

# Media Release



10 September 2015

## AusNet Services presents \$20,000 in community grants

Eight Baw Baw Shire community groups received a total of \$20,000 in grants last night under AusNet Services' Energising Your Community Development Grant Program.

The grant program was run in partnership with Baw Baw Shire Council, offering grants of up to \$3,000 for eligible local community groups and their projects.

AusNet Services' Community Manager - East Region, Mr Derek Walton said AusNet Services is committed to partnering with local community groups to complete sustainable projects.

"The Energising Your Community Development Grant Program is a worthwhile way to support community groups who demonstrate, like AusNet Services, a commitment to building stronger community relationships," Mr Walton said.

"I was delighted to present the cheques and to highlight the important contribution these community-minded organisations make to the Baw Baw community.

"Working with the communities in which we operate is paramount at AusNet Services, whether it's by being an employer of choice or by partnering with organisations such as the Baw Baw Shire Council," he said.

Each year, AusNet Services pledges \$100,000 through its sponsorship program to energise the communities in which it operates across eastern Victoria.

Mayor of Baw Baw Shire, Councillor Debbie Brown, said that the program was designed to help build a stronger council-community partnership by supporting local community initiatives.

"There are now eight local community groups who have each received up to \$3000 towards their sustainable projects. The projects that are being funded are worthy initiatives that will have flow on benefits not just for the groups involved but for the wider community," said the Mayor.

"It is pleasing to see broad community focused project work being undertaken in our midst. We understand and proactively promote the benefits of keeping our community socially connected through sports, leisure and other community-minded programs. These grants are certainly being used in a manner that puts the community first," the Mayor said.

Winners of the grants include:

- Buln Buln Recreation Reserve Committee;
- The Noojee & District Historical Society Inc.;
- Jindivick Primary School;
- Women in Gippsland Inc.;
- Trafalgar High School;
- West Gippsland Regional Library Corporation;
- U3A Baw Baw Inc.; and
- CFA Warragul Fire Brigade.

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