



# NOWA NOWA FUTURES NEWS

Contact Project Manager Hayley Hardy 0487053709 [hayley@nowanowa.org.au](mailto:hayley@nowanowa.org.au)  
Nowa Nowa Community Development Group: [info@nowanowa.org.au](mailto:info@nowanowa.org.au)

## ‘Great Outdoors Taskforce’: the future of our forests.

**Communities will have a once-in-a-generation opportunity to share their views on the use and care of the 1.8 million hectares of state forests which were previously available for timber harvesting with the appointment of a Great Outdoors Taskforce by the Victorian Government.**

The Great Outdoors Taskforce will investigate ways to support more Victorians and visitors to explore the great outdoors, protect biodiversity and create new recreation opportunities. The taskforce will consider opportunities to protect the environment and support recreational, social and commercial opportunities in their recommendations to Government. The taskforce will also explore which areas need to be protected to safeguard threatened species, areas that qualify for protection as National Parks and opportunities for Traditional Owner management.

It will also consider relevant adjacent state forests where assessment of these areas supports a Cultural Landscapes approach for Traditional Owners or will help with management continuity (e.g., to support environmental outcomes or recreation needs).

The taskforce will be established in partnership with Victorian Traditional Owners. Their involvement will be flexible to allow for each Traditional Owner group to determine its involvement.

Former Minister for Environment, Water and Climate Change, Lisa Neville will lead the taskforce which will work alongside the Eminent Panel for Community Engagement.

Members of the Great Outdoors Taskforce will be Karen Cain, current chair of the Eminent Panel for Community Engagement, Mellissa Wood current chair of the Victorian Environmental Assessment Council and member of the EPCE, Graham Dear, Board Chair of the Victorian Fisheries Authority and Terry Robinson, CEO of Destination Gippsland.

More information about engagement opportunities for the Great Outdoors Taskforce will be provided soon. Further information : [deeca.vic.gov.au](http://deeca.vic.gov.au), search ‘Future Forests’.

*The Nowa Nowa Futures team are liaising with DEECA to bring a community consultation session to Nowa Nowa for you to have your say.*

## Futures Working Group updates

The work of turning ideas into actions has started across the three 'innovation opportunities' that have been prioritised for Nowa Nowa's future by the NN Community Development Group.

**Newcomers are welcome to join the working groups, which will meet monthly.**

Workshops were held in late April / early May to work on Primary Industry, the Visitor Economy and Nature Tourism. Each workshop considers a question specific to that area.

**Primary Industry** is looking for answers to "Imagine NN as a place recognised for thriving niche primary producers – what would this look like?"

**Visitor Economy** is considering "Imagine if NN had innovative food and accommodation businesses enabled 21st century town infrastructure."

**Nature Tourism** will look for answers to "What would NN look like if visitors were drawn to come and enjoy the nature of Lake Tyers all year round?"

At each workshop we work with the 'assets' in the room: the skills, knowledge, access to materials and buildings, funding, time, networks with organisations and clubs that the people in the room can directly access. For example, each working group starts with the assets of a paid project manager and assistant, access to a school building, seeding funds from Stream 1 of the Local Development Strategy and potential further funds from the Community Development Fund. The skills and networks in the room vary with the attendees: importantly they need to be assets which are immediately available to be used.

Specific ideas for action are then brainstormed based on the assets in the room; ideas are prioritised and finally the idea which has both the most impact and is the easiest to implement becomes the 'Big Easy' project for the group to focus it's immediate actions on.



## Free internet for students in eligible families

Do you have school-aged children but no active home broadband service to support them in their studies? Then, you may be eligible to access a free high-speed broadband service over the nbn® network under the Australian Government's School Student Broadband Initiative (SSBI). Google 'free internet for students nbn, or use the link below:

<https://www.nbnco.com.au/corporate-information/about-nbn-co/newsroom/articles/community/free-internet-for-students-in-eligible-families>

*The Nowa Nowa Futures Project is supported by Nowa Nowa Community Development Group, the Victorian Government and RMIT University*

## Burger Night Thursday, 30 May 5 – 7 pm Community Room



No cooking, no dishes, no cost! No business, no meeting. Just good food and good neighbours. Bring the kids!

The NN Community Development Group wants to hear from you about your thoughts for Nowa Nowa's future. **Come and talk to one of the committee members on Wednesday mornings at the General Store:** May 8th, 15th and 29th from 8.30 – 10 am. You can also **join one of the working groups** ( see page 2), or **attend the monthly NNCDG meetings** ( see below).

## And don't miss these Nowa Nowa events!

### Art therapy Sessions:

Free sessions every fourth Wednesday from 1 – 3 pm. Come and explore and connect to yourself in a supportive group environment. Nowa Nowa School.

### Lemon Hill Gallery:

'With a Beady Eye and Glassy Stare' exhibition opening May 5th. Works by Elizabeth Blakeman.

**Nowa Nowa Creators Market:** Saturday May 18th 9 am to 1 pm at the Nowa Nowa Recreation Reserve, Stott St. The Donut Shack will be there!

## Have a voice with the NN Development Group

Do you have an idea or issue about Nowa Nowa? Do you want to join the development group, please email [info@nowanowa.org.au](mailto:info@nowanowa.org.au) or speak with one of the members of the committee.

The following meetings in 2024 are open to all Nowa Nowans. We hope to see you there – Second Tuesdays of each month at 6pm in the Community Room behind the Health Centre.

**May 14, July 9, September 10 and November 12**

The alternate meetings are for the elected committee.



## NOWA NOWA COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT GROUP

# NEWS

## Farm Business Resilience Workshop East Gippsy

The Farm Business Resilience Workshop is supporting farmers to develop the knowledge and skills they need to improve their farm business and be better equipped to manage the impacts of drought and a changing climate.

Agriculture Victoria, in partnership with the ION Group, is inviting you to join other farmers in free workshops and short courses with specialists on the topics including business, finance, people and natural resource management.

More info at [www.agriculture.vic.gov.au/FBRP](http://www.agriculture.vic.gov.au/FBRP)

**May 27 - 29 and June 17 - 19.**

**Booking Form via QR code**



## Things happening in Gippsland

As ever there are so many opportunities to attend workshop, information sessions or get assistance for businesses, farmers and individuals. You've just got to know where to look.

Here is a sample of events happening, and where to find out more information.

### **East Gippsland Business Connect**

**Digital Confidence Workshops:** Introductory workshops to connect you with like minded business owners and bring awareness to some of the latest information and trends. Extra dates Wednesday 16 May, 9.30am to 12.30pm and Thursday 22 May, 3.30pm to 6.30pm. Zoom sessions - register and more info [here](#)

**Business Victoria's free web based planning tool.** Web based and free, to help you plan, track and learn. Invest in your business and focus on the tasks that matter to keep your business on track.

<https://plan.business.vic.gov.au/>

### **Destination Gippsland Industry Update**

**Gippsland Tourism Forum:** Tuesday May 14th 9 am - 4 pm at Forestech (GLAWAC) Lakes Entrance. Keynote speaker is futurist Mark Cameron. [More info and tickets here.](#)

**TYPSY - Free online training for tourism, hospitality and events.** Available to all operators, subsidized by state and federal governments. [More info here.](#)

### **Gippsland Agriculture Group ( GAG)**

2023 Gippsland Agricultural Research Results book - now available to [download online](#). Local research, plus more publications.

Farm dam citizen science project - [be involved!](#)

<https://www.bluecarbonlab.org/our-research/teal-carbon/farm-dams/social-sciences/>

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