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Women on Farms



Women on Farms Gathering in Buchan

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Women from across rural Australia are invited to Buchan for the 23rd annual Women on Farms Gathering, which will run from 16 to 18 March 2012.

This year's gathering, hosted by Learn Local organisation Buchan Neighbourhood House, will feature workshops, tours of the region, socialising and keynote presentations from prominent rural women.

Evelyn Schmidt, Buchan Neighbourhood House Centre Coordinator, says the Buchan and District steering group have worked tirelessly behind the scenes to bring together a very exciting program.

"This is the first time this event has ever been hosted in East Gippsland and we will be showcasing some of the best of East Gippsland," Ms Schmidt said.

"There will be tours into the stunning countryside north east of Buchan, including visits to W Tree, Gelantipy, Seldom Seen and Mc Killops Bridge.

"We will also have tours to Marlo with a trip on the paddle steamer Curlip, a heritage drive around the Buchan district and a visit to the Buchan Caves," Ms Schmidt said.

Speakers at the event will include Angela Betheras, Victorian Rural Woman of the Year, Professor Kate Auty, Commissioner of Environmental Sustainability and Carol Clay, President of the Victorian Country Women's Association.

In addition to hearing keynote speakers and learning about the local area, the gathering will give attendees the chance to learn new skills across a wide range of areas.

There will be practical workshops on solar power, social networking, finding out about funerals, financial literacy and community planning – as well as arts and crafts activities, including jewellery making, singing, floral art, pampering, textiles, relaxation and sewing.

Ms Schmidt says this year's Women on Farms Gathering is going to be a fantastic event. "I encourage women living in rural Australia to make sure they don't miss out on this great networking and development opportunity," Ms Schmidt said.

The Buchan Women on Farms Gathering is sponsored by East Gippsland Shire Council, Vicforests, Murray Goulburn, Gippsland Women's Network, Parks Victoria, Powercor, Centre for Rural Communities, Beacon Solar, Toyota, Victorian Farmers Federation, Avon and Gippsland Lakes Community Health. Support for the project has also come from Tim Bull, State Member for Gippsland.

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