



SWIFTS CREEK FUTURE – PROJECT UPDATE

December 2025

2025 in review

It's been a year — and what a year it's been!

Over the past 12 months, our community has faced its fair share of challenges, and once again shown just how resilient and supportive it truly is. We are incredibly grateful to our volunteers, who continue to give their time and energy in so many ways, even while juggling busy lives and other commitments.

This year also brought some staff changes within the project, which did cause a few delays. That said, the patience and encouragement from our community has meant everything, and it's another reminder of how lucky we are to work alongside such a strong local network.

Despite the challenges, we've achieved a lot together. Highlights from the year include:

- Completing a **Tracks and Trails Feasibility Study**, exploring economic opportunities linked to our natural landscape and existing infrastructure (report available on our website).
- Finalising a **Live & Learn Facility Feasibility Study**, which looked at the potential for a dedicated residential learning facility (report available on our website).
- Supporting the delivery of **Lifeguard Training** in Swifts Creek.
- Investing in a **Youth Agritech Officer**, providing employment and experience for a local, leading to the successful delivery of the Agritech Expo for young people.
- Supporting the **Tour de Tambo** as part of the East Gippsland Winter Festival.
- Working with the **Oram Estate** Committee to help progress their project.
- Supporting and participating in the Omeo and Swifts Creek **Structure Plan**, helping shape a coordinated approach to sustainable growth, land use, infrastructure, wastewater treatment, and protection of local character and environment. The report is expected to be available for comment early 2026.

We're also continuing to investigate and support several exciting projects, including local **arts trails**, **community pool** infrastructure and upgrades, and a **Whole Life Learning** program.

Representatives from the Community reference group met with Minister Ros Spence in June to discuss the challenges faced in our community. Our Project also maintains relationships with state and federal members to influence positive change on behalf of our community.

What's on in 2026!!!

Coming up in 2026 we have a joint working group meeting where all of our working groups and our leadership group will come together to discuss the last few years and the learnings we have had. We will look to the future and determine what our goals will be and seek to set goals for what we hope for the project in 12 months time.

In 2026 we will be working with consultants to design a **collaborative farming approach** model. During this project we will be seeking consultation with our community during the second week of February. Please keep an eye out for further communications around this engagement and if you are interested in contributing or learning more around this please don't hesitate to get in contact with the project.

for more information on the power of collaborative farming models check out this link

<https://nre.tas.gov.au/Documents/Collaborative-Business-Models.pdf>

**Swifts Creek Future wishes our Communities a safe, happy and healthy
Christmas and New Year**





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This is Swifts Creek

Ultimately one of our most tangible achievements to date is the development of our picture book. Created in collaboration with Swifts Creek P-12, Australian Catholic University, Monash University, East Gippsland Shire Council and local artists. The launch was held on Friday 12th December, hosted at the Great Alpine Gallery, with reportedly one of the largest crowds the Gallery has hosted it was a fantastic event. Thank you to everyone who attended or has been involved and contributed along the way! This book is a legacy to our community to be shared far and wide. Over half our original print run has been sold, we have even had purchases made through online bookstores from as far as the UK! Our book has also been ranked #1 on the printers platform for rural education books!

The Gallery will be hosting an exhibition of the prints until the new year so if you haven't seen them yet please go in and have a look. Books are available for sale at the Gallery so be sure to grab a copy. Proceeds from sale of the book will go into unique arts programs at the Swifts Creek P-12. If you have been involved along the way also please be sure to complete the survey using the QR code or there are copies available at the Gallery. These surveys will provide feedback for improvements in potential future programs and seek suggestions for future programs.

