



TUESDAY, JANUARY 14, 2025

Sentinel-Times

Armed Crime Squad detectives, together with local police at the scene of an alleged “targeted” shooting in Wonthaggi in the early hours of last Sunday morning.

A SHOT IN THE DARK

60 seconds of chaos shocks Wonthaggi

BASS Coast crime hit a new low in the early hours of last Sunday morning when a local man was shot in the back, outside a house in Wonthaggi, in what has been described as a ‘targeted attack’.

A 10-year-old girl was asleep inside at the time of the shooting, shortly before 2am.

According to police, emergency services were called to an address in Fahey Street after reports were received that a man had been shot following a brief altercation in the street outside the house.

They said a 42-year-old man, the victim of the attack, had been taken to hospital with non-life-threatening injuries while the male offender fled the scene.

“Police are working to establish the exact circumstances of the incident, and the investigation is ongoing.”

However, CCTV footage of the incident, released on social media on Sunday and since featured on TV news coverage, appears to show two attackers arriving at the scene, one allegedly colliding with a power pole before the altercation erupts, another on a dirt bike.

Heated words are briefly exchanged before a loud gunshot is heard and there are sounds of crashing cars as the gunman makes his escape.

The injured man, Kevin McLean, a well-known local sportsman was treated by a paramedic at the scene prior to being airlifted to the Alfred Hospital in Melbourne where he underwent emergency surgery to remove bullet fragments.

Two young neighbours, interviewed by a Channel 7 journalist, reported hearing a

massive gunshot, later surveying the “devastating” damage to a car one of them had purchased only two weeks earlier.

“You think of guns in America, not at your neighbour’s house, 20 metres from where you live, 20 metres from your bedroom window,” they said.

Two parked cars became collateral damage as the gunman made his getaway.

The offender is still at large.

Police are still probing the motive but say the victim knew the man involved in the shooting.

Anyone who witnessed the incident, has footage or any other information is urged to contact Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000 or submit a confidential report online at crimestoppersvic.com.au.



Kevin McLean, a local cricketer, was the victim of the shooting in Wonthaggi last Sunday morning.

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PRICE FREEZE



With no community of interest between Phillip Island and the Latrobe Valley, it was impossible to see the new community hospital (artist's impression) at Cowes in a Gippsland network dominated by LRH.

Why Bayside views are good for your health

THE State Government has announced the shape of its new Local Health Service Networks and the hospitals at Leongatha, Korumburra, Wonthaggi and Cowes have all been included in the 'Bayside' network with Alfred Health, Peninsula Health and Koo Wee Rup.

It's exactly what the management of Bass Coast Health (BCH) and Gippsland Southern Health Service (GSHS) asked for in forthright statements prior to Christmas.

Official acceptance of the preferred network structure has been warmly welcomed by Bass MP, Labor's Jordan Crugnale who has been working behind the scenes to deliver such an outcome for local patients and health services.

BCH and GSHS had been projected to join a Gippsland network of hospitals where 85 per cent of complex care for the region was to be delivered by Latrobe Regional Hospital at Traralgon.

"We have such strong links with Peninsula Health, Alfred Health and Koowereup Regional Health and this formalises a grouping that makes sense for patients, their care, clinical

support flows and our health-care workers," said Ms Crugnale.

As expected, South Gippsland Hospital at Foster will go with the 'Gippsland' network to include Bairnsdale Regional Health Service, Central Gippsland Health Service, Latrobe Regional Hospital, Omeo District Health, Orbost Regional Health, and Yarram & District Health Service.

However, in a completely unexpected development for the West Gippsland Healthcare Group, which operates the Warragul district hospital, they too are being expected to join the Gippsland network.

Previously, they'd been nominated to join the Monash network, an outcome supported by the West Gippsland Hospital board and the local community.

The switch by BCH and GSHS out of the Gippsland network, taking its catchment population below the "optimal" level of 200,000 recommended in the government's Health Services Plan for integrated health networks in rural areas, is believed to be behind the 11th-hour change.

However, the last-minute switch seems to fly in the face of the plan's own assessment of healthcare needs in the Warragul-Drouin area.

"Consolidating West Gippsland Healthcare Group with Monash Health reflects the strong flows from the Warragul-Drouin District of Baw Baw local government area towards metropolitan Melbourne," according to the independent Expert Advisory Committee.

The change has been hotly rejected by the Liberal Member for Narracan Wayne Farnham.

"Why would the Minister put West Gippsland Hospital in a group with Latrobe Regional when she knew in advance that the preferred model locally was for West Gippsland to be grouped with Monash?"

"It's typical of this government and this Minister that they do what they want not what the local people and local health services need," Mr Farnham said.

A final process of public consultation will follow the announcement.

Revealing the make-up of the new networks statewide, the government said the geographic

groupings of health services would support improved cooperation between local services, ensure doctors and specialists are available to care for patients closer to where they live, deliver clearer pathways in and out of hospital, and support better waitlist management across a region.

Minister for Health Mary-Anne Thomas said the new management arrangements would ensure Victoria remained a world leader in health care.

"Victoria's health system is one of the best in the world, and these reforms will deliver even better care by supporting health services to work together and ensuring local voices are heard."

Following a round of consultation with local workforces and communities, and some targeted network planning on four key priority areas – access and flow, workforce, clinical governance, and sustainability – the networks will commence operation on July 1, 2025.

The complete responses by Ms Crugnale and Mr Farnham can be found on the Sentinel-Times' website.



BCH Interim CEO Simone Alexander has welcomed the move to group Bass Coast Health with Peninsula and Alfred Health.

Bayside way to go for Bass Coast Health

BASS Coast Health (BCH) has welcomed Friday's announcement by the Victorian Health Minister Mary-Anne Thomas, that BCH will join the Bayside Local Health Service Network, along with Gippsland Southern Health Service, and Koo Wee Rup following the release of the Health Services Plan.

BCH Interim CEO Simone Alexander said the move to Bayside further strengthens partnerships with Alfred Health, Peninsula Health and Koowereup Regional Health Service. Calvary Health Care Bethlehem (Caulfield South) will also be part of the Bayside network.

"These are relationships we've worked so hard to develop over the last several years and we're pleased that input from our staff and our community was included in the final decision about the network structure," said Ms Alexander.

"As a health service, we already host visiting medical specialists from The Alfred who provide our cancer and cardiology services, and offer outpatient consultations to our community.

"Medical and nursing staff from The Alfred also provide care to our community from our sites. We also have existing partnerships for pathways of care in place with The Alfred for patients requiring more complex care."

BCH's Memorandum of Understanding with The Alfred is now in its sixth year and includes Surgery, Oncology, Radiation Oncology, Haematology, Sub-Acute, Pathology and Cardiology.

"We also know that most people in our community already have strong ties with metropolitan Melbourne for health, services, shopping and family, and so being part of a formalised network with these metropolitan health services is a logical, effective and efficient option for our community," Ms Alexander said.

"A Bayside alliance will also allow us to better meet the needs of the Waterline communities of Coronet Bay, Corinnella, Grantville, Pioneer Bay and Jam Jerrup, through a more connected health system."

The complete BCH statement can be found at sgst.com.au.

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6 Day Weather Forecast

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TUE Jan 14	WED Jan 15	THUR Jan 16	FRI Jan 17	SAT Jan 18	SUN Jan 19
Cloud clearing. Wind AM: S 15-20km/h Wind PM: S 15-20km/h	Shower or two. Wind AM: E 15-20km/h Wind PM: NW-SW 20-30km/h	Shower or two. Wind AM: W 25-30km/h Wind PM: SW 20-30km/h	Partly cloudy. Wind AM: SE-SW 15-25km/h Wind PM: SE 15-25km/h	Sunny. Wind AM: SE 15-20km/h Wind PM: E 20-30km/h	Mostly sunny. Wind AM: E-SE 15-25km/h Wind PM: E-SE 15-25km/h
15° 26°	17° 28°	14° 22°	14° 24°	14° 26°	14° 28°

IN BRIEF

Art Show opens this Friday

NOW in its 48th year, the Leongatha Rotary Club presents the Opening Night of the Leongatha Art & Photography Show. Over 700 art works will be on display and all are available to buy. Canapés will be served through the evening and a range of drinks both non-alcoholic and alcoholic will be available at the bar. Special guest Judge, Greg Allen will announce the winners of \$8900 in awards across 14 categories. In addition, there will be a presentation of awards for Best Flora and Fauna, Best South Gippsland Resident (any medium), along with Best Youth and Best All Abilities Awards. The Opening night will be held on Friday, January 17 from 7.15pm. Tickets from Trybooking. The Exhibition will be open to the general public from Saturday, January 18 to Saturday, February 8, daily between 10am and 4pm.

Vegie growers called on to fill out industry survey

AUSVEG is calling on all vegetable growers to take part in their 2025 Vegetable Industry Sentiment Survey. Survey results help AUSVEG to provide credible, up-to-date insights to key stakeholders and ensure they can continue to advocate effectively for those in the industry. The results of previous surveys are widely referenced by the Government, industry leaders, and media, and the findings of their 2024 Industry Sentiment Report were integral to informing the development of AUSVEG's recently launched 2025 Federal Election priorities, on behalf of the Australian vegetable industry.

Participating in the latest survey is an opportunity for growers to ensure the key issues they face are brought to the attention of politicians, and other key decision-makers. The survey only takes 10 minutes. All responses remain anonymous and confidential. Click here to have your say: surveymonkey.com/r/2MNJSGZ.

Second best beach in the world is in South Gippsland

SOUTH Gippsland's Squeaky Beach has been named the second best beach in the world for 2025, on the Lonely Planets coveted list. Coming in behind another Australian beauty – Whitehaven Beach in Queensland which topped the list, anyone who has been to Squeaky Beach will understand why it was chosen. Located in the stunning and pristine wilderness of Wilsons

Promontory National Park, the iconic Squeaky Beach is breathtaking with white sand and turquoise water, framed by impressive granite boulders at either end of the beach.

It is so called because the sand is formed from fine, rounded grains of quartz that when compressed underfoot create a high-pitched squeak. "Squeaky Beach is famous for its squeaky white sand and turquoise water. It's certainly the most-photographed beach at Wilsons Prom and very popular with visitors," explained Parks Victoria District Manager Andy Davies. "The impressive granite boulders, magnificent views out to the islands off the Prom and musical sand make it a truly memorable visit for all ages."

Native wildlife can also often be seen in their natural habitats, close to the beach.

Squeaky Beach also topped the Australian list of the best beaches in 2024, compiled from a study of 12,000 beaches around the country.

The list was curated by Australia's Beach Ambassador Brad Farmer, who was instrumental in the formation of Coastcare and a coastal advisor to the government.

"It is what you would call a masterpiece of a beach. It could be a painting," said Mr Farmer, describing Squeaky Beach to the ABC last year.

Other countries that made this year's Lonely Planet World's Best Beaches list include Seychelles, Thailand, Greece, Norway, Mexico, USA and Spain.

But before you head into the water check out the Beach-Safe App for detailed information from patrol status, facilities and hazards to weather, swell and tide.

Usually escaping anglers

AMBULANCE Victoria (AV) paramedics are calling on the Victorian community to make use of what3words via the Emergency Plus app, describing it as a life-saving tool.

What3words is a program linked to the Emergency Plus app which divides the world into three metre squares with each square assigned a unique combination of three words.

Just these words can be used to find a precise location – which can be invaluable in life-threatening emergencies when every minute counts.

And that means if you're on the corner of McBride Avenue and Graham Bank Street (on the Bendigo Bank side) in Wonthaggi those three words are usually.escaping.anglers.

Mobile Intensive Care Ambulance (MICA) paramedic Matt Nadin said what3words was crucial in helping locate a woman in urgent need of medical attention.

"We were having difficulty locating the patient based off their description alone," Matt said.

"We felt that time was running out and we had exhausted all our traditional methods to establish their location.

"I suggested instructing the patient to use what3words and this simple step allowed us to pinpoint their location and reach them within minutes."

The Emergency Plus app shows a patient's latitude and longitude in addition to their unique three words.

Calls to Triple Zero (000), SES and for non-urgent police matters can be made directly through the Emergency Plus app.

What3words can also be accessed through its own website and app.

Matt said all Victorians with a mobile device should ensure they have quick access to what3words.

"It's an incredible tool if you're in an emergency and don't know exactly where you are," he said.

"Whether that's in a rural or remote area, along a freeway or highway, or simply in a new place – what3words takes away the guesswork which helps us reach you faster.

"You can tell a Triple Zero call taker your three words and they will know what to do to pass this location information on to all required emergency services."

Location services via the Emergency Plus app can be pre-loaded and used without an internet connection.

For more information, visit emergencyplus.com.au.

GP workforce grows as graduate doctors take up grants

THE first of 400 grants to graduate doctors worth up to \$40,000 each have been awarded to interns who take up a career in general practice with eight recipients in Bass Coast and three in South Gippsland.

According to the State Minister for Health Mary-Anne Thomas 59 per cent of recipients are now doing their placement in regional Victoria.

A further 400 grants are available in 2025 for those commencing a GP training program in Victoria. Doctors who commenced their training this year and who had applied, enrolled and were accepted on or after November 27, 2022 are also eligible.

Graduates can apply for a grant directly through the Australian College of Rural and Remote Medicine (ACRRM) or the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (RACGP) once they have been successfully accepted and enrolled into one of the relevant GP training programs.

Preference is given to applicants who are Australian medical graduates and doctors training in rural locations or areas of workforce need.

More information is available at health.vic.gov.au/general-practitioners-grant-program.

Gippsland summer short story competition

ENTIRES are open for the Gippsland Writers Network (GWN) Summer Short Story Competition until Friday, January 31, themed – What does 'storm' mean to you?

Feel free to write speculative fiction, horror, fantasy, literary, historical or uncategorised words. Use imagination, twist it up, make the readers stop and take a breath. There are prizes to be won with \$200 first prize, \$150 writers online course as the second prize, \$50 Collins voucher for third prize and an additional Gippsland Writers prize. Visit Eventbrite to enter, there is a fee of \$5 for GWN members and \$10 for non-members. Send enquiries and entries to gippslandwritersgroup@gmail.com.

Eager to get started on public land management

EASTERN Region MP Melina Bath has welcomed her recent appointment in the shadow cabinet as spokesperson for public land management.

Ms Bath says The Nationals have a strong focus on public land management.

"Locally we have seen overgrown tracks, delayed upgrades to parks infrastructure and the closure of loved jetties," said Ms Bath.

"I will prioritise active land management, including fuel reduction burning, weed and pest control, and ensuring public access to our state forests."

According to Ms Bath neglecting public land leads to invasive weeds, feral pests, and high-intensity bushfires, risking both local communities and the environment.

"The mental health benefits of outdoor activities and connecting with nature are well-documented. Getting the balance right in public land management cannot be achieved while Labor is cutting budgets and regional staff from DEECA and Parks Victoria."

"Together with my Aboriginal Affairs portfolio I am eager to get started," said Ms Bath.

Trauma Session

THE Amber Community Road Trauma Awareness Seminar will take place this Saturday, January 18 from 12.45 to 3.30pm in Wonthaggi. For more information and how to book visit ambercommunity.org.au/booking-a-seminar.

‘Free camping’ costs holiday hopefuls

THE State Government’s “\$9 million investment” in a first summer of “free camping”, announced last October for all of its 131 Parks Victoria campgrounds, has been a notable failure.

However, some say the policy might still be salvageable with better systems.

Regulars at the spectacularly located Bear Gully Campground, on the shores of Waratah Bay in South Gippsland for example, described their arrival at the popular camping spot last week as “pretty weird”.

“Yeah look, it was pretty weird. We usually show up at this time of the year and it’s teaming with people. Not this year,” said a couple from Melbourne with three young children.

“It’s been all the talk of the camping ground,” they said.

“There’s a lot of great camping sites here that have been left vacant all week,” was another response.

Mark and Naomi Greenwood, also of Melbourne, said an article in The Age during the week, by Liam Mannix, rang true of their experiences at the Jamieson Creek Campground, near Wye River on the Great Ocean Road, a few weeks ago, and at Bear Gully during the past week.

“I went on the Parks Vic website at 10.05am back in October, the day the bookings opened and got the last site available at Bear Gully,” said Naomi.

“We paid \$45, I think, and got our money back, but when we got here, there were a lot of empty sites, despite the fact that the website said it was still full.

“We looked it up to see if we could stay for another night but there was nothing available.

“By rights, the camping ground should be full again this coming week, but as you can see, there are still a lot of sites empty,” she said, at about 1pm on Sunday, January 12.

“We’ve had a lovely time. There’s a relaxed vibe, it’s quiet and the scenery is epic. We’d have gladly paid,” said Mark.

“We went to Jamieson Creek between Christmas and New Year, where we’d booked two sites but cancelled one on the website without any problem. But clearly, some people have booked and simply not turned up here which



Mark and Naomi Greenwood and family of Melbourne would have liked to stay at Bear Gully for another night, with plenty of campsites vacant, but the Parks Victoria website said the sites were all “booked out”.

is disappointing for those that might have liked to use the site.”

The story has been the same at the state’s most popular camping spot, Wilsons Promontory, where the usually jam-packed Tidal River campground in particular has witnessed dozens of no-shows.

The Age article quotes Wilsons Prom regular Paul Lindeman estimating that between 10 per cent and 20 per cent of campsites have been left vacant over the usually hectic New Year period.

“It’s disappointing when I know a lot of family and friends who missed out on getting a site,” he told The Age.

Naomi Greenwood said friends of theirs had exactly that experience.

“A couple we know wanted to join family and friends at the Prom but missed out on a site and ended up staying somewhere else. They had a nice time but would have preferred spending time together.”

Parks Victoria’s acting executive director of visitor experience, Jenny Hunter, has claimed however that the program has been

a success, noting that the agency had “introduced a range of new measures to encourage people to cancel their booking if they decide not to go camping”.

Her comments are in keeping with remarks made by the Minister for Environment Steve Dimopoulos in December last year.

“Since the announcement, there has been a 115 per cent increase in Parks Victoria campsite bookings, as Victorians take advantage of the chance to stay and explore some of the state’s most iconic destinations from Wilsons Promontory to Lake Eildon.”

So, bookings are up, but arrivals are down.

Professor Nitika Garg, a consumer behaviour expert at the University of NSW, told The Age that the government “should have seen it coming”.

“When the booking is made free, there’s no downside to making it and not keeping it,” she said.

“Essentially, your intentions can be vague but because there’s zero cost, it doesn’t hurt to act on them and assume that you would be able to go ahead with the

behaviour at a later date.”

Eastern Victoria MP Melina Bath said just that in an article in the Sentinel-Times last November which foreshadowed the problem of people booking sites at camping grounds around the state and then changing their mind without penalty later.

“People booking sites in national parks and state reserves and not turning up is a real possibility and potentially another unintended consequence of this ill-thought-out scheme, more designed to get votes than really helping people get a holiday who need it most,” said Ms Bath.

However, while the first run at free camping has been a qualified failure, some of the Bear Gully campers contacted by the Sentinel-Times this week said it was worth salvaging.

“Offering some incentive to cancel, if you’ve decided not to go, and making the website more user friendly would help.

“As would having more park rangers who could report the no-shows but that’s going to cost the government even more, isn’t it?”

Win for Leongatha and Korumburra hospitals

GIPPSLAND Southern Health Service (GSHS), which operates the Leongatha and Korumburra hospitals, has welcomed its inclusion in the new Bayside Local Health Area Network, saying it will improve access to care and lead to better use of local facilities.

After initially being placed in the Gippsland Network, GSHS advocated for a move to the Bayside Network.

In a positive response to the announcement last week by Health Minister Mary-Anne Thomas, GSHS CEO Louise Sparkes and Board Chair Athina Georgiou said GSHS would be part of a network “which can deliver health services across the lifespan”.

“We appreciate that the Minister has listened to the request of Gippsland Southern Health Service to join the Bayside network and are confident the new network will be a success,” they said.

Under GSHS’s proposal, accepted by the Victorian Government, the expanded Bayside Local Health Area Network now includes Alfred Health, Peninsula Health, Kooweerup Health Service, Bass Coast Health and GSHS.

GSHS, they say, is more closely aligned with the Bayside region and has existing pathways and connections with services in the network.

“We are now connected with a tertiary and metropolitan health service and will be able to work with our existing close regional partners at Bass Coast Health and Kooweerup Health Service to maintain a focus on rural health,” said Ms Sparkes and Ms Georgiou in a joint statement.

“The data shows that local people go to Melbourne if they can’t get care locally and that will be further strengthened under this partnership which follows the natural geographical transport routes that we already use,” they said.

Ms Sparkes and Ms Georgiou expect all local services at the Korumburra and Leongatha hospitals to be retained and strengthened under the new network.

You can read GSHS’ complete statement on the Sentinel-Times’ website.

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15-year-old struck at bus stop

POLICE are investigating a crash in Inverloch on Saturday, January 11.

It is understood a car crashed into a boy at a bus stop on The Esplanade about 11.45pm.

The 15-year-old boy was taken to hospital with non-life-threatening injuries.

The driver, an 18-year-old Inverloch woman, was arrested and taken to hospital with non-life-threatening injuries. She is assisting police with their enquiries.

Anyone who witnessed the incident has CCTV/dashcam footage or any other information is urged to contact Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000 or submit a confidential report online at www.crimestoppersvic.com.au or Wonthaggi Police Station on 5671 4100.

Appeal for information

ON SUNDAY, January 12 at approximately 10pm, a robbery occurred around Settlement Road and Seagrove Way in Cowes. The victim was approached by four offenders in a dark four-door hatchback vehicle, before being robbed of their possessions.

Police are urging the public for any CCTV or dashcam footage which may aid them in their investigation. Contact Bass Coast Crime Investigation Unit on 5671 4100.

Tricycle theft

ON JANUARY 12, a 30-year-old woman was arrested after allegedly being involved in the theft of a tricycle from a shopping complex in Biggs Drive Wonthaggi on January 6. This was after police successfully located and returned the tricycle on January 10, when a 54-year-old male was arrested in connection to the theft. The female offender is highly likely to receive a summons to Korumburra's Magistrates Court at a later date.

Lead feet through Grantville

SIX drivers were detected driving at excessive speeds on Bass Highway, in the 60 kilometres an hour zone through Grantville on January 10.

The detected offences were:

- A 64-year-old male from Balwyn, 87 kilometres an hour, \$543.00 fine and three-month loss of licence.
- A 20-year-old male from Dalyston, 87 kilometres an hour, \$543.00 fine and three-month loss of licence.
- A 71-year-old male from Cranbourne South, 93 kilometres an hour, \$642.00 fine and a three-month loss of licence.
- A 64-year-old female from Cape Paterson, 95 kilometres an hour, \$642.00 and a three-month loss of licence.
- A 27-year-old male from Endeavour Hills, 94 kilometres an hour, \$642.00 and a three-month loss of licence.
- A 32-year-old male from Preston, 94 kilometres an hour, \$642.00 and a three-month loss of licence.

Police are urging drivers to slow down and keep safe on the roads and be aware of speed limits around them.



Members of the community got together at The Gurdies Nature Conservation Reserve last Saturday for a ceremony of "loss and renewal" before taking a walk through a section of the reserve that was untouched by December's damaging bushfire. Much of the reserve remains closed due to the number of dangerous limbs and unstable trees.

Let the regeneration begin!

MEMBERS of The Gurdies community, including residents, firefighters and members of the Western Port Woodlands group got together with Bass Coast Shire Councillors, Parks Victoria representatives and others at The Gurdies Nature Conservation Reserve last Saturday for a ceremony of loss and renewal after the damaging bushfire of December last year.

Councillors Jon Temby, Tim O'Brien, Mat Morgan and Brett Tessari attended.

Around 192 hectares was burnt in total, including around 125ha in the northern section of The Gurdies reserve and a small area of the nearby Hurdy Gurdy Nature Conservation Reserve while threatening houses in the Woodland Close and Island View Road estates.

Losses to property included farm outbuildings and fencing with several near misses to homes, saved by CFA brigades and the general response to a serious fire.

The ceremony last Saturday involved a 'Welcome to Country' by local custodian Sonia

Weston, a rendition of the district anthem, 'On A Grantville Shore' by Cr Tim O'Brien and a number of speeches before about 40 attendees took a walk into an unburnt section of the reserve.

But the impact of the fire was never far from view.

"Some of the trees will never recover but a good guide to those that will are the trees that haven't completely lost their leaves as a result of the fire," said Cr Jon Temby, speaking as a member of the Woodlands group, and not on behalf of the mayor.

"One of our concerns is the run-off of ash into the waterways if we get a significant rain event," he said.

"Much of the reserve is closed to the public at the moment due to the number of dangerous limbs and unstable trees. Some of that has already been cleared away but we'll need a decent storm to bring much of that down."

Cr Temby said that while there were hopes for a strong recovery in burnt areas, it could take up to 100 years before the area was fully restored.

Meanwhile, the Bass Coast Shire Council has been asked to respond to questions relating to the management of the shire-owned Gurdies Bushland Reserve native vegetation offset site which backs onto the Woodland Close residential estate and sustained damage during the bushfire.

Specifically, the shire has been asked if it fully discharged its annual responsibilities set out in the Bass Coast Shire Council's Municipal Fire Management Plan and in the bushfire management plan for the reserve prepared by its consultants Teramatrix Pty Ltd.

The shire's Municipal Fire Management Plan says this about the shire-owned Gurdies Bushland Reserve: "The MFMP identifies that The Gurdies area as having an Extreme risk of bushfire without mitigations."

The list of annual mitigations includes the following:

- Bushfire Moderation Zone to help reduce the potential impact of radiant heat on assets
- When: Annual. Where: Private property boundaries

north and western edges of Woodland Close. Works required: Maintain by slashing to reduce fuels to a minimum width 2.5 to three metres.

- Fire Access Road. When: Annual. Where: Access Road from Woodland Close to the dam. Works required: Maintain by slashing track and trimming and grading as required to a four-metre vertical and five-metre width along track and to 10 metres at turnaround near dam. Maintain removable bollards or gates with a standard key locking system and suitable signage at the entrance to all fire access tracks.
- Extra works: What: Asset Protection Zones Maintain Asset Protection Zones in line with Terra Matrix Fire Plan. Strategically remove woody weeds along Hendy Lane.

Responding to the question in general terms, Bass Coast Shire Council Mayor, Cr Rochelle Halstead said she had been assured that the shire had attended to all of its annual responsibilities but that some scheduled works are still to be completed.



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Wonthaggi bushfire linked to Inverloch pathway works

A FIRE which broke out in bushland on the outskirts of Wonthaggi last Wednesday, January 8, has been linked to construction work on the Bass Coast Shire Council's \$7.7million Inverloch to Wonthaggi pathway.

According to a spokesman for the CFA, more than 20 appliances, including 18 fire trucks and numerous ultra-light vehicles, supported by a water-bombing helicopter, attacked the scrub and grass fire beside the road easement, which is an extension of Moore's Road, south of Wonthaggi.

The fire, which was located about one kilometre east of the residential settlement known as 'Pommy Town', off Cape Paterson Road, is believed to have started at about 12 noon, with local brigades called out at around 12.25pm.

A spokesperson for the shire said circumstances surrounding the incident were still being assessed.

"Bass Coast Shire Council can confirm that a fire occurred on-site at the Wonthaggi-Inverloch Path on Wednesday, January 8, 2025. The fire was caused when a subcontractor struck a hidden timber post during works," said a shire spokesperson.

"An incident report is currently being prepared to assess the circumstances. We are committed to prioritising safety and will ensure appropriate measures



A scrub and grass fire which broke out on the outskirts of Wonthaggi last Wednesday has been linked to work on the Bass Coast Shire Council's Inverloch to Wonthaggi pathway.

are in place to prevent similar incidents in the future."

Temperatures on the day reached a high of 30 degrees and while winds were initially light, they did strengthen to 30km/h later in the afternoon, by which time fire crews had the blaze under control.

"If we had those winds earlier it might have been a different story," said the CFA spokesman

who also noted the difficulty firefighters had combating the blaze due to unstable trees.

While the fire was contained to bush and grass some distance away from houses on the outskirts of Wonthaggi, long dry grass, especially along the unused road easement, was of concern.

Part of the 14-kilometre inland route for the riding and

walking trail between Inverloch and Wonthaggi, will include the unused Moore's Road easement, past the site of last Wednesday's fire.

The pathway is presently under construction, with sections at both the Wonthaggi and Inverloch ends already completed.

It is expected to be completed in mid-2026.

Couple plead guilty to animal cruelty

A COUPLE from Kallista have pleaded guilty to animal cruelty offences under the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1986 (POCTA) at the Wonthaggi Magistrates' Court recently, both receiving a fine of \$2000 without conviction.

The duo pleaded guilty to two charges of neglecting to supervise and prevent access to a boggy area on their property at Toora, resulting in unnecessary pain or suffering caused to a heifer stuck up to its neck in mud.

The accused also pleaded guilty to two charges for failing to comply with a Notice to Comply (NTC), and aggravated cruelty in respect of a steer with a large eye cancer.

The Magistrate commented the responsibility fell on them to keep the animals safe, healthy, and well, and the offending is taken seriously because of the vulnerability of the animals.

Agriculture Victoria Compliance Manager Daniel Bode said the offenders were absentee owners and persons in charge of a mob of approximately 32 cattle.

In response to a complaint, Agriculture Victoria officers attended the property in September 2023.

"The AgVic officers observed a steer in extremely low body condition and with an advanced eye cancer measuring 15 centimetres wide and 11 centimetre deep. An NTC that was issued to provide treatment was not acted on."

Additionally, a heifer was discovered, whose body was completely bogged in a dam. There was nothing to prevent livestock accessing this area. Both animals were euthanised to prevent further suffering.

Mr Bode said apart from the obvious pain and suffering of the animals, animal welfare breaches can jeopardise Victoria's reputation as a humane and responsible producer of food, which can, in turn, affect all producers.

Anyone wishing to make a specific complaint regarding livestock welfare can contact Agriculture Victoria on 136 186 or aw.complaint@agriculture.vic.gov.au

You can now receive certain healthcare treatments at a local pharmacy, without having to get a prescription first.

The Victorian Government's Community Pharmacist Pilot is making healthcare more accessible. Here are some other treatments you can access.

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Treatment for shingles

If you have one of the following symptoms, you may have shingles:

- painful blistering rash
- a tingling, burning sensation on the skin.

If you are aged 18 years and older, you may be eligible for treatment.



Treatment for urinary tract infections

If you have any of the following symptoms, you may have a urinary tract infection:

- stinging or burning when passing urine
- feeling the need to pass urine frequently or bladder still feels full after passing urine.

If you are female and aged between 16 -65 years you may be able to get treatment.



Treatment for a flare up of mild plaque psoriasis

If you are aged 18 years and older, and currently have a flare-up of mild plaque psoriasis, speak to a participating pharmacist to check if you can get a resupply of your cream or ointment.



Resupply of an oral contraceptive pill

If you are aged 16-50 years and currently take an oral contraceptive pill, speak to a participating pharmacist to check if you can get a resupply.



Travel and vaccines

If you are travelling overseas or need a public health vaccine, pharmacists participating in the Pilot can administer a range of travel vaccinations as well as hepatitis A, hepatitis B, poliomyelitis, typhoid vaccines (for people aged 5 years and older).





For more information and to find a local pharmacy providing these services visit: go.vic.gov.au/49C6sFc

These treatments are part of the Community Pharmacist Pilot, funded by the Victorian Government.



Saving children from smartphones

SCREENTIME; how much is too much? It's the ongoing question of this day and age. Parents, guardians and grandparents are questioning and debating over the modern-day 'play' that children are exposed to on a daily basis, but the real question is, how young is too young?

In diving into this ongoing debate, Mark Lamers from IN2 Technology in Wonthaggi shared his opinion on how to keep children safe in a modern-day society, where technology is at their fingertips.

As a business owner of a technology company, Mark shared that the circulation of scams is becoming all too overwhelming and having social media at our fingertips doesn't help the situation.

"We shouldn't be complacent when it comes to providing children access to the internet," said Mark.

"We're all using technology in some way or another, whether it be use of a mobile device, computer, or tablet; however, personally I would say that only children over 12 years should have access to a smartphone and parents should use a paid antivirus and parental controls for social media."

In a way to keep up with modern society, independent and state schools provide students with laptops or access to computers for educational purposes – of course, this is the best way for children to learn new skills, learn how to type, understand how to research and how to keep up-to-date with new technologies; however, Mark shared that

most school devices have anti-virus with controls to restrict certain sites.

The government passed legislation to prevent those under 16 from having social media accounts but how it will work and what platforms are excluded is yet to be fully implemented.

Until then, it's the discretion of the parent, and this is where Mark insists that parents shouldn't be complacent.

"I think banning these platforms for young children will be a good thing as there is a lot of bullying on social media apps, and too often you see that there is 'not kid-friendly content' on there."

Mark has over 12 years of experience in the industry, alongside his tech specialist Ryan Spatz and they shared that "we're all at risk of being scammed and being exposed to unwelcome content, it's just crucial that we all take extra precaution in every situation, especially with children."

Mark and Ryan work day-to-day helping consumers combat viruses and avoid scams. Together they provide locals with tech support, data recovery, virus removal and PC health checks and can help parents with anti-virus systems to help keep children protected when they come of age – whatever age that might be.

Mark does, however, recommend smartwatches over smartphones.

"I think they are a great idea as you can track your child, whilst still giving them options to only call or text," said Mark.



The campaign to save Silverleaves continues with the community launching a parliamentary petition. Picture from left, resident Natalie Gray, Shadow Minister for Ports and Freight Roma Britnell, Shadow Minister for Public Land Management, The Nationals Member for Eastern Victoria Region, Melina Bath and local resident Dr Stephen Lapin.

Petition launched to save Silverleaves

A PETITION was launched on Thursday last week by the Silverleaves community calling on the Allan Labor Government to urgently fund short term works to save homes from the eroding shoreline.

The petition is sponsored by The Nationals' Member for Eastern Victoria, Shadow Minister for Public Land Management Melina Bath who has been working with residents.

Ms Bath said there is a proposed plan by DEECA which includes the implementation of geotextile sandbags to protect homes, public infrastructure and public land in the short term.

"It's imperative recommended

geotextile revetment is in place before April to protect homes from being lost to king tides and storms through autumn and winter," said Ms Bath.

"The petition is calling for short- and long-term solutions and for the state government to work collaboratively with the community.

"Silverleaves residents are deeply concerned and frustrated by the lack of urgency and feel they are being ignored by the Government.

"Residents are acutely aware of the imminent threat to their properties; many lay in fear at night wondering if their homes will fall victim to the sea."

Ms Bath said Labor is aware of

the dire situation at Silverleaves.

"Once short-term mitigation is in place, then there is time to work collaboratively with residents to plan for the longer term."

While locals are actively gathering signatures, visitors and locals can also sign the petition at the Silverleaves Store or the Silverleaves Conservation Society.

The petition follows a protest meeting on Monday in Silverleaves that was attended by 250-300 people, as they call for urgent funding for a system of geotextile bags walls to be erected on the foreshore asap.

Read more at sgst.com.au/news/300-voices-call-for-urgent-silverleaves-funding.

STAY SAFE IN BASS COAST

As we enjoy more beautiful weather, the Bass Coast region is calling all beachgoers to come and enjoy the sandy shores safely.

To help you stay safe, we encourage everyone to **download the Surf Life Saving Australia, Beach Safe app** and access important information available on the Life Saving Victoria website and throughout the Visitor Information Centres.



beachsafe.org.au

In hot weather, take steps to protect yourself and others by keeping cool, staying hydrated, planning ahead and checking in with others.

We want everyone to keep safe when exploring the amazing coastline of Bass Coast.



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Jan Elizabeth Parry (Fist)

5 December 1953 - 28 December 2024

THE esteem in which Jan Parry was held was evident from the large attendance at her Korumburra Showgrounds funeral on Friday, January 10.

While the occasion was tinged with sadness, it was also a celebration of a life well-lived and the joy Jan brought to those who knew her.

She ensured anyone walking into Parry's Korumburra, the shop she ran with husband Bob and known fondly by locals as Parry's gift store, felt immediately welcome, engaging them in friendly conversation.

"New customers were greeted with a smile and she informed them all about Korumburra and some were allowed to escape within the hour," Bob recalled.

"I'm not used to speaking because my wife never gave me a chance to talk much," he observed, proceeding to deliver a touching tribute to his wife of 53 years whom he married in 1971.

Bob realised early in the couple's relationship that Jan was raised by kind, generous parents, Bevan and Gwen, traits she went on to exhibit in many aspects of her life including her prominent role in establishing Milpara Community House and working to improve its services.

Former Milpara House coordinator Sandra Webster spoke



of Jan's immense contribution and determined approach to achieving better outcomes for the Korumburra community, describing her as "my mentor and kind and wise friend".

After helping establish Milpara, Jan served 28 years on its committee as chairperson, then as secretary and public officer, also representing the organisation on many community committees.

"Jan was there in the thick of it as well as working full time in the shop with Bob and raising three boys," Sandra said of Milpara's early years, describing Jan as "the inspiration and the driver behind a huge range of community services for Korumburra".

Sandra noted never having heard Jan say a bad word about anyone, but also her determination to win support for causes dear to her heart.

"Jan was passionate about community development and this passion was infectious,"

Sandra said, describing her as "a role model for the staff, committee and volunteers at Milpara, always seeking better services for the community she so loved".

In an online tribute, Milpara Community House described Jan as a "staunch supporter", involved from the very beginning as one of its founders, saying she could see how an organisation such as Milpara could have long lasting benefit to the community.

"We are honoured Jan has chosen Milpara's Emergency Foodbank to receive donations on her behalf, in lieu of flowers," the Community House stated.

News of Jan's passing sparked other moving acknowledgments, the Korumburra Business Association describing her as a true local identity and prominent business owner who has helped so many people along the way.

The Korumburra A&P Society acknowledged the great support Jan and Parry's store has provided the Korumburra Show for decades.

"What a woman, what a life; your legacy will continue," Milpara House declared, a sentiment clearly shared by those paying their respects, the turnout overwhelming the Parry family but well deserved for someone Bob labelled "a people person".



Inverloch CFA Captain Shane Frogley is dissatisfied the reasonably new LED community safety sign has been damaged and alongside the community is raising funds for its repair. B72_0225

Inverloch CFA electronic display vandalised

INVERLOCH CFA is fundraising to restore a community warning sign damaged by vandals between Christmas and New Year.

The electronic LED display valued at \$10,000 was installed early last year.

"It is only eight months old," said Inverloch CFA Captain Shane Frogley.

"We fundraised to purchase the sign and will have to fundraise again to repair or replace it," said Capt. Frogley.

"A panel has been damaged and that panel or the whole sign will need to be replaced."

The sign is used to warn of Total Fire Bans and Fire Danger Ratings as well as for recruiting and a thank you to sponsor Mitre 10.

"The LED display is not covered by insurance," said Capt. Frogley.

Inverloch CFA has a GoFundMe page at gofundme.com/f/inverloch-cfa which has already raised \$2000.

Fundraisers say the LED screen is an essential tool for delivering

important updates and emergency information.

"We're asking for your support to help cover the repair costs and ensure our emergency services can continue to provide the critical information we need."

"Every contribution, no matter how big or small, will make a difference in getting this crucial service back up and running."

"Let's come together to support the CFA and show them the strength of our community."

Donations can also be made at the Inverloch CFA Fire Station on Sunday mornings.

The Inverloch Fire Brigade has had a busy start to the year sending a tanker and ultra-light to The Gurdies, an ultra-light to Yanakie on the border of Wilsons Promontory National Park, two units to Moores Road in Wonthaggi and a callout to a switchboard fire damaging electrical circuits and perishables at Foodworks Inverloch.

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South Gippsland Shire Council News

Community Grants

South Gippsland Shire Council’s Round Two of Community Grants is now open!

Funding of up to \$10,000 is available to local community groups and organisations looking to purchase new equipment, fund projects, develop reports and plans, or organise festivals and events.

You may be thinking “what can my group do with a community grant?” We are here to tell you that the options are endless!

Previous recipients were awarded grants to repair common spaces, run events such as Pedal and Plant and Biketoberfest, while others have used the funding to purchase equipment

like mowers and soccer nets and even provide accredited training to volunteers.


Community grants benefit the whole community, not just those who are directly involved in the project. By supporting initiatives that address local needs and issues, grants can help enhance liveability in South Gippsland.

So what are you waiting for? The time to apply for a Community Grant is now!

Applications close Monday 31 March 2025.

For more information and to start your application, please visit:
www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/grants

SOUTH GIPPSLAND SHIRE COUNCIL
2025 Immunisation Program



Check out our new 2025 Immunisation Program. With monthly appointments at a variety of locations across our Shire, getting immunised has never been easier.

Protect yourself and your community against vaccine preventable diseases today.

To find a time and place that suits you and to book your appointment, please visit:
www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/immunisation

COUNCIL MEETINGS

An additional Council meeting will be held on Wednesday 15 January 2025 at 2.00pm. The meeting will be held virtually. Two items will be considered in this meeting in a closed session.

Details will be available on Council’s website:

www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/CouncilMeetings

To watch the ‘open’ part of the meeting live or when it suits you, visit:

www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/live

COUNCIL MEETING DATES

Dates for the 2025 Council Meetings have now been scheduled. To view these dates, please visit:

www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/meeting_dates

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Looking for a new job? We might have the perfect position for you! Check out our current vacant positions here:

www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/vacantpositions

REQUEST FOR TENDERS

Council is seeking submissions from qualified companies/applicants for the following:

RFT/423 – Korumburra Commercial Street - Hub Pedestrian Link

Tenders close 2.00pm AEDT on Tuesday 21 January 2024.

Documentation is available from Council’s e-Tendering Portal
www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/tenders

CONTACT US

9 Smith Street, Leongatha
15 Little Commercial Street, Korumburra
03 5662 9200
www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au

Bena residents urgently address road safety issues

CONCERNED residents are calling on the South Gippsland Shire Council to urgently address safety issues on the Bena-Kongwak Road after a near-fatal accident last week.

The collision between two vehicles occurred on Thursday, January 9 in the early evening on the Bena-Kongwak Road near Twites Road. Ambulance Victoria confirmed that a woman in her 20s was taken to Casey Hospital in a stable condition for further assessment, and a woman in her 40s suffered upper body soreness and was taken in a stable condition to Dandenong Hospital.

The collision caused one vehicle to skid off the road and collide with a tree on a section of the road with an almost sheer drop. Local resident Tom Baricevic, who has lived in the area for nearly a decade was at the scene after the collision happened near his home, and he declared that ‘the drivers were incredibly lucky to be alive.’

Locals say poor road maintenance by Council, a lack of proper signage, and the absence of protective barriers contributed to the severity of the incident.

“This seven-kilometre stretch of poor road urgently needs black spot signage. There are steep embankments, and it is so narrow making it difficult for a car to pass,” he said.

“There is no adequate speed



Bena-Kongwak residents urgently address the safety on Bena-Kongwak Road after a near-fatal accident on Thursday, January 9. From left, Tom Baricevic, Wolfgang Kessler, Virginia Hunt, Sharon Beaman, Graeme Coates, Wendy Kessler, Brad Hunt and front, Isobel Hunt call on the shire for action on the dangerous road.

signage there – as a resident, I don’t know what the speed limit is. If we don’t know, how are tourists supposed to know the speed. This is an area for unique touring, motorcyclists and cyclists and it’s just so dangerous.”

In response, the community have rallied together, petitioning the council for immediate improvements to the road. Their demands include the regular maintenance of road

edges, installation of clear warning signs, speed limit indicators, protective barriers along dangerous curves, and road line marking.

“It’s heartbreaking that it took such a serious accident to bring attention to it. We need action before another tragedy occurs,” said Tom.

Another resident, Virginia Hunt, who drives the road daily, said, “In sections, you simply can’t safely pull over to

let another vehicle pass. It’s a rural road and many different vehicles need to share it... it’s nothing short of dangerous.”

Long-term local, Ian Haw, added his concerns, stating, “It’s quite honestly, a terrible road in a terrible state.”

Virginia and Tom have both contacted the council to address the issue and have yet to receive a response. The South Gippsland Shire Council have been contacted for comment.

Mayor’s Message



Cr John Schelling

HELLO South Gippsland.

What a busy place we have been over the festive season! Visitors and locals alike have been exploring attractions, towns and events across our beautiful region, which is terrific to see.

Soon our region will be buzzing with local sport coming back from a break, but this doesn’t happen without our volunteers. So, I would like to share a big thank you to all our volunteers that help get our seasons underway – that attend the canteens, run the Associations and do the hard yards so we can all enjoy our favourite game.

Community Grants Program

Round 2 of the 2024/25 Community Grants Program is open now until March 31, 2025.

This is a terrific opportunity to see if your project is eligible for support by South Gippsland Shire Council. There are four funding categories:

- Minor Projects and Equipment (up to \$5,000).
- Major Projects and Equipment (between \$5,000 and \$10,000).
- Planning and Development Reports (between \$5,000 and \$10,000).
- Festivals and Events (up to \$10,000).

For more information and to apply, please visit: www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/grants

Federal Election Candidate Meetings

In the lead up to the 2025 Federal Election, it seemed like the opportune time to talk to the candidates that will be putting their hand up to represent South Gippsland. Throughout December, I met with Russell Broadbent, Deb Leonard and Mary Aldred to talk through South Gippsland Shire Council’s Advocacy Priorities and chat generally about the support we need from the Federal Government. It was great to also hear from them about their aspirations and vision for our region.

Immunisation Sessions

In 2025, Council’s Immunisation Program is having a shake-up.

The Program will now go to more corners of our community, giving young people and the young at heart the opportunity to get localised vaccinations.

For a full list of locations and dates, and to book your place, please visit: www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/immunisation

Australia Day Events

As I mentioned in last week’s Message, the South Gippsland Australia Day Awards are on this Wednesday, January 15, 2025 from 6.30pm at the Meeniyan Town Hall. All are welcome to come and enjoy the evening.

On Australia Day itself, many communities across South Gippsland are hosting events. Unfortunately, there won’t be one in Leongatha this year, so the Citizenship Ceremony has been moved to Meeniyan. You can see a full list of the events at Council’s website: www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/australiaday

Government backing sought for projects in Leongatha and San Remo

REGIONAL advocacy body, One Gippsland, will be increasing its efforts to secure government support for four key road projects to boost safety, cut congestion and maximise freight efficiency across the region.

Included in the four priorities is the planning and design of the Leongatha Heavy Vehicle Alternate Route Stage 2, costing at \$1.5 million, and San Remo Road Infrastructure Improvements costing at \$28 million.

As part of its budgetary process for the 2025-26 financial year, One Gippsland will be advocating for funding consideration by the Victorian and Federal Governments.

The organisation is the peak representative body for the region with leaders from local councils, industry and education and spokesperson Cr Scott Rossetti said these priority projects need government funding.

“Our growing industries, including food and fibre production and renewable energy generation, will increase pressure on the local freight network. We need to continue to invest in road infrastructure that will handle the increasing movement of goods around and through our region,” Cr Rossetti said.

Each year, 163 tonnes of freight travels through the national transport network for every Australian, according to One Gippsland.

From 2020 to 2050, that volume is expected to increase by 26 per cent and road freight is forecast to rise by 77 per cent.

Cr Rossetti said heavy vehicles needed to be re-routed around



Spokesperson for One Gippsland, Cr Scott Rossetti said upgrades are needed urgently to deal with the increased activity on roads that are heavily bottlenecked and are advocating to government for funding.

several Gippsland towns and infrastructure improvements were required to deal with growing populations.

“Bypasses and heavy vehicle routes will divert trucks away from pedestrian areas and the commercial heart of numerous towns, which keeps people safer and our streets more attractive, while allowing freight to reach its destination more safely, with fewer delays and at lower cost,” Cr Rossetti said.

“There are also parts of our region which are growing rapidly and upgrades are needed urgently to deal with the increased activity on roads that are heavily bottlenecked.”

As well as infrastructure improvements for Leongatha and San Remo two other road projects have been identified to improving safety and efficiencies across the region’s freight network.

This includes a Sale Alternate Truck Route, costing at \$60

million and planning for the Drouin and Warragul Arterial Road Network costing at \$3 million.

“The future economic success of our existing industries and many new ones relies on the strength of the supply chains that connect Gippsland to distribution centres and to air and seaports,” Cr Rossetti said.

“We want produce and other goods to travel from Gippsland along the safest, most direct route with easy connections to ports, including those in Melbourne, Hastings and Barry Beach, as well as airports in Melbourne and Avalon.”

O’Brien welcomes support for Kamikaze Corner fix

The Nationals Member for Gippsland South, Danny O’Brien has welcomed the endorsement of One Gippsland of his campaign for funding to address Leongatha’s most confusing intersection.

One Gippsland, the regional

lobby group of councils and other agencies has listed the Leongatha Heavy Vehicle Alternate Route – Stage 2 among its key road projects for advocacy to the State Government.

The Leongatha Heavy Vehicle Alternate Route would seek to fix the intersection of the Strzelecki and South Gippsland Highways, colloquially known as “Kamikaze Corner” due to its confusing and dangerous nature.

“I have been campaigning to have this intersection fixed for a number of years and The Nationals committed funding at the last election to undertake the necessary planning and design work for the alternate route. It’s great to have One Gippsland on-board with this project and it is now only the Allan Labor government that is refusing to take any action.

“This intersection is confusing and dangerous for locals and visitors alike and work needs to be undertaken to finish the Leongatha Heavy Vehicle Alternate Route that was started 10 years ago.

“With increasing traffic on the South Gippsland Highway, including from the closure of the Pakenham saleyards, we need the State Government to take action. One Gippsland has recognised that, I have recognised it and thousands of community members in Leongatha and surrounds also recognise it.

“It is time for the State Government to get serious and finalise design and then work with the Commonwealth on securing the significant funding that will be needed.”

Egg shortage continues to build 'but there is a solution', they say.

THE importance of local production of eggs has increased following the outbreaks of avian influenza and with an interest in sustainable farming, farmer and environmental auditor Phil Westwood shared his suggestions for small-scale egg operations and how to set up your own free-range egg business.

"Low-density systems are far less susceptible to disease," said Phil.

"We used to run workshops on how to manage small-scale operations, but now we just continue to encourage locals, I believe every town should have a free-range egg farm – it's easy to run."

Anne and Phil Westwood manage a free-range farm in Grantville, but the demand is too high and has been for some time.

"There has been a huge demand for the last three or four years," said Phil, "but it's becoming more intense because of the recent shortage."

"I do believe it comes down to biosecurity," said Anne.

"These last outbreaks have all started in cage farms. We have always thought that if you are travelling overseas to countries that have consistent disease – you shouldn't be able to work on a farm."

Anne and Phil shared that starting your own operation isn't as difficult as it may seem.

"You need to be running a minimum of 100 birds to get it going. The real mistake is to start big, it's too much to handle," said Phil.

"Start small and build from there."

Anne and Phil sell free-range eggs directly from their Grantville farm and have seen the demand in restaurants.

"We're having to turn them away because the demand is just too high," he said.

"Of course, residents could have their own chooks at home, then they wouldn't be chasing them elsewhere, but if possible, locals could set up a small-scale operation and sell their own eggs – according to regulations."

Anne and Phil have shared their story with the community for years now, with an e-book available on how to get started and their own website freeranger.com.au describing why free ranger eggs are different, revealing that their free-range hens spend time outdoors naturally – grazing on pasture and are protected from predators by their Maremma guard dogs.

"Plenty of wide-open space, this is real free-range," they said.

Anne shared that these diseases that cause an outbreak and an egg shortage are blamed on wild birds, but it's not, they just get the blame for it. There is no proof," she said.

"The best way to source your eggs is from a local farm."



2024 Award Winners from Warragul, Leongatha, Pakenham and Dandenong campuses. Back row, from left: Alek Pritchard, Stephanie Morland, Ethan Djurcinovski, Elisbeth McInnes-Griffiths, William Berry, Mary McInnes-Griffiths, Tayah Souter, Natasha Pavloff, Blake Barry, Brianna Graham-Dorling, Ryley Johnson and Affrickah Smith. Front row: Paige Middleton Ross, Breanna Orchard, Isabella Hart, Zahlee Farr, Lily Dollard, Chloe Jones-Cordoba, Lani Toms, Ella Anthony and Teagan George.

Celebrating excellence and industry partnerships

COMMUNITY College Gippsland (CCG) celebrated students' achievements from ECG Secondary College Warragul, Leongatha, Pakenham and Dandenong campuses, along with those from its RTO and Learn Local programs. The event was attended by teachers, family, friends and industry partners, making the 2024 CCG Awards Night a spectacular celebration of achievement, dedication, and community spirit. This event showcased the power of collaboration.

The evening was an inspiring showcase of perseverance and commitment. It featured the presentation of 18 donor awards across the Warragul, Pakenham, Leongatha, and Dandenong campuses, as well as three scholarships, sponsorships, three RTO awards, two Learn Local Awards, the Industry Partner Award, and the Community Builder Award. Each award reflected the hard work and determination that defined the vibrant CCG community.

The 2024 Industry Partner Award was presented to Little Saints Early Learning Centre, Warragul in recognition of the staff and educators' collaboration with CCG to enhance opportunities for learners to grow and succeed. The team at Little Saints Early Learning Centre Warragul has been inclusive and supportive, providing placement opportunities for students of the Certificate III Early Childhood Education and Care course. Upon qualifying, many students have



Dale Gemmell presented the Industry Partner Award to Jackie Manser, People and Culture Manager at Little Saints Early Learning Centre, Warragul.

secured employment with them.

The 2024 Community Builder Award was presented to Transit Soup Kitchen and Food Support, Dandenong, operated by a group of committed community volunteers. They have welcomed ECG Secondary College students, providing volunteer opportunities that enabled them to learn new skills, gain valuable experiences, and challenge themselves. Through volunteering, ECG students have built confidence, communication skills and teamwork abilities while developing a deeper awareness and understanding of social issues in their local community. This experience has empowered students to make a tangible difference in the lives of others and broaden their worldview.

In recognition of their service, dedication and contributions over the past nine years, CCG awarded life membership to two of its current Board members, Marianne Shearer and Iain Luck.

CCG extends their heartfelt thanks to the platinum sponsors Gippsland Forest Lodge, Fonterra, and Tanya Heaney-Voogt, as well as the award sponsors: South East LLEN, Warragul Crownlea, Commonwealth Bank Warragul and Leongatha, Warragul City Motors, Evans Petroleum, South Gippsland Bass Coast LLEN, Baw Baw Latrobe LLEN, Club Hotel Warragul, Biz IT, TAFE Gippsland, Skillinvest, McFarlane Criminal Lawyers, @reality Property Sales Gippsland - Courtney Crossman, and Space

Carpet Court Warragul. CCG acknowledges the generous donations extended by Club 88, Gippsland Forest Lodge and Baw Baw Shire Council, which contributed to the scholarship and sponsorship awards. Their generous support made this event possible and helped shine a spotlight on the achievements of CCG students.

The evening was filled with a talented music performance by Matt Peter-Fry, and the charismatic hosting of Dan Robinson from TR FM, who expertly guided the audience through the night. Homegrown Design captured every memorable moment, and the Warragul Country Club provided the perfect venue for this celebration of success.

"Gippsland Forest Masonic Lodge and Freemasons Foundation Victoria chose to support Community College Gippsland in recognition of the important contribution the college has made to improving the quality and availability of specialist educational opportunities in the Baw Baw Shire area," said Col McCowan, Secretary of Gippsland Forest Lodge.

"The annual student awards provided an excellent platform to demonstrate how our financial assistance translated into recognition for students who achieved meritorious performance during the year and helped a student in furthering their education with a scholarship grant."

For more information about CCG and ECG, visit ccg.asn.au or call 03 5622 6000

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INTERNATIONALS for Regional Victoria



Go Girls empowers women with community support

INTO its fourth year in the South Gippsland region, the 'Go Girls Foundation' continues to empower local women, boosting their confidence, job prospects and independence.

It is supported by the Stony Creek Racing Club Community Fund, an annual golf day at Leongatha Golf Club that this year is on Sunday, May 4, and 'Women for Change' under the auspices of the Bass Coast Community Foundation.

The Go Girls Foundation runs a four-month program in Wonthaggi, helping connect women with their community, participants coming from Yanakie through to Phillip Island, including localities such as Korumburra, Leongatha, Fish Creek, Foster and Dumbalk.

"We assist women in South Gippsland who have experienced social isolation, domestic violence and mental health issues," Go Girls CEO and co-founder Michelle Jobson said.

She highlighted the unfortunate fact there is a high level of domestic violence in the Gippsland region and a lot of women experiencing social isolation.

"By connecting them back into their community, it gets them re-engaged in their life, and once they feel more engaged in their community and supported, they then tend to find employment," Michelle said.

"That employment then leads to independence and what that means for many women is they can take control of their own finances, then their lives," which also benefits their children.

Michelle noted that the funds received will be used to sponsor 15 women, changing their lives, and making them feel more in control.

Women are encouraged to enquire about the program running from August until November that will be followed by a Graduation luncheon at the RACV Inverloch Resort.

The program is also supported by South Gippsland and Bass Coast Shire Councils, the former sponsoring the golf day as does the Inverloch branch of Ray White.

Michelle praised the communities of the South Gippsland region for their generosity, including the local businesses that provide raffle prizes and silent auction items to help raise money for the cause.

South Gippsland participants



Go Girls co-founders Michelle Jobson and Rita Bottomley. A01_0225

completing the four-month Go Girls program are each assigned a mentor for six months.

"We train local businesswomen to be mentors," Michelle said, noting Stony Creek Racing Club Committee member Sarah Bourke is one of the organisation's leading mentors in South Gippsland.

While it is Sarah's first mentorship with Go Girls, she has done a lot of mentoring previously, and has established a relationship with Go Girls through her background in the education sector and sees the value of the work it does.

"It's up to the mentor and mentee to establish a connection and set some goals," Sarah said, noting the process is driven by the mentee and what it is they are aiming to achieve. It doesn't need to be overly formal, perhaps catching up for a coffee or chatting on the phone.

"The most important thing about being a mentor is, like any sort of volunteering, what you put in you get back three-fold," she said.

Benefits for the mentor include meeting new people, gaining an understanding of different challenges one might face and connecting in a mutually supportive way.

Having a mentor can provide a new connection in the community,

helping the mentee develop in the area they wish to, whether that be personally or professionally, potentially enhancing social skills or communication, with Sarah pointing out that everyone is different.

"I really believe in the program and I've seen participants grow and thrive, so it was really a no-brainer," she said of her involvement with Go Girls as a mentor.

The Go Girls Foundation has been running for about 18 years in Melbourne, with Rita Bottomley its other co-founder.

Michelle stressed that any woman who feels she would benefit from the program is encouraged to attend an information session to be held in Wonthaggi.

"They might say, 'I haven't suffered domestic violence, I'm just a bit lonely,' well come along and we'll see if we can put you on the program," she said.

Mentors are always wanted and don't need to be businesswomen, and may be retired.

Volunteers and sponsors are also wanted for the golf day.

To enquire about the Go Girls program or becoming a mentor, please call or text Michelle Jobson on 0406 998 612 or Rita Bottomley on 0413 810 700.

If keen to learn more about being part of the golf day, whether as a player or sponsor, please call Craig Jobson on 0414 662 445.



Honk 4 Deb kicked off recently on the Phillip Island bridge as Deb Leonard marks her 2025 campaign

Honk for Deb kicks off

DEB Leonard, independent Candidate for Monash is wasting no time kicking off her 2025 campaign for federal election, which is expected to be held by May 17, 2025.

On Friday, January 3, commuters across the Phillip Island-San Remo bridge were greeted by enthusiastic volunteers of all ages, waving Deb Leonard campaign signs and encouraging honks.

Ten-year-old Ollie counted 233 honks of support from the bridge. Sunny, eight years old, reported "It was really fun! It was so exciting when people honked and waved!"

Deb highlights that this is just one of over 40 campaign events planned for January, with door knocking taking place regularly around the electorate, as well as market stalls, "Politics in the Pub" events and an online meet the candidate session.

"The major parties have been ignoring our region for decades," Deb asserts.

"I'm making it a priority to hear from as many people as possible from communities around the electorate to

understand where we need action."

Deb uploads all the feedback she receives to her website and says this will be used to shape her policies.

Roads, coastal erosion and access to health services are the top local issues for Bass Coast, which the major parties have not been ignoring, according to Deb.

Nationally, issues of cost of living, housing, climate action, and political integrity remain critical.

"The major parties talk about addressing these things, but we are yet to see any meaningful action," Deb emphasised.

"As an independent, I'll hold the parties to account, make sure they deliver on promises, and ensure we get our fair share of federal funding for roads, health services and infrastructure.

"This is a community campaign. It's not about me - it's about community standing up and demanding better".

Deb encourages anyone interested to get involved by visiting her website debleonard.com.au.

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Authorised by Deb Leonard, 40B&C Bair St, Leongatha



Moolight Tryst:
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Dancing on the canvas

Wikipedia - ART "Art describes a diverse range of cultural activity centred around works utilising creative or imaginative talents, which are expected to evoke a worthwhile experience, generally through an expression of emotional power, conceptual ideas, beauty and/or technical proficiency."

As dance has always been a part of my life, combining the act and intention of dance into my interpretive art is not really a giant leap.

My searches of dance photographs on Google have given me a feast of ideas and unleashed a new abstract direction in my paintings.

Using the dance photograph as a base, I study the positive and negative shapes as well as the energy and movement of the dancers.

After working on an overlay, experimenting with key lines for balance and grace, I then ignore the photograph and work on the abstract elements of dance... BASTE: Body, Action, Space, Time and Energy and attempt to capture these elements in the shapes, colour, patterns and

By Zulu

overlays for a contemporary interpretation of the dance rather than just looking at the dancers.

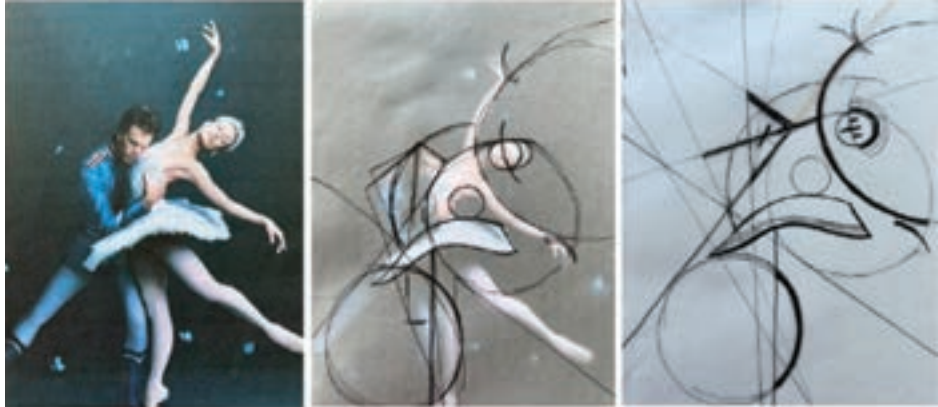
The more I work on these the more abstract I am able to take the art, which I am loving.

Those of you who know my work will probably ask... Are you still going to do some of the 'glass' paintings? The answer is: Yes, of course.

But like musicians, poets or singers we need to keep growing and experimenting with our directions and materials. Each new adventure into unknown territory gives you a new perspective and a few headaches as well. Sometimes useful, sometimes not.

But being curious is not just an important part of an artisan's life, but an essential part of the creative process.

Please come and visit my working studio/gallery before January 26, 2025. Open every day 12 - 5pm. Only open in January each year, so don't miss out.



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• OBITUARY

Sue Ritchie warmly remembered

12 January 1952 – 25 December 2024

SUSAN (Sue) Dianne Ritchie (Wyatt) was fondly remembered on Friday, January 3 at the Korumburra Showgrounds by friends, family and representatives of various organisations she enriched with her vibrant presence, following her unexpected passing on Christmas Day at age 72.

"She was a beacon of kindness, bringing light, laughter and positivity to everyone she met," Gippsland Southern Health Service (GSHS) stated in an online post, paying tribute to Sue who was a Personal Care Attendant and ran activities as a Diversional Therapist, having a passion for gardening.

The service in her honour was packed, with people occupying the grandstand as well as indoors, the Showgrounds an ideal location to remember a lady who long contributed to the Korumburra Agricultural & Pastoral (A&P) Society.

She was also devoted to those in her care at Korumburra's Hillside Lodge, run by GSHS.

The health service recently commended Sue for her 25 years of service to the organisation and those in its care.

"Her unwavering dedication to our residents, her passion for providing exceptional care, and her ability to inspire those around her have left a lasting legacy within our team and community," the glowing tribute said.

GSHS CEO Louise Sparkes noted Sue provided a lot of support for staff as well as residents.

"She was particularly well-loved by the staff, the residents and the residents' families," Louise said.

Funeral attendees heard



Sue in researching and preparing her displays, describing her own contribution as "small" and Sue's historical displays at Korumburra Shows as "wonderful".

"She spent a lot of time preparing, researching and finding stuff in the Historical Society rooms and she was just so competent and such a caring person with attention to detail," Janet said, describing Sue's work ethic as "astronomical" and noting the displays were greatly appreciated by the community.

Rhonda said the hard work Sue put into her exhibits was typical of her relentless approach to doing things properly.

As well as being a general committee member for the A&P Society, Sue was president of the Amenities Complex committee.

She was born at Korumburra Hospital, living in Arawata all her life, attending Arawata Primary School and the then Korumburra High School before working as a shop assistant in her father Lester's electrical store, at one stage being named 'Most Courteous Shop Assistant' by the local business association.

In her youth, Sue belonged to Brownies and Girl Guides and represented Arawata in a basketball premiership in the side's first season in 1961.

She was one of five siblings, with brothers Geoff, Kelvin and Lyle, and sister Leonie.

Sue married Andrew Ritchie in 1973, being active in the running of the couple's farm and preparing meals for hay carters.

Sue and Andrew had sons Alastair and Cameron, becoming proud grandparents of Ashlyn and Isabella.

Royalty congratulate Marie

RARELY does a letter arrive at the door from Australia's King and Queen.

Turning 100 on January 16 Marie Clement of Coronet Bay not only received a message of congratulations from Charles and Camilla but the Governor-General Her Excellency Ms Sam Mostyn AC and the Prime Minister of Australia Hon Anthony Albanese MP as well.

Marie will be celebrating her centenary with family and friends including her three children, four of her grandchildren and her three great-grandchildren at La Provincia in Corinella.

Marie Clement and her husband bought their house in Coronet Bay in 1985 and moved permanently the following year.

At that time, the Bay was a very quiet place according to daughter Chris.

"Mum often enjoyed walks on the beach with her dog Dale."

Marie's husband and Chris's father passed away in 2001.

"Mum loved it here so much she stayed on," said Chris.

At 100 Marie lives in Coronet Bay with Chris's brother Des who is her full-time carer.



Marie Clement of Coronet Bay will be celebrating her 100th birthday this week.



Sharyn Latham receiving the voucher for the first prize from the Rotary committee member and past president Rosa Turner.

Annual New Year Market at the Inverloch Hub

DESPITE the very hot day, lots of people turned up to enjoy the market organised by the Rotary Club of Inverloch on Saturday, January 4.

With over 30 stalls selling a variety of goods and services, a local music group providing entertainment, the ever-present Rotary BBQ and the local Rotary annual raffle draw there was something for everyone.

The annual raffle was a major success with the last of the raffle tickets being sold by 10am on the day. The raffle raised over \$7000 for local and international projects. This result can be attributed to both the efforts of the Rotary members selling the tickets, the excellent prizes all of which were donated by exceptionally generous local businesses or individuals and, of course, the fantastic support from both our local community and holiday visitors.

Over the years the fund-raising and social activities of the Inverloch Rotary Club have supported numerous local projects and activities as well as national and international projects and donated funds to many local community organisations. The most recent examples include:

- An Atrium constructed at the Wonthaggi Hospital complete with seating and a mural painted by local artist Amanda Watt.
- New public seating along the Esplanade.
- The dismantling of unwanted local playgrounds and relocation overseas after being reconditioned – The Rotary Overseas Relocated Playgrounds program.
- Donations to the L to P driver education program, the Disability Surfers Association Bass Coast, Inverloch Life Saving Club and others.
- Support for the Skyhydrant clean water project undertaken by Disaster Aid Australia in Timor Leste.
- The Rotary International End Polio program.

These are just a few of the many projects and activities supported by your local Rotary Club of Inverloch.

Winners of the Rotary Club of Inverloch Annual Raffle drawn on January 4 at 1pm at the Inverloch Hub.

1st Prize Ticket No. 2042: Seven days accommodation at a resort in Port Douglas, QLD – Sharyn Latham, Cape Paterson.

2nd Prize Ticket No. 2446: \$1000 of gift vouchers from Mitre 10 Inverloch – Karen Bugeja, Inverloch.

3rd Prize Ticket No. 2142: Kitchen Appliance Package from Harvey Norman – Ray Smith, Inverloch.

4th Prize Ticket No. 907: Weber Baby Q BBQ from Leongatha Kitchens & Bathrooms – Trevor Griffith, Inverloch.



Frank Bugeja receiving the second prize on behalf of Karen Bugeja from the Rotary President Pat Barry.



Ray Smith receiving the third prize from the Rotary committee member and past president Rosa Turner.



Trevor Griffith after receiving the fourth prize from the Rotary Secretary Tilly Hutton.

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PROFESSIONAL QUALITY TOOLS



Penny Wolswinkel in front of her Sue Spargo quilt that was on display at the Embroiders Guild Exhibition in Leongatha over the weekend. ob06_0225

Colourful quilt among unique items at embroiders exhibition

THE colourful quilt that Penny Wolswinkel hung on display for the Embroiders Guild Exhibition in Leongatha over the weekend, took her two years to create.

The vibrant work is made from applied felt placed onto felt, which fabric is then added to and then embellished with a range of different stitches.

"They're called a Sue Spargo quilt," explained Penny.

"Sue Spargo is an amazing designer. Originally from South Africa, she's now in the United States and she designs these really lovely, quirky things."

The theory is that the embroiderers of these quilts create them one block at a time and it's called 'the block of the month', and theoretically an embroider would finish one a month, given enough spare time.

"But life always gets in the way. It probably took me two years, over two years, not full-time," said Penny.

Once it was finished Penny found a lady who quilted it for her and she now keeps it at home as a wall hanging.

"I've got a toddler at home and he just loves it because it's very tactile and he points out the animals and touches things. It's really good fun."

It's a hobby that once it takes hold, it won't let you go, reckons Penny.

"Those of us that do these – I mean we do all sorts of things – but we get sucked in, so I'm finishing another one, and then finishing another one and then starting a new one," Penny laughed.

Although the design is set and guided by Sue Spargo's work, Penny finds it a satisfying way to release her creative energy.

"It's just very relaxing and it's a very free sort of thing. It's just good fun."



Bushwalk by Rain White.



Field Patterns by Melinda Holt.



Yellow Glow by Kim Wood.

Last day to catch Pop Up One, Pop Up Two arrives Thursday

THIS summer, Phillip Island Contemporary Exhibition Space (PICES), in partnership with Bass Coast Shire Council, presents its sixth Summer Exhibition Series, featuring contemporary artists across six weeks. From December 14, PICES debuted its 50x50 Exhibition with huge success, spotlighting the work of 50 artists. From January 4 – 27 the series continues with two consecutive curated and highly anticipated Pop-Up Exhibitions featuring 22 artists.

Visitors can explore a rich variety of art media including painting, photography, pottery, printmaking, sculpture,

and textiles, created by artists from Bass Coast, Gippsland, and beyond. PICES plays an important role as a bridge between artists and art lovers, collaborating with the new Berninnet Art Gallery in Cowes, Phillip Island to promote contemporary art and provide artists within a prestigious, purpose-built space to showcase their work. This exhibition series promises an engaging celebration of regional creativity and talent.

Each artist brings unique perspectives to the series, offering visitors an inspiring glimpse into the region's creative heart.

Pop Up One Art Exhibition,

January 4-14, 2025

Rob Barron (Pottery), Lana de Jager (Printmaking), Silvi Glattauer (Printmaking), Jenny Jackson (Painting), Julie Lundgren Coulter (Painting), Anne Mestitz (Painting), Lindy Patterson (Painting), Karen Preston (Painting), Linda Shaw (Painting), Liz Tyler (Printmaking), Kim Wood (Painting) and Martine Zajack (Collage).

Pop Up Two Art Exhibition January 16 -27, 2025

Peter Brook (Painting), Stephen Glover (Painting), Wendy Habraken-Flack (Drawing), Melinda Holt (Painting), Carlyne Jane (Painting), Jillian Mitchell (Photography), Kate

Stuart (Pottery), Candida van Rood (Painting), Kylie Watson (Printmaking) and Rain White (Painting).

PICES has earned a reputation as a key cultural hub, fostering connections between artists and art lovers while collaborating with the Berninnet Art Gallery in Cowes and other local organisations. As a not-for-profit, PICES is committed to elevating Phillip Island as a premium destination for the arts, supported by the community, media, and contemporary artists alike.

Bringing contemporary art to the community.

For more information, visit pices.com.au.

Nature in all its Glory Embroidery Exhibition at Leongatha



'NATURE in all its Glory' was the theme of this year's Embroiders Guild, Leongatha Branch Exhibition that showcased the skills and talent of local embroiderers and textile artists.

Many extraordinary pieces that had been painstakingly crafted by dedicated embroiderers and artists over many months were displayed at the Dakers Centre in Leongatha over the weekend.

Attendees were treated to special displays, quilt and embroidery demonstrations, and boutique items were for sale.

"We've got every conceivable type of embroidery here. We've got gold work, stump work, combinations of these," explained Leongatha Branch President June McIndoe.

"It is an art form.

"You're basically painting a picture with a thread."

Think colourful quilts, cards, pouches, book covers, table runners, wall hangings, 3D flowers and gold leaves all with intricate designs and patterns limited only to the imagination and patience of the creator.

With over 50 members in the Leongatha branch of the embroiderers guild, over 85 pieces were on display to the delight of attendees.

Exhibitions are held by the Leongatha Branch every two years, with the previous exhibition seeing over 500 people coming through the doors on the first day alone.

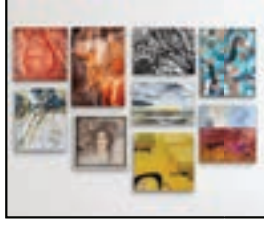
LEFT: Members of the Embroiders Guild in Leongatha, Pauline Lancaster, Anne Kenny, June McIndoe and Shelia Griffiths at their recently held 'Nature in all its Glory' Exhibition. ob05_0225

50
Artists

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Korumburra Swap Meet celebrates 40 years



Korumburra Swap Meet volunteer Bernie Watt with Ray from Wonthaggi and a 1950 Harley. B156_0225



Brett Hall from Frankston enjoying the sunshine at the Korumburra swap meet. B138_0225



Ford enthusiast Karl Panozzo of Inverloch at the 40th annual Korumburra swap meet. B141_0225



Eloise and Nathan cycled to the Korumburra showgrounds with their father Shaun. B139_0225



Terry and Matthew Cameron with Terry Dowsett admiring a WW2 Willys L134. B147_0225



Tracey Mitchell of Wonthaggi with her customised 620 Datsun 1500 ute. B161_0225

Classic motoring on display

CAR and motorcycle enthusiasts in their thousands filled the Korumburra Showgrounds for the 40th annual swap meet of the South Gippsland Branch of the Gippsland Historical Automobile Club.

Close to 3000 passed through the gates to see 50 show cars on display and 150 stallholders selling everything from rare car parts to ice-cold slushies.

South Gippsland Branch President Tony Moon was more than pleased with the support shown by motoring enthusiasts and the public for the 40th anniversary of the event.

“The economic benefit to Korumburra is significant and can be seen by how much cash is withdrawn from banks on the day and busy local cafes,” said Mr Moon.

General merchandise of all types was available from the

stalls circling the ground including traditional car and motorcycle parts, food and drink, bric-a-brac, books, stationary engines, and household and garden items.

“Something for everyone,” said Mr Moon.

“There was even a salt and pepper shaker stand.”

Local Lions and Rotary clubs benefit as well as local charities. “This year the chosen charity for the South Gippsland Branch Gippsland Historical Automobile club stall is cervical cancer,” said Mr Moon.

The vintage and classic car display included a 1930 Bentley, Datsun 1500 ute, 1950 Harley-Davidson, 60’s era VW beach buggy, 1920s Rugby tourer, restored street rod, 1930s Ford Mainline, VK Valiant Charger, 1939 Wolseley, EJ Holden station wagon, WW 2 Willys L134,

Chevrolet Corvette, SL/R Torana 500 and a 1947 Mercury Eight.

“Each year we rely on 40 to 50 club volunteers to ensure it is a good, well-run event,” said Mr Moon.

The Korumburra swap meet has survived and is thriving while others have not.

Mr Moon blames excessive red tape.

“It makes it difficult to manage.”

The Wonthaggi Australia Day Show & Shine and Swap Meet will be held at the Wonthaggi Recreation Reserve, Korumburra Road on Sunday, January 26 and the Rotary Club Show N’ Shine and Swap Meet at Leongatha will be held on Sunday, March 16 at the Leongatha Recreation Reserve.

Look for Wonthaggi Show & Shine and Leongatha Show N Shine on Facebook.



Greg from Dalyston with a fellow commodore enthusiast at the Korumburra showgrounds. B148_0225



Niah Gow was presented with the Rising Star Award.



The Dance Design 'Heidi Hughes Intermediate Award' was awarded to the most promising intermediate student Maisie Johnson.



The Wonthaggi Dance Design Awards went to Macy Peterson (Outstanding Achievement Award) and Asher Clark.

Celebrating Dance Design

DANCE Design held their annual End of Year Concerts at the Wonthaggi Arts Centre on Sunday, November 17, 2024. The performances began with the student's class routines which were a celebration of the 30th year of Dance Design.

To celebrate this special milestone, the theme was 'Step Back In Time'. Every song in the concert was a nostalgic nod to past performances, brought to life once again with a 2024 twist.

The concert featured the pantomime Sing It, a heartwarming tale of determination and creativity. It followed the ambitious koala, Buster Moon, and his talented cast of animal performers as they prepared to dazzle audiences with a spectacular stage show in the entertainment capital of the world.

Tayla Gollop shone as Buster Moon, narrating the story with charm, while Sienna Tiziani as Rosita and Lexi Todd as the hilarious Gunter brought energy and humour to the stage. Heidi Peterson delivered a captivating performance as the formidable Jimmy Crystal, with Macy Peterson as his loyal assistant Jerry and Claire Murphy as his spirited sassy daughter, Porsha. Together, they added tension and drama to this moving reminder of music's extraordinary ability to heal even the most wounded hearts.

The 2024 Dance Design Student awards were also presented at the concerts to: Wonthaggi Outstanding



Korumburra Awards went to Maia Attenborough (Junior Encouragement Award), Jasmine Twite (Award for Excellence) and Margot Dube (Junior Encouragement Award).

Achievement Award Wonthaggi student: Macy Peterson. Wonthaggi Junior Encouragement Award: Asher Clark. Korumburra Award for Excellence Korumburra student: Jasmine Twite. Korumburra Junior Encouragement Award: Maia Attenborough. Korumburra Junior Encouragement Award: Margot Dube.

Three very special awards were also presented.

The Dance Design 'Rising Star Award' was awarded to the most promising junior student: Niah Gow, Korumburra School.

The Dance Design 'Heidi Hughes Intermediate Award' was awarded to the most promising



The Dance Design 'Christine Miles Encouragement Award' was awarded jointly to Zoe Carr and Claire Murphy.

intermediate student: Maisie Johnson, Wonthaggi School.

The Dance Design 'Christine Miles Encouragement Award' was awarded to the most talented senior student: Zoe Carr and Claire Murphy, Wonthaggi School.

Dance Design classes are taught by Michelle Mabilia and Alycia Marotta in Wonthaggi and Korumburra with an emphasis on fun and enjoyment whilst exercising. Classes in Jazz/Modern, Tap and Contemporary are offered from Kinder aged to advanced students.

All enrolments and enquiries email dancedes@bigpond.net.au or phone 0417 579 349.



Maree Blore is one of ten of the exhibiting artists at the Leongatha Art and Craft Gallery, showcasing our beautiful region. ob04_0225

Artists showcase beauty of region

'BEAUTIFUL Gippsland' is the theme of the current exhibition at the Leongatha Art and Craft Gallery with works of local spots that have caught the creative eye of the accomplished artists from the Leongatha Painters Group.

Coastal, country and wildlife paintings showcase the beauty of our region as well as the talent of all ten exhibiting artists.

Contributing to the exhibition is artist and member of the Display Committee Maree Blore.

Maree moved to South Gippsland about four years ago and joined the painter's group to meet new people.

It was at the height of COVID and lockdowns were on again, off again, and when classes weren't on and the gallery was closed, Maree began experimenting with alcohol ink on non-porous paper.

"You mix the very strong inks with pure alcohol and blow it with a hair dryer or a straw or just tip it around."

"So, you don't have a lot of control," Maree explains.

"You get very random mixtures of colour and so that's really what started me here."

While Maree brought the method to class, the vapours from the alcohol made it too odorous and she decided to start working with watercolours instead. Maree had painted on porcelain about twenty years previously, but she'd not used watercolours before.

And, while it wasn't her first choice of medium, Maree's works now adorn the walls of the gallery, with a platypus in water, red robins, the ocean, gumnuts and flowers showcasing her talent.

It's these elements of nature Maree loves to paint and comments that the painting group has helped with developing her skills.

"Mainly because of the painting classes, because they're all such experienced painters and they'll tell you what you should be doing," explains Maree.

"And watching what they do, it's just been like one big workshop."

Maree also commented that she has formed many great friendships through the gallery and the painter's group, which is also a fabulous way to share art knowledge and connect with others.

The painters group also enters their artwork into a variety of venues and exhibition spaces, most recently at the Fish Creek Hotel, Meeniyan Gallery and they have an upcoming display at Wonthaggi Artspace, running from March 11 to April 27, 2025.

The Leongatha Painters Group was established more than 30 years ago and encourage new people to join them. They meet every week on a Tuesday from 10.30am to 2pm. More information is available at the Leongatha Gallery.

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Australia Day celebrations 2025

You are invited to attend:

Wonthaggi Union Community Arts Centre,
Graham Street, Wonthaggi.

Sunday, January 26, 2025

Starts at 7.30am with community breakfast, followed by entertainment, an address by the Rotary Australia Day Ambassador and the presentation of Rotary Community awards.

We look forward to seeing you there

Past award winners and families warmly welcome to attend.

Rotary

Kilcunda Lobster Festival returns for their 39th year



Kilcunda Community Association's president Marcel and committee member Marianne at last year's event. Z15_0524



Founding committee member of the Kilcunda Lobster Festival Thelma Churchill is looking forward to this year's event. B70_0225

THE community is invited to join the Kilcunda community association for their annual Kilcunda Lobster Festival on the town foreshore on Sunday, January 26 with market stalls, live music, and amusement rides to entertain the entire family.

The first incarnation of the festival was the 'Back to Kilcunda' weekend long event held in 1984 as part of Victoria's 150th anniversary celebrations and the Kilcunda Lobster Festival was born the following year after a good supply of lobster was available from the waters of Kilcunda and from fisherman in San Remo.

Former president of the Kilcunda community association, Andrea Bolch said the town gathered to welcome back past residents, miners, and school students to the town of Kilcunda after the local school was closed – miners would dress in their uniform, community members dressed in period costume – parading down the main street. The three-day event brought people back to the small town, they would partake in a bush dance at the local hall and children would dress up and ride their bikes down the main road.

It's no longer a three-day event but the annual festival continues again in 2025, welcoming the community to gather and connect, and partaking in the historical spinning wheel remains the highlight of the festival, giving everyone the chance to win a freshly cooked lobster.

The day is 100 per cent entirely run by volunteers who have this year organised 50 market stall holders – showcasing their range of quality food, produce, wine, gin, whiskey, jewellery, clothing, homewares and metal art.

Throughout the day, the crowd will be treated with emergency service displays, children's face painting and amusement rides from Taylors Amusement. In conjunction with the festival, the YMCA will again be holding their annual skate competition at the foreshore skatepark.

A smoking ceremony by proud Traditional Owner Steven Ulula Parker from Millowl Dreaming will welcome the community to Country.

Entertainment will be provided by DJ Classic Wax and live band The Slow-brew.

"Throughout the day we will be selling lobsters supplied by San Remo Fisherman's Co-Op, as well as lobster lunches and prawn rolls," said KCA Secretary Stephen Piper.

There is copious undercover seating for patrons to enjoy their meals in.

With the annual event held on the Bass Coast coastline, the association is again working closely with support from Bass Coast Shire Council, and sponsorships from Bendigo Bank and Westernport Water.

The association actively manages waste at the public event with guided waste stations – a system that significantly reduces the amount of waste that ends up in landfill.

"At last year's festival with the efforts of the volunteers and the Bass Coast Shire Council, we successfully divided organics from recycling with zero contamination," said Stephen.

"We're encouraging everyone to bring their own water bottles to re-fill from the Westernport Water hydration stations."

As part of the waste minimisation drive to reduce the use of single-use plastics, the San Remo Fisherman's Co-Op will continue to use reusable containers filled with ice for fresh Lobster delivery.

The spinning wheel will be on the back of the truck - remember each spin always results in one lucky winner walking away with a lovely freshly cooked lobster.

The festival will run from 10am until 3pm on the Kilcunda foreshore on Sunday, January 26.

For more information visit the Kilcunda Lobster Festival on Facebook or visit kilcunda.org.au.

2025
KILCUNDA
LOBSTER FESTIVAL

SUNDAY
26TH JANUARY 2025
10-3PM



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find us on Facebook, Kilcunda Lobster Festival or at www.kilcunda.org.au

Australia Day 2025

EVENT PROGRAM



DUMBALK

6.30pm - 9.30pm Australia Day BBQ

Dumbalk Memorial Park

- Free BBQ
- BYO drinks and chairs
- Children's activities

Contact: Walter Aich 0419 559 367

FOSTER

11.00am - 3.30pm Australia Day Activities

Outside the Foster and District Historical Museum

- Produce stall, book sale, trash and treasure stall
- Free entry into the Museum
- Afternoon tea - 2.30pm to 3.30pm
- Presentation from Foster Rotary - 3.00pm
- Raffles
- Buskers

Contact: Marg Haycroft 0409 338 352

KONGWAK

8.30am - 10.30am Australia Day Breakfast

Kongwak Public Hall

- Flag raising ceremony
- Egg and sausage breakfast
- Presentation from Wattle Bank Farm at 9.30am

Contact: Bill Brown 0407 881 025

KORUMBURRA

10.30am - 1.30pm Australia Day BBQ and Activities

Coleman Park, 39 Queen Street, Korumburra

- Flag raising ceremony
- Live music
- Guest speaker
- Recognition of South Gippsland award nominees
- Sausage sizzle by Korumburra Lions
- Oz cookies by Koringal Women's Service Club

Contact: Noelene Cossen 0400 976 248

MEENIYAN

9.30am - 11.30am Australia Day Breakfast Activities

Meeniyan Hall (Mechanics Institute), 97 Whitelaw Street

- Flag Raising Ceremony at Cenotaph
- Presentation ceremony acknowledging award nominees

These events are supported by South Gippsland Shire Council and the National Australia Day Council.

- Citizenship Ceremony
- Guest speaker MP Russell Broadbent
- Entertainment by Black Notes
- Guest speaker Avril van Wamel
- Free Meeniyan muffin breakfast and refreshments by the CFA and CWA.

Contact: Tarnya Wilson 0427 647 473

MIRBOO NORTH

10.30am - 11.30am

Australia Day Celebration and Morning Tea

Baromi Centre, 38 Couper Street, Mirboo North

- Awards ceremony acknowledging Mirboo North nominees
- Morning tea

Contact: Joy Koh 0407 058 638

TARWIN LOWER

12.00pm - 2.00pm Australia Day BBQ

At the long table, Tarwin River Boat Ramp

Adults \$10, Children age 12 to 18 \$5, Children age 11 and under, free

- BBQ: Sausages and burgers with onions, bread and salad
- River Duck Races
- Raffles - drawn on day
- Classic and veteran vehicles on display
- All proceeds will go to the Tarwin Sharks Netball Club

Contact: Lisa Breen 0412 105 004

VENUS BAY

9.00am - 12.00pm Australia Day Breakfast

Venus Bay Surf Lifesaving Club

- Free Australia Day breakfast
- Flag raising ceremony
- Entertainment
- Screening of the new movie *Magic Beach* (time TBC)

Contact: Richard Moore 0408 902 604

WELSHPOOL

11.00am - 2.00pm Australia Day Family Day

Welshpool Park

- Free BBQ
- Children's yard games

Contact: Madelaine Mason 0409 976 211



Australia Day

Reflect. Respect. Celebrate.

HOLIDAY FUN

Unplug and explore these school holidays

By Jasmine Ruffin, Bass Coast Teen

LOOKING to keep teenagers entertained these school holidays, why not check out these teenage recommended top five spots in Bass Coast.

Phillip Island Tenpin Bowling and Entertainment Centre

Open from 10am all the way to 10pm, Phillip Island Tenpin Bowling and Entertainment Centre has an abundance of fun and challenging games to keep you entertained these school holidays. As well as supplying pool tables, table tennis, arcade games, lazer tag and a café attached; it is the ideal place to be with friends or family.

Grumpy's Crazy Golf

Shrouded undercover for days where you need to seek shade or escape the rain, Grumpy's Crazy Golf in the heart of Cowes is the perfect place to be. Open every day during these school holidays from 9am to 5pm, the 18-hole mini golf course is challenging and entertaining, providing teens with the perfect group hangout activity.

Watch a movie or see a live event

Offering a variety of live events and cinema, Berninneit and Wonthaggi Union Community Arts Centre are bound to keep you entertained these school holidays. Both cinemas offer a variety of exciting new films; Paddington in Peru, Sonic The Hedgehog 3 and We Live In Time featuring acclaimed actors Andrew Garfield and Florence Pugh. Additionally, live performances such as Bunktopia and local surf rock band El Rollo; (performing for free on Berninneit's front lawn) provides endless entertainment for teenagers these school holidays.

Head down to a patrolled beach

With such sweltering heat this summer, the beach is ultimate place to spend time with your friends and have fun. In this hot weather, protect yourself and others by applying sunscreen, keeping hydrated and cool and ensuring the beaches you visit this summer are patrolled and be certain that lifeguards are on duty at times you visit. Woolamai Beach, Smiths Beach and Cowes foreshore are all patrolled from 10am – 6pm everyday through the school holidays (changes to patrols can occur; please check patrol hours before visiting the beach). It is essential to remain within the red and yellow flags whilst swimming to ensure the safety of your friends and yourself at the beach this summer. The Surf Life Saving BeachSafe app (available on both Apple and Android devices) offers the latest information on patrol status, facilities, hazards, weather, swell and tide. It is highly recommended to download this app before your next visit to the beach.

Churchill island

Visit the historical grounds and immerse yourself in the variety of unique animals and green surroundings. Enjoy delicious food from their licensed café, and experience school holiday special activities like sheep shearing, whip cracking, and wagon rides. Churchill Island is the best escape, and its three scenic trails offer a beautiful view of the natural wonders of the island.

Kids on Tour in Leongatha and Korumburra

THE National Gallery of Victoria's free school holiday art program Kids on Tour is coming to Leongatha Library on January 21 and 24, and the Korumburra Library on January 20 and 25.

Kids on Tour are free events run at community venues across Victoria including galleries, libraries, hospitals and community hubs.

Activities include making a furry friend cat or dog headband, lots of dots patterns on one of Japanese artist Yayi Kusama's iconic pumpkins, fashion, culture and creativity with collective closets, drawing and learning about Bogong moths and creating a decorative bush flower pompom using yarn and felt.

The Kids on Tour program draws inspiration from the colour and vibrancy of nature and coincides with the NGV's summer exhibitions of Yayoi Kusama and Cats and Dogs.

Pumpkins have appeared in Kusama's artworks since a



NGV Kids on Tour program is headed for Leongatha and Korumburra.

young age.

Lots of Dots encourages children to add their favourite colours and dot designs to a Kusama pumpkin or write a short poem about pumpkins.

Collective Closets celebrates the beauty and history of the African continent through the designs of Melbourne-based fashion designers and sisters

Fatuma and Laurinda Ndenzako from the Slow fashion label.

Children and their families will be able to create paper dolls and design their own vibrant clothing for the dolls to wear.

Young people interested in learning about Bogong moths will be inspired by a drawing activity developed by Dr Deanne Gilson, a proud Wadawurrung

Explore, discover, protect with SGCS holiday program

THIS summer, locals and tourists alike are invited to join the South Gippsland Conservation Society (SGCS) for their annual school holiday program. The Bunurong Coast Education Centre provides students with educational opportunities over the course of the break.

Join the SGSC volunteers for an exciting fun-filled adventure, hands-on conservation efforts, and an unforgettable experience along the Bunurong Coast. Secure a ticket online sgcs.org.au/programs.

SGCS will also have a number of activities running as part of the Coastcare Summer by the Sea program and these are free to members of the public. See the Summer by the Sea program at: summerbythesea.vic.gov.au.

SGCS program details:

- **Dancing with the Stars**
Tuesday, January 14,
8.30pm – 10.30pm
This astronomy session explores the stars, planets and



Join the Dinosaur Discovery and e-learn about the dinosaurs that roamed the Bass Coast area. z01_0225

moons visible in the Southern Hemisphere through astronomical telescopes and introduces apps used to navigate the night skies.

- **Dinosaur Discovery at Eagles Nest**
Saturday, January 18,
9.30am – 11.30am
Visit the site of Australia's first dinosaur bone discovery. See fault lines from ancient earthquakes, petrified trees and hunt for fossils.

- **Dinosaur Discovery at The Caves**
Sunday, January 19, 11am – 1pm and Thursday, January 23, 10.30am – 12.30pm
E-Learn about dinosaurs that roamed the Bass Coast area and join the hunt for dinosaur fossils. See the dinosaur footprint.
- **Wildlife of the Night – Spotlighting**
Sunday, January 19,
8.30pm – 10.30pm

woman.

NGV Kids on Tour invites teenagers to learn about the creative practices of emerging artists and build skills for their own art portfolios through an activity developed with Gamilaroi Yinarr weaver and textile artist, Sophie Honess.

Designed especially for teens the 'Make a Pompom' sessions with Sophie will invite participants to create a bush flower-inspired pompom using yarn, embroidery thread and colourful felts for use on bags or key chains.

The NGV is committed to ensuring all young Victorians have access to enriching creative experiences whether that be at the Gallery or through the Kids on Tour program.

For more information on the NGV kids program go to ngv.vic.gov.au/kids or search eventbrite.com.au for National Gallery of Victoria's Kids on Tour program at Korumburra or Leongatha.

Many of Australia's small mammals are nocturnal and the best time to see them is at night.

- **Rockpool Ramble**
Thursday, January 23,
11.30am – 1.30pm and
Saturday, January 25,
1pm – 3pm
Learn about Victoria's amazing marine life as you explore the magical rock pools of the Bunurong coast at low tide.
- **Estuarine Ecology (Explore Screw Creek)**
Friday, January 24,
2pm – 4pm.
Explore the dynamic estuarine areas of Anderson's Inlet where you'll find coastal scrub, open woodlands, mangroves, saltmarsh and mudflats.
- **Dinosaur Discovery at Flat Rocks**
Sunday, January 26,
1pm- 3pm.
A special trip to Flat Rocks to see the Mary Anning fossil site, volcanic lava, fault lines from ancient earthquakes and petrified trees.

Myli (My Community Library) sparks imagination over the holidays

WHETHER you're looking to beat the heat, avoid a wet summer day or simply searching for something to spark imagination over the summer break, Myli (My Community Library) has a vast range of school holiday activities designed to engage and inspire young minds.

From storytelling to creative craft, there's something for all ages to enjoy.

The holiday season can get expensive, but at Myli it's free! All you need to do is jump online to myli.org.au and search for a holiday program near you. There are a range of events throughout Bass Coast and South Gippsland and the library is a safe family-friendly space to feel creative and connected.

Within the Bass Coast Shire, the Phillip Island and Inverloch Libraries are hosting an interactive storytime session with

award-winning author Andrea Rowe featuring her beloved picture books In the Rockpool and Amid the Sand Dunes. Participants will enjoy lively story-sharing, movement activities, and take-home crafts. This event is perfect for ages two – six, with older and younger siblings welcome. Andrea will be at Phillip Island Library on January 16 from 10.30am, followed by the Inverloch Library at 2.30pm.

Events will continue until January 24, 2025, see below for times and dates at your local Myli.

Bass Coast Shire

- Summer Holiday Air Clay Club – Wonthaggi Library (2pm on 17/1, 24/1)
- Summer Holiday Baby Rhyme Time – Inverloch Library (10.30am on 14/1 & 21/1)
- Oddly Satisfying Videos

- (OSVs) – Wonthaggi Library (2pm on 14/1)
- Paper Dress Up Dolls and Llamas – Waterline Library (4.30pm on 14/1)
- Teddy Bear Picnic – Inverloch Library (10.30am on 15/1)
- Music Fun with South Dudley Tom – Wonthaggi Library (11am on 15/1)
- Story Time with Guest Author Andrea Rowe – Phillip Island Library (10.30am on 16/1)
- Crown and Sceptre Craft Session – Wonthaggi Library (11am on 17/1)
- Sing for Fun Workshop – Phillip Island Library (11am on 17/1)
- NGV Kids on Tour Drop in Craft Afternoon – Wonthaggi Library (1pm on 21/1)
- Make paper hats – Inverloch Library (2.30pm on 22/1)
- Sing for Fun Workshop – Inverloch Library (11am on 23/1)

South Gippsland Shire

- School Holiday Movies – Mirboo North (10am on 18/1)
- Summer-time Storytime – Korumburra Library (10am on 20/1)
- Decorate a plant pot – Korumburra Library (11am on 16/1)
- Summer Songs (Baby Rhyme Time) – Leongatha Library (11.30am on 16/1)
- Summer Story Time – Leongatha Library (10.30am on 17/1)
- Lego Spectacular – Foster Library (2pm on 21/1)
- Galaxy Slime – Foster Library (10am on 22/1)
- Under the sea dioramas – Foster Library (2pm on 23/1)
- NGV Kids on Tour Special Storytime – Leongatha Library (10.30am on 24/1)
- NGV Kids on Tour Fashion Paper Dolls – Leongatha Library (11.30am on 24/1)

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FINANCE
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hatch SN: L101266



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double cab SN: L101259



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FINANCE
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double cab SN: L101277

Wonthaggi Toyota

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LMCT 8179
wonthaggitoyota.com.au

Leongatha Toyota

7-13 Hughes Street,
Leongatha VIC 3953
T (03) 5662 2302
LMCT 8179
leongathatoyota.com.au

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Sentinel-Times

COMMENT

Think again about fire and climate change

WE'VE been hearing some pretty outlandish claims being made about the causes of the devastating Los Angeles' fires.

Climate change is to blame, many say.

For others, it's down to a lack of management involving empty reservoirs, fire-fighting capacity, no water in the fire hydrants, lack of preparedness for fire, and a city council spending more money on its woke agenda than measures to address a foreseeable risk.

You couldn't help but reflect on the situation in Los Angeles when local residents, firefighters and wood-landers got together last Saturday at The Gurdies Nature Conservation Reserve for a ceremony "of loss and renewal" to mark the recent fire.

Certainly, it's a question of scale and impact when comparing and contrasting the two.

While The Gurdies' fire burnt around 192 hectares and impacted a handful of structures, also threatening dozens of homes, the Los Angeles' fire has so far extended to more than 20,000 hectares, destroying or significantly damaging 9000 structures with 24 fatalities.

And while the recent Grampians' bushfire impacted 76,000 hectares, it's the location of the Los Angeles' fire in forested residential areas, and on the edge of the main built-up area, where there's a population of some 13 million people, that's the main issue.

But some of the same issues apply.

If indeed climate change is going to increase the risk of such events happening in the future, there needs to be a quantum shift in our thinking about bushfire, especially as they might impact residential areas, and our investment in mitigation and risk management.

And just as the authorities are already talking about "retreat" as the most viable option where infrastructure and homes are being impacted by coastal erosion, be warned, they're also going to start talking about "retreat" as the most feasible option for those living in or around bushland.

But it's time the authorities got serious about land management, about properly resourcing the response to fire and also keeping us informed about what they can do and just as importantly, what they can't do to keep us safe.

Those living in and around bushland can then make their own informed choice about what to do next.

The whole situation must also shed a new light on the appropriateness of the Bass Coast Shire Council's 'Urban Forest Strategy' and its target of a minimum of 25 per cent canopy coverage across all townships by 2040.

Sure, a modest selection of fire-resistant trees in urban areas would be welcomed by most but if you're looking to plant a significant number of natives in an offset program (including a target of 40 per cent canopy coverage across "all land tenures" in our townships by 2040), there's plenty of broadacre areas, well away from our settlements, that would be far more suitable... and safe!

Vox Pop

What is the right age for kids to get a mobile phone?



Paul
Inverloch

"16. It's an addiction. They watch their parents (use their phones) so what example do they set?"



Bob
Inverloch

"Depends on what they use them for. Not three or five year olds to use as entertainment devices."



Joe
Inverloch

"About 12 or 13. I don't think there's any purpose before then. Then once they start high school they can contact all their friends and parents."



Hannah
Inverloch

"Probably year seven, so they can contact their parents and friends."

What roadside maintenance?

VICROADS are not maintaining its roads as they should. This we all know.

Potholes are dangerous and often rightly decried, and rampant weeds unchecked will cost farmers and woodland dearly if VicRoads do not maintain control of their roadside weeds.

From what little money not converted to city concrete or social bribes; they should be able to send a ute and two men out to spray Ragwort and Paterson's Curse, etc. along the Bass Highway, the main tourist route to Bass Coast.

Such fine chaps will be able to do most of that job without getting out of their vehicle.

Our member for Bass Coast has been written to but thinks we should go online to complain to VicRoads.

Your job Jordan!

Peter Brown, Glen Forbes

Thank you, Bass Coast Health

JUST recently health problems appeared, and I required an ambulance.

The crew were spot on, and I was taken to Bass Coast Health, and there again the treatment was great.

I am writing this letter to say thank you to all.

To all the members of clubs I belong to, and many friends I have made, I'm pleased that I chose Inverloch to retire to.

Many thanks to the one and all.

Best wishes for the future.

Philip Chapman, Inverloch

Inverloch coverage, thank you

Thank you SGST for the fabulous coverage of the rally on the Inverloch surf beach. A particular shout out to Andrew Paloczi and Bruce Wardley for the photos and copy – you are legends!

If it wasn't for the likes of the SGST and their fantastic support and coverage our group would surely struggle to get our word across.

We hope that finally Spring Street will do something!

Paul Cross – Chair, Inverloch Foreshore Action Group

Positive steps forward

LAST Sunday's Inverloch foreshore rally was a great success. Hats off to the organisers.

The quality and calibre of the guest speakers, along with the sheer number of community members in attendance, must surely leave the State Government in no doubt that the community wants an end to the ineffective, expensive, and wasteful actions

conducted over the past decade.

It was especially pleasing to see our new Mayor Cr. Rochelle Halstead attend the rally and address the concerned community members. As MC Alan Brown pointed out this new council, under Cr. Halstead's leadership, has started well on this urgent issue.

And a big shout out in particular to Councillors Meg Edwards and Tim O'Brien.

It was Cr. Edwards representing Bunurong Ward who wasted no time and raised this matter as urgent business at the first Council meeting last November.

And at the December Council meeting Cr. O'Brien showed great initiative in putting his alternative motion which added far more presence and action to what was in my view an insipid recommendation put to Council by officers.

I have no doubt that we would not have seen this type of response from the immediate past Councils.

This new Council has indeed started moving the dial in the right direction. But that dial needs to be moved much further and much faster.

The urgent action proposed by the new Council is still limited to dune replenishment. This action will simply waste even more taxpayer monies and will not protect so much as one centimetre of foreshore from tidal or storm surges, as has been manifestly demonstrated over the past decade.

Nonetheless, I am hopeful that, under Cr. Halstead's stewardship, the community might be able to look forward to Bass Coast Shire Council formally rejecting DEECA's retreat strategy and instead supporting the community's clearly expressed desire for permanent solutions to protect the surf life-saving clubhouse and the other assets across the precinct.

Kevin Griffin, Inverloch

Long term, non-politically motivated solution needed

I ATTENDED the rally held by the Inverloch foreshore protection group on Sunday.

While I agree that it is of the utmost importance to save the Surf Life Saving Club from the long-term coastal erosion which has occurred in Inverloch, I found that the rally was very one solution focused and politically motivated.

There was no scientific based evidence offered that would convince me that "hard engineering", rock walls, groynes and the like are going to solve the problem.

The majority of the speakers were from the Liberal party who seemed more interested in scoring political points rather than solving the problem. There was a lot of emotive language used, misinformation and a lack of diversity of opinions.

If this was a truly a balanced presentation, there were other "uninvited attendees" present with a strong interest. I would like to have heard from Deb Leonard (Federal Independent candidate in the upcoming election) and

Mat Morgan (local councillor).

It is worth looking at the Loch Sport (also fronting Bass Strait) experience over the last 30 years where over 70 engineering structures mostly groynes were installed with limited success. These structures require ongoing and expensive management.

Who will pay for this? As a resident living close to the surf club, I am concerned that we get a well-researched, long-term solution and not an emotive, political, waste of money band aid fix.

Julianne King, Inverloch

Clear action on Inverloch foreshore

THE public rally that took place on Sunday, January 5 at the Inverloch Surf Life Saving Club was billed as a call for help from the Inverloch community to make sure "that the Government gets a clear message that we require action now to save and protect the Inverloch Foreshore".

While the event may have placed our political representatives on notice, the organisers gave no explanation about why the erosion is occurring, what any "permanent protective measures" might look like or what funding and time commitments would be needed. Credit though to the invited speakers who explained why they were there and showed their support for tangible and urgent action by Government.

At least the spotlight has been placed momentarily on one of the most difficult issues of our times – that we are facing an environmental crisis driven by changes in climate. The destructive effects of storm surge on the Inverloch surf beach are a sign of further environmental impacts likely appearing in just 15-30 years.

As a resident with deep concerns about Inverloch's future, we need Government to step up immediately with a realistic plan to manage these impacts – a plan that will be accepted by the community and clearly sets out what needs to be done, how it will be funded and when key outcomes will be met.

We don't need to first hear about Government plans for our future from the depths of an obscure report, no matter how well researched or intended. We don't need more public rallies asking Government to install "permanent protective measures" to combat sea-level rise along one of the most hydrodynamically challenging coastlines in Victoria.

We do need clear and factual information about the problem so that rational decisions can be made. We do need to hear about solutions that are feasible and that in the long term can safeguard our future. We do need the "powers-that-be" to understand the community absolutely must be involved in assessing options and making choices.

I worry our children and grandchildren are watching their future being frittered away through lack of action and poorly conceived choices.

Trevor Forge, Inverloch



Celebrating the official opening of the Rotary Club of Inverloch's mural in the courtyard at Kodowlinun ward at Wonthaggi Hospital are, from left, Rosa Turner, Past President of Rotary, artist Raewyn Petracca, Rotary President Pat Barry, artist Amanda Watts and Bass Coast Health's Executive Director of People and Culture, and Acute Clinical Services, Christine Henderson.

Rotary mural brings joy to patients and visitors at Wonthaggi Hospital

PATIENTS and visitors to Wonthaggi Hospital can now enjoy a bright, colourful and captivating mural in the courtyard of Kodowlinun acute ward.

The mural, entitled Manna Gum Retreat, was painted by Inverloch artists Amanda Watts and Raewyn Petracca, and funded by the Rotary Club of Inverloch, to the tune of \$15,000.

Interim BCH CEO, Professor Simone Alexander, said the mural has enhanced the experience of patients and visitors to the ward.

"As an organisation and community, we are privileged to have such talented artists as Amanda and Raewyn create this mural so that patients and visitors can enjoy the peaceful environment that has been created in the courtyard and appreciate this amazing artwork," she said.

"It will help patients on their journey to getting better by bringing colour and joy at a time when they're unwell.

"BCH is grateful to the members of the Rotary Club of Inverloch who tirelessly raised funds for the project."

Rotary Club of Inverloch President Patrick Barry

said the club was proud to fund the mural for the benefit of patients and visitors.

"Rotary appreciates the value of the first-class Wonthaggi Hospital Expansion to the community and wished to contribute to this wonderful asset," he said.

"We wanted to enhance the experience of patients and visitors by offering them a setting where they could momentarily disconnect themselves from thinking about health complications – whether their own or their loved one's – and be immersed in the beauty of art and nature."

Rosa Turner, Past President of the Rotary Club of Inverloch, added, "Rotary is so pleased with the vivid colours and narrative of the final result, and we're sure everyone who spends time in this courtyard will be too. It's a great privilege to be involved and we're thankful for the artists for creating this beautiful space."

Amanda, who designed the mural and also runs creative agency Design Junkies, said the mural meets Rotary's brief of an uplifting and energising design that enabled viewers to relax.

The mural features a

branch from the iconic Manna Gum tree of the Bass Coast, as well as shapes reflective of the local beaches and waterways, dinosaur footprints and salmon, a nod to the annual arrival of the fish locally.

"For people who are unwell or visiting their loved ones in hospital, the imagery of nature and the seasons is a reminder that things are cyclical, and hardships come and go in our lives. Being able to create something that reinvigorates a space with colour and storytelling is what I love to do," Amanda said.

A Black Cockatoo flies high in the mural, a symbol representing change and enlightenment from Indigenous Australian culture.

The cockatoo flies towards a yellow sun, to signify liberation, and an acknowledgment of the cyclical nature of life as the sun rises every day, offering patients and their loved ones a sense of normality at what can be an unsettling time. The words "Deep in the trees... they find stillness" in the mural take onlookers to a moment in time of walking through nature where they can appreciate stillness and quietness.



The team at The Wonthaggi Workmen's Club are excited to be a part of the Better Bites project.

Healthier grub on the Workemen's Club menu

DINERS will soon get access to healthier menus at four Gippsland bistros under an innovative project steered by the Gippsland Region Public Health Unit (GRPHU).

The Better Bites project aims to increase healthy, affordable meal options in community clubs which attract a diversity of patrons, from families with children to older people. The GRPHU has enlisted: The Wonthaggi Workmen's Club, Phillip Island RSL, The Italian Australian Club in Morwell and Yarram Country Club.

These venues are participating in the project which is carrying out activities to improve healthy choices.

The first phase of Better Bites is underway. It involves collecting baseline data, gathering patron and staff responses, and observing the dining area. The nutritional value of the top 10 selling items on a venue's menu will be analysed by Latrobe Regional Health dietetics team members.

Better Bites Principal Investigator and GRPHU Deputy Director Alyce Wilson said venues will take the lead changing their menus.

Alyce said even simple changes like reducing salt or swapping hot chips with a baked potato, can have health benefits for

the community.

"Gippsland has a high prevalence of chronic diseases including stroke, heart disease and diabetes and experiences higher rates of preventable deaths compared to state and national averages. There is a strong connection between the burden of chronic disease and diet," Alyce said.

"The clubs involved in the project have a local member-base and are very much part of the social fabric of their communities. They see themselves as having a role to play in the health and wellbeing of their members so we are delighted they agreed to be part of this important research."

Wonthaggi Workmen's Club Manager Rod Bye shared his excitement to be part of Better Bites.

"I'm thrilled to be working with the GRPHU team to create healthier food options for our patrons," Rod said. "And, the launch of this project is coinciding with the recent completion of renovations to the club. So, it will be fantastic to offer a new and healthier menu in our refurbished venue."

Better Bites researchers also looked at international evidence around nutritional changes in community dining venues. This evidence was used to inform the local project.

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Parks Victoria Rangers will keep the kids entertained with a great range of free activities at Wilsons Promontory this January.

Join the Junior Ranger Program at Wilsons Prom

PARKS Victoria's Junior Ranger Program will be hosting five exciting events at the Wilsons Promontory National Park, with something for everyone in the family. With limited places bookings are required, go to parkconnect.vic.gov.au/junior-ranger.

Flora Explorer

Wilsons Promontory is home to some amazing native plants – some flower seasonally, some all year long, and others are found nowhere else in the world. The whole family can join the Parks Victoria Rangers on a fun journey through the beautiful native flora. Learning how to identify common native plants and discovering some of the ways plants are much cooler than humans are.

This activity involves a 1.5 kilometre (return) walk and talk on a gently undulating gravel walking track.

On Wednesday, January 15 at 10.30am, meet at Lilly Pilly Gully Carpark five minutes before the activity commences.

Coastal Explorers

Designed for primary school-aged children, this activity involves a 600-metre return walk to the beach on a gently undulating gravel walking track.

Beaches can be like a window to the sea, exploring the coastline gives clues as to what lives in the deeper water, and the best ways in which the marine environment can be protected.

On Monday, January 20 at 11am, meet at the Whisky Bay Carpark five minutes before the activity commences.

Tent Raiders

It's time for the Junior Rangers of primary school age to take a short walk and solve a campground mystery and investigate who the 'Tent Raiders' really are.

On Tuesday, January 21 at 9am, meet at the Yiruk Wamoon Keeping Place and Education Centre Tidal River five minutes before the activity commences.

Rockpool Ramble

Join a Parks Victoria ranger and learn all about the colourful and strange-looking creatures that call the rock pools of coastal Victoria home. These creatures have fascinating adaptations that allow them to survive life on the edge.

This activity is designed for primary school-aged children and involves a one-kilometre (return) walk over steep and rocky terrain.

On Tuesday, January 21 at 11.30am, meet at Picnic Bay Carpark five minutes before the activity commences.

Bandi-CUTE!

Children aged three – five years can explore the lifestyle of the Southern Brown Bandicoot through stories and play. Learning through stories and play about the homes and habitats of creatures living in Wilsons Prom'.

Children must be accompanied by a parent or carer over the age of 18.

On Tuesday, January 21 at 3pm, meet at the Yiruk Wamoon Keeping Place Education Centre, Tidal River, five minutes before the activity commences.

It was a bug blitz at Berrys Creek

BUG Blitz kept the kids busy last week as they had the chance to get hands-on in nature to learn about and check out the tiny creatures that exist in Mossvale Park, Berrys Creek.

During the sunny morning, the children got to discover, handle and learn about the local biodiversity and tiny invertebrates that exist in the water, grass, and bush.

Bug Blitz brought along their Mobile Field Laboratory, complete with a microscope and screen which allowed the children to see the bugs they collected up close.

This included caddisfly, which pulls a stick around to house and protect their soft bodies, tiny shrimp, water bugs, beetle larvae, strands of fungus, a water strider and even a mayfly.

John Caldwell from Bug Blitz also brought spiders and bugs for the children to handle to help break down fear and increase awareness of the importance of these creatures, which they enjoyed.

"They like discovery, learning in the outdoors and exploring nature and biodiversity," John explained.

"Getting out in the wild."

Another part of the activity was for the kids to do PH testing of the water to find out what a healthy stream should look like and the critical roles invertebrates play in this.

While this free activity proved to be very popular among the kids, it was also beneficial to Landcare.

Nick Stephens from South Gippsland Landcare Network explained they partner with Bug Blitz for the event, giving them the opportunity to find out what tolerant or intolerant bugs exist in the area, giving an indication of how healthy the waterway is.

Nick mentioned that because



Children got hands on with nature collecting bugs and learning about the biodiversity at Mossvale Park last week. ob01_0225

Mossvale Park isn't full of natives as in most other areas, but has large deciduous European trees, the full array of bug life may not be there, however, a baseline can be gauged and then monitored.

The event is part of the Reviving Rivers & Landcare Project, funded by Victorian Landcare Grants and is one of a number of events aimed at raising awareness of the health of the Tarwin River and to increase involvement in Landcare, particularly in the upper reaches of the Tarwin.

If anyone is interested in improving the condition of the Tarwin, either on their property or through volunteering with Landcare, contact Nick Stephens on nick.stephens@sgln.net.au.



John Caldwell from Bug Blitz with the mobile field laboratory microscope, showing the kids what bugs look like up close. ob02_0225

Native seed collection and plant propagation workshops



Discover the art of propagating native plants and take home your own seedlings.

DID you know you can learn to collect seed from native plants to use to grow your own seedlings or to sell to the seedbank?

South Gippsland Landcare Network (SGLN) is holding three free events this summer where you can learn to collect seed and also how to propagate native plants.

The native seed collection workshop will be on Wednesday, January 29 at the Mirboo North RSL from 10am-1pm. Geoff Trease from the South Gippsland Seed Bank will share his knowledge and experience on how to collect native seed. There will also be a walk in the Baths Road Reserve to demonstrate techniques and practice plant identification.

Collecting native seeds is a one way that can help to conserve South Gippsland's unique biodiversity and safeguard its ecosystems. It can prevent rare and endangered species being lost and help restore degraded habitat. Come and learn how you can collect seed for personal projects or to sell or donate to the seed bank.

SGLN is also delivering two workshops teaching participants how to grow their own native plants. The plant

propagation workshop will be held twice, on Wednesday, January 22 and again on Thursday, February 6, at the Leongatha Community Garden from 9.30am-12.30pm

Ex-nurseryman Ian Starkey will share his expertise and passion about plant propagation.

Participants at this hands-on workshop will learn and practise propagation skills and take home a tray of sown seeds and seedlings. Morning tea is provided.

To register please head to the events calendar at sgln.net.au/event-calendar or contact Kirby at sgln@sgln.net.au, 0480 749 731.

These workshops are part of SGLN's Fire Wise Project, which also included installing two demonstration sites next to the Great Southern Rail Trail at Meenyan and Loch. The sites include a garden and a shelter belt demonstration, to raise awareness about fire wise planting.

The Fire Wise Project is funded by the Australian Governments Preparing Australian Communities program in partnership with the Foundation for National Parks and Wildlife.



Andrew Pollock in the role of Hollywood Producer Saul attempting to do a deal with brothers Lee and Austin in True West. B16_0225

Wonthaggi actor Corey Green returns to the stage for True West

IN A STUNNING return to the stage as Lee in the Sam Shepard adult classic True West, Wonthaggi actor Corey Green delivers a gigantic performance.

Totally convincing as the slightly deranged but strangely loveable brother of strait-laced writer Austin (played by Joel Stevenson), Corey has the audience memorised right from the first strained moments of the opening scene.

A minor role for Corey in 2014 as an apostle in Jesus Christ Superstar was followed with the lead role in Pippin, Evita and Miss Saigon.

"I love the community side of amateur theatre and getting out of my comfort zone," said Corey.

Unlike anything Corey has done before the role of Lee is a challenging one.

"I like the level of emotion. Joel gives me so much to work with."

An accountant by day and actor by night Joel Stevenson is no stranger to the stage. Performing with both the Wonthaggi Theatrical Group and Leon-gatha Lyric Theatre, Joel has starred in Peter Pan, Kinky Boots, The Producers, and School of Rock and received award nominations for his roles in Bright Star and Into the Woods.

"I really enjoy amateur theatre," said Joel. "The community aspect is wonderful. It is welcoming and inclusive."

Experienced actors Andrew Pollock (Saul Kimmer) and Sally Lewer-Ahearn (Mom) round out a brilliant cast.

Hollywood producer Kimmer's arrival changes the trajectory of the brother's journey, whilst beleaguered Mom

battles to bring order to her warring adult boys.

"Bringing playwright Sam Shepard's True West to life, with its simultaneous myriad layers within the narrative, is onerous. It requires a collaborative and challenging process with complete trust between the director and cast," explained director Watne Moloney.

Brothers Lee and Austin are on stage for the entire production with 63 pages of dialogue.

"I don't believe you master a role until you become the person rather than play the character. Blessed with intuitive actors like Corey and Joel, I felt like a spectator as two people I didn't know became a reality," said Wayne.

"As a lifetime theatre goer, I don't believe I have witnessed more sustained performances of excellence than from Joel and Corey and this is yet at rehearsal stage.

"It's interesting, you have two completely different characters with their own insecurities and jealousy, who are both yearning deep down for what the other has – the freedom, the stability," Wayne explained.

True West is bound to give audiences an experience they will long remember.

True West will run for six performances in the WTG Shed at the State Coal Mine on January 17, 18, 19, 24, 25 and 26 starting at 7.30pm on Friday, January 17 and 24 and the earlier time of 5.30pm for Saturday and Sunday, January 18, 19, 25 and 26.

Book early online at wtg.org.au.



Corey Green and Joel Stephenson playing unlikely siblings in the Sam Shepard adult drama True West. B12_0225

Celebrating surfing, photography, and community

TODAY, Tuesday, January 14, the Phillip Island Boardriders Club (PIBC) is honoured to host Ted Grambeau Slide Night, an evening dedicated to celebrating the artistry, adventure, and storytelling of one of the surf world's most iconic photographers. Known for his breathtaking surf imagery, Ted's career has spanned decades, taking him from Phillip Island's rugged breaks to some of the world's most iconic surf destinations.

Ted's journey began on Phillip Island, where he captured images of early PIBC members navigating the island's iconic waves. These formative experiences paved the way for a remarkable career that has taken him to places like Hawaii, Tahiti, and Indonesia, and seen him work alongside the biggest names in surfing. His portfolio includes jaw-dropping moments from prestigious World Surf League (WSL) events, as well as historic competitions like the Rip Curl Eddie Aikau Big Wave Invitational, one of the most revered contests in the surfing world.

At this special event, Ted will share recent, exclusive images from the 2025 Eddie Aikau Contest, where the world's best big wave surfers challenged towering waves on Hawaii's North Shore. This rare showcase includes shots of Ross Clarke-Jones, a former Eddie winner and now a proud Cape Woolamai resident who surfs daily with PIBC members.

Through Ted's lens, attendees will experience not just the raw power of waves like those at Waimea Bay or Teahupo'o but also



Mark Healy. 2025 Eddie Aikau Contest on Hawaii's North Shore. Photo: Ted Grambeau.

the culture, camaraderie, and personal stories behind each photo. Ted will narrate the highs and challenges of his career, from navigating treacherous conditions in the water to capturing moments that define the sport.

In addition to his work at the Eddie, Ted's photography has also documented the evolution of professional surfing, including World Surf League events and the introduction of surfing to the Olympics in Tokyo. Whether photographing the intensity of competition or the beauty of remote surf destinations, Ted has an unparalleled ability to bring these moments to life.

PIBC President Jake Eisen reflected on the significance of this event for the local surfing community.

"As kids, many of us grew up idolising surfers in magazines and dreaming about the waves Ted was photographing. This was before digital cameras and social media, so we'd eagerly wait every month for the latest issue of Tracks magazine to see

Ted's photos and learn about what was happening in the surfing world. To now have him here sharing his stories and work with us is a surreal and humbling experience.

"Events like this aren't just about the art – they're about bringing our community together, celebrating our shared love of surfing, and honouring a local who has captured the spirit of our sport for decades."

This event also pays tribute to Phillip Island's surfing heritage and its connection to the global surfing tribe. Ted's work reminds us of the deep bond that unites surfers across generations, from groms to legends like Ross Clarke-Jones, and how photography can inspire and preserve those moments forever.

Event details:

- Date: Tuesday, January 14, 2025
- Time: 7.30pm
- Entry fee: \$15 payable on the door.

Open to all: Surf enthusiasts, art lovers and community members alike.

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It's a Wonderful Life

By Father Darren Howie, Parish Priest, St Joseph's Parish, Wonthaggi

WE HAVE just celebrated the birth of Jesus in a stable with a manger for his cot.

Jesus said in Matthew 13:33: "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast, which a woman took and hid in a bushel of wheat flour until the yeast had worked its way through all the dough."

He also said the kingdom of God is like treasure hidden in a field (cf. Matthew: 44-46).

God's kingdom is present wherever the love of God is present working in the hearts of men and women.

People, myself included, can struggle with the evil committed by people and a lack of action from God, and wonder, and perhaps even be outraged, that God does nothing.

The Christmas movie "It's a Wonderful Life" (1946) illustrates the good Christians do.

In it, George Bailey, who has sacrificed his hopes and dreams for the sake of the people in Bedford Falls to save them from Mr Potter, in a moment of crisis thinks his life is pointless and becomes suicidal. George is saved because an angel shows George how he saved Bedford Falls from Potter's evil schemes, and the townspeople raise the \$8000 Potter took.

The movie would not have rung true if the angel forced Mr Potter to have a change of heart, or struck him down, because that is not how God works.

The movie rings true and became a classic because many people have had experiences, myself included, of God finding ways to touch them directly and support them through others.

WHAT'S ON

YOUR LOCAL GUIDE TO ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT



Fun for all ages the annual model train show is back this January.



From impressive OO scale models to the beloved Thomas the Tank Engine, experience the magic and excitement of trains for all ages.

Train your eyes over this exhibition

MODEL train enthusiasts of all ages are in for a treat as the Phillip Island and District Railway Modellers, hold their annual model train show on Saturday and Sunday, January 18 and 19th at Bernin-neit Cultural Centre, 91-97 Thompson Avenue, Cowes.

The show always attracts many visitors and caters for the diehard model railway enthusiast, the budding five-year-old who loves to watch the trains go around and everyone in between.

There will be fourteen model layouts to view, many with full digital control and authentic sound.

We will have models ranging in size from the smaller "N" scale, that fit on a door, the popular "HO" and "OO" scales up to the very large "G" scale, that would take over the garden.

This year the show features four new model layouts, not seen before at our show as well as an extended version of the large, detailed layout depicting an early 20th century Timber mill and township.

For "Thomas" fans there is a model depicting the original "Sodar" as well as a model where young enthusiasts can drive the Thomas or Percy around the track.

Take the opportunity to talk to the exhibitors, they just love talking about model trains and you will find a wealth of knowledge, experience and expertise.

There will also be a large range of secondhand trains for sale for those starting out or those wanting to expand their collections

Visitors can enjoy an hour or two, rain hail or shine, in airconditioned comfort. On Saturday the exhibition will be open to the public from 10am until 5pm, and on Sunday the hours are 10am to 4pm.

We are grateful for our sponsorship from Bass Coast Shire and Westernport Water as well as the support from Branch Line Hobbies in Croydon and Steam Era Models.

For more information visit us on Facebook at Phillip Island and District Railway Modellers, piadrm.com, or call Geoff Newman: 0419 357 097 or Grant Colwell: 0432 104 220.

See you for a puffin' good time.

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Model Train Show

Berninneit Civic Centre
91-97 Thompson Avenue, Cowes

January 18 and 19, 2025

Saturay 10am-5pm | Sunday 10am-4pm

Adults \$10 | Children \$5 | Family \$25

Presented by Phillip Island & District Railway Modellers Inc.

For further information:
Website: piadrm.com

Facebook: facebook.com/people/Phillip-Island-and-District-Railway-Modellers

Contact: Geoff Newman 0419 357 097, Grant Colwell 0432 104 220



The Gippsland Pride Initiative LGBTQIA+ Festival Day will be jam-packed with entertainment for everyone.

LGBTQIA+ Festival Day to be held at Coal Creek

THE GIPPSLAND Pride Initiative will be hosting a very special LGBTQIA+ Festival Day at Coal Creek Community Park on Saturday, January 25 from 12 noon – 6pm.

The event will be jam-packed with community activations, entertainment, kids activities, forever rainbows, 'Pride in Aging' tea garden, a gender-affirming no-cost op shop, drag workshops, LGBTQIA+ performances, support organisations and service activations, MotaFrenz car display, food, drink and much more.

President and Chair of Gippsland Pride Initiative, Caitlin Grisby commented they have never before had the opportunity to hold an event of this calibre in the region and bringing this one-day event for the LGBTQIA+ community will be extraordinary.

In collaboration with the South Gippsland Shire Council, the event will also showcase Coal Creek Community Park as a versatile community venue and asset, bring lots of people to the area.

The Gippsland Pride Festival main stage will feature headline act Greg Gould, who has a voice that ignites hearts and moves souls.

Greg burst onto the scene as the runner-up on 'Australia's Got Talent' in 2013, and since then has captivated millions around the globe with his



Enjoy musicians on the main stage, drag workshops and the gender-affirming op shop at the upcoming LGBTQIA+ Festival.

powerhouse vocals and magnetic presence.

Along with Greg, a lineup of amazing Gippsland LGBTQIA+ artists will be performing, and attendees are encouraged to bring their picnic blanket or camp chair and enjoy the artists.

Visit the old theatre to participate in drag workshops and performances throughout the day, with all welcome to get involved or just go along and enjoy the fun.

Gippsland Pride will also be bringing their famous and gender-free affirming op shop with all welcome to check out the

huge range of clothes and accessories from everyday basics to beautiful formal wear, perfect for the Annual Pride Gala.

There will be a Pride Bar hosted by the Burra Brewery serving alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks all day.

A number of food trucks will also be at the event offering a range of food for purchase throughout the day and a hot and cold coffee station and drinks will be available.

A free bus service will be running from Bairnsdale to Drouin and everywhere in between and there is plenty of onsite parking.

There is no cost for concession card holders. First Nations people, those with disabilities, trans and gender-diverse people and those over 60. No questions asked for those who need the cost barrier removed to participate fully in this event.

Otherwise, tickets are: \$15 for adults, children under 16 are free. Get tickets before Monday, January 20 to go in the draw to win two tickets to the fifth Annual Pride Gala, held on June 28, 2025.

Tickets to the event and the bus service are via humanitix: gippslandpride.com/events.



Looking for this to do in Inverloch, perhaps explore what's on. There's now an easy go-to site.

What's on... Inverloch

THE Inverloch Tourism Association (ITA) have announced the launch of their brand-new events portal on the Visit Inverloch website, designed to encourage visitors to stay longer and explore more of the vibrant coastal town and surrounding areas.

"We're positioning Inverloch as not only the ultimate coastal getaway but also the ideal gateway to discover the broader region," said ITA Vice President and web designer Mick Asbury of Offshore Digital.

"With so many sites and groups promoting events, we felt it was vital to create a single go-to resource for both visitors and locals."

The events portal, crafted for maximum user-friendliness, offers an intuitive scroll-based format displaying events in date order. Listings are focused on activities and happenings within an easy drive of Inverloch, making it the perfect tool for planning a day out or an extended stay.

Each week, the ITA promotions team combs through numerous websites and social media platforms to curate events that appeal to visitors and locals alike. Additionally, the portal features a user-friendly event submission link, inviting local businesses, community groups, and event organisers to contribute.

"We're excited to include everything from large-scale festivals to intimate workshops or live music sessions," Mick added.

"Our goal is to keep the calendar full year-round, showcasing activities beyond day-to-day business services or products and support the face-to-face work done by the team at the Inverloch Visitor's Centre."

The ITA encourages contributions from towns within a 30-40 minute drive of Inverloch, ensuring the portal reflects the diversity and vibrancy of the region.

Mick has generously volunteered his time to build the website and is available for discussions about the portal or other digital opportunities (0416 032 671 or admin@inverloch.org.au).

Visit the new events portal at visitinverloch.co/events or explore the full website, which is a work in progress visitinverloch.co and discover what's on in Inverloch today!

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL! OPEN MOST DAYS
CALL CAMERON 0407 611 203 OR VISIT WEBSITE
TANKADVENTURES.COM.AU
2349 WOORARRA RD, WONYIP, VICTORIA 3962

WEDNESDAY 1pm - 3pm
THURSDAY 7pm - 9pm

Wonthaggi Workmen's Club, 75 Graham Street
Come and join in the laughs at South Coast FM Bingo

★ RAFFLES ★ DOOR PRIZES ★



Simone and Melinda Goddard enjoying the warm weather at Cape Paterson. B79_0225



Nev and Jeff from Woolamai cleaning the day's catch at Corinella. B59_0225



Vicki and Christian Gusner holidaying at Corinella. B60_0225



Gary Jones and Debbie Leigh from Perth at the Corinella jetty. B61_0225



Tilly Ward and Tristian Donohue at Wednesday's Inverloch twilight market. B28_0225



Mary and Jessica Harrod shopping together at the Inverloch twilight market. B30_0225



Shannon and Ryan Warn from Pioneer Bay at Inverloch for the twilight market. B34_0225



Dennis and Janet Atkin from Glen Waverley have been coming to Inverloch for 50 years shopping at the twilight market. B36_0225



Rafael and Audrey with their father Robert at the twilight market in Inverloch. B38_0225

Snapped Out

Pictures of you and your friends at the beach at Cape Paterson, Inverloch's twilight market and fishing at Corinella.



Rachael and Millie with Rosie, Eisl, Harry and Anders at the Inverloch twilight market. B32_0225



Klay and Mason fishing with their mother Sarah at Corinella. B66_0225



Dakota and Kayde enjoying their summer holidays fishing at Corinella. B65_0225



Martin Sharkey from Carrum Downs fishing at Corinella. B63_0225



Louise Lamprelle from Inglewood with her father James Alexander of Inverloch at the twilight market in The Glade. B51_0225



Susan and Allison March from Tullamarine enjoying Wednesday's twilight market during January at Inverloch. B40_0225



Lauren Johnston and Kerry Rochford at Wednesday's twilight market in Inverloch. B42_0225



Freddy and Lucinda from Hawthorn and William of Brighton at Inverloch's twilight market. B44_0225



Spectacular headliners did not disappoint the 5000 plus strong crowd at Ocean Sounds on Saturday.

Ocean Sounds music festival a sell-out success

THE popular Ocean Sounds music festival played to a sell-out crowd of more than 5000 music lovers on Churchill Island over the weekend in warm afternoon sunshine and clear night skies.

Headline acts Birds of Tokyo, Boy & Bear and The Cat Empire were joined on stage by Jem Cassar-Daley, daughter of country music singer Troy Cassar-Daley, Bass Coast's own Ozone Street, Melbourne-based Cool Out Sun and Disco Faith Choir and a special performance from Millowl Dreaming.

The day-night concert had music lovers on their feet from early afternoon.

Celebrating one of the best

line-ups of talent seen on the dwindling concert circuit for some time, music lovers of all ages were able to lay back on folding chairs and picnic rugs to enjoy great music, fine local wine and delicious food.

This year's eighth Ocean Sounds was as popular with local residents and holidaymakers as it was with concertgoers coming from every state and territory including Melbourne and Sydney.

Watching the sun set over Western Port Bay music festivals do not get much better than this with a total crew of 500 volunteers and staff making sure the event was perfect.

"It was awesome," said Communications Manager Will Patson.

Festival Director Rhett McLaren said it was easily one of the best festivals ever.

"Amazing crowd, amazing weather and incredible artists."

"Seeing family, friends and young kids having the best time enjoying music together in a picturesque natural environment, what more could you want," said Mr McLaren.

"Can't wait to do it all again next January."

Birds of Tokyo performed all their hit songs and more, Boy & Bear lived up to their reputation for delivering a thrilling live show and The Cat Empire with their new album topping the charts had fans jumping late into the night.



Sound technician Sarah at Ocean Sounds on Churchill Island. B118_0225



Phoenix and Marley close to the mosh pit at Ocean Sounds. B127_0225



Sahari and Bernadette from the Mornington Peninsula at Ocean Sounds. B123_0225



Trevor and Luzzi enjoying the Ocean Sounds music festival at Phillip Island. B125_0225



Brad, Luke, Daniele and Matt from Sydney at Ocean Sounds. B117_0225



Sally, Jenny and Craig from Wonthaggi were part of the sell-out crowd at Ocean Sounds. B122_0225



The stirring sounds of the Pearl Park Music Festival made it worthwhile turning out in Saturday's heat.

Pearl Park Music Festival handles the heat

By Rebecca Bone

THE SUN beating down on everyone was not the only thing that got temperatures rising at the biennial Pearl Park Music Festival last Saturday.

Held on the beautiful lawns surrounding Stockyard Creek in Foster, the exhilarating music had the crowds pumping even when simply tapping your toes was hard work in the heat.

Music lovers determined to outsmart the hot sun descended on the park early, reserving their deckchairs under large umbrellas and shady trees, making full use of South Gippsland Water's large water trailer to keep cool and hydrated.

Festival goers wandered through the many adjoining market stalls that were selling beautiful local produce and art, while food lovers were treated to the exquisite and abundant selections from Nicole Holder's 'The Kitchen Table' food van well into the night.

Foster Rotary and Foster Outdoor Pool committee also kept the hungry crowds fed with their beautiful barbecues and the Crepe Mama served sweet and savoury crepes.

Needless to say, the line at the ice cream van was continuous from morning until night!

Stockyard Gallery's beautiful See the Song exhibition brought music and art together.

Prom Coast Uke3A and Singers popped up, flash mob style, during intervals.

Children danced through the crowds with Meg Williams' gorgeous creations painted on their faces, and the wonderful Tika Hicken delighted the crowd with her stunning artwork created to the music throughout the day.

Relief came as the sun descended, and the soft lawn dancefloor was bursting at the seams with those unable to contain themselves any longer.

By nightfall, it was on for young and old!

Twelve solid hours of non-stop live folk, hip-hop, blues, funk, country and rock music were enjoyed by all.

The exceptional music scene is thriving in this region, and 12 hours wasn't nearly enough to showcase it all.

Music has the unique capacity to bring all people from our communities together in a joyous way, and this free festival did just that.

The town of Foster was alive with the sounds of the brilliant musicians who are part of our thriving artistic community and the cheers, hollers and whistles of those who love to share in their work. To all the bands who performed that day, thank you. These musicians make even the hottest of days a complete joy.

A very special thank you to festival organisers Rebecca Bone, Bec Matthews and Tammy Basso-Bondini for creating a space for our beautiful musicians to be heard.

Their dedication to the arts is constant and passionate.

To the major financial sponsors South Gippsland Shire Council, Community Bank Toora and Foster, Foster Foodworks and major partner Manna Gum Community House, it needs to be said that this festival could not be staged without them.

Their generous support of music and community events in the local area is exceptional and greatly appreciated.

A special thank you also goes out to the many volunteers who work tirelessly the week of the festival, as well as the financial contributors and local businesses that donate raffle prizes and financial support during the many months of fundraising.

Our town is so lucky to have such generous, supportive businesses and community organisations.

And finally, thank you to the amazing music-loving MC, Paul Greenhalgh, who made introducing the musicians as entertaining as the music.

Until the next Pearl Park Music Festival, check out the bands on the website and keep listening to the fine music being created in our local surroundings.

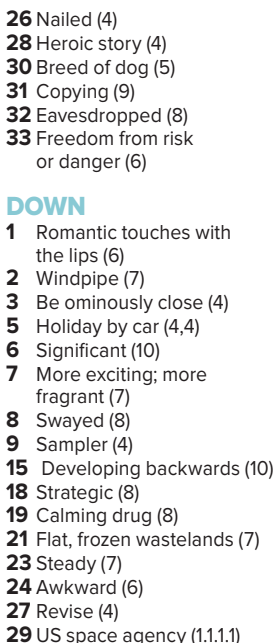
And remember, shop local, eat local and feast off local music!

Facebook @pearlparkmusicfestival

Instagram @pearl_park_music_festival

mannagumcommunity-house.org.au/auspiced-projects/ppmf

No. 171



1 Kitchen appliance (6)
4 Vows (8)
10 Melodramatic show (4,5)
11 Fact of being elsewhere (5)
12 Reflected sound (4)
13 Persistently attempt to sell (4)

14 Colloquialism (5)
16 Summit (4)
17 Women's underwear (8)
20 Lawyer (8)
22 Swear (4)
25 Two-armed cooking implement (5)

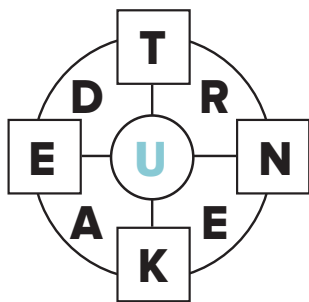
Using the nine letters in the grid, how many words of four letters or more can you list? The centre letter must be included and each letter may only be used once. No colloquial or foreign words. No capitalised nouns, apostrophes or plural nouns ending in 's'.

Today's Aim:

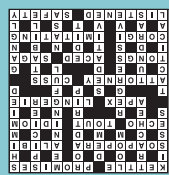
20 words: **Good**

30 words: **Very good**

40 words: Excellent



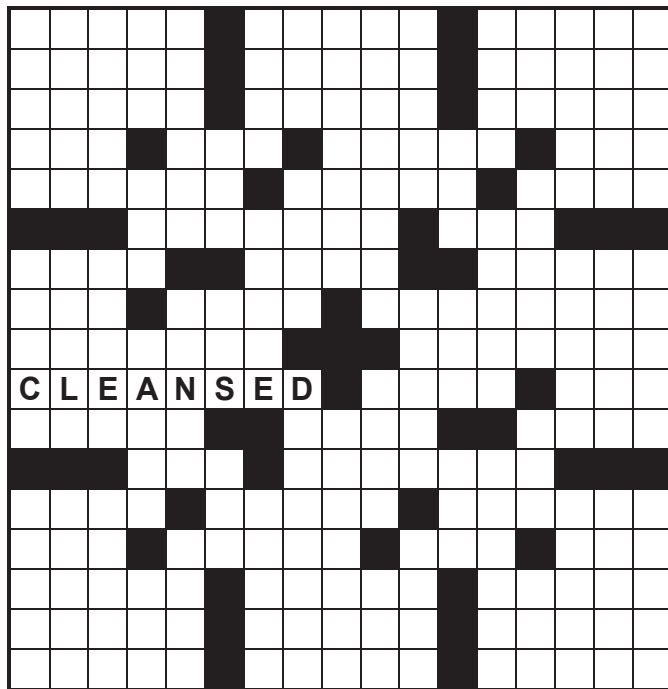
SOLUTION



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RADII
RAGER
RINSE
RISEN
RIVER
ROOTS
SANER
SENSE
SLING
SMILE
SPENT
STEAK

TABLE
TENDS
TENET
TESTS
THEME
USAGE
VOTER
YESES

DRESSES
ERUDITE
OPERATE
OVERRAN
TITTERS
TRASHED

CLEANSED
DETONATE
MATUREST
TRAVERSE

ENDERS
ENTRAP
INSURE
MISHAP

SOLUTION



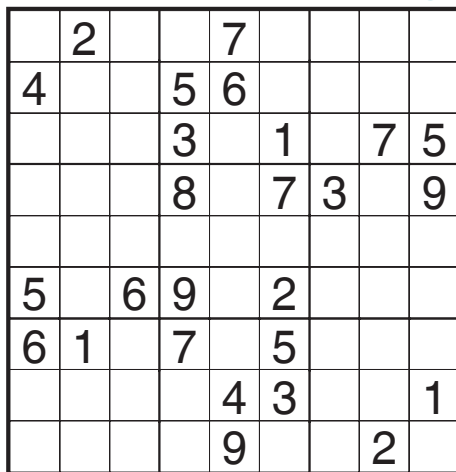
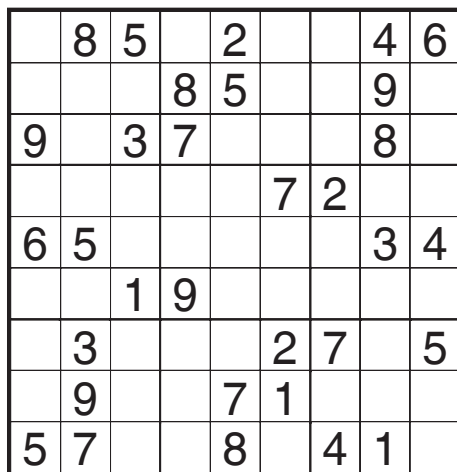
No. 261

Each number corresponds to a letter of the alphabet. Two have been filled in for you, can you work out the rest?



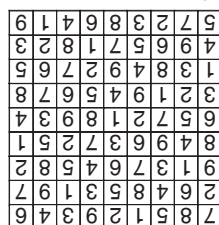
To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every number from 1 to 9 must appear in: each of the nine vertical columns, each of the nine horizontal rows and each of the nine 3×3 boxes. Remember, no number can occur more than once in any row, column or box.

MEDIUM

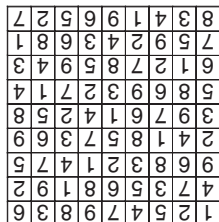


SOLUTIONS

EASY



MEDIUM



CODING: 1 = U, 2 = X, 3 = E, 4 = L, 5 = Z, 6 = Q, 7 = G, 8 = V, 9 = C, 10 = D, 11 = S, 12 = Y, 13 = H, 14 = N, 15 = P, 16 = K, 17 = J, 18 = R, 19 = Q, 20 = M, 21 = W, 22 = T, 23 = I, 24 = A, 25 = B, 26 = F

1. Prunes are dried what?
2. The average length of which type of running event is 42.195km?
3. How many chakras are in the human body?
4. Dr. Facilier is the main villain in which Disney movie?
5. Which of these is not a species of penguin: fairy, macaroni or teapot?
6. What is the family name of the sisters in Jane Austen's *Sense and Sensibility*?
7. The superb lyrebird is said to be the world's greatest what?
8. Kurt Russell (pictured) played the character R.J. MacReady in which film?
9. Who played Sarah Jane Smith, the third Doctor's companion, in the TV show *Doctor Who*?
10. Which song begins with the lyric 'When I was a young boy, my father took me into the city'?



8. *The Thing* (1982) 9. Elisabeth Sladen 10. *Welcome to the Black Parade* by My Chemical Romance

No. 172

Can you find all the words listed?
The leftover letters will spell out a secret message.



AIRBNB	HOUSEKEEPING	SUITE
BELLBOY	INN	SWIPE
BOOK	LINEN	TOWEL
BREAKFAST	LOBBY	TUB
BROCHURE	LUXURY	VIEW
BUDGET	MEET	WIFI
COMPLIMENTARY	MOTEL	
CONCIERGE	NOISY	
CONFERENCE	PARKING	
DEPOSIT	PILLOW	
DOUBLE BED	POOL	
ESCAPE	RATE	
FLOOR	ROBES	
GREET	SAUNA	
HOLIDAY	SOFA	

SECRET MESSAGE: We hope you have a pleasant stay



Heavy fattening country and lush river flats

A RARE opportunity to secure a heavy carrying block of 166 acres in a tightly held area. This farm has been owned by the vendor since 1972 and has produced many market topping fat bullocks over the years.

The farm is subdivided into five paddocks that feed in to a centrally situated lane that runs up to the steel cattle yards. A head bail and drenching race are there in the yards with ample room to draft the cattle. The Stacking pen behind the race and the race itself are concreted.

The property fronts Barry Road on the eastern boundary, which is a bitumen road, and fronts the South Gippsland Highway on the northern boundary. Access to the farm is from Barry Road.

There is a solar electric fence system powering the fences and town water is connected. There are large concrete troughs in all paddocks. The farm has a sound fertiliser history. Pasture is improved. Rainfall is high with an average of 900 mm or 35.4 inches. Mains Power is not connected but a power line does run through the property.

The soils are a heavy grey type, and most of the property consists of river flats with rises up to the cattle yards and along Barry Road. It is heavy carrying “fattening” country. The property is somewhat unique in that it has no buildings and is a “blank canvas” as far as building.

The property is in two titles, one of 36 acres and the other being 130 acres, this presents the opportunity to build S.T.C.A.

There are sea water glimpses over Corner Inlet from the cattle yards area and over to Wilsons Promontory as well.

It also has a large frontage to the Agnes River which is treed all along the frontage. The trees offer shade from the afternoon sun and also act as a windbreak from the prevailing south westerly wind.

The Great Southern Rail Trail runs through the property and the cattle move freely under a recently constructed galvanised steel bridge which replaced the old timber rail bridge that stood before it. The Rail Trail is on the boundary of the two titles.

The area in front of the loading race has a sound gravel base allowing all weather access to the yards for tray, semi and up to double deck size trucks.

This is a farm that grows a lot of grass and can handle a high stocking rate. Country of this calibre rarely comes onto the market.

Inspection by Appointment only with the selling agent.

Land166 Acres

68 Barry Road, Agnes
Auction Sat, Feb. 8 at 10.30am
Agent Phelan & Henderson
Simon Henderson 0428 740 750



Elevated farmlet with sweeping water views

A MAGNIFICENT farmlet consisting of 6.3 acres with excellent fencing is only 7.5 kilometres from Inverloch. The atrium-style home consists of two large bedrooms, plus a study, one bathroom, one laundry, a separate toilet, and an open living plan that best captures 180° water views.

High ceilings with windows centrally located in the second tier of the roof structure let in abundant daylight, lending the house to be naturally bright inside.

The kitchen is made with Tasmanian Blackwood, crafted by Don Bruce Kitchens, and has a walk-in pantry. There is a gas stove and oven as well as a “Coonara” type gas heater. The hot water service is an instantaneous gas system mounted on the outside of the house. There is also an “Ultimate” wood heater in the living room.

The home has an open living plan to best capture the sweeping water views of Anderson Inlet.

In front of the main living room, you can step out onto a large deck, from which you can enjoy the views from outside.

At the rear of the house, there is a large carport providing direct access to the home. Outside, there is an easy-to-maintain garden as well as an orchard with a number of mature, established fruit trees covered in a dome with netting to keep pests and animals out.

There is a large farm shed, consisting of a double lock-up section with two roller doors, and a carport attached as part of the shed. The carport is 5.2 metres wide, the shed is 8.25 metres wide, a total of 13 metres and the shed and carport are 12 metres deep. The lock-up shed has a concrete floor and workbench located along the back wall.

There is also a separate building that houses the infrastructure for the “off-grid” systems. The infrastructure comprises twin solar panel arrays maintaining a 69kw 48-volt AGM Battery Bank and 8kw 240-volt power inverter system.

The system is complemented by a 15kva Lister diesel generator set which can provide battery charging redundancy (seldom required) or back up power automatically to the residence. The battery bank was recently replaced and upgraded in August 2024.

There is one large paddock that has some natural messmate and tea tree bushes. This is where the cattle run. The block is currently running eight steers.

Heavy grey soil, with good pasture, clover and native grasses, the paddock is serviced by a dam for water.

The property is a very unique farmlet that lends itself to a number of rural-based pursuits, including cattle, horses, sheep, and poultry.

The property is quite unique in the fact that it is elevated and there are no immediate neighbours. It is a very quiet and peaceful location, and the views are second to none. It is the only residential property that has access from Shingler Road.

It is only 7.5 kilometres from Inverloch and 19 kilometres from the major regional centre of Wonthaggi. It is also only 25 kilometres from Leongatha, another large regional town and 149 kilometres from the Melbourne CBD.

The land has been in the same family since 1968. The vendor is downsizing and planning a move to a house in Inverloch. This is a truly unique farmlet with a wonderful position. Inspection is strictly by appointment with the selling agent.

2186.3 Acres

87 Shingler Road, Inverloch
For Sale \$1.4 m (Offers Invited)
Agent Phelan & Henderson
Simon Henderson 0428 740 750

68 Barry Road, Agnes

Auction:
Sat, Feb. 8 at 10.30am onsite

- 166 acres (approx.) of lush river flats
- 2 Titles
 - Long frontage to Agnes River
 - Steel cattle yards, race and crush
 - 5 paddocks, central lane
 - Heavy soils, ideal for fattening cattle
 - Town water connected



Phelan & Henderson & Co

For further information contact Simon Henderson 0428 740 750

87 Shingler Road, Inverloch

For Sale:
\$1.4 million, offers invited

- 6.3 acres • Atrium style residence
- Elevated location, magnificent water views
- Shedding and carport, well fenced
- “Off grid” solar and batteries with backup generator
- Natural bush and easy to maintain garden

Inspection strictly appointment only



Phelan & Henderson & Co

For further information contact Simon Henderson 0428 740 750



Big house, big block, brilliant location

SITTING proudly on approximately 1843m² of land, capturing a rural feel with easy access to everything this popular township has to offer, this upsized property will appeal to anyone looking for space without sacrificing convenience.

Inside is light and bright with a wide entertaining deck on two sides providing just the spot to sit and take in the views over the farmland at the rear and to the distant hills beyond the town.

The open plan interior is zoned to provide a living room, dining room and lounge area – comfortable all year round with a wood heater plus ducted RC/AC.

Centrally located, the stylish modern kitchen includes a huge breakfast bar, wall oven, gas hob, dishwasher, extensive storage including a butler's pantry and utility/storage area.

There are five fitted bedrooms including a large master suite with walk-in robe and spacious ensuite. Modern main family bathroom with spa bath, shower and separate WC.

A central roofed deck includes covered access to the downstairs garage/workshop/studio/games room and under-house storage.

The rear garden is fenced and secure with access from Farrell Lane and includes an established vegetable garden. Keep your costs to a minimum with solar power (plus mains) and solar hot water (electric backup).

Come and discover the delights of this quirky village with galleries, cafes, award-winning Hotel, the Great Southern Rail Trail, community garden and primary school all on your doorstep, and only 15 minutes from the pristine coastline for swimming, surfing and hiking.



5 2 5 1843m²

8 Old Waratah Rd, **Fish Creek**
For Sale \$885,000
Agent SEJ Real Estate Foster
Andrea Adams 0429 822 801

Your local
Real Estate &
Livestock Specialists

www.sej.com.au

ANDREA ADAMS
0429 822 801
aadams@sej.com.au

FOSTER
Ph 5682 2800

IRENE WALKER
0429 045 632
iwalker@sej.com.au

LEONGATHA
Ph 5662 4033

SANDY POINT

- Set on 1075m² fenced gardens
- Covered BBQ, sunroom, lounge
- 3 BRs, master w/powder room
- Workshop w/kitchenette, bathroom

\$860,000-\$910,000
Contact Andrea Adams 0429 822 801

A new year begins, 2025!

If you're curious, considering or convinced that a move is on this year's agenda, contact an agent with a point of difference!

Providing confidential discussions to assist and empower you, on your journey with Communication, Commitment & Care

Your rural real estate specialist
Irene Walker 0429 045 632

WARATAH BAY

- Ranch style home & timber barn
- Wrap around verandah, fenced fire pit area
- New kitchen, covered BBQ area
- Income as holiday rental

\$895,000
Contact Andrea Adams 0429 822 801

FISH CREEK

- Rural views, walk to town
- 3 bed, 1 bath, 2 car
- Fully updated throughout
- Tiled sunroom, entertaining deck
- 742m² with carport and LU shed

\$530,000
Contact Andrea Adams 0429 822 801

LEONGATHA SOUTH

- Experience the best of Coast & Country living on 27 HA / 68 AC (approx.)
- Situated just 15 min. from Leongatha & the beaches of Inverloch
- Exceptionally built 3 bed, 2 bath, open plan living, second living & sunroom
- 9ft ceilings, double glazed windows, solar & spotted gum hard wood floors
- Excellent shedding, spring fed dam (s) well fenced, stock yards

\$1,650,000
Contact Irene Walker 0429 045 632

LEONGATHA

- Family home on spacious block
- 4 bed, 2 bath, 2 car & open plan
- Separate formal lounge room
- Rear deck with views
- Side access, great opportunity

\$649,000
Contact Irene Walker 0429 045 632

34 | TUESDAY, JANUARY 14, 2025 | SOUTH GIPPSLAND SENTINEL-TIMES

Hidden luxury

WELCOME to the beautifully presented 42 Old Hat Road, Foster. As you enter the property, the smooth, sealed driveway guides you through the front half of the property, dividing two expansive paddocks. This space is ideal for horses or livestock, no doubt the resident koala will offer a warm welcome to your new additions.

The driveway leads to a remote-controlled double garage, providing ample space for loading and unloading in all weather conditions before entering the home. Beyond the garage, the driveway continues to the rear of the property where you'll find two large sheds, offering abundant storage options for your caravan or motor home.

The magnificently presented home is surrounded by a harmonious blend of lush lawns, flowers, native trees, and an orchard, creating a serene and private atmosphere. With ample space for both relaxation and recreation, this property offers a peaceful rural lifestyle with all the modern conveniences.

For the person who loves to garden, there are four above-ground vegetable boxes and an established orchard with 92,000 litres of rainwater storage to make sure your garden thrives.

The stunning four-bedroom home offers a spacious layout, featuring two large bathrooms. The open-plan kitchen and living area, complete with a wood heater, create a cosy atmosphere.

Enjoy the convenience of a walk-in pantry and a rumpus room for added entertainment space. The main bedroom boasts an ensuite and large windows, bringing in breathtaking garden views. Step outside to an expansive outdoor entertaining area, perfect for gatherings.

Located six minutes from South Gippsland Hospital, Foster is seven minutes away, Wilson Prom 43 minutes and Melbourne S.E. suburbs less than two hours, this property is a true gem. Don't miss the opportunity to make this picturesque property your new home. For further information or to inspect the property, please contact Ben Townsend on 0400 594 487.

For a Due Diligence Checklist go to: consumer.vic.gov.au/duediligence-checklist.



4 2 6 2.67 acres

42 Old Hat Road, **Foster**
For Sale \$1.45 Million
Agent Elders
Ben Townsend 0400 594 487



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Mt Eccles 181 Acres
Grazing, Turnout Block, 181 acres (apx)

- Grazing/turnout block
- 13 paddocks with central laneway
- Stockyards & Race

Web ID: 300P174263 **\$1.495 Million**

Boolarra 5 Acres
Dream Retreat in Boolarra

- Renovated 3-bed, 2-bath home
- Kitchen with walk in pantry
- 3 bay shed with workshop

Web ID: 300P165769 **\$950,000**

Hallston 33 Acres
Experience the Joy of Country Living

- 4 bay & 3 bay shed + hay shed
- Yards & loading race
- 3-bed, 1-bath home

Web ID: 300P17274 **\$780,000**

Boolarra 2.5 Acres
Serenity at its Finest!!

- 3-bed, 2-bath home
- 2-bed cottage for dual living
- 120,000 ltr water storage

Web ID: 300P175224 **\$910,000**

BEN TOWNSEND
Licensed Estate Agent
0400 594 487

SHARON TURTON
Sales Consultant
0447 604 796

HELEN ARESTIA
Sales Support
03 5662 3523

NATALIE RES
Property Manager
0439 383 091

Elders Leongatha
37 Bair Street
Ph 5662 3523

Could this be your next home or investment property?



DISCOVER your next home in this pleasing brick three-bedroom, two-bathroom residence, perfectly situated only a short walk to the Ellen Lyndon Park and playground, hospital, healthcare centre and Great Southern Rail Trail. Set on an approx. 537sqm block with only local traffic, this property is private and one to inspect.

Enjoy open plan living with a good-sized kitchen, dining, and living area, enhanced by large windows that overlook the established trees and a glass sliding door providing access to the back deck, ideal for entertaining or outdoor dining. The modern kitchen is equipped with a gas cooktop, dishwasher, and stainless-steel appliances and fittings. The master suite features a spacious walk-in robe and ensuite, while the two additional bedrooms boast built-in robes for added convenience.

Additional highlights include a central family bathroom with a separate toilet, a good-sized laundry with ample cupboard storage and outdoor access, and reverse cycle air conditioning in the living area for year-round comfort.

The property also features a double car garage with roller doors at both the front and rear, ensuring easy access, as well as a fully fenced private yard, perfect for kids and pets. With Roman and venetian blinds throughout, this home is a blend of comfort and style in a sought-after location.

Don't miss out on this fantastic opportunity! Currently tenanted therefore a minimum of 48 hours notice is required for private inspections. For more information on the lease or to arrange an inspection please contact the friendly Alex Scott and Staff sales team today.

Disclaimer: Whilst every care has been taken in preparing the above information, it is to be used as a guide only. Please refer to the appropriate legal documentation to complete your due diligence.



3 2 2 537m²

10 Parkside Close, **Leongatha**
For Sale \$699,000
Agent Alex Scott & Staff
Emily Hillberg 0422 622 299
Andrew Newton 0402 940 320

A step well above ordinary homes

WELCOME to this beautifully designed Metricon brick veneer home, perfectly situated on a wide 720m2 allotment.

The open plan kitchen, living, and dining area is the heart of the home, featuring modern stone benchtops, a dishwasher, and a 900mm gas cooktop with an electric oven. The walk-in pantry offers ample storage, while the second separate lounge, complete with a T.V., provides additional space for relaxation and entertainment.









The north-facing main bedroom is a true retreat, boasting a double door entry, a large walk-in robe, and an ensuite with a double-sized shower, double sink, and separate toilet. Three additional bedrooms, each with built-in robes, ensure plenty of room for family or guests. The oversized double garage accommodates two large cars and offers extra storage, while the large side access through double gates leads to a fully concreted driveway, perfect for all your parking needs.

Step outside to discover a wide steel verandah wrapping around three sides of the home, complemented by composite decking. The outdoor undercover area is ideal for entertaining, while the fire pit and fishpond create a serene ambience. Enjoy the benefits of fruit trees, ducted gas heating, and two split systems for year-round comfort. Located in a new estate, this property is close to schools and a family-friendly park, making it the perfect place to call home.



4 2 2 720m²

12 Civic Way, **Wonthaggi**
For Sale \$689,000
Agent Alex Scott & Staff
Mick Chambers 0418 349 783
Cal Nation 0439 334 163

<div>LEONGATHA</div> <div></div> <div>16 Greenwood Parade</div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none">• Located opposite parklands and rail trail• 3 bed WB home plus 2 bed unit to the rear• Priced to sell, book your inspection today<div>\$550,000</div><div>Contact: Leongatha Office</div></div>	<div>KORUMBURRA</div> <div></div> <div>9 Mair Crescent</div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none">• Spacious family home• 4/5 bedroom, 2 bathroom• Under house workshop<div>\$550,000</div><div>Contact: Korumburra Office</div></div>	<div>COWES</div> <div></div> <div>7-9 Steele Street</div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none">• 'The Castle – Villa by the Sea'• Set on a 1,286m² established allotment• 6 bedroom, 6 bathroom<div>Auction: Sat, Feb. 1 at 2pm on site</div><div>Contact: Cowes Office</div></div>	<div>RYANSTON</div> <div><div>SOLD</div></div> <div>1850 Loch Wonthaggi Road</div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lifestyle property• Loads of character• 4 bedroom, 2 bathroom<div>Sold \$1.45 mil</div><div>Contact: Wonthaggi Office</div></div>
<div>POUND CREEK</div> <div><div>NEW PRICE</div></div> <div>61 Ti Tree Road</div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none">• 202 acres approx. grazing parcel, two titles• 15 minutes drive to cattle selling yards• 8-bay machinery shed and steel crush<div>\$8,990 per acre</div><div>Contact: Leongatha Office</div></div>	<div>BENA</div> <div></div> <div>605 Bena-Kongwak Road</div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none">• Approx 4.3 acres• Outstanding views• Fully renovated 2 bedroom, 1 bathroom<div>\$880,000</div><div>Contact: Korumburra Office</div></div>	<div>COWES</div> <div></div> <div>1/35 Steele Street</div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none">• 500m stroll to beach and main street• Gas log fire, duel ovens, 2 living areas• 4 bedroom, 2 bathroom, 2 car<div>\$1,670,000</div><div>Contact: Cowes Office</div></div>	<div>NORTH WONTHAGGI</div> <div><div>SOLD</div></div> <div>19 Toorak Street</div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none">• Large block• 4 bedroom, 2 bathroom• Rear lane access<div>Sold \$552,000</div><div>Contact: Wonthaggi Office</div></div>
<div>LEONGATHA</div> <div><div>NEW PRICE</div></div> <div>36 Jeffrey Street</div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none">• Blonde brick home in desirable Jeffrey St• 3 bed 1 bath home with double carport• Great floorplan, in need of a renovation<div>\$465,000</div><div>Contact: Leongatha Office</div></div>	<div>KORUMBURRA</div> <div></div> <div>23 Bridge Street</div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none">• Grand Period home• Prime location• 3 bedroom, 3 living<div>\$695,000</div><div>Contact: Korumburra Office</div></div>	<div>VENTNOR</div> <div></div> <div>18 King Street</div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none">• Open plan living upstairs, undercover deck• Self-contained unit downstairs• 3 bedroom, 3 bathroom, 5 car carport<div>\$949,000</div><div>Contact: Cowes Office</div></div>	<div>WONTHAGGI</div> <div><div>SOLD</div></div> <div>3 Garden Street</div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1300m² block• Large shedding• Partially renovated<div>Sold \$477,500</div><div>Contact: Wonthaggi Office</div></div>
<div>LEONGATHA</div> <div></div> <div>22 Church Street</div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none">• Elegance in the heart of town• Two levels of quality with discreet lift• Low maintenance courtyard<div>\$1,089,000</div><div>Contact: Leongatha Office</div></div>	<div>POOWONG</div> <div></div> <div>13 Nyora Road</div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none">• 3 bedroom, central location• Breathtaking views• 988m² block<div>\$665,000</div><div>Contact: Korumburra Office</div></div>	<div>COWES</div> <div></div> <div>1/3 Benambra Court</div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none">• Stunning townhouse, heart of Cowes• Private courtyard, close to Cowes beach• 3 bedroom, 1 bathroom, 2 car<div>\$849,000</div><div>Contact: Cowes Office</div></div>	<div>NORTH WONTHAGGI</div> <div><div>SOLD</div></div> <div>46 Turner Street</div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none">• Large double block• Great family home• 4 bedroom, 2 bathroom<div>\$925,000</div><div>Contact: Wonthaggi Office</div></div>

LEONGATHA

5662 0922

41 Bair Street

Andrew Newton 0402 940 320

Emily Hillberg 0422 622 299

Tony Giles 0407 528 192

Dan Huther 0418 334 801

KORUMBURRA

5655 1133

36 Bridge Street

Scott McKenzie 0427 552 898

COWES

5952 2633

113a Thompson Avenue

Greg Price 0419 337 441

Brian Silver 0407 347 509

Chase Waters 0423 272 819

Maree Malloy 0408 316 715

WONTHAGGI

5672 1911

Cnr Murray & Billson Streets

Cal Nation 0439 334 163

Mick Chambers 0418 349 783

Phil Hanley 0417 140 508

SOUTH GIPPSLAND SENTINEL-TIMES | TUESDAY, JANUARY 14, 2025 | 37

HM116824V15

Brought to you by...

Store prices lift for first sale for 2025

AGENTS yarded near on 3000 head for the first store sale for 2025.

The yarding once again was very good with some excellent drafts of grown steers and lines of breeder weaners on offer.

A large crowd of people and a good spread of feedlot and commission buyers were in attendance and all operating strongly in a market that was \$100 – \$150 dearer and odd sales more with many orders for cattle to go north competing against local graziers with a lot of the better end of the steers regularly making over the \$4 mark.

Steers

IC & RA Ripper 11 Char	557kg	\$3.74	\$2090
Stevron Investments 15 Char	556kg	\$3.66	\$2040
B Brady 15 Angus	547kg	\$4.07	\$2230
Samarkan Past 18 Angus	546kg	\$4.12	\$2250
IC & RA Ripper 11 Hereford	537kg	\$3.81	\$2050
W Churchill 14 Angus	535kg	\$4.11	\$2200
T & C Jacka 16 Angus	535kg	\$3.99	\$2140
A.Gronow 14 Angus	524kg	\$4.04	\$2120
T & C Jacka 12 Angus	521kg	\$3.97	\$2070
Samarkan Past 17 Angus	517kg	\$4.26	\$2200
Summerhill P/L 15 Hereford	511kg	\$3.74	\$1910
A Gordon 13 Angus	509kg	\$4.07	\$2070
Boundary Rd Inn P/L 18 Hfd	490kg	\$4.04	\$1980
GG, EJ, MG & R Bates 10 Ang	484kg	\$4.11	\$1990
W Churchill 11 Angus	475kg	\$3.94	\$1870
G & H Cock 18 Angus	468kg	\$3.98	\$1860
GG, EJ, MG & R Bates 16 Ang	446kg	\$3.88	\$1730
G & L Bennett 21 Angus	414kg	\$4.01	\$1660
N & G Stollery 15 Angus	414kg	\$4.00	\$1660
G Sas 14 Angus	407kg	\$3.90	\$1590
S.Hatzivoyiatzis 13 Angus	402kg	\$3.72	\$1500
Pulman Bay P/L 12 Red Angus	397kg	\$3.97	\$1580
GG, EJ, MG & R Bates 18 Ang	397kg	\$3.98	\$1580
N & G Stollery 18 Angus	390kg	\$3.97	\$1550
GS & JE Tuckett 22 Angus	396kg	\$4.41	\$1750
RJ & SM Williams Farming 19 Angus	393kg	\$3.81	\$1500
R & C Farrell 11 Angus	380kg	\$3.84	\$1460
RR & JN Pretty 14 Hereford	381kg	\$3.81	\$1450
Riverslea Pastoral 22 Angus	379kg	\$3.85	\$1460
TBR Pastoral 15 Angus	369kg	\$3.87	\$1430
GS & JE Tuckett 20 Angus	361kg	\$4.68	\$1690
Yulong Farming 11 Angus	361kg	\$3.81	\$1380
N & G Stollery 12 Angus	360kg	\$4.02	\$1450
G & L Bennett 15 Angus	359kg	\$4.03	\$1450
Northside Pastoral 13 Angus	352kg	\$3.74	\$1320
Riverslea Pastoral 25 Angus	347kg	\$4.01	\$1390
Westburne P/L 15 Angus	346kg	\$3.75	\$1300
I & L & A & J Savage 21 Angus	345kg	\$4.04	\$1390
N.Cameron 12 Angus	343kg	\$4.07	\$1400
Pulman Bay P/L 12 Red Angus	341kg	\$4.01	\$1370
Troprans Holdings P/L 14 Ang	339kg	\$3.93	\$1330
Koyuga Downs 11 Angus	339kg	\$3.39	\$1150
Bexxon Agricultural 12 BB	328kg	\$3.75	\$1230
Riverslea Pastoral 19 Angus	320kg	\$3.90	\$1250
G.Clarke 13 Angus	311kg	\$4.05	\$1260
Riverslea Pastoral 20 Angus	310kg	\$3.87	\$1200
Bexxon Agricultural 11 Angus	310kg	\$4.03	\$1250
Parker Amber 12 Angus	291kg	\$4.50	\$1310

Heifers

SW & SH Storr 16 Angus	459kg	\$3.48	\$1600
Australia Wide Engineers P/L			
18 Angus X	453kg	\$3.37	\$15300
N Parke 16 Angus	398kg	\$3.64	\$1450
A Filsell & E Smith 20 Angus	380kg	\$3.86	\$1470
GG, EJ, MG & R Bates			
18 Angus X	372kg	\$3.97	\$1480
N Parke 21 Angus	369kg	\$3.44	\$1270
Troptans Holdings P/L			
11 Speck Park	369kg	\$3.03	\$1120
N Parke 16 Angus	368kg	\$3.34	\$1230
GG, EJ, MG & R Bates 20 Ang	367kg	\$3.73	\$1370
G Sas 17 Angus	357kg	\$3.44	\$1230
S.Hatzivoyiatzis 15 Angus	356kg	\$3.50	\$1250
RJ & SM Williams Farming			
26 Angus	353kg	\$3.54	\$1250
N & G Stollery 19 Angus	352kg	\$3.74	\$1320
N Parke 16 Angus	348kg	\$3.53	\$1230
R & C Farrell 10 Angus	347kg	\$3.42	\$1190
AW, SD & TA Onslow 16 Ang X	342kg	\$3.53	\$1210
Riverslea Pastoral 24 Angus	339kg	\$3.68	\$1250
Bexcon Agricultural 20 Ang X	338kg	\$3.55	\$1200
MS & SL Reedy 10 Angus	338kg	\$3.57	\$1210
GS & JE Tuckett 21 Angus	330kg	\$3.81	\$1260
Riverslea Pastoral 24 Angus	324kg	\$3.85	\$1250
Westburne P/L 16 Angus	322kg	\$3.40	\$1100
D & R Britt 11 Angus	320kg	\$3.43	\$1100
GG, EJ, MG & R Bates 13 Ang	317kg	\$3.62	\$1150
A & S Livestock 13 Hereford	314kg	\$3.31	\$1040
Bexcon Agriculture P/L 16 Ang	311kg	\$3.56	\$1110
G Sas 14 Angus	301kg	\$3.62	\$1090
Tibooburra Angus Stud 11 Ang	297kg	\$2.04	\$810
Parker Amber P/L 23 Angus	294kg	\$3.74	\$1100
Delaney Family Trust 17 Angus	284kg	\$3.30	\$940
Yulong Farm 12 Angus	284kg	\$3.23	\$920

IT WAS a healthy start for Leongatha Store Sales in 2025 with close to 3000 head of cattle available on Thursday in what Anthony Delaney described as a terrific yarding, weaner cattle featuring prominently.

He explained that a number of Gippsland weaners that Delaney Livestock & Property would previously have sold at the Pakenham Saleyards during its annual weaner sale were now up for grabs in Leongatha due to last year's closure of the Pakenham yards.

"There were a lot more weaners there yesterday and they sold over and above expectations," he said.

While pleased with the impressive results in that sector of the market, Anthony noted it wasn't only young cattle performing strongly, even though weaner prices rose more sharply.

"All our feeder cattle and older steers were probably 20 to 30 cents dearer than prior to Christmas, which was very good, but our weaners were a good 30 to 40 cents a kilo better than what they would have been before Christmas, so \$200 to \$400 better than what we thought they'd go," he said.

"Calves this year had a lot of weight around them because it was such a late Spring, around the 400 kilo mark."

Tarwin Lower farmer Chris Indiar was at the Leongatha VLE saleyards with his mum Evelyn, his daughter Melanie and niece Ava.

"The girls wanted to come and look at the cattle getting sold and what cattle are

- Pasture mulching
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Evelyn Indian, Ava Simon and Melanie and Chris Indian at the Leongatha VLE saleyards where they came to observe the action and prices. A03 0225

fetching at the moment," he said, describing the prices as "pretty solid" and noting there were some good quality cattle available.

He commented on some bigger animals around the 450 kilo mark fetching in the vicinity of \$2200, which is almost \$4.90 a kilo.

Ian Hitchings of North Wonthaggi was keen to chat about his Fuller Road Heritage Farm, inviting the Sentinel-Times for a visit.

While he describes himself as retired, Ian is still doing some farming and came to the saleyards to chat to livestock agents about selling some of

his fat cattle this week, with the proceeds to go towards his rates and insurance.



**Campbell Czempinski and Anthony Delaney of Elders DLP
in action at Thursday's Leongatha Store Sale. A02 0225**

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Livestock Sales

KORUMBURRA		FOSTER	
David Ryan	0408 311 895	Dick Faulkner	0408 595 174
		Brian Vuillermin	0429 436 040
LEONGATHA		WONTHAGGI	
Dane Perczyk - Livestock Manager	0408 176 063	Rob Ould - Livestock Manager	0408 595 183
Jack Curtis	0427 762 670	David Holden	0428 749 390
		Alan Bolding	0419 723 255
		Dale Atherton	0428 888 300
WARRAGUL		PAKENHAM	
Neil Darby - Livestock Manager	0418 595 265	David Setches - Livestock Manager	0409 443 473
Terry Ahearn	0438 562 816	Glenn Barwick	0408 975 476
Jordan Sim	0448 058 435	Morgan Croucher	0457 001 877
Mark Malacarne	0418 654 590	Tim Gibson	0420 306 599
Georgie Snell	0417 100 657	Imogen Price	0417 225 498

Real Estate Sales

KORUMBURRA		LEONGATHA		MELBOURNE LAND	
Scott McKenzie	0427 552 898	Andrew Newton	0402 940 320	Matt Koster	0474 781 711
WONTHAGGI		Peter Dwyer	0428 855 244	COWES	
Phillip Hanley	0417 140 508	Emily Hillberg	0422 622 299	Greg Price	0419 337 441
Cal Nation	0439 334 163	Tony Giles	0407 528 192	Maree Malloy	0408 316 715
Mick Chambers	0418 349 783	Dan Huther	0418 334 801	Chase Watters	0423 272 819
GRANTVILLE		WARRAGUL		VENUS BAY	
Brian Silver	0407 347 509	Alan Steenholdt	0409 423 822	Daniel Lawrie	0417 631 252
Angus Hall	0466 326 487	PAKENHAM		Sue Lawrie	0419 885 489
INVERLOCH		Tom Gibson	0438 574 472		
Marni Lee Redmond	0403 525 413				
BERWICK		LANG LANG		KOO WEE RUP	
Tom Gibson	0438 574 472	Scott McKenzie	0427 552 898	Angus Hall	0466 326 487

SUCCESS THROUGH SERVICE



Lals Haven Goat Stud's 'sweet family' triplet sisters were born last year and will be heading to the Korumburra Goat Show with the event's organiser and pygmy goat breeder Trish Joyce.

Pygmy goats raise cuteness level at Korumburra Show

PYGMY goats will take centre stage at the Korumburra Show on Friday, February 7, with the Korumburra Goat Show a new event supported by the National Pygmy Goat Association of Australia (NP-GAA) that will provide the qualified judge, Louise Charman.

The Goat Show is open to entries from anyone with a registered pygmy goat, regardless of which society that registration is with.

Jumbunna pygmy goat breeder Trish Joyce of Lals Haven Goat Stud suggested the new event to the Korumburra Agricultural & Pastoral (A&P) Society committee, feeling goats tend to be overlooked at agricultural shows.

The committee members were happy to feature the cute pygmy goats that are becoming popular family pets.

As well as the chance for people to interact with the friendly animals, there'll be a colouring competition in which youngsters can show their creativity, a winner to be announced prior to the goat judging.

The pygmy goat stencil for colouring is available online.

The Goat Show judging will start at 6.30pm in the Sanders Pavilion in which the colouring competition entries will be displayed.

Goat judging is divided into sections, with categories for females (does), males (bucks) and castrated males (wethers), with age a further factor in judging classification.

The judge will speak of the reasons for choosing one animal over others.

Trish organised the Goat Show on behalf of the A&P Society, usually being a volunteer for the show jumping section of the Korumburra Show.

"I thought I'd try to add something different," she said of the Goat Show, having noted that with the Korumburra Show now getting underway on a Friday evening, the timing was perfect for a new event.

Her goats will be entered in the Goat Show along with many others.

"There are quite a few people buying pygmy goats for their children instead of a dog," Trish said, saying their small size, intelligence and hardy nature appeal and they are able to look after themselves in the paddock.

She stressed that pygmy goats are inseparable and therefore tend to be sold in pairs.

The requirement for goats to be registered with a society is for biosecurity reasons.

"They've got to have a number; they're checked and healthy," Trish said.

Korumburra Show gates open at 5.30pm on Friday evening with people able to interact with pygmy goats from 6pm, an area set aside for kids to pat some of the sociable animals.

Visit korumburrashowgrounds.com.au/2025-korumburra-show for overall Korumburra Show details.

Scroll to the bottom for the pygmy goat colouring competition stencil.

To view the goat schedule, go to korumburrashowgrounds.com.au/services-4

In summer avoid applying urea fertiliser after irrigation as this is likely to increase nitrogen volatilisation losses.

Enhanced efficiency fertilisers coated with slow-release nitrification inhibitors may be a better match between fertiliser supply and plant demand for soil nitrogen.

Excessive levels of N can result in the leaching of nitrates into water systems, both above and below ground a key culprit in algal blooms and dissolved oxygen depletion which is toxic to wildlife.

The 'perfect storm' for high N2O emissions are most often found on irrigated and High Rainfall Zone (HRZ) sites.

If you're using manure fertilisers get a nutrient analysis to determine both organic and total nitrogen content and make allowances in your fertiliser budget.

Future research into nitrogen use and management is continuing to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and ensure fertiliser costs are minimised for all farmers.

Missed opportunity as nitrogen fertiliser prices firm

Lardner Park Calf Market Report
Monday, January 6, 2025

Jersey & Jersey x	\$22 to \$51
Friesian Bulls	\$40 to \$50
Friesian Heifers	\$28 to \$58
Beef Bulls	\$58 to \$85
Beef Heifers	\$50 to \$105
Number of Calves:	43
Number purchased to rear:	17

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(Formerly Vassil Electronics)
38 Lower Gordon St, Korumburra
0408 515 184

JA21217

PRELIMINARY NOTICE CLEARING SALE

Friday, January 31 at 10.30am

A/c M & S Burke
930 KOONWARRA – POUND CRK RD, POUND CREEK
Farm Equipment – Household Items – Building Supplies
Outside Vendors Welcome

Nutrien
Ag Solutions
SOUTH GIPPSLAND LIVESTOCK

For further details contact:
Jack Ginnane 0458 322 615

VW0205

VLE – LEONGATHA

STORE SALE
2500 CATTLE 2500

THURSDAY, JANUARY 16, 2025 - Starting at 9am

PLEASE NOTE: 4PM WEDNESDAY CURFEW APPLIES

GROWN STEERS

A/c Lorstán, Hedley (SEJ)
45 Angus steers, 18-20 mths, Kunuma blood, VB, GF, ABF
35 Angus X steers, 18-20 mths, VB, GF, ABF
A/c A & A Missen, Woodside (NUTRIEN)
35 Angus steers, 15-16 mths
A/c SM Thompson, Stony Creek (NUTRIEN)
20 Angus steers, 15 mths
A/c Hoghton & Sharman, Boolarra (SEJ)
14 Angus steers, 16 mths, Greenham Acc, VB, GF, ABF
A/c G Semmens, Maffra (NUTRIEN)
7 Red & BB steers, 14-15 mths

GROWN HEIFERS

A/c Lorstán, Hedley (SEJ)
50 Angus & BB heifers, 14 mths, Kunuma blood, VB, GF, ABF
A/c T & M Neesham, Buffalo (NUTRIEN)
16 Angus heifers, 18 mths, Te Mania blood
A/c SM Thompson, Stony Creek (NUTRIEN)
10 Angus heifers, 15 mths
A/c O Robinson, Korumburra (NUTRIEN)
8 Angus heifers, 13-14 mths

WEANERS

A/c KW & EA Heggen, Binginwarri (SEJ)
140 Red Angus steers, 10-11 mths, weaned, VB, GF, ABF & NE Accred, Hicks blood
A/c Neil Smith, Pound Creek (SEJ)
100 Angus/Angus x, mixed sex weaners, By Dunoon, Moorunga, Leawood Bulls, 10-11 mths, weaned 10 days
A/c Stoney Creek Dawson (NUTRIEN)
100 Angus mixed sex, 7-8 mths, Innesdale blood
A/c Black Magic, Munro (NUTRIEN)
100 Angus mixed sex, 8-9 mths, NE Accred
A/c M & C Russell, Glen Forbes (SEJ)
40 Hereford steers, 20 Hereford heifers
12-14 mths, weaned, VB, GF & ABF, Ponderosa blood
A/c Ajay Partners, Leongatha (SEJ)
30 Red Angus steers
20 Red Angus heifers
10-11 mths, VB, GF, ABF & NE Accred
A/c R & S Boote, Drouin South (SEJ)
45 Red Angus steers, 10-11 mths, weaned, VB, GF, ABF & NE Accred, Hicks blood
A/c M & M Cattle Co, Powlett River (SEJ)
40 Angus steers, Battersby blood, 10-11 mths, weaned, VB, GF, ABF & NE Accred
A/c J Fortune, Nilma (SEJ)
20 Red Angus X steers, 20 Red Angus X heifers, Sired by Phillips Red Angus sires, 9-10 mths, weaned 1/1/25, out of Shorthorn and Composite bred cows, Very quiet, VB, GF, ABF, present very well

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 15, 2025

A/c Julander Partnership, Wonthaggi (NUTRIEN)
40 Angus mixed sex calves, 9-10 mths, By Leawood & West Creek Stud Bulls
A/c Missen Farming, Gormandale (NUTRIEN)
20 Angus steers, 10-11 mths, Pinora blood
15 Angus heifers, 9-11 mths, Pinora blood
A/c A Ditchburn, Poowong (NUTRIEN)
35 Angus Mix Sex weaners, 8-10 mths, yard weaned, very quiet, By Stud Bulls, Fernleigh & Millah Murrah blood
A/c J & D Elliott, Stony Creek (SEJ)
25 Angus/Angus x steers
10 Angus/Angus x heifers
11 mths, 5 in 1, multi
A/c Burfield Partners P/L, Tarwin (NUTRIEN)
30 Angus steers, 12 mths
A/c RJ & EF Foat, Woodside (PHC)
30 Poll Hereford mixed sex weaners, 8-10 mths "Tarwin" blood
A/c SJ Conway, Traralgon (NUTRIEN)
22 Ang heifers, 12 mths, By Pinora, Bowman & Latrobe Park Bulls, weaned, NE Accred
A/c RJ Clarke, Calrossie (SEJ)
17 Angus steers, 11 mths, weaned, 5 in 1 drenched, By Dunoon bred bull.
A/c S & B Knee, Toora (SEJ)
20 Angus steers, 10-11 mths, weaned, VB, GF, ABF & NE Accred
A/c R Parkes, Ranceby (NUTRIEN)
20 Angus mixed sex calves, 9-10 mths, By Merlewood Stud Bulls
A/c J White, French Island (NUTRIEN)
20 Angus mixed sex calves, 10-12 mths
A/c G Lacey, Allambee (PHC)
14 Angus-x mixed sex weaners, very quiet, No GST
A/c G Semmens, Maffra (NUTRIEN)
8 Angus steers, 12 mths
5 Angus heifers, 12 mths
A/c D & C Pugh, Athlone (SEJ)
5 Angus steers, 9-10 mths, VB

XBRED & DAIRY

A/c Vening Agriculture, Hedley (PHC)
65 Normande - x steers, 15-16 mths
A/c L Tumino, Buffalo (NUTRIEN)
14 Hereford X mixed sex, 18 mths
A/c M & R Conn, Hedley (SEJ)
20 Friesian steers, 18 mths, VB
A/c D & C Pugh, Athlone (SEJ)
10 Angus Friesian X steers and heifers, 10 mths

JOINED FEMALES

A/ M & K Higgins, Briagolong (NUTRIEN)
"Lease Block Expired"
20 Angus cows, 2018-2019 drop
6 Angus heifers, 2020-2021 drop
Leawood blood, PTIC to Sharinda Angus Bull, to calve March/April, VQ

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DEATHS

ADDICOAT, Raymond Rex:
18.08.1928 - 09.01.2025.

Passed away peacefully at Rose Lodge, Wonthaggi.

Loving husband of Isobel.


Much loved father of Katrina, Judy and Liz and their partners David and Steve.

Grandpa of James, Michael (dec.), BJ, Cameron, Rowan, Jason, Braden and Fraser and their partners George, Jasmine, Josie and Olivia.

Great Grandpa to Triana and Zander.

The family would like to thank all at Rose Lodge for their loving care of Ray for the past 3 years.

A long life well lived. Rest now.



ADDICOAT, Ray:

Members and committee of the Probus Club Wonthaggi Inverloch Inc, deeply regret the passing of our valued and respected member.

Ray, a member for over 30 years, made a valuable contribution, not only to the Probus Club, but to the Wonthaggi Community at large.

Sincere sympathies to Isobel and family.

DEATHS

ADDICOAT, Ray:
1928 -2025.

Passed away peacefully at Rose Lodge on 09.01.2025.

A talented man and quiet achiever, he had a career in Technical Education, first as a student, then as a member of the teaching staff, and in later years becoming Principal at Wonthaggi Tech.

Ray was civic minded and shared many of his organisational skills with community groups.

Born in Wonthaggi ninety-six years ago, he definitely leaves a part of his heart in Wonthaggi.

Sincere condolences to Isobel and her family.

--Don Edwards, Janet and Glenda.

ALLAN, Norm:

23.01.1950 - 26.12.2024.

Dear friend and work colleague of the Kershaw family.

Reunited with Jean.

DEATHS

COLE, Joan Edwina Constance:
08.09.1923 - 18.12.2024.

Late of Kernot / Loch / Lang Lang.

Wife of Chris (dec.).

Mother of Cynthia, Jenny and Linda.

Mother-in-law of John, Denis (dec.) and Jim.

Nan of 10, great grandmother and great great grandmother.

A long life well lived.

GAGER, Philip Augustus:

18.01.1936 - 06.01.2025.

Beloved husband of Janilyn. Loving father to Michael, Mark, Matthew and Melissa.

Seventh Day Adventist Pastor for over 50 years in the United States, New Zealand and Melbourne.

Private Cremation.

Memorial Service TBA, will be held in Leongatha.

DEATHS

KENNEDY, Valerie Anne (Val):

Passed away peacefully at Carinya Lodge, Korumburra.

Beloved wife of John for 62 years.

Dearly loved mother of John (dec.), Graeme, and Julie, mother-in-law to Deanne and Andy.

Grandma of Simone, Tyler and Ruby.

Rest in Peace.

KILPATRICK, James (Jim):

03.12.1931 - 08.01.2025.

Beloved husband of Jean (dec.).

Loving father of Gerald.

Grandad to Nicola, Yvette and Lauren.

Great grandad to Isabelle and Annabeth.

Remembered with fondness.

A private ceremony will be held for Jim

DEATHS

LANGLEY, John:

Fondly remembered as a wonderful neighbour and friend.

A renowned farmer we will remember daily, seeing Herefords in his front paddocks.

John was a true gentleman who will be greatly missed.

-- Paula, Alan and family.

LANGLEY, John:

Dear friend, neighbour and fellow pilot.

Fond memories of a fine and distinguished true gentleman of the Land.

--Lyne and the late Blair.

DEATHS

RITCHIE (nee Wyatt), Susan Dianne:

Suddenly taken 25-12-2024.

Loved sister of Geoff and sister-in-law of Lilet.

Loved auntie of Barry and Ashleigh, and children Paige, Zara and Kayson.

Loved auntie of Ryan.

Loved auntie of Thomas and partner Abbey.

Sadly missed by the family and the community.

Loved by all she was involved with.

TAYLOR, Barbara:

Beloved wife of Jim.

Mother of Harley (dec.), Jacqui and Lisa.

Loved Grandma and Great Grandma of many.

Lived a full life filled with happiness and love.

May God Rest Her Soul.

DEATHS

ADDICOAT, Ray:

Members and committee of the Probus Club Wonthaggi Inverloch Inc, deeply regret the passing of our valued and respected member.

Ray, a member for over 30 years, made a valuable contribution, not only to the Probus Club, but to the Wonthaggi Community at large.

Sincere sympathies to Isobel and family.

DEATHS

BOLDING, (nee Upton) Catherine Ann:
06.04.1956 - 04.01.2025.

Passed away at Kirrak House Wonthaggi, surrounded by her loving family.

Cherished wife of Micheal (dec.), loving mother of Jesse and Daniel, and grandmother to Campbell and Harriet.

Will be sadly missed by family and community.

--Forever in our hearts.

DEATHS

JANSSEN, Eliza Wilhelmina (Connie):
05.07.1930 - 07.01.2025.

Passed away peacefully at Woorayl Lodge, Leongatha, surrounded by her loved ones.

Beloved wife of Joe (dec.).

Dearly loved mother of Arch and Libby; Marion and Mike (dec.); Angela and Ray (dec.); Helen; David (dec.).

Cherished Oma of Ben; Tom and Kate; Sarah; and Kieran, Josie and Dave; Anna and Ryan; Bianca, Michael and Anthony.

Very special Oma/Omo to Miles; Harvey, Ted and Jude; Zander, Joh and Liam; Sebastien and Logan; and Millie.

Finally at peace with Joe and David.

You will be greatly missed but never ever forgotten.

CLASSIFIED DEADLINE 12 NOON MONDAYS

DEATHS

MASTERMAN (nee Mathieson), Maureen:

Passed away suddenly at home on January 4, 2025.

Loved wife of John.

Loving mother and mother-in-law of Glen and Kea, Bec and Glenn, Amy and Jamie, Kris and Greta.

Adored gran to Alex, Lachlan, Josh, Lucas, Mya, Ivy; Will, Kate, Jaime; Georgie, Jaz; Gus, and Luka.

Rest in Peace.

MAIRN, Brian Andrew:

31.03.1926 - 01.01.2025.

Many happy memories, of a true family man and a total gentleman.

Brian loved wine and surfing at Cape Paterson.

Loved husband of Bettie (dec.).

Loved and devoted father of Sharon and Andrew (dec.).

Father-in-law of Kevin and Fah.

Adored grandfather of Ocean Sky.

We will always have a gap in our hearts.

DEATHS

COLE:

The Funeral Service for Joan Cole will be held Friday January17, 2025, at the Lang Lang Hall, McDonalds Track Lang Lang.

Commencing at 1pm.

Following the service Joan will be laid to rest at Lang Lang Cemetery.

Ladies, please wear pearls.

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FUNERALS

JANSSEN:
A Graveside Funeral Service for Mrs. Eliza Wilhelmina (Connie) Janssen will be held at the Korumburra Cemetery, Kardella Road, Korumburra on **TODAY, TUESDAY** January 14, 2025, commencing 1.30pm.


Phone: (03) 5662 2717

KENNEDY:

A Funeral Service to Celebrate the Life of Mrs. Valerie Anne (Val) Kennedy will be held at the Uniting Church, Roy Street, Loch on Thursday, January 16, 2025, commencing 11am.

This Service will be livestreamed, to view please visit www.handleyfuneralservices.com.au

At the conclusion of the Service the Funeral will leave for the Korumburra Lawn Cemetery.

All past and present CFA Members are respectfully invited to attend.

FUNERALS

ADDICOAT:
Family and friends of the late Raymond Rex are invited to attend his funeral service at the Uniting Church, Broome Crescent, Wonthaggi Friday, January 17, 2025, commencing at 1pm.

The service will be followed by a private cremation.

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FUNERALS

LANGLEY:
A Memorial Service to Celebrate the Life of Mr. John Douse Langley will be held at South Kolara, Inverloch, Vic on Thursday January 23, 2025, commencing at 11:30am.

Privately Cremated.

For live-streaming go to www.handleyandersonfunerals.com.au

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FUNERALS

MASTERMAN:
Funeral Prayers for Mrs. Maureen Masterman will be offered at St. Joseph's Catholic Church, Wonthaggi on Thursday January 16, 2025, commencing at 2pm.

A Private family burial will precede the service.

For live-streaming go to www.handleyandersonfunerals.com.au

Handley & Anderson


Wonthaggi 5672 1074

FUNERALS

McINTOSH (Faull):
A Service to celebrate the life of Trudi Dianne McIntosh will be held at the Nielsen Funeral Chapel, Korumburra, Rd, Warragul on Monday, January 20, at 11am.

The Service will also be live-streamed. To view Trudi's Service please visit: www.nielsenfunerals.com.au

A Private Cremation will follow.


Warragul & Drouin 5623 2771


TAYLOR:

A Funeral Service to Celebrate the Life of Mrs. Barbara Taylor will be held at St. Andrews Uniting Church, Peart St., Leongatha on Monday January 20, 2025, commencing 1pm.

The Family will leave after refreshments for a Private Burial.

FUNERALS

TIZIANI:
A Memorial Service to Celebrate the Life of Wally Tiziani will be held in the Kirrak Room, Wonthaggi Workmens Club, Graham Street, Wonthaggi on Tuesday January 28, 2025, commencing at 2pm.


Wonthaggi 5672 1074

IN MEMORIAM

OTTOSEN, Beverly Joyce:

17.01.2006.

Many years have passed but our beautiful memories of such a special lady never fade.

Always in our hearts.

Love you mum, nanna and great nanna.

-- Graeme, Josie, Kelly, Marc and Mason and Chloe.

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42 | TUESDAY, JANUARY 14, 2025 | SOUTH GIPPSLAND SENTINEL-TIMES

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LEONGATHA:

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Saturday 18 and
Sunday 19,
8am - 4pm,
Moving house,
all house hold
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WONTHAGGI:

56 Reed Crescent,
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WONTHAGGI:

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SITUATIONS VACANT



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Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator

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Sentinel-Times

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V0203



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0423 971 465

J02765



WESTERNPORT FIELD & GAME
NOTICE OF ANNUAL
GENERAL MEETING

Dear Members
Westernport Field and Game Annual General Meeting will be held on:
**Saturday, February 15, 2025
at 4pm**
1 McFees Road Rhyll
Members are encouraged to attend.

J02764



Review of the Cemeteries and
Crematoria Regulations 2015
The Cemeteries and Crematoria Regulations are under review.

The Department of Health is seeking public feedback on changes that could improve the Regulations before they are remade on 15 June 2025.

To contribute to the review, download the discussion paper and response template at <https://www.health.vic.gov.au/cemeteries-and-crematoria>.

To request a hard copy, contact the Legislative and Regulatory Reform Team at legandregreform@health.vic.gov.au or on 03 9456 3838.

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Sentinel-Times

BREAKAWAY

MONDAY: Well, we're back and looking forward to another year of bowling with friends. We had a great turnout for the first day after our festive break.

The winners on the day were Brian Newman, Marj Ford and Ken Webb with a score of +22.

Well done to everyone who participated in the day.

Friday: What a start to our new year of bowling. Majority of our people turned up for a great day's bowling. Winners on the day were John Stewart, Brian Newman, Marj Ford, Graham McAlpine on +20.

Don't forget we're back Mondays and Fridays 1pm start. Cape Paterson Community Centre.

FOSTER

OUR club champions did us proud at Wonthaggi. Ian won his first match but unfortunately didn't get over the line in his next. Judy's first game saw her win on a forfeit taking her into the semi final where she played an absolute fantastic game to be just pipped at the post by Leonie Hanks.

Well done guys an awesome achievement.

Twenty teams played on a very warm, sunny day with a breeze blowing to help temper the heat. The sponsors were the Talmash Family and Williams Tracey Accountants.

We had 11 visiting teams, including four from Yarram and three from Morwell. The overall results were very close with seven three game winners, and one with three games and a draw, making them the overall winner for the day.

Winners were a visiting Morwell team of Denise Poslewaite, Carol Ameerbeg and Jill White.

Runners-up were the Yarram team of Theo Tymensen and Ned Desley Tindale.

Best game went to the Foster team of Ian Park, Sue Waugh and Jim Ganson

And then the Encouragement prizes went to the Yarram team of Ken Hansen, B Kane and M Ledwice. A great day all round! See you all next month.

WONTHAGGI

ANOTHER good week at the club. Wednesday social bowls saw eighteen bowlers grace the greens on a fine sunny day. Three bowl triples were the order of the day. A number of bowlers were away with Triples at Phillip Island and another local club. There were two teams that had a score of one win and a draw. Those teams were Charlie Wright, Lyn Tagell and Frank Seaton with the other team being Wendy Donohue, Aldo Sartori and Sid Gostling.

The winners on count-back were Charlie, Lyn and Frank.

Friday night went very well with a Chinese dinner. Forty people attended with a good number of visitors. Everybody had a very enjoyable evening, thanks to



Friday Breakaway Bowls winners were John Stewart, Brian Newman, Marj Ford, and Graham McAlpine.



Monday's Breakaway Bowls winners were Brian Newman, Marj Ford and Ken Webb.



Foster Bowls sponsor Daryl Talmash with the winning Morwell team Denise, Carol and Jill.



Wonthaggi Bowls Club Wednesday Winners: Charlie Wright, Lyn Tagell and Frank Seaton.



Friday Wonthaggi Indoor winners Glenda Binch, Fred Demenech, Mary Spooner and Maggie Scapin.

the work done by a lot of people under the guidance of Amanda. Once again, the meat trays were a success with two breakfast packs to add to the night. Another highlight of the night was Deidre Davidson winning the Members draw being \$80.

Saturday social bowls saw a very good number of bowlers take to the greens on a fine warm day. There was only one two game winner, being the team of Chris Graham, Alan Bolding and Bryan Donohue with a score of two wins and 35 points. Good to see Chris back on the green.

Bowls this week: Tuesday Pennant starts, Wednesday social bowls at 1pm, Thursday social bowls at 10am with names in by 9.30 am, Friday coaching at 10am and on Saturday Pennant starts.

Have a good week and good bowling.

WONTHAGGI
INDOOR

WELCOME back to everyone, hope you all had a lovely Christmas and are looking forward to a great 2025.

We had a good turn up for our first week with 41 members. Tuesday's winners with a plus 18 were Lia Smith, Fred Demenech and Theo Sholley. Runners-up on plus 8 winning one game only were Judy Sweetnam, Pam Russell and John Rook.

Friday's winners on plus 8 winning two games were Glenda Binch, Maggie Scapin, Mary Spooner and Fred Demenech runners-up on plus 14 winning one game only were Lia Smith, Robert McLaren, John Rook and Jos Kemper.

A reminder the United Bowling begins this Wednesday, January 15 hope to see you all there.



Noel's dad makes the annual pilgrimage at Christmas time and Noel always ensures he has a few feeds of flathead while he is here.



Heath and Tyler were very pleased with their catch providing a few meals of flake for the freezer.

Around the bay with Jim's Bait & Tackle

FINALLY, in what seems years we have actually had a summer, warm to hot days, calm mornings with the afternoon sea breezes dropping off in the late evening, makes for quite a change from the last couple of years unsettled Christmas weather.

With the first part of the Christmas rush over and many reluctantly returning to work this week things have got a whole lot quieter for those still on holidays. The rush at the boat ramps should now be confined to weekends and public holidays, unless the weather is perfect and it's declared a tradies RDO, nothing will be ready onsite for another few weeks anyway so why wouldn't you. With Newhaven jetty closed this season it has put a lot more pressure onto the other jetties and they tell me a little overcrowded at times, hopefully there is a bit of good news into the new year. With the fine weather the beaches have been the same with a bit of competition for space between the various users.

We get requests from customers often to mention certain problems they and others encounter and one of the biggest talking points this Christmas has been the amount of sand on the ramp at Rhyll, with one customer asking if the same people who built Cowes did Rhyll. Obviously, no relevance to each other and said with humour but it was very noticeable as it is at Cowes. Hopefully, the powers to be can work out what is going on and put something in place to fix it. Another one we get all the time is "could you make sure you sell people heavy sinkers" while we have no control over this at all and can only give advice I see where people are coming from. This is referring to land based, mostly jetty fishing and that person at the very end using sinkers that are way too light, ultimately tangling everyone. Generally, in this situation its someone new to fishing and the best way to handle it is to actually help them

out when you see it happening. The last one, apart from the complaints of people not ready at the ramp, taking up both lanes, driving way too fast in shallow water, anchoring too close, cutting berley trails, running over lures the main one mentioned was people leaving on their lights while they are backing down the ramp making it impossible for the next boat to reverse down, easy one to do but even easier one to fix, some of the others are common sense which is a much harder problem to fix.

Not only did we have good weather this Christmas, but the fishing was some of the best it's been for as long as I can remember and in fact that applies to the whole season. Snapper fired up early and didn't let up until just before Christmas where the pinkies then moved in and took over. Whiting have remained unchanged for months, not huge bags of them but excellent quality and plenty for the freezer, calamari the same, much better than last year and while not huge bags of them we have seen some of the best average size for a long while. Then we head offshore where crazy doesn't even explain it fully. Tuna fired up early and we are still not in the peak of the season, which will come later in February, mako sharks of old with plenty of freezers full of flake, flathead a bit like the whiting and calamari, when you find them, the quality is very good. Threshers, offshore snapper, gummies and schoolies and kingfish holding in the same area for at least a month now.

Land based fishing hasn't missed out either and reports, especially pre-Christmas was excellent with all species reported and plenty of quality amongst them. For the adventurous the rocks off the Old Quarry have produced some excellent fishing and is a much safer alternative to Punch Bowl. This season we have seen the usual flathead, whiting, wrasse, and salmon but also a couple of kingfish, gummies,

snapper over six kilograms, a few somethings that couldn't be stopped and with the amount of drone customers we have set up this season it won't be long before we see land based bluefin reported.

We have had some good reports lately, but it has been a little tough over the last week or so in the bay and the fish have been there just not in the obvious spots, but now the noise of boats will subside a bit it will be time to head back to the usual spots to pick up your favourite catch. With the warm water don't forget to give the deeper spots a try for your whiting during the day then head back to the shallows early morning or into the evening. Pinkies will be everywhere, it's just a matter of moving around until you find something worth keeping and gummies in the bay will be a little scarce until the weather changes.

Offshore tuna, most know the drill by now, six hours of trawling and spotting fish to spend five minutes catching. There is no real magic answer to it but do it long enough and you will find a few patterns showing up. We can help you out best we can based on what we hear from customers and that will change almost daily so best you drop in or give us a call just before heading out for the latest info. One hint I can give though is assume nothing and don't drive blindly past fish to get to a spot. The tuna will get closer to the entrance as we get into February, and we get many stories from the smart ones that start trawling from the entrance and have their bag before they get to Punch Bowl or Kilcunda.

As it quietens down, we will reduce our hours a little and be opening at 7am weekdays now but still 6am weekends. Keep an eye on our socials for updates on times and fishing reports. This time of the year things change very quickly so best to contact us at the shop to get up to date reports.



Corinella Boating and Angling Club member Wayne Wright with President Murray Wannan. B56_0225

Fishing for a clubhouse for the Corinella Boating and Angling Club

PLANS for a new clubhouse for the Corinella Boating and Angling Club have been put on hold pending additional funding of half a million dollars.

Ten years in the planning the pavilion-style clubhouse at the Corinella Jetty is seen as vital to cater for the growing demand for fishing at Corinella with up to 300 to 400 boats a day using the boat ramp and carpark over summer.

The club currently boasts 200 members of all ages including many mums and dads who enjoy fishing as a family.

Club President Murray Wannan said \$200,000 has already been promised by the current Labor State Government and the club has saved \$80,000 of its own money to put towards the \$750,000 project.

"We have Crown Land on an intended lease overlooking the current boat trailer carpark," said Mr Wannan.

The pavilion clubhouse will include a kitchen, office, toilets, and additional parking.

It has been a bumper year for fishing in Western Port Bay according to club member Wayne Wright.

The most popular fish with Corinella anglers are pink snapper, whiting and flathead.

"Snapper come in late October."

"Keen fishermen can now start chasing gummy shark and tuna," said Wayne.

One fisherman with a healthy haul of sizeable King George whiting in his chiller said two big kingfish had been landed in recent days.

Mr Wannan said angling club members range from mates fishing together to parents and grandparents fishing with their children and grandchildren.

"We have 50 family memberships."

Cold, wet days are no barrier to fishing on Western Port Bay.

"As long as there's no wind we fish right through Winter," said Mr Wannan.

Joining an angling club has lots of advantages according

to Mr Wannan including sharing skills and knowledge, talk nights, trivia nights, and guest speakers.

"If you get into trouble you can always call another member to help you out," said Mr Wannan.

"You don't even need a boat. You can fish from the pier or pair up with another club member.

"You can fish from as young as five years of age."

You do not have to buy a recreational fishing licence if you have a Pensioner Concession Card, Veterans' Affairs Pensioner Concession Card, Veterans' Affairs Gold Card, a Victorian Seniors Card (or interstate equivalent), or if you are under the age of 18 or over the age of 70 with Mr Wannan noting Western Port Bay is in good health.

"Fish stocks seem to be good at the moment with a great variety of fish including school shark, whiting, flathead, gummy shark and squid.

"I personally would like to see size limits increased from 27cm to 33cm for King George whiting and from 28cm to 35cm for snapper.

"The black swans have never been in more abundance."

Pointing to the recovery of mangroves in the Intertidal Coastal Reserve Mr Wannan believes Western Port Bay needs to be cared for and looked after.

"The fishing club takes responsibility for keeping the boat ramp clear.

"We need more parking around the boat ramp."

Although disappointed with the slow progress on the planned clubhouse Murray Wannan calls Corinella paradise.

"I love where I live," said Mr Wannan.

For more information about fishing licences go to vfa.vic.gov.au/recreational-fishing/fishing-licence

To read about the Corinella Boating and Angling Club or to become a member go to corinellafishingclub.com.

TIDE GUIDE

TIDAL PREDICTIONS FROM PORT PHILLIP HEADS

Approx. Tide Variations: Seal Rocks, Venus Bay, Waratah Bay and Cape Woolamai (Same), Tooradin +2hrs 45, Cowes Pier +50, Stony Point +40

TUESDAY January 14	
▲ 12.55am 1.53m	▼ 6.09am 0.89m
▲ 12.12pm 1.32m	▼ 6.34pm 0.27m

WEDNESDAY January 15	
▲ 1.54am 1.57m	▼ 7.18am 0.81m
▲ 1.18pm 1.34m	▼ 7.32pm 0.26m

THURSDAY January 16	
▲ 2.47am 1.61m	▼ 8.17am 0.72m
▲ 2.16pm 1.37m	▼ 8.25pm 0.26m

FRIDAY January 17	
▲ 3.33am 1.63m	▼ 9.10am 0.63m
▲ 3.10pm 1.40m	▼ 9.13pm 0.29m

SATURDAY January 18	
▲ 4.13am 1.63m	▼ 9.56am 0.56m
▲ 3.59pm 1.41m	▼ 9.55pm 0.34m

SUNDAY January 19	
▲ 4.46am 1.62m	▼ 10.36am 0.50m
▲ 4.45pm 1.41m	▼ 10.33pm 0.40m

MONDAY January 20	
▲ 5.16am 1.59m	▼ 11.13am 0.45m
▲ 5.27pm 1.40m	▼ 11.09pm 0.48m

Email us your fishing photos

news@sgst.com.au



Captain Pelican supporting Amy Hodson through her third 'Super Swim Challenge'.

'Super Swim Hero' Amy Hodson takes on her third challenge

AMY Hodson is known for her determination and strong spirit; at just 12 years old, Amy will dive in again for charity, raising funds for the Starlight Foundation in her third 'Super Swim Challenge' setting herself a goal to swim 30 kilometres in the month of February.

Amy chose to join the biggest national charity swim and become a 'Super Swim Hero' in an effort to make a difference in the lives of sick kids and their families.

The Starlight Super Swim Challenge encourages those of any age to dive in and go the distance because any effort will help bring a splash of happiness to the lives of those in need.

Amy's inspiration has come from her own personal experience, she was born with a rare cataract on the right side and underwent surgery at only eight weeks old and has no vision in her right eye.

Since then, she spent many years at the Royal Children's Hospital for appointments and further surgeries due to her cataract.

Despite her own challenges, she wanted to make a difference and there was no better way than to combine her love for swimming with her instinctive impulse to help others.

With February just around the corner, Amy began planning her fundraiser and has already received great community support with Michael from the Cape Tavern willingly arranging a 'Summer Raffle' and generously donating the \$815 proceeds; together the community helped Amy reach \$4000 by the start of January.

She has set an ambitious goal this year – 30 kilometres of swimming in 28 days. To some it would seem impossible, but Amy's determination will help her through each lap bringing her closer to the finish line.

Amy's mum Robyn shared that it is in Amy's nature to help others and in her third year of fundraising Amy continues to remind herself why she's taken on this challenge; remembering that it's for not only the children who are patients but for their siblings and parents too.

On February 1, Amy will dive in, tracking every swim both at home and at the YMCA Wonthaggi. The YMCA team have also shown great support for Amy's fundraiser, providing her with a free two-month membership to help her train and track her swims. Amy is also a part of the state development squad with South Gippsland Bass Swimming Club (SGB), where she will track each training session for the month of February.

"February will be a big month for Amy, she's starting high school and squad training is tapered down with SGB competitions approaching, which means she has a lot to focus on and extra kilometres to make up in the pool."

Despite a big start to 2025, Amy is determined to swim 30 kilometres and has set herself a personal goal to get her first state qualifying time.

To help Amy accomplish her 2025 goal, visit superswim.org.au/a-hodson

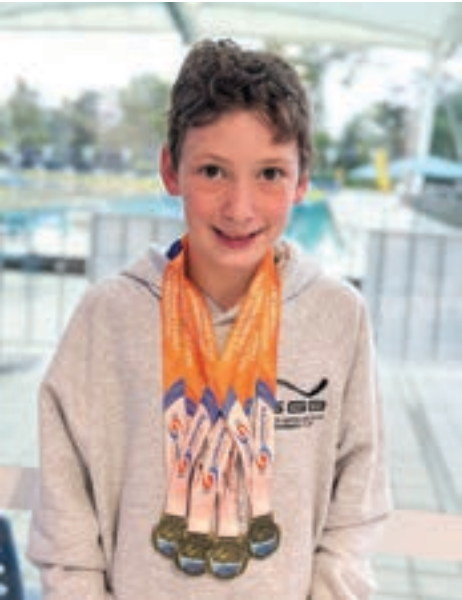


Rahni and Levi celebrate their wins.



Dylan and Miah celebrate her silver

SGB dive in for gold at Sprint Championships



Levi proudly displays his four gold medals.



Emily celebrates her silver medal.



Claudia, Lara and Miah get ready to race.

THE racing was short and fast at the Victorian Sprint Championships at MSAC on January 11-12 with the 53 SGB swimmers speeding down the pool, getting some great personal bests and improvement in placings. The scorching temperatures were not a hinderance for those competing, the swimmers enjoying the refreshing water.

The swimmers who met the qualifying times, raced in a variety of strokes over 50 metres on Saturday, with those finishing in the top 10 returning for finals on Sunday. Two relay teams in each age group also competed on Saturday to finish off each session.

Coach Dylan was pleased with the swimmers' efforts.

"We have a busy few weeks ahead of us and to see them put in such a superb effort over the weekend was really pleasing. They have been training hard, and it showed with their results.

"Everyone from the under 11s here for their first time, to the under 19s who have been here many, many times put in some amazing swims. They supported each other so well from the sidelines, it was wonderful to see them sharing the excitement after the swims with each other," said Dylan.

"We don't do relays at all the other Melbourne based championships, but we do at this meet and the swimmers really dug deep and put in a great effort. They had a lot of fun racing against the big clubs of Melbourne, which they don't get to do very often and showing them what our country team can do."

Seventeen of the swimmers made finals, with the following results:

- Josie Richer 11: 7th Breaststroke
- Archie Smyth 12: 1st Freestyle, 1st Backstroke, 4th Breaststroke, 1st Butterfly
- Emily Croatto 12: 6th Backstroke, 2nd Breaststroke
- Levi Jarrett 12: 1st Butterfly, 1st Backstroke, 1st Backstroke, 1st Freestyle
- Rex Brocklesby 13: 4th Backstroke

- Isabella Lynch 13: 4th Breaststroke
- Georgia Perry 13: 3rd Backstroke
- Claudia Croatto 15: 10th Freestyle, 7th Backstroke, 6th Breaststroke, 11th Butterfly

- Max Brocklesby 15: 11th Butterfly
- Miah Roberts 15: 2nd Backstroke
- Will Simmons 15: 4th Backstroke, 7th Freestyle

- Billy Fisher 15: 6th Breaststroke
- Cormac Flynn 15: 11th Breaststroke
- Molly Dettbarn 16: 9th Freestyle
- Rahni Matheson 16: 10th Butterfly, 8th Backstroke, 2nd Breaststroke, 10th Freestyle

- Mostyn Lumsden 17: 9th Backstroke, 50th Butterfly

- Trinity O'Keefe 19: 7th Breaststroke
- 12 and Under Freestyle Relay: A team 5th, B team 20th

- 14 and Under Freestyle Relay: A team 11th, B team 18th

- 15 and Over Freestyle Relay: A team 8th, B Team 12th

The swimmers have a short break this week, before they head to Mildura for the Country Championships starting Saturday.

The SGB team: Madison Andreatta, Rebecca Barclay, Max Brocklesby, Rex Brocklesby, Penny Carruthers, Nyah Chapman, Tully Chapman, Claudia Croatto, Emily Croatto, Isabel Croatto, Molly Dettbarn, Maggie Fisher, Billy Fisher, Cormac Flynn, Daisy Giliam-Rodda, Lachie Grimes, Cayden Gunn, Josh Hunt, Sienna Hunt, Holly Hurst, Levi Jarrett, Kiannah Kranen, Amalia Lofgren, Ava Lucas, Hannah Lucas, Mostyn Lumsden, Ethan Lynch, Isabella Lynch, Rahni Matheson, Tayah Matheson, Harper Mcrae, Ruby Mcrae, Anna Mileto, Trinity O'Keefe, Brooklyn Packer, Lachlan Paterson, Zoe Paterson, Georgia Perry, Maddison Pocklington, Josie Richer, Miah Roberts, Georgia Rump, Jemma Rump, Ned Sheahan, Zach Sherar, Will Simmons, Darby Smyth, Archie Smyth, Aidan Smyth, Lara Smyth, Jarrah Tagell, Jedda Tagell and Mason Wiggins.



Caiden and Archie Celebrate his backstroke final.

KORUMBURRA

TUESDAY, January 7. Stableford: 31 Players
A Grade: Brian Clasby (17) 38 Pts.
B Grade: Mark Marotti (30) 43 Pts.
NTPs: First Chris Corr, seventh Steve Osboldstone, 10th Steve McNamara and 13th Steve McNamara
Thursday, January 9. Stableford: 25 Players
A Grade: Guv Fields (7) 40 Pts. B Grade: Jake Cochrane (15) 45 Pts
NTPs: First Steve Duffield, seventh Jake Cochrane, 10th Jake Cochrane and 13th Steve Duffield
Saturday, January 11. Modified 4BBB (Split 6's): 62 Players.
Sponsor: Trevor Humphrey
Winners: Steve Rose and Ross Crawford 69 C/B. R/Up: Richard Johnson and Steve Duffield 69 Pts
NTPs: First Ian Cash, Tim O'Neil, 10th Paul Dixon and 13th Steve Duffield.

Ladies

WITH the course in ideal condition, there has been some great golf happening for the start of 2025.
Last Saturday week, January 4, Trudy Olden (30) played well to win the RB Monthly Medal with 71 net. Kerri Besley (17) was r/up, 73 net, and Aliesha Wrigley (22) won a BDTL, 74 net. Johanna van den Heiligenberg had the best Scratch Score with 87. NTP's went to Gail Beer, seventh and Jennie Loughnan, 13th.
On Wednesday, Diarne Maskell (36) had a top score, finishing 68 net to win the January Monthly Medal, as well as C Grade and the recipient of the Tiny Teapot Café voucher. Trudy Olden (30) was the C Grade r/up, 71 net.
Kerri Besley (16) won A Grade with 71 net and Lynette McIvor (20) was runner-up, 72 net on a c/b.
The B Grade winner was Judy Webb (25), 69 net and Julie Brannaghan (26) was next best with 74 net.
Johanna van den Heiligenberg had the best Scratch Score with 84. BDTL went to Pam Eyers (41) and Julie Hillberg (21), both with 72 net.
NTP winners were Kerri first (One Stop Discount Shop voucher), Trudy 10th and Johanna on the 13th (Burra Garden Supplies voucher).
The Thursday Twilight winners were Betty Thomson and Mark Marotti, 26 pts on a c/b from Carol and Bob Stiff. NTP's on the 13th green went to Viv Enbom and Ian Gibson.
On Saturday, Kerri Besley (16) had a nice win with 37 pts after a c/b with Trudy Olden (29). Kim Enbom (25) won a BDTL, 36 pts. NTPs went to Lynette McIvor first and 13th and Kim on the 10th.
Korumburra Golf Club members have been very saddened to hear of the passing of so many wonderful people who have been close to the club now, and in years gone by. Stuart Scott was a past member and had continued to attend social functions. Jan Parry has been a very supportive community member and generously sponsored special events for decades. Marg Harper has been a keen golfer and dedicated member, encouraging new golfers and always supporting social and fundraising events. Maureen Masterman was a popular past Women's Captain and everyone enjoyed her company during a round of golf. Connie Janssen was a past member and played in a winning pennant team for the club. These people have all made an amazing and valuable impact on our golf club and community and our members extend heartfelt condolences to their families.
Korumburra golfers, Diarne Maskell, won the Monthly Medal on Wednesday and Trudy Olden was the January RB Saturday Medallist.



Tuesday's Stableford winners A and B Grade Brian Clasby and Mark Marotti.

LEONGATHA

TUESDAY Stableford Event January 7
Tuesday's Stableford round had a huge field of 105 members/guests take to the course selecting either blue or yellow tees in excellent summer conditions.
Overall winner was Alan Briggs (23) with the high score of the day with 40 Pts.
A Grade winner: Josh de Groot (12) with a score of 35 Pts. R/up: Renato Monacella (12) with a score of 34 Pts on a countback
B Grade winner: David Richards (16) with a score of 37 Pts. R/up: Conor Hosking (18) with a score of 35 Pts
C Grade winner: Colin Martin (19) with a score of 38 Pts on a countback. R/up: Geoffrey McDonald (19) with a score of 38 Pts
D Grade winner: Alan Briggs (23) with a score of 40 Pts. R/up: Andrew Makowski (21) from the Green Acres Golf Club with a score of 36 Pts on a countback
NTP Fifth second shot: Bernard Skerys, 14th: Chad Clasby, NTP 16th: Winton Knop
Thursday Stableford Event January 9
Thursday's event was a Stableford round with a great field of 102 members/guests taking to the course, teeing off either the blue or yellow tees and scoring some outstanding results.
A Grade winner: Christopher Leaver (8) with a score of 40 Pts on a countback. R/up: Russell Hughes (1) from the Gardners Run Golf Club with a score of 37 Pts on a countback
B Grade winner: Paul Richardson (15) with the high score of the day with 42 Pts. R/up: Paul Kennedy (15) with a score of 41 Pts on a countback.
C Grade winner: Matthew Pearce (23) with a score of 41 Pts. R/up: Rene Zeller (24) with a score of 40 Pts on a countback
Congrats to Tim Blackwood with an eagle on the third hole and Russell Hughes with an eagle on the 18th.
NTP Fifth second shot Bert Borg, 14th: Cameron Smith, 16th: Paul Luck
Saturday Monthly Medal Stroke Event January 11
Saturday's Monthly Medal Stroke event was the first for the year with 85 members/guests on the course.
Monthly Medal Winner: Rebecca Thomas (08) with the high score of the day of -3
A Grade r/up: Ray Matthews (13) with a score of -1 on a countback
Great Score was recorded by Daniel Carcour with an eagle on the third hole.
NTP Fifth second shot Richard

Harper at 1.22m, 14th: Mitchell Hallahan at .31m, 16th: David Barrack at 2.20m
Saturday's Mixed Stableford event had 44 members/guests play the course.
A Grade Winner: Hudson Price (25) from the Latrobe Golf Club with the high score of the day of 45 Pts
A Grade runner-up: Craig Geradts (13) from Future Golf with a score of 42 Pts on a countback
NTP 14th: Hudson Price and 16th: Lynda Bassett

MEENIYAN

Ladies

WEDNESDAY, January 8 saw the first medal day for 2025, with a good field and the course looking a treat.
The winner with her best round ever was Tanya Thorson with 93 gross a handicap of 27 resulting in a great nett 66 and a reduction in her handicap to 25. Well done Tanya.
The runner-up with a fine 69 nett was Jan Trease who also reduced her handicap.
This Sunday, January 19 we have our annual Drummond Day Four Person Ambrose teams of Men's Ladies and mixed 2x2 so if you want a game, contact Mat Vanboven, matvanboven43@gmail.com or Susan Straw susan.j.straw@gmail.com non handicapped players most welcome.

MIRBOO NORTH

TUESDAY, January 7. Stableford
A Grade: R Felmingham (8) 38pts
B Grade: J Sands (16) 41pts,
C Grade: R Thompson (25) 40pts
DTL: D Jerram, S McKenzie 40, S Woodall, A liebe38, S Beitz 37 c/b.
NTP: Fourth M Woodall, sixth D Jerram 13th A Liebe, 16th D Chessum
Birdies: Fourth S Woodall, sixth D Jerram R Felmingham
Saturday, January 11 Stableford,
A Grade: M Snell (7) 41pts
B Grade: S Mills (12) 34pts
C Grade: N Bracecamp (19) 37pts
DTL: J Woodall 40, P Smart 39, S Bickerton 37, R Jenkins, S Beitz 36 c/b
NTP: Fourth J Woodall, sixth S Woodall, 13th B Bradshaw, 16th Tom Trill
Birdies: Fourth J Woodall, G Renwick, sixth N Bracecamp, N Rutledge, 13th B Bradshaw, 16th S Bickerton

WONTHAGGI

JANUARY 1 Stableford 18 Hole. SR. 71
Winner: Blake Cornelis 41. R/up: Chris Wilkinson 39
BDTL to 36
Peter Magnussen 37, Andrew Cox 36, Matt Walsh 36, Graeme Campbell 36
January 9 Stableford nine-hole 10 to 18. SR. 36
Winner: Willy Williams 22
BDTL to 19
Kevin Bayley 20, Ken Cuman 19, John Davis 19
January 11. Stableford. S.R 71
A Grade: Alan Cubbon 40
B Grade: Aaron Yann 45
C Grade: Jarvis Harvey 48
Balls down the Line to 38
Tom Miller 48, Glen Rielly 43, Andrew Cox 41, Andrew Brown 41, Phillip Studham 41, David Hynes 40, Jim McEachem 39, Matt Walsh 39, Steven Brann 38, Blake Cornelis 38, Matthew Burns 38, Shane Osborne 38, Ross Yann 38, Glenn Hewlett 38
NTPs: Michael Scott second, Mark Tiziani fourth, Matt Walsh Propin eighth, Michael Scott 13th and Randedell Harris money hole 17th



Wonthaggi Golf Club member Layla Robinson (left) is joined by Wendy Cross, Yvonne Everett and Steve Tyrell as she starts her golfing marathon for the Cancer Council last Sunday.

Beating cancer one long day at a time

ALMOST 250 golf clubs around Australia have so far participated in the 'Longest Day' fundraiser for the Cancer Council, generating \$3 million for the cause, and last Sunday it was the turn of the Wonthaggi Golf Club and its vice president Layla Robinson.
Starting out at first light, Layla completed her first 18 holes with Wendy Cross, Yvonne Everett and Steve Tyrell before a change of players for the next 18, including club stalwart Glenn Turner.
There were 72 holes to complete in the day with warm weather giving way to downpours of rain before conditions fined up again in the run home.
For Layla, the fundraising marathon was very much a labour of love.
"I think everyone has been touched by cancer and it's such a good cause, to be supporting the Cancer Council and the important work they do," said Layla between rounds.
"In my case, it's my brother (Cameron Davies a member of the Sandhurst Golf Club) who has been diagnosed with multiple myeloma, a disease which affects plasma cells in the bone marrow.
"It's a small effort in comparison to the challenges a lot of people face every day," she said.
Layla thanked some of her major sponsors including Sharyn Liddle of Illa May Clothing, Peter Liddle of Wonthaggi Mensland, the Wonthaggi Golf Club committee and members and the Wonthaggi Club and The Clubhouse, and also all those who joined her along the way or donated to the cause.
"You can still donate to the Wonthaggi Golf Club effort online," said Layla.
Simply search 'the Longest Day' and you'll come out on the Cancer Council website. Hit 'Find a Friend or Team' and search Wonthaggi Golf Club and you can donate to the target of \$4000.
The Korumburra Golf Club is staging its longest day challenge this Sunday, January 19.
Any questions, please contact aliesha.wrigley4@gmail.com.



Having a golf cart certainly helped when playing 72 holes in the one day as part of the Longest Day challenge for the Cancer Council but it was still a long day for Layla Robinson and her supporters.



Picnic favourite Grant Seccombe of Moe finished his racing career with a flourish on Saturday when he won the last race on the card for trainer Troy Kilgower on Elly Dee.

Fairy-tale finish for Woolamai jockey

HIGHLY successful picnic racing jockey, Grant Seccombe of Moe, hung up his saddle in the most emphatic way possible at Woolamai last Saturday when he booted home his last-ever ride, the Troy Kilgower trained Elly Dee, to win the final race on the card.

After almost 13 years on the picnic circuit, travelling to places as far-flung as Alexandra, Healesville, Mansfield, Merton, Yea, Drouin, Buchan and Omeo; claiming 10 picnic cups along the way, including two at Woolamai, he's called it a day as a new career beckons.

But it was by no means a sure thing that he'd finish with a flourish.

After a third, a ninth, a fourth and two scratchings from the first five races at Woolamai, his prediction at the start of the day, that he wasn't hopeful of finishing on a high note, looked likely to eventuate.

His hopes were pinned in the last on the previously unlucky Elly Dee, who despite placing eight times from 11 starts, appeared to have a phobia about finishing first, with just one win to her credit, way back in May 2023.

But Grant left nothing to chance, or to irrational fear for that matter, as he booted the \$5.50 chance home by almost four lengths.

It was the perfect finish to a decorated, but more importantly, thoroughly enjoyable career, especially securing the win for his best training supporter Troy Kilgower.

"I'm only 33 but I've been riding at the picnics for almost 13 years, clocking up 190 winners and it's time for a new career," said Grant earlier in the day.

"I did my apprenticeship with Jim Hyland before moving to Doug Harrison before going on the picnic circuit, riding at all of them I'd say, with 10 cups including two here at Woolamai. Actually, I won my first one here which was pretty special.

"The best thing would be the friendships I've made. It's very much a family environment and the volunteers running the clubs are fantastic too. Loved every minute of it," he said on Saturday.

And all the better for retiring on a winning note... best bet of the day in hindsight!



Melinda McDonald on Sacra holds off a fast-finishing Up To Me to start the day well at Woolamai on Saturday

'Beach weather' cuts crowd numbers at Woolamai

THE action on the track was thrilling and the cool shade of the famous elm trees welcome, but the lure of Bass Coast's beautiful beaches was more to the liking of visitors and locals last Saturday than a day of racing at Woolamai.

The crowd numbers were down as a result but 'Kids Day Out' was a success all the same and there wasn't a better place to be on a hot day than enjoying a picnic in the

shade at Woolamai.

There was a thrilling start to the action on the track with jockey Melinda McDonald and the Jason Evans' trained Sacra just holding off a determined drive to the line by Jack Virgona on Up To Me followed by a brave ride by a delighted Jasmine Trenwith to get Acey Deucy home with an all-the-way effort from Anything But.

Virgonawasjustwarmingup,

however, and made no mistake in claiming the third race on the favourite Bleuete De France for trainer Ebony Tucker and the fifth on Carlito Brigante for Jason Evans.

The result in the fourth also pleased favourite backers when Zeftino saluted for trainer Rob Blacker under the urging of jockey Rowan Cox.

It cleared the way to the final race on the card and

there wasn't a dry eye in the house when retiring stalwart of Victorian picnic racing Grant Seccombe brought the Troy Kilgower-trained Elly Dee back to the winners' circle after a great ride and an impressive 3.5 length win.

It was the perfect finish to another great day of racing at Woolamai setting the club up for its Alex Scott & Staff Woolamai Cup meeting on Saturday, February 8.



Jockey Jasmine Trenwith ran a bold race on outsider Acey Deucy in the second at Woolamai to bring off an all-the-way win against the chasing pack headed by Anything But.



Enjoying the Woolamai Picnic Races last Saturday were Pat Dodson of Horsham and Carmel Michael of Inverloch.



Race caller Ben Sporle presents winning trainer Jason Evans and jockey Melinda McDonald with a trophy for winning the first race at Woolamai.



Enjoying a nice spread at the Woolamai Races on Saturday were Geoff and Sean Reese of Cowes.



Photo: Taylah Clark Photography.

Saddle up at Wonthaggi Pony Club



Tarwin Pony Club members Prudence, Asher and Abbigail were all having a blast last week at the Wonthaggi Pony club three-day event, particularly enjoying the showjumping, cross country and showjumping respectively. C02_0225



Finn and Frankie of Langwarrin particularly enjoyed the showjumping, noting it had been a great camp. Finn was joined at the camp by mum and sister Safari. C04_0225



Grace of Wonthaggi's favourite activity was the cross-country with Zeke. C03_0225

RUN by volunteers, this year's Wonthaggi Pony Club Annual Camp was an overwhelming success.

The weather couldn't have been better for the three-day event from January 7 to 9, as 86 riders from across Victoria and into New South Wales received coaching across three Olympic disciplines including dressage, show jumping and cross country.

Attending from East Gippsland through to Tocumwal riders ranged from five years to their 40s broken into 15 groups of all levels from on-lead to advanced.

And whilst a strict heat plan is adhered to, it didn't have to be invoked with rain perfectly preparing the arenas earlier in the week, and spectacular sunshine making for warm days and cool evenings; ideal conditions for riders to learn and improve upon existing skills.

Esteemed coach Laurie Cruise was on hand on the final day, last Thursday, as riders opted to add in games this year.

Joining Laurie was an exceptional list of instructors from the local area through to Melbourne and the Yarra Ranges.

Group one Racing Victoria jockey Carleen Hefel popped into her old stomping ground, talking with riders about the industry and showing off her racing saddles and gear.

Having spent time in her youth at Wonthaggi Pony Club, Carleen was very positive about the changes happening within the racing community, particularly towards females in the industry; with more young women having entered the profession in recent times than men.

On Tuesday night, international level, local riders India Curtis, Gabe and Giselle Smith delighted audiences with their fast paced highly trained ponies and incredible skills in games.

"There has been a huge improvement not only over the first two days, but of riders from the previous year's camp," Dressage instructor Matt Archibald stated.

Organisers were incredibly pleased with the level of skills

and improvement across all riders.

"It's one of our biggest fundraisers and people have been very impressed this year," organisers Tanya and Erin explained.

"We've had many appreciative campers and riders provide such positive feedback. They commented not only on our facilities and instructors but also all that the local community has to offer, such as The Clubhouse meals at Wonthaggi Golf Club, who are one of our sponsors."

The grounds were also in tip top riding condition with Tanya noting "local contractor Pat James does a fantastic job at slashing and mulching our larger grassed areas."

"Wonthaggi Pony Club members and their children have worked exceptionally hard to get the grounds looking so spectacular and as safe as possible for riders to enjoy. It takes many, many working bees to get the grounds into the current conditions as presented."

"The weather has been very kind to us. The rain had the arenas ready, and the breeze was just enough to keep the flies away," added Erin.

Riders and support teams were fuelled up for lessons by lovely volunteers in the canteen. A trip down memory lane for those of the Boys Home Road Newhaven College.

Professional photographer, Taylah Clark was also on hand capturing rider's special moments throughout the camp.

Showjumping and cross country were definitely popular choices amongst participants with Prudence, Abbigail and Frankie all favouring the earlier, whilst Ella, Grace and Asher were pleased on the cross-country tracks.

Whether you have always wanted to jump on a horse and pursue equine at a local level or have ambitions for competition, reach out to Wonthaggi Pony Club via their Facebook page for more information. Whether young or mature, there's never been a better time to learn.



Going home after racing is abandoned at Stony Creek due to torrential rain and lightning. B201_0225

Stony Creek school holiday race day abandoned

TORRENTIAL rain just prior to the first event at Stony Creek led to the complete day's racing being cancelled.

The seven event card for the DS Sports School Holiday race meeting was abandoned mid-afternoon after the first two races were called off due to a sudden electrical storm.

Stony Creek Racing Club's CEO Jason Benbow made the call as punters took cover and trainers started to move their horses into waiting trailers.

Any chance of racing being rescheduled for yesterday (Monday) usually a race free day was doused by continued rain and an increasingly waterlogged track.

All bets for the day were returned by anxious bookmakers.

On-course and off-course bookmaker Craig Barber was kept busy taking bets on English soccer, American football and darts.

The next race day at Stony Creek Furphy's Publicans Day is scheduled for Sunday, February 9 with the Ladbroke's Stony Creek Cup expected to draw big crowds on Sunday, March 25.

For more information on racing at Stony Creek go to country.racing.com/stony-creek.



Resident DJ Phil Napoli kept the race day crowd at Stony Creek entertained. B192_0225



Kaz from Perth and Nigel Mann from the South Island of New Zealand at Stony Creek. B195_0225



Juanita Piper of Nyora and Stephen Babb from Wonthaggi at Stony Creek's abandoned race meeting. B194_0225



Wonthaggi Life Saving Club U7 junior champion Eddie. B96_0225

Blue ribbon finish to the WLSC nippers competition

FIVE-time blue ribbon finalist Eddie knows what it feels like to be a winner. The U7 junior champion won all five events in his age group taking blue ribbons in the board paddle, swim, sprint, beach flags and diving at the annual Wonthaggi Life Saving Club Nipper Championships.

The WLSC Nippers program aims to provide a safe and friendly environment where both juniors and parents can learn and enhance their knowledge about surf lifesaving and water safety.

The Nippers program is open to all children aged five to 13 years of age.

Nippers who complete a set of age group determined activities are awarded a nationally recognised SLSC certificate at the end of the Nipper season.

Skills taught in the nippers program include surf awareness, increased confidence on the beach, how to be sun smart and making new friends in a positive non-threatening environment.

The Wonthaggi Life Saving Club championships for Nippers are conducted by Juniors Coordinator Tara Scott with assistance from parents and water safety volunteer Kerie Allen.

Parents were encouraged to assist with the Nippers program and were kept busy marshalling and coordinating each event.

To learn more about the Wonthaggi Life Saving Club juniors program go to junior.activities@wlwsc.com.au.



Diving to the line in the WLSC nippers beach flag competition. B81_0225



Beach sprint at the WLSC Nipper Championships at Cape Paterson. B89_0225



Dusty Rayner of Inverloch landed first place in the Boys Under 14 division of the first round of the Victorian Junior Surfing Titles over the weekend.

Action packed start to Vic Junior Surfing Titles

AVA Holland (Dromana) and Jarvis Barrow (Jan Juc) took out the premiere division in the first round of the No TXT No Wrecks Victorian Junior Surfing Titles at Jan Juc Beach, Wadawurrung Country this past weekend. Over the two-day competition, the state's best groms battled it out to earn vital points to make it into the state team.

With only a small amount of swell on offer, the competition was shifted to Jan Juc Beach which provided fun left and right beach break conditions for the junior surfers to rip into.

On the first day of the competition, Jarvis Barrow delivered an outstanding performance, solidifying himself as a top contender in the competition. In his first-round heat, Barrow posted the highest single-wave score of the round with an impressive 8.77, showcasing a swift forehand attack and executing multiple blow-tail maneuvers with precision.

Carrying that momentum into Day 2, Barrow excelled in the quarterfinals, earning an eight-point ride with similar blow-tail snaps that demonstrated his sharp technique and consistency. As he headed into the championship showdown, Barrow was undoubtedly the one to watch.

Ava Holland was the stand-out performer in the Under-18 girls' division early on, delivering a commanding performance in the semi-

finals. Holland's impressive 9.50-point ride, featuring a massive three-turn combination, set the standard and put the competition on notice. Her exceptional execution made her the favourite heading into the Under-18 girls' final, where she faced a high standard of competition.

Estella Carbonelli (Jan Juc) lit up the Under-14 girls' final with an electrifying display of skill and confidence, securing a commanding victory.

Carbonelli made an immediate statement in the opening stages, starting with a 7.50-point ride for a powerful forehand re-entry that set the tone for the final. Wasting no time, she followed up with a jaw-dropping forehand snap off the lip, launching into the air, dropping out of the sky, and sticking a flawless landing. This remarkable manoeuvre earned her an extraordinary 9.27-point ride, putting the rest of the field in a combination situation and cementing her as the undisputed champion.

The Under-18 girls' final delivered excitement and drama from the very beginning, with Ava Holland showcasing her skill and determination to claim the championship title.

In the opening moments, Holland caught a peaking right-hander and executed a series of precise backhand hits, earning a solid 6.50-point ride. The competition quickly heated up as Lillian Bassed (Sandy Point)

responded with a powerful two-turn combination of snaps, scoring an impressive 7.17 points to take the lead.

Undeterred, Holland wasted no time reclaiming the momentum. She paddled into the biggest wave of the day and executed a bold backhand hit, going upside down and landing with ease. This impressive ride earned her a 9.00-point score, giving her a commanding lead over the field.

Despite strong efforts from her competitors, they were unable to secure the high scores needed to challenge Holland's dominance.

In the Boys' Under-18 division, Tarvi Woods opened the heat with a solid 5.83-point ride, displaying a series of sharp backhand whips. Not to be outdone, Jarvis Barrow responded with a powerful backhand hit on a set wave, earning a 6.17-point ride. Barrow quickly built on his momentum, linking a combination of snaps and carves on his next ride to post a 6.00, securing an early lead.

Rye Cicero (Sandy Point) adopted a busy strategy, catching multiple smaller waves on the inside in an attempt to challenge Barrow. However, he was unable to lock in the high score needed to take the lead. Barrow's strong performance and strategic wave selection saw him claim victory in the first round of the competition.

"The conditions were small but fun and there was good

wind and peaks," said Barrow. "I'm looking forward to the next comp to surf with my mates and have a good time," he continued.

Finals Results:

U18 Girls: 1st - Ava Holland (Dromana), 15.50, 2nd - Sophie Wilkinson (Shoreham), 12.26, 3rd - Lillian Bassed (Sandy Point), 11.17

U18 Boys: 1st - Jarvis Barrow (Jan Juc), 12.17, 2nd - Rye Cicero (Sandy Point), 10.00, 3rd - Tarvi Woods (Fingal), 9.90

U16 Girls: 1st - Chloe Muescroft (Jan Juc), 11.96, 2nd - Rose Holland (Dromana), 10.83, 3rd - Elsie Chapman (Point Lonsdale), 3.73, 4th - Evie Lutz (Cowes), 3.37

U16 Boys: 1st - Kato Mogi (Belmont), 13.16, 2nd - Arch Rayner (Inverloch), 13.00, 3rd - George Everist (Bittern), 10.07

U14 Girls: 1st - Estella Carbonelli (Jan Juc), 16.77, 2nd - Lily White (Blairgowrie), 10.50, 3rd - Stevie O'Day (Torquay), 5.53

U14 Boys: 1st - Dusty Rayner (Inverloch), 14.47, 2nd - Raff Morris (Sorrento), 11.94, 3rd - Eden Hawken (Torquay), 9.27

Full results and scores and schedule can be found online at surfingvic.com/live

2025 No TXT No Wrecks Junior Surfing Titles

Round 2 – March 29 and 30, 2025 – Gunnamatta

Round 3 – May 10 and 11, 2025 – Phillip Island / Millowal



Newly qualified lifesavers at Wonthaggi LSC Timothy, Xavier, Jacob, Milly and Willow with trainers Josiah and Madeline. B76_0225

Six new lifesavers join the team at Wonthaggi LSC

SIX new recruits have joined the Wonthaggi Life Saving Club patrol team as the club releases its latest plans for the redevelopment of the Cape Paterson clubhouse.

The latest plans move the clubhouse forward from its present location behind the sand dunes to overlooking the beach. “The plans have been ten years in development and are being circulated for community consultation,” said Club President Mark Scott.

Each year at an annual Bronze Camp Wonthaggi LSC trains new lifesavers to qualify for their Surf Rescue Certificate (SRC) and Bronze Medallion (BM) qualifications.

The Surf Rescue Certificate provides participants with basic patrolling and surf awareness skills, enabling them to participate in lifesaving patrol activities.

The SRC award trains the candidates in signals, radio operations, resuscitation, surf awareness, and rescue skills.

Candidates must also complete a 100-metre run and 100-metre swim in five minutes or less.

Surf Rescue Certificates and Bronze Medallions were awarded to brothers Timothy and Jacob Stephens, Willow Bakogiannis, Milly Gray, Xavier Clements, and Harrison Katona.

Willow and Xavier were both once Wonthaggi LSC nippers.

Fifty students from Bass Coast Secondary College will train for their Bronze Medallion and Surf Rescue Certificates in March.

“Four rescues have been conducted by the club so far this season,” said Mark.

“Teenagers and adults getting into trouble with inflatable water toys and an eighty-year-old grandmother caught in a rip.”

Slips and falls on exposed rocks have also required first aid attention.

Mark advises beachgoers to only swim at patrolled beaches.

The next training opportunity for club members and the general public will be a two-day course on providing essential support to those facing mental health challenges.

A Youth Mental Health First Aid course will be held at the Wonthaggi Life Saving Club on Wednesday, January 15 from 10am to 5pm and Thursday, January 16 from 9am to 4pm qualifying participants as accredited mental health first-aiders.

The Wonthaggi LSC coffee shop is also open every day in January right up to Australia Day.

For more information on staying safe in the water go to the BeachSafe app at beachsafe.org.au/apps and to learn more about Wonthaggi Life Saving Club go to wlsc.org.au.



Inverloch Nippers hone in on their board safety skills.

That’s a wrap on Inverloch Nippers

THE Inverloch Surf Beach has been abuzz with happy, smiling faces of children aged five to 13 as they enjoyed the Nippers program over the 2024-25 season.

The popular program which included the Starfish program was booked out early, even after increasing their intake to 290 children this year.

“We had fabulous, enthusiastic kids that listened to their age managers and made the most of the water conditions to build their water confidence, boarding skills, sprints, flags and introduction to first aid including CPR for the

older age groups” said Membership and Leadership Development Co-Ordinator Holly Foster.

“The program would not have been possible without our age managers and water safety volunteers each session.

“Many of our water safety members have come up through the Nipper program ranks themselves and now hold a Surf Rescue Certificate or Bronze Medallion qualification. These members are wonderful role models, and it is pleasing to see them contribute back to the program and the club with their time and encouragement of the Nippers”.



Nippers have been busy practising flags and competing against one another.

Come celebrate
30 years of
Koonwarra Leongatha RSL CC

Saturday 22nd February 2025

Dakers Centre, 23 Smith St Leongatha

Doors open 7pm

Speeches at 8pm

Light Supper provided

Drinks at bar prices (no BYO)

\$15 per head

RSVP: 15th Feb 2025

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Gippsland Goannas over 60's

VETERANS

THE Gippsland Goannas Over-60 cricketers made the trek to Overport Park in Frankston South for their round 10 match against the Mornington Peninsula veterans on Sunday.

Batting first, with dark clouds looming Ray Smith and Chris deVent opened the innings for the Goannas at this beautiful ground.

The Mornington bowlers were bowling tight and DeVent was caught for three in the fifth over when the score was 11, Col Carmody was then joined by Smith.

Smith retired for a well-made 20 after facing 30 balls and Rob Taylor next to the wicket was bowled for 11 in the 14th over and Carmody retired soon after for 15.

Murray Moore, two and Mark Brown, one were at the wicket when drinks were taken and the rain started.

The Goanna's score was 2/53 after 18 overs.

There was plenty of lightning in the distance and eventually, lunch was taken early but the match was abandoned when the weather did not allow players to return to the park.

Goannas Over-60s play again next Sunday with an away game against Ringwood Over-60 while the Over-50s will travel to Geelong.

The Over-70 team will play at Glen Waverley on Tuesday, January 21.

Rain denies Kookas victory over Baw Baw Bullfrogs

VETERANS

THE Rampaging Over 60s South Gippsland Kookas found their way to Hallora on Sunday to take on new 'arch enemy' the Baw Baw Bullfrogs.

Skipper, 'Mr Cricket' Adams called correctly and the willows were unleashed.

'Flight Master' Robbie Francis, 9 and Pete Pulveriser Petrou 19no. got the Kookas revving!

Enter Peter 'Perfect' Little with a polished 30no.

'Teflon' Tony Lathan looked good on comeback with six, then Mr. Cricket Adams, with a sublime 27 and new super recruit, Ian 'Son of a Gun' Thorn 23, really stirred the gravy!

'Burky' Burke 10no. and Wonderful Waza Hayes 6no. were ready to go ballistic when the heavens opened and the Bullfrogs were in their element.

Lunch and Stumps soon followed with the Kookas in a very strong position to avenge their loss to the fabulous Bullfrogs in our last Round.

Well let's hope the weather allows us a better go when we next take to the pitch in that wonderful game called cricket.

South Gippsland Bridge

JANUARY 7 at Wonthaggi RSL – six tables competing

First Ken McKenzie and Marie Sands 60.03 per cent, Second Faye Rowlands and John French 55.19, Third Bronwyn Sund and Mike Dooley 54.81, Third Chris Hall and Denise Allitt 54.81, Fifth Julie Perriam and Anne Gibson 54.51, Sixth Carol Sowden and Mary Brewis 50.37

January 10 at Inverloch Angling Club – eight tables

North/South Pairs

First Julie Perriam and Anne Gibson 57.49, Second Bronwyn Sund and Marie Sands 54.61, Third Hannah Martin and Ruth Steveson 51.24, Fourth Doug McIntosh and Chris Hall 50.89

East/West Pairs

First Matti Shub and John Quayle 67.86
Second Faye Rowlands and John French 62.84, Third Denise Allitt and Tom Kudelka 52.73, Fourth Judy Walker and Grant Austen 52.53

Meadley a rising star in state Netball

GEMMA Meadley, a dynamic defender with a passion for netball, has progressed through the Netball Victoria development pathway. The 2024 season was been a breakthrough year for the young athlete, as she was invited to the state team selection round and earned a spot in the top 25 players.

As a training partner for the 2024 state team, Gemma was granted a pass for the initial 400-player tryout step, setting her on a faster track to the top. Her exceptional skills and dedication caught the eye of selectors, and she participated in the Elevate program, a high-performance training squad based in Parkville.

Over nine weeks, Gemma trained three times a week, under the guidance of the renowned Cathy Fellows, Adelaide Thunderbirds defensive coach and head coach of the Australian U21 team. These final sessions, held over the first two Sundays in December, played a pivotal role in her selection to the team of 12 players.

Gemma's journey into netball started at LDNA's NetSet-Go program, where she quickly found her place in the sport.

Known for her infectious smile on the court, Gemma's enthusiasm and positive energy have made her a joy to watch, especially for her

parents. Her natural talent and commitment to growth have been clear from the beginning, and her impressive work ethic continues to shine.

This year, Gemma's efforts were rewarded as she earned the MVP title for the Casey Demons' U19 development team in the 19&Under State Super Netball Series. She has also been part of the Netball Victoria Talent Academy, which has required a huge commitment but has been instrumental in honing her skills for the future.

Despite her busy schedule with both the Leongatha Parrots and Casey Demons in the VNL, Gemma is committed to balancing her sporting commitments, with state netball taking priority in the lead-up to the National Championship in Sydney on April 10, 2025. She will continue to train at Parkville until April.

As she recovers from the intense 2024 series, Gemma is taking a well-earned break, preparing herself for the challenges ahead. With her eyes set on the Suncorp Super Netball, Gemma's dream of playing at the highest level of netball is within reach. With hard work, determination, and an unwavering love for the game, Gemma Meadley is undoubtedly one to watch as she continues to rise through the ranks of Australian netball.



Gemma Meadley, Leongatha, has been selected to play in the u17 State Netball Team.

Nominations open for 2024 Victorian Sport Awards

PRESENTED by the Victorian Government and Vicsport, nominations open on Wednesday, January 15 for the Victorian Sport Awards (VSAs) which acknowledges the full spectrum of Victorian sport across all levels during the 2024 calendar year.

The most prestigious night for our state's sporting and active recreation community, the VSAs recognises and celebrates those who made an outstanding contribution to Victorian sport during 2024 by honouring the grassroots heroes who excelled at a community level, high-performance athletes who shone at a national and international level and everyone in between.

With 18 awards presented, individual and team athletes, coaches, officials, volunteers, administrators, media personnel and the initiatives that ensure Victorians remain active will all be recognised. The nomination process is open to all members of the public.

Nominations can be submitted via the Vicsport website between Wednesday, January 15 and Friday, February 14, 2025.

"In partnership with the Victorian Government, Vicsport is thrilled to once again recognise and celebrate the outstanding achievements of our state's sport and recreation community at the Victorian Sport Awards," said Vicsport Chair, Jason Hellwig.

"The premier event on the Victorian sporting calendar, it is a special night where we have the opportunity to



Do you know a local club, athlete, coach, official, administrator or volunteer that deserves to be nominated? Nominations open this Wednesday.

honour the grassroots heroes who keep our sport and recreation sector thriving as well as the high-performance athletes who starred on the world stage at events such as the Paris Olympics and Paralympics.

"With 18 awards on offer, I strongly urge all Victorians to submit their nominations to ensure their sport is well represented on the night."

Following the closure of nominations after February 14, four finalists for each of the 18 awards will be decided by esteemed judging panels and announced in March before the winners are revealed on Wednesday, May 14 in the Members Dining Room at the Melbourne Cricket Ground.

All finalists, family, friends,

sporting organisations and clubs are invited to attend the VSAs and celebrate the successes of sport in Victoria. Ticketing details will be announced soon.

Categories in the 2024 Victorian Sport Awards are as follows:

- Leasexpress Coach of the Year
- Gallagher Community Coach of the Year
- Sports Accounting Australia Official of the Year
- etrainu Community Official of the Year
- AFL SportsReady Young Team of the Year
- AED Authority Team of the Year
- My Sport Live Community Sporting Event of the Year
- Love the Game Community

- Sporting Club of the Year
 - revolutioniseSPORT Victorian Sports Administrator of the Year – Eunice Gill Award
 - Bunnings Trade Local Government Initiative of the Year
 - VAILO Volunteer of the Year
 - VicHealth Sport and Active Recreation Initiative of the Year
 - Involve Masters Athlete of the Year
 - rebel Young Athlete of the Year
 - Outstanding Media Coverage of Sport Award
 - Polytan Peter Norman Inclusion Award
 - Frank Wilkes Award
 - Kitty McEwan Award
- More information on the 2024 Victorian Sport Awards can be found at vicsport.com.au/2024-vsas.

OMK's 2/276 sets up dominant victory

B GRADE, DIVISION 1

OUTTRIM Moyarra Kongwak posted a commanding total of 2/276 in 40 overs, with an incredible display of batting from Kris Kerr (133*) and Trevor McGeachin (107), who both produced superb innings. The pair's partnership propelled the score after early wickets, including a steady knock from Clayton Quaife (19).

McGeachin's aggressive 107 off 76 balls, including 13 boundaries and three sixes, added momentum, while Kerr's unbeaten 133, featuring 15 fours and three sixes, anchored the innings as they dominated the MDU bowlers.

Despite the best efforts of Daniel Feild (1/38) and Harper Cocksedge (1/20), the total proved too much to chase.

MDU's response faltered early, with Outtrim Moyarra Kongwak's bowlers proving to be clinical. Mitchell Andrew was the standout, taking four wickets for just 18 runs in his eight overs, with support from Justin Greenwood (2/4) and Ben Maguire (2/9). The batting lineup struggled significantly, with no player managing to get past 12 runs. The top order crumbled quickly, and they were bowled out for just 48 runs in 20.2 overs, giving OMK a dominant 228-run victory.

Low scoring encounter

KORUMBURRA posted a modest total of 8/126 in their allotted 40 overs, despite a solid top-order effort from Caleb Turton (18), Shane Dole (23), and Aaron Damon (28). A steady performance came from Philip Richards, who remained unbeaten on 23 in the middle order. Wonthaggi Club's bowlers were dominant, with Sean Roche (3/17) and Jai Williamson (3/24) leading the charge. Roche's tight spells were crucial in restricting Korumburra's progress, while Williamson's three wickets ensured the middle order was dismantled.

Wonthaggi Club's chase was equally challenging, with their top order faltering under the pressure of Korumburra's disciplined bowling attack. Kai Allison (34) provided some resistance, but wickets fell quickly at regular intervals. Jakeb Jorgensen (3/13) was the star for Korumburra, taking three vital wickets, including that of Harry West and key players David Britt (30) and Jason O'Reilly (2). Aaron Damon (2/24) also played a pivotal role in the middle overs, removing Sean Roche (23) and Mohamed Ashik Mohamed Nizar (10).

Lower-order resistance was enough to push Club to their target, winning by three runs, 7/129 in 32 overs.

Island shine, Inverloch falters

INVERLOCH, after being put in to bat first, could only manage a modest 101 all out in 37.5 overs.

A middle-order collapse led by Jobe Williams (4/13) and solid support from David Womersley (3/14) meant that Inverloch struggled throughout their innings.

The top order could not convert starts, with Archie Terlich



Kilcunda Bass opened the batting in the B Grade match against Imperials. B106_0225

being the highest scorer with 32 off 58 balls. Shaun Hayes (15), Leigh Cole (9) and Jack Rowe (9) added brief resistance, but regular wickets saw Inverloch bundled out before reaching 110. Phillip Island's bowlers dominated with tight lines and disciplined deliveries, making scoring difficult.

Phillip Island chased down the target of 102 with relative ease, finishing at 4/103 in just 21.1 overs. Connor Epifano provided a solid foundation at the top with 47 off 57 balls, while Tharidu Asurumuni remained unbeaten on 28, striking at over 100.

Callan O'Flynn was the star with the ball for Inverloch, claiming three wickets for 12 runs. Despite the early loss of Max Arceo (4) and the middle-order wickets of Lawrence Ferrari (0) and David Womersley (7), Phillip Island coasted to victory. Their successful chase was built on a 35-run partnership between Epifano and Asurumuni, ensuring a comfortable six-wicket win.

Nerrena had the bye.

B GRADE, DIVISION 2

Town secures convincing victory

LEONGATHA Town clinched a six-wicket victory over Nyora in a competitive B Grade Division 2 clash.

Nyora, having won the toss, elected to bat and posted a total of 9/180 in its allotted 40 overs.

The innings began shakily for Nyora, losing opener Colin Knox for just two runs.

His son, Jordan Knox, steadied the ship with a patient 23 off 62 balls, including three boundaries.

Number three batsman Daniel Esler contributed 34 and Lochie Row 19, but it was Keith Linford's brisk 28 off 29 deliveries that provided momentum.

Ryan White added a valuable 20, while extras contributed a significant 26 runs to the total.

Leongatha Town's bowling attack was spearheaded by Trent McRae and Frazer Livingstone, both claiming three wickets.

McRae's eight-over spell yielded 3 for 31, while Livingstone was economical with figures of three for 25 from his eight overs.

Lachlan Gill, skipper Luke Ashton and Colin Bruce chipped in with a wicket apiece.

In response, Leongatha Town's chase was anchored by opener Mark Hardy, who remained unbeaten on 82 from 109 balls, striking 10 fours and a six. He was well-supported by McRae, who scored 38 off 50 balls.

Despite losing Luke Bowman (4) and Max Carter (20), Hardy's composed innings ensured Leongatha Town reached the target in 37 overs, finishing at 3 for 181.

Nyora's bowlers struggled to make significant inroads, with only Lincoln Brock (2 for 32) and Myles Cordeux (1 for 28) among the wickets.

Ryan White was economical, conceding just 20 runs in his eight overs, but lacked wicket-taking support.

This victory adds crucial points for Leongatha Town in the league standings.

Balanced bowling and solid batting for Foster

FOSTER emerged victorious in its match against Glen Alvie, posting a competitive total of 8/204 before successfully defending it, dismissing Glen Alvie for 174 in 40 overs.

Foster won the toss and opted to bat first.

Despite early setbacks, their batting lineup showed resilience.

Brandon Busuttill top scored with 49, while Jake Pilkington (44) and Donald Caldwell (40) were other major contributors. Pilkington's fellow opener

Neil Henry (30) was also handy, though the middle order faltered under pressure from Glen Alvie's bowlers.

Captain Darcy Hale was the standout for Glen Alvie, picking up four wickets for 34 runs, including the crucial scalps of Caldwell and Tim Garvey.

Jack Brown also chipped in with two wickets for 13 runs. Foster's lower order, with valuable cameos from Johnston (4*) and Samat (1*), managed to push the total to a competitive 8/204.

In reply, Glen Alvie started poorly, losing early wickets.

Steven Smith fought hard, contributing 52 runs, while Darcy Hale (41) and Daniel Gilbert (19) provided some resistance.

However, Foster's bowlers maintained pressure throughout the innings. Donald Caldwell (3/24) and Neil Henry (1/17) were exceptional, and Lance Moon (1/15), Max Johnston (1/13) and Bradd Cripps (1/10) added a key wicket.

Foster's fielding was also solid, with key catches from the likes of Tim Garvey and Lucas Welsh.

Despite a late surge from Luke Scholz (15*), Glen Alvie fell short, 9/174 off its 40 overs handing Foster a well-earned 30-run win.

Foster's all-round performance saw the Tigers rise to the challenge, securing crucial points in a well-fought contest.

Imperials chase down Killy-Bass target

KILCUNDA-Bass set a total of 133 runs, which wasn't enough, Imperials triumphing by five wickets.

Batting first after winning the toss, Kilcunda-Bass struggled early against a strong bowling attack from Imperials.

Only Gregory Miller (38) managed to build a significant innings, with Joel Hockett contributing 27.

Despite brief partnerships, Kilcunda-Bass couldn't capitalise, with wickets falling at regular intervals.

Martin Reidy was the pick of the bowlers for Imperials, taking two wickets for 14 runs off eight overs.

Michael Malloy also bowled well, claiming two wickets for 27 off his full over-allotment.

The lower order of Kilcunda-Bass showed some resistance, with Alister McBride (10*) and Rohan Duff (3*) adding small but crucial runs to push the score to 8/133 in the allotted 40 overs.

In response, the Imperials were in a spot of bother after losing early wickets.

Kane Maskell led the charge with a composed 58, Imperials aided by the middle-order contributions of Francois Botha (24) and Lucas Anderson (not out 24).

Alister McBride (2/29) and James Papworth (1/10) delivered key breakthroughs, while Rohan Duff (0/15) and Brett Joseph (1/15) kept things tight.

Koonwarra L/RSL had the bye.

B GRADE

DIVISION 1

OMK 2/276 d MDU 48

OMK 1st INNINGS: C Quaife 19, K Kerr 133*, T McGeachin 107, A Trotto 1*
Bowling: D Zuidema 0/17, L Webb 0/24, D Feild 1/38, C McCaughan 0/17, T Zukovskis 0/41, R Prosser 0/60, C Hooper 0/54, H Cocksedge 1/20
MDU 1st INNINGS: D Zuidema 12, C McCaughan 11, R Henry 0, C Hooper 2, T Zukovskis 0, G Cocksedge 3, F Field 4, H Cocksedge 7, R Prosser 5, T Cocksedge 1, L Webb 0*
Bowling: A Trotto 1/12, M Andrew 4/18, B Maguire 2/9, N Auddino 1/4, J Greenwood 2/4

Club 7/129 d Korumburra 8/124

Korumburra 1st INNINGS: T M Allen 13, C Turton 18, S Dole 23, a Damon 28, P Richards 23*, T Dole 0, J Douglass 0, J Foster 3, J Jorgensen 3, B Riddell 5*
Bowling: J Williamson 3/24, S Roche 3/17, S Tessari 1/24, M Mohamed Nizar 1/22, B Evans 0/24, L McRae 0/9
Club 1st INNINGS: K Allison 34, D Britt 30, H West 0, J O'Reilly 2, B Harvey 6, S Roche 23, M Mohamed Nizar 10, J Williamson 1*, B Evans 6*
Bowling: B Riddell 0/17, J Douglas 0/22, S Dole 0/14, J Jorgensen 3/13, O Maskell 1/27, T M Allen 1/5, A Damon 2/24

P-Island 4/103 d Inverloch 101

Inverloch 1st INNINGS: D Harris 6, W Stewart 3, B Debono 2, L Cole 9, J Rowe 9, A Terlich 32, J Richardson 0, S Hayes 15, J Mottram Carter 5, D Cashin 2, C O'Flynn 0*
Bowling: T Niven 0/16, J Williams 4/13, D Womersley 3/14, H Arceo 3/14, T Allan 0/15, L Ferrari 0/16
Phillip Island 1st INNINGS: C Epifano 47, M Arceo 4, T Asurumuni 28*, D Womersley 7, L Ferrari 0, T Niven 4*
Bowling: L Cole 0/13, J Richardson 1/20, D Cashin 0/30, C O'Flynn 3/12, A Terlich 0/25

Nerrena – BYE

B GRADE

DIVISION 2

Town 3/181 d Nyora 9/180

Nyora 1st INNINGS: C Knox 2, J Knox 23, D Esler 34, M Cordeux 0, L Row 19, K Linford 28, R White 20, S Henry 14, L Brock 1, T Bernaldo 10*, J Waixel 1*
Bowling: L Gill 1/23, T McRae 3/31, L Ashton 1/27, C Bruce 1/38, F Livingstone 3/25, T Strybosch 0/28
Town 1st INNINGS: M Hardy 82*, T McRae 38, L Bowman 4, M Carter 20, R Gilliatte 20*
Bowling: R White 0/20, S Henry 0/43, T Perkins 0/32, L Brock 2/32, M Cordeux 1/28, T Bernaldo 0/17

Foster 8/204 d Glen Alvie 9/174

Foster 1st INNINGS: J Pilkington 44, N Henry 30, B Busuttill 49, D Caldwell 40, Fill-in 22, T Garvey 0, L Moon 0, M Johnston 4*, J Davy 0, N Samat 1*
Bowling: D Gilbert 1/51, L McRae 0/21, G Hynes 1/45, D Hale 4/34, N Brown 0/7, J Brown 2/13, L Scholz 0/25
Glen Alvie 1st INNINGS: S Smith 52, H Smith 6, T Bals 17 N Brown 0, D Hale 41, J Tiziani 1, D Gilbert 19, J Brown 9, L Scholz 15*, G Hynes 2
Bowling: N Henry 1/17, L Moon 1/15, D Caldwell 3/24, M Johnston 1/13, Fill-in 2/27, J Pilkington 0/48, J Davy 0/19, B Cripps 1/10

Imperials 5/137 d K-Bass 8/133

Kilcunda-Bass 1st INNINGS: B Joseph 2, J Hockett 27, G Miller 38, R Gardiner 11, A Leighton 15, A Bedford 5, A McBride 10*, J Mtser 1, E Magnussen 10, R Duff 3*
Bowling: M Reidy 2/14, L Anderson 1/18, J Jeffrey 1/40, M Malloy 2/27, K Maskell 0/4, J Ballagh 1/11, N McLennan 1/13
Imperials 1st INNINGS: K Maskell 58, K Gray 3, S Vagg 0, C Honeysett 10, F Botha 24, L Anderson 24*, A Meyer 14*
Bowling: R Duff 0/15, A Bedford 1/23, A McBride 2/29, A Leighton 0/33, J Papworth 1/10, B Joseph 1/15, E Magnussen 0/11

Koonwarra L/RSL - BYE

LADDERS						RD 9
Team	Points	%	Team	Points	%	
A GRADE, Division 1			A GRADE, Division 2			
Nerrena	84	2.488	Inverloch	78	1.576	
Phillip Island	66	1.509	Nyora	78	1.457	
Club	66	1.432	Foster	54	1.193	
Town	60	0.725	MDU	42	0.841	
OMK	54	1.047	Kilcunda-Bass	42	0.482	
Korumburra	42	0.928	Glen Alvie	30	0.731	
Imperials	42	0.700				
Koonwarra L/RSL	18	0.430				
B GRADE, Division 1			B GRADE, Division 2			
Phillip Island	66	2.041	Koonwarra L/RSL	72	1.569	
Club	66	0.969	Town	72	1.083	
Nerrena	60	1.938	Nyora	56	1.384	
OMK	48	1.247	Imperials	54	1.120	
Korumburra	30	0.648	Glen Alvie	30	0.697	
Inverloch	30	0.645	Foster	30	0.635	
MDU	24	0.439	Kilcunda-Bass	18	0.763	

NEXT WEEKEND'S GAMES & UMPIRE APPOINTMENTS

ROUND 10 - SATURDAY, JANUARY 18

A GRADE, Division 1					
K'burra v Koon L/RSL	Korumburra	Shane Moore	OMK v Town	Wonthaggi Turf	John Schelling
OMK v Phillip Island	Outtrim	Glenn Plymin	Nerrena v Imperials	Leongatha Turf	Ken Scrimshaw

A Grade, Division 2					
Inverloch v MDU	Inverloch Turf	Warren Williams	Nyora v Glen Alvie	Nyora	Ashleigh Stride
Foster v Kilcunda-Bass	Foster GC	Michael Thomas			

B GRADE, Division 1					
Club v OMK	McMahon	Steve Williamson	MDU v Inverloch	Meeniyen	Ian Salmon
P-Island v Nerrena	Cowes	Brad Phillips	Korumburra - BYE		

B GRADE, Division 2					
Town v Kilcunda-Bass	Scorpion Pk 1	Geoffrey Parkinson	Foster v Nyora	East Campus	Paul Gardiner
Koon L/RSL v G-Alvie	Koonwarra	Graham Wightman	Imperials - BYE		

ROUND 7 - SATURDAY, JANUARY 18

C GRADE, Division 1					
Nerrena v Town	Nerrena	Neil Grabham	OMK v Phillip Island	Digger Park	Tyson Tootel
Korumburra v Club	Poowong	Les White	Kilcunda-Bass - BYE		

C GRADE, Division 2					
Phillip Island v OMK	Rhyll	TBA	G-Alvie v Koon L/RSL	Glen Alvie	TBA
Inverloch v MDU	Inverloch	Noel Grayden	Nyora - BYE		

Subject to Confirmation.
Any prospective umpires can contact
Geoff Wyatt 0413 081 136 or Doug Pell 0404 301 333



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Nerrena holds off Leongatha Town

A GRADE, DIVISION 1

HAVING chosen to bat first on opposition turf, Nerrena set a strong 2/248, Leongatha Town making a solid reply but falling 27 runs short when bowled out for 221, Thomas Cameron's unbeaten score of 101 laying the foundation for the Red Caps' victory.

The Nerrena skipper scored at just over a run a ball, striking seven boundaries and five sixes.

Mitch Clark's undefeated 62 came at almost a run a ball.

While both Nerrena openers were ultimately run out, Jack Curtis had already made a rapid 46, Loc Roberts compiling a more sedate 24.

Darcy Berryman snavelled five wickets for Nerrena, inflicting significant damage on the Leongatha Town middle order, with Archie Gannon and Timothy Wightman the other multiple wicket takers with a couple each.

Earlier, the Scorpions' bowling attack was held wicketless, Madura Madusanka impressing with an economical 22 runs off his eight overs.

Wonthaggi Club quick to knock off Phillip Island total

SKIPPER Joel Brann blasted 60 off just 32 balls, clearing the boundary eight times, with just one four, guiding Wonthaggi Club to a seven-wicket win over Phillip Island.

After choosing to bat, the Sharks registered what appeared to be a reasonably competitive 9/146 off the maximum 40 overs, but Club needed just over 25 overs to breeze past the target.

Openers Mitch Thomas (34) and Alexander Geyer with a patient unbeaten 31 helped Wonthaggi ensure the chase was a smooth one.

George McCausland (1/41) and Thomas Niven (1/25) were the only bowlers to capture wickets for the Sharks, the other being a run out.

James Sheerin was the game's only multiple wicket-taker, rattling Phillip Island's middle and lower order with 3/9 off eight tidy overs.

Ryan Thomas (1/16 off four overs), Heath Dobbie (1/25 off eight overs) and Mark McCall (1/38 from seven overs) each made a



Wonthaggi opening batsman Alex Geyer played his role to perfection, scoring 31 not out during an impressive chase by Club against Phillip Island on Saturday in A Grade Division 1.



George McCausland dropped in slips before scoring, and Max Royal, combined in a 43-run last-wicket partnership that breathed new life into Phillip Island's chances in the A Grade Division 1 match against Wonthaggi Club on Saturday at the repaired Cowes oval.

top order breakthrough for Club, Brann taking a tidy 1/27 off his eight overs, helping prevent any Phillip Island batsmen from notching a big score despite the top three getting solid starts.

Max Royal, batting at number nine, top-scored for the Sharks with 34 not out, edging out opener Lachlan Cleeland who made 30.

Allround performance from skipper Spicer in Korumburra win

AN UNBEATEN 74 at a good clip and figures of 4/23 off just a couple of balls short of eight overs from captain Ben Spicer propelled Korumburra to a 64-run victory over host Imperials.

Imperials put the Cobras

in, Korumburra batting positively to finish with a run rate of five per over.

Rumesh Rangana (33) was next best behind Spicer, but everyone who got a bat contributed, while Mustafa Nader's 2/26 off eight overs was another impressive haul for the Korumburra bowlers.

Tim Sauvarin performed strongest with the ball for Imperials, taking 2/20 in eight tidy overs at just 2.5 an over, his vice-captain Lachie Wright the other multiple wicket taker for Imps with 2/43.

Aydan Williams was the standout batsman for Imperials, making 62 from 90 balls but was run out by the combined efforts of Nader and Rangana, Williams the only of the side's top four to get going with the willow.

OMK defends low total against Cougars

JUST like the West Indies bowlers of the 1980s who seemed able to defend almost any target, OMK's attack made its batting lineup's effort count, skittling Koonwarra Leongatha RSL for just 59 as the Cougars chased a modest victory target of 125.

After choosing to bat, the top four Diggers all got starts but couldn't go on with it, captain Koby Brann doing best with 36 off 52 balls.

With half the OMK batting lineup falling short of double figures, the side was dismissed early in the 39th over, appearing not to have enough runs on the board.

All six bowlers contributed strongly for the Cougars, highlighted by two-wicket hauls to Isuru Darshana (2.16 per over), James Rushton (3.2 per over) and Azhar Mehmood (3.62 per over)

However, Darshana was the only Koonwarra Leongatha RSL batsman to get going, making 18, none of his teammates reaching double figures, the side blasted out in just 16 overs, OMK using only three bowlers.

Ryan Williams snavelled an extraordinary 4/5 off two overs to dispatch the Cougars' bottom order, while Travis Pickering (3/36 off eight overs) and Peter Dell (3/14 off six overs) also enjoyed a big day with the ball.

A GRADE DIVISION 1

Nerrena 2/248 d Town 221	
Nerrena – 1st INNINGS	
Jack Curtis run out: B Wakishta	46
Loc Roberts run out: R Hume, J Giardina	24
Thomas Cameron not out	101*
Mitchell Clark not out	62*
Extras (8w, 1nb, 5lb, 1b)	15
Total 2 / 248 (40 Overs)	
Bowling: R Hume 6-1-36-0 (4w), J Hume 7-0-60-0 (4w), B Wakishta 5-0-46-0 (1nb), R Abeyasinghe 6-0-31-0, M Madusanka 8-1-22-0, E Smith 3-0-22-0, DLMP Gallage 5-0-25-0	
Town – 1st INNINGS	
Ron Abeyasinghe hit wicket b: T Wightman	115
Jesse Giardina c: J Curtis b: A Gannon	0
DLMP Gallage lbw: J Trease	19
Madura Madusanka b: D Berryman	38
Jack Hume c: J Trease b: D Berryman	10
Buwaneka Wakishta c: ? b: D Berryman.....	0
Rhett Hume b: D Berryman	5
Birendra De Saram b: D Berryman	23
Archie Fixter b: A Gannon	1
Samuel Clark b: T Wightman	0
Ethan Smith not out	1*
Extras (8w, 1nb).....	9
Total 10 / 221 (40 Overs)	
Bowling: J Trease 8-1-44-1 (1w), A Gannon 6-0-38-2 (2w), T Wightman 7-0-42-2 (1w), W Croatto 4-0-16-0 (3w), M Clark 7-0-44-0 (1nb), D Berryman 8-0-37-5 (1w)	

Club 3/147 d Phillip Island 9/146	
Phillip Island – 1st INNINGS	
Brodie Johnston c: J Brann b: R Thomas	20
Lachlan Cleeland c: M Thomas b: H Dobbie	30
Daniel Mock c: G Britt b: M McCall	26
Thomas Niven run out: M Thomas	7
Jarrold Black run out: L Mclean	4
Kohen Beaumont c: R Thomas b: J Sheerin	1
Kurt Lane c: H Dobbie b: J Sheerin	0
Heath Womersley c: L Mclean b: J Sheerin	1
Max Royal not out	34*
Zac Brown c: J Sheerin b: J Brann.....	1
George McCausland not out	9*
Extras (10w, 2lb, 1b)	13
Total 9 / 146 (40 Overs)	
Bowling: J Brann 8-1-27-1 (2w), M Thomas 5-0-28-0, H Dobbie 8-0-25-1 (2w), R Thomas 4-0-16-1 (3w), J Sheerin 8-4-9-3 (3w), M McCall 7-1-38-1	
Club – 1st INNINGS	
Mitch Thomas run out: M Royal	34
Alexander Geyer not out	31*
Joel Brann c: D Mock b: GMcCausland	60
Ryan Thomas lbw: T Niven	4
Gavin Britt not out	11*
Extras (5w, 1nb, 1lb)	7
Total 3 / 147 (25.2 Overs)	
Bowling: M Royal 4-1-8-0 (1w), G McCausland 8-2-41-1, H Womersley 3-0-16-0, T Niven 4.2-0-25-1 (1nb), Z Brown 5-1-44-0, K Lane 1-0-12-0 (4w)	

Korumburra 5/200 d Imperials 136	
Korumburra – 1st INNINGS	
Andy Millar lbw: L Wright	21
Mustafa Nader b: T Sauvarin	19
Tom Crocker c: J Ginnane b: T Sauvarin	20
Ben Spicer not out	74*
Rumesh Rangana c: ? b: A Casey	33
Jason Richards lbw: L Wright	10
GSA Mudalige not out	4*
Extras (17w, 1nb, 1lb)	19
Total 5 / 200 (40 Overs)	
Bowling: L Wright 8-0-43-2 (7w), I Bolge 8-2-41-0, T Sauvarin 8-3-20-2 (3w), A Williams 7-0-50-0 (2w), N Eddy 5-0-31-0 (5w, 1nb), J Ginnane 2-0-13-0, A Casey 2-1-1-1,	
Imperials – 1st INNINGS	
Luke Rogers b: GSA Mudalige	6
Rowen McLennan b: M Nader	0
Aydan Williams run out: M Nader, R Rangana.....	62
Timothy Sauvarin c: M Young b: GSA Mudalige	0
Nick Eddy b: H McNeil	21
Jack Ginnane c: M Allen b: B Spicer	29
Lachie Wright c&b: B Spicer	4
Campbell Reid b: M Nader	0
Archie Casey st: R Rangana b: B Spicer	1
Gary Sauvarin not out	2*
Isaac Bolge c: H McNeil b: B Spicer	2
Extras (6w, 1nb, 2lb)	9
Total 10 / 136 (33.4 Overs)	
Bowling: GSA Mudalige 4-0-26-2 (3w, 1nb), M Nader 8-2-26-2 (2w), H McNeil 6-2-20-1, T Crocker 8-0-39-0 (1w), B Spicer 7.4-1-23-4	

OMK 124 d Koonwarra L/RSL 59	
OMK – 1st INNINGS	
Ryan Williams b: J Thomas	12
Zavier Lamers c: J Rushton b: I Darshana	14
Ethan Lamers st: H Scrimshaw b: I Darshana	14
Koby Brann c: W Cashin b: J Rushton	36
Jake Cochrane b: J Kennedy	4
Thomas Wyatt c: K Scrimshaw b: C Buckland	2
Noel Creed b: A Mehmood	12
Jacob Lamers run out: H Scrimshaw	5
Paul Fermanis c: W Cashin b: J Rushton	2
Peter Dell c&b: A Mehmood	1
Travis Pickering not out.....	0*
Extras (13w, 1nb, 2lb, 6b).....	22
Total 10 / 124 (38.1 Overs)	
Bowling: J Thomas 4-0-12-1 (2w), A Mehmood 8-1-29-2 (4w, 1nb), J Kennedy 8-1-19-1, I Darshana 6-0-13-2, C Buckland 5-0-20-1 (4w), J Rushton 7.1-0-23-2 (3w)	
Koonwarra L/RSL – 1st INNINGS	
Anthony Hunt c: K Brann b: T Pickering	1
Mitchell Scrimshaw c: E Lamers b: P Dell	3
Isuru Darshana c: E Lamers b: T Pickering.....	18
Kayden Scrimshaw lbw: P Dell	2
James Rushton b: P Dell	4
Azhar Mehmood c: E Lamers b: T Pickering	8
Callum Buckland b: R Williams	6
Jason Kennedy not out	2*
Harry Scrimshaw b: R Williams.....	0
William Cashin lbw: R Williams	3
Joshua Thomas c: K Brann b: R Williams.....	0
Extras (8w, 4lb)	12
Total 10 / 59 (16 Overs)	
Bowling: T Pickering 8-1-36-3 (4w), P Dell 6-1-14-3 (1w), R Williams 2-0-5-4 (3w)	



Kilcunda-Bass opened the batting against Inverloch Stingrays. B102_0225

MDU fall short against Nyora

A GRADE, DIVISION 2

NYORA won the toss and elected to bat in their match against Meeniyian Dumbalk United, posting a challenging total of 4/232 from 40 overs.

The innings was anchored by a stellar knock from Henry Dolphin, who top-scored with 72 runs off 85 balls. Dolphin's innings included five boundaries, and he formed a crucial partnership with Aaron Kaddatz, who remained unbeaten on 72 from 56 balls, striking eight boundaries.

Jy Hull (34) and Scott Peatling (19) also contributed solid starts. Nyora's disciplined batting performance was supported by timely contributions down the order, pushing their total to a competitive 232.

MDU's bowling attack was led by Mark Cantwell, who landed one wicket off 37 in eight overs, while Tharindu Nuwan (1/35) and Sembakuttige Chathura Lakshan (1/49) also made notable contributions. Despite their efforts, Nyora's total proved too challenging.

In reply, MDU struggled to keep up with the required run rate. Paul Le Page fought valiantly with a top score of 66 from 72 balls, hitting nine fours and two sixes. However, the loss of wickets at regular intervals, including key dismissals like Mitch McGrath (30), Tharindu Nuwan (9), and Mark Cantwell (17), put them on the back foot. Scott Browne's 22 not out later down the order wasn't enough.

Ultimately, MDU were bowled out for 209 in 37.3 overs, falling short of Nyora's total by 23 runs. Nyora's bowling attack was well-rounded, with Jake

Henry (2/61), Aidan Simmons (2/26), and Mitch Rowe (2/29) leading the charge.

Inverloch chase down Killy-Bass

KILCUNDA-Bass won the toss and elected to bat first in their match against Inverloch, but their innings never gained momentum, finishing with a modest total of 10/84 from 39.5 overs.

Brad Wright (18) and Cameron Davidson (17) provided the initial resistance, but wickets fell consistently throughout the innings. The middle order collapsed, with Robert Wallace (5) and Shaun Lucas (1) contributing little. Daniel Ferguson (2) and Ben Rookes (8) also fell cheaply, and despite a late push from Harrison Berry (15), Kilcunda-Bass were bowled out for just 84 runs.

Inverloch's bowlers were in superb form, led by Lewis Rankin, who claimed three wickets for 17 runs. Jesse Dugard (3/12) also caused problems for the batting side, while Cooper Newman (3/5) bowled an exceptional spell, ensuring Kilcunda-Bass never got going. Callum Asbury (0/20) and Rhys Newman (0/10) kept things tight, giving Kilcunda-Bass no room to recover.

Inverloch's response was solid, as they reached 2/89 in just 21 overs. Riley Harris anchored the chase with an unbeaten 20 from 68 balls, while Dylan Clark played an explosive cameo, blasting 25 from 18 balls.

Callum Asbury (6) and Jack Butcher (21) contributed useful runs. Kilcunda-Bass's bowlers, including Harrison Berry (1/8) and Ryan Brown (0/24), could not defend the small total.

Inverloch chased down the target with relative ease, winning by eight wickets.

Foster sets challenging total

FOSTER won the toss and opted to bat first, amassing an impressive total of 5/227 from their 40 overs. Mitchell Jones top-scored with a steady 62 from 103 balls, while Josh Toner's quickfire 27 from 25 balls set a solid foundation.

Ollie Rook played a standout innings, blasting 92 off 78 balls, including nine fours and four sixes, to put Foster in a dominant position. Not out batsmen Michael Cooke (28) and Mitchell Allott (5) ensured a strong finish, with Foster reaching 5/227 at the end of their innings.

Matthew Dakin (3/52) and Zack Scholz (1/27) were the best bowlers for Glen Alvie. Despite a few early breakthroughs, Foster's middle order was resilient, with Rook's blistering knock the highlight.

Glen Alvie's chase got off to a solid start, with Matthew Dakin (73) and Matthew Donohue (47) anchoring the innings. Dakin's 10 fours and two sixes provided the impetus, and Donohue's steady 47 from 66 balls kept Glen Alvie in the hunt.

However, the middle order faltered under pressure, with wickets falling regularly. Ben McRae (19) and Archie Donohue (21) contributed, but the required run rate climbed, and Glen Alvie fell short, finishing at 7/210 after 40 overs.

Foster's bowlers, including Josh Toner (2/15) and Ollie Rook (2/35), kept the pressure on, limiting Glen Alvie to just 210 runs and sealing a 17-run victory.

A GRADE DIVISION 2

Nyora 4/232 d MDU 209	
Nyora – 1st INNINGS	
Henry Dolphin b: M Cantwell	72
Jy Hull lbw: T Nuwan	34
Scott Peatling c: M McGrath b: SC Lakshan	19
Aaron Kaddatz not out	72*
Aaron Thompson run out: Z Bright	14
Benn Hayes not out	3*
Extras (8w, 2nb, 7lb, 1b)	18
Total 4 / 232 (40 Overs)	
Bowling: M Cantwell 8-0-37-1 (3w), S Browne 4-0-21-0, T Nuwan 6-1-35-1 (1w), J Palmer 3-0-13-0 (1w), SC Lakshan 8-1-49-1, Z Bright 8-0-49-0 (3w, 2nb), M McGrath 3-0-20-0	
MDU – 1st INNINGS	
SC Lakshan b: M Rowe	16
Mitch McGrath c: B Hayes b: M Rowe	30
Joel Sinclair b: A Thompson	9
Paul Le Page c&b: J Henry	66
Tharindu Nuwan lbw: A Simmons.....	9
Jai Bright c: M Lynch b: A Simmons	5
Wayne Prosser c&b: J Henry	9
Zak Bright run out: A Kaddatz	0
Scott Browne not out.....	22*
Mark Cantwell lbw: A Kaddatz	17
Jake Palmer b: R Cordeux	1
Extras (14w, 8nb, 3lb)	25
Total 10 / 209 (37.3 Overs)	
Bowling: M Rowe 8-0-29-2 (4w, 1nb), R Cordeux 4.3-0-43-1 (1w, 2nb), A Thompson 3-0-17-1 (1w), A Simmons 8-1-26-2, Jake Henry 8-0-61-2 (8w, 5nb), A Kaddatz 6-0-30-1	

Inverloch 2/89 d Kilcunda-Bass 84	
Kilcunda-Bass – 1st INNINGS	
Brad Wright c: ? b: J Dugard	18
Aaron Conron c: ? b: L Rankin	0
Cameron Davidson c: ? b: C Newman	17
Matthew Grayson lbw: C Newman	6
Robert Wallace run out	5
Shaun Lucas c&b: C Newman	1
Daniel Ferguson lbw: L Rankin	2
Ben Rookes b: J Dugard	8
Ryan Brown c: ? b: L Rankin	0
Harrison Berry: ? b: J Dugard	15
Chris Peckett not out.....	0*
Extras (7w, 4nb, 1lb)	12
Total 10 / 84 (39.5 Overs)	
Bowling: C Asbury 8-1-20-0 (1nb), L Rankin 8-1-17-3 (3w, 2nb), J Dugard 6.5-2-12-3, T Debono 4-0-19-0 (1nb), C Newman 8-4-5-3 (1w), R Newman 5-0-10-0 (3w)	
Inverloch – 1st INNINGS	
Riley Harris not out	20*
Callum Asbury c: ? b: H Berry	6
Jack Butcher run out: B Wright	21
Dylan Clark not out	25*
Extras (14w, 3b)	17
Total 2 / 89 (21 Overs)	
Bowling: R Brown 4-0-24-0 (11w), H Berry 4-2-8-1, C Peckett 5-0-11-0, B Rookes 4-0-18-0, B Wright 3-1-7-0 (1w), R Wallace 1-0-18-0 (2w)	

Foster 5/227 d Glen Alvie 7/210	
Foster – 1st INNINGS	
Mitchell Jones b: M Dakin	62
Josh Toner b: M Dakin.....	27
Ollie Rook c&b: W Luke	92
Jake Staley c: M Donohue b: Z Scholz	2
Tex Dyson lbw: M Dakin	2
Michael Cooke not out	28*
Mitchell Allott not out	5*
Extras (2w, 3nb, 3lb, 1b).....	9
Total 5 / 227 (40 Overs)	
Bowling: M Dakin 7-0-52-3 (1w), Z Scholz 6-0-27-1 (3nb), R Sinclair 6-1-22-0, A Luke 7-1-36-0, B McRae 8-0-45-0, W Luke 6-0-41-1 (1w)	
Glen Alvie – 1st INNINGS	
Matthew Donohue c: O Rook b: J Staley	47
Archie Moore c: A Pattie b: R Johnston	3
Matthew Dakin c: M Cooke b: O Rook	73
Ben McRae stumped b: O Rook	19
Zack Scholz not out	34*
Andrew Dakin run out: O Rook	3
Archie Donohue b: J Toner	21
Wayne Luke c: R Johnston b: J Toner	0
Ryan Sinclair not out	0*
Extras (7w, 1lb, 2b)	10
Total 7 / 210 (40 Overs)	
Bowling: M Cooke 6-0-22-0 (3w), R Johnston 5-0-32-1 (2w), J Toner 4-0-15-2, A Pattie 4-0-24-0, O Rook 8-0-35-2, J Staley 5-0-29-1, H Griggs 5-0-32-0, E Smith 30-0-18-0 (2w)	

Local cricket

South Gippsland and Bass Coast

Sentinel-Times

www.sgst.com.au



The Garvey family, regular visitors to Phillip Island, try their hand at sailing at the annual Discover Sailing Day at the Cowes Yacht Club last Saturday.

Sailing away to adventure at Cowes

THE Cowes Yacht Club held its annual 'Discover Sailing Day' on Saturday, January 11 and with the weather warm and a lovely, light breeze blowing it would have been hard to conceive of better conditions for introducing young and old alike to the pleasures of sailing.

And even if you got a bit wet in the process it wasn't a problem.

The club reported bumper registrations from those keen to have try and with a variety of craft on the go, there

wasn't much waiting as lots of colourful sails were unfurled taking visitors off the beach to adventure.

As well as a sailing experience, there was also the opportunity to take a tour around the club's superbly located facilities and to enquire about their learn to sail activities, sailing days and regular events.

There's little doubt the success of the day and the delightful conditions converted a few but also delighted all participants.



Let's go sailing! The Sammartino family get set for a sailing experience at the Cowes Yacht Club on Saturday.

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