

MEDIA RELEASE

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Once-bland pump station now hard to see

A once-bland looking pump station beside the Omeo highway at Sarsfield has been given a splash of colour to send it undercover.

It's the latest work of camouflage by local artist Brendon Sims, who is also credited with helping turn five other East Gippsland Water pump stations near-invisible with the stroke of a brush, sometimes working alone and sometimes working closely with local community groups.

Brendon, who is more accustomed to capturing the various moods of the Gippsland Lakes on canvas, first took up the challenge to camouflage some of East Gippsland Water's blandest-looking assets some six years ago.

He has found this ongoing, if unusual, commission very rewarding both professionally and personally. "Having explored various aspects of camouflage I have kept away from a traditional military-style, instead opting for a light-hearted concealment" said Brendon. "Essentially I boost the brightness of two colours, red and green. The overall effect is a disruptive or cryptic pattern of colour that makes it difficult to distinguish the pump station from what's in front and behind it."



Going undercover: Brendon Sims applies the finishing touch to his latest work

Said East Gippsland Water's Managing Director, Bruce Hammond: "The pump station at Sarsfield previously looked really dull. Brendon, through the clever application of colour, has made it much more appealing to the eye, while at the same time protecting the fabric of the building."

His work complements a recent upgrade to the building, including to the operational plant and equipment. This will further improve the efficiency and reliability of water supply services in the local area and Bruthen well into the future.

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