

## “It’s Our Future” Young and Old Protest Against Mineral Sands Mine

Members of the East Gippsland Community Action Group joined more than 80 persons from across the region to stage a peaceful protest in Bairnsdale September 11th. Among the crowd carrying placards was EGCAC member, Matt Stephenson now an Independent Candidate for State Parliament. Protesters included elderly citizens and children, walking silently along the streets to register their concern for our future environment and clean water should the mine be approved. There is growing concern as to pollution risk to the vegetable growing areas and the Bairnsdale water supply, both in close proximity to the huge area of the proposed mineral sand mine with its potential spread of radio-active dust and toxic flow on to the Gippsland Lakes.

After assembling outside the mining company’s office in Bailey St, the protestors with their placards, many wearing orange caps, shirts and scarves, walked quietly along the footpaths to wait outside the office of sitting MP for Gippsland East, Tim Bull. Although respectful in manner as they waited, the protestors were disappointed that Mr Bull did not emerge to listen and speak with them.

