

# Community Event

## Welcome Back the Birds

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**FRIDAY 10 OCTOBER, 2025**

Eagle Point Foreshore Hub

**11.00AM - 7.00PM**

**Celebrate the return of  
migratory birds to the  
Gippsland Lakes - an  
event for everyone**

- Family-friendly event
- Boat tours
- Nature walks
- Wildlife display
- Dolphin talks
- Bug identification
- Cultural dancing
- Basket weaving
- Fishcare activities
- Kids' art activities
- Live music
- Face painting
- Food vans including:
  - Big Bears Donuts
  - The Naked Spud
  - Woodfired Pizza
  - Guac On
  - Sailor's Grave
  - High Country Hooch



**SEE NEXT PAGE FOR MORE INFORMATION**

# WELCOME BACK THE BIRDS - ACTIVITIES



## MARINE MAMMAL FOUNDATION

Hear all about the Gippsland Lakes Burrunan Dolphins.  
Find out how you can help this species.



## BIRDLIFE EAST GIPPSLAND

Bird conservation insights and bird ID on boat trips and guided walks.  
Dr. Chris Purnell from BirdLife Australia will talk about returning migratory birds.



## BLACK SNAKE PRODUCTIONS

An amazing display of native wildlife to view up close.  
Some of the species will be ones that are found in East Gippsland.



## H2O TOURS AND ADVENTURES

Board the Lady Jodie and enjoy a cruise on the Gippsland Lakes and see what birds you can spot.  
BirdLife members will be on board to help ID birds.



## EAGLE POINT LANDCARE GROUP

The group is hosting guided walks through the reserve with bird, bat and mammal experts from BirdLife and Wildlife Unlimited.



## FISHCARE EAST GIPPSLAND

Offering activities to promote responsible fishing practices.  
Participate in a fishing workshop and throw a line.



## TRUST FOR NATURE

One of Australia's oldest conservation organisations working with Victorians to create a protected and thriving environmental future.



## EAST GIPPSLAND ART GALLERY

Be creative and decorate your very own endangered species.  
All materials supplied.



## WILDLIFE UNLIMITED

A team of experienced senior ecologists will be providing expert knowledge throughout the day and on guided walks.



## TODD COOK BAND

The band will perform live music and lead a fun, interactive workshop where people can learn and sing along to a special song dedicated to shorebirds.



## PAYNESVILLE COAST GUARD

Chat with members from Paynesville's coast guard, a marine search and rescue organisation comprised entirely of volunteers.



## AGENCIES ATTENDING

East Gippsland CMA  
West Gippsland CMA  
East Gippsland Water  
Parks Victoria  
East Gippsland Shire Council  
Gippsland Ports



# MIGRATORY BIRDS



Migratory shorebirds make the long journey across the globe from places like Siberia, Japan and Alaska to visit the Gippsland Lakes, in some cases over 10,000 kilometres.

Visiting each year, they arrive in Spring and make the long-haul flight back to breed in the northern hemisphere as the weather turns colder in Autumn.

Most migratory birds travel to the Gippsland Lakes from breeding grounds in northeast Asia and Alaska along what is known as the East Asian Australasian Flyway. It is a 20,000-kilometre round trip for some of these birds.

Used by millions of waterbirds each year, the Flyway is a network of wetlands and coastal habitats from the Arctic through East and Southeast Asia to Australia and New Zealand where birds rest and feed during their long journeys.

The Bar-tailed Godwit, one of the larger migratory birds that visits the Gippsland Lakes, holds the world record for the longest non-stop flight by any bird recorded. This being a 13,560-kilometre journey non-stop from Alaska to Tasmania in only 11 days!

Bar-tailed Godwits stop off in the Gippsland Lakes after their long journey to rest and refuel. They leave Australia in late Autumn, returning to their breeding grounds in Scandinavia, northern Asia and Alaska. Young birds often remain in Australia all year, returning to the northern hemisphere the following year to breed.

The Gippsland Lakes Ramsar Site supports more than 90 species of waterbirds, including important migratory species such as the Bar-tailed Godwit, Red-necked Stint, Common Greenshank, Latham's Snipe, and Sharp-tailed Sandpiper.

This free event is a fantastic opportunity to learn about the inspiring initiatives that protect and enhance the Gippsland Lakes and surrounding catchments and to connect with local agencies and community groups. Discover how habitat restoration projects are helping to support the migratory birds that visit our region each year.

