



Ceramet Solar in Bridgewater

EVER driven past that solar power plant at Bridgewater and wondered what's inside?

Now it's possible to find out, thanks to a new arrangement between the owner of the site, Ceramet Solar, and the Loddon Shire, which has introduced weekly hour-long visits into its popular Loddon Discovery Tours schedules.

Ceramet Solar have had a number of interest groups visit over the past 12 months and one open day, so the idea has grown from there.

When tour groups arrive they will have a short safety brief, a brief presentation on the company and a walk around the site to explain the different technologies.

Ideally, they would like 15 people at a time or fewer, but they can handle up to 20.

Bookings for these tours can be made through the Loddon Visitor Information Centre on (03) 5494 3489. Read more:



Solar panels at Ceramet Solar Bridgewater



A first for Loddon Valley Newbridge Craft Beer

Newbridge once again has its own branded craft beer, thanks to the initiative of former resident Mark Peters.

Mark, the son of Newbridge General Store owners Beryl and Darryl Peters, is a brewer in Bendigo, but has now created his own line of beers to be sold at the store either on tap or bottled.

In so doing, he has revived memories of the original Newbridge Brewery, now long gone, but a thriving concern in its heyday.

Mark has had a great response locally and he expects the growth is going to force him to expand.

The store itself really focuses on food and drink and has done for many years.



Left to right:
Pale Ale
Weissbier
Riverside Honey Ale

[Read more:](#)



Upcoming events

For more information on events click on the event name.

Wedderburn Country Market

Sunday 1 April

Mad Hatter's Tea Party

Sunday 1 April

Rheola Charity Carnival

Monday 2 April

The Inglewood Lions Bridgewater Market

Saturday 14 April

Jarklin Hall 105 Years Celebrations

Sunday 15 April

St Mary's Primary School Trivia Night

Friday 20 April

Paddle boarding in Loddon

The little-known, yet increasingly popular sport of stand up paddleboarding is set to be introduced to the Loddon Shire region.

Bendigo-based Stillwater Paddleboards is expanding its paddleboarding activities and will use the upcoming Easter long weekend as an opportunity to launch the activity in Loddon Shire.

As well as offering group paddleboarding along the Loddon River at the Serpentine canoe trail, the company will provide the chance to learn stand up paddleboarding at the Bridgewater Swimming Hole.

[Read more:](#)



Paddleboarding on the Loddon River

New cycling tracks in Wedderburn launched

Loddon Shire Mayor Councillor Cheryl McKinnon officially launched the opening of the new Queens Gully and Blue Mallee cycling trails in Wedderburn on Wednesday 21 March.

In addition to showcasing flora and fauna, the 6.8-kilometre Queens Gully Trail and eight-kilometre Blue Mallee Trail will take cyclists and walkers through the area's historic sites.

The cycling and walking trails in Loddon provide another fantastic outlet for people to get out and enjoy the Shire's scenic environment with addition to walking, the trails are designed to be family-friendly rides.



Riders enjoying the ambience of the Queens Gully Trail

Positive feedback received for bike trails

My husband and I rode both the Queen's Gully Trail and the Wedderburn (Blue) Mallee trail (awesome views).

Both were fantastic, peaceful rides through natural bushland.

Couple of gradual hills on both trails but easy enough for the novice rider. Totally enjoyable rides.

Will be a regular rider of these trails. Very clearly sign posted. Suitable for mountain bikes and hybrids.

Mostly gravel surface with a few pot holes and water eroded sections but still very easy to navigate.

Track is wide enough to ride side by side in most places, if you like to chat while you are riding.

Well done to Loddon Shire for providing such fabulous and clearly signed trails.

Wedderburn bushland is diverse and beautiful. Highly recommended. Great family trails.

Tony and Alex, Kurraca.

Council's Community Grants program is now open

Applications for Council's Community Grants Scheme are now open for not-for-profit clubs and organisations based in the Loddon Shire, to deliver projects that directly benefit residents.

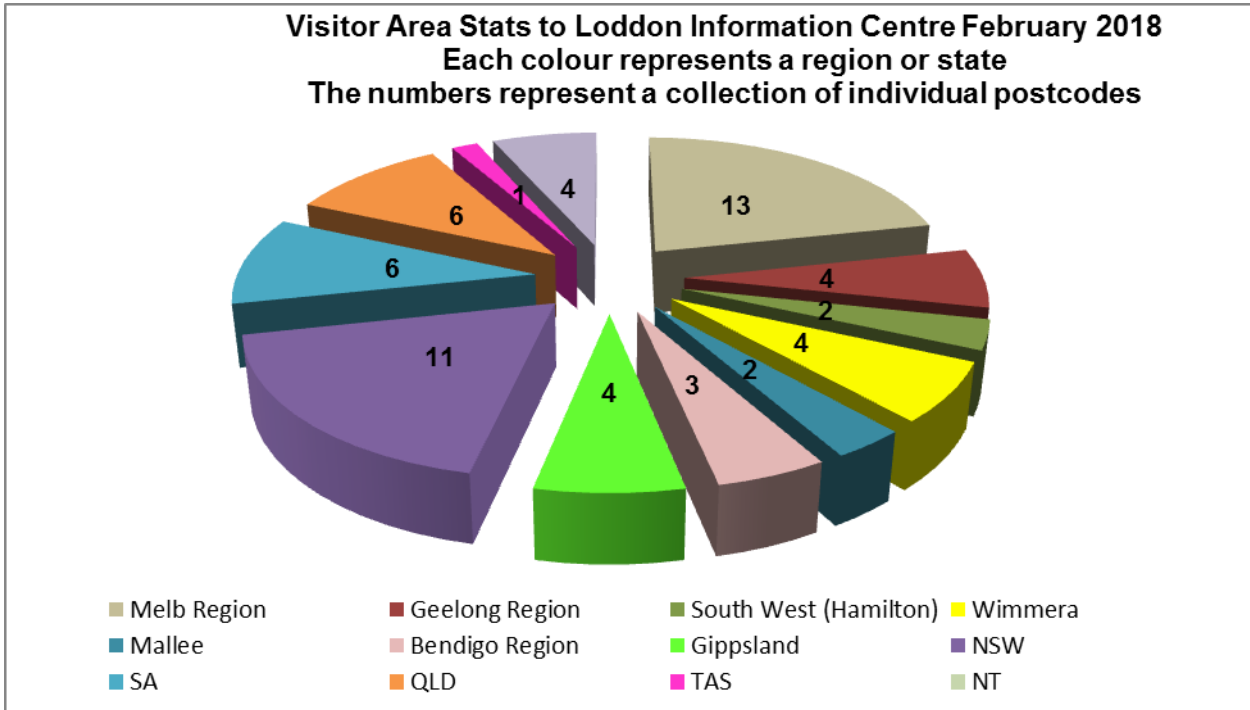
Grants of up to \$10,000 are available for successful applications.

[Read more:](#)

Visitor statistics to Loddon Visitor Information Centre for February 2018

Loddon Shire is continually marketing the tourism region and events within Loddon Valley covering a wide range of Victoria and interstate.

The statistics below were taken from the Visitor Information Centre for the month of February.



Ordering brochures and Loddon Valley Official Visitor Guide (OVG)

Council encourages all tourism operators who have brochures, maps and the Official Visitor Guide on display to order their stock through the Loddon Visitor Information Centre phone 5494 1257 or email

loddonvisitorinformation@loddon.vic.gov.au

Listing an event

If you are having an event and would like it listed on the Loddon Shire website calendar of events page, submit the information and a photo on [Calendar of Events](#) or email information to loddonvisitorinformation@loddon.vic.gov.au Should you have any queries please contact the staff at the Loddon Visitor Information Centre on 5494 1257.

Download FREE Loddon Valley Official Visitor Guide App



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