



Investing in Rural Community Futures Program

## Batemans Bay NFP Morning Tea Gather

Tuesday 3 October, Eurobodalla Botanical Gardens

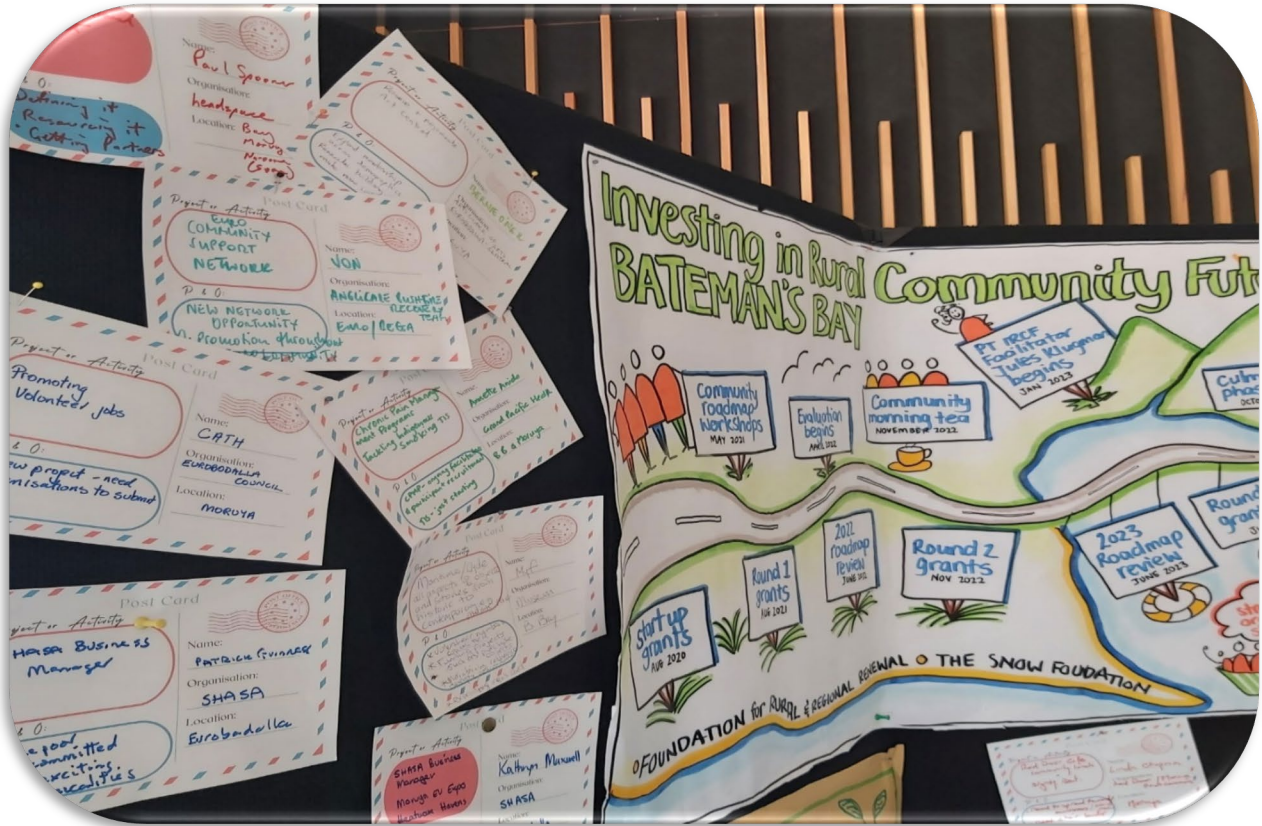


IRCF Batemans Bay area organised a morning tea and networking gathering for local not for profits in early October at the Eurobodalla Botanical Gardens.

Eighteen wonderful representatives from local organisations came along and shared with others about their aspects of their existing or planned projects, challenges, and opportunities for collaboration (attachment 1 - participants list).



## Postcards

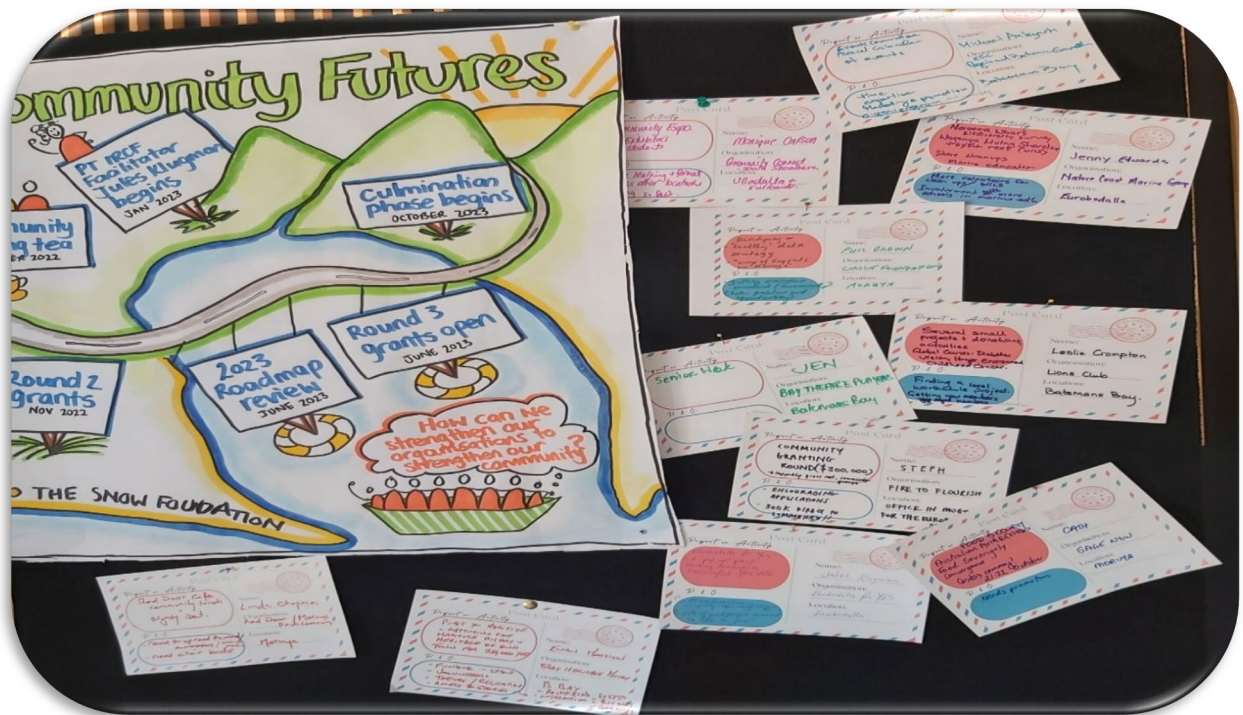


Participants were asked to write on a “postcard” a sentence about a project or activity their organisation was currently undertaking, and a problem and/or opportunity relating to the activity which could involve others.

Two questions were posed to facilitate introductions and sharing amongst participants.

Participants were asked to note down and then share with others -

1. A sentence on one of the activities participants organisation is supporting
2. Problems encountered and/or possible opportunity to engage with others (to overcome problem/better results)



## Postcard discussions

The session was a relaxed yet efficient way to jump straight into thinking about collaborative opportunities, as well as a way for organisations to get to know each other and our organisations/programs.

A number of common themes emerged during the session -

1. The challenge of expanding membership/volunteer based across demographics (including the challenge of engaging younger people)
2. The importance of good communications and marketing – to raise awareness amongst the community of activities (reference to approaches learned by participants who attended the social media and marketing course supported with toolbox funding the previous week)
3. Volunteers can be time poor, overcommitted.
4. There are many areas of common need, and opportunities to collaborate to address some of the challenges (examples of sharing of resources, joint activities).



## Networks, Connections and Resources

Three speakers from local organisations/network provided a briefing of their activities which were available and of relevance to other organisations.

### Euro Community Support Network (Von Hutchenson)

- A local network of NFP, Government bodies working in the community support sector.
- Von provided a good overview of the background to this new network and encouraged people/organisations to engage.
- A copy of the charter is attached.

### Eurobodalla Shire Council (Cath Reilly)

- Cath provided a briefing and distributed information on small grants currently available (targeting Seniors, Youth, Community Wellbeing), and the “Volunteers Project” being run through the job shop in the community development division.
- Cath encouraged NFPs looking for Volunteers to develop a brief and get in contact
- A copy of the information is attached

### Fire to Flourish (Steph Chui)

- Steph provided an overview of the program and promoted opportunities available in the coming grants round – criteria, timing, resources available.
- Steph also shared information about coming 3-day Community Governance workshop.

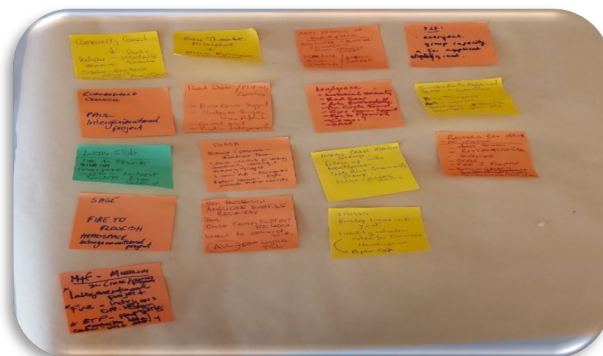
## Stretch and chat with someone new

Participants were asked to approach and have a brief chat with someone who they don't yet know, but were interested to meet with. This resulted in 5 minutes of lively discussion, and a provided a good segway into the final segment specifying links, opportunities for direct collaboration between organisations.



## Closing with Intent - Collaboration

Attendees were asked to briefly think about what they have heard during discussions about what other organisations were doing, and where they saw possibilities for collaboration.





The following collaborations were identified by each participating organisation –

NFP name	Expressed interest in collaboration with
Lions Club Batemans Bay	Euro Community Support Network (engage in network) Headspace ESC community development area (small grants, volunteers) SHASA (heatwave) Fire to Flourish (grant round)
SHASA	Moruya Commons/Red Door (Heatwave haven) SAGE (cross posting on social media, community cooking project – with ESC) Lions Club (Moruya EV expo) Botanical Gardens (events, promotions) Headspace (youth) ESC (identify volunteer roles)



Euro Community Support Network	All - everyone encouraged to engage in the network.
Nature Coast Marine Group	Headspace (around the potential for engagement with Youth) Historical Society (new marine focus) SHASA (facebook sharing)
Red Door/Moruya Commons	Euro Community Support Network ESC (small/volunteers grant) Headspace (Intergenerational project idea) Montague Singers (via Patrick/SHASA)
Bay Theatre Players	Eurobodalla Botanical Gardens (opportunities for collaboration in use of space)
Eurobodalla Shire Council	Headspace (Intergenerational Project idea) SAGE (cooking project) Fire to Flourish
Batemans Bay Historical Society	Euro Community Support Network Eurobodalla Arts Council Bay Theatre Players Headspace Fire to Flourish Botanical Gardens Headspace (Intergenerational project)
Arts Council of the Eurobodalla	Euro Community Support Network Headspace SHASA ESC Botanical Gardens Anglicare – bushfire recovery
Headspace	Euro Community Support Network Red Door (various, including intergenerational idea) Clyde River Historical Society Eurobodalla Arts Council Circle Foundation ESC SAGE Fire to Flourish
Eurobodalla Botanical Gardens	Eurobodalla Arts Council



	Headspace (Intergenerational) ESC (volunteers project) Bay Players
Circle Foundation	Red Door Headspace (intergenerational) Euro Community Support Network SAGE SHASA Eurobodalla Arts Council
Fire to Flourish	Everyone
Community Connect (Ulladulla)	Headspace SHASA (facebook sharing) ESC (volunteer, job shop)

## Key take aways from the gathering

- ✓ There is an ongoing desire for people to meet and connect amongst organisations that attended.
- ✓ There are many areas of common concern, and opportunities to enhance inter organisation collaboration.
- ✓ Guest speakers valuable – great opportunity to quickly brief local NFPs of opportunities for longer term support and potential resourcing.
- ✓ A facilitated two-hour session is a good amount of time for participants – not too demanding on people's time, much can be discussed and achieved.
- ✓ Plan for another 2 hour gather in the new year – similar format, identify guest speakers.





## Attachment 1 - Participants

Organization	Name
ESC – Community Development	Cath Reilly
Batemans Bay Lions	Pam Williams
Batemans Bay Lion	Leslie Crompton
Nature Coast Marine Group	Jenny Edwards
Euro Community Support Network (Anglicare)	Von Hutchens
SHASA	Kathryn Maxwell Patrick Guinness
Bay Theatre Players	Jen Aspinall
Batemans Bay Museum	Ewan Morrison Myf Thompson
Eurobodalla Botanical Gardens	Michael Anlezark
Red Door/Moruya Parish	Linda Chapman
Headspace Batemans Bay	Paul Spooner
Circle Foundation	Phil Brown
Arts Council of Eurobodalla	Bernie Oneil
Grand Pacific Health	Annette Anido

Apologies – Family Place, River of Arts, Eurobodalla Woodies, Rotary Batemans Bay





### ➤ Village News Posters - additions

A number of additions to Village news from NFPs wanting to promote local events –

- 4<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> October Support sessions for Fire to Flourish grants
- 13 October Helping Hands Workshop (attracting and retaining volunteers)
- Early Nov Euro Community Support Network meeting (2 hours meeting every 2 months - exact date TBC)

### ➤ Toolbox Funding Poster

Proposals have been received and IRCF funding approved for the following –

- ✓ Social Media and Marketing for NFPs
- ✓ Developing Manuals and Procedure for Bushfire/Heatwave havens
- ✓ Helping Hands (Volunteers)

*New Toolbox Ideas currently under consideration –*

- Succession Planning
- Fund raising skills (including grant writing)
- Income diversification
- Effective use of "traditional" Media (press releases etc)
- Board Governance refresher



## Euro Community Support Network Charter

### Charter

The Euro Community Support Network (ESCN) is a network comprised of community members,

organisations, businesses as well as non-government and government stakeholders with an interest

in the ongoing support of individuals and communities in Eurobodalla.

Contributors share a strong commitment to the wellbeing, advancement and capacity building of

individuals and communities in Eurobodalla.

### Purpose

ESCN offers a vital and regular opportunity to come together in support of our local community.

We will do so by sharing and supporting local projects and initiatives, and raise awareness for and

address emerging issues.

### Terms of Reference

1. Invitation to respectful and open conversations meaningful to the local community.
2. Share information and updates about emerging issues, programs, initiatives and events.
3. Promote opportunities for better communication and collaboration throughout all levels of  
community and local support stakeholders.
4. Exploring support for advocacy on emerging topics.

### Invitation

This network is open to community representatives, groups, organisations, businesses along with



non-government and government stakeholders committed to create improved environments for

local individuals and communities in a regional space.

### Commitment to

1. Offering and honouring a safe, inclusive, respectful and collaborative environment to facilitate conversation of members around emerging issues and projects as well service updates and opportunities to work together.
2. Embracing a cooperative and proactive culture.
3. Establishing and maintaining meaningful relationships with community and identified leaders within these communities.
4. Embracing kind curiosity.
5. Sharing of hosting and administrative responsibilities of the network.

### Meetings

1. Convened by an organisation or individual as decided by the group at the beginning of each calendar year.
2. Meetings will be held bi-monthly face to face where possible, online if necessary.
3. Meeting invitation, agenda, and a copy of a brief meeting summary including potential actions will be disseminated by each host to the network.



## Eurobodalla Shire Council – Promoting Volunteers connections



### Promoting volunteer jobs, and unpaid work experience and intern opportunities in the Job Shop program.

Council's Job Shop program provides access to training and job opportunities to help people in Eurobodalla secure employment.

From October 2023, the project will incorporate volunteer jobs, and unpaid work experience and intern opportunities and promote these through the Job Shop Facebook page, [weekly job alert email newsletter](#), and jobs boards.

Promoting volunteer and unpaid jobs and opportunities can provide volunteers with pathways to employment as they gain skills, qualifications, confidence, and contacts, and it engages job seekers who are not currently volunteering in their journey to employment.

Council's Job Shop can provide local organisations with a connection to people looking for volunteer opportunities, while offering volunteers mentoring, training opportunities, and job readiness support including resume writing and interview preparation.

To submit a job, please email [employmentprojects@esc.nsw.gov.au](mailto:employmentprojects@esc.nsw.gov.au) with the information below:

- Is the position a volunteer job, or unpaid work experience or intern opportunity
- A brief description of the organisation (if different to the Volunteer Eurobodalla Guide or Community Directory listing)
- Location of job (nearest town or village or across Eurobodalla)
- Contact person, position title, phone number and email (all these are essential)
- Job description – what will the person do and what tasks will be completed
- Time, date and duration of job
- Benefits
- What kind of person/qualifications/pre-requisites are you looking for, eg physical ability, RSA, Working with Children check, White Card etc.
- Are you willing to engage someone with disability, an older person returning to the workforce or someone with no work experience?
- Organisation web address or link to the opportunity if available
- Optional – a photo relevant to the job which we may include in the Facebook post.

Contact the Community Development and Youth Team

**T: 02 4474 3780**

**E:** [employmentprojects@esc.nsw.gov.au](mailto:employmentprojects@esc.nsw.gov.au)

**W:** visit [www.esc.nsw.gov.au](http://www.esc.nsw.gov.au) and search for The Job Shop for information and to subscribe to the weekly job alert.