

# Media Release



9 March 2017

## **AusNet Services Offers \$20,000 in Community Development Grants in Yarra Ranges**

Community groups in the Yarra Ranges have the opportunity to share in \$20,000 as part of a program being offered by AusNet Services.

AusNet Services, which operates the electricity network in the Yarra Ranges, will award grants of up to \$3000 to local not-for-profit organisations for eligible projects.

The 'Energising Your Community' development program will accept applications from Monday, 13 March until Thursday 13 April 2017.

AusNet Services' Customer and Community Manager, Gareth Downes, said AusNet Services was delighted to offer eligible community groups grants to deliver sustainable projects within the Yarra Ranges.

"Empowering the diverse communities we service is important at AusNet Services, which is why we're in offering the program to help local organisations," Mr Downes said.

"This program creates real opportunities to improve social wellbeing, deliver community projects or perhaps even pay for much needed equipment or renovations for groups to continue offering services that community members rely on.

"Our community development programs have successfully helped not-for-profit organisations tackle the challenges their communities face for a number of years."

"It's easy to apply and we would encourage all eligible groups to consider making an application for a grant."

Yarra Ranges Council Mayor, Noel Cliff welcomed the program, saying it would provide valuable funds for local groups.

"As a community, I'm proud to say we have a strong network of local groups managed and run by volunteers," Cr Cliff said.

"These volunteers work hard to support the success of music and theatre groups, emergency and community services, sports and recreation clubs.

"Having access to grants to buy equipment to progress projects or deliver services will benefit not just these groups, but the wider community, and we thank AusNet Services for this opportunity."

Applications open Monday, 13 March 2017 and close on Thursday 13 April 2017, with application forms and guidelines available at [www.ausnetservices.com.au](http://www.ausnetservices.com.au) > Community > Sponsorships and Donations

Each year, AusNet Services commits \$100,000 in sponsorships and donations across Melbourne's west and northern and eastern Victoria.

**Ends...**