



GippsLeader

GCLP news, notes & events

23 March, 2005

Environment questions blowing in the wind

Wind farms were the focus of Environment Day held at Toora on March 10. Program participants received a lot of information on the issues surrounding wind farms and, as usual, this stimulating day left them wanting more.

Speakers included Rynd Smith, senior panel member, Planning Panels Victoria, Noreen Wills of the Prom Coast Guardians, and South Gippsland Shire Councillor and Toora resident, Heather Blight. DSE Indigenous Cultural Heritage Officer, Gerry Laughton, added a valuable indigenous perspective to the day.

The site visit was to the Toora Wind Farm which helped participants to understand many of the issues raised by speakers.



Continuing the 2005 dress up tradition was duty syndicate, "Raj & the four divas" starring, from left, Diva Dixon (Helen), Raj Rajakumar, Diva Debono (Kylie) and Diva Davidson (Maree).

Networking Opportunities

There has been some excellent networking going on with graduates and participants supporting each other in a variety of projects. Read on to Items of Interest for more detail.

Be sure to share your networking stories via GippsLeader so that others can learn and benefit from your experiences.

SkillsBank Gippsland

Gippsland FM, a community radio station based in Morwell, is seeking SkillsBank Gippsland support to redevelop its website at www.3gcrfm.org.au. Interested graduates with appropriate skills can contact GCLP Project Officer, Tracey Matthies, for further details.

What a fantastic response and result to the call in the last issue of GippsLeader for support for the Kurnai College school council! The email had barely left my desk when I had two very enthusiastic responses from David Blythman (2000) and Michelle Toppin (2003). And Marg Guthrie (2004) who initiated the approach from Kurnai, was also pleased with the outcome:

“When Kurnai Principal, Margaret Corcoran asked School Councillors last month to consider where we might find suitable people to be co-opted onto College Council, I thought of the GCLP network & suggested Margaret contact you (GCLP Project Officer, Tracey Matthies). She did, and the result was splendid! We had 2 GCLPers respond, and tonight (at Council) we found roles for both. Great result! Thanks for your work on this.”

News from the GCLP office



Easter is almost upon us and the GCLP team will be hopping out for a short (and hopefully, restful) break. The office will be closed on Good Friday and Easter Monday. Please remember that Ian, Nicola and Tracey are all employed on a part-time basis, and that the office may be

unattended during normal office hours. We have an excellent voicemail system, so please leave a message and one of us will get back to you as soon as practicable.

Items of interest

Congratulations to Simon Vanderzalm (2002) and his wife, Ann, who welcomed the safe arrival of their second child, a son, Edan Jay, on February 22. Simon reports that Ann and baby are both well, and big sister Sienna is thrilled to have a little brother though she insists on calling him "Ballet" for some reason!

It's great to see the GCLP network achieving excellent results in the wider community. Richard Teychenne (2004) and music coordinator for the Boolarra Folk Festival sends this message of appreciation:

“On behalf of the Boolarra Folk Festival committee, I would like to thank the participants of the Gippsland Community Leadership Program 2004 in providing their support to the 2005 Festival.

The weather was a little unkind to all the patrons and supporters of the Festival on March 5; however the show went on and could not have been as successful without the wonderful support of the GCLP.

Personally I would like to thank Ian (Executive Officer) Roland, Lisa, Dan, Grant, Nic (Program Manager), Lindie, Neil, Helen Fall (2005) and Cr Bob for their fantastic contribution and we look forward to future GCLP support for the 2006 Boolarra Folk Festival.”

And from Boolarra Folk Festival convenor, Ray Stewart:

“On several occasions since the folk festival my wife, Wendy, has mentioned the great job you and the others in your group did on the day of the festival. We are always in need of vibrant, enthusiastic helpers such as yourselves. On behalf of the committee we would like to say thank you so much for your help. Although the weather was bad this year, there has been lots of positive feedback on how well the festival went. Thanks again.”

And Neil Lawson (2004) has successfully networked with the 2004 group to make an appointment to a temporary PR position at Loy Yang.

“LYP are very appreciative of the value of our network and want to pass on their thanks,” Neil said.

The Regional Youth Leadership Program is an opportunity to foster the development of leadership in our young people.

Twenty two places on this Marcus Oldham community and leadership program have been reserved for young people from across Victoria. The two places are open to young people up to 25 years of age, with some preference given to those who have left school. The cost to enrol is \$30. The costs of training, accommodation and a travel allowance have been covered by support from the Macpherson Smith Community Alliance , a philanthropic organisation supporting rural communities, and the Marcus Oldham Foundation which has identified Leadership as priority area .

Additional information is included in the document sent with this edition of GippsLeader.

<http://www.backtothebush.com.au/> Did you invite someone back to the bush for the long weekend? Share your story with GCLP via the GippsLeader.

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