbourne in returnable pelicon.

More? Neil 0418 371 663

The most important item in this entire e-newsletter

Display advertising in GippyAgchat is easy – only \$50 an insertion (plus GST) or five inserts for \$200 (plus GST). And only \$350 (plus GST) for 10 inserts... all going to more than 5800 'yes please' readers. A Word document of 60-100 words and a small pic will do it! And we are always keen to talk sponsorship. Our postal address is PO Box 1312 Warragul 3280.

More? 9456 9791, <http://agribusinessgippsland.com.au> or www.aginc.wordpress.com

Hunting in AGInc hyperspace

Recent top searches on our blogsite (www.aginc.wordpress.com) are: group photo women, Gippsland water agribusiness, agi conference 16/11/11, encrypted_search_terms.

Anyone we've forgotten?

Gippy Agchat is sworn at and sweated over by Sue Webster (0402 267 802 or 9456 9791) and Madeline Toner for Agribusiness Gippsland Inc and circulated to subscribers and supporters. Please circulate this newsletter by email or printout/fax to your colleagues. GOT NEWS? Ph/email news to ptarmigan2@internode.on.net.

Gippy Diary

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION	CONTACT
Dec 13	Focus Farm Field Day	Denison	John Gallienne 0407 863 493
Dec 15	Self-managed fund seminar	Pakenham	Jeannie Mawditt 5945 0401
Dec 15	FEVL networking luncheon	Orbost	Stu Clarke 0458 202 567
Dec 15	Facial eczema workshop	Trafalgar	Melanie 5624 3900
Dec 15	Facial eczema workshop	Maffra	Melanie 5624 3900
Dec 16	Country Race Meet	Moe	1300 139 402
Dec 16	Facial eczema workshop	Yarram	Melanie 5624 3900
Dec 18	Introduction to organic edible gardening	Mornington	Lucy Harvest
Dec 19	Country Race Meet	Bairnsdale	1300 139 402
Dec 20	Food Security: Still on the menu	Sale	Barb Radley 5143 8868
Dec 22	Casey-Berwick Farmers Market	Berwick	www.rotaryberwick.org
Dec 24	Country Race Meet	Sale	1300 139 402
Dec 26	Country Race Meet	Drouin	1300 139 402
Dec 30	Country Race Meet	Stony Creek	1300 139 402
Jan 2	Country Race Meet	Bairnsdale	1300 139 402
Jan 3-7	National All Dairy Breeds Youth Camp	Melbourne	Sue Bird 1300 062 332
Jan 8	Country Race Meet	Woolamai	1300 139 402
Jan 9	Country Race Meet	Stony Creek	1300 139 402
Jan 12	People in Dairy People GPS course – Day 3	Warragul	Frank Tyndall 0409 940 782
Jan 14	Bass Coast Summer Agricultural Show	Wonthaggi	Rosemary Loughnan 5672 3259
Jan 14	Country Race Meet	Bairnsdale	1300 139 402
Jan 20	People in Dairy People GPS course – Day 4	Warragul	Frank Tyndall 0409 940 782
Jan 21	Country Race Meet	Moe	1300 139 402
Jan 21	Country Race Meet	Woolamai	1300 139 402
Jan 26	Country Race Meet	Sale	1300 139 402
Jan 29	Kilcunda Lobster Festival	Kilcunda	Shelley Applebee 0417 590 881
Jan 29	Neerim District Country Show	Neerim	Leon Fewster 5628 1615
Feb 1	Focus Farm Field Day	Willowgrove	John Gallienne 0407 863 493
Feb 2	IN2IT@EBANK!	Ellinbank	Sue Webster 0402 267 802
Feb 3	Focus Farm Field Day	Middle Tarwin	John Gallienne 0407 863 493

Feb 8-12	Ficifolia Festiva	Drouin	
Feb 9	Focus Farm Field Day	Nar Nar Goon	John Gallienne 0407 863 493
Feb 11	Serenade at Sunset	Corinella	Faye Tuchtan 5678 8366
Feb 22/23	10th Anniversary Australian Dairy Conference	Warragul	Esther Price Promotions 1800 177 636
Feb 29	Focus Farm Field Day	Foster	John Gallienne 0407 863 493
Mar 3	Inverloch Food and Wine Festival	Inverloch	1300 762 433
Mar 12	Orbost Agricultural Show and FEVL Sustainability Expo	Orbost	Penny Gray 5161 1365
Mar 16	Annual Women on Farms Gathering	Buchan	Evelyn Schmidt 5155 9216
Mar 22-25	Farm World 2012	Warragul	Lardner Park Events 5626 1373
March 22	Farm World 2012 Women in Agriculture lunch	Warragul	Lardner Park Events 5626 1373

This regular news digest comes from Agribusiness Gippsland Inc which works with farmers, local councils, state and federal government, catchment management authorities, community groups and others to support regional agribusiness and work in partnership with existing regional organisations. Visit <http://agribusinessgippsland.com.au> or www.aginc.wordpress.com