

# GANNAWARRA CARES

Take time to connect with your community....

MAY 2019



## MAYOR'S MESSAGE

Welcome to the first edition of *Gannawarra Cares* – a new monthly newsletter that provides details of what services and supports are available during the current ongoing dry conditions that are impacting local farming, small businesses and the wider community.

*Gannawarra Cares* has been developed by the Gannawarra Resilience Committee. This network includes representatives from 21 agencies including Council, health and community support providers, the agricultural sector and emergency services. It is important that as a community we unite and support each other during this time. Looking out for others is one of our community's great strengths.

I encourage you to connect with those around you and to reach out to your community and our local services for assistance and support as needed.



Kind regards,  
Mayor Lorraine Learmonth



Look Over the Farm Gate is a mental health and wellbeing initiative that delivers grants for community events and mental health training.

Community groups, local government, and VFF branches are encouraged to apply for grants of up to \$1,500 to run social events and community initiatives that bring together neighbours and the community to spend some time off farm to relax with family and friends.

Look Over the Farm Gate is also a call to action for rural communities to look out for one another, promote social inclusion, create awareness about mental health; and reduce the impact it has on rural communities.

To apply for funding, visit <https://lookoverthefarmgate.org.au/>



Rural Financial Counselling Service Victoria – North West is a free financial counselling service for farmers and small farm businesses in North West Victoria. Our Rural Financial Counsellors can work with you to provide information and develop options, while you make the decisions.

Rural Financial Counsellors are available to meet with you on your farm, at your business, or elsewhere if required. The service is free and independent. Confidentiality is assured. Give us a call today on 1300 769 489

## Gannawarra Giving Account

Northern District Community Health has established a Gannawarra Giving Account to accept donations to support individual and community needs as the ongoing dry conditions continue.

For more information or to make a tax deductible donation to the Gannawarra Giving Account call NDCH on 5451 0200.



Counselling and support services are available locally. Counselling gives you the chance to talk to someone who can help and support you. This service is strictly confidential and free.

NDCH will also shortly be rolling out a Tactics for Tough Times Program. More info will feature in the next newsletter! If you need support or further information on how NDCH can assist you, contact us on 5451 0200, visit [www.ndch.org.au](http://www.ndch.org.au) or call into our Kerang, Cohuna or Quambatook offices.



A range of funding programs are available through the Victorian State Government to support eligible farming businesses, including:

- Farm Business Assistance program
- Farm Support Fund
- On Farm Drought Infrastructure Support Grants Program
- On-Farm Emergency Water Infrastructure Rebate Scheme

For more information go to [www.agriculture.vic.gov.au/agriculture/farm-management/drought/dry-seasons-support](http://www.agriculture.vic.gov.au/agriculture/farm-management/drought/dry-seasons-support)



Residents can find out what help is available to them by typing their location in at <http://www.farmhub.org.au>



The **ExtensionAUS Irrigating Agriculture** community provides up to date and accurate information for irrigation in agriculture. For more information go to [www.extensionaus.com.au/irrigatingag](http://www.extensionaus.com.au/irrigatingag)

