



Future of Heyfield

Newsletter August 2026

The Future of Heyfield Project is focused on supporting the rollout of opportunities identified by the Innovation Working Groups for the growing future and economic stability of Heyfield. This project is supported by the Victorian Government under DEECA's Forestry Transition Program.

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We acknowledge the Gunaikurnai People as the Traditional Owners of the land on which we operate, and pay our respects to their Elders past and present.



Heyfield Apex Park

Project Update

A lot has happened since our last newsletter in May, and we're delighted to be back with an update on the progress, achievements, and next steps for the project.

Firstly, we are pleased to share that the Future of Heyfield project period has been extended from March 2027 until December 2027. This extension will allow us to continue delivering activities, strengthen projects and create even greater benefits for our community.

June and July have been particularly busy as we prepared and submitted project applications to the Community Development Fund. The application period has now closed, and all submissions are proceeding through the assessment process.

The Future of Heyfield Project Innovation Working Groups have gained some exciting momentum in the last few months, and we extend a thank you to the wonderful community members and industry professionals who offer their time and continued support to the project.

To find out more about what we are focusing on in the project, contact the Project Manager Erin Baxter on 5148 2100, or erinb@heyfield.net

The Future of Heyfield Project is supported by



Community Events

AI for Grant Writing Workshop

On 21st May we welcomed Amy from Anywhere Creative to the Heyfield Community Resource Centre for our AI for Grant Writing Workshop.

Participants learned how AI can be used as a practical tool to support stronger grant applications while staying ethical, authentic and true to their own voice.

Participants discovered how to:

- Use AI safely and ethically for writing grant applications
- Turn their ideas into structured project concepts using AI prompts
- Refine AI-generated content to sound more personal
- Build real grant applications using Amy's Grant-Ready Toolkit

A big thank you to Amy for sharing her knowledge and to our community members who joined us for this engaging session. We're excited to see these new skills help support future community projects and funding opportunities across Heyfield.



Upcoming Events

CUSTOMER SERVICE EXCELLENCE TRAINING

Presented by TAFE Gippsland

Join us for a workshop designed to equip you with the skills to deliver exceptional customer experiences through confident communication, inclusive service, problem-solving and promoting your community with pride.

What you will learn:

- What good customer service looks like
- How to communicate clearly and positively
- How to handle tricky situations with confidence
- Reflection on how to improve
- How to tailor service to diverse customer demographics
- Ways to promote Heyfield while delivering great customer service

DATE: Tuesday 25 August 2026

TIME: 5:30pm - 8:30pm

VENUE: Heyfield Community Resource Centre



FREE REGISTRATION

LIMITED SEATS, BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL
LIGHT DINNER PROVIDED

☎ 03 5148 2100

✉ erinb@heyfield.net

This is a free community event brought to you by the Future of Heyfield Project.

The Future of Heyfield Project is supported by the Victorian Government through the Forestry Transition Program



TAFE GIPPSLAND



Social Media Marketing Workshop



Designed for tourism businesses, event organisers and local experiences, this interactive workshop will explore strategic social media marketing, collaboration opportunities, AI-powered content creation, Google visibility, and practical tools to help you reach more visitors year-round.

Date: Monday 16th November 2026

Time: 5:30pm - 8:00pm

Cost: FREE

Light supper provided.

Bookings essential on 5148 2100 or email erinb@heyfield.net

Innovation Working Group Update

Tourism



On Friday 17th July The Heyfield Adventure Hub hosted their first Cosmic Adventure Night at EcoGipps in Maffra West Upper, and we couldn't have asked for better viewing conditions. We had clear skies, no rain and barely a breath of wind. What a night to enjoy a magical evening under Gippsland's dark skies!

The Latrobe Valley Astronomical Society took us on a journey through the wonders and stories of the cosmos with fascinating presentations, insightful discussions and incredible views through their telescopes and astronomical equipment.

We also enjoyed a hearty meal catered by one of our wonderful volunteers, Beth Ripper, who did an amazing job of keeping everyone warm and well fed throughout the evening.

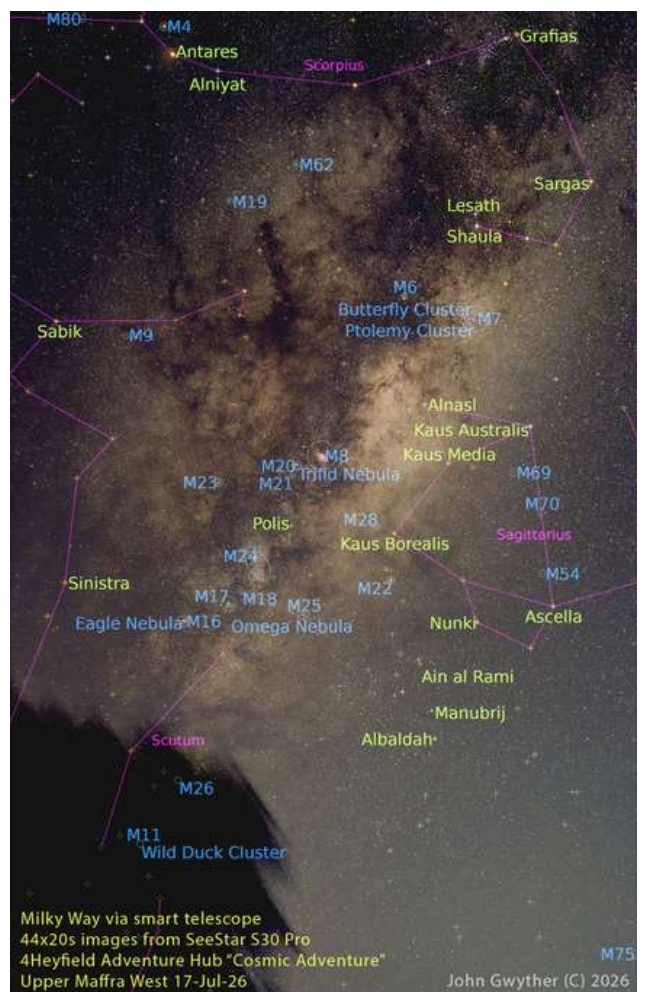
Guests also had the opportunity to learn more about the incredible work being undertaken at EcoGipps, where founders Jim and Heather Phillipson, alongside Stewardship Coordinator Caroline Trevorrow, are strengthening biolinks to and between surrounding properties.

A huge thank you to our wonderful partners, EcoGipps and to Chris Morley, John Gwyther, Paul Odgers and Mark Jarred from the Latrobe Valley Astronomical Society, for helping us deliver such a fantastic event.

A second star gazing event has been scheduled at EcoGipps on Friday 14th August and tickets sold out in just four days. Visit the Heyfield Adventure Hub Facebook and Instagram pages to keep up to date with future events.



Photos: Chris Morley and John Gwyther



heyfieldadventurehub



Heyfield Adventure Hub

Innovation Working Group Update

Agriculture

Jobs on Farms Training

Our August program of *Be Work Ready - Jobs on Farms* training is currently being held, with students hearing from industry representatives, participating in local farm tours and learning about pathways in to further training and employment.

We extend our thanks to the representatives from Fresh Select, Gipps Dairy, Food and Fibre Gippsland, BNS Agriculture, Tafe Gippsland and the Skills and Jobs Centre for their support and participation in this program.



Megan from Gipps Dairy speaking with students during the *Be Work Ready - Jobs on Farms* program

Kick start your future with

BE WORK READY - Jobs on Farms

Join us for a training program developed for beginners looking to build practical skills, gain industry knowledge, and the confidence to start a rewarding career in agriculture.

This program includes:

- Local farm tours
- Support with resume writing, where to look for jobs and interview skills
- Presentations from industry representatives
- Links to training pathways

**SCAN TO
BOOK
ONLINE**

call: 5148 2100

email: coordinator@heyfield.net



**Heyfield Community Resource Centre
5 George Street, Heyfield VIC 3858**

Be Work Ready - Jobs on Farms is an ACFE supported course.

This community training is brought to you by the Future of Heyfield Project.

The Future of Heyfield is supported by the Victorian Government through the Forestry Transition Program

NEW DATES!

Runs over 5 sessions

Tuesday 4th August

Wednesday 5th August

Tuesday 11th August

Wednesday 12th August

Thursday 13th August

9:30am - 2:30pm each day

Only \$20 per person.

Bookings essential.



Active Ageing

Scams Information Session

On 20th July Leading Senior Sergeant Kim Kell hosted an information session at the Resource Centre recently, focusing on Scams.

The one hour presentation provided valuable information and insight in to how to spot a scam, how to avoid scams, and safe online practices.

Joanne and Vanessa from the Bendigo Bank Heyfield Branch also attended the session, speaking with community members and sharing copies of the Little Book of Scams.

Join our *working group*

Would you like to join our Active Ageing Innovation Working Group?

If you are able to donate one hour of your time per month, and you are interested in supporting our Senior Community Members to remain active, socially connected and to live in their homes for longer, please contact Erin on 5148 2100.