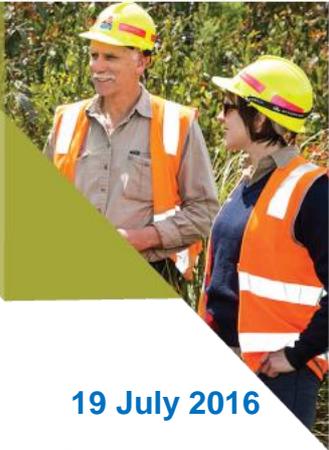


Media Release

A photograph in the top right corner shows two people wearing high-visibility orange safety vests and yellow hard hats. They appear to be outdoors in a natural setting, possibly a forest or park, engaged in a conversation.

19 July 2016

VicForests partners with Noojee Historical Society

The Noojee and District Historical Society will be upgrading its facilities as a result of a three year sponsorship from VicForests as part of its annual Community Support Program.

The Noojee and District Historical Society runs a historical and educational facility that showcases the culture and industry of Noojee's history by maintaining and reconstructing historical sites.

The society has sought funding in order to create a picnic garden in the grounds of the replica historical train station to provide families and visitors a dedicated place to enjoy their surroundings.

Mr William Langoor, President the Noojee and District Historical Society said that the three year sponsorship provided by VicForests will be instrumental in maintaining the town's precious historical sites.

"Thanks to VicForests we will be able to create a space where families and visitors can sit and admire some of our unique heritage sites.

"The on-going sponsorship means that we will be able to continue to invest in much needed restorations of some of the most stunning historical pieces in our region."

Mr Langoor said that the society regularly contributes to the community by undertaking many community projects that support the town's tourism trade and maintain the heritage of the area.

VicForests' annual Community Support Program helps regional community groups and services, who are positively contributing to their local area.

The VicForests initiative, now in its seventh year, has provided over \$350,000 to communities as well as a number of in-kind donations and ongoing support to other groups and services across the State.

Liz Langford, Regional Engagement Manager VicForests, said the grants are supporting the important work of community organisations.

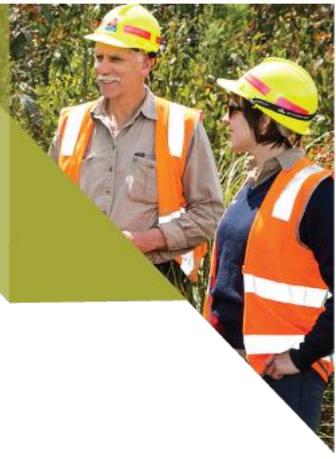
"Many of our staff live and work in regional Victoria and VicForests is proud to support these communities.

"Each year we have a great response from organisations applying for a grant and we're happy to be able to reach out and help many different groups and projects," Ms Langford said.

VicForests' Community Support Program assists organisations that contribute to the wellbeing of local communities by providing grants of up to \$2,000 to charity, sporting, educational and community groups in regional Victoria.

Close to 250 community groups have received grants from VicForests since commencing the program in 2009.

For more information about the Noojee and District Historical Society visit <http://www.noojeehistoric.org.au/>



Media Release



Image (L to R): Murray Cook - Baw Baw Shire Mayor, Gary Blackwood - MP Narracan, William Langoor - Historical Society President, Councillor David Balfour, David Thompson - CEO Protegic Pty Ltd, Tim Gilmore - Neerim & District Branch of the Bendigo Bank



Image: J class locomotive



Image: Will Langoor, - Historical Society President and Ray Johns, Historical Society Member and previous train driver of Noojee line