

Farmer to Farmer Diversity Forum

An agricultural diversity forum will be held from farmers for farmers to provide practical advice on creating a climate resilient farm.

Local farmers will provide insight on their diversified farm produce and answer any questions from farmers considering a change for the future.

These local speakers will include:

- Amelia Bright from Amber Creek Farm and Sawmill, who produces pasture raised pork that is sold locally.
- Nadine Verboon from Wattlebank Park Farm, a dairy farmer who diversified into beef, pork and smallgoods.
- Ilan Goldman from Mirboo Pastured Poultry, who rears and markets Sommerlads' Poultry chicken.
- Meg Parkinson from Annie's Free Range Eggs, who is also heavily involved in the Victorian Farmers Federation and egg industry.
- Bronwyn Brandon from Prom Country Cheese, who makes and markets sheep's milk cheeses.

Other keynote speakers will include Tom Abbottsmith from Tom's Paddock in Glenburn and Malcolm Cock from Farm Dynamics that consults with agribusinesses for future development.

Council's Agricultural Climate Resilience Officer Jill Vella said the free event will provide farmers with ideas on how to ensure their farm is sustainable for the future.

"The Agrodiversity forum aims to provide farmers with the opportunity to discuss with other farmers the success of their enterprises and advice on making their own opportunities.

"Being an area run by agricultural businesses it is important that our local farmers think about the future of their business to ensure South Gippsland is thriving in the many years to come," said Ms Vella.

The Agrodiversity Forum will be held on 18 March from 10.00am to 3.00pm at the CCG Leongatha Campus in Howard Street. Lunch will be catered for by Yooralla from their community garden plot making RSVPs essential. To RSVP for the event please visit www.sustainabilitygippsland.com.

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