The Sale of Gifts is a tradition dating back to the early 1900’s in Darraweit Guim. It relies on local residents donating their home produce, or skill to the auction and then coming along and sharing in the fun of the auction to sell it to a fellow resident. These days the donations take on many and varied things not just home produce.

You all need this event to be a success because it is how we can continue to keep hall hire prices low and still maintain and insure our community hall.

It’s a great night with a few bargains and lots of great home grown and baked produce.

If you have something to donate bring it along and we’ll sell it to your neighbour, if not, don’t worry, come along anyway and we’ll sell you something your neighbour donated.

So, come one, come all and please bring along:

✔ Any donation which you feel will bring money at auction
✔ An open mind and wallet to bid, and
✔ A sense of fun

Drinks and nibbles provided.

For more information or to have large donated items collected call Lorreine Dalton (5789 1367) or Viki Spedding (5789 1237).

**PLEASE COME ALONG AND SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL HALL.**
2013/14 Community Funding Scheme

The 2013/14 Community Funding Scheme is now open and will close 5pm on 10 May 2013.

In 2012, more than $160,000 was made available for a wide range of projects and activities. The annual funding scheme provides grants in the areas of recreation, arts, facilities, youth, festivals and events.


To be eligible for a Community Funding Scheme grant you must discuss your project with a Council officer before submitting your application.

Grant writing information session

As part of the Community Funding Scheme, Council is holding a free grant writing information session at 7.30-9pm, 15 April 2013 at the Woodend Community Centre. The session will be informal and friendly, and designed to help community organisations feel equipped to seek and write grants.

To register your attendance at the information session, contact Trudy Campbell via kstrahan@mrsc.vic.gov.au or on 5422 0320.

Bookclub—a bit of a change

The format of bookclub is changing. We have decided to select and discuss a particular book each month. The book for April is The Storyteller by Jodi Picoult and the book for May will be The Casual vacancy by JK Rowling. Join us for a book based chat on Tuesday 9th and Saturday 27th April.

Old blankets, towels and old pillow cases wanted

If you have any old blankets, towels (even with holes) and pillow cases (without holes) that you are not using or throwing in the bin or taking to the op shop Helen Callahan is collecting them for a shelter. If you have any please ring Helen 5789 1305 and she will pick them up from you.
Darraweit Guim Primary School

The children from Darraweit Guim Primary School wish to thank the fantastic members of our community for their outstanding support. During terms two and three last year our letter box seemed to be full of shopping tokens donated by the community. The tokens kept us continually busy counting and pasting but what a wonderful response. At the start of the year we unpacked all of the equipment from the Woolworths tokens. What a lot.

Term One highlights

The school is pleased that we currently have 19 students ranging from our two grade preps to a grade 6 student. With such a wide spread of abilities we have decided to operate with two classrooms for most of the week. What a busy term we have had. It is hard to believe that we have been able to squeeze so much into nine weeks.

The highlight of the term has been our visit to the city to see the play Chitty, Chitty, Bang, Bang. Even though we had watched the movie the play was outstanding. The children were amazed at the scenery changes and excited to see the car fly. This production supported our flight theme. In class the students have been learning about how things fly and making different types of flying things. Earlier in the term we were delighted to be visited by some Essendon Footballers.

In preparation for Easter the students are currently constructing Easter hats for our parade on the last day of term. Next term we will be studying food and the older children will be involved in Junior Mater Chef. This should be challenging and lots of fun. Also in term two we will be working with Junior Water Watch and will be visited by the Wild Action Zoo. Our transition program for 2014 students will start early next term. Please contact the school for information. We are also wanting to introduce a playgroup based at the school.
The busiest season for the Darraweit Guim Fire Brigade in many a year. 31 turnouts this summer, some involving both vehicles and many consecutive days on the fire ground. More turnouts than have been noted since before formal incident reporting started in the late 1990’s. How did we go? Come along to our meeting and pass on your input. All those serving in executive roles in the brigade must face the voters, fancy a job? Our next monthly meeting will be an Annual General Meeting open to all members of the community.

Please be at Darraweit Guim War Memorial Hall (NOT the fire station) at 7:30pm on Monday April the 22th to have your say on how the brigade is run for the next two years and who gets the epaulettes. You can see our new baby!

**Link found between rabbits and smoke alarms**

Well; not really... But as fire prevention worries move from burning grass to burning homes, to best protect your home and family, we recommend you:

- locate smoke alarms in the right places around your home – for example, between each bedroom area and the rest of the house, in each bedroom where someone sleeps with the door shut, and on each storey of a multiple storey home

- test your smoke alarms regularly (monthly) by pressing the test button with a broom handle

- replace your batteries each year and when you do, vacuum around the smoke alarm vents

- replace your smoke alarms every ten years

If you have been keeping track, the time of year you should replace your battery is when you change your clocks back at the end of daylight savings, LAST WEEKEND! If you haven’t, then trot down to the shops and buy a 9V battery, (whether the brand is promoted by a rabbit or not), and whack it in. For more information on the recommendations for smoke alarm usage and fire escape plans visit www.changeyourbattery.com.au

**Fire Danger Period**

If you live in the Shire of Macedon Ranges, by the time you read this the Fire Danger Period has been over since Monday the 8th of April. Please note:

- If you live in the Shire of Mitchell fire restrictions still apply, at this stage until May the 1st,

- Before you open a matchbox ensure your intentions are safe and comply with applicable local regulations

It has been a particularly busy fire season for your brigade, but our local area has been quiet. Thank you all for your efforts, long may it continue

www.cfa.vic.gov.au
Creating safer communities
In emergency call 000