

29 April 2013

SP AusNet presents \$20,000 of community grants in East Gippsland

Gippsland's electricity distribution company SP AusNet today presented \$20,000 in grants to 10 local community groups at the Shire of East Gippsland's Bairnsdale office.

The grants are part of SP AusNet's Community Development Fund (CDF) program to support community programs throughout its electricity and gas networks, servicing more than 1.2 million customers.

SP AusNet's Eastern Region Manager, Jim Haylock, said: "SP AusNet partnered with the Shire of East Gippsland to facilitate our CDF to local community groups looking for financial support to realise their grassroots projects."

Fellow SP AusNet program participant Adam Carrick said "SP AusNet is committed to building stronger relationships with the communities in which we operate, as demonstrated through the establishment of this fund and it is great to see \$20,000 worth of grants going to very worthy local community programs."

Groups receiving a cheque and their community program include:

- Ensay Bush Nursing Centre Inc – for a kitchen upgrade at the bush nursing centre
- Swifts Creek Memorial Swimming Pool Committee – providing shade cover over the community swimming pool
- Orbost Primary School – providing a breakfast program for the children of the School
- Omeo Fire Brigade – to help to build a slip on facility
- Orbost Scout Group – help to paint the scout hall
- Lindenow South Recreation Reserve – the provision of permanent lighting for the netball courts
- Victoria Police (Lakes Entrance) – provision of a Koori youth mentoring program
- Bairnsdale Men's Shed – to replace much needed equipment
- Bairnsdale Primary School – to help celebrate the school turning 150
- Surf Life Saving (Lakes Entrance) – supporting the re-build of decking at the club

Mayor Cr Richard Ellis, said: "This type of grants program is a fantastic boost to the Council's existing community funding program and allows us to reach even further into our community showing support for much needed funds.

"In these challenging financial times, SP AusNet's generous fund provides a great opportunity for our local groups to receive some much deserved funds," Cr Ellis said.

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