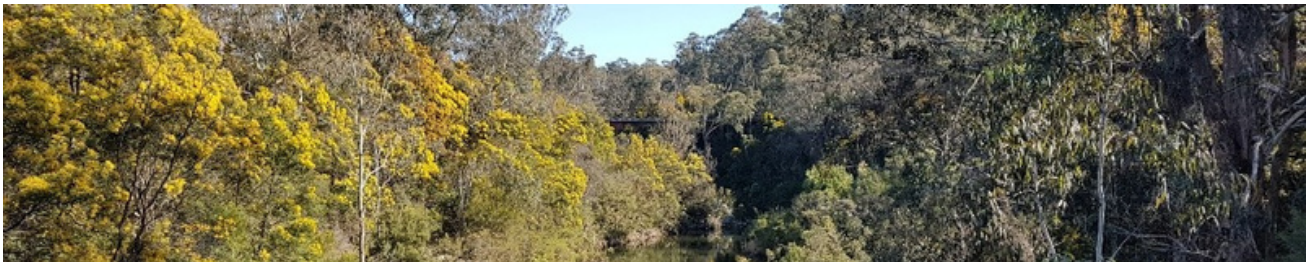




NOWA NOWA FUTURES NEWS

Contact Project Manager Hayley Hardy 0487053709 hayley@nowanowa.org.au
 Nowa Nowa Community Development Group: info@nowanowa.org.au



STOP PRESS! ***Forestry transition fund now open.***

Grants of up to \$1 million and wage subsidies are available to invest in native timber communities and create jobs.

The Forestry Transition Fund is now open for businesses and industry groups - including chambers of commerce and associations, peak bodies and businesses networks - to apply for grants to expand, diversify or start new businesses.

A \$20,000 wage subsidy is also available for each native timber worker that projects employ. Funding is also available to local councils, water corporations and utility providers to make sure there is the right infrastructure in place to support businesses' growth.

The Forestry Transition Fund supports job creation and business development in or around the native timber communities in Gippsland and the north-east of the state.

The types of things that can be funded include:

- The development of new facilities such as factories, offices, or shops, expanding existing facilities or repurposing facilities
- The introduction of new technologies, innovations, plant and equipment, systems, and processes including:
 - Skilling up workers
 - New utility and service connections and/or upgrades
 - Project management activities

For more information visit the website:

<https://www.deeca.vic.gov.au/forestry/grants/forestry-transition-fund>

or call 1800 318 182.

Our 'Context Analysis' is out for review

Nowa Nowa's 'Regional Context Analysis' is about to see the light of day!

While the title doesn't exactly grab you like a best selling novel, the Regional Context Analysis (RCA) brings together all the information about the Nowa Nowa area, from studies, reports and interviews with the people who live here.

The RCA is not just important to the people of Nowa Nowa: it is a soundly researched, evidence based document that accurately describes Nowa Nowa to the outside world, including those whose decisions and actions will impact on the area. The RCA also does more than just describe: it broadly identifies the 'Innovation Opportunities' that the collected information points to as potentially successful new economic development opportunities.

The first draft of the RCA was presented to the Nowa Nowa Community Development Group in August. In early October there will be a public community event to present the research results and opportunities of the RCA to the whole community - **watch this space for a date!**

There are two pieces of community feedback we will ask for about the RCA:

1. Is the characterisation of the community and economy presented in the Context Analysis accurate?
2. Are the chosen Innovation Opportunities the right ones to pursue?

Don't miss the chance to have input into this next important phase of the Nowa Nowa Futures Project! Contact Liz at liz@nowanowa.org.au if you are not already on our email list to be advised of the date.

An Example from Orbost

The Futures of Orbost project started in early 2021 and was the pilot project for the S3 driven process across the whole state.

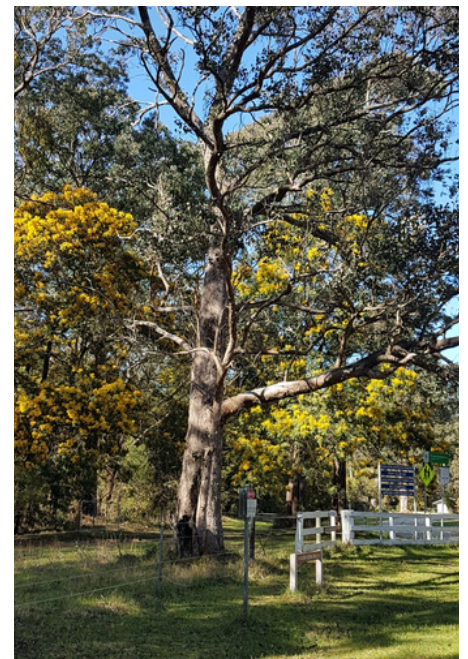
Orbost's Regional Context Analysis identified nine potential innovation opportunities, which were taken to the community for feedback in June 2021.

One of these, and the most developed concept to date, is a National Seeds Institute.

The Orbost RCA identified the local seed corn industry, and native seed industries as unique, existing asset of the region, which could be built on by creating a world class lab facility for quality control and testing, which currently is not available in Australia.

An Entrepreneurial Discovery Workshop was held to examine the idea in November 2021, with the first Innovation Working Group held in June the following year (remember we were still in thick of Covid at that time, slowing down progress).

The group has now commissioned initial market research and scoping work to further test the concept, before progressing to a feasibility study which can form the basis of seeking funding and investment.





NOWA NOWA COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT GROUP

NEWS

School site getting ready for a new life.

Nowa Nowa Public School, perched on the eastern side of Boggy Creek Gorge was closed by the Department of Education in 2020 and has since lain empty. Recently however, the Nowa Nowa Community Development Group signed a lease for the site at a peppercorn rent, for the next 3 years. The two staff members of the Nowa Nowa Futures Project are getting ready to relocate their office there in September. We will miss the regular visitors at the Community Room, so do come up and say hello and have a cuppa with us!

The former library / arts room, the oldest part of the school will be set up as an 'op shop' for the town.

Another plan is to set up a 'co-working' space, where people who run businesses or work from a home office can instead opt to share office space and facilities, overcoming the isolation of working alone at home.

The large modern open room on the south side of the school has potential for hiring out as a meeting space. The school's canteen is a well equipped kitchen: facing into the playground could be perfect for catering for outdoor events .

What's happening in Nowa Nowa?

- The Mens Shed and Tuesday Ladies Group joined together for a fabulous lunch on the first Tuesday in August - don't come to one of shared gatherings if you are watching your waistline!
- A 'Make and Mingle' group has been meeting fortnightly on Thursday at the community room - a lovely way to enjoy working with fabrics with good company!
- **James Adderley** - Saturday 14th of October
- **Amber Lawrence** - Friday 3rd of November





New Nowa Nowa website

Nowa Nowa has a new website, and it's ready for you to go and take a look!

nowanowa.org.au

The website contains information for both visitors and locals.

The 'Explore' page has information about all the activities and facilities visitors may want to use: boating and kayaking, cycling and fourwheel driving, as well as places to stay and where supplies can be bought. Where possible, links to further information are included on the page: if you have a business you would like mentioned on the site, let us know!

NN Community Development Group has it's own page: this includes Hall hire, membership information, and this newsletter.

The 'Future' page will have updates and more information on the Nowa Nowa Futures project, so is the place to go to keep up to date.

NNCDG AGM Tues September 12th

The next meeting of the NNCDG is on Tuesday September 12th at the earlier time of 5 pm, and will be the Annual General Meeting.

Agenda:

Guest Speaker: Dr Fiona Jennings, leading a discussion on 'Disaster Recovery and Wellbeing'

Pot Luck (bring a plate to share)

General Update for Members

Constitution Update: there will be a vote on whether to accept an amended Constitution.

Election of Officer-Bearers and 11 General Committee positions.

