



### **Active Communities: Climate, Environment & Community to the Front Panel —**

30 minutes Moderator Led Panel & 30 Minutes Audience Q&A (4.30pm-5.30pm)

*Focus: What tangible actions can community members take to get involved with local groups? How social connection helps with community cohesion.*

**Ask the panel a question, submit online or raise your hand during the Q&A section**

<https://forms.gle/rQKWNQC1qKSmWBRR7>

### **Moderator**

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**Bodye Darvill** (She/Her) — Director Emerging Industries, Latrobe Valley Authority

#### **Bio**

Bodye Darvill is Director Emerging Industries at the Latrobe Valley Authority. She supports energy transition across the Gippsland region, working closely with stakeholders in government, industry, education and community sectors. With qualifications in Communications, Business and Community and International Development, Bodye's work focuses on supporting strong and long-term economic and social outcomes for the Gippsland region.

### **Stay Connected**

Latrobe Valley Authority: <http://www.lva.vic.gov.au/>

Phone: 1800 136 762

Email: [contact@lva.vic.gov.au](mailto:contact@lva.vic.gov.au)

Latrobe Valley and Gippsland Transition Plan: <https://lva.vic.gov.au/transition/plan>

## Panellists

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**Laura Melville** (She/Her) — Organising Program Co-Manager, Environment Victoria

### **Bio**

Laura (she/her) is a community organiser with over 10 years of experience building people power to win campaigns for climate justice. Laura has been working with community groups across the Latrobe

Valley since 2014 and is based in Far East Gippsland on unceded Aboriginal land. Laura is passionate about ensuring that the transition beyond fossil fuels and extractive industries provides regional communities with opportunities to thrive.

### **Stay Connected**

[Environment Victoria](#)

[What Next? Community Perspectives on the Energy Transition in the Latrobe Valley Transition: Stories of Community Leading Change](#)

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**Tracey Anton** — Friends of Latrobe Water

### **Bio**

Tracey Anton lives on a farm at Toongabbie in Latrobe Valley and is the Treasurer for Friends of Latrobe Water (FLOW), a community advocacy group formed for the purpose of protecting the Latrobe River system, connected waterways and Gippsland Lakes to facilitate a positive post-coal mining legacy for future social and economic prosperity of the region. FLOW networks with multiple groups in broader Gippsland and across southern Victoria to lift the profile of our degraded waterways taking the fight to our policy makers to improve waterway health and that of our environment.

### **Stay Connected**

[www.flowlatrobe.org](http://www.flowlatrobe.org)

[Friends of Latrobe Water](#)

[flowlatrobe@gmail.com](mailto:flowlatrobe@gmail.com)



## **Jane Sultana** (She/Her) — Latrobe Valley

Sustainability Group

### **Bio**

Jane grew up in Melbourne but came to live in the Latrobe Valley in 1990 when she took up a position as a Primary School teacher. Ten years later she married a Moe man and has lived in the area ever since.

**Jane currently volunteers with three different organisations.**

**They are:** Scouts Victoria: Jane has been a Scout leader with the 1st Newborough Scout Group since 2011.

**Latrobe City Council:** Jane is on the asset management committee for the Edward Hunter Heritage Bush Reserve in

Moe.

**Latrobe Valley Sustainability Group:** Jane is the secretary of this grassroots citizens organisation advocating for urgent climate action and environmentally sustainable development for our region.

### **Stay Connected**

For more information about joining Edward Hunter Heritage Bush Reserve working bees and activities speak to Jane on the day.

For more information about Latrobe Valley Sustainability Group activities email [info@latrobevalleysg.com](mailto:info@latrobevalleysg.com), visit our website <https://latrobevalleysg.com>

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**Esther Lloyd** (She/Her) —Senior Program Officer, Gippsland Climate Change Network

### **Bio**

Esther is passionate about working with regional communities exploring opportunities around climate change and energy innovation shaping our future social, technological and environmental landscapes. She currently partners with the Latrobe Valley Authority's New Energy Team, and is also a regular 'talking science' guest speaker for ABC Radio Gippsland

## Stay Connected

I run a community energy innovation network with government, industry, and community for those who want to be involved in more technical aspects of projects and initiatives that will benefit all of Gippsland. I am also starting a peer community group for people who have a community energy question, project idea or challenge, to learn from other communities members who have gone through or are currently going through something similar. I will have dates before this event for next meetings. GCCN hosts and supports various energy saving and electric car community days though the year. Keep an eye on our socials. We also have the Gippsland New Energy Conference coming up again in September that will be hosted by the Latrobe City Council.

[www.gccn.org.au/](http://www.gccn.org.au/)

[www.facebook.com/GCCNVic/](https://www.facebook.com/GCCNVic/)

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**Arfa Sarfaraz** — Social and cross-cultural Champion, Inter-faith advocate, Community Supporter leader, Media and Public Relation instructor, Successful project planner and executor, facilitator, Philanthropist, and learner