



# BairnsdaleConnect

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## Spring 2017

Bairnsdale Connect is an update from East Gippsland Shire Council on projects and programs planned for Bairnsdale and District.

### Have your say

Your Say East Gippsland is your opportunity to provide your thoughts, feelings and ideas on a range of council projects and activities. Many engagement opportunities are currently open. Visit <http://yoursay.eastgippsland.vic.gov.au> to find the ones you are interested in.

#### Draft Age-friendly Communities Strategy

The East Gippsland Age-friendly Communities Strategy 2017-2030 identifies a set of strategic directions that can make our region even more age-friendly. Following months of community consultation and careful review of feedback, the draft strategy is now available for viewing and public comment. Did we get it right? We are interested in hearing your thoughts on the goals and strategic directions and any other comments you may have. Visit Your Say East Gippsland for further information: <http://yoursay.eastgippsland.vic.gov.au/age-friendly-community>. **Feedback closes 5pm, Monday October 23.** The Age-friendly Communities Project is funded by the Victorian Government's Department of Health and Human Services.

*Further information: Fiona Weigall or Jo Ellison*

#### Customer Service – your preferences and priorities

East Gippsland Shire Council aims to achieve consistent delivery of brilliant customer service. By completing this survey, you can help us understand your priorities and preferences in relation to customer service. This will be an ongoing process and your feedback will help to shape the way we plan for, and deliver, customer service into the future. Visit <http://yoursay.eastgippsland.vic.gov.au/customer-service-preferences-2> or pick up a hard copy survey at any of council's customer service centres.

*Further information: Swathi Kartik*

#### Bairnsdale Sporting Facilities Plan

East Gippsland Shire Council will be releasing the draft Bairnsdale Sporting Facilities Plan for review and comment early next year. The plan has been developed with community and user group consultation, conversations with community management committees and a range of research that has been taking place throughout the year. The plan will provide council and sporting groups with a much clearer picture of facilities that may currently be under-utilised and able to cater for additional sports or clubs. It will also identify where upgrades to facilities are required and where it may be difficult for sporting groups to access suitable facilities. Council has also applied for funding to extend this work to the rest of the region to guide future planning for sporting facilities shire-wide.

*Further information: Suzie Healy*

#### Re-imagining Bairnsdale (Service and Francis Street Upgrades)

Works are well underway for the upgrade and beautification of Service Street between Nicholson Street and Francis Street, as part of an ongoing program to implement the Re-imagining Bairnsdale Masterplan. The Francis Street/Service Street intersection was a dangerous intersection and these upgrade works allow the dual benefits of improving the safety of the intersection whilst also beautifying the street. These works include: the construction of a new roundabout, new footpath paving, installation of street furniture and street tree planting to provide more shade. Thank you to everyone for your patience during the works. We're all looking forward to the 'new look' Service Street.

*Further information: Sophie Beasley*



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## Artistic makeover for CBD streetscape

The steel bollards that close off traffic to the Nicholson Street Mall received a bright, artistic makeover recently.

The project worked with local pre-primary students and artists to create twelve whimsical images that help add new colour to the mall. Simple drawings were developed by students from eight local primary schools. Those artworks were then matched with a local artist to develop a background in their preferred art style that helped bring the children's artwork to life.

A project such as this highlights the spirit of collaboration between the East Gippsland arts community, local primary schools and East Gippsland Shire Council, and brings public art into our everyday world. Our thanks to Tracey McKeown who managed the project.



Have you noticed the animals appearing in the footpath along Service Street? Laser cut steel inlays in the shapes of animals of East Gippsland are being concreted into the new paving.

The designs were developed by local artists Alfie Hudson and Alan Solomon and have significance to Gunaikurnai culture. As Service Street faces the mountains the images along the footpath here will depict the animals originating in the mountains - Bogong Moths, Ring-tailed Possums and reptiles.

Once the inlays have been installed, animal footprints will be painted on the same footpath using a concrete sealer that shows up when the concrete gets wet.

## Successful funding application supports the long-term future of the Bairnsdale City Oval

Bairnsdale City Oval is a regional facility that supports players and competitions from across the region. As a result, it is heavily used throughout the year. Over the last few years the community based management committee, in collaboration with the Shire's Parks and Gardens staff, have carried out significant works to improve the ground. This has resulted in a greatly improved playing surface. However, the current irrigation system is now proving to be a limiting factor to further improvement of the ground.

In 2016, council staff worked closely with the Bairnsdale City Oval Committee of Management and key user groups to prepare a grant application to the Victorian government to address the aging irrigation system. This application has been successful, and will enable the installation of a new pump, upgrade of the in-ground irrigation system and increase of water storage capacity.

This project will be delivered over the next eighteen months, to be completed by December 31, 2018.



This project is made possible by grant funding of \$100,000 from Department of Health and Human Services, East Gippsland Shire Council contribution of \$46,350, Bairnsdale City Oval Committee of Management contribution of \$10,000 cash and in-kind/volunteer contribution equivalent to \$10,000.

A project steering group with community, user group, management committee and council officer representatives, will oversee project planning and development, contracting of works and implementation. User groups of the oval will receive regular updates on the progress of this project, which will be timed to avoid peak usage.

## Bairnsdale Business Centre opens

Council's Business Centre in Pyke Street, Bairnsdale is now open. Members of the public can visit the centre for general council information or payments. Staff are also available for enquiries and appointments for the following services:

- Community Development;
- Community Infrastructure Planning;
- Social and Community Planning;
- Community Laws;
- Building Compliance;
- Economic Development;
- Environmental Sustainability; and
- Land Use Planning.

## Council launches electronic planning

East Gippsland Shire Council is making the planning permit process quicker and easier, moving from a paper-based system to electronic. From October, council will accept planning permit applications electronically.

This can be through its website, by email, or, if needed, on USB. Dubbed 'e-approvals', the process allows planning permits to be submitted, assessed and determined electronically. This includes electronic stamping and returning of plans to the applicant.

From now on, council will communicate with applicants via email if they provide their email address. This means all steps in the application process can be completed electronically.

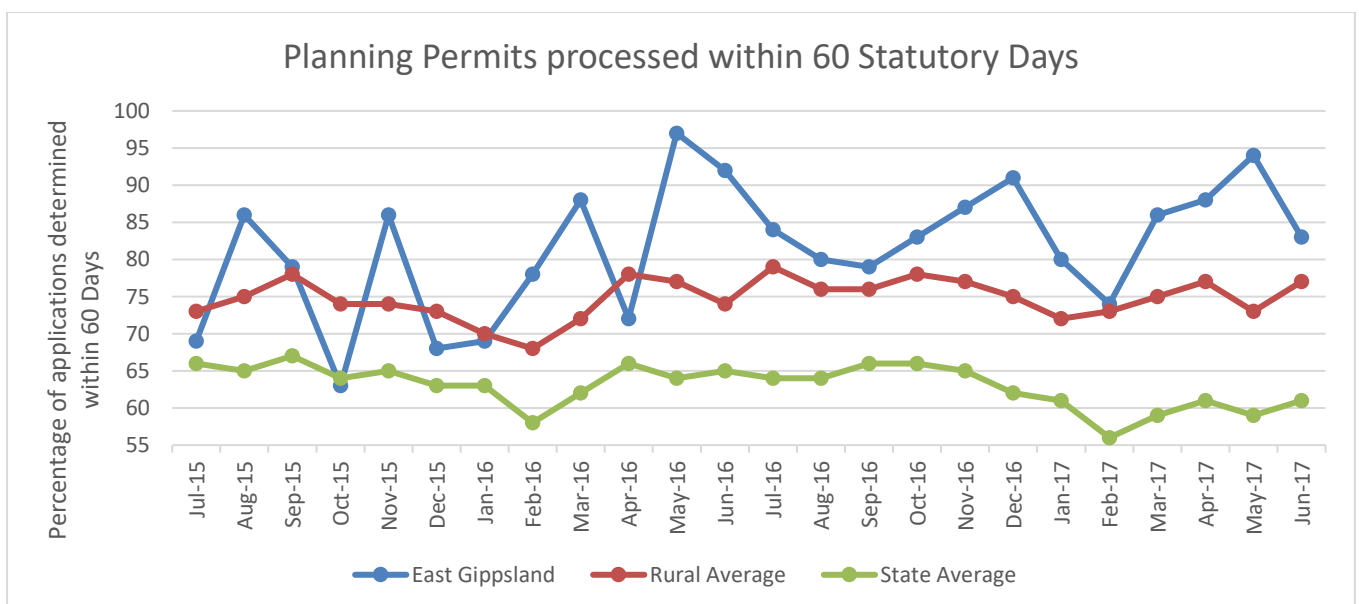
A settling-in period will apply until the end of the year, whereby council will continue to accept hardcopy applications.

*Further information: Rebecca Templeman*

## Turnaround times improved

The 2016/2017 financial year has been an exciting time in the Statutory Planning area. Our average processing times for planning permits have been consistently high and are sitting well above the State and Rural averages.

Investment in development has been strong this year with an annual investment cost of approximately \$121 million. Over ninety-five percent of planning permits lodged during the financial year resulted in an approval.

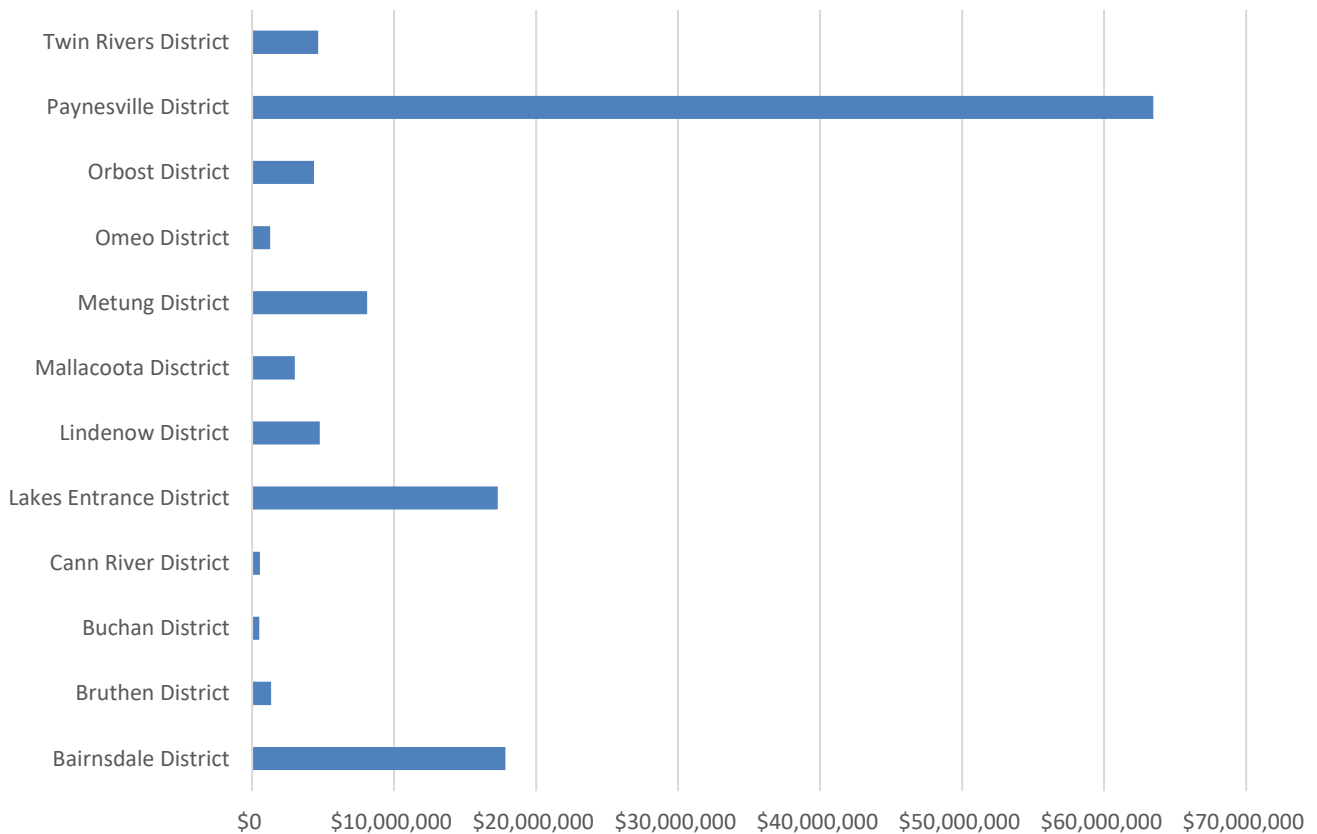


### Planning Permits Approved by District - 2016/2017

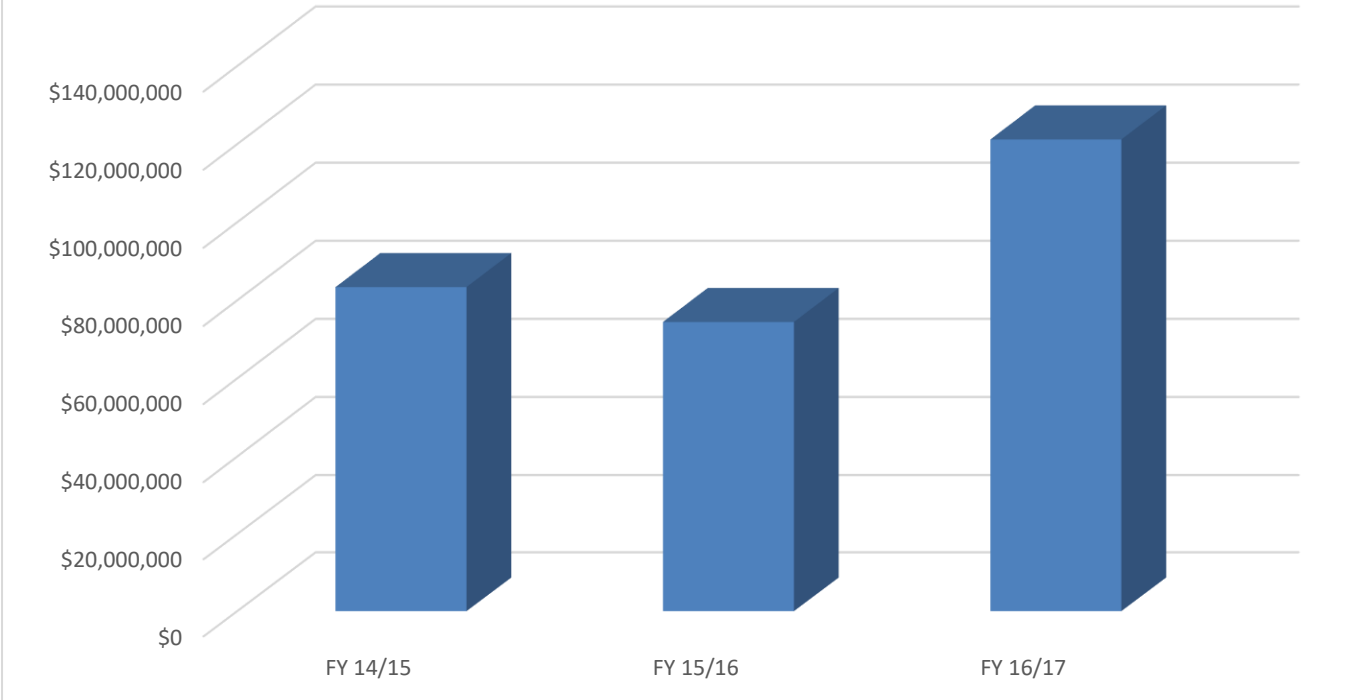


- Bairnsdale District
- Lakes Entrance District
- Paynesville District
- Metung District
- Orbost District
- Lindenow District
- Twin Rivers District
- Mallacoota District
- Bruthen District
- Omeo District
- Buchan District
- Cann River District

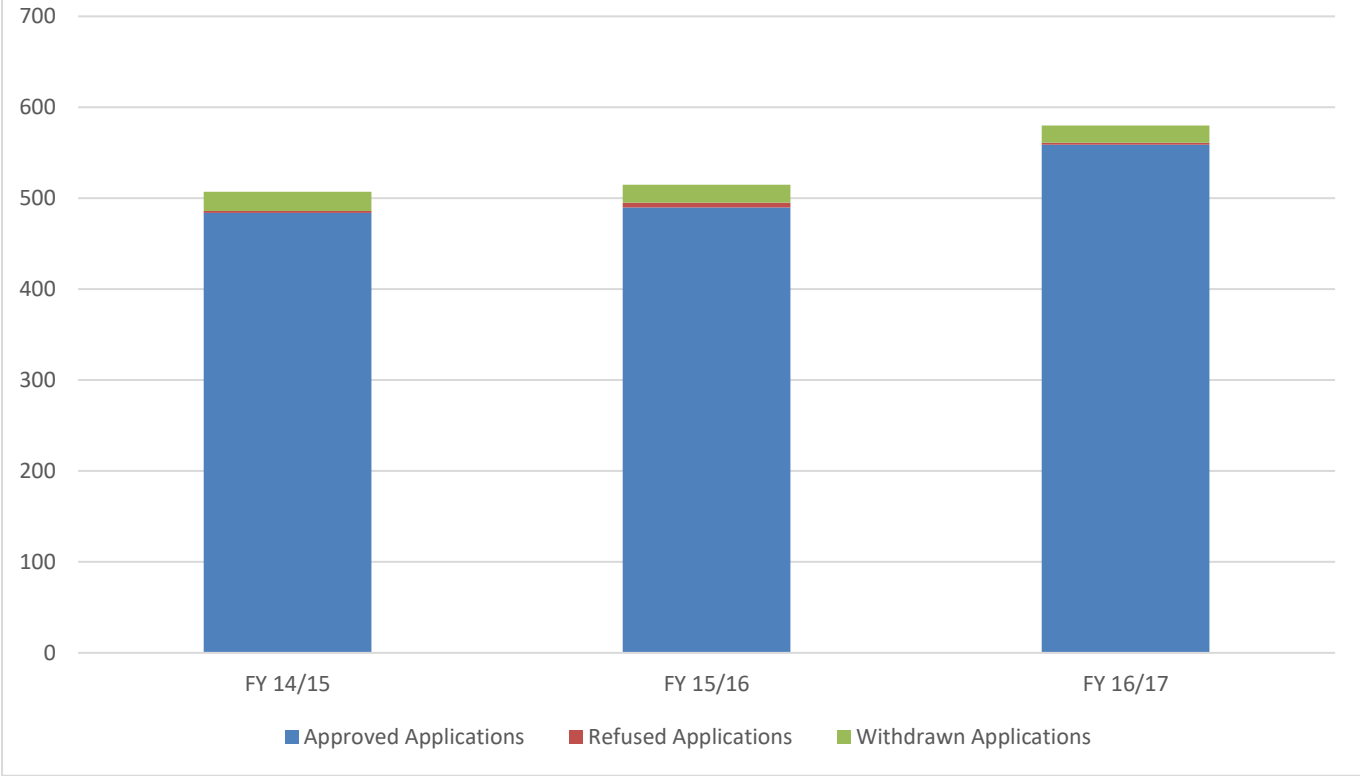
### Investment in Development by District - 2016/2017



### Total Cost of Development by Financial Year



### Planning Permits Approved, Refused and Withdrawn by Financial Year



## Fire prevention

We are encouraging residents to prepare their property for the coming fire season. Some useful activities you may do to prepare include clearing out your gutters and trying to remove any fuel that can dry out in summer. You can also look around your garden and property, removing any dead vegetation, plants and bracken from around your home. Pruning the lower limbs of trees will reduce the 'fuel ladder' – helping prevent fires on the ground climbing into tree canopies.

It is important to try to ember-proof your home. Seal up gaps and areas under your home, verandahs, decks or balconies. Any loose tiles or gaps in the roof should be repaired, and use fire-proof mesh or fly wire to cover windows, crevices and vents. We also encourage residents to think about their neighbours. Check in with them to see if they may need a hand preparing for fire season.

People who are not confident using a ladder or working on their roof should organise a contractor to undertake these tasks. Keeping fire preparation in mind all year round will make the task much more manageable leading up to fire season. The more you prepare your property, the better the chance it will survive a bushfire.

*Further information: Shane Turner*

## Bushfire Management Overlay changes

As a result of the 2009 Victorian Bushfires Royal Commission, the Victorian Government is considering changes to the Bushfire Management Controls in planning schemes across the state.

While this means more areas will be affected by the Bushfire Management Overlay (BMO), it also means that we can build more resilient communities with the objective of saving life and protecting property.

When the changes are introduced by the Minister for Planning, a planning permit will be required on top of the building permit 'bushfire attack level' construction requirements.

When the BMO is formally introduced, we will inform the community through the local newspaper, council's website and writing directly to businesses and practitioners who will be a part of the development process.

*Further information: Elaine Wood*

## Celebrating strong communities in East Gippsland

As part of our commitment to contributing to "Strong Communities, where East Gippsland has connected, inclusive and vibrant communities" (Council Plan 2017-2021), we are inviting groups and organisations to host activities that align with Social Inclusion Week. Deadline for contributions is Friday October 27.

A calendar of events, promotional booklet and targeted marketing will be provided to help support the promotion of your event. The booklets will be distributed to all of council's customer service centres and will be available to download from our website.

Social Inclusion Week 2017 runs from November 25 to December 3. In the interest of inclusion, we will only be including FREE events in the Social Inclusion Week booklet. We aim to help all East Gippslanders feel included and valued, giving everyone, young, old, those with varying abilities and from diverse backgrounds the opportunity to participate.

*Further information: Rebecca Pantry*

## Seniors Festival 2017

The Seniors Festival is traditionally celebrated during the second week of October and the free public transport is available between October 8 to 15. We now celebrate our Seniors for the entire month of October! Pick up a copy of the Seniors Festival Booklet from your nearest customer service centre, or download from our website:

[http://www.eastgippsland.vic.gov.au/files/assets/public/documents/plancom\\_directorate/community\\_development/seniors/seniors\\_fest\\_brochure\\_2017\\_final.pdf](http://www.eastgippsland.vic.gov.au/files/assets/public/documents/plancom_directorate/community_development/seniors/seniors_fest_brochure_2017_final.pdf)

## New management for Community and Educational Hub

Management of the Community and Educational Hub was recently taken over by Gippsland East Local Learning and Employment Network (GELLEN). From now on bookings for spaces in the Hub should be directed to GELLEN on 5153 1745 or [info@gellen.org.au](mailto:info@gellen.org.au).

## Digital Literacy Training

East Gippsland Shire Libraries are on a mission to equip our libraries and connect library users with the skills they need for smart, safe and responsible use of technology. The library aims to increase digital literacy levels amongst our community and play our part in increasing awareness of online threats which we believe will contribute to the improved health and wellbeing of our community.

We are doing this through the following:

- Provision of Public PC's and assistance to users of these PC's;
- Broadband for Seniors program – four weeks of tutoring for computer novices;
- Victorian Tech Savvy Seniors Program – introduction classes teaching topics such as Tablets, Email, Social Media, Managing Digital Photos and Cyber Safety;
- Code clubs – classes that teach children how to program by showing them how to make computer games, animations and websites;
- MyGov and My Aged Care website seminars – delivered in partnership with the Department of Human Services;
- eSmart library – an initiative that uses a cultural change approach to improve cyber safety and reduce cyber bullying. We are currently working to gain our accreditation; and
- Go Digi Partner - a national program designed to help people realise their digital potential.

There are some great events and initiatives coming up in our libraries over the next few months that will help us to achieve this mission!

## Lego Club

Junior Lego enthusiasts are invited to attend our after-school Lego Club sessions held monthly on a Tuesday at the Bairnsdale Library from 4.00pm to 5.00pm. The supervised sessions incorporate freestyle creativity as well as some themed construction activities. We are also accepting donations of new or used Lego. Further information please visit our website: [http://www.eastgippsland.vic.gov.au/Libraries/Library\\_Events](http://www.eastgippsland.vic.gov.au/Libraries/Library_Events)

## Code Club Scratch for beginners

Want to learn basic computer coding? Want to have fun learning how to develop animations and games? Join us for this six week program and learn how to code using Scratch. Participants will need to be confident independent readers. Bairnsdale Library 4.00 pm to 5.00 pm Monday October 16, 23, 30 and November 6, 13, 20.

Bookings are essential as places are strictly limited. Phone 5152 4225 or book in person at the library for this free event. The aim of the LBDC is to develop ideas and skills that inspire further scientific exploration, discovery and learning and the library is perfectly positioned to support these skills in kids who have yet to start formal education.

## Letters from the Great War come to Bairnsdale Library

To commemorate the centenary of World War I, East Gippsland Shire Council is presenting a touring exhibition from State Library Victoria exploring the personal stories of ordinary Australians told through their diaries and letters. The exhibition is on display at Bairnsdale Library until October 10 and will also feature letters, diaries, memorabilia and personal accounts from East Gippslanders who served in the war.

## So much to do in East Gippsland!

Spring/Summer events are popping up everywhere, giving you a great reason to explore what's happening in your own backyard!

### October 2017

**LEADA Chuck a Duck:** October 7 Lakes Entrance Foreshore  
[www.leadacom.au/news-events](http://www.leadacom.au/news-events)

**Roadshow Think.Digital Coach:** October 9, Bairnsdale Library  
[www.think.digital/gippsland-digital](http://www.think.digital/gippsland-digital)

**Head of the Mitchell and Irish League Regatta:** October 14, Mitchell River Bairnsdale  
[www.vic.rowingmanager.com/?regatta=3755](http://www.vic.rowingmanager.com/?regatta=3755)

**Barry Sheene Tribute Ride:** October 19 to 20, Main Street Bairnsdale  
[www.motogp.com.au/event/info-and-entertainment/barry-sheene-tribute-ride](http://www.motogp.com.au/event/info-and-entertainment/barry-sheene-tribute-ride)

**Children's Week Launch:** October 21, Lakes Entrance Rotunda  
[www.ucgipps.org.au](http://www.ucgipps.org.au)

**Tour of Gippsland:** October 21, 754 Primary School Nicholson Street Bairnsdale  
[www.tourofgippsland.com](http://www.tourofgippsland.com)

**LEADA Pet Competition:** October 22 Lakes Entrance Rotunda  
[www.leadacom.au/news-events](http://www.leadacom.au/news-events)

**They're Back! The Mik Maks:** October 27, Forest Park Orbest  
[www.themikmaks.com.au](http://www.themikmaks.com.au)

**Nicholson Primary School Fundraiser Movie Night:** October 27, Nicholson Primary School  
[www.nicholson-ps.vic.edu.au](http://www.nicholson-ps.vic.edu.au)

### November 2017

**Canine Carnivale & Food Van Fiesta:** November 4, Howitt Park Reserve Bairnsdale  
[www.facebook.com/events/464858237228485](https://www.facebook.com/events/464858237228485)

**LEADA Duck Race:** November 5, Lakes Entrance Foreshore  
[www.leadacom.au/news-events](http://www.leadacom.au/news-events)

**Swan Reach Primary School Twilight Fair:** November 6, Swan Reach Primary School  
[www.facebook.com/swanreachpscountrypair](https://www.facebook.com/swanreachpscountrypair)

**Omeo High Country Caravan & RV Muster:** November 10 to 12, Omeo Golf Club  
[www.omeoregion.com.au/events/item/omeo-high-country-caravan-rv-muster](http://www.omeoregion.com.au/events/item/omeo-high-country-caravan-rv-muster)

**Bairnsdale Show:** November 11, Bairnsdale Racecourse  
[www.bairnsdaleshow.com.au](http://www.bairnsdaleshow.com.au)

**Metung Fun Run:** November 12, Metung Village Green  
[www.metungfunrun.com.au](http://www.metungfunrun.com.au)

**Orbest Rodeo:** November 18, Newmerella Recreation Reserve  
[www.facebook.com/events/455370724587676](https://www.facebook.com/events/455370724587676)

**Southern States Zones, Australian Outrigger Canoe Racing Association:** November 24 to 26, Lakes Entrance Surf Life Saving Club and Surf Beach  
[www.aocra.com.au/southern-states](http://www.aocra.com.au/southern-states)

**Paynesville Boat Relay Regatta:** November 25, Paynesville Foreshore Reserve  
[www.thepaynesvilleclassic.com.au](http://www.thepaynesvilleclassic.com.au)

**RACV Great Victorian Bike Ride:** November 25 to December 3, rest day at Howitt Park Oval  
[www.bicyclenetwork.com.au/rides-and-events/racv-great-victorian-bike-ride](http://www.bicyclenetwork.com.au/rides-and-events/racv-great-victorian-bike-ride)

**Bairnsdale Christmas Market:** November 30, Bailey Street Bairnsdale  
[www.bairnsdale.org.au](http://www.bairnsdale.org.au)



[eastgippsland.vic.gov.au](http://eastgippsland.vic.gov.au)



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## December 2017

**Alpine Rally of East Gippsland:** December 1 to 3, Bellevue Lakes Entrance  
[www.alpinerally.org.au](http://www.alpinerally.org.au)

**East Gippsland Challenge:** December 2 to 3, courses set in Lakes Entrance and Colquhoun State Forest  
[www.eastgippslandchallenge.com.au](http://www.eastgippslandchallenge.com.au)

**Bairnsdale Christmas Parade and Market:** December 9, Main Street Bairnsdale  
[www.bairnsdale.org.au](http://www.bairnsdale.org.au)

**Bairnsdale Toy Run:** December 10, Riverside Caravan Park Bairnsdale  
[www.bairnsdaletoyrun.com.au](http://www.bairnsdaletoyrun.com.au)

**Messy Church Christmas Celebrations:** December 10, Lakes Entrance Rotunda  
[www.lebc.org.au](http://www.lebc.org.au)

**56th International Cadet Australian Championships:** December 27 to January 4, Metung Yacht Club and Bancroft Bay  
[www.metungyachtclub.com.au/cadet-nationals](http://www.metungyachtclub.com.au/cadet-nationals)

**Lakes Entrance Theos Summer Program:** December 28 to January 6, Lakes Entrance Skate Park and Slipway  
[www.facebook.com/theosallyear](http://www.facebook.com/theosallyear)

**Mallacoota Theos:** December 29 to January 7, Mudbrick Pavilion, Bastion Point Beach, Soccer Oval and Skate Park Mallacoota  
[www.suvic.org.au/program-information](http://www.suvic.org.au/program-information)

**SkyFest Lakes Entrance New Year Family Festival:** 31 December Esplanade Lakes Entrance  
[www.leada.com.au/news-events](http://www.leada.com.au/news-events)

**Lakes Entrance Foreshore Carnival:** December to January Lakes Entrance Foreshore near Rotunda  
[www.facebook.com/lakescarnival](http://www.facebook.com/lakescarnival)

# Succession Planning for Small Business and Families



**This free *Succession Planning for Small Business and Families* seminar is being facilitated by Department of Human Services, Financial Information Service.**

The seminar will cover:

- Retirement plans
- Taking control of your finances
- How to prepare for lifestyle choices in retirement, even while you are still working
- Livestock, plant, and equipment disposal
- Foregone wages
- What are the financial options available to you?
- Age pension
- Succession planning - how to start the conversation

Tuesday 10 October  
Bairnsdale Library  
1.00 pm – 3.00 pm

Phone 5152 4225 or  
book in person at the  
library for this FREE  
event.



Australian Government  
Department of Human Services

## Get involved with VicRoads planning and consultations

### Princes Highway East and Paynesville Road improvements

VicRoads would like to thank everyone in the community who has shared valuable local knowledge about their experiences on Princes Highway East and Paynesville Road. The images over the page show the VicRoads initiatives that will be happening on these roads in the coming months.

Your patience is appreciated as VicRoads continue to use community feedback and the outcomes of environmental investigations to inform their designs.

VicRoads would also like to encourage you to continue sharing your ideas on how they can improve road safety on these vital roads. This will help shape the future of road safety on both the Princes Highway and Paynesville Road.

Please share your thoughts with the VicRoads team by emailing: [engage.SSRIP@roads.vic.gov.au](mailto:engage.SSRIP@roads.vic.gov.au) or calling: 0459 861 176.

### Bairnsdale Road Improvement Planning

VicRoads is looking at ways to improve Bairnsdale's main roads so traffic can flow more safely and continuously through the town.

Significant population growth over the last decade has increased traffic flow in the town and resulted in bottlenecks, delays and access issues, particularly for road users attempting to enter or exit the Princes Highway.

VicRoads is inviting locals to share their experiences travelling in Bairnsdale. They want to know about traffic flow, access and safety issues on the main roads and your suggestions for improvement.

You can do this through the following:

- VicRoads community kiosk: Wednesday October 18, 10am to 1pm at the Nicholson Street Mall (outside Woolworths);
- VicRoads communing drop-in session: Wednesday October 18, 2 to 7pm at Bairnsdale Sporting and Convention Centre, 117 Great Alpine Road;
- Online at <https://engage.vicroads.vic.gov.au/bairnsdaleroads>;
- Via email: [easternengagement@roads.vic.gov.au](mailto:easternengagement@roads.vic.gov.au); or
- Via mail: VicRoads Eastern Region, 120 Kay Street Traralgon Vic. 3844.

This initial round of feedback closes December 3.

# Princes Highway East

## Safety improvements between Sale and Bairnsdale



# Paynesville Road

## Safety improvements between Bairnsdale & Paynesville

