

# Sentinel-Times

COVERING SOUTH GIPPSLAND AND BASS COAST

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5000  
more houses,  
12,000  
more people

LAST Thursday, the Acting Minister for Planning Melissa Horne, announced what is effectively a \$350 billion residential, business and recreation expansion of Wonthaggi.

It will add another 5000 new homes to the north and east of the town over the next 30 to 50 years, increasing the population by 12,000 people from 8000 to 20,000.

When you consider that there were 4755 private dwellings recorded by the ABS at the 2021 Census in Wonthaggi, Wonthaggi North and Dalyston, it's a big number. Huge.

The developer contributions alone for roads, intersections, drainage, and community and recreation facilities associated with the Wonthaggi North-East Precinct Structure Plan is estimated at more than \$135 million, which you could easily double when state and local government contributions are added in.

At the centre of the massive expansion will be a Village Hub with sporting reserves, new government primary school and local convenience store.

According to the Victorian Planning Authority, which fast-tracked the Bass Coast Shire Council's plan, "the gross developable area for Wonthaggi North East is 632 hectares of which 506 hectares, or 80.1 per cent, is net developable area (NDA); 444 hectares are available for residential development and 63 hectares are available for employment development".

Notwithstanding the fact that there are hundreds and hundreds of building blocks available for sale in the town now, at prices between \$270,000 and \$310,000, with an immediate start to building, as a result of earlier residential expansion, some say Wonthaggi will need more area to grow within the time-frame announced last week.

Continued page 3

# Wonthaggi MEGA TOWN

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# Wonthaggi: Mega town

## 5000 more houses, 12,000 more people

### From page 1

Born and bred Wonthaggi councillor Brett Tessari says we've seen it coming but as ambitious as the plan is for 5000 more homes in the next 30 to 50 years, he can see the town growing faster than that.

"I thought that when I was in real estate, and I believe that now. I reckon we're going to have to recalculate again in five to 10 years' time.

"What is going on east of Korumburra Road, in through McGibbons Road, and elsewhere in the town is huge.

"There's hundreds of tradesmen working in the town at the moment, and certainly a lot of them are working for the volume builders, but all of our local builders and tradesmen are busy as well.

"It's an enormous part of the economy and only going to get bigger.

"It stands to reason, if you're closing down Inverloch and Cape Paterson to further development, it's got to go somewhere, and Wonthaggi is clearly going to pick up a lot of that.

"We're an easy, very easy drive to Melbourne and with everything the area has to offer, it's a great option.

"If my kids and their friends are going to stay living and working locally, as expensive as it is to get started, they're going to have to build here. And that's what's happening."

Cr Tessari said he hoped development of an aquatic centre in Wonthaggi would come sooner rather than later, but these were the sorts of infrastructure developments that the town needed.

Local real estate agents are more circumspect.

They say there are thousands of blocks on the ground now, more than enough for the next five, even 10 years.

And, also, that the market has changed with interest rates and concerns about failed builders raising red flags for some.

"The housing starts we are seeing now relate back to when the market was hot. It's still steady but nothing like it was," said one local agent who has nonetheless welcomed the announcement.

One of the local tradesmen on the job today, building a new four-bedroom home for Sherridon Homes in the Parklands



It's go, go, go for local tradesmen Mick Kolden and Tyte Sylvester, finishing this home for Sherridon Homes before moving on to the next one.



New sports ovals, a new primary school and convenience store will be at the centre of Wonthaggi new north-east residential precinct.

Estate, Mick Kolden, and his apprentice Tyte Sylvester, both of Wonthaggi, say there's plenty going on.

"I've got a lot of blokes coming in here tomorrow. We should be finished here this week," said Mick.

"Then it's on to the next one. All over from Phillip Island to Wonthaggi, Inverloch and Leongatha; there's a lot going on," he said as he pushes the shovel into a builder's barrow full of wet concrete.

Both the Acting Minister Melissa Horne and local MP Jor-

dan Crugnale have hailed the announcement as providing "much-needed homes" but acknowledged it won't happen overnight.

"While we get on with delivering thousands of homes in established suburbs in cities over the next decade, we're also supporting growth areas like Wonthaggi North East with more homes, jobs and community infrastructure," said Minister Horne.

Member for Bass Jordan Crugnale welcomed the announcement.

"Wonthaggi is growing, and these new plans will provide much needed new homes as well as a new primary school, sporting facilities, a commercial area and green spaces to maximise livability and connectivity."

Bass Coast Shire Council Mayor Clare Le Serve said the development would provide much needed affordable housing options, employment opportunities and community amenities to cater for the rising Bass Coast population.

"This major project is a game-changer that will unlock huge opportunities for the region and guide the development of a new growth area in Wonthaggi for future generations," Cr Le Serve said.

"The area will undergo a full transition of land use into a large-scale residential development and community infrastructure. This will allow for a considerable population increase and provide for a range of land size options to suit all housing needs.

"The project reinforces Wonthaggi's role as a regional centre as well as delivering community facilities; a primary school, local parks, over 90 hectares of open space, trails and a new sports reserve for residents. The area will be ready to fully take advantage of the opportunities presented in proximity to the metropolitan area and the surrounding Gippsland region."

Cr Le Serve said the project would also open up over 60 hectares of commercial and industrial land creating 2940 jobs over the life of the plan.

"It will provide employment opportunities by allowing commercial and industrial businesses to establish on the Bass Highway. The plan will ensure that new communities are integrated with the existing town through road connections and tree-lined streets. The extensive pathway network will connect residents to parks, sporting and community facilities, bushland, the existing township and the Bass Coast Rail Trail."

The Wonthaggi North-East Precinct Structure Plan was identified as a project on the Victorian Planning Authority's (VPA) Fast Track Program as a result of significant growth in the area over the past five years.



### Bass Coast HWP focus on impaired driver and speed

Police Officers from the Bass Coast Highway Patrol and Road Police Drug Alcohol Section conducted a focussed Alcohol and Drug Testing Operation from Friday night to Sunday afternoon in the vicinity of Mirboo North, Korumburra, Leongatha and Grantville.

As a result of these policing activities, Police recorded the following results:

2032 Preliminary Breath Tests (Alcohol). A 52-year-old male from Korumburra was detected at 0.072 breath alcohol. He received an on the spot fine worth \$577 and additionally his licence was cancelled. He was also disqualified for six months.

55 Preliminary Oral Fluid Tests (Drugs)

There was one positive result. A 46-year-old male from Korumburra was detected and received an on the spot fine worth \$577 and a six months suspension of his licence.

Ten additional infringement notices were issued for offences including unregistered vehicles and exceeding the speed limit.

Bass Coast Highway Patrol continued deployments for Operation Desacelerar. On Saturday January 20, 17 people were detected speeding and two were found driving unregistered vehicles in the Bass Coast area. This operation is supported by funding by the TAC and continues enhanced Road Policing deployments through to the end of February.

### Operation Amity

OPERATION Amity runs over four days, from 12.01am on Thursday January 25 to 11.59pm on Sunday January 28.

Police will be highly visible to reduce road trauma across the Australia Day long weekend, with a focus on major arterials, coastal holiday hotspots, and travel on rural road.

Police will be targeting speeding, impaired drivers, fatigue, distraction, vulnerable road users and seatbelt compliance.

Police will be highly visible and enforcing across the state to reduce road trauma and positively influence road user behaviour.

Driving is a complex task that requires concentration, judgement and decision making. Alcohol affects these skills and your ability to safely control a vehicle. If you're planning to have a drink, don't drive – leave the car at home, arrange a designated driver, and utilise alternative transport.

Be cautious when travelling near heavy vehicles and vehicles towing caravans and campers – maintain a safe braking distance and never overtake on double white lines or when visibility is poor.

Slowing down could be the difference between arriving alive and not arriving at all.

## Danny O'BRIEN MP

State Member for Gippsland South

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## CONTENTS

Entertainment	<b>26-27</b>
Puzzles	<b>28</b>
Real Estate	<b>29-31</b>
Farming	<b>34-35</b>
Trades & Services	<b>36-37</b>
Classifieds	<b>38-42</b>
<b>FEATURES</b>	
Australia Day	<b>12-17</b>
2024 Beef Week	<b>32-33</b>

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	<b>TUE   Jan 23</b> Partly cloudy. Wind AM: Light Wind PM: E 15-25km/h <b>13° 26°</b>
	<b>WED   Jan 24</b> Shower or two. Wind AM: NE 15-20km/h Wind PM: NW-NE 20-30km/h <b>16° 29°</b>
	<b>THUR   Jan 25</b> Shower or two. Wind AM: Light Wind PM: SW 15-20km/h <b>15° 24°</b>
	<b>FRI   Jan 26</b> Shower or two. Wind AM: W 25-35km/h Wind PM: W 25-35km/h <b>15° 21°</b>
	<b>SAT   Jan 27</b> Shower or two. Wind AM: W 15-25km/h Wind PM: W 15-25km/h <b>13° 21°</b>
	<b>SUN   Jan 28</b> Partly cloudy. Wind AM: W-NW 15-20km/h Wind PM: S-SW 15-20km/h <b>13° 23°</b>



Cartoon by Glenn 'Grobb' Robinson.

## IN BRIEF

### Real Community Carbon Action

SOUTH Gippsland Landcare Network (SGLN) is inviting community members to capture their vehicles carbon emissions.

The Real Community Carbon Action program uses tax deductible donations to plant indigenous trees and shrubs in South Gippsland to help capture the carbon emitted from the use of personal vehicles.

These plantings will store carbon, create habitat for wildlife, protect precious waterways, reduce nutrient run off into streams, protect precious soil, create shade for livestock.

Capturing your vehicle's carbon emissions starts at just \$56 and is a great gift idea for the environmentally minded family member or that person who has everything!

Taxable donations can be made online at [sgln.net.au](#) or via the SGLN office and includes bumper sticker and certificate.

### Discounted cat desexing

SOUTH Gippsland Animal Aid (SGAA) are currently running a cat desexing program for concession card holders.

The cost is \$75 which includes a microchip if the cat has not already been microchipped.

Cowes Veterinary Surgery, Inverloch Animal Doc and Yarram Veterinary Clinic are some of the participating clinics offering the discount.

SGAA also offer a Last Litter Program. If cat owners currently have a cat with a litter of kittens, SGAA will desex the mother cat at no cost, if the litter of kittens

is surrendered once they are weaned.

SGAA asks people to be patient as it can take a few days to reply as they are currently processing a lot of applications. Go to South Gippsland Animal Aid Facebook page for more information.

### Community Satisfaction Survey to be undertaken

BASS Coast Shire Council recently announced the launch of the 2024 Community Satisfaction Survey. The survey is designed to actively engage with residents and gather valuable feedback on various aspects of council services and performance.

The survey will be conducted by the independent market research agency National Field Services from January 29 through to mid-March.

Residents over the age of 18 will be contacted by telephone for this anonymous and randomised survey.

This initiative's main objective is to assess the performance of council across a spectrum of measures and identify areas for improvements, enhancing service delivery to the vibrant community.

The information gathered will be instrumental in shaping future strategies and policies that align with the aspirations of the diverse population.

Residents are encouraged to share their opinions openly and honestly, as all individual responses and personal details will be kept strictly confidential.

Only aggregated and anonymised results will be shared

with council to inform decision making processes and enhance service provision.

### Fully alight house fire in Nyora

AROUND 7.44pm on January 18 six CFA units from Loch, Lang Lang and Poowong responded to a house fire at Hewson Street in Nyora.

Crews arrived on scene to the house full alight with no occupants inside at the time.

Utilising breathing apparatus on scene crews worked to contain the fire to approximately 40 per cent of the structure with the fire deemed under control around 8.03pm.

Local residents reported seeing a male enter the property prior to the fire starting.

A 45-year-old was arrested at the scene and will appear at Latrobe Valley Magistrates Court this week charged with criminal damage by fire (arson).

### CFA volunteers urge drivers to drive to the conditions of the road

IN A fearful collision on January 18, a silver vehicle travelling in an eastern direction on the Bass Highway towards Kilcunda (approximately 1.5 kilometres from the town limits) slid off the road, collided with a large tourism sign, and continued down the embankment eventually coming to a stop in roadside scrub.

Three CFA units responded to the accident from Kilcunda and Bass including members from Corinella, alongside Victoria Police, the SES and Ambulance

Victoria at 10.37pm.

Despite rolling multiple times, the driver was able to self-extricate with paramedics treating the individual at the scene.

In light of the collision, local CFA volunteers have urged drivers to drive to the conditions not just to the speed limit.

### Korumburra bin fire

KORUMBURRA Fire Brigade recently attended a sanitary bin fire inside the toilet block at the town's Coleman Park.

"Some youths were seen entering the toilet block, before a small explosion was heard and the youths were seen running from the toilet block," the brigade stated.

"Fortunately for our community, the toilet block is built of mainly non-combustible materials so the fire didn't spread."

Anyone with information regarding this fire is urged to contact Korumburra Police.

### Is it a bird, is it a plane?

CALL it click bait, a distraction, news or simply entertainment but the Herald Sun carried a story last week where it is claimed a visitor to Phillip Island videoed what he thought might be a UFO flying over the bridge at San Remo.

Posted on the private Facebook site, High Strangeness Australia UAF (Unidentified aerial phenomena), last week, Mark Rowe claimed the object flew right above him as he filmed it from his car.

Some have queried whether it might be a flying jelly fish, a swarm of bees or a distorted image of a bird.

# 'Balanced' plan to clean up Corinella's foreshore

THERE are two sorts of people in Corinella, the ones who want to see the view from their waterfront homes or when they take their dogs for a walk around the extensive foreshore pathway.

And the ones who say: "don't touch it!"

That's facetious of course.

There are actually three types of people in Corinella.

There's also the ones who frankly don't give a toss either way.

But suffice to say there's a wide difference of opinion about how the State Government appointed committee of management should manage the Corinella Foreshore Reserve and never the twain shall meet, as they say.

Which is why DEECA; the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action, and before it, DELWP; the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning, came up with a Corinella Foreshore Landscape Plan, released just before Christmas.

Of course, the release of the plan hasn't made everyone happy, some say no one is happy, which, according to the President of the Corinella Foreshore Committee of Management John Lippmann, might indicate how good the balance is between environmental, cultural, economic and social.

"I think DEECA has done a good job to find a balance," Mr Lippmann said this week.

"I tell anyone with concerns, who wants to know what's going on, to read the report."

It's available in full on the management committee's website at [corinellafreshore.com.au](http://corinellafreshore.com.au)

Here's a quick grab of some of the recommendations in the report:

- All weeds should be removed from the site using the most practical treatment option i.e. spraying or removal. Where appropriate areas subject to weed removal should be replanted with a mix of low-growing indigenous species that are representative of the relevant Ecological



Members of the Corinella Foreshore Committee of Management including, from left, Jim Woods, John Lippmann (president), and David Laing, take a walk along the foreshore pathway during the week after the release of the Corinella Foreshore Landscape Plan recently.

#### Vegetation Class (EVC).

- All dead wood with a DBH (diameter at breast height) of 40cm or less should be removed from the site. Standing dead wood with a DBH of 40cm or less should be removed at base of trunk, with the roots to remain in the ground.
- The removal of vegetation (excluding weeds) should be mulched on site to fast-track vegetation decomposition and improve soil quality on site.
- Where removal of dead wood or weeds creates clear paths or open areas to the edge of the cliffs, measures can be taken to ensure the safety of visitors including low-growing vegetation deterrents and fencing near lookouts.
- Any vegetation intentionally damaged will be replaced with tube stock of the same species or from within the EVC.
- Density of the blackwoods and she-oaks should be reduced by removing suppressed or damaged vegetation to support more long-term healthy growth, as determined by a qualified arborist.

Established canopy trees should be retained to create usable shaded spaces and preserve habitat.

• All trees should be removed from bio islands on the eastern side of the walking track and only low-growing shrubs and ground cover to remain.

• Self-seeded or unauthorised planted trees in built up areas should be removed.

Other measures include annual inspections by a qualified arborist, removal of pine trees and pine seedlings from the cliff edge, vegetation around lookouts managed to preserve the view and removal of vegetation that encroaches on the reserve from private property.

"There's not going to be a wholesale removal of vegetation, that's clearly set out in the plan. It's going to be gradual and it's more in the nature of tidying up the reserve to the point where we, as a committee, know what's expected of us and how we can manage it going forward."

But there is an expectation that views of the water, from private property, and also for those walking on the

foreshore pathway, will be improved.

"It's a coastal walk, not a bush walk. People want to see the water," said committee member Jim Woods.

"It's an issue that goes way back with complaints about unauthorised and inappropriate planting, overgrowth, weeds, dead trees and a lack of management," said David Laing, also a member of the foreshore committee.

"People have bought into the area, paying a premium for the view, and also extra in rates, only to see their views blocked out over time," said Mr Lippmann.

"This isn't going to solve all of those problems but at least now we have a plan for improvement," he said.

A number of local people have expressed alarm about many of the recommendations in the new management plan, fearing "wholesale clearing" of the foreshore, but have so far declined to comment until they have made contact with DEECA, seeking an implementation report, and the Bass Coast Shire Council, which has little if any management control over the Corinella Foreshore.

## \$10,000 Community Resilience Grant for Poowong-Loch-Nyora now open!

ON JANUARY 3, South Gippsland Water issued a precautionary Boil Water Alert for Poowong, Loch and Nyora. This meant that customers needed to boil their water before drinking and using water in food preparation.

They issued the alert after routine water quality testing detected low levels of E. coli, a type of bacteria that indicates potential contamination of the water supply. Extensive inspections of South Gippsland Water's assets have not found any possible ingress point for contamination.

As part of their commitment to customers and service standards, the lifting of the Boil Water Advisory triggers a \$10,000 community grant.

Managing Director of South Gippsland Water, Robert Murphy said, "This grant is an integral part of our response to the incident. This grant has been modelled on one offered to the community of Inverloch after a Boil Water Advisory occurred there in 2022. We feel strongly that a grant that supports the community or builds capacity to face future incidents or emergencies was something we can do in the wake of these events".

Mr Murphy continued, "It is envisioned that this grant may help our customers who are struggling or improve the wider community's ability to cope when something goes wrong."

The Community Resilience Grant is designed to:

- Support members of the Poowong-Loch-Nyora community experiencing vulnerability including those experiencing financial or social disadvantage.
- Provide capacity building or preparedness within the Poowong-Loch-Nyora community to be able to respond to current or future incidents or emergencies.

The grant is open to non-profit, Poowong-Loch-Nyora based, community groups or organisations. It will be a once-off grant to the total value of \$10,000. It may be a single grant or multiple smaller grants, depending on the applications received and South Gippsland Water's assessment of these.

Applications are open now, and close Sunday, February 18, 2024. To apply visit [sgwater.com.au](http://sgwater.com.au) and complete the application form.

South Gippsland Water and its Community Advisory Committee will review applications and award the grant. Local Poowong-Loch-Nyora community groups are encouraged to apply.

Visit [https://sgwater.com.au/learning-centre/community-programs/community-grants/](http://sgwater.com.au/learning-centre/community-programs/community-grants/) for more information and to find a copy of the application form.

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## Mayor's Message



Cr Clare  
Le Serve



I HAVE met and chatted with many people around the region during the holidays and one of the topics that keeps coming up is the lack of rentals and affordable homes to buy.

The popularity of Bass Coast as a place to live and work has many upsides for new jobs and investment, but it has certainly put a strain on housing availability.

We're not alone as it is a national issue, but that doesn't make it feel any easier.

I was therefore pleased that the State Government last week officially gave the green light to the new Wonthaggi North-East housing development.

This project is a game changer and will create new homes for more than 12,000 people on 500 hectares of residential land.

The Wonthaggi North-East Precinct Structure Plan will double the size of Wonthaggi over the next 30-50 years and expand business and industry precinct to provide major investment and new jobs for the region.

The precinct was identified as a project on the Victorian Planning Authority's (VPA) Fast Track Program, following significant population growth in the last five years. Victoria's COVID lockdown period was a major contributing factor to those favoring alternative regional living.

One of the biggest balancing acts for Council is growing investment to ensure jobs for future generations, while at the same not taking away the very thing about a region that people fell in love with in the first place like green open spaces.

This development has been carefully thought out and will deliver community facilities, a new primary school and kinder, local parks, shared paths and a new sports reserve for residents.

The plan will ensure that new communities are integrated with the existing town through road connections and tree-lined streets. The extensive pathway network will connect residents to parks, sporting and community facilities, bushland, the existing township and the Bass Coast Rail Trail.

The project reinforces Wonthaggi's role as a regional centre and sets up the area ready to fully take advantage of the opportunities presented in proximity to the metropolitan area, tourism, improved infrastructure and the surrounding Gippsland region. It will unlock huge opportunities for the region and guide the development of a new growth area in Wonthaggi for future generations.

# Rock fall fears at The Caves

A LOCAL fisherman, who is a regular to the foreshore area known as 'The Caves' at Inverloch believes the overhanging, sandstone rock formation above the tourist attraction is "a tragedy waiting to happen".

He has taken to warning families and individuals, especially those visiting the area due to a heightened interest in recent polar dinosaur discoveries, that it is simply unsafe to stand anywhere near the caves, let alone try to go inside.

"I was fishing there a week before Christmas and noticed an overhanging piece of rock," said Inverloch resident Gavin Bolding.

"I came back a few weeks later and it had all fallen down and there's more to come."

"Some of these pieces are the size of my station wagon."

"If it does come down at night, and I hope it does, then alright, but it's too much of a risk for anyone to go there in between times."

"I've spoken to a lot of people in the carpark when I've been there, and especially the foreign nationals visiting the coast, they simply don't understand the dangers that exist."

"I've told the people I can, but the authorities need to be taking more action the way it is at the moment."

Parks Victoria has placed a permanent "Danger: Cliff collapse no entry" sign right outside the cave but some people are simply ignoring the sign and going in, or taking a look from outside, which is just as dangerous.

"I can see what's going to happen."

"People sitting around under the cliff."

"I just hope no one is sitting there when it all comes down."

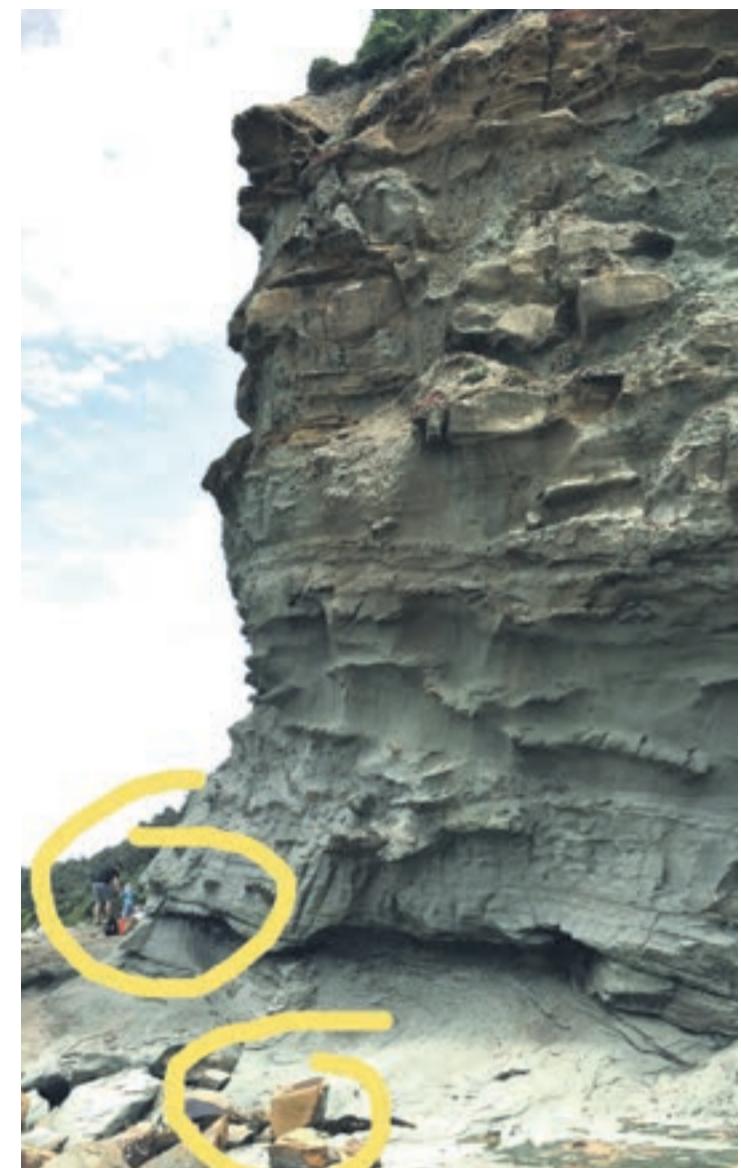
Mr Bolding said he and other recreational fishermen who visited the area had another axe to grind with the authorities.

"There's a nice little spot to go fishing near there but you have to walk past the cave to get there."

"You can get there safely from the other side, the Eagles Nest side, but you're not allowed to take fishing gear into a National Park."

Gavin is aware that he and his friends could simply decide it's too dangerous to go near the cliff at The Caves, but believes it's red tape, as much as anything else, that's putting them at risk.

**RIGHT:** The high, overhanging cliff at The Caves near Inverloch is causing concern, especially (circle) with visitors standing close by after the recent fall of rocks (circle).



## Albert Ruttle Estate residents await a verdict

BASS Coast Shire Council and Inverloch residents sought to protect the allocated open space in the Ruttle Estate subdivision from development at VCAT last week.

The owners looking to build on a portion of the wetland area set aside as communal open space have asked VCAT to rule on whether the proposed use and development for a single dwelling will contravene on the obligations detailed in a Section 173 agreement.

The agreement sets out certain conditions on the landholder, including allowing and enabling access to the land and maintaining the area to protect and enhance any native vegetation and fauna.

A VCAT decision is pend-

ing and is not expected to be handed down for at least several weeks following further enquiries and deliberation.

While a decision on the relevance of the 173 agreement is pending, there are other planning controls that council are obliged to consider to apply when triggered to ensure the wetland and associated open space are protected.

Council has indicated that building houses on these lots would not be 'generally in accordance' with these controls, a view supported by the Residents and Friends of Ruttle Estate (RaFoRE), who were represented in the VCAT hearing this week.

RaFoRE was formed six years ago by residents of the 30 lots subdivision when the

developer advertised for sale the Reserve as two vacant lots as development opportunities.

The setting aside of these lots as a wetland reserve and communal open space was an agreed part of the developer's open space contribution and a key condition for approval of the Ruttle Estate subdivision outside of the Inverloch town boundary.

This followed a Victorian planning panel hearing that approved the subdivision on environmental grounds with a large reserve - 22 acres - to be developed as wetlands.

Chair of RaFoRE Cait McMahon was keen to emphasise the role of council in holding the line.

"Although we are still waiting for the VCAT ruling, there are other planning applica-

tions on the horizon that will put the reserve at risk, and we urge council and the local community to continue to advocate for the open space to remain in place as intended for the benefit of our local community and the environment," McMahon said.

"We commend Bass Coast Shire Council on its recent responses to these planning applications and its position at the recent VCAT hearing, and hope that it stands by its interpretation of planning controls for future applications to develop the area set aside by the original developer as communal open space."

"We will be objecting strongly to any proposals submitted to council to build and would encourage others to object as well."

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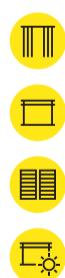
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# Two inquiries into Coles and Woolworths are underway

By Courtney O'Brien

CONSUMERS have been facing high prices at supermarkets, while farmers are being paid so poorly, more than a third of them are leaving the industry.

Under the federal government a select committee will inquire into, and report on the price setting practices, market and bargaining power of supermarket giants Coles and Woolworths.

Coles and Woolworths make up almost 70 per cent of the market share according to iStock, giving them significant power over the price of food and groceries.

The inquiry will investigate the effects of this power, including the pattern of price setting, increasing costs of essential items, deceptive promotions, protecting suppliers, price inflation and supermarket profits.

In 2023 Woolworths reported in excess of \$1.6 billion profit, while Coles reported a \$1.098 profit.

As well as the Inquiry into Supermarket Prices, the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) will be conducting a review of the Food and Grocery Code of Conduct.

This code is voluntary and was introduced to improve standards of business behaviour in the food and grocery sector, including the conduct of retailers and wholesalers towards suppliers.

Emma Germano, President of Victorian Farmers Federation



**Two inquiries are underway into the price setting practices and the effect this is having on farmers.**

(VFF) and a farmer from Mirboo North said that while some supermarket practices may be coercive, damaging to businesses or threaten their sustainability, eyes should also be on the government in terms of price gouging.

"There are plenty of things that the government is doing that's increasing the cost of production across the board.

"But we've got to separate out all of the issues rather than just the government using the supermarkets as a bit of a smoke-screen."

Emma states that farmers are reluctant to speak up for fear of commercial retribution.

"You can't bite the hand that feeds you and that's why often suppliers feel too nervous to talk about particular practices that are detrimental to their businesses."

While the inquiries will both

look into how the supermarkets do business, relationships between the giants and each supplier varies, creating a complex dynamic, not easily solvable.

As Coles and Woolworths have been so quick to point out, the cost of the end product includes paying the supplier, processing, transport, labour, packaging and putting it on the shelf.

By the same token farmers have been facing increasing expenses, with the cost of labour and energy on farms skyrocketing together with a multitude of other inputs – such as the cost of compliance reporting to supermarkets.

According to the National Farmers Federation, farmers would like greater transparency around how supermarkets price their products, tighter industry codes, more power for the ACCC to monitor practices, and fairer

and forward contracts for farmers.

The VFF President would like to see supermarkets working together more genuinely with farmers and along the supply chain to reach equitable outcomes for all involved.

And while Emma believes there may be some danger in fixed pricing initially, she states that there is a need for change in the industry.

"I think that this is where the ACCC needs to make sure that there's strong consumer laws put in place around some of those practices. There are a lot of farmers who, even though they're not necessarily directly supplying the supermarket's, they are impacted by what the supermarket's are doing with their particular suppliers."

While the sharp increase in farmers leaving the industry does not have a direct impact to product on the shelves, as larger suppliers often absorb smaller ones, it does, Emma explained, have a direct and detrimental impact on our communities, including the people, the schools, and the vibrancy of our towns.

"It has the flow on effect, not necessarily just in regard to how much product is available or the size of a particular industry, but on regional communities themselves. And that's the beat that we've got to be more attuned to; supporting farmers in their businesses and ensuring that farmers can be profitable and want to stay in the industry," concluded Emma.

## Australia Day comment

THE decision by Woolworths not to sell Australia Day merchandise, ahead of our national day on January 26 has not gone down well with some, including the Opposition Leader Peter Dutton.

But Woollies have since doubled down, in response to that criticism, which included Dutton calling for a boycott of their stores.

They've said instead that they will fly Indigenous flags at some of their stores on the day.

Aldi have since followed suit saying they're not selling Australia Day merch either, although they have no trouble selling fourth of July party supplies in their American stores each year.

Coles' supermarkets, on the other hand, have set up an end of an aisle at their stores to sell Australia Day party plates, stubby holders, paper napkins and the like for those having an Australia Day gathering.

You know what, it's a free country.

If Woolies don't want to sell Australia Day stuff, that's their decision and those who either oppose or support the move will have their response.

If Mr Dutton doesn't agree, so what, that's his opinion.

What we don't want to see, however, is one group trying to force their opinion on others in a debate that has good reason, on both sides, to be divided.

As it stands, Australia Day is celebrated on January 26 each year, and you either support it or you don't while respecting all views on the subject.

What we all need to do however is acknowledge that Australia is a great place to live, to "rejoice that we are one and free" and to do what we can to make it a better place to live by volunteering and getting involved in the political process to ensure policy settings are appropriate, that is "to advance Australia fair". Happy Australia Day!

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Special guest speaker, Robert Ogden, Bunurong-Pakana Elder.

## Commemorating the Aboriginal men

THE BASS Coast Reconciliation Network would like to sincerely thank the 100 plus community for turning out on Saturday January 20 to commemorate the lives of Tunnerminnerwait and Maulboyheenner, two Tasmanian Aboriginal men who were tragically hanged in Melbourne in 1842.

The ceremony offered an opportunity for the community to gather and honour the memory of Tunnerminnerwait and Maulboyheenner, and learn about the circumstances around their capture, and the injustices experienced at the time.

Tunnerminnerwait and Maulboyheenner were convicted for the alleged murder of two whale hunters in the Western Port area and subsequently became the first individuals publicly hanged in Melbourne after being captured near Harmers Haven.

The event commenced with a Welcome to Country and Smoking Ceremony, performed by Mark Brown from the Bunurong Land Council, followed by special guest speakers, Robert Ogden, Bunurong-Pakana Elder and Krishna Methven of the Pairrebeenne-Trawlwoolway clan of north-eastern Tasmania (Lutrawita).

Traditional Owner Robert Ogden shared documented accounts and alternative versions on the historical injustice of Tunnerminnerwait and Maulboyheenner.

"We need to unpack the tale and delve into the lives of Tunnerminnerwait and Maulboyheenner and broaden the narrative, these stories we know today have come from a very small amount of people, and not from Aboriginal people," said Mr Ogden.

"These young men were the first

people to be hanged by the Government Melbourne in 1842. The injustice and wrongful treatment toward Aboriginal people during this time ultimately leading to their deaths was abhorrent."

Mr Ogden explained that the complexity of the times, inconsistent accounts of what happened, and the obvious mistreatment treatment of these men and their communities was wrong.

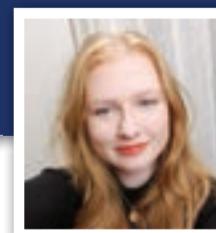
"They were only doing what we all would to protect our families. The treatment of our Country men and women during colonisation had a huge impact. That's why we come together to honour and pay respect to them each January to acknowledge all who suffered," said Mr Ogden.

"This was the beginning of the injustices for Aboriginal people and 180 years later we are still asking if anything has really changed. It's a critical chapter in our shared history. If we are truly going to move forward in reconciliation, we all need to understand that Aboriginal people want to have a voice – let's give them a voice and justice," said Mr Ogden.

Patrice Mahoney highlighted the Network's commitment to creating a culturally safe space to listen, learn, and reflect.

The Bass Coast Reconciliation Network is proud to support this annual event and is committed to providing a culturally safe space for the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community and the broader community to come together for Truth-telling which can be difficult to hear and we sit with a weight and we need to tell the stories and that's part of the healing and everyone is part of our healing," said Ms Mahoney.

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# Reality check for Inverloch property owners

LOOK up the Inverloch map on Realestate.com at the moment and you'll find a sea of red dots signifying the number of properties on the market.

It lists 188 properties for sale within the Inverloch settlement boundary, not a record for the town, but a significant number all the same.

And if an "auction extravaganza" put on by Ray White of Inverloch last Sunday, January 21 proves anything, it proved what the experts have been saying for a while, that it's very much a "buyers' market" in the town right now.

Despite ongoing interest in the three properties put up for auction in Inverloch on the day, and one at Venus Bay, all four were passed in.

But it's not all doom and gloom for would-be sellers, according to experienced local agent, Kevin McMahon, while at the same time being a great time to buy for those interested.

"We've seen these ebbs and flows in the market many times in Inverloch," said Mr McMahon.

"The level of interest we saw during COVID was just unsustainable. People buying properties that they had never set foot on, over the phone, for inflated prices driven by lack of supply.

"There had to be a correction and we're seeing that now, but the underlying strength of the Inverloch market has always been there.

"So, has the churn in property sales here. There are three distinct sectors in the Inverloch market; the permanents including the families and those that have always lived in the area, the holiday homeowners and the retirees.

"The permanents stay and maybe move up to a better home over the years, the holiday homeowners buy when the kids are young and move the house on when no one is coming anymore. And the retirees come down here to enjoy their retirement, and whether it's for family reasons or to be closer to health care, they often move back to Melbourne later.

"So, we traditionally have more properties on the market here on average than the likes of Leongatha or Wonthaggi.

"Going way back, I remember us having over 200 properties on the market at one stage but that was a much higher



All four of the properties offered for sale by Ray White Inverloch last Sunday, January 21, including three at Inverloch and one at Venus Bay were passed in but managed to attract quite a lot of interest on the day. After the busy day were, from right, Ray White Inverloch principal Fiona McMahon-Hughes, auctioneer Jeremy Tyrrell and Kevin McMahon also of Ray White Inverloch.

percentage than what we have at the moment.

"Values have settled back from the unrealistic highs of a few years ago but they are moving. Sales are still being made at good prices."

Principal of Ray White Inverloch Fiona McMahon-Hughes concurred.

"An auction is a process. It's not just about getting a result on the day. It's about finding people who might be interested in buying at a price, identifying what the level of interest is and where the market is at," Ms McMahon-Hughes said.

"We had a phenomenal amount of interest at Venus Bay. A terrific amount of people came out and while we didn't sell it on the day, we have six or seven people who have expressed a keen interest (41 Louis Road, Venus Bay).

Number 37 Powlett Street, Inverloch was also passed in at auction at 2pm last Sunday.

"We had offers after the auction and negotiations are ongoing."

About 12 people turned out for the auction of a four-bedroom, brick home located at 40 Anderson Avenue, Inverloch which reached \$670,000 on a vendors' bid by Ray White auctioneer Jeremy Tyrrell.

"We're looking for something above \$700,000 and I promise you I won't be making any vendor's bids passed that point

but take a look at Realestate.com, you simply won't find a brick, four-bedroom home in town for this price."

Ms McMahon-Hughes said there was a genuine bid on the day from someone with ongoing interest and the firm would continue working with them.

A crowd of about 50 people, many of them from the Lohr Avenue area, turned out at the last auction of the day, at 2 Lohr Avenue but it was passed in at \$850,000.

Auctioneer Tyrrell sang the praises of Lohr Avenue as arguably the town's most popular residential and holiday street, and while there was interest on the day, it didn't reach the reserve which was not disclosed.

"Again, we have ongoing interest and we've also discovered some new interest, which is good and that's often what auctions are about.

"Putting them up, seeing what the level of interest is and then trying to proceed through to a sale."

One young couple, trying to get into the market, who attended two of the auctions on the day wrapped up the sentiment.

"Prices have come down but they may have further to go and we're just sitting back for now to see what happens. Anything that comes off the price is less on the mortgage," they said.

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# Don't hold unauthorised bucks' party against us

KONGWAK Butter Factory owners Gemma Cosgriff and Damien Backholer emphatically deny intentionally allowing a buck's party to be held at the site. They are adamant the noisy event is not a reflection of what will occur if they are granted a permit to develop a venue with a 130-seat dining area and 39 cabins.

"We are very disappointed that a recent booking was made for a group that blatantly misrepresented their purpose for visiting," the couple said in a statement. "At no time was the organiser forthcoming in telling us the group was celebrating a Buck's Day, or that more people were going to attend than they had booked the accommodation for."

The owners explained that they were told the booking was for a group of friends getting together after not seeing each other for some time, saying that if the true nature of the intended gathering had been revealed the booking would have been refused.

"We have had many couples and families stay over recent months who have enjoyed Kongwak immensely and have been entirely respectful of our peaceful town," they said.

While Gemma and Damien have expressed their intention to move their young family to Kongwak after completion of the Butter Factory redevelopment, they currently divide their time.

"We received a message from a friendly neighbour about the noise, and we saw this after midnight on the Saturday night and acted immediately."

The couple said that while any member of the community can raise a noise or safety concern, no one did.

"Neighbours withheld their complaints until after we emailed late Saturday night letting them know that, as the owners of the property, we had become aware of the noise, called police and apologised," the owners said.

Damien and Gemma are adamant the situation could have been diffused early on had someone reported it, but argue some nearby Kongwak locals chose to document what was happening rather than reporting the situation at the time.



**Kongwak Butter Factory owners Damien Backholer and Gemma Cosgriff are keen to move to the town with their young family when the factory's redevelopment is complete.**

The owners are adamant that controls over who rents the Butter Factory accommodation will be tightened, saying it will be made abundantly clear it is not a 'party house'.

That was how the accommodation was labelled by the Save Kongwak Group in a statement released, with the incident seized on as an example of the owners' inability to control guest noise and behaviour.

The couple stressed they are treating the situation seriously and will be taking every measure to ensure the impact on neighbours is minimised in the future.

As reported in the January 16 edition, the Save Kongwak Group highlighted constant yelling, day and night, during the Buck's gathering.

"This unfortunately is just a taste of how the owners' future plans will destroy the amenity of Kongwak for residents," Save Kongwak Group spokesman Michael Knowles said.

Gemma and Damien addressed that accusation in their statement.

"Regarding future plans for

the Kongwak Butter Factory, it is important to distinguish the difference between our current short-stay accommodation versus the future; developing and running a new licensed premises will allow for acoustic controls being incorporated in the future design," they said.

The pair added that further details of noise controls and measures will be shared publicly as part of the planning process, noting noise can be managed effectively, and in line with strict EPA regulations.

"Despite not yet being in planning, we have undertaken extensive community engagement and communication through the development phase of the project so far." That public engagement process includes 11 direct engagement sessions with community stakeholder groups to share and discuss plans, get feedback and answer questions.

"Feedback received has been carefully considered in shaping our future design and offerings to ensure that community impacts are adequately managed, and benefits maximised," the

owners said.

Wastewater management is one of the areas of concern identified, with Gemma and Damien saying their farmland adjacent to the Butter Factory was purchased with that in mind. They argue the wastewater system will go beyond typical septic wastewater processing levels, producing recycled water suitable for irrigation.

While appreciative of those providing feedback, the owners argue some misinformation has been spread raising alarm and concern amongst others.

"We trust that broader visibility of our plans once released through planning will provide necessary context and dialogue in relation to our vision and intentions."

While the focus of those opposed to the proposed project has been on the likely transition into a wedding venue, Gemma and Damien say they have broader aims to use it as a showcase for local produce, arts and culture. Plans for a gallery space and general store are intended to help accomplish those aims.



**Jemima Geitz and Samantha Mitchell of Southern Septics attend the Leongatha Business Association's digital marketing session. A22\_0424**

## Digital skills boost for Leongatha business operators

WITH the increasing focus on a digital world, a diverse group of Leongatha business operators seized the chance to take part in a 'Google Ads and Google My Business' workshop at the town's RSL on Thursday.

The Leongatha Business Association (LBA) session was run by IT Solutions in Gippsland of which LBA member Sam Embuldeniya is founder and product manager.

The broad spectrum of businesses represented at the session fit into sectors such as hospitality, travel, retail, real estate and financial services.

LBA president Johnny Ozols, who is in the turf industry, attended, keen to boost his digital knowledge.

Southern Septics employees Jemima Geitz and Samantha Mitchell came to learn how to run Google Ad campaigns to promote the business, rather than doing so through a third party.

Attendees learned about a range of ad networks and social media platforms from facilitator Reema Banerjee.

She contrasted Google with platforms such as Facebook and Instagram (both operated by Meta).

"Google is an open network that can penetrate almost anywhere on the internet, (while) Meta, LinkedIn and Amazon are closed ecosystems with the ad remaining in their own platforms," she said.

Reema emphasised the importance of swiftly grabbing attention with your online marketing efforts, whether in written or video form, posing the following question.

"How powerful is your thumbnail?"

In other words, is it capturing people's attention or are they passing by without clicking to see what your business offers.

Jemima of Southern Septics reflected on the session.

"It was a good insight into the Google Ad campaign and the options available when running an ad," she said.

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**South Gippsland**  
Shire Council

# South Gippsland Shire Council News

## South Gippsland Australia Day Awards

South Gippsland Shire Council's 2024 Australia Day Award winners and nominees were recently celebrated in an awards ceremony held at the Meeniyan Hall (Meeniyan Mechanics Institute).

The awards recognise the unsung heroes of our region, the individuals and community events who enhance connectivity amongst residents and visitors alike.

South Gippsland Shire Council would like to thank and congratulate all of the nominees in this year's awards. Without further ado, here are our Australia Day Award Winners.

### Citizen of the Year: Kathryn Smith

Kathryn is described by many as a people person who is reliable, hardworking, loyal and always willing to put up her hand to help. She has devoted herself to her community taking part in a myriad of organisations and initiatives.

For nearly 10 years, Kathryn was President of the Meeniyan Progress Association Inc. Now a member, she continues to do all she can for her beloved town.

Meeniyan would not be the same without Kathryn and her tireless volunteerism

### Young Citizen of the Year: Laila Witeveen

Laila has been an active Girl Guide and volunteer

in her local community for many years, working enthusiastically as a Junior Leader and an active representative of the Leongatha Girl Guides.

She has energetically participated in various service activities, embodying a positive and friendly attitude as a devoted Girl Guide.

She exemplifies the traits of a Girl Guide, upholding the Promise and Law while nurturing younger guides into patient, fun and caring contributors for the future. Leila's selfless dedication significantly enhances the Girl Guide's role in her local community.

### Community Event of the Year: Southern Lights Festival

The Southern Lights Festival was held at Coal Creek Community Park and Museum on June 11 2023. The event hosted over 5,000 attendees who enjoyed an evening of entertainment, music and food.

It was a great showcase of how people could work together to create a really successful event for Korumburra. The success of the event was made even sweeter by the contributions of more than 50 volunteers who made the night possible.

To read the full bios of our Australia Day Award winners and nominees, please visit: [www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/australiaday](http://www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/australiaday)

### Community Grants Information Session



Council's second round of Community Grants for 2023/24 are now open.

To ensure that prospective applicants are well-prepared and informed, South Gippsland Shire Council will be hosting both an in-person and online information session.

These sessions are designed to brief your community group on what can and can't be funded and provide a demonstration of the Smarty Grants online application process.

These sessions will take place on Monday 29 January.

**In person:** 11.00am to 12.00pm at Council Chambers, Leongatha

**Online:** 7.00pm to 8.00pm

Registration for either session is essential. For more information and to register (for free), please visit: [www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/grants](http://www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/grants)

### COUNCIL MEETINGS

Council will be in recess for January 2023, there will be no Meetings conducted.

Meeting dates for 2024 are listed on Council's website.

The first meeting of the year is scheduled for 21 February 2024 at 2.00pm.

[www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/meeting-dates](http://www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/meeting-dates)

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

[www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/live](http://www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/live)

### 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](http://www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/vacantpositions)

### AUSTRALIA DAY IN SOUTH GIPPSLAND

Australia Day is coming up and there are a host of events happening to bring our community together.

Everyone is welcome and it is a great opportunity for us all to acknowledge the fabulous work of those who love to put community first.

On Friday 26 January there will be many community events occurring across South Gippsland.

For information on all the events, please visit:

[www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/](http://www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/)

### REQUEST FOR TENDER

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

#### RFT/378 – Shingler Street Leongatha, Road Rehabilitation

Tenders close at 2.00pm AEDT on Tuesday 13 February 2023

Documentation is available from Council's e-Tendering Portal

[www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/tenders](http://www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/tenders)

### CONTACT US

9 Smith Street, Leongatha  
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South Gippsland Shire Council's 'manager of economy, community and investment' Christian Stefani, mayor Clare Williams, Upper House member for Eastern Victoria Tom McIntosh, council's 'arts, culture and visitor economy coordinator' Penni Ellicott and Coal Creek team leader Kim O'Connell look forward to an expanded education program at the Korumburra attraction.

## Coal Creek's education funding injection

COAL Creek Community Park and Museum's education program, for visiting school groups, has been boosted by a \$60,000 funding contribution from the Victorian Government through its Strategic Partnerships Program.

South Gippsland Shire Council Mayor Cr Clare Williams welcomed the announcement.

"The latest funding will be used to introduce augmented reality to the site, which will help bring stories to life," Cr Williams said, thanking the State Government for the financial contribution.

She noted council last year

surpassed its target numbers for its Coal Creek education program, with over 2400 students visiting.

"Coal Creek's education program for primary schools has proved popular with the students embracing the opportunity to experience what school life was like in the 1890s," Cr Williams said.

The press release from Mr McIntosh's office indicates that through the Partnerships Program, visiting students will continue to experience life in a late 1890s schoolroom.

Additionally, it is noted that the students will explore Australia's national identity and

the history of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

It is stated that students and teachers in South Gippsland will benefit from partnerships with educational and First Nations organisations, helping broaden learning beyond the classroom.

"Getting out of the classroom and into the community to learn about local and Australian history, especially First Nations history, will be a huge benefit to so many kids and to Coal Creek," Mr McIntosh said.

He didn't elaborate on why First Nations history is seen as having greater significance.

The Strategic Partnerships Program is a long-standing grants partnership that funds not-for-profit organisations to provide programs across two categories, these being student learning, and teacher professional development.

In the program's current funding round, 81 organisations will share \$8.2 million, with the State Government saying that is aimed at providing opportunities that are not usually available in mainstream classrooms.

Across the 81 funded organisations, the average grant size is nearly \$100,000 over two years.

## Arts project assistance in South Gippsland Shire

SOUTH Gippsland Shire Council has announced 11 arts projects selected to receive support, having received 30 project proposals after calling for individuals, businesses, and community groups across the shire to present creative projects with the aim of boosting South Gippsland's vibrant arts scene.

Nine of the selected projects will each get \$1000 to assist their development, while the remaining two projects will receive \$500 each.

"I'm excited to see the ongoing implementation of council's Arts Culture and Creative Industries Strategy and witness the spark of creativity across South Gippsland," mayor Clare Williams said.

These projects embody the heart and soul of our commu-

nity and showcase the extraordinary talent that defines us; congratulations to the artists, and I'm looking forward to seeing a more enriched South Gippsland."

A council spokesperson said project proposals were carefully reviewed by members of the South Gippsland Arts Advisory Committee and council's Arts Development Officer.

The successful projects announced are:

1. Lucy Parkinson: Delivering visual and performance arts workshops in Fish Creek over school holidays, along with an accompanying event.

2. Catherine Blamey: Supporting the mentorship of young artists in the medium of glass painting.

3. Rotary Club of Leongatha: Supporting the annual Leon-

gatha Art and Photography Show, with a focus on youth participation and event marketing.

4. Nicky Fraser: Developing and delivering a bespoke workshop for ceramics and clay-based artists in South Gippsland, with a specific emphasis on marketing skills.

5. Anne-Maree Gentile: Delivering adult hand-building clay workshops at the Manna Gum Community House (Foster) for South Gippsland residents.

6. Manna Gum Community House: Renovating and reinvigorating the existing Listening and Learning Sculpture Circle at PJ Wilson Reserve in Foster.

7. Sandy Point Community Centre: Supporting the Sandy Point Community Centre Art Show, with a specific allocation for marketing costs.

8. Honey Tripper: Supporting the upcoming artist's first exhibition at Fish Creek's Little Oberon Café.

9. South Gippsland Shire Brass Band: Purchasing a high-quality cornet for the use of junior members of the band.

10. Meenyan Art Gallery: Supplementing local emerging artist exhibiting in the gallery, who may otherwise not be able to participate.

11. (it's no) drama: Developing and delivering an 'Audio Description Task Force' to address the needs of vision-impaired participants and audiences.

Council looks forward to witnessing the flourishing creativity and cultural enrichment these projects will bring to the community.

## Your opinion wanted to decide Coal Creek's future

HAVE your say on Coal Creek's future, with South Gippsland Shire Council's consultation period for the heritage site open and running until March 31.

Before providing feedback, community members are encouraged to read the Coal Creek Discussion Paper, which outlines the three suggested options for the attraction.

The options put forward are revitalisation, new direction, or ceasing current operations.

A survey on Coal Creek's

future can be completed online by visiting [yoursay.southgippsland.vic.gov.au](http://yoursay.southgippsland.vic.gov.au) where you can also view the relevant discussion paper.

People can visit council's Leongatha office to view a hard copy of the document and fill out a paper survey form.

During the consultation period, there will be a series of pop-up sessions at which members of the public can discuss their views on Coal Creek.

Those sessions will commence with one at the Tarwin

Lower Australia Day celebration on Friday January 26.

There'll be a pop-up feedback session near Leongatha Memorial Hall on Friday February 2.

Another such feedback opportunity will be provided at Coal Creek at that evening's opening Summer Series music event.

There is likely to be a pop-up feedback session at the Prom Country Farmers Market on Saturday February 17, with another scheduled for

the Mirboo North Market on Saturday February 24.

Council also intends to hold a 'deliberative engagement panel', the members of which will be selected on a random basis, with further details to be announced in due course.

Additionally, postcards will soon be available at the council office, in South Gippsland Shire Libraries, and at Coal Creek, which can be filled out with feedback and will also feature a QR code that takes people to the online survey.

## Mayor's Message



Cr Clare Williams



HELLO South Gippsland.

What an amazing night we had in Meenyan for the South Gippsland Australia Day Awards! With a full hall and plenty of amazing people and events to celebrate, it was a night I won't forget for some time.

I would like to once again congratulate:

- 2024 South Gippsland Citizen of the Year Kathryn Smith.
- 2024 Young Citizen of the Year Laila Witeveen.
- 2024 Community Event of the Year Southern Lights Festival.

The calibre of every nomination this year was spectacular. We are so lucky to have these people and events in South Gippsland.

This Friday for Australia Day, there are 12 events happening across our Shire. If you are looking for something to do, why not head along to one of the following towns to join in the celebrations:

- Dumbalk
- Foster
- Kongwak
- Leongatha
- Meenyan
- Mirboo North x2
- Pound Creek
- Tarwin Lower
- Welshpool
- Venus Bay

To view all the details about these events, please visit: [www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/australiaday](http://www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/australiaday)

### Events

There's plenty more than Australia Day events happening in South Gippsland.

Why not travel down to Fish Creek and see what is on offer in the ArtCubes, which will be moving soon? Fish Creek has had a really high calibre of artists rolling through since October 2023, including students from the Kindergarten and Primary School. They also have a 'community cube' where anyone can come and create their very own piece of art – which might just be the perfect thing to help bring out the kids' creative side.

To view all the events happening around South Gippsland, please visit: [https://visit-southgippsland.com.au](http://visit-southgippsland.com.au)

If you are an event organiser, you can also pop in a request to add your event to that page – a great option if you would like to expand those who come along to your event.

### Catch up with a Councillor

Councillors Scott Rae, Sarah Gilligan, Mohya Davies and myself will be on the road providing opportunities for the community to come and say 'hello' on Wednesday January 24, 2024. Here is where we will be:

- 9.00am to 10.30am – Port Welshpool Old Ferry Terminal.
- 10.30am to 1.15pm – Drive around looking at landslips and lunch at Welshpool Pub.
- 1.15pm to 2.15pm – Foster Library.
- 2.30pm to 3.30pm – Lance Moon Park, Yanakie.
- 4.00pm to 5.00pm – Gurneys Cider.

This is a great opportunity to let us know what your community is up to and have a chat about any concerns you have.

### Community Engagement

The time has come. Feedback is now open on a new direction for Coal Creek Community Park and Museum. Have a read of the Discussion Paper to learn about the Park's rich history, purpose and three potential pathways for the future – a revitalisation approach, transformation into a new sustainable tourist attraction, or ceasing current operations. Make sure you get involved and tell your friends and family about it – it is important we hear from as many people as possible.

There is also an opportunity for feedback on a proposed Planning Scheme Amendment C129sgip. This amendment proposes to implement the collective recommendations from the South Gippsland Planning Scheme Review 2023. Feedback is open now until Friday February 16, 2024 at 5pm.

To view any current or past engagement run by Council, please visit: [https://yoursay.southgippsland.vic.gov.au](http://yoursay.southgippsland.vic.gov.au)

# NEW KINCROME CATALOGUE OUT NOW. CHECK OUT SOME OF THESE SAVINGS.

**KINCROME**

## UPGRADE & WIN

YAMAHA WR250FP DIRT BIKE  
OR TTR100EP MINI DIRT BIKE

TURN TO PAGE 2  
FOR MORE DETAILS.

# GEAR UP YOUR TOOLKIT



**\$320**



**KINCROME**  
Standard Impact & Deep  
Socket Set

1/2 DRIVE

**\$249**  
KINCROME  
Portable Tool Kit

LIFETIME  
GUARANTEE

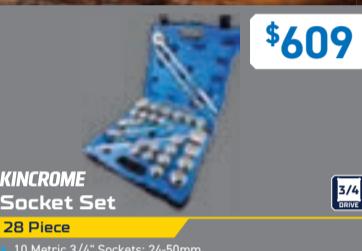
70 Piece

> 11 Standard 1/2" Metric socket sizes: 10 - 24mm  
> 11 Deep 1/2" Metric socket sizes: 10 - 24mm  
> 11 Standard 1/2" Imperial socket sizes: 3/8 - 1-1/8"  
> 11 Deep 1/2" Imperial socket sizes: 3/8 - 1-1/8"  
K2098

METRIC & IMPERIAL

K2098

**\$609**



**KINCROME**  
Socket Set  
28 Piece

3/4 DRIVE

> 10 Metric 3/4" Sockets: 24-50mm  
> 12 Imperial 3/4" Sockets: 15/16 - 1-7/8"  
> 6 3/4" Socket Accessories  
K21845

METRIC & IMPERIAL

K21845

**\$305**



**KINCROME**  
Standard & Deep  
Socket Set

1/4 & 3/8 DRIVE

44 Piece

> 10 LOK-ON™ Metric 1/4" Sockets: 4 - 13mm  
> 9 LOK-ON™ Imperial 1/4" Sockets: 3/16 - 1/2"  
> 10 LOK-ON™ Metric 3/8" Sockets: 8 - 19mm  
> 7 LOK-ON™ Imperial 3/8" Sockets: 3/8 - 3/4"  
> 8 LOK-ON™ 3/8" Socket Accessories  
K27031

METRIC & IMPERIAL

K27031

**\$385**



**KINCROME**  
Standard & Deep  
Socket Set

3/8 DRIVE

45 Piece

> 12 LOK-ON™ Metric 3/8" Sockets: 8 - 19mm  
> 12 LOK-ON™ Metric 3/8" Deep Sockets: 8 - 19mm  
> 7 LOK-ON™ Imperial 3/8" Sockets: 3/8 - 3/4"  
> 7 LOK-ON™ Imperial 3/8" Deep Sockets: 3/8 - 3/4"  
> 7 LOK-ON™ 3/8" Socket Accessories  
K27013

METRIC & IMPERIAL

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**\$3599**



**KINCROME** EVOLUTION  
Workshop Tool Kit

312 Piece 14 Drawer 26"

METRIC

> 92 Piece Sockets & Accessories EVA Tray  
> 36 Piece Hex & TORX® Fastening EVA Tray  
> 30 Piece Combination Spanners EVA Tray  
> 30 Piece Single Way Gear Spanners EVA Tray  
> 75 Piece TorqueMaster® Screwdrivers EVA Tray  
> 10 Piece Pliers & Wrenches EVA Tray  
> 19 Piece Cut, Hook & Scrape EVA Tray  
> Hammers, Hacksaw, Tape & more...  
> Measurements: L 675 x W 466 x L 1451mm  
P1712

METRIC & IMPERIAL

K27031

**\$229**



**KINCROME**  
Heavy Duty Pedestal Fan

1/4 DRIVE

26 Piece

> 9 LOK-ON™ Metric 1/4" Sockets: 4 - 12mm  
> 12 LOK-ON™ Metric 3/8" Sockets: 8 - 22mm  
> 5 LOK-ON™ 3/8" Socket Accessories  
K27030

METRIC

K27030

**\$440**



**KINCROME**  
Heavy Duty Pedestal Fan

1/2 DRIVE

41 Piece

> 18 LOK-ON™ Metric 1/2" Sockets: 8 - 32mm  
> 15 LOK-ON™ Imperial 1/2" Sockets: 3/8 - 1-1/4"  
> 8 LOK-ON™ 1/2" Socket Accessories  
K27022

METRIC & IMPERIAL

K27022

**\$199**



**KINCROME**  
Heavy Duty Wall Fan

500mm (20")

> 3 Speed, 5 aluminium blades  
> 111W Induction motor  
> Oscillation & adjustable height 780-1110mm  
> 115m³/min air delivery  
KP1012

KP1012

**\$229**



**KINCROME**  
Industrial Pedestal Fan

750mm (30")

> 3 Speed, 4 aluminium blades  
> 230W Induction motor  
> Oscillation & adjustable height 1250-1670mm  
> 300m³/min air delivery  
KP1005

METRIC & IMPERIAL

KP1005

**\$189**



**KINCROME**  
Heavy Duty Wall Fan

500mm (20")

> 3 Speed, 5 aluminium blades  
> 111W Induction motor  
> Oscillation & adjustable tilt  
> 115m³/min air delivery  
KP1010

KP1010

**\$229**



**KINCROME**  
Industrial Wall Fan

750mm (30")

> 3 Speed, 4 aluminium blades  
> 230W Induction motor  
> Oscillation & adjustable tilt  
> 300m³/min air delivery  
KP1006

METRIC & IMPERIAL

KP1006

**\$449**



**KINCROME**  
Industrial Mobile Drum Fan

900mm (36")

> 2 Speed, 3 Wide aluminium blades  
> 450W Induction motor  
> Adjustable tilt  
> 300m³/min air delivery  
KP1009

KP1009

**\$54.95  
EACH**



**KINCROME**  
Key Wrench Sets

9 Piece

> Manufactured from S2 steel

METRIC 9 Sizes: 1.5 - 10mm K5043

IMPERIAL 9 Sizes: 1/16 - 3/8" K5042

TORX® 9 Sizes: T10 - T50 K5009

TPROOF TORX® 9 Sizes: T10H - T50H K5044

K5044

**\$189**



**KINCROME**  
Heavy Duty Floor Fan

500mm (20")

> 3 Speed, 5 aluminium blades

> 111W Induction motor

> Adjustable tilt

> 110m³/min air delivery

KP1011

KP1011



**Australia Day**

Reflect. Respect. Celebrate.

We're all part of the story.

## Local Australia Day events

### BASS COAST

#### Rotary Club of Wonthaggi Australia Day Community Breakfast & Community Service Awards

Breakfast served from 7.30am, presentations 9am at Wonthaggi Union Community Arts Centre.

Come on down for a free breakfast before we present the 30th Annual Community Services Awards.

#### Bass Coast Shire Australia Day Citizenship Ceremony

2pm at Wonthaggi Workmens Club.

#### Oz Day at the Daly

4pm - 9.30pm at Dalyston Recreation Reserve.

A family day with carnival rides, face painting and other kid's activities together with live bands showcasing quality local talent, a super screen and an amazing fireworks display. Tickets are available now.

#### Summer Carnival Fireworks

73/79 Thompson Avenue, Cowes

The Island Summer Carnival's annual fireworks display is back and will bring the sky to life just after dusk (approximately 9pm).

#### Reflect, Respect and Celebrate at Rhyll

11am - 2pm at Rhyll Hall & Park

The Phillip Island and District Historical Society has collaborated with the Rotary Club of Phillip Island and San Remo to bring you live music, food vans, clowns, stilt walkers, African drummers, an art exhibition, and more.

#### Australia Day Ceremony, Inverloch

12pm - 12.30pm at Inverloch Cenotaph

Service presented by the President of the Inverloch RSL.

#### Australia Day Morning Tea, Glen Alvie

10am - 11.30am at Glen Alvie Recreation Reserve

An unfurling of the flag and National Anthem will be followed by guest speaker, former local and recently retired Hawthorn AFLW player Tamara Luke speaking followed by morning tea.

Everyone most welcome to join us on Australia Day.

#### Australia Day BBQ

From 7pm at Cowes Yacht Club

Aussie favourites on the barbie, salads, plus dessert. The bar will be open as usual for some cold ones.

Adults \$25, Children under 12, \$12, Children under 5 are free.

### SOUTH GIPPSLAND

#### Leongatha Australia Day BBQ and Activities

8.30am - 10.30am at McIndoe Park

Citizenship ceremony, guest speaker Lyn Skillern (OAM), children's activities, free sausage sizzle and lamingtons, music by South Gippsland Shire Brass Band and Jennifer Holm

#### Dumbalk Australia Day BBQ

6pm - 9.30pm at the Dumbalk Memorial Park

Children's activities and food will be available. BYO drinks and chairs.



### Latrobe City to mark Australia Day

SEVERAL community events will be held across Latrobe City on Australia Day.

Free community events will be held in Boolarra, Churchill, Moe, Morwell, Toongabbie, Traralgon, Yallourn North and Yinnar.

Events include a variety of activities – free breakfasts, live music, flag raising and family entertainment.

Council is throwing the ultimate pool party and invites the community to make a splash with free entry to the Moe and Yallourn North outdoor pools, Churchill, Moe, Newborough and Morwell Leisure Centres, along with the Gippsland Regional Aquatic Centre in Traralgon (GRAC)\*.

New citizens will be welcomed at a Citizenship Ceremony.

The Australia Day Awards will start at 1pm and will be livestreamed via council's YouTube channel.

Mayor Cr Darren Howe said there would be a lot on offer during the day.

"We are providing opportunities for our community to come together and share in a range of activities," he said.

"There is going to be lots happening and plenty for the whole family to enjoy.

"We are also excited to acknowledge the incredible community efforts of Latrobe City citizens with the Australia Day Awards and welcome new citizens at our Citizenship Ceremony."

For more information, and to find an event happening near you, visit [latrobe.vic.gov.au/australiaday](http://latrobe.vic.gov.au/australiaday).

For leisure centre and pool opening hours, visit the Latrobe Leisure website [latrobe.vic.gov.au/leisure](http://latrobe.vic.gov.au/leisure).

\*GRAC slides are not included in this offer.

## Southern Lights Festival 'Community Event of the Year'

KORUMBURRA'S Southern Lights Festival delighted attendees, both locals and visitors, with the sold-out June 2023 occasion being named South Gippsland Shire Council's Community Event of the Year at Wednesday's Australia Day Awards ceremony in Meeniyan.

Over 5000 people flocked to the festival at Coal Creek, enjoying entertainment, music and food, along with various light displays and a spectacular bonfire.

On Wednesday, Shirley Arezia of the Southern Lights Committee was proud to accept the Community Event of the Year honour on behalf of all those who helped bring the festival together.

She acknowledged all the other nominees, saying it takes a lot of hard work to run any event.

Shirley reflected on the decision to reinstate the Southern Lights Festival that hadn't run since 2019 prior to the pandemic.

"To take it on again was a bit of a risk and it was really just two brave women that got roped into this, or I roped another brave woman into it," Shirley said, that other woman being fellow organiser and committee member Noelene Cosson.

Shirley also spoke of the decision to shift the event from its previous Korumburra Showgrounds location to Coal Creek.

"Changing venues was a big risk but it absolutely paid off and it was spectacular, but it was only because we got supported by an amazing group of volunteers," Shirley said.

"This room is full of volunteers, and you should all be so proud of everything you've done because volunteers are what make everything work so well."

Other nominees for Community Event of the Year included the



**Southern Lights Festival organisers Noelene Cosson and Shirley Arezia are proud it earned Community Event of the Year status and are appreciative of all the volunteers who helped make the event such a success.**

'Art Connect South Gippsland Open Studio Art Trail' held throughout the shire, and Leongatha's Biketoberfest organised by a subcommittee of the Leongatha Business Association.

The Meeniyan Community Plan, a project driven by the Meeniyan Progress Association, was also nominated and while

arguably not an event as such, took extensive work and community consultation, including meetings.

The evening was a terrific opportunity to acknowledge the massive contribution volunteers make to South Gippsland Shire and how little would get done without them.

### Contribution etched into the districts history

2024 marks the 30th year of Australia Day celebration and community awards for the Wonthaggi Rotary Club and the volunteers will commemorate the occasion with their annual event at the Wonthaggi Union Community Arts Centre on Friday, January 26.

The Rotary Club under their president Bob Johnstone and past president John Owens organised the community breakfast and followed with well-deserved community awards in 1994.

The event has been hosted by the Rotary Club proudly since then, and over 240 community awards have since been presented, recognising the significant contribution of many fine citizens who have made Wonthaggi a better place to live.

John Duscher shared that other awards have recognised business excellence and leadership, special events, sporting achievements contribution to the arts, heritage and conservation, and also recognition of significant milestones in various organisations across the district.

"This year Rotary would like to invite those who have received awards in the past or families of those who have been recognised through these awards. We wish to reconnect with these families and organisations to again celebrate their contribution that has been etched into the district's history," said John.

"It promises to be another great day starting with the community breakfast at 7.30am and the main program kicking off at 9am."

The wider community are invited to attend the annual celebration, that will include live entertainment, an address by the Rotary Australia Day ambassador, followed by the Rotary community awards.

## New management of Wonthaggi and San Remo cemeteries



Bass Coast Shire Council currently manages the Wonthaggi and San Remo cemeteries. Over a two-year period Council conducted a review of cemetery operations to determine the best way to manage the cemeteries into the future.

Council is not an expert in managing cemeteries and we are currently only able to provide a minimum service offering. A range of alternate options were considered with Council supporting the voluntary transfer of management to a Class A cemetery. Council believes the community would benefit from the voluntary transfer of the Wonthaggi Cemetery Trust and the San Remo Cemetery Trust to the Southern Metropolitan Cemeteries Trust (SMCT).

We would like to hear your thoughts on this transfer.

#### How you can provide your feedback:

- Visit [engage.basscoast.vic.gov.au/cemeteries](http://engage.basscoast.vic.gov.au/cemeteries) or scan the QR code
- Email our Cemeteries Team at [cemeteries@basscoast.vic.gov.au](mailto:cemeteries@basscoast.vic.gov.au)
- Post your feedback to Bass Coast Shire Council, 70 McBride Avenue, Wonthaggi 3995 or drop in to one of our Customer Service Centres.
- Attend a public meeting:
  - Wonthaggi - Monday, 5 February, 2.00pm - 3.00pm at the Old Wonthaggi Post Office, Cnr Watt St and McBride Avenue
  - Newhaven - Tuesday, 6 February, 10.00am to 11.00am at Newhaven Visitor Information Centre, 895 Phillip Island Road

Please RSVP to attend a meeting by 2 February on [cemeteries@basscoast.vic.gov.au](mailto:cemeteries@basscoast.vic.gov.au) or phone 1300 BCOAST (226 278) or (03) 5671 2211.

Feedback closes on 22 February 2024.

For more information visit [engage.basscoast.vic.gov.au/cemeteries](http://engage.basscoast.vic.gov.au/cemeteries).



#### You are invited to attend:

Wonthaggi Union Community Arts Centre,  
Graham Street, Wonthaggi.

**Friday, January 26, 2024**

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.





South Gippsland Shire Council Citizen of the Year Kathryn Smith and Young Citizen of the Year Laila Witteveen. A03\_0424

## Laila Witteveen South Gippsland's Young Citizen of the Year

WHILE she was the only nominee for South Gippsland Shire Council's Young Citizen of the Year, Leongatha's Laila Witteveen's vast community contribution through her involvement with Leongatha Girl Guides makes her a worthy recipient of the honour.

Laila has belonged to guides for almost a decade, through which she has energetically contributed to many causes and organisations, including Clean Up Australia, the Greatest Morning Tea for the Cancer Council, RSPCA and WWF.

She has also been part of Australia Day and Anzac Day services and has taken on the responsibility of being a Junior Leader within Leongatha Girl Guides.

Her leadership role began in 2021, when Laila became Junior Leader of the Lyrebird Guides, those aged six to 10 years, devoting her Wednesday afternoons to mentoring her young charges.

Efforts in that capacity include organising activities and fundraising for crucial causes through initiatives such as baking and selling dog biscuits at local markets to support the RSPCA.

Laila was a founding member of the Leongatha Pre-Ranger Group established in 2022.

In addition to community efforts, the Girl Guides learn many life skills as they strive to earn various badges.

That includes becoming proficient in setting up tents, tying knots, as well as home skills such as sewing and cooking.

"I have worked hard with my Girl Guides and winning this award has shown them that they can do anything they set their minds to," Laila said.

The Young Citizen of the Year has taken a hiatus from Girl Guides as she prepares to tackle her VCE while also working at the Reject Shop.



South Gippsland Shire Council Citizen of the Year nominees Perry Neil, Avis Tilley, Heather Butler, Noel Laing and Kathryn Smith (winner) with mayor Clare Williams. A05\_0424

## Meeniyan's Kathryn Smith named South Gippsland's Citizen of the Year

EMOTIONAL scenes occurred at Meeniyan Town Hall when local Kathryn Smith was named South Gippsland Shire Council's Citizen of the Year at the Australia Day Awards ceremony on Wednesday evening.

There were tears of joy when Kathryn's name was announced, and plentiful hugs as community members congratulated her after the ceremony.

With all Citizen of the Year nominees having contributed so much to their communities, Kathryn expressed shock after hearing that council's selection committee had chosen her.

"I'm astounded and I'm just wondering if my hearing aids are working," she told the audience.

Having been an Australia Day ceremony MC on multiple occasions, Kathryn said it is a vastly different experience receiving an award rather than giving one out.

The new Citizen of the Year paid tribute to all nominees, noting the selection committee would have faced a challenging task.

"It must have been an extremely difficult decision with this group of extraordinary,



Mayor Clare Williams congratulates Kathryn Smith on being named South Gippsland Shire Council's Citizen of the Year. A04\_0424

dedicated community leaders from which to choose."

However, there is no disputing Kathryn is worthy of the honour bestowed on her.

She has devoted herself to her community since shortly after arriving in 2003 with her husband John from their Toora North farm to be a little closer to specialist services in Melbourne.

Sadly, John passed away the following year, with Kathryn reflecting on the importance her new town quickly assumed, a connection that

has only strengthened since.

"Having lived alone for nearly 20 years, this community is everything to me," she declared.

Kathryn was nominated by Meeniyan Progress Association, one of an extraordinary 36 organisations and initiatives she has been part of that have greatly benefited Meeniyan.

Recently, she was strongly involved in the complex process of developing an updated community plan for the town. Kathryn continues to be part

of the Meeniyan Christian Fellowship and Meeniyan Table Tennis, also volunteering at the Meeniyan Area Community Shop.

During her acceptance speech, she stressed the importance of her Christian faith, saying it gives her a love of people, peace in her heart and hope for the future.

"When it was suggested that I be nominated as (South Gippsland) Citizen of the Year, my response was 'But I don't do anything,'" Kathryn said, demonstrating the attitude common to so many dedicated volunteers who don't do it for accolades.

However, she acknowledged that through her participation in many committees and roles, she has learned of areas of need, being able to act to help address them.

Kathryn summed up her joy at having made the move to Meeniyan.

"I have lived in many areas of Victoria and New South Wales but choosing South Gippsland and Meeniyan is the best decision ever," she said, something with which all those who have enjoyed her enthusiastic company no doubt agree.



## Melina BATH MP

NATIONALS MEMBER FOR EASTERN VICTORIA REGION

Australia Day is for all Australians, no matter where our journey began. It's a day to come together, celebrate our way of life and acknowledge our history.



181 Franklin St, Traralgon



Melina Bath MP



5174 7066



[melinabath.com.au](http://melinabath.com.au)

# Bass Coast Australia Day 2024



*Bass Coast Shire Council Mayor, Cr Clare Le Serve looks forward to welcoming our new citizens at our Citizenship Ceremony in Wonthaggi on January 26. Community members are invited to attend other community wide events below which are all being held on January 26.*

## **Bass Coast Shire Australia Day Citizenship Ceremony**

2pm Wonthaggi Workmens Club  
Citizens & guest private event

## **Wonthaggi**

Rotary Club of Wonthaggi  
Australia Day Community Breakfast & 30th  
Annual Community Service Awards  
Wonthaggi Union Community Art centre,  
96 Graham St, Wonthaggi  
You are invited to the celebration of Australia  
Day hosted by the Rotary Club of Wonthaggi.  
Breakfast served from 7.30 am  
Presentations of Community Awards  
commence in the theatre at 9am  
Reflect, Respect, Celebrate Australia's  
diversity & inclusion in our community.

## **Dalyston**

Oz Day at the Daly 4pm- 9.30pm  
Dalyston Recreation Reserve  
Come and Celebrate Australia Day at the  
Dalyston Recreation Reserve!  
Live music, Children's Activities, Plenty of  
Food and Drinks with Fireworks at 9.30 to  
finish the night!  
No BYO alcohol.  
Adult tickets \$20 each and children under 18  
years are free (please book them a ticket)  
Scan QR code to book tickets



## **Pound Creek**

Pound Creek CFA Australia Day  
Community Event 11am - 2pm.  
Pound Creek CFA Station,  
686 Inverloch - Venus Bay Rd, Pound Creek  
BBQ, salads and sweets provided by the  
Pound Creek Rural Fire Brigade Ladies  
Auxiliary. Entertainment provided by the  
South Gippsland Brass Band. Guest speaker  
and a flag raising ceremony, with singing of  
the Australian national anthem.

## **Rhyll**

Reflect, Respect and Celebrate  
11.00am- 2.00pm  
Rhyll Hall & Park, Lock Road, Rhyll  
Phillip Island and District Historical Society  
partnered with Rotary Club of Phillip Island  
and San Remo  
Live music, Food Vans, Clowns, Stilt Walkers,  
African Drummers, Art Exhibition and more.

## **Inverloch**

Australia Day Ceremony by  
the Inverloch RSL 12pm -12.30pm  
Inverloch Cenotaph, 9 A'Beckett St Inverloch  
Service presented by the President  
of the Inverloch RSL

## **Glen Alvie**

Australia Day morning tea  
10:00am - 11:30am  
Glen Alvie Community Hall, 695 Glen Alvie  
Road  
Morning tea, unfurling of Flags, National  
Anthem and guest speaker recently retired  
AFLW player Tamara Luke





## Classic cars and more

THE Wonthaggi Swap Meet and Show 'N Shine managed by Wonthaggi Power Football Netball Club will be held on Australia Day weekend - Sunday, January 28.

The largest fundraiser for the club, the event is expected to showcase 250 classic and vintage cars and motorcycles with plenty of giveaways and a raffle at the gate.

The annual swap meet will be bigger and better than ever before, providing local vendors and those from further afield with the opportunity to showcase and sell their bric-a-brac, spare parts, and memorabilia to the car enthusiasts in the community. Camping facilities are available for vendors attending the swap meet.

Gates will open at 6 am for swap meet stall holders to set up, and they will then direct all the classic cars and bikes through before opening the show to the public at 8 am.

"All show 'n shine classics are welcome without pre-registering; cars and drivers for judging are \$15 entry, \$10 entry without judging and passengers and pedestrians are \$5 per person," event organiser Kris Baker said.

"The judges will be evaluating all classics and late model bikes and cars on display with judging cut off at 9.30pm sharp. Vehicles are welcome to arrive after this time if they don't wish to be judged."

The categories for the 2024

event include: Presidents Choice (Best overall), Best Aussie Original, Best Aussie Muscle, Best Tuff Street, Best Hot Rod, Best Vintage - Pre 1950, Best Bike, Best Paint, Best Interior, Best Engine Bay.

Shannons are again sponsoring the event alongside Tyrepower, Wonthaggi Motorcycles, Greg's Panels, Matthews Transport, Autopro and Finance Consulting and Accounting.

The Wonthaggi Swap Meet and Show 'N Shine welcomes classic cars and bikes of all eras, from veteran to modern day models.

In addition to the display of classic vehicles, the event will also feature a variety of food options. Wonthaggi Power will host three separate BBQs catering to breakfast and lunch, complemented by a full canteen, coffee and slushie van.

A pre-show event will take place on Saturday, January 27, with an evening car cruise gathering at 4.30pm along the netball court car park on Korumburra Road, Wonthaggi. The cruise will leave promptly at 5 pm and whilst the route is a secret, Kris has assured us that it will be picturesque.

Following the cruise, enjoy a meal in the clubhouse from 6 pm, priced at \$20, inclusive of dessert. The bar will be open, and everyone is welcome to attend.

For more information or to pre-register, please contact Kris Baker on 0400 899 991.

## Oz Day at the Daly a great day for the community

NOW in its fourth year Oz Day at the Daly will continue its tradition of putting on a fantastic community day that showcases local musicians. The objective of the day is to provide an opportunity for families to come together to reflect, respect and celebrate Australia Day.

Bass Coast has produced a wealth of local talent and this year Wonthaggi based bands "Mound of Sound" and "820 Door Jambs" will be supported by 22-year-old singer, song writer and guitarist Imogen Price from Phillip Island.

Together they will provide four hours of musical entertainment catering for a wide range of musical tastes. Local production company Production Corp together with Bass Coast Sound and Video have again been engaged to provide a first-class sound, light and video operation.

The day is all about family fun and while there will be carnival rides and face painting there will also be plenty of games and activities and the very popular tug of war. The Bass Coast Historic Club will be displaying some of their superbly restored classic cars and the event caters for all ages. The atmosphere is relaxed and though some seating and tables are provided, people are advised to bring their own chairs



Wonthaggi based 820 Door Jambs will be performing at Oz Day at the Daly this Friday as part of four hours of musical entertainment on display.

or picnic rugs.

Activities continue into the evening with the highlight being the fireworks finale at 9.30pm. The quality of the fireworks displays has always been amazing and Fitzpatrick's Fireworks are again expected to put on another great show. Local residents are reminded to make sure they secure pets and animals that may become distressed by the fireworks.

Oz Day at the Daly is a ticketed family friendly event held at the Dalyston Recreation Reserve on Australia Day. Catered for by the Dalyston Football Netball Club gates open at 4pm with all activities ending after the 9.30pm fireworks display. The venue is licenced and there is strictly no B.Y.O. alcohol. Tickets are available through [trybooking.com/COEQO](https://trybooking.com/COEQO)

**AUSTRALIA DAY WEEKEND**

**SUNDAY 28TH JANUARY 2024**

# **SHOW 'N SHINE & SWAP MEET**




**WONTHAGGI REC RESERVE**

**GATES OPEN 6AM STALL HOLDERS \$15 CAR & DRIVER**

**8AM PUBLIC ENTRY \$5 // U15 FREE**

**JUDGING CLOSES 9.30AM SHARP**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION KRIS BAKER 0400 899 991**

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**4.00PM TO 9.30PM**

**26 JANUARY**

**DALYSTON REC. RESERVE**

**SHOWCASING LOCAL TALENT**

**MOUND OF SOUND**

**IMOGEN PRICE**

**820 DOOR JAMBS**

**KIDS ACTIVITIES**

**FIREWORKS**





**tickets @ <https://www.trybooking.com/COEQO>**

# Kilcunda Lobster Festival returns for their 38th year

THE community are invited to join the Kilcunda Community Association for the 38th annual Kilcunda Lobster Festival on the town foreshore on Sunday, January 28 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.

Andrea shared that 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 2024, 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 run by volunteers who have this year organised over 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 Amusements, plus a hands-on experience with friendly farm animals from Aussie Farm Animals and enjoy entertainment from The Times and DJ Dave Manning.

Mark Howard and Dave Manning are 'The Times'. Hailing from Cape Woolamai this versatile and dynamic duo play the best music from past and present.

A smoking ceremony by proud Traditional Owner Steven Ulula Parker from Millowl Dreaming will commence at 10.30am welcoming the community to Country.

"Throughout the day we will be selling lobsters supplied by San Remo Fisherman's Co-Op, as well as lobster lunches and prawn rolls, but they can sell out fast so get in quick!" said KCA Secretary Stephen Piper.

With the annual event held on the Bass Coast coastline, the association are working closely with sponsorships from Bass Coast Shire Council, Bendigo Bank and Westernport Water to manage the waste at the public event with guided waste stations – a system that will significantly reduce 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.

"It was a significant reduction in waste to landfill and we want to improve that effort this year by again using hydration stations – so we're encouraging everyone to bring their own water bottles to re-fill and re-use. Thanks to the support from Westernport Water."

As part of the 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 with tickets available from \$4 or three for \$10 – remember each spin is a winner, and one lucky winner will walk away with a lovely freshly cooked lobster.

The festival will run from 10am until 3pm on the Kilcunda foreshore on Sunday, January 28.

For more information visit the Kilcunda Lobster Festival on Facebook or visit [kilcunda.org.au](http://kilcunda.org.au)



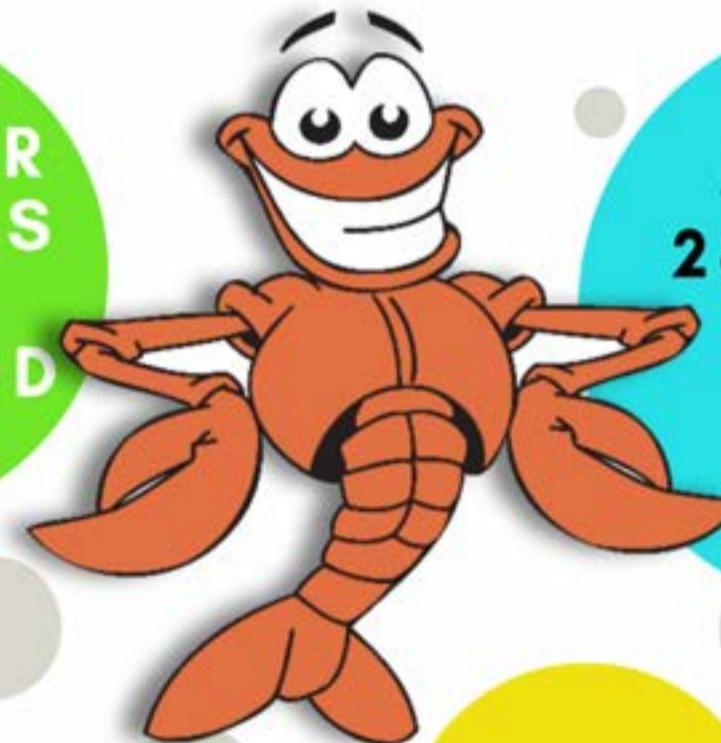
2024 Kilcunda Lobster Festival on Sunday, January 28 from 10am until 3pm. Z03\_0424



Join committee members Frosty Miller and Jy Hart at the spinning wheel to win a lobster. Z04\_0424

## 2024 KILCUNDA LOBSTER FESTIVAL

LOBSTER LUNCHES & SEAFOOD



SUNDAY  
28TH JAN  
2024  
10-3PM

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WHEEL

LIVE  
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[www.kilcunda.org.au](http://www.kilcunda.org.au)

# New paper looks at digital health impact

A NEW priority issues paper from Gippsland Primary Health Network explores the role of digital health and its potential to lead to better health outcomes.

The paper, 'Digital health and access to services', says digital health allows people to access the healthcare they need. It gives health providers such as GPs access to timely information and allows greater sharing of health data between providers. Gippsland PHN Acting Chief Executive Officer, Angela Jacob, said the organisation brings together local data and intelligence from Gippsland PHN teams and advisory group members for strategic health planning in priority and emerging areas.

"Our priority issues papers capture information from a range of sources including feedback from consumers," Mrs Jacob said.

"They are an integral part of health planning and help us make informed decision about what is needed by our community."

Digital health refers to technologies that can facilitate the delivery of healthcare and collect and share a person's health information. Digital care models are not a replacement for in-person care but rather allow greater choice for patients and health professionals, and greater patient involvement in care choices.

Digital health includes:

- mobile health and applications (such as SMS reminders and wellness apps)
- electronic prescribing (ePrescribing)
- electronic health records (including My Health Record)
- telehealth and telemedicine (e.g., telephone, video, online)
- wearable devices (such as fitness trackers and monitors)

The issues paper also looks at digital inclusion which is about ensuring that everyone can access and use digital technologies effectively.

The data shows Gippsland trailing in some areas such as access to an internet connection and the use of various digital devices. Gippsland has lower digital access, 69.5 (out of a score of 100), compared to the national average of 72.0.

People with low socio-economic status and younger people are also more likely to use mobile devices rather than stationary devices in the home.

A second paper released is titled 'Dual diagnosis of mental health and alcohol and other drug problems'. Dual diagnosis is when someone has a mental health condition and an alcohol or other drug (AOD) use problem at the same time.

Around 50 per cent of people experiencing a mental health condition also have a substance use problem and vice versa while people who live with a dual diagnosis often find it challenging to access support services.

The paper shows there are 3800 people in Gippsland with a current dual diagnosis of mental health and AOD issues based on general practice data. Some 65 per cent of people with an AOD diagnosis have a mental health diagnosis too with vulnerable population groups likely at higher risk of dual diagnoses.

People with dual diagnosis have higher rates of: severe illness course and relapse, violence, suicidal behaviour and suicide, infections and physical health problems, social isolation and family/carer distress, service use, anti-social behaviour and incarceration; and homelessness.

Dual diagnosis service users have told Gippsland PHN in their feedback that they want reliable and local information, and better coordination of services, regardless of timing or location.

People can access the two new issues papers at [gphn.org.au/resources/](http://gphn.org.au/resources/)

Feedback and discussion about the content of the papers is welcome via [tellgippslandphn@gphn.org.au](mailto:tellgippslandphn@gphn.org.au)

For help contact the National Alcohol and Other Drug Hotline 1800 250 015, who will transfer you to the Alcohol Drug and Information Service in your state. You can also contact:

- SANE Helpline 1800 187 263 SANE (also online)
- Arafmi 1300 554 660 24-hour hotline for carers.
- Carers Australia 1800 422 737



Newhaven College surf students take to the beach under the guidance of tutor Glyndyn Ringrose.

## Newhaven College's Surfing Academy

THE first of its kind in any Victorian school, Newhaven College's Surfing Academy certainly provides a truly unique and exciting opportunity for students. Connecting to Phillip Island's local environment adds to the College students' holistic education. Outdoor educational experiences expand outside the gates of the sprawling College grounds. Utilising the stunning surf coast, students are offered the chance to dive deep into coastal learnings, including kayaking, surf lessons, water-safe education and beach play for younger students.

Retiring in 2023, educator Andy Neal spent the past 25 years teaching Physical Education, Outdoor Education and Health at Newhaven College. The curriculum allowed for his passion for surfing to come to the fore. Andy spearheaded the creation of the College's Surfing Academy in 2012. New to the College in 2023, Ben Clarke will be taking on the management of the Academy with an excellent pedigree in Outdoor Education.

During 2023, the College's Performance Squad continued to train together after school under the tutelage of

local shaper, coach and former WCT Professional, Glyndyn Ringrose. The College has a young, enthusiastic and growing bunch of 'groms' who are incredibly lucky to have someone of Glyndyn's calibre and experience guiding their progress.

Surfing as an elective in the college's timetabled 'SM' (Sport and Music) program continues to be much sought after by student surfers, running at Junior, Intermediate and Senior levels through Terms 1, 2 and 4. The surf students travel all around Phillip Island expanding their

experience in different locations and conditions.

The Surfing Academy is just one area of exceptional outdoor education at Newhaven College. The Tennis Academy, coached by Paul Rowbottom of IMT Coaching has been hugely successful over the years. New in 2024 the much-anticipated Mountain Biking (MTB) Academy will commence with many students thrilled to participate.

For more information or enrolments, contact the College Registrar Belinda Manning at [belinda.manning@newhaven-col.vic.edu.au](mailto:belinda.manning@newhaven-col.vic.edu.au)



Pop along the trail or wave from the window as the Harness Drive fundraiser rolls through South Gippsland this weekend.

## Watch as Fundraiser Harness Drive rolls past

ONCE again, 20 or more horse drawn carts and wagons, accompanied by riders, will roll along the Great Southern Rail Trail to fundraise for the Prostate Cancer Foundation of Australia. The four-day, 83km journey will start on the morning of Friday, January 26 at Alberton West Recreation Reserve and stop for lunch at Hedley Hall. Featuring equines from cute little ponies and a mini mule up to magnificent Clydesdales, the drive will be a terrific spectacle.

Overnight stops will be at Welshpool Recreation Reserve, Bennison (private

land), and Buffalo (near the hall). The journey will end at the VLE saleyards at Koonwarra. Due to recent storm damage, the rail trail won't be accessed until Telegraph Road near Christensen's Road – so if out driving on quiet roads in the area, please keep slow and wide if passing or overtaking the participants.

The cause is personal for some of our drivers, with some husbands having survived the cancer due to early detection, and another passing away prematurely. So please – get regular prostate checks. This is a cancer which men can overcome!

"The Prostate Cancer Foundation of Australia is a broad-based community organisation and the peak national body for prostate cancer in Australia. They are dedicated to reducing the impact of prostate cancer on Australian men and people with a prostate, their partners and families, recognising the diversity of the Australian Community," Prostate Cancer Specialist Nurse Leanne Prosser noted.

Donations to the PCFA Fundraiser Harness Drive can be given to the participants as they go past, or made online via [fundraise.pcfa.org.au/fundraisers/biannualprostate](http://fundraise.pcfa.org.au/fundraisers/biannualprostate)

[cancercharitydrive.biannual-harness-driving-australia-day-charity-drive](http://cancercharitydrive.biannual-harness-driving-australia-day-charity-drive)

Many thanks to the commercial and individual sponsors, and the community groups that are contributing to the drive in a variety of ways.

The drive is held under the banner of the Australian Carriage Driving Society, with Gippsland based Southern Cross Harness Club and the Eastern Vic Pleasure Harness Club combining to run the event every two years.

For enquiries, contact drive organiser and Prostate Cancer Specialist Nurse Leanne Prosser on 0427 924 662.

# Skaters throw down tricks in the sun at skate jam

THE WEATHER turned it on at Wonthaggi skate park last week as young skaters crushed it with tricks at the skate jam event.

Skaters participating in the jam showed off their best tricks in freeform skating in ten minute blocks over the course of the afternoon.

Vouchers were given for the best trick and prizes were raffled off.

"We had some big tricks being thrown down, even the little ones were getting involved and throwing down some tricks which is good," said Elliot Bates, Action Sports Liaison from YMCA Action Sports.

Wonthaggi Police together with Crimestoppers and YMCA Action Sports partnered up in the community engagement event initiated by Leading Senior Constable Nick Carlson.

"We'd got some really bad feedback about the skatepark in Wonthaggi," Senior Constable Carlson explained.

"In terms of criminal activity, anti-social behaviour, drugs assaults and stuff, and a lot of parents were complaining that the skate park was no longer safe for their kids to come to."

A lot of the young skaters had stopped going to the park.

As a result, the police, along with holding these events, have increased patrols in the area and want parents to know they are keeping an eye on the park.

"We are in a really safe community and the criminal activity is based around drugs and theft, and the criminals themselves fight with each other. It would



Leading Senior Constable Nick Carlson with Aiden Bloomfield from Crimestoppers and Senior Constable Megan Krause from Bass Coast Police want the skate park to be a safe and positive place for all skaters to come to. ob08\_0424

be unusual for a random person to be involved in crime around here," explained Senior Constable Carlson.

Crimestoppers and YMCA have been granted funds to organise skating events for youth aged 12 to 24 with events promoting safety awareness and provide employment opportunities for young people.

"We're talking to kids about Crimestoppers - you can report everything anonymously and we don't tell anyone who you are," explained Aiden Bloomfield, Community Engagement Officer for Crimestoppers.

They also imparted messages

of how to stay safe while at the skate park and gave skaters numbers to call if they feel unsafe or think something is not quite right.

The plan is for the local police to put on more of these events in the future, so skaters can freely enjoy the activity, and feel safe while at the park.

"The skating community is here and we are going to look after them just like everyone else. We don't want anti-social behaviour; we don't want criminal activities here. We want this to be a nice positive place for people to come," said Senior Constable Carlson.



Emma Foley of GippSport in support of Skate Park Coordinator for Bass Coast Jerrie Liberaty at the Inverloch Skate Sesh. Z01\_0424

## Building the skating community

THE Y in collaboration with GippSport, FreeZa and the YES Youth Hub are enabling a better community culture for youth within Bass Coast - holding weekly 'Skate Sesh' events in Corinella, Cowes, Grantville, and Inverloch until January 23.

Skate Park Coordinator for Bass Coast, Jerrie Liberaty hosted the Inverloch Skate Sesh on January 15 and spoke with the Sentinel-Times about the community building sessions, sharing that FreeZa are focused on encouraging youth participation and engagement at alcohol and drug free events.

"As the Skate Park Coordinator for Bass Coast, I also work with FreeZa - it's a government initiative to get a young person involved in their community, and I have been working on getting a committee of 12 young people together to help organise events for the local area," said Jerrie.

"This program helps those involved build skills for their

resumes as they're entering the workforce; they develop skills in networking, social media and marketing and event planning - anything that they may take interest in."

Jerrie welcomes all youth between the ages of 12-25 to get in touch with the Y or the YES Youth Hub if they'd like to get involved with the FreeZa program or if they have any ideas that they'd like to see happen within Bass Coast.

The Bass Coast Skate Parks will hold another two 'Skate Sesh' events today:

January 23. Corinella - 10am until 12pm.

January 23. Grantville - 12pm until 2pm.

Head on down to one of the above locations to participate in a 'Skate Sesh' that includes, music, street games (hosted by GippSport) and a sausage sizzle. Registration is not required.

"Bring a board or borrow one from us," said Jerrie.

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# The Gannon family legacy

OVER 30 people packed the Wonthaggi and District Historical Society Railway Museum presentation room last Thursday.

It was the third last 15 Minutes of History talk hosted by the Society and numbers always exceeded 30, closer to 50 at times, as 15 talks on a variety of topics were presented over the two-week period commencing Saturday January 6.

Presented by Kate McNish (nee Gannon), daughter of Tom Gannon (the second Tom Gannon involved in the Powlett Express, otherwise referred to as Tom Gannon Jr., not to be confused with Tom Gannon Sr. or Tom Gannon the son).

Fondly known as TJG, Kate reminisced on life with the Powlett Express. Memories and gratitude flowed, painting a vivid picture of life at the centre of the newspaper.

Kate opened recounting the early days, when the newspaper's office and the family home were intertwined, creating a unique atmosphere of bustling activity – formerly on the site where Maria's Bridal now sits on McBride Avenue.

TJG's commitment to journalistic integrity was unwavering. His insistence on accuracy and truth in reporting left an indelible mark on the community. Kate reminisced about her father's unwavering pursuit of the truth, even when it meant facing consequences or dissolving friendships.

"Tom was a stickler for accuracy," Kate said.

"Whatever he did, and whatever he printed in his beloved Express had to be right. That was what he strived for. We all knew he told the truth, but not everyone enjoyed reading about it."

The audience was transported through time as Kate shared glimpses of family



**Kate McNish recounted growing up at home with the Powlett Express last Thursday to a packed Railway Museum crowd.** C20\_0424

history, from her parents' courtship in 1948 to the bustling household on McKenzie Street. The phone calls to the Herald, the ABC and Gippsland papers as the kids watched television.

"The phone was placed in a very logical place in the 1960s in between the kitchen and lounge where the vinyl meets carpet, in a corner just behind the durable kitchen laminex table and behind the chair that mum generally sat in at the end of the day... It was here that dad would relay the stories..."

The Gannon family home was the hub of the Powlett Express. From the clattering noise of printing machines to the meticulous process of developing photos in the bathtub and knocks at the backdoor.

"Developing meant running water at a consistent temperature and flow. Every tap in the house, outside as well, and flushing toilet would have an A4 piece of paper stuck on it as a reminder not to turn the tap on and heaven help the person if they open the bathroom door whilst dad was working..."

Kate also shed light on the challenges faced by the Gannon family, from the impact of front-page stories destroying friendships to sacrifices made by Kate's mother, who managed a bustling household.

There were also the memories, which have little changed in the world of journalism – those of reporting on a fire, which drew much laughter from the crowd.

"A fire would see dad rushing as much as a fireman – stop signs and speed limits ignored."

"Simply picking up the phone and asking the operator 'Where's the fire?' was a method used to know its location and off he went."

"Also, along with my brothers at times, running outside to climb on the washhouse roof to get onto the house roof to direct dad where the smoke was coming from to get there even quicker."

As the narrative unfolded, it painted a poignant picture of a family that, through the pages of their newspaper, etched itself into the heart of the community—a legacy that lives on in the cherished memories of Wonthaggi's residents.

## Model rail magic on show at Phillip Island

THE Phillip and District Railway Modelers Inc went into their 20th year this year with their 17th annual Model Train Show and many rated it their best so far.

From Saturday morning onwards, the Phillip Island Senior Citizens Clubrooms was alive with the rattle and toot of dozens of locomotives and rolling stock of all shapes, sizes, colours and roles, and the crowds rolled in; families with bright-eyed children, enthusiasts from other areas and locals and visitors alike just having a look.

It was quite something to behold.

Local club members David Whelan and Geoff Dupree have been working on an elaborate timber town model railway, based on Gippsland experience, for the best part of a year.

And their incredibly intricate layout had its first outing at the Cowes show.

Mario Faria was there with his amazing circus comes to town layout compete with big top, model railway and working carousels, a project he has been working on for more than 15 years.

"Apart from the plastic animals which I buy then paint, I've made everything you see here,"

he said.

It's a work of art.

Working the programmed controls for the switches on another layout for his father, Greg Attrill, a member of the local railway modelers is Chris Attrill using the software app Engine Driver. It's highly advanced stuff, but as president of the club Geoff Newman will tell you, it all starts with a table-top train set.

"We've got a starter layout here, just to show people what it takes to get into it. You put two of those together and it's amazing what you can come up with," said Geoff.

"We've tried to make it hands-on as well this year and there's a layout that the kids can try out as well."

At the controls of full-scale Thomas the Tank working model is young Hamish Conroy under the watchful eye of Emma Conroy, also from Phillip Island but Hamish is a quick study and is soon driving and reversing Thomas in and out of the station.

It's a riot of fun from one end of the hall to the other with the uninitiated constantly amazed at the design and dedication which goes into these awesome creations.



**Mandie Murden, whose father Martyn is a member of the Phillip Island and District Railway Modelers chats with visitors to the annual model rail show at the weekend, Suzanne Costello and Sue Newman.**



**Maribel holds an elephant snail on Thursday.** C24\_0424

## Secret world of rockpools

THE weather didn't dampen spirits on Thursday as visitors and locals descended on Fat Rocks along the coastline with Mike Cleeland for Bunurong Environment Centre's Rockpool Rambling session.

Young and mature learnt about Victoria's amazing marine life and explored the magical rock pools and delicate marine ecosystems of the Bunurong coast at low tide.

Sea stars, anemones, elephant snails, sea weeds and chitons were all spotted with the event concluded moments before the rain descended from above.

As participants meandered along the shore, Mike, an expert marine guide and paleontologist, brought the intricacies of the coastal ecosystem to life. His keen observations and insightful commentary tuned each rockpool into a miniature universe, teeming with marine life waiting to be discovered. Participants delighted in their discoveries.

The Bunurong Environment Centre's commitment to environmental education shone through as attendees gained a deeper understanding of the importance of preserving these coastal habitats.

Future events over the school holidays by South Gippsland Conservation Society's Bunurong Coast Education include:

Today (Tuesday, January 23): Dinosaur Discover at Eagles Nest 1 pm  
Thursday January 25: Dinosaur Discover at The Caves 3.30pm  
Thursday January 25: Wildlife if the Night – Spotlighting 8pm  
Saturday January 27: Native Plants and Animals 9.30am  
Saturday January 27: Making Art from Nature 10.30am  
Saturday January 27: Dinosaurs – Palaeo Laboratory 12pm  
Monday January 29: Dinosaur Discoverer – the amazing Koolasuchus 9.30am  
For more information visit sgcs.org.au.



**Mike carefully unveils a rock covered in chiton during Rockpool Ramblings on Thursday.** C22\_0424

# Rare maritime traineeship opportunity with Wanderer Adventures, Tidal River

WANDERER Adventures – Wilsons Promontory Cruises is offering a traineeship position for one lucky youngster looking to make a career in the maritime industry.

The two-year fully paid Trainee Maritime, general purpose hand/coxswain position has just been advertised and will be based at Tidal River.

CEO Matt McDonald says the team is looking to recruit as soon as possible and the successful applicant will receive a General Purpose Hand Near Coastal and Coxswain Grade 2 Near Coastal Certificate. Mr McDonald says the role is suitable for school leavers and the successful applicant must have their own car and license. Transport is provided from Yanakie.

"You'll be working alongside experienced seafarers as you undertake comprehensive hands-on training while gaining national accredited certificates," he said.

"Never a dull moment in the role, the position reports to the Operations Manager. It will see you grow and develop your career both at Wanderer Adventures and in the broader Searoad Ferries Group."

Searoad Ferries recently acquired Wanderer Adventures and operates a number of maritime and tourism experiences including the Queenscliff to Sorrento car and passenger ferry, moving over 950,000 passengers annually, the Western Port Ferries passenger service



**Just finishing school and looking for a traineeship in the maritime industry? Wanderer Adventures may just have your ticket.**

between Stony Point, French Island and Phillip Island, Naturaliste Tours on French Island and Explore Australia day tours which operate from Melbourne.

Designed for the intrepid traveller, Wanderer Adventures – Wilsons Promontory Cruises offers unique and immersive experiences.

Each day the tour departs Tidal River on a 2.5 hour-long cruise which departs from Norman Beach at Tidal River. This iconic tour passes the southernmost tip of mainland Australia and explores the

waters of Victoria's first marine national park.

A tour highlight is seeing the granite monolith of Skull Rock which has been sculpted by wind and waves and is surrounded by crystal blue waters.

Visitors get up close and personal with an Australian fur seal colony, observe local birdlife, including the majestic white bellied sea eagle and regularly see dolphins and migrating whales. Day to day as a trainee with Wanderer Adventurers, you can expect to:

- learn the skills of a general-purpose hand
- be mentored and work alongside experienced mariners
- ensure vessels are clean and ship shape for travel
- assist with mechanical issues
- interact and help customers both onshore and onboard
- provide traffic control of public areas.

Apply now at - Trainee - Maritime (General Purpose Hand/Coxswain) Job in Wilsons Promontory, Bairnsdale & Gippsland VIC - SEEK.

A journey back through time to meet the dinosaurs

DINOMANIACS, a touring dinosaur show captivated family audiences with their interactive, energetic and engaging antics on stage in Wonthaggi last week.

Original songs like 'Rock & Roar', 'The Dino Dr' and 'Dance with the Dinosaurs' were performed and Oi, a Qantassaurus modelled off the fossils of the dinosaur found in our very own Inverloch, were highlights of the show.

The Qantassaurus is a two-legged, plant-eating dinosaur that lived about 125 million years ago and was thought to be 1.8 metres long, and one metre high. It was named after the airline Qantas, as they transported the fossils to the Australian Museum.

Ozzy is an Ornithopod based on fossils found in Lightening Ridge, NSW, and is also part of the high energy show, together with several other dinosaurs including the popular Raptor named Razor. The dinosaurs have been modelled to be a friendly show size and are about as big as a Labrador.

Then, the dinosaur hand puppets emerged, Joffrey and TrueBlue both baby T-rexes and Trixy a triceratops.

The kids in the audience received their own time traveling goggles, and the Time Travelling Team took the children on a journey back through the ages to meet the dinosaurs.

Through dance, movement and music, the audience learnt facts about the time of the dinosaurs and some adult humour was thrown in to keep the parents entertained.

After the show, families took the opportunity to meet and greet the dinosaurs and get their photo taken with their favourites.

Dinomaniac's recently won the What's On Kids Award for The Best Kids Live Stage Show and have been nominated for a national award with the winner being announced in March this year.

The show will be touring around the rest of the country during the school holidays, but locals can catch their sister show, Real Dinosaurs, which will be back in Wonthaggi in March.

## READY FOR THE ROAD?



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**OH WHAT A FEELING**

HM1173

## Sentinel-Times

### COMMENT

#### Can't see the balance for the (unmanaged) vegetation

THE publication of the Corinella Foreshore Landscape Plan by DEECA and the Corinella Foreshore Reserve Committee of Management, just before Christmas, provides a welcome breath of fresh air in the vexed debate over coastal views versus foreshore vegetation.

Because, no matter where you sit on the political spectrum, from radical greenie to rabid developer, and everywhere in between, there's got to be a balance.

And especially in our coastal towns, where the Statement of Planning Policy designates the defining land use as 'settlement' and 'residential', the balance has to firmly consider social amenity and wildfire risk as much as it does maintenance and support of foreshore vegetation.

Because the reality is that there is no shortage of places to plant trees, to develop links and to support remnant bush locations, which we are seeing being threatened by invasive plants such as Sweet Pittosporum and weeds.

But you don't need to insist on a jungle in the middle of your town.

The maintenance and support of foreshore vegetation within the town boundary is always going to involve a compromise.

Certainly, important vegetation such as mangroves, which perform a vital interface role between the ocean and land, along with their companion plants, and those plants which hold back erosion and provide habitat need to be protected.

But that doesn't give authorities carte blanch for a "don't touch it" policy and the planting of anything they like on the foreshore.

In the Corinella Foreshore Landscape Plan, DEECA and the local management committee are trying to strike a balance between the demand for coastal views and cleaning up the foreshore mess against those who say leave it the way it is.

There seems to be a "stick it to the rich" attitude by those who want to block out coastal views with vegetation, when its not just those who've paid a premium to enjoy coastal views who benefit.

There's quite a good system of coastal paths up and down the foreshore at Corinella, for example, enjoyed by other homeowners in the town, their dogs and visitors. And the opportunity to get a view over the water, observing coastal birds, boats and the like, between the trees is welcomed and valued.

And that's what this new plan is hoping to achieve – a balance.

It's a pity the authorities, of which there are many when it comes to foreshore management, aren't trying to achieve a similar balance in other coastal towns, while being prepared to consult with adjoining neighbours and the community about the most appropriate species to be planted, between houses and the foreshore.

Inverloch, in particular, is a town where there needs to be more balance between vegetation and community amenity.

## Vox Pop

### What is your favourite thing about Australia?



**Mike Cleeland**

*Surf Beach*

"I love the outback."



**Maribel**

*Melbourne*

"The animals."



**Marcello**

*Melbourne*

"Nature."



**Ryan Spatz**

*Wonthaggi*

"The attitude and culture being laid back."

#### Gross incompetence or willful inaction

WITHOUT doubt, the iconic State Coal Mine at Wonthaggi is the town's largest and most important tourist attraction. Had the State Coal Mine not been established 114 years ago, there would be no town of Wonthaggi today.

A public meeting was held last year to discuss the ongoing plight of the mine and concern for its future and hundreds attended. The underground tours of the mine ceased operation three years ago and the onsite café, which is vital to the success of the tourist attraction, closed twelve months ago.

As a result of the public meeting, considerable anger was expressed that this important tourist attraction had been allowed to run down to the point that permanent closure seemed likely.

There was great excitement when the Government announced that \$1.5 million would be allocated to upgrade elements of the mine deemed necessary for safety reasons and that the café would be leased and reopened.

Disgracefully, even though the Government committed \$1.5 million dollars six months ago, nothing constructive has happened to reopen the facility. The main reason the underground tours are not operating is because the drift car is in need of repair but languishes stuck in a container whilst Wonthaggi's major tourist attraction remains a shell of its former self.

Melbourne-based senior management of Parks Victoria need to be held accountable for their disgraceful inaction and incompetent management. If the Government does not insist they perform and have this tourist attraction fully reopened very soon, I predict Wonthaggi will see the largest turnout at a public meeting held in the town in the past fifty years. There is a tenant waiting to open the café and qualified, highly competent and experienced engineers available to repair and upgrade the drift car and any other items necessary to facilitate the reopening of the mine within weeks. The clock is ticking.

**Alan Brown, Wattle Bank**

#### Lived experience and personal connection

(Fred Smith concert at Inverloch on January 28 article.)

AS a former Staff Officer in Headquarters Joint Operations Command, I had the solemn responsibility of overseeing the repatriation of the deceased from Afghanistan. During a task in Afghanistan at Tarin Kowt I met a young Sapper, Jacob 'Snowy' Moerland. It was in the brew area and I asked him how he was. He said, 'Shithouse Sir'; he had just returned from leave and missed the transfer to the Forward Operating Base and had to sit

around TK for a couple of days; he wanted to be with his unit, his mates, to do the job they were sent to do. Two months later he was killed by an IED. The names of other brave individuals like Ben Renaudo and Jared 'Crash' MacKinney also strike a chord within me, as I am well acquainted with their stories and the sacrifices they made; and I brought them home.

Attending the concert at Inverloch would not only allow me to reconnect with the memories of those I had the privilege of working with, but it would also provide a cathartic and healing experience. The power of music to bring people together, foster understanding, and support the process of healing is undeniable, and Fred Smith's concert promises to do just that.

Furthermore, I believe this concert holds broader significance for the community of Inverloch and beyond. It provides an opportunity for all attendees to gain insight into the lived realities and sacrifices of our service members. It acts as a bridge, connecting civilians and veterans, fostering empathy, and encouraging support for those who have dedicated their lives to serving our country.

I commend the organisers for arranging such a meaningful event.

**Lindsay Guerin, Inverloch**

#### Rail trail maintenance success

I WOULD like to thank Bass Coast Shire Council for organising the maintenance of the rail-trail between Wonthaggi and Kilcunda during December.

They [the Shires contractors] have rebuilt the trail between South Dudley Road and Powlett Road resulting in a well-drained, well-cambered, all-weather track which gets a lot of use by locals and visitors to the Bass Coast every day of the week.

The third rail-trail bridge across the Powlett flood plain has also been totally rebuilt as the old one was in a state of collapse late last year.

The refurbished trail was enjoyed by young and old over the school holidays and maintenance was achieved with a minimum of disruption.

**Edward Minty, North Wonthaggi**

#### The climate change power trip

I GOT my electricity bill today. It's 65.09 per cent higher than the same time last year even though we have used less electricity pKh for the same period of time. This is what this ideologically driven federal government is doing to everyone.

Bowen is insane with his green climate change power trip that is costing everyone more and more and causing the loss of business all over Australia. Getting rid

of trees (where our native animals live) to put up power lines and solar panels, putting up wind turbines in the ocean to get rid of our migratory whales and seabirds is not what we want.

There are other ways to reasonably phase out of fossil fuels. Regrettably we have to put up with this for another 18 months before we may be able to get rid of him.

The only good thing is that Tanya Plibersek put a stop to the wind power terminal at Hastings for the storage of the wind turbines that back in 2022 Jordan Crugnale so desperately wanted that she brought down Lily D'Ambrosio (who at the time was energy and environment minister – what a disastrous mix!) to tell us how wonderful wind turbines would be off the shores of Phillip Island, Kilcunda and Inverloch.

At least Western Port and Bass Strait this side of Wilsons Prom has now been saved from ecological destruction. Whales, penguins, seals and shearwaters all say thank you.

Time for a change, everyone. Have a good hard think about it.

**Rob Parsons, The Gurdies**

#### Pets and mental health

LOVED the article by Claire Chetty. I cannot agree more with the words in the article and being an animal lover it resonated with me. I live in a small court and I see dog owners behaving badly and ignoring requests to keep their pets safe and sometimes the community safe which can become a mental concern and has been for me as I was attacked by a dog that an owner in Inverloch allowed to run out of its property. No fault of the dog of course.

I have had to several times call the Council about dogs roaming around the walk ways, in the court I live in, putting the dogs, myself and others in danger and it has caused a lot of concern and mental anguish for me.

Some people are responsible dog owners and some are just not and should not be entitled to owning an animal.

Another question they need to ask themselves is whether they are responsible dog owners and that should include not only the street in which they live but the community at large as well. It is never the dog but always the owners behaving very badly.

**Dilene Hinton, Inverloch**

The 'Sentinel-Times' encourages readers to write with issues of interest or concern but letters that have a local reference point will be given priority. Writers are also urged to be brief where possible. Letters may be edited for space and legal reasons, and must be submitted with the author's name and contact details of which only the name and town location will appear.



Born at Leongatha Hospital Melanie's mural is now welcoming the future generations of babies.

# Artist returns to paint new maternity mural

THE last time Melanie Caple was in a Leongatha hospital maternity unit was as a newborn baby.

Now 35 years later she has returned to the new hospital to paint a mural that welcomes a new generation of babies into the world.

Her brightly coloured maternity mural is providing a great backdrop for baby photos.

"Everyone used to have photos taken of their babies at hospital but that sort of fell out of favour, so the maternity department wanted something nice as a backdrop," Melanie said.

"The midwifery team looked

at the type of work I do and said they really love the native foliage and flora, so we went with that.

"I wanted to create a wall that was warm and welcoming and soft whilst also showcasing the native foliage. The hospital has beautiful native gardens, so we wanted to bring a bit of that inside."

Melanie's connection to Gippsland Southern Health Service's Leongatha hospital goes back even further than her birth. One of her grandfathers, Ron Stanley, was a long-term hospital board member and her other grandfather, Eric Caple, was a local farmer

who helped clear the site of the current hospital.

Melanie now lives between Fitzroy and Berry Creek in Gippsland and is enjoying the local resurgence of interest in art.

"In the past few years there has been a growing awareness of the arts, including public arts, in Gippsland which has been nice because I have been able to work closer to home," she said.

As an artist, curator and arts manager, Melanie has worked in multiple capacities within the arts industry. She has a Bachelor of Fine Art (Painting) from RMIT and holds a Masters of

Arts Management.

Her practice incorporates finely detailed oil paintings and large-scale murals, and Melanie has exhibited in various group and solo exhibitions around Melbourne and in Gippsland.

Melanie has been commissioned to create public works in dozens of locations across Victoria, NSW and SA. She also established an arts management company, Arts Eleven Projects, that has managed a number of significant arts projects for clients including Gippsland Art Gallery, St Vincent's Hospital and Western Health.



RAFAEL Angelo Orpona Businos was born on January 14 at 8.41pm at Leongatha Hospital. He is the third child for proud parents Frennie and Michael Businos and a younger brother for Marion (6) and Frances (23 months).



AVIANNA Grace Dowling was born December 20, 2023 at 7.52am at Leongatha Hospital. She is the first baby girl for April Grace and Jamie Dowling.



FINLEY Gregory Jones was born January 2 at 9.33am at Leongatha Hospital. Finley has won the hearts of first-time parents Courtney and Travis. Such a sweet little boy who was lucky enough to be the first baby of the year at Leongatha Hospital. Huge thank you to the midwives, for the support and welcoming Finley into the world.



HARVEY Pauleo Speed was born at Wonthaggi Hospital on December 19 at 12.11pm, weighing 3.45kg and measuring 51cm in length. He is the first child for Vanessa and Shaun Speed of Cape Paterson.

JACK Andrew Pringle was born December 28, 2023 at 10.40pm at Leongatha Hospital. He is the first baby boy for Kobi Van Raay and Jacob Pringle.

## LIFE Moments



MARIE Lee Van Den Broek was born at Wonthaggi Hospital on December 18, 2023, weighing 2.81kg. She is the first child for Jordan Van Den Broek and Sophie Norton of Tenby Point.



RUDY Jones Ricardo was born at Wonthaggi Hospital on December 19, 2023, weighing 4.06kg. He is the first child for Thomas and Laura Ricardo of Wonthaggi.



JACK Dawson Davie was born at Wonthaggi Hospital on January 8, 2024, weighing 3.46kg. He is the first child for Warren and Catherine Davie of Wimbledon Heights.



HARVEY Pauleo Speed was born at Wonthaggi Hospital on December 19 at 12.11pm, weighing 3.45kg and measuring 51cm in length. He is the first child for Vanessa and Shaun Speed of Cape Paterson.



JACK Andrew Pringle was born December 28, 2023 at 10.40pm at Leongatha Hospital. He is the first baby boy for Kobi Van Raay and Jacob Pringle.

Send your birthday, anniversary or baby photos to [news@sgst.com.au](mailto:news@sgst.com.au)

## Spend more on your family and less on your energy bills

VICTORIANS feeling the pinch this summer season could free up funds to spend on their family which would be otherwise be handed over to energy providers, thanks to a program which has already helped thousands of people cut their bills.

But navigating the energy market can be tricky – that's why Anglicare Victoria has partnered with the Victorian Government to provide free one-on-one support through the Energy Assistance Program.

Consultations through the Energy Assistance Program have been offered by Anglicare Victoria since January 2023 and are available by calling 1800 531 741 or emailing [energy@anglicarevic.org.au](mailto:energy@anglicarevic.org.au).

Eligible concession card holders are also entitled to an ongoing 17.5 per cent discount on annual electricity and winter gas bills, and Utility Relief Grants.

### • FAITH FACTOR

## In God we Trust and find Hope!

By Rev. Graeme Liersch,  
Rector, Anglican Parish of  
Wonthaggi/Inverloch

CHRISTMAS is over, holidays are done for some and nearly over for others, the hustle and bustle of the New year is here.

This year has started in much the same way as any other year, but this year is perhaps a little different, for example family finances are much tighter and the cost of living is much higher, with rent and food prices up, and thus the stress levels are through the roof for many.

Twice a week, Wednesday, and Friday mornings from 11am – 11.30am, we run a food rescue program and over the past 12 months I've seen the number of people needing assistance steadily growing. Is there any hope that things will change?

Answer: Yes, there is always hope of change for the better. The big difficulty is that we don't know when that change will occur, but occur it will, one day.

But that doesn't solve the financial strain for the here and now, which is what most people are looking for.

My answer to this problem, is found in sharing part of my story.

One day, many years ago when my wife and I had a young family and we were running our own business, I was returning from a repair job, which I hadn't been paid for, and was acutely aware that we had no money to pay our bills or put food on the table. In fact, we had little to no food left in the house.

As I drove, I cried out to God and said: "Jesus I have no food, no money to buy food and pay bills, you're going to have to do something about it. Please help!"

Half an hour later as I turned the corner near our home, I noticed a visitor's car in the driveway and as I pulled up, I noticed who the person was. As I jumped out of my van I said to the person: "Elaine, what are you doing here"? To which she replied as she opened her car boot: "God told me to bring this to you". In the boot was a load of groceries, just what we needed.

It may seem ridiculous to some, but my experience has been that God, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, provides for all my needs when I really need it and sometimes when I don't.

I thus encourage you to turn to Jesus, put your trust and hope in Him and not in worldly commerce and in your own strength, especially when times are difficult.

Jesus said: If you, then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good gifts to those who ask him! (Matthew 7:11)

# Changing lives: Supporting older people through Aged Care Volunteer Visitors Scheme



**Helen and Annette. Ageing with grace friendship.**

AT 84, Barry starts his day heading to the sunny corner of his living room. His once brisk movements now take a more measured pace. Holding a book and reading glasses, he settles into the familiar armchair, a spot favoured by his late wife, Diane.

As Barry reads, his thoughts drift to the day ahead. A visit to the local community centre, once routine, now brings a subtle sense of anticipation, especially after a recent stumble on the sidewalk.

Like many older people, Barry faces challenges of loneliness and isolation, heightened by the absence of his spouse for six years. This reflects a widespread issue affecting older people nationwide.

Acknowledging the risk of loneliness among older people, the Australian Government established the Aged Care Volunteer Visitors Scheme (ACVVS) over three decades ago. This initiative pairs volunteers with older people to counteract isolation, fostering genuine friendships and providing regular social interactions for enhanced well-being.

Esis Tawfik, CEO of Ageing with Grace and the ACVVS network member for ACT, NSW and Victoria, envisions

a society where older people are valued, supported, and empowered. Esis emphasises the impact of this free service, funded by the Australian Government.

Over 140 organisations nationwide play a crucial role in providing the Aged Care Volunteer Visitors Scheme, instrumental in enhancing the lives of older people.

"I've been involved in the ACVVS for close to ten years, witnessing positive outcomes of thousands of friendships between volunteers and older people. The feedback resonates with stories of improved well-being, sustained independence, enhanced self-esteem, and a deeper connection to

community," says Tawfik.

"We have a number of organisations in the Gippsland and Bass Coast Region providing this service," continues Esis.

Volunteer Helen has been matched with her older friend Annette for a long time. "I enjoy seeing Annette just as much as she looks forward to my visits. Annette says that my visits are a breath of fresh air, and I'm a great listener. That makes me feel really good!"

Research underlines the benefits of volunteering, including increased happiness, boosted self-esteem, and better physical and mental well-being.

Organisations funded by the Australian Government for

ACVVS ensure that all volunteer visitors undergo screening and receive training before being matched with an older person. Pairing is based on shared interests and, when possible, similar cultural and social backgrounds.

### Accessing the Service

To access ACVVS, recipients must reside in a government-funded aged care home, receive a home care package, or be approved and waitlisted for these services. Eligible older people have the right to access ACVVS free of charge, with referrals accepted from family, friends, health professionals, and aged care providers.

Loneliness affects an estimated 1.5 million older Australians, making it a critical public health concern.

If you know an older person who would benefit from this service or if you're interested in volunteering, reach out to Esis Tawfik, ACVVS State Network Member for ACT, NSW and Vic, at [info@ageingwithgrace.org.au](mailto:info@ageingwithgrace.org.au) or 0491 272 471.

For further information about the Aged Care Volunteer Visitors Scheme, visit [health.gov.au/our-work/aged-care-volunteer-visitors-scheme-acvvs](http://health.gov.au/our-work/aged-care-volunteer-visitors-scheme-acvvs).

## ~ NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE & ADULT LEARNING NEWS ~

### YES YOUTH HUB

THE YES Youth Hub is a community project managed by the YMCA Bass Coast on behalf of BCSC, community, and young people, and provides a safe, welcoming and inclusive space for young people aged 12 to 25 living, working, and playing in the Bass Coast.

We are located at 76 Watt Street, Wonthaggi and our drop-in space is open Monday to Wednesday between 2.30pm – 5.30pm.

After a busy holiday program full of skate and art-based events, we are now looking

forward to delivering two huge events in February, including the Bass Coast Youth Pride Prom and the Kilcunda Lobster-FEST Skate Park Competition.

The 2024 Bass Coast Youth Pride Prom has been made possible through generous funding from Midsumma, and includes a community visit from PrideFinder – an LG-BTQIA+ podcast event that interviews community members. Both events are gloriously FREE for young people, but bookings are essential, so be

sure to follow our socials for more information.

We would also like to take this opportunity to invite any young mother's to pop down and join our Young Mum's Hub on Tuesday morning between 11am and 1pm.

If you're a young person in Bass Coast you should pop down to the YES Youth Hub and check it out. We have FREE food and Wi-Fi, gaming, music space, a FREE youth pantry and laundry. Also, if you have any ideas on the type of programming we should be

doing please let us know.

Thanks to SGST we will be keeping you posted on all our amazing stories going forward in the Community Notice Board.

You can find us on Facebook and Instagram on the following handles @YESYouthHub, @basscoastskateparks and @staytunedbasscoastfreeza



76 Watt Street, Wonthaggi PH: 0477 224 430 @YESYouthHub [f](https://www.facebook.com/YESYouthHub) [i](https://www.instagram.com/YESYouthHub/)

### BASS COAST ADULT LEARNING

in permaculture, basic computing, music, sustainability, first aid, and hospitality.

It's a busy and positive start to the new year. BCAL's goal is to help you achieve your goals.

All course details are on the website now and the Course Guide for Term 1 is available to download or pick up from the centre. Look for the Enrol Now flag on White Road.

For more information on all BCAL's courses and services, please visit [bcal.vic.edu.au](http://bcal.vic.edu.au) or call 5672 3115 to learn more.

#### WONTHAGGI COMMUNITY GARDEN

For the third year running, the Wonthaggi Community Garden will be participating in the Bass Coast Edible Gardens weekend on Saturday and Sunday, February 10 and 11.

This year, the event will include seventeen gardens right across Bass Coast from Corinella to Cowes to Inverloch. Visitors can meet the gardeners and learn how to grow their own food, or just take in the beauty.

Tickets can be purchased for just \$5 to individual gardens or a \$25 full pass gets you access to all seventeen gardens across the weekend.

Plus, there will be a raffle to win a wheelbarrow full of garden supplies.

To learn more about the Edible Gardens weekend, visit [basscoastediblegardens.com](http://basscoastediblegardens.com).

In the meantime, regular Thursday sessions at the Community Garden continue weekly. All are welcome to drop in and have a chat. Contact [tgordon@westnet.com.au](mailto:tgordon@westnet.com.au) for more information.

#### WONTHAGGI WOODCRAFTERS

The Woodies' Christmas gift store was a great success with over 450 items sold. It was a great fundraiser for the group, and they are looking at doing something similar over Easter.

Now it's time to restock.

Regular sessions started up again last week in carving, furniture making, scrollsaw, and several turning groups.

Twenty-five members took part in a working bee on the weekend to get all the grounds and workspaces nice and tidy for the new year.

For more information about joining the Woodcrafters, visit [wonthaggiwoodcrafters.com.au](http://wonthaggiwoodcrafters.com.au) or visit the store at the workshop.



239 White Rd, Wonthaggi PH: (03) 5672 3115 [www.bcal.vic.edu.au](http://www.bcal.vic.edu.au) [f](https://www.facebook.com/BassCoastAdultLearning)



Ken, Shu, Ezekiel and Elyza popped along to the Rockpool Ramblings on Thursday whilst down on holidays. C21\_0424



Laraine Harrison of Drouin with granddaughter Lily braves the wind at Stony Creek on Thursday. A17\_0424



Paddy Eldred, Geoff Cooling and Mal Price of Meenyan & Stony Creek Fire Brigade raise funds by raffling San Remo lobsters at Stony Creek Racecourse. A18\_0424



Sheila, Tiffany and Phoebe Hinton of Mornington enjoy the Stony Creek races on Thursday, with Sheila's husband working on the barriers. A19\_0424



Elizabeth Morris, Jaci Hicken and Heather Butler look forward to the Australia Day Awards ceremony in Meenyan, with Heather one of the nominees for Citizen of the Year. A07\_0424



Carol Zuidema and Derek Steenholt of Leongatha attended the Australia Day Awards ceremony in Meenyan to support eventual winner Kathryn Smith. A08\_0424



South Gippsland Shire councillors Mohya Davies and Jenni Keerie look forward to the Australia Day Awards ceremony in Meenyan. A09\_0424



Cathy Waldron and Karen Anton of Mirboo North are ready to support their local nominee Heather Butler at the Australia Day Awards ceremony. A10\_0424



George Manis, Jill Bartholomeusz and Tony Parisi attend the Australia Day Awards ceremony with Art Connect South Gippsland - a nominee for Community Event of the Year. A11\_0424

# Snapped Out

Pictures of you and your friends at Rockpool Ramblings, South Gippsland Shire Council Australia Day Awards in Meenyan, Stony Creek Races, Cape Paterson Aquathon and the Phillip Island Model Train Show.



Paul, Tommy and Charlie enjoyed competing in the Cape aquathon.

## Sentinel-Times

>>> ORDER THESE AND OTHER PHOTOS 5672 1888



Cassie Sullivan and Aaron Notman of Leongatha attend the Australia Day Awards to celebrate the nomination of Biketoberfest for Community Event of the Year. A12\_0424



Phillip Island and District Railway Modellers David Whelan and Geoff Dupree with the rail layout it took them the best part of a year to build, specially for the annual model train show.



President of the Phillip Island and District Railway Modellers Association Geoff Newman, right, with brother John admiring the splendid display in the Phillip Island Senior Citizens Club at the weekend.

## Speed cubing tournament coming to Inverloch

INVERLOCH will host its first official World Cubing Association tournament on February 10 and 11.

All things speed cubing will be happening at the Inverloch Hub with an action-packed two-day tournament planned. Spectators are encouraged to attend (free entry). There is a registration fee of \$38 for those wishing to compete.

Registrations to compete will close on February 3. Register via the World Cubing Association website: [worldcubeassociation.org/competitions/DontInverloch-Up2024](http://worldcubeassociation.org/competitions/DontInverloch-Up2024).

Currently, 30 per cent of registrations have been for locals and newcomers – an incredible result.

Everyone, especially newcomers to cubing and competing are encouraged to register and be a part of a fabulous and supportive community. There is a great mix of events, open to all ages, genders and solving speeds.

If you can solve a cube, it doesn't matter how fast, you can come to an event and get an official time.

Along with six first time local cubers, current Australia record holder for the Pyraminx, Gippsland solver Emmet Hobbs is already registered. Also coming to compete and mentor is Oceanic champion in blind fold cube solving Michael Tripodi.

For more information about the event contact The Inverloch Tourism Association via Monique Wilson 0421 054 667.

# Lynn creates with her own unique style

LOCAL artist Lynn Fisher creates from what's in front of her, from photos she's taken and from what appeals to her creative spirit.

Pulling on different methods of teaching, she incorporates these into her work but largely allows the creative flow to go where it wants to go.

"I'm not a traditionalist. I've learned the basic things... and then I've expanded on that to suit my own style," explained Lynn.

"If I've got colour leftover on my palette, I'll slap it onto a canvas and keep slapping it on until I can see something to create."

Lynn, who has been helping hang the Leongatha Rotary Art Show for the past four years has entered this year, two wire sculptures and two paintings.

One is a sculpture made with copper piping, coated wire and flowers made from old tea tins.

"It's like a vase," Lynn explains, "but you can't put anything in it. It's got a couple of the core structures then the twisted wire and then the three large tin flowers coming down the front."

Remaining on the theme of flowers in vases, the watercolour painting entered into the show uses a method of measuring and line work Lynn learnt while doing a course in Sarasota, Florida.

"I've done vases of flowers, but I've actually used the measurements to extend lines from that, so it's got your main basic painting in the middle and then you've got



Lynn Fisher brings a unique style to her paintings and sculptures, that can be seen at this year's Rotary Club of Leongatha Art and Photography Show.

your line work from it. It gives it almost like a cut glass type of look."

An acrylic painting of an orchid that developed into a semi abstract also features this same line work and was inspired by Lynns sons' father-in-law, a renowned Orchidest in Sarasota who won a prestigious prize for an orchid.

While Lynn has entered her works into many shows and competitions, she also uses art and painting as a way to connect and share with others.

When her grandchildren come to visit, she sets them up with big canvases, brushes and paint, and they get excited to tell her about what they've created.

"It's just a beautiful way of

connecting with kids."

From her home studio in Wonthaggi, Lynn is working on a semi abstract piece for her daughter and her fiancé who have a connection to the Bahamas and flamingos - incorporated into the piece, created "from the heart."

It was only 15 years ago that Lynn began to paint and when she moved to South Gippsland 12 years ago found that art classes were a great way to meet people; and learnt from local artists Florence Crighton, Bob Hickman and Regina Dudek in Loch.

"I would love to have been able to start this new career many years ago, but the opportunity just wasn't there. But I do have

the time and space to devote a few days a week to this, which does give me joy."

Successful in promoting her work both through her emporium and by word of mouth has kept Lynn selling work and creating pieces on commission, and it is only now that she is in the process of creating a website.

"The joy you get when someone you don't know actually buys the work... it's like... I call it my happy dance," Lynn laughs.

Bringing her style and teaching methods to others is an area Lynn has begun to feel passionate about and has taken on a couple of students.

"I teach nontraditional but encourage them to be inspired by what they want to paint and then do some guidance with them."

Lynn admits that she is not inhibited by the need to be perfect or to impress others and is willing to keep having a go even if something isn't working well.

"It brings me joy, but it also is very therapeutic and it's a great escape, because when you're creating you don't think of anything else. It's just a whole different space in your life," Lynn said.

"I need to be creative. And I found this lovely way of being creative through art and through painting."

Visit the Rotary Club of Leongatha Art and Photography Show to view Lynns work or contact her directly via email [lynn509@hotmail.com](mailto:lynn509@hotmail.com).

# SMITH

SUNDAY 28 JANUARY 2024  
2.30PM

**SPARROWS OF KABUL**

*"Fred Smith is simply the best folk/country musician working in this country... Beyond writing some of the finest songs about Australians at war (Dust of Uruzgan), he's created a repertoire that is wry, literate, witty, powerfully emotional and insightful."*

Bruce Elder, Sydney Morning Herald

**Inverloch Community Hub**  
16 A'Beckett St Inverloch Victoria

**\$35.00 General Entry**

**CLICK QR or go to**  
<https://www.trybooking.com/CNLBK>

# SUMMER SERIES 1

**FEAST YOUR SENSES**

**featuring**  
**JUNGLE JIM SMITH**  
**NICK CARVER & THE MEAN ST BUTCHERS**

**OZONE ST**

**FRI 2 FEB 5.30 - 10pm**

**\$25 adult**  
**\$15 conc/child U18**

**COAL CREEK**

**plus**  
**Kids Entertainment**  
**Heaps of Delicious Food**  
**Beer & Wine by Burra Brewery and GWC**

**tickets @trybooking**



Be enthralled by flag throwing and entertained by the music of Sbandieratori and Musici of Faenza as well as that of Mirboo North Primary School students. Z43\_0723

# Mirboo North's Italian heritage comes to life

THE foundations of the Mirboo North Italian Festa, to be held on Sunday, February 11 this year, lay in history and tradition in the far off homeland of Italian immigrants, who arrived in Mirboo North post World War II.

They sought to maintain their traditions through recreating the festa of their hometown Solarino in Mirboo North - beginning in 1965.

Fast forward to 2024 - where travel across the world has enabled people from all lands to fall in love with Italy and suddenly everyone wants to be Italian!

Larger than life, loud, passionate, warm, generous and fun loving people, amazing food, infectious music and dancing, history, traditions, colour, pomp and ceremony the Mirboo North Italian Festa aims to deliver it all in one spectacular day of free entertainment for families and friends to share.

Just like Nonna - first we

want to feed you - "Mangiasti? Have you eaten?" Dozens of food stalls will offer authentic foods from the regions of Italy.

Arrosticini (sizzling salty lamb skewers) from Abruzzo, plump potato gnocchi from the north of Italy, arancini and cannoli from Sicily, pizza from Napoli, pasta, panini, polpetti (meatballs) salsicce (spicy Italian sausages) and calamari from up and down the coast.

Try fabulous Italian donuts - zeppole (also known as frittole in the north and sfince in the south), gelato, tiramisu, biscotti and other decadent dessert delights, a huge range of coffees, wines, beers, juices, mocktails and what's a party without an aperol spritz or two?

Be enthralled by the amazing spectacle of flag throwing, an exhibition that dates back centuries and that can only be witnessed at certain times, in certain towns and cities

across Italy.

The performance by the Sbandieratori and Musici of Faenza at the 2023 Festa was a once in a lifetime unique and rare opportunity to see this spectacle in Australia.

However, they are back in 2024 for the last time!

Take a stroll to the market area and browse through a fabulous range of Italian inspired artisan goods, arts, crafts, ceramics, woodwork, homewares, as well as produce, wineries, boutique spirits, craft beers and cider, vinegars, oils, preserves, relishes, take home biscotti, pastas, garlic and more.

The South Gippsland Shire have improved the Baromi Park facilities adding an extension of the skate park and natural adventure playground- so there's lots for the bambini to do.

Magician Luigi Zucchini will present an interactive comedy/magic show sure to keep them entertained. Add free

face painting, mini golf, Community Bank Mirboo North giant games, community police, ambulance and CFA vehicles to explore and there's fun to be had by children of all ages.

The festa starts rooted in tradition - with an outdoor mass at 10am to celebrate St Paul - the Patron Saint of Solarino in Sicily from whence the majority of immigrants in Mirboo North came in the 1950s and 60s.

There really is something for everyone in this family fun day out, and best of all it's free to attend.

Patrons only need to buy food and drinks and make a gold coin donation if parking at The Walter Tuck Reserve or Mirboo North Secondary College School Oval (shuttle bus or short walk to the park where the fun begins).

So bring the bambini, put nonna and zio in the car and make your way to Mirboo North on Sunday, February 11.



An Irish songman with a poet's soul experience, an evening with David Keenan and Lyrebird Arts Council.

## Irish Stars coming to Meeniyian Hall

THE Meeniyian Town Hall kicks off its 25th anniversary year on February 2 and 3 with two of Ireland's finest contemporary stars.

Lisa O'Neill has garnered rave reviews for her performances and 2023 release, All of this is Chance. On stage Lisa exhibits a humility and innovation which has been seen and shared widely on social platforms when she shared the Altar with Glen Hansard at the funeral of Shane McGowan recently performing a rousing rendition of Fairytale in New York.

Lisa is playing at the Sydney Festival and WOMAD in Adelaide, and South Gippsland has the opportunity to see her perform on February 3 with John Flanagan as special guest.

David Keenan is taking the world by storm with his stage performances, and quickly becoming the hot ticket in Ireland with a truly innovative style of Irish songwriting. With lyrics steeped in poetic shapes and forms and matched by a musical rawness that serves a visceral and deeply emotive live performance. He has a way of connecting people in story and song with an imitable emotional depth that is rarely found.

Quoted by Michael Mann of The Guardian, "The epic sweep of Van Morrison, the high notes of Tim Buckley, and the soul of Samuel Beckett." We have the opportunity to see him perform on February 2. Isabel Rumble will also be supporting David.

Tickets are available via the Lyrebird Arts Council website Upcoming Events - Lyrebird Arts Council

All other events on the 2024 calendar are available on the website including Calexico on February 23 and 24, and Thee Sacred Souls on March 16.

**WONTHAGGI BINGO**

**WEDNESDAY 1pm - 3pm**  
**THURSDAY 8pm - 10pm**

Wonthaggi Workmen's Club, 75 Graham Street

Come and join in the laughs at South Coast FM Bingo

★ RAFFLES ★ DOOR PRIZES ★ LUCKY NUMBER JACKPOT

**128th Korumburra Show**

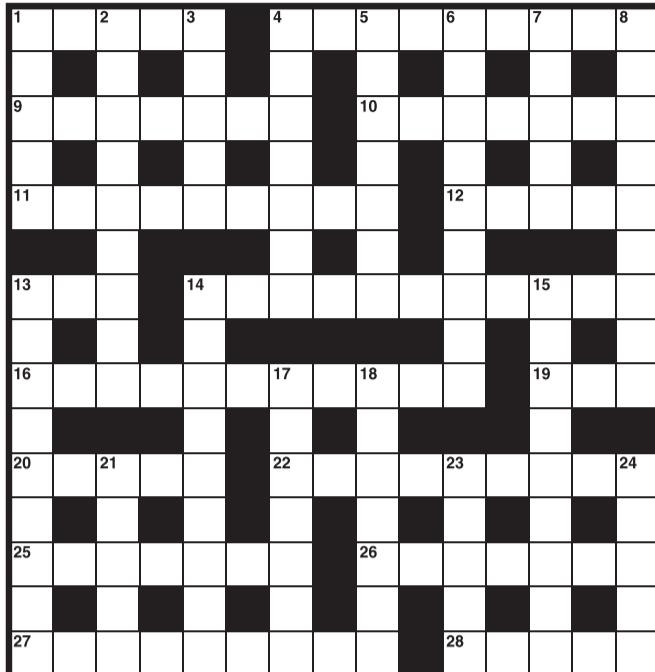
**Saturday February 10, 2024**

Animals | Side Shows | Car Displays | Free Kids' Activities and much more...

Live music by Picassos 4:30pm-8:45pm | Fireworks at 9pm



## CROSSWORD



## ACROSS

1 Roman numeral L (5)  
4 Pain in a nerve pathway (9)  
9 Recipe (7)  
10 Relating to the natural emblem of a clan or tribe (7)  
11 Clean up (9)

12 Female name (5)  
13 Winglike part (3)  
14 Prioritising material possessions (11)  
16 Unavoidably (11)  
19 Scammed (3)  
20 Before (5)

## 9-LETTER

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 words ending in "s".

Today's Aim:

13 words: Good

19 words: Very good

26 words: Excellent



No. 211

22 Evacuate (9)  
25 Segment of prose book (7)  
26 Gave away (7)  
27 Dilapidation (9)  
28 Opened (5)

## DOWN

1 Group who undermine from within, – column (5)  
2 According to a known pattern rather than innovative (9)  
3 More than one person (coll) (5)  
4 Tidiest (7)  
5 Of sufficient quality (2,2,3)  
6 Dictatorial rule (9)  
7 Electromagnetic radiation, – rays (5)  
8 Celebrated (9)  
13 Declared (9)  
14 Christmas plant (9)  
15 Handed down (9)  
17 Pyrenees country (7)  
18 One with special advantage (7)  
21 Russian kings (5)  
23 Vishnu worshipper (5)  
24 Terminated (5)

## WORDFIT

3 LETTERS AREAS  
ACE ARGUE  
ATE ARSON  
DNA ASPEN  
EEL ASSES  
EGO AVERT  
EKE AWARE  
END CHAFF  
ERA CLEAT  
FAD CLOTH  
FOX CORED  
HOE CRASH  
IRE CRYPT  
LEE EARNS  
MIX EASED  
NAB EDICT  
NET ELUDE  
NUT EXERT  
ODE FORGE  
PRO HALED  
ROT HEADS  
SIT HOSTS  
TWO IMAGE

## 4 LETTERS

IOTAS STAKE  
LEAST STALL  
LOCAL STATE  
DEEM MEETS  
DENS STEAL  
ETCH MULCH  
FLED OGLED  
MAAM OPTIC  
RAPS ORALS  
SLID PANDA  
SOFT RAVEL  
TOTS ROUGE  
AORTA SECTS  
SLEDS SINEW  
SPLIT SAFARI

## 5 LETTERS

STAKED STOWED  
STALL TENSED  
LOCAL GORILLAS  
DEEM HOLSTERS  
ETCH TEENAGER  
FLED TEXTURED

## 6 LETTERS

ACUTELY STINT  
ELASTIC ELASTIC  
ITERATE TIGER  
LUSTIER TRACT  
STORAGE RAVEL  
WOOMERA ROUGE

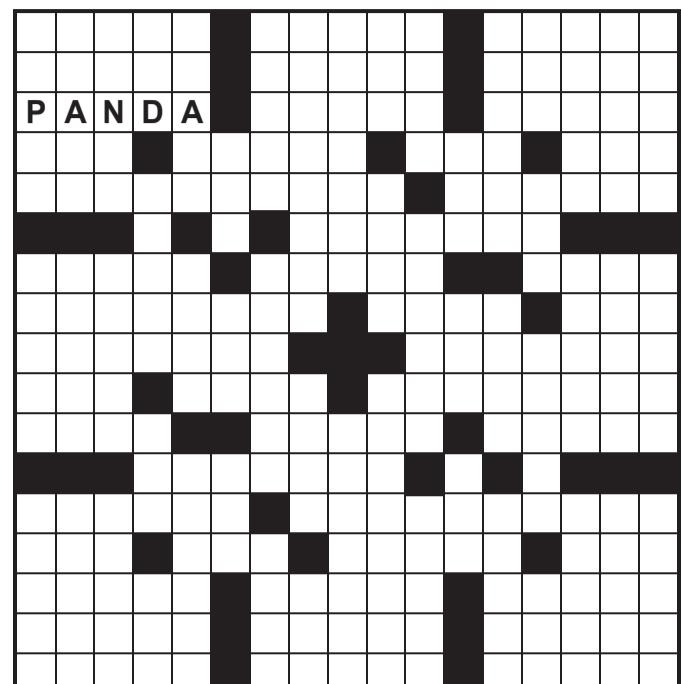
## 7 LETTERS

STINTED STAKED  
TIGER ELASTIC  
TRACT LUSTIER  
STORAGE RAVEL  
WOOMERA ROUGE

## 8 LETTERS

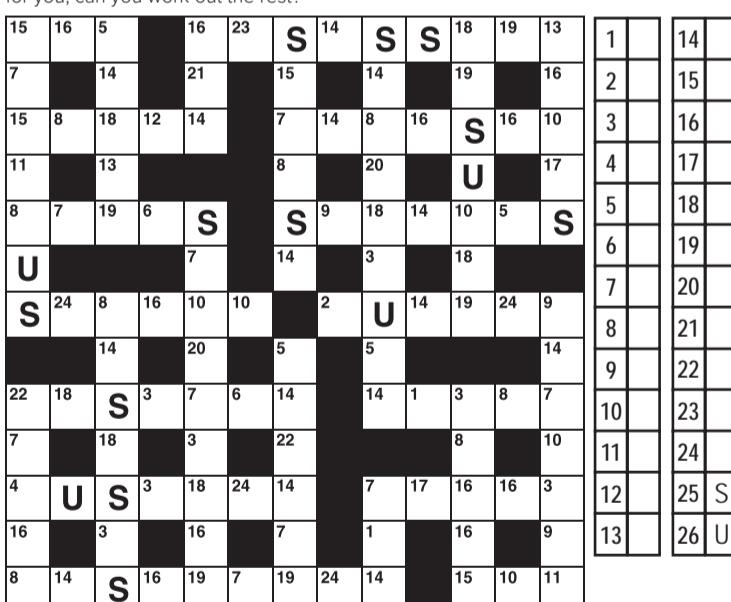
GORILLAS  
HOLSTERS  
TEENAGER  
TEXTURED

No. 121



## CODEWORD

Each number corresponds to a letter of the alphabet. Two have been filled in for you, can you work out the rest?



No. 161

## SUDOKU

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 3x3 boxes. Remember, no number can occur more than once in any row, column or box.

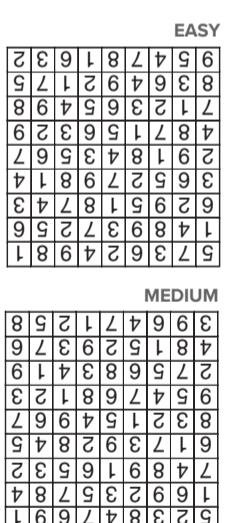


No. 211



1901 | PUZZLES AND PAGINATION © pagemasters.

## SOLUTIONS



## QUICK QUIZ

- How many stars are on the flag of the European Union?
- Dolly, the first mammal to be cloned from an adult somatic cell, was what kind of animal?
- What is an abacus used for?
- Sisters Alana, Danielle and Este are the members of which US band?
- The Thinker is a bronze sculpture by which French artist?
- Which 2022 film, starring Adam Driver (pictured), is based on a 1985 novel by Don DeLillo?
- What four letters are found on the coloured buttons on an Xbox game controller?
- Of the six types of coins of the Japanese yen, how many have holes in them?
- Which country are Chupa Chups lollipops from?
- Ha is the abbreviation for what metric unit of measurement?



ANSWERS: 1. 12, 2. Sheep, 3. Performing arithmetic calculations, 4. HAIM, 5. Auguste Rodin, 6. White Noise, 7. A, B, X, Y, 8. Two, 9. Spain, 10. Hector.

## WORD SEARCH

No. 121

DR MANGOSTEEN IRS	FEIJOA MELON
YRREBDUOLCPPPIOA	GUAMA PITANGA
UPBARRRELCACTUSP	AKEBI PITAYA
ONOLEMACUCINAEO	ATEMOYA JUJUBE POHA BERRY
FACHIOTEGUBLPAD	BAEL KIWANO ROSEAPPLE
AFLRAOMDRLAIJPI	BARREL LYCHEE SAFOU
SOYETBUFAKNMUPL	CACTUS MANGOSTEEN SALAK
RNCEEKCIOBBJLL	BLACK MEDLAR SANTOL
RAHKULKRMBAEUEA	SAPOTE MIRACLE SAPODILLA
AWECCSGERIESBEA	CLOUDBERRY FRUIT TIESA
LIEAAULSLYLKEIY	CUCAMELON NONI FRUIT UGLI
DKRPAAOPITANGAIA	DUKU PEPINO
EIOMNKNONIFRUIT	
MTATEMOYAOJIEFI	
ESANTOLEJEWELSP	

Can you find all the words listed? The leftover letters will spell out a secret message.



## Stunning tranquillity on 3.9 Acres

LOCATED in the gorgeous village of Meeniyian, walking distance to the shops and cafes as well as the Great Southern Rail Trail, is this premier lifestyle property.

Set on approximately 3.9 acres and tucked behind a hedge with no passing traffic, it is a secluded haven of peace and tranquillity. It boasts gardens of native and exotic plants, designed to be visible from every room, that the birds, koalas and other wildlife call home.

Meandering paths wind their way through the gardens, sweeping verandas surround the house, and bay windows frame a cleverly designed outlook that will take your breath away.

Features of this home, built by a well-known reputable, local builder, include:

- Three generous sized bedrooms and a fourth guest room or study
- Massive master bedroom has own ensuite and walk-in robe
- Open plan kitchen/dining/living area with stunning garden views
- Fully appointed kitchen with abundant storage
- Large formal dining and sitting area with beautiful open fireplace
- Gas ducted heating and quality fixtures and fittings throughout
- Oversized double lock-up garage
- Lock-up shed with concrete floor, power and an additional study/laboratory
- Town and tank water connecting to a garden watering system
- Fenced off paddock area for livestock
- Asphalt driveway entrance
- Vegetable gardens, fruit trees and a hot house provide fresh produce for the kitchen table
- A decked area, a jetty on the lake, a windmill ... the list goes on!

Ideal for entertaining all year round or simply enjoying for yourself. A quality property like this does not become available very often but it could be yours – don't miss out!

Call Kellie on 0438 647 449 today.



4 2 2 3.9 acres

31-39 Brendan Street, Meeniyian

**For Sale** \$1,575,000

**Agent** Nutrien Harcourts

Kellie Thomas 0438 647 449

kellie.thomas@nh.com.au



Harcourts

### Nutrien Harcourts Leongatha

47 Bair Street, Leongatha  
(03) 5662 2292

Scan the QR code to visit our website



JUST LISTED



**LEONGATHA**

'Hillview House'

- Well appointed kitchen with quality appliances.
- Master suite boasting an ensuite & walk in robe.
- North facing alfresco, dble carport & gardens.

\$799,000

FOR SALE



**POUND CREEK**

Off Grid Luxury Living!

- Gorgeous family home on approx. 40 acres.
- Large modern kitchen with WI butlers pantry.
- Amenities inc. fencing, shedding & water supply.

\$1,850,000 - \$1,950,000

FOR SALE



**LEONGATHA**

Extraordinary Oasis on 7.4 Acres!

- Stunning kitchen with quality appliances.
- Master BR with scenic views, WIR & ensuite.
- Large decking area, dam with a jetty.

\$1,695,000 - \$1,795,000

FOR SALE



**TARWIN LOWER**

Spectacular and Stunning!

- Beautiful turnkey family home on 4.95 acres.
- Fully appointed modern kitchen with WI pantry.
- Massive master BR with large ensuite & WIR.

\$1,400,000

FOR SALE



**LEONGATHA**

Contemporary Living

- Stunning architecturally designed home.
- Chefs kitchen with quality appliances.
- Beautiful views, private backyard & gardens.

\$1,100,000



**BARRY REDMOND**

Director / Estate Agent  
0477 622 292



**KELLIE THOMAS**

Licensed Estate Agent  
0438 647 449



**MATT REDMOND**

Licensed Estate Agent  
0418 357 341



**MONIQUE WIGHTMAN**

Marketing Manager & Office Admin

FOR SALE



**LEONGATHA**

Spectacular Family Home

- Modern turnkey home on 2,094m<sup>2</sup>.
- Master bedroom with walk in robe and ensuite.
- Large 3 bay shed & great sized backyard for kids.

\$1,150,000 - \$1,190,000

HM10640-V15

We get results!



## Not a thing out of place!



### 110 acres with current planning permit

SITUATED on 110.8 acres (approx.) of top quality, easy to manage grazing land, this highly productive and clean property comprises of approximately eight paddocks with frontage to Nerrena Road and a mere one kilometre to the township of Dumbalk as well as having frontage to the Tarwin River, renowned for its excellent trout fishing.

Make this the ultimate lifestyle and build your dream home and enjoy views of the Dumbalk Valley and surrounding hills as this property has a current planning permit for a well-designed and spacious four-bedroom, two-bathroom family home as well as a 20m x 9m shed (a copy of the permit and plans are available upon request).

Level properties of this calibre rarely hit the market – contact us today to find out more!

#### Farming

44.84ha

1640 Nerrena Road, **Dumbalk**

For Sale \$16,000 per acre

Agent Ray White Leongatha

Kasey Bowman 0439 207 196



TUCKED away on a private drive in an established street with an easy to maintain yet stunning garden, is this immaculately presented home that needs to be seen to be truly appreciated. With a spacious land area of 812 sqm, this pristine home offers plenty of room for you and your family to enjoy.

Step inside and be greeted by a well-designed layout that maximises space and functionality. The bedrooms are generously sized, featuring built-in robes, ceiling fans and are serviced by a central bathroom. The master bedroom boasts a light filled ensuite and walk in robe.

The formal living area is flooded with natural light and the north facing open plan living/dining/kitchen area boasts reverse cycle air conditioning, attractive stone island bench, pantry, dishwasher, 900mm oven and gas cook top.

All this, leading to the hero of the home: a fantastic outdoor entertaining area with weather blinds making it a useable space all year round, Bluetooth speakers in the ceiling, in-built kitchen area complete with natural gas BBQ, hot/cold sink and easy to clean tiled floor; the perfect place for gatherings or for the children to play on rainy days!

The fully fenced backyard with side access ensures privacy and security as well as allowing room for a trailer or caravan.

A garden shed provides additional storage space for your tools and equipment. Further attributes include:

- Ducted gas heating
- Solar/gas hot water service
- Double garage with automatic roller door
- Extra parking space to side of garage for guests or third vehicle
- Just a short stroll to shops and 100m to the Mary Checkley Reserve Playground

This is an impeccably presented and well cared for family home. Contact us today to arrange an inspection and start your journey towards owning this beautiful Leongatha property.

3 | 2 | 2

812m<sup>2</sup>

1/13b Worthy Street, **Leongatha**

For Sale \$729,000

Agent Ray White Leongatha

Kasey Bowman 0439 207 196



## For Sale

### 43 Koonwarra Road, Leongatha

#### START WITH ME

- Attractive floor boards & light filled home
- 3 bedrooms with BIR's
- Double carport plus garage, flat block
- Stones throw to medical centre & shops

Mick Hanily 0417 311 756

\$565,000

3 1 3

## For Sale

### 2 Warralang Court, Leongatha

#### FOUR BEDROOMS WITH THE LOT

- Spotless, well built & elevated views
- Quiet court location close to schools
- Spacious lay out, R/C & gas log heater
- Stunning gardens, carport, garage & shed

Dave Trotman 0418 589 805

\$640,000

4 2 2



## For Sale

### 7 Manna Court, Koonwarra

#### THE GREAT ENTERTAINER

- Quiet court location & established trees
- Undercover solar heated swimming pool
- Huge undercover entertaining area
- 5271m<sup>2</sup>, 12 x 6m shed plus dbl garage

Dave Trotman 0418 589 805

\$1,150,000

4 2 4



## For Sale

### 109 Parr Street, Leongatha

#### FORGET THE STRESS OF BUILDING

- Quality built & well designed 4 bedroom home
- 2 living areas & elevated outdoor entertaining
- Double garage & fenced yard with side access
- Landscaped gardens & rural views

Paige Matthews 0418 794 468

\$775,000

4 2 2



## For Sale

### 20 Smith Street, Leongatha

#### PERIOD GEM

- Superbly renovated with period features
- Magnificent kitchen & spacious lounge
- Enclosed outdoor area/second living area
- Ideally located within metres of the CBD

Mick Hanily 0417 311 756

\$660,000

3 1 -



## For Sale

### 9/17 MacDonald Street, Leongatha

#### “THE GRANGE”

- Over 55's community
- Light filled & spacious lay out
- Quality finishes & a flat parcel of land
- Dbl garage, covered patio & established garden

Dave Trotman 0418 589 805

\$549,000

2 2 2



## For Sale

### 30a Bent Street, Leongatha

#### HIDDEN TREASURE

- Rare 4185m<sup>2</sup>, easy walk to shops
- Open plan north facing living/dining/kitchen
- Spectacular gardens with native & fruit trees
- 10m x 20m brick shed with attached bungalow

Mick Hanily 0417 311 756

\$1,050,000

3 2 12



## For Sale

### 18/4 Miles Lane, Leongatha

#### “WILDWOOD TERRACE”

- 2 bedrooms with BIR's
- Open plan living/dining/kitchen
- Lock up garage & low maintenance yard
- Close to healthcare services, shops & schools

Mick Hanily 0417 311 756

\$398,000

2 1 1



## For Sale

### 4 Hilton Court, Leongatha

#### TRADESMANS PARADISE

- 773m<sup>2</sup> land area with 3/4 bedroom home
- Fully renovated kitchen & bathroom
- Outdoor entertaining & established gardens
- Dbl garage/workshop plus 4 carport spaces

Mick Hanily 0417 311 756

\$625,000

3 1 6



## For Sale

### 2331 South Gippsland Hwy, Stony Creek

#### “STONY HOLLOWES”

- 4.84 acre property 7km from Meenyan
- 2 bedroom home plus 15x9m shed
- Fenced paddocks perfect for horses
- Stunning native gardens and trees

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\$759,000

2 1 3



## For Sale

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#### THE LOCATION DOESN'T GET MUCH BETTER!

- Great location, opp. railway station & shops
- 3 bedroom home with updated kitchen
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### 15 Hankinson Court, Mirboo

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Mick Hanily 0417 311 756

\$2,800,000-\$3,000,000 4 2 5

**Ray White.**

Michael Hanily



Paige Matthews



Dave Trotman



Kasey Bowman

Ray White Leongatha  
03 5662 5800  
15 Bair Street, Leongatha  
raywhiteleongatha.com.au



## FOCUSED ON ECONOMIC TRAITS

OPEN DAY SUNDAY 28TH JANUARY 2024

Red Angus Bulls and Females for Sale - Visitors Welcome

**Raedean**  
*Reds*

Red Angus

Annette Walker & Noel Gnaden

0407 346 488

61 Grays Rd, Buln Buln, 3821

raedean@smartchat.net.au

[www.raedean.com.au](http://www.raedean.com.au)

**Tarwin** PTH

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POLL  
HEREFORDS



*The Meikle Family  
extend a warm invitation  
to local people to inspect  
their Tarwin Poll  
Hereford Stud.*

**Time: Day 2  
Sunday,  
January 28, 2024  
Open 8.30am - 5.30pm**

**Location:** Parrys Road, (3 kms from Meeniyana) on Meeniyana-Dumbalk Rd.  
(Signs will be posted)



**ENQUIRIES:** David Meikle 5664 7556  
M: 0429 800 756 E: [meikledd@dcsi.net.au](mailto:meikledd@dcsi.net.au)



Georgia is excited to introduce potential buyers to her prized stud cattle.

## Top offerings at Raedean Reds

ANNETTE, Noel and Georgia are excited to have on display the yearling embryo heifers and bulls by Red U2 Reckoning 149A x GK Red Platinum Ruba P26, OLC Chateau x Trevone Park Little Princess B181, BST Tullatoola Vera x New Direction offering new bloodlines.

They have some exciting AI calves on the ground and by Tronar Kemble, Raedean Limited Edition and Raedean Statement.

Buyers will also be able to view their new females purchased from WA from the renowned Bandeeka stud.

They have just finished flushing their award-winning cow both in the show ring and on farm challenge. Hillandale Red Jude J18 has been one of their top

females constantly producing top performing young stock.

They have put some of her embryos in as well.

They welcome you to inspect their Red Angus herd and select your new sire from high performing functional female herd.

Raedean Reds focus is on economic traits, culling heavily for undesirable traits to keep improving the herd.

A docile temperament is extremely important to them.

You will be able to walk though all their cattle on display and Georgia will be excited to introduce you to her stud cattle.

They hope you can put Raedean and Georgia's Reds on your list of studs to visit.



**Lot 10 Wattlewood Top Gun T66. +1.1 for BW, top of the breed for rib and rump fat, IMF of +4.2 and EMA of 10.6 will be on display on January 28.**

## Exceptional bulls will delight at open farm

WATTLEWOOD Angus again invite you to join them for the 2024 Beef Week Open day on Sunday January 28 at Wattlewood to view their 30+ sale bulls that are available at their Annual Autumn Bull Sale on March 14, and the females behind their impressive sale bull line up.

The sire verified bulls at Wattlewood have come from foundation stock that go back to some of the best cow families in the Angus breed including Barunah, Acacia, Ella, and Esther. These females have come together with the industry's leading sires in Texas Iceman, Chiltern Park Moe, Sydgen Enhance and Sitz Stellar.

The animals are in their best health to achieve the best reproductive performance and longevity. The thirty bulls that will be included in their on-farm sale that is interfaced with AuctionsPlus have all been vaccinated with 7in1, Pestigard, Rhinogard and Vibrovax as well as being semen tested.

Wattlewood's breeding philosophy is to have structurally correct, quiet animals that perform in a package that buyers want to and enjoy owning. Wattlewood has potential stud and herd sires available

that are among the best in the breed for birth weight, growth, structure, and carcass EBV's. When various traits are calculated, there are bulls in the 2024 sale that are top performers in every index the Angus breed has.

Also on display will be some special heifers that have been used to help young kids learn about cattle and animal husbandry. The eight- to 10-year-old children have worked with these heifers to prepare them for the autumn shows, gaining confidence by leading, washing, and grooming them while ultimately enjoying being involved with cattle.

Fiona is a big believer of getting the youth involved as she says, "they are the future of the beef cattle societies and the beef industry".

Sale catalogues for the March 14 Bull Sale will be available on the day or alternatively, contact Fiona on 0416 216 951 to have one mailed out.

While the Glover's encourage you to come along to the Beef Week Open Day on January 28, if you can't make it, please get in touch with Fiona to arrange a time to visit this exceptional herd.



## WATTLEWOOD ANGUS

*ticking all the boxes*

- ✓ Herd Book Registered
- ✓ Semen Tested
- ✓ Sire Verified
- ✓ Genotyped
- ✓ P.I. Negative
- ✓ Naturally quiet
- ✓ Immune Ready (vacc. 7in1, Pestigard, Vibrovax & Rhinogard)
- ✓ Free of Known Genetic Defects (by pedigree or testing)

**Beef Week Open Day: Sunday 28th January 2024**

**ANNUAL BULL SALE: Thursday 14th March 2024**

Fiona & John Glover: 0416 216 951  
[www.wattlewoodangus.com.au](http://www.wattlewoodangus.com.au)



AuctionsPlus

RM840087

## John's passion for cattle produces only the best

FOUNDER and operator of Mt Ararat Simmentals John Leek is passionate about cattle, with a focus on high quality genetics, sourcing from the best studs Australia wide and overseas to ensure buyers receive top grade breeding animals.

Having established the business 15 years ago, John continues to breed for optimal outcomes on multiple fronts, with calving ease, docile cattle and high-quality meat production some of the benefits.

He is delighted to open his Nar Nar Goon property for people to inspect his bulls offering farmers the opportunity to buy animals that will help them achieve those positive outcomes.

"We'll have a beautiful line up of polled bulls for sale," John said.

Mt Ararat Simmentals places high importance on breeding female cattle that have excellent conformation, not only maximising birthing success but minimising risks of subsequent infection in order to achieve good health and desired future fertility.

Good conformation is multifaceted, including having wide hips and a good tail set that enables the afterbirth to drain effectively after a calf is delivered.

Once offspring of John's Simmentals are safely on the ground, they'll continue to benefit from select genetics, with cows producing vast quantities of milk to rear their young.

That leads to calves weighing in the vicinity of 450 to 550 kilograms at the weaning stage.

"You can move them straight to the

sale yards in amazing condition," John said adding they get top sales at market on a weekly basis.

Mt Ararat Simmentals breeds cattle that will produce offspring to deliver excellent marbled meat that provides maximum flavour and tenderness.

"It's a long chain of events before it gets to the butcher shop," John said of the planned approach to delivering high quality meat.

He highlighted the importance of Simmentals' docile nature, saying it minimises risk to those handling cattle on farm and in sale yards.

John also has a strong focus on breeding his cattle to prevent the risk of pink eye, explaining that Simmentals' natural dark features around the eye area are advantageous.

He is proud that his Simmentals are at least the equal best in Australia, saying they stand out from the crowd in Victoria.

John said sales of Simmentals are booming, with many using the breed to improve their herds.

"What normally happens with Simmentals is that people buy the bulls and put them over their Angus and Herefords to upgrade them for high yield," he said.

Although Nar Nar Goon based, Mt Ararat Simmentals has a presence in South Gippsland, with the Leeks running cattle on their Boorool property.

Those keen to inspect Mt Ararat Simmentals bulls on Sunday January 28 are encouraged to arrive early at 126 Mt Ararat North Road, Nar Nar Goon.



John Leek is committed to providing breeding cattle with high quality genetics through his business Mt Ararat Simmentals. A05\_0323



Mt Ararat Simmentals cattle are docile and easy to manage, bred to ensure calving ease and offspring that produce excellent meat. A06\_0323

## MT ARARAT SIMMENTALS Sunday January 28, 2024

Will be having a Sale Day starting 9am-3pm on the farm

### 20 Bulls will be for sale

Inspection at 126 Mt. Ararat North Road, Nar Nar Goon

Magnificent young Bulls for sale

Best blood lines available in Australia

Semen available out of our top breeding Bulls

Enquiries always welcome  
Bulls- Semen - Embryos  
Accredited JBAS8



Mt Ararat Rockstar

Our top priced bull in 2021  
Sold to local Leongatha breeder  
Simon Greaves  
for \$16,000



Mt Ararat Quantum

Our top priced bull in 2020



Contact: John Leek

M: 0409 537 445

126 Mt. Ararat North Road,  
Nar Nar Goon



## MARKET REPORT

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### Lardner Park Calf Market Report

Monday, January 15, 2024

Jersey & Jersey x ..... \$18 to \$80  
 Friesian Bulls ..... \$20 to \$90  
 Friesian Heifers ..... \$130 to \$230  
 Beef Bulls ..... \$67 to \$230  
 Beef Heifers ..... \$40 to \$160  
 Number of Calves: 84  
 Number purchased to rear: 47

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#### NEW SALE DATES FOR 2024

Wednesday February 7

Wednesday March 6

Wednesday April 3

Wednesday May 1

Wednesday June 5

Sales will commence at 12 midday on the first Wednesday of each month

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# El Nino predictions lead to devastating losses for farmers



**BOM predictions of a hot and dry spring and summer caused farmers to destock in panic and fear, however Gippsland has had higher than average rainfalls.**

HIGHER than average rainfall swept across South Gippsland in the last months of 2023 despite predictions and warnings that a hotter and drier spring and summer was on its way.

The El Nino weather effect was officially declared by the Australian Bureau of Meteorology (BOM) in September 2023 and preparation for bushfires was advised with high heat and drought conditions predicted.

In South Gippsland, spring was recorded in the top 10 per cent of wettest years since 1900, according to BOM.

September saw 74.3mm of rain, below the average of 94.6mm, however in October rain inundated the area with 155mm recorded, well above the average of 91.5mm.

November was below the rainfall average by 12 mm but December was over by 17.1mm.

Overall, more than 12 mm of rain hit the ground from September to December 2023 than in an average year.

This was evidenced by rivers rising multiple times over the past months and flash flooding seen in Toora and Welshpool on Boxing Day, with water inundating homes and businesses.

While the rain is a mere annoyance for some and maybe a joy for others, for farmers the predictions of El Nino impacted their planning and regular farming practices.

With the last drought still fresh

in farmers minds and with the prediction of extreme weather, panic set in and farmers began to destock to prepare for the inhospitable effects of El Nino explained Victorian Farmers Federation President and Mirboo North Farmer, Emma Germino.

“Farmers were destocking when arguably they could have been going in the other direction. It’s also problematic because we’ve seen it cause record livestock exports. Meat exports out of the country at a time when farmers locally were getting paid next to nothing for their stock. It wasn’t a demand issue. It was the over-supply issue because of that panic, which yes, absolutely was triggered by some of the forecasts, and then even some of the fear around that.”

Emma would like to see greater accuracy in weather

predictions, less media hype, better forecasting and someone taking accountability for the impact on farmers.

BOM climatologist Caitlin Minney told the ABC that El Nino wasn’t the only pattern influencing the weather and the long-range forecast is also influenced by several factors, including an easing positive Indian Ocean Dipole event and warmer oceans globally.

“There’s also the Southern Annual Mode, which has been pretty consistently positive across November and December, which generally increases rainfall across eastern Australia,” explained Caitlin.

Combined with the background warming of climate change which saw the hottest year globally recorded, climate scientists have warned that summer isn’t over yet and the volatility of the weather could

still see severe heat hit the country.

However, an above average (60 to 80 per cent chance) of rainfall is also predicted by BOM for the rest of January and through to March, for much of Victoria.

While farmers have started to rebuild their herds and are restocking, values have again increased, causing some frustration among farmers.

However, Emma commented that among the various farmers it is a mixed bag in terms of how happy or not they were with the weather, with some being devastated by floods and others thankful for rain on their properties.

“But we’re seeing a little bit more confidence around, particularly in livestock given that we’ve had rain and people have now got grass,” the VFF President said.

### Caring for stock in challenging weather conditions

PREPARE for changing weather and ensure your stock are well cared for with the use of a stock containment area (SCA).

Agriculture Victoria Land Management Extension Officer Clem Sturmels said caring for stock during a drought or following bushfires or floods can be challenging and an SCA can help to minimise loss or illness and reduce farmer stress.

A SCA is a small, fenced section of farm set up to hold, feed and water livestock.

Typical pens measure 50 by 50 metres and hold approximately 500 sheep or 170 cattle

and ensure stock have room to move around and spend time on their own.

Mr Sturmels said having animals close-by makes feeding, watering, and management easier and more efficient. An additional benefit of containing stock is that you can maintain ground cover across the rest of the property, protecting soils, water, and pastures.

It's important that stock enter a SCA healthy and in good condition. They should be drenched, vaccinated, and conditioned to a grain-based diet.

Diseases and health issues can spread quickly in containment.

so regular inspection and monitoring is essential. Common issues such as acidosis and shy feeders need to be identified early, with affected stock being moved to a pen of their own,’ Mr Sturmels said.

‘It's vital stock have enough feed and supply of fresh water, plus shade during the hotter times of the day.

A good understanding of the nutritional needs of different classes of stock is essential, along with a knowledge of the energy, roughage, and protein mix of various feed sources.

‘Siting and layout of a SCA involves thought and planning.

Ideally, a SCA should be close to existing feed and stock handling facilities, and away from houses, waterways, and dams.

‘Consider what feeding system you plan to use as this will impact the pen design and layout,’ Mr Sturmels said.

Check with your local Council Planning Officer before starting construction as a planning permit may be required in some situations.

For more information on stock containment areas, visit [agriculture.vic.gov.au/farm-management/land-and-pasture-management/stock-containment-areas-for-emergencies](http://agriculture.vic.gov.au/farm-management/land-and-pasture-management/stock-containment-areas-for-emergencies)

### Almost half a billion generated in farm gate returns

THE 2023 Australia Beef Eating Quality Insights report has shown the Meat Standards Australia program generated \$463 million in farm gate returns for producers over the past two years.

The Australian Beef Eating Quality Insight (ABEQI) report was generated through the analysis of all Meat Standards Australia (MSA) graded cattle in the 2021-22 and 2022-23 financial years using data collected by MSA-accredited graders, along with the additional data from sources such as the National Livestock Reporting Service (NLRS) and further information such as animal disease and defects.

Dr David Packer, program

manager for MSA at Meat and Livestock Australia (MLA), said the ABEQI report puts all of this data and much more into a single document that analyses trends and outcomes from the MSA program, breaking down data by state and a range of other factors.

“The report shows the amazing trend of continual improvement within the industry and it sets out all the data to help us continue to build on these achievements,” Dr Packer said.

The premiums for MS compliant cattle, combined with the growing numbers of cattle being MSA graded with higher carcase weights, have generated farm gate returns of \$463 million since 2001.”

Processors and brand owners will often offer financial incentives for meeting minimum MSA compliance and eating quality specifications, resulting in the significant farm gate returns enjoyed by MSA beef producers in the previous two years.

“In 2021-23, non-grainfed cattle that met MSA and company requirements potentially received on average an additional \$0.36/kg over-the-hooks (OTH) compared with non-MSA cattle,” Dr Packer said.

“The average non-grainfed cattle consigned for MSA grading during this time weighed 306kg, which potentially equated to an additional \$110 per head.

“Likewise, the premium for grainfed cattle that met MSA and company requirements was an additional \$0.15/kg compared with non-MSA grainfed cattle. In addition, grainfed cattle consigned to MSA grade weighed 347kg, which potentially led to an additional \$51/head.”

MSA was developed by the Australian red meat industry to improve the eating quality consistency of beef and sheep meat.

The system is based on almost 1.7 million consumer taste tests by more than 250,000 consumers from 13 countries and takes into account all factors that affect eating quality from paddock to plate.



## Protecting the Southern Brown Bandicoot from extinction

COULD you imagine digging up and turning over almost four metric tonnes of soil every year? Collectively, it's an amount that is equivalent to a hippo in terms of weight. It's quite the slog, but the Southern Brown Bandicoot (*Isoodon obesulus obesulus*) is masterful at digging for its favourite prey underneath the moist ground. With large, blunted claws that look a little bit like Freddy Kreuger's metal gloves, this rabbit-sized omnivore primarily hunts for truffle-like fungi.

The Southern Brown Bandicoot is considered endangered in Victoria. Populations are cryptic and notoriously difficult to monitor. Parks Victoria and several partners are nearing the end of a ten-year project with the aim of protecting this unique marsupial in several areas on Bunurong Country. But why is this adorable marsupial in trouble? A clue lies in its overall size.

The perfect snack size. Despite bandicoots once being widespread across all of Australia, most Victorians have never seen one. In the last 70 years, almost all the 20 known species have seen major range reductions, especially on mainland Australia where some species have even become extinct.

Humans are heavily implicated. In a 1994 article, scientists found that at least 58,000 bandicoots were killed in New South Wales between 1883 and 1920 for their soft fur. By far one of the biggest issues for Southern Brown Bandicoots in Victoria, however, are invasive predators.

Sophie McCracken Evans, District Project Officer for Parks Victoria's Southern Brown Bandicoot Protection Program, explains: "Predation is the biggest threat. Southern Brown Bandicoots are in the critical weight range that are the perfect snack size for feral cats and foxes".

On other threats to the Southern Brown Bandicoot, Sophie remarks: "Unfortunately, historic, and ongoing land clearing for development is significantly reducing dense vegetation for their habitat. The presence of deer, feral pigs and even humans inadvertently disturbing these areas by mountain biking and horse riding, can damage their home".

Due to their appearance, some people can confuse them for rats, which has led to people accidentally poisoning them with rat bait.

Reflecting on the last few years of the program and its success, Sophie



One of the best indicators for the Southern Brown Bandicoots presence are their sparkly poop, thanks to the numerous beetles that make up their diet. Photo: Ricardo Simao.



Although they may look superficially similar, bandicoots (left) and rats (right) last shared a common ancestor more than 160 million years ago. Photo: John O'Neil

remarks: "We've been working with our partners to control fox populations for almost 10 years and up to 60 foxes across two reserves are culled each year. Earlier this year we worked with Phillip Island Nature Parks' fox detection dogs to collect fox scats, which were then eDNA tested.

Our contractors are also collecting the gut contents of foxes, which I'm then sending to Deakin University for analysis. These two monitoring methods help us to determine if this endangered species is still on the menu."

But a key target for Sophie is public engagement. "A lot of people don't know bandicoots even exist or have only heard of them because of the Crash Bandicoot game. Many people on the Bass Coast have become familiar with the successful story of the Eastern Barred Bandicoot on Phillip Island but it means they are assuming the bandicoot population is relatively stable now. Southern Brown Bandicoots, however, are a very different species".

Earlier in the year, Sophie worked with Korumburra Secondary College Year 8 classes through the Broadening Horizons program on bandicoot education.

"Students came out to one of our reserves to set up cameras and then looked through these images back at school. All

the cameras had bandicoots on them".

What can you do in your own backyard?

"For me, knowledge is key to helping people want to conserve this species. Without bandicoots, we could lose species of fungi and crucial nutrients that support soil health, leading to ground-fuel building up and increasing fire risk," Sophie says.

The best way to help is to get involved, and there are some simple things anyone can do if you live in a known bandicoot area:

1) Record sightings on iNaturalist. Take a photo of a bandicoot or its diggings and upload it to this extensive citizen science database. Knowing where they are can inform future conservation management plans.

2) Plant bandicoot-friendly gardens. Native plants, especially dense grasses and shrubs are critical habitat for these small marsupials. For more information, check out this link on the Royal Botanic Garden website.

3) Keep cats indoors and ensure your dogs are on a lead in all reserves and observe local signage. For more information on dogs in Parks Victoria estates, read out our latest article.

4) Stick to the tracks when in reserves – riding or walking off track can spread disease and weeds and alter bandicoot habitat.



Powlett River/Kugeunrmome estuary is a key waterway for West Gippsland with a catchment area spanning 50,800 hectares.

## Discovering Powlett River's aquatic life

THE Powlett River and its six main tributaries are precious waterways and West Gippsland Catchment Management Authority (CMA) is now one step closer to discovering more about life below their surface with results from a Spring survey of aquatic life across the catchment just in.

Recognised as a priority waterway for West Gippsland, the Powlett, known as Kugerungmome by Bunurong Traditional Owners, has a total catchment area of 50,800 hectares and, along with Lance Creek, supplies water for townships including Wonthaggi, Inverloch and Cape Paterson.

"We're excited to have completed this first baseline survey as part of the Powlett River Kugerungmome Partnerships project," said Martin Fuller, CEO of West Gippsland CMA.

"Having the team record a diversity of native species is very encouraging. This survey will help us and our partners in the future management of this catchment."

The survey took samples at sites along the main river and its main tributaries of Foster, Lance, West, Archies, Bridge and Woolshed Creeks to provide a good spatial understanding of the river's aquatic animals and plants.

The team used a variety of sampling methods suited to the river conditions at

each location including backpack electrofishing, hand-held dip-netting and bait traps, along with audio and visual observation.

"Whilst the catchment lays entirely within agricultural land, it was heartening to discover healthy fish populations in some of the waterways," said Paula Camenzuli, Natural Resource Management Strategic Planner for West Gippsland CMA.

"Species recorded include common galaxias, tupong, southern shortfinned eel, freshwater shrimp and burrowing crayfish and we are also pleased that no introduced fish species were found," Paula said.

Follow up surveys are planned for Autumn 2024 and results will be shared with project partners to provide valuable information on the condition of Powlett River and its tributaries and how best to work together to manage and protect them.

Powlett River Kugerungmome Partnerships project is a joint initiative led by West Gippsland CMA and involves Bunurong Land Council Aboriginal Corporation, Bass Coast Landcare Network, Birdlife Australia, Friends of Hooded Plover Bass Coast, Trust for Nature and Parks Victoria and is funded by the Victorian Government's Our Catchments Our Communities program.



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### Livestock Sales

#### KORUMBURRA

David Ryan	0408 311 895	Dick Faulkner	0408 595 174
Dean Bailey	0438 531 672	Brian Vuillermi	0429 436 040

#### LEONGATHA

Dane Perczyk - Livestock Manager	0408 176 063	Rob Ould - Livestock Manager	0408 595 183
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#### KALEB JANS

Kaleb Jans	0487 155 471	David Holden	0428 749 390
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#### WARRAGUL

Neil Darby - Livestock Manager	0418 595 265	Alan Bolding	0419 723 255
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#### PAKENHAM

Terry Ahearn	0438 562 816	Dale Atherton	0428 888 300
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#### WONTHAGGI

Jordan Sim	0448 058 435	David Setches - Livestock Manager	0409 443 473
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#### GRANTVILLE

Mark Malacarne	0418 654 590	Glenn Barwick	0408 975 476
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#### LANG LANG

Tom Gibson	0438 574 472	Morgan Croucher	0457 001 877
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#### BERWICK

Brian Silver	0407 347 509	Tim Gibson	0420 306 599
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#### LEONGATHA

Andrew Newton	0402 940 320	Marni Lee Redmond	0403 525 413
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#### WONTHAGGI

Peter Dwyer	0428 855 244	Greg Price	0419 337 441
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#### WARRAGUL

Emily Clifford	0422 622 299	Maree Malloy	0408 316 715
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#### PAKENHAM

Tony Giles	0407 528 192	Chase Watters	0423 272 819
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#### GRANTVILLE

Tom Gibson	0438 574 472	VENUS BAY	
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#### LANG LANG

Scott McKenzie	0427 552 898	Daniel Lawrie	0417 631 252
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#### BERWICK

Michelle Gibson	0439 707 252	Sue Lawrie	0419 885 489
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#### LEONGATHA

Matt Koster	0474 781 711	KOO WEE RUP	
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#### MELBOURNE LAND

Michelle Lunney	0457 120 277	SUCCESS THROUGH SERVICE	
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**Real Estate Sales**

#### KORUMBURRA

Scott McKenzie	0427 552 898	INVERLOCH	
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#### LEONGATHA

Andrew Newton	0402 940 320	Marni Lee Redmond	0403 525 413
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#### WONTHAGGI

Peter Dwyer	0428 855 244	COWES	
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#### WARRAGUL

Emily Clifford	0422 622 299	Greg Price	0419 337 441
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#### PAKENHAM

Tony Giles	0407 528 192	Maree Malloy	0408 316 715
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#### GRANTVILLE

Tom Gibson	0438 574 472	Chase Watters	0423 272 819
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#### LANG LANG

Scott McKenzie	0427 552 898	VENUS BAY	
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#### BERWICK

Michelle Gibson	0439 707 252	Daniel Lawrie	0417 631 252
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#### MELBOURNE LAND

Matt Koster	0474 781 711	Sue Lawrie	0419 885 489
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#### KOO WEE RUP

Michelle Lunney	0457 120 277	KOO WEE RUP	
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**SUCCESS THROUGH SERVICE**

SOUTH GIPPSLAND SENTINEL-TIMES | TUESDAY, JANUARY 23, 2024 | 35

# Farmer returns to encourage the next generation

BILL Cornelissen never wanted to be anything but a farmer and now he has the chance to inspire young people to follow in his footsteps.

Bill grew up on a dairy farm and did his farm apprenticeship at South West TAFE from 1995-1999. His life has turned full circle and he has returned to TAFE as an associate facilitator to encourage the next generation of farm workers.

He is also encouraging farmers to get behind the future of the industry by employing trainees and to giving access to students so they can get exposed to a range of different farm enterprises to grow their skills.

Bill's family were share-

farming for 20 years while he was growing up and they're still in the industry, along with several other relatives.

"Right from when I was a little kid, all I wanted was to be a farmer," he said.

"I had been doing it for 20-plus years, working my way up from a farm hand to a share farmer, but circumstances changed so now I'm doing something different but happy to still be involved in agriculture."

The job came about when Bill was talking to SWTAFE Agriculture Teaching Education Manager Bec Toleman.

"I told Bec that things had changed and I was looking for another job and she said what about teaching? I'd

never thought about before but went away and called back a week later and asked if she was serious about it and what it involved.

"Now here I am."

Bill is completing his training and assessment certificates and has started work as an associate facilitator, able to teach students but not yet grade their work.

He says some things have never changed since his time as an apprentice.

"When I was training, the advice was take your time and learn it properly and that's still relevant today," he said.

"It's the same sort of messages to get across - push safety, make sure you know what you're doing and don't

be afraid to ask questions."

While Bill, 43, encourages young people to consider a career in agriculture, he also wants farmers to open their doors to students.

"I've had trainees over the years and I enjoyed helping them and seen the benefits that came to the farm. The last one was really good, even though she'd never been on a dairy farm before."

"The kids that are coming through like what they're doing, we just need more. There are shortages all over the place. That's why a lot of people are going into robotics because of the staff shortages."

"The jobs are there if people want to do the training."



**Farmer Bill Cornelissen encourages young people to consider a career in agriculture and for farmers to open their doors to students.**

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**IN MEMORIAM****FINLAY, William Robert (Bill):**

18.09.1929 - 22.01.2023.

One long lonely sad year has passed since you left us.

Bill, I miss you every second, every minute, every hour of each day.

No matter what I do, my heart will always look for you. In everything I do,

In every memory old and new, My heart will always look for you.

Loving memories. -- Mary and family.

**CLASSIFIED DEADLINE 12.30PM MONDAYS****PUBLIC NOTICES****Fox control – Poison baiting program in Bass**

Parks Victoria's conservation management to restore and protect park habitat includes the control of introduced plant and animal species. As part of an ongoing strategy, notice is hereby given that Parks Victoria will be laying buried baits containing Sodium Monofluoroacetate (1080 poison) on public land for the control of fox. Baits containing 1080 poison will be laid from 29/01/2024 until 05/04/2024.

Baits will be laid at strategic sites and other known areas of fox habitat within the Reef Island and Bass River Mouth Nature Conservation Reserve, the Western Port Intertidal Coastal Reserve and along the George Bass Coastal Walk within the Yallock-Bulluk Marine and Coastal Park.

1080 poison signs will be posted throughout the baited area and members of the public who are living, visiting or working in the above-named area are advised to take particular care not to disturb or interfere with bait stations. Domestic dogs and cats are particularly susceptible to 1080 poison and should be under effective control, muzzled or kept away from the baited areas.

**More information**  
Phone 13 1963  
parks.vic.gov.au



**ASQUITH, Brenda Carolyn:**

19.03.1964 - 14.01.2024.

Loved daughter of Ernest and Patricia (both dec.).

Loving baby sister of Rosemary and Joan, sister-in-law of Wayne, Bill and Jimmy (dec.).

Precious auntie to Narelle, Adrian, David, Kris, and their partners.

'Auntie Brenz' to 8 great nieces and nephews.

We are all heartbroken.

A Private family service will be held.

**ASQUITH, Brenda:**

Passed away January 14.

Dearly loved niece of Edith and Ivan Dowson (both dec.).

Loved cousin of Marjorie, Chris, Trevor, Heather, Lynette, Toby, Cheryl and families. Brenda will be so sadly missed from our family circle.

**At rest.**

**BURNS, Susan Lynn:**

Passed away peacefully on Saturday, January 20, 2024 surrounded by family.

Dearly loved wife of Peter (dec.).

Amazing mum to Tony, Andrew and Shannon, and mother-in-law to Sharon, Christine, and Michael.

Treasured nana and great nana.

**CLARK, Leanne Charlotte:**

Passed away at Korumburra Hospital after a long and courageous fight, aged 45 years.

Adored daughter of Fred and Margaret.

Little sister of Samantha and John.

Adored mother of Aidan, Liam, and Luhanna.

Our heartfelt thank you to the staff at Korumburra Hospital for all the love and care.

*A life half lived.*

**CUMMING, David Ronald:**

29.11.1966 - 09.01.2024.

Partner and loving husband of Tania.

Dad to Harrison, Taite and Olivia. Loved by all his family and community.

The Memorial Service will be held at Tarwin Lower Football Netball Club on Friday, January 26 at 1.30pm.

Join us in a celebration of his life.

**To place a notice on this page please call 5672 1888**

**DAVEY (Thomson), Margaret Joan:**

Of Maryborough (QLD). Born July 27, 1956, passed away suddenly on Saturday, January 13, 2024, aged 67 years.

Loved and loving wife to Gary. Loved mother, mother-in-law and grandmother to Michael and Katy, Owen, Hugh and Tessa; Robert and Maddy, Sylvie and Lucinda.

Beloved youngest daughter of Pat and Mick (DG) Thomson (both dec.). Formerly of Anderson and Rhyll. Cherished sister of Janice, Helen and Marion, and loved aunty to their families. Precious memories are ours to keep.

**GARRETT, Philip:**

30.10.1953 - 19.01.2024.

Passed away peacefully at home beside his loving partner of 22 years. -- Cynthia Harrison.

**GARRETT, Philip:**

Passed away after a long illness.

Fond son-in-law of Dudley and Ruth Harrison and families.

Luv ya Phil.

**GARRETT, Phil:**

Valued friend of our family and long-time employee of Lectaire Auto Electrics.

We will miss your cheeky laugh. Fly high our friend.

Condolences to Cynthia.

Love the Tilling family.

**DEATHS**

**LINDSAY, Rayma:**

Not only a sister-in-law to Jill and John (dec.), Heather and Keith (both dec.), but a very dear friend.

Loving aunty to Carol, Robert, Linda, Tony (dec.), and families.

The love story is now complete.

John and Rayma together again.

Brother John was often heard to say,

*"To know her was to love her," "true".*

Condolences to Steven, Kerryn, Malcolm, and the extended Lindsay clan.

**FUNERALS**

**BURNS:**

A Memorial Service to Celebrate the Life of Mrs. Susan Lynn Burns will be held at Handley & Anderson Chapel, 3085 Loch-Wonthaggi Road, Wonthaggi on Thursday, January 25, 2024 commencing at 2pm.

Sue's service will be live-streamed, go to [www.handleyandersonfunerals.com.au](http://www.handleyandersonfunerals.com.au).

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**BEREAVEMENT THANKS**

**GARDNER, Glenn:**

Garry, Pam, Scott, Brett and their families say thank you for the many cards, flowers, food, phone calls and expressions of sympathy conveyed to us in so many ways after our beloved Glenn's unexpected passing.

Glenn would have been humbled at the gathering of relatives and friends from near and far who came to say goodbye.

We truly appreciate your thoughtfulness.

Forever loved, Forever missed.

**IN MEMORIAM****FINLAY, William Robert (Bill):**

18.09.1929 - 22.01.2023.

One long lonely sad year has passed since you left us.

Bill, I miss you every second, every minute, every hour of each day.

No matter what I do, my heart will always look for you. In everything I do,

In every memory old and new, My heart will always look for you.

Loving memories. -- Mary and family.

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## GARAGE SALES

**INVERLOCH:**  
24 Meanderri Drive, Saturday, January 27, 8.30am - 2pm. No early birds. A bit of everything. STRICTLY CASH.

**INVERLOCH:**  
28 Florida Avenue, Saturday, January 27, 9am - 3pm. Many & varied. Multiple donors. Proceeds to Hamlin Fistula Foundation Ethiopia. Cash or card.

**INVERLOCH:**  
1 Gordon Avenue, Saturday, January 27, 9am. Holiday house clearance. Retro furniture, bargains galore.

**WONTHAGGI:**  
121A Broome Crescent, Saturday, January 27, 8am start. No early birds. Power tools and household wares.

**WONTHAGGI:**  
87 Hagelthorn Street, Saturday, January 27, 9am - 2pm. Bric-a-brac, household items.

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## DEADLINES

### Classified single column

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Please note that double column advertisements requiring a proof must be received at least two hours prior to deadline and proofs will not be provided for single column advertisements.

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**Office Hours:**  
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### Payments accepted:



### Advertising conditions:

Full name and address of advertiser must be supplied even though not necessarily included in advertisement.

The publishers reserve the right to omit and alter any advertisement. Please check your ad is correct the first day it appears. While every care is taken to ensure your ad is correct, errors can occur. We regret that we cannot be responsible for any errors beyond the first day if you fail to bring it to our attention.

All advertisements must be prepaid unless client has an existing credit facility. Accounts are due and payable on the due date as shown on the account.

### The Motor Car Traders Regulations:

States that from July 1, 1998 all advertisements for used vehicles including motorcycles must include the cash price of vehicle and registration number or engine number if not registered.

**Sentinel-Times**

## Registered Nurses

Casual and/or Perm / Part time  
Venus Bay

If you are a Registered Nurse looking for a rewarding role, then this may be a wonderful opportunity to join a small growing team of Health Professionals who provide support for our client with complex needs in his own home

Your skills and experience will help provide relevant specialist support, maintain safe independent living and make a positive impact for our client.

We offer flexibility, therefore you will have availability to regular day, overnight, weekday, evening, night and/or weekend shifts.

Contact Alex Todorovski, General Manager, for a confidential discussion and a copy of the position description

Phone: 0400 753 502  
email: [alex@adamsupport.org.au](mailto:alex@adamsupport.org.au)



## Employment Opportunities



### Operations Infrastructure & Maintenance Team Member

- Full Time Ongoing
- Monday to Friday 7.00am to 4.00pm
- 9 day fortnight
- Commencing Salary \$65,499 (incl. Industry Allowance) + 11% superannuation + Maintenance Allowance
- Foster location

Enquiries to Brad Hender, Coordinator Infrastructure Maintenance on 5662 9200. Applications close **midnight Sunday 4 February 2024**.

### Open Space & Environment Team Member

- Fixed Term - 12 months
- Part Time - 4 days per week
- \$58,604 (incl. Industry Allowance) + 11% superannuation + Maintenance Allowance
- Leongatha and Foster locations

Enquiries to Ben Lehmann, Acting Coordinator Open Space on 5662 9200. Applications close **Sunday 28 January 2024**.

For more information and to apply, please refer to our website: [www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/vacantpositions](http://www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/vacantpositions)



### New Homes- Sales Host

Casual

We are seeking a casual New Homes-Sales Host to work over Saturday and Sunday at our display homes located in Newhaven (11am-4pm) and Wonthaggi (1pm-4pm). The New Homes-Sales Host is the first point of contact for our prospective clients at our beautiful display homes. The successful candidate will have excellent communication skills and be well presented.

#### Some of the key responsibilities of the role include:

- Meet, greet and provide informed, helpful advice to clients
- Record client information
- Compile and restock marketing related materials as required
- Provide general assistance to the Sales Consultant as required

This is a fantastic opportunity for someone looking for work flexibility.

In house training is provided to the successful candidate.

#### How to Apply

Please submit your resume and cover letter via email [careers@coldonhomes.com.au](mailto:careers@coldonhomes.com.au)

For further information contact Michelle on (03)56720607 or [micelle.marriott@cv-bp.com.au](mailto:micelle.marriott@cv-bp.com.au)

Applications close  
Monday, February 5, 2024.

## ADVERTISERS PLEASE NOTE:

Much hardship and difficulty is caused to jobseekers by misleading advertisements placed in the employment columns.

Our Positions Vacant / Situations Vacant columns are reserved for advertisements which carry a specific and genuine offer of employment.

Ads for 'Business Opportunities', 'Commission Only/Sales,' training courses and employment services should be submitted under those headings.

Placing misleading job ads is an offence against the ACL and all advertisements are subject to the publisher's approval. For further advice contact the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission on 1300 302 502 or Consumer Affairs Victoria.



## - V L E - Livestock Administrator

Victorian Livestock Exchange is a leader in the livestock saleyard industry.

We are seeking a self-motivated individual to fill the casual livestock office administrator position at our Leongatha saleyards 2 days per week with additional work available for the right applicant.

This is a versatile position that will require the individual to fulfil a variety of tasks in the saleyard office and out in the yards.

**Full job description at [vle.com.au](http://vle.com.au)**  
Applications to [admin@vle.com.au](mailto:admin@vle.com.au)



## GIPPSLAND SOUTHERN HEALTH SERVICE

Building a healthier community in South Gippsland together.

# WE'RE HIRING!

### FULL TIME / PART TIME

Hotel Services Manager

Director of Nursing - Korumburra

Finance Manager

Radiographer

Medical Imaging Technologist - Senior Radiographer

### PART TIME

Food Services Supervisor

Domestic Services Team Leader

Driver

Enrolled Nurse

Registered Nurse

### CASUAL

Registered Nurse Midwife

Registered Nurse

Our valued staff members enjoy a range of benefits, such as relocation support, career development opportunities, and an Employee Assistance Program.

Scan the QR code or visit [gshs.mercury.com.au](http://gshs.mercury.com.au) for further information about our vacancies

#teamGSHS



Applications are warmly invited for the position of:

# Director of Business

This is an exciting opportunity for an experienced Director of Business who is committed to making a significant contribution to the continuing growth and development of Newhaven College.

The position requires:

- Demonstrated knowledge and experience in financial management and reporting
- A purposeful leader, who displays qualities of trust, respect, integrity and confidentiality
- An outstanding communicator who fosters collegiality, building capacity in all stakeholders

**Applications close Monday 29 January.**

Please go to the Director of Business listing on SEEK for more information.



**NEWHAVEN  
COLLEGE**



# Employment

Complete jobs listing online | [www.sgst.com.au](http://www.sgst.com.au)



## Livestock Drovers

Victorian Livestock Exchange is a leader in the livestock saleyard industry.

We have casual positions available for drovers to work at our Leongatha site on market days with other work available on non-market days. There may also be evening work available for the right applicant.

Drovers will be responsible for the movement of cattle throughout the saleyard facilities from receival, through to weighing and delivery. Cattle handling experience is essential to the role.

Queries about the position can be directed to the livestock manager Tex on 0484 351 847.

**Applications, including a cover letter, resume and at least two professional referees should be forwarded to [admin@vle.com.au](mailto:admin@vle.com.au)**



## Registered Nurse (Night Duty)

**Permanent Part Time – 0.4 FTE**

Woorayl Lodge is currently seeking a reliable Registered Nurse to join our robust nursing team and fill our roster with permanent night shifts.

With having more opportunity to provide direct care than other shifts and being able to work autonomously while also being responsible for other staff and residents on your shift, this role would suit a nurse starting their career, someone currently struggling with work, life balance or someone wanting to move into retirement.

Good assessment and communication skills are essential for this position.

*Excellent benefits including Salary Packaging & Employee Assistance Program!*

Please forward resume to [jaimee.brydon@woorayllodge.com.au](mailto:jaimee.brydon@woorayllodge.com.au) by Tuesday February 20, 2024 or to discuss the role further phone 5662 2053

LB1244



## Multiple Positions Vacant



### Wastewater Manager, Environment Manager, Water Resources Senior Officer, Senior Financial Analyst

South Gippsland Water is launching our 2040 Vision and Strategy, guiding us toward our vision to be a trusted partner, advancing water services to support customer and community aspirations. To progress this vision, we are seeking skilled, enthusiastic and community focused people to fill a number of vacancies.

South Gippsland Water is a diverse, community-oriented organisation and offer the following:

- Strong focus on career opportunities, professional development and training
- Highly flexible work options, including modified hours and/or work weeks
- Employee Assistance Program and broad wellbeing offers
- Family friendly workplace, including Paid Parental Leave
- Flexibility to work from home, with base location at any of our offices in Wonthaggi, Foster or Leongatha

Diversity is celebrated and respected as important for our wellbeing and success. Through our Equity, Inclusion and Diversity Strategic Plan, Gender Equality Action Plan and upcoming Reconciliation Action Plan we are actively working to address the gender pay gap, create opportunities for underrepresented groups and partner with Traditional Owners.

#### Wastewater Manager

- Permanent Part Time or Full Time - Negotiable
- Senior Executive Officer \$130,000-\$140,000 + Leave Loading + Superannuation
- Closing Date – Monday February 5, 2024 at 9am

#### Environment Manager

- Permanent Part Time or Full Time - Negotiable
- Senior Executive Officer \$120,000-130,000 + Leave Loading + Superannuation
- Closing Date – Monday February 5, 2024 at 9am

#### Water Resources Senior Officer

- Permanent Part Time or Full Time - Negotiable
- Band 7 - \$89,711.34 - \$99,088.82 + Leave Loading + Superannuation
- Closing Date – Monday February 12, 2024 at 9am

#### Senior Financial Analyst

- Permanent Part Time or Full Time - Negotiable
- Band 8 - \$102,562.88 - \$113,614.61 + Leave Loading + Superannuation
- Closing Date – Monday February 12, 2024 at 9am

Please go to <https://www.sewater.com.au/careers/> for more details about SGW, the role and how to apply.

**Refer to above roles for closing dates and time.**

#### Other Open Recruitments – Closing Monday January 29 at 9am

- Asset Management and Planning Manager
- Maintenance & Service Delivery Manager
  - Project Delivery Manager
- Property, Facilities & Fleet Team Leader Foster
  - SCADA & IoT Senior Lead

JEN229

#### Upcoming Recruitments – Opening in February and March

- Wastewater Treatment Technologist
  - Business Planning Officer
- Project Engineer – Electrical Instrumentation and Control
  - ICT Systems Support Officer

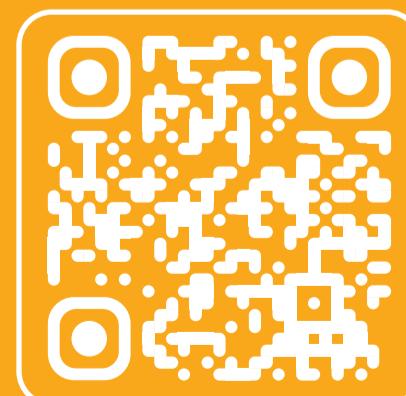
Please go to <https://www.sewater.com.au/careers/> and follow the instructions to sign up for job alerts.

1300 851 636 | [www.sewater.com.au](http://www.sewater.com.au)

**LIVE LOCAL,  
WORK LOCAL**

**In Wonthaggi**

**Training Provided  
Competitive Pay  
Great Employee Benefits**



**APPLY NOW**

## Disability Support Worker

Casual or Perm / Part time Venus Bay

Can you provide the relevant support to make a difference and help our client maintain independent living?

A unique and rewarding opportunity is available for the right person to provide support for a client with complex needs in his own home.

You will be part of a team with some regular day, overnight, weekday, evening, night and weekend shifts available.

Contact Alex Todorovski for a confidential discussion and a copy of the position description

Phone: 0400 753 502  
 email: [alex@adamsupport.org.au](mailto:alex@adamsupport.org.au)

 Adam Support Inc.

**Capeview**  
 building products

## Wall Frame & Roof Truss Fabricator

**Full-time position (Monday to Friday)**

Capeview Building Products is Bass Coast's and Gippsland's leading manufacturer of quality prefabricated wall frames and roof trusses.

Due to strong demand, a fantastic opportunity has opened for an energetic person to join our experienced and motivated team to work in our Factory located in Wonthaggi.

The successful applicant will have the following attributes/skill sets:

- Practical knowledge or experience in the building industry is essential;
- Strong work ethic - being reliable, punctual, and trustworthy;
- Have a positive approach and work as an integral team member;
- Excellent attention to detail and measure with accuracy;
- Good communication skills are essential, as you will be working with a small team;
- Physically fit and well-coordinated to carry out some manual handling;
- Capable of using power tools and reading computer monitors; and
- Comply with workplace safety and the OH&S regulations

On-the-job guidance and training will be provided to the successful candidate.

### How to Apply

All applications via email must be in writing including a current resume and cover letter to Michelle Marriott, Human Resources: [careers@capeviewbuildingproducts.com.au](mailto:careers@capeviewbuildingproducts.com.au)

**Applications close  
 Monday, February 5, 2024.**

Advertise your job vacancy in the Sentinel-Times and get a FREE listing in our online and searchable directory at [www.sgst.com.au](http://www.sgst.com.au)

Email your job adverts to: [ads@sgst.com.au](mailto:ads@sgst.com.au)

DEADLINE: Fridays 4.30pm

**Sentinel-Times**

## Bookkeeper/Finance Administrator

Part-time, 20-25 hours/week

On-site (Leongatha, VIC based) + Work from Home opportunity\*

\*Specific days, hours, work from home to be negotiated with successful applicant.

Joinery & Renovations - Leongatha Kitchens & Bathrooms and VerdeLife Outdoor Kitchens

Our family-owned and operated businesses are seeking a driven, on-point and meticulous finance professional. A passion for professionalism, processes and systems; and a solid background in bookkeeping and financial administration is essential.

All applicants must download the detailed position description and submit a resume with cover letter addressing the selection criteria outlined in the position description.

<http://www.leongathakitchens.com.au/we-are-hiring>



## Housekeeper

Permanent Part Time – hours negotiable

Woorayl Lodge is seeking eager and trustworthy staff to join our housekeeping team.

Your role would include daily cleaning and laundry duties and you would be responsible for maintaining the overall cleanliness of the facility each day. Due to flexibility of hours this is an ideal role for working parents. *As we operate 7 days a week some weekend and public holiday work would be involved.*

Previous cleaning experience would be highly regarded.

*Excellent benefits including Salary Packaging & Employee Assistance Program!*

Please forward resume to [jaimee.brydon@wooraylodge.com.au](mailto:jaimee.brydon@wooraylodge.com.au) by Tuesday February 20, 2024 or to discuss the role further phone 5662 2053



## HR Manager

Permanent Part Time – 0.5 FTE

Woorayl Lodge is currently seeking a self-motivated and resourceful HR Manager to join the Administration team.

As HR Manager, you will play the crucial role of overseeing all human resource functions for our organisation. Your role will include day-to-day HR operations such as recruitment, onboarding and performance management, contract and position description reviews, managing our work cover program, leading conflict resolution meetings, handling disciplinary procedures and promoting employee engaging initiatives and recognition programs.

A good knowledge of the Enterprise Agreement and previous experience is essential.

*Excellent benefits including Salary Packaging & Employee Assistance Program!*

Please forward resume to [andrew.ross@wooraylodge.com.au](mailto:andrew.ross@wooraylodge.com.au) by Tuesday February 6, 2024 or to discuss the role further phone 5662 2053

## Wonthaggi Toyota



## Motor Technicians / Mechanics

Wonthaggi Toyota is looking for highly motivated experienced Motor Technicians / Mechanics to join our team.

We are a locally owned and operated family business who are passionate about providing an exceptional customer experience and quality workmanship.

We offer excellent pay and working conditions, including a day off for your birthday.

Your role is crucial in maintaining our commitment to our customers and our delivery of exceptional service and repair.

**If you are interested in joining our team, please send a resume and cover letter to [hr@pmregional.com.au](mailto:hr@pmregional.com.au)**

## Rainfall may put hay at risk

FARMERS need to be mindful that even well-made hay can still be prone to spontaneous combustion.

Agriculture Victoria Program Manager for Dairy – North Brett Davidson said spontaneous combustion is usually caused by excess moisture at baling with fires starting after heavy rainfall events, adding it's vitally important to regularly monitor the stack from one week after rainfall for signs of heating. He said the signs of heating are:

- dampness on the tops of bales.
- steam rising from the stack.
- moisture build-up on roofing iron or under tarps of outside stacks.
- unusual odours (e.g. pipe tobacco, caramel, burning musty).
- sometimes the stack may slump in places.
- corrosion on underside of tin roof.

Mr Davidson said unfortunately, much of the heating will occur in the stack centre which is difficult to pick up.

"To try and get an idea on how hot a stack has become, use a crowbar pushed into the stack as far as possible and after a couple of hours, remove the crowbar and feel how hot it is," he said.

A rough guideline to check a haystacks temperature using a crowbar, is as follows:

- <50° you can handle the bar without discomfort. Check temperature daily.
- 50° – 60° you can handle the bar for a short time. Check temperature twice daily.
- 60° – 70° you can touch bar only briefly. Check temperature every two hours. Move hay from top layers to improve air flow.
- >70° the bar is too hot to hold. Potential for fire - avoid walking on top of stack.

Mr Davidson said an alternative monitoring method can be achieved by using thermal couplings, which can be placed into various areas of the stack at stacking and monitored simply and regularly.

For more information head to [agriculture.vic.gov.au](http://agriculture.vic.gov.au).

## PUBLIC NOTICES

### PUBLIC NOTICE

## Fireworks Display

**Friday, January 26, 2024  
 approx 9.30pm**

for Australia Day Festival at Dalyston Recreation Reserve. Please restrain pets and animals. Any queries call 0418 529 310

## Situation Vacant



## Audit and Risk Committee Member

Monitor Council's financial and performance reporting, and oversee internal and external audit functions, as an Independent Member of the Audit and Risk Committee for a period of three years.

Key skills:

- Risk management
- Audit or financial management and accounting
- Analytical and strategic management skills, ideally within public sector management
- Knowledge of environmental sustainability (beneficial)

Applications close 5.00pm on Monday, 5 February 2024

Visit [www.basscoast.vic.gov.au/careers](http://www.basscoast.vic.gov.au/careers) for more information.



## CARING FOR SAM'S CHILDREN

Please support the fundraiser for Sam Fraser's children, to help cover the cost of their care and education. To donate, go to [gofund.me/b6e777cb](http://gofund.me/b6e777cb), or search [gofundme.com](http://gofundme.com) for "Caring for Sam's Children".

## NYORA COMMUNITY HALL

## NOTICE IS GIVEN OF A PUBLIC MEETING

To be held at **Nyora Community Hall, Henley Street, Nyora**  
**Thursday, February 15 at 7.30pm**

The purpose of the meeting is to nominate no less than three (3) or more than nine (9) adult persons as the Committee of Management of the Nyora Community Hall for a term of three years. The current committee's term will expire on 25th February, 2024.

All positions will be declared open and nominations will be accepted prior to or on the night. Nominations from women are encouraged.

Further information, nomination forms and nominee declaration forms may be obtained by contacting your local Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action Office or at the meeting. For further enquiries please contact the Secretary, Sylvia Munro on 0418 589 918.

# Local artist Melanie Caple's new Leongatha mural

LOCAL artist Melanie Caple continues work on her current project, a nature-inspired large mural in Leongatha, featuring a stunning female magpie standing out from a background of leucadendron plants.

Elliot Davies, owner of Approved by ED, commissioned the work for one of the business' external walls, which runs alongside a carpark.

Melanie said it is a generous gesture on his behalf, enabling the creation of an artwork that everyone will enjoy.

Elliot gave her freedom with the design, the art lover saying he is impressed by her depiction of native birds and different foliage.

Melanie decided to create a blend of native flowers and other varieties popular in Leongatha gardens in acknowledgement of the mural's town setting.

She spoke of the reason for making the magpie the design's focal point.

"Magpies are instantly recognisable and once you've got something like that, people become engaged with the whole wall," Melanie said, contrasting that with the blue-winged parrot she was working on, something many people couldn't readily identify.

As well as being captured by the personality magpies display, Melanie loves painting them.

"Their structure is really good and the monochrome is beautiful," she said.

Sentinel-Times asked the artist how she captured the appearance of the magpie's eye in such realistic fashion.



The new mural takes shape in Leongatha with artist Melanie Caple and her assistant seizing the opportunity to work during a rain-free period. A24\_0424

She responded that it takes a lot of practice and observation.

"I look at a lot of reference images when I'm building my designs," Melanie said, explaining she patiently searches for one that captures the look she is after.

Building up the magpie on the wall was achieved through a process of shading and toning.

Melanie's blue-winged parrot contrasts with brass herons, blending nature with ornaments of the urban landscape.

The mural is being created with high-quality water-based paint that

provides UV protection and guarantees durability.

Melanie has used a projection of her design to enable her to create basic lines on the wall that ensure she keeps the work to scale.

She has an assistant who helps prime sections of the wall in base colours upon which Melanie builds her designs.

The artist said on Monday that the mural will be completed in about eight more full days of work with South Gippsland's tricky weather to determine when the project is finished.

## Paramedics and lifesavers call for caution

PARAMEDICS and lifesavers are urging Victorians to take care in and around inland waterways this summer, following an uptick in fatal and non-fatal inland drownings in Victoria.

Life Saving Victoria (LSV)'s 2022-23 drowning report shows there were 19 fatal drownings at inland waterways during the last financial year – a 14 per cent increase on the 10-year average.

There were also 12 non-fatal drownings at Victorian inland waterways – a 13 per cent increase on the 10-year average.

Local populations at holiday hotspots can double or even triple during the summer months, however, LSV Research and Evaluation Manager Dr Hannah Calverley said even locals are at risk of inland water incidents.

"In Victoria, inland waterways record just as many, if not more, fatal drownings as our coastal locations," she said.

"What's more concerning, is over a third of inland drownings occur within the person's own residential postcode – it's locals drowning in their local waterways."

"It's important to not be complacent about water safety wherever you are, be that at home or visiting the local river or lake."

Rivers and lakes present many unique drowning risks and Ambulance Victoria (AV) Director Emergency Management Justin Dunlop said it's important to be aware of the hazards to avoid putting yourself at risk.

"Getting in trouble while swimming in a river, lake or dam isn't the only danger – a lot of our call outs to inland waterways are where people have unintentionally found themselves in a body of water from things such as slips and falls," he said.

Around two-thirds of drownings at



Paramedics warn Victorians to not be complacent around water.

inland waterways involve alcohol or drug use.

Dr Calverley added that unexpected water entries were a real concern all year round.

"While summer is a busy time, incidents can also occur during cooler months, with a significant portion of these cases resulting from accidental entry where the individual never intended to get into the water," she said.

"It's crucial here that when visiting waterways people take note of their surroundings and stay away from the water's edge to avoid slipping in.

"Children also need to be actively and constantly supervised around all water, appropriate lifejackets should be worn when boating and fishing, and alcohol should be avoided until after you've finished being around the water to ensure you remain vigilant."

Mr Dunlop said people planning to visit rivers and lakes this summer can prepare themselves by knowing how to get help in remote areas and learning cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR).

"If you see someone in trouble in the water, call Triple Zero (000)," he said.

"If you're in a remote location, you can also use the Emergency Plus app, which uses smart phones' in-built GPS functionality to help a Triple Zero (000) caller provide location details.

"Open the app and you'll be able to tell the call taker your location coordinates, as well as three words which can be used to pinpoint your exact location."

How to stay safe around inland waterways this summer:

- Read the signs around waterways to familiarise yourself with the dangers, which differ at each body of water and even at different sections of the same river or lake.
- Learn how to swim and know your limits.
- Never swim alone and let people know where you're going.
- Be alert around waterways, whether you're planning to enter the water or not, this includes keeping watch on children while they're in and around water.
- Whether in a boat, taking part in water sports or swimming, people should also wear a correctly fitted life jacket.



Macki and Charlotte developed a range of new skills during the circus workshop at Loch on Tuesday.

## Circus program a hit

A SUCCESSFUL series of circus workshops took place in Bass Coast and South Gippsland last week.

Under the instruction and guidance of Maxine Gigliotti, children aged from eight to 14 learned some exciting new skills over the two-day programs in Loch, Newhaven and Dalyston.

Following the first session in Loch early last week, Maxine said the program was well received with everyone involved eager to try different techniques.

"We had a warm-up and played some games before moving into skills such as juggling, hula hoops, acro and tumbling," she said.

"They were all great. They tried their hardest

and learned the new tricks."

The second day of the program at each location saw the children put together their skills in routines to perform for their family and friends.

"Some of them came in with some gymnastics and dancing skills, some were completely new to it all," Maxine said.

"They all got along really well and worked together."

The final workshop in Dalyston was held today (Tuesday, January 23).

These workshops were the first of their kind to run during the school holidays.

Maxine aims to continue running the workshops as an after-school program in Bass Coast and South Gippsland in the future.



Help out at the Leongatha Salvation Army Thrift Store and get to know and join other volunteers, Marion Haw who has been volunteering for about 20 years and Toni Buxton-Bailey who are part of the friendly team.

## Salvos store needs volunteers

THE Salvation Army Thrift Store in Leongatha is looking for volunteers who would like to help out in the shop.

All profits made by the store go directly to the Leongatha Salvo's food bank, which is led by the Salvation Army, so volunteers'

assistance in the store directly helps out the local community and those in need.

Wendy Sellings, Assistant Manager of the shop said there are a few different roles available, including working out in front of the shop, serving customers and keeping items tidy and setting up displays.

Other tasks are undertaken out the back of the shop and include accepting, sorting out and folding donations, getting tickets ready to go into the shop and various other tasks.

There are a small team of regular volunteers and new volunteers can become part of a great team and expand their community circle.

Two or three hours a week would be helpful, or

even whenever possible. Wendy commented they would gratefully accept any help as current volunteers are very dedicated but quite stretched at the moment.

People who are available on Saturdays would also be appreciated.

For those that are interested, they can go and see the volunteers in the shop, fill out some forms including a police check, which is at the expense of the Salvos – there is no cost to the volunteer.

It usually takes a couple of weeks to process forms and then new volunteers can get started.

The volunteers would also appreciate if all donations could be dropped off only during opening hours as they are often left with a mess to clean up when goods are left after hours, and which also sometimes become ruined by the rain.

The Salvation Army Thrift Store is open from Monday to Friday 10am to 4pm and Saturdays 10am to 3pm.



It was all smiles for Callum McClusky and Chris Deegan who came first and second in Sunday's Cape Aquathon separated by just 4 seconds. Ns32\_0424

## Aquathon sees record numbers

THE Cape Paterson Aquathon had a record number of participants for 2024 event at the weekend with almost 300 entries according to organisers.

The event, held on Sunday, January 21, at Cape Paterson near the surf life saving club begins with a 400m surf swim followed by a 4.4km run.

There were participants of all ages from young to old with some coming from interstate to compete.

While the weather was on the cooler side, fortunately it held up for the day with surf conditions also pleasant.

"We were very close to 300 entries (today), a record number," Cape Paterson Surf Life Saving Club life member Karen Marangio said.

"We're delighted; there's some elite athletes but most are part of the community and just want to have a go."

There were also many 'superstars' on the day, which includes those who have completed 10,

15 and 20 aquathons.

Reaching the 20 plus milestone was Cape Paterson local Gary O'Connor, who has participated every year (besides COVID) for 20 consecutive years.

Gary's sons are also involved in the aquathon, making the milestone even more memorable.

"It's (aquathon) for a great cause and the boys have always been involved with it," Gary said.

"It's a fun event, we all live here and go down the pub afterwards and it's good to catch up with everyone."

The race saw Melbourne resident Callum McClusky take out the top time of 18 minutes and 55 seconds, closely followed by Adelaide's Chris Deegan at 18 minutes and 59 seconds.

Callum highlighted he has competed in other Bass Coast Series events but never in the aquathon.

They both noted the water was quite 'cold' with Chris braving the waves without a wetsuit.



Gary O'Connor, who reached the exclusive 20 plus aquathon superstar status, with his sons Dom, Fergus and grandchild Arthur. Ns34\_0424



Woolamai Beach Surf Life Saving Club ran a successful Nippers program recently. Photo: Athol Hill

## Membership on the rise at Woolamai Beach Surf Life Saving Club

MEMBERSHIP is growing at Woolamai Beach Surf Life Saving Club.

The influx was brought on by the new members who completed the Bronze and Surf Rescue courses this year.

Fifty-three participants finished the Bronze Medallion course in 2023 – a record on 2022's 49.

There was also an influx from the club's Bronze camp partnership with Frank Dando Sports Academy and Upwey High School.

Close to 400 Nippers participated in the seven day Nippers program across both Cleeland Bight and Smith's Beach.

An increase from the previous season at just over 300 participants.

Nippers is about children participating in safe, fun and organised activities in a beach environment, whilst developing lifesaving skills for the future.

Activities are designed to progressively develop the essential skills of Nippers and lifesaving as they move through each age group.

This year also saw the reintroduction of the U6 age group.

Many budding lifesavers were able to enjoy the experience for the first time.

Participants in the U6 and U11 age group developed skills in board, wading, beach swimming, sand running, flags, rescues, relays, beach education and the surf events of Aquacam and Iron.

They also had beach incursions, including Matt from Marine Litter Project, Ranger Graeme and the club's own jetski and IRB team display.

The last day was a 'have a go' day, and the Nippers were encouraged to show off their new skills.

The 2024/25 program will start on December 29.

Interested participants can stay tuned via the website and social media.



Stabilising sand dunes has been a significant task at the Woolamai Beach Surf Life Saving Club.

Beach conditions have been favourable this season, with a nice large sandbank out the front of the club, which lifesavers have set up the flags on.

There has also been a noticeable influx of beachgoers during the holiday period.

Woolamai Beach Surf Life Saving Club has some exciting events to look forward to.

These include the Cape Paterson Aquathon on January 21, the San Remo Channel Challenge on February 10, and the Cowes Classic and Little Penguin Dash on March 2.

A few of the club's emerging leaders will also take part in the Bass Coast Development Camp later in January.

This is a weeklong camp held at the Waratah Beach Surf Life Saving Club, where candidates are able to get qualifications in Advanced Resuscitation Techniques, First Aid, and Inflatable Rescue Boat Crew and Driver.

The club has been working hard behind the scenes to upgrade the facilities.

Works have been completed

to stabilise the sand dunes with the club's Environment Management Plan.

At the end of July, works began on the removal of sand and stabilisation of dune surrounding the clubhouse.

Sand will be relocated to repair dune blow outs.

These works were made possible by the Federal Government's Building Better Regions Fund, club funding and significant contributions from Phillip Island Nature Parks.

The concrete pathway was constructed thanks to a grant from the San Remo Bendigo Community Bank and Coastcare.

The Woolamai Beach Surf Life Saving Club want everyone to enjoy a fun and safe summer.

To achieve this, it is recommended that beachgoers swim at patrolled beach between the flags, never swim alone, and swim within their limitations.

Beachgoers are also encouraged to familiarise themselves with dangers and hazards before entering the water.

## 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 23
3.14am	0.86m
9.37am	1.32m
3.57pm	0.34m
11.32pm	1.42m

WEDNESDAY	January 24
4.25am	0.90m
10.41am	1.27m
5.05pm	0.36m

THURSDAY	January 25
12.36am	1.44m
5.44am	0.89m
11.48pm	1.25m
6.11pm	0.36m

FRIDAY	January 26
1.35am	1.47m
6.55am	0.84m
12.52pm	1.25m
7.09pm	0.36m

SATURDAY	January 27
2.27am	1.51m
7.55am	0.77m
1.48pm	1.28m
8.00pm	0.33m

SUNDAY	January 28
3.08am	1.54m
8.45am	0.69m
2.38pm	1.31m
8.45pm	0.33m

MONDAY	January 29
3.43am	1.56m
9.26am	0.61m
3.23pm	1.35m
9.24pm	0.36m

Email us your fishing photos  
news@sgst.com.au



Aislin Jones of Leongatha enjoys the moment after her National Women's Skeet Championship success. Photo credit: Shooting Australia

# National success during Olympic quest for Aislin

LEONGATHA'S Aislin Jones, who trains regularly at Korumburra Gun Club, took out the 2024 ACTA ISSF National Women's Skeet Championship at Brisbane Gun Club on Thursday.

She previously secured the Olympic Quota in Women's Skeet for Australia by winning the ISSF Oceania Regional Championship in late 2023.

Thursday's competition was the second of a six-event series that will determine who represents the green and gold at the Paris Olympics, with a single place up for grabs.

The purpose-built 2024 shooting venue at Chateaureax, south of Paris, will see the skeet athletes compete in the individual event over two days.

With Australia having also secured a men's skeet quota, the nation will be one of the few eligible to contest the mixed teams event.

Jones is now halfway through the domestic selection series and is set to compete in Sydney in February and Melbourne the following month.

The top three in each women's and men's discipline will then be selected to attend the final ISSF Olympic qualification event in Doha, Qatar, and the ISSF World Cup in Baku, Azerbaijan.

In Brisbane, Jones' win occurred in the second of back-

to-back events.

She placed fourth in the first event, having made her way into the final in the appalling weather conditions that prevailed during qualifying.

Jones is looking forward to the upcoming competitions, confident she has given herself every chance of earning a spot in Paris.

"I just have to trust myself and the process and all the preparation I've done," she declared.

Her father and coach Dave elaborated on what Aislin meant when she described the qualifying process as "a marathon, not a sprint".

"It's a bit like racing at Bathurst. You go in, hopefully, with a car that's a second or two a lap faster and over 160 laps you build a solid lead," Dave said.

While Western Australia's Laura Coles secured the 'number one' bib going into the National Women's Skeet Championship final after finishing qualifying tied with Jones, the latter delivered a masterful display of accuracy in the six-woman final.

Jones hit pair after pair of targets, including a first elimination pass of 20/20.

Coles was ultimately eliminated in fourth place, with 29/40, enabling Jones to make valuable gains in the overall

selection series.

Victoria's Brittany Melbourne claimed the bronze medal spot with 38/50, while Jones battled it out with Kiwi Chloe Tipple to determine gold and silver.

Jones went on to record a new Australian women's finals record, finishing with 58/60 as she saw off Tipple's challenge.

The display left Jones just a target shy of the current women's world record for an ISSF Skeet Final.

Jones has now won seven National Championships since her 2015 ISSF National debut.

She enters next month's Sydney event just two points adrift of Coles.

Jones, who studies Commerce at Deakin University and works from home for a Bairnsdale window company, is on a fundraising mission to enable her to cover the costs of travel, training and time off work over the next six months.

She is hoping fundraising efforts will generate half of the estimated \$50,000 to \$60,000 cost for that period, with family and personal support to cover the remainder.

Jones invites people to join her support team by making tax deductible donations of any size to the Australian Sports Foundation's fundraiser at [tinyurl.com/AislinParis2024](https://tinyurl.com/AislinParis2024) with proceeds to go directly to her campaign.

## Michelle Harris takes on Swimming Victoria presidency

IT'S one of the biggest weeks for country swimmers, and new Swimming Victoria President Michelle Harris is thrilled to be in the middle of it all, showcasing Gippsland's swimmers along with the other regional competitors at the Victorian Country LC Championships.

Michelle took over the role in September and is the first rural person to take on the role.

"I think it will bring a different perspective to the organisation - things are different for country swimmers and I hope to make people more aware of some of the challenges they face," she said.

Michelle has been involved with swimming for over 10 years, with her children swimming for South Gippsland Bass (SGB). She soon became involved with the club and qualified as a technical official, before moving up to help oversee Swimming Victoria through a role on the board.

The position is a voluntary role and she will continue to work for GippSport, helping all sports clubs throughout the region.

In her paid role, Michelle supports local Gippsland sporting clubs as the manager of sector development at GippSport.

"It has been great to be a part of a state sporting association because they set the policy, in terms of the future directions of sport. The biggest learning is being part of all the conversations happening at that strategic level, so I can use my local club experience and bring that to the table," she said.

Michelle took on the role of Swimming Victoria's Technical Committee Chairperson, finding new ways to make technical officiating fun and inclusive for new people, while progressing the technology used, which is still in a transition period.

"I combined my two passion areas: advocating for rural and regional Victoria and then my technical officiating side," Harris said.

It will be a busy year ahead for Michelle, with swimming returning to the pre-covid competition levels, in a sport that is booming throughout the country.



Michelle Harris celebrates with South Gippsland Bass swimmer Claudia Croatto at State Long Course Finals.

Summer is peak season for many of the competitions and she has been busy assisting in the organising of each event, however she enjoys the challenge and seeing the swimmers enjoy themselves before and after a race.

She knows all about the effort the competitors must put in to reach their goals, with Michelle, a keen runner, achieving one of her own goals last year, completing the New York Marathon.

"Competing in the New York Marathon was a huge goal of mine, completing the biggest marathon in the world with over 51,000 people across the five boroughs of New York was unforgettable," she said.

Michelle is still involved with the local club, SGB whether it be advising the committee or chatting to the swimmers.

This weekend, more than 700 swimmers and their families will be descending on Traralgon.

"The Championships are such a wonderful celebration of Victorian country swimming and as a Gippslander, I am very proud to welcome swimmers to the Gippsland Regional Aquatic Centre," Michelle said.

Michelle is determined to encourage women take on more leadership roles in her time as president and help the sport transition to the use of the new technology.

"It's an exciting time for swimming and I look forward to being a part of it," she said.



Allan Bentick Maxine Kelly, Nick Richards, winners of the Wonthaggi Angling Club January Comp.

## Wonthaggi Angling club

Winners of the Wonthaggi Angling Club's January Comp, sponsored by Lightique Wonthaggi, were:

Senior Female Maxine Kelly with a bream 570gms 1425 points. Senior Male

Nick Richards with a garfish 229gms 2748 points. Veterans Allan Bentick with a bream 963gms 2407 points. No Juniors weighed in. Next comp is Sunday, February 18.



Wonthaggi Bowls Club Ladies Singles winner Jan Jeeves with runner up Denise Silver.



Inverloch Bowling Club's Thursday social bowls winners Graeme Dunlop, Yvonne Kee, David Turnbull and John Hallas.



South West Gippsland Midweek Bowls Group winners were Terry Floyd (S), Laurie Bell (3) and Peter Taylor (L).



Runners up for the South Gippsland Midweek Bowls Group were John Nicholson (S), Elaine Williams (L), Gwen Jeffrey (2) and Luke Monckton (3).



Vincent Mancorella (L), Robyn Coulson (S) and Frank Hanrahan (3) were the South West Gippsland Midweek Bowls Group best one game winners.

## INVERLOCH

THE scheduled January Triples Day was cancelled due to inclement weather.

Thursday Social Bowls saw 32 bowlers split into eight teams of fours.

They played over two games of 10 ends.

The hard luck story was the team of Bill Selby (skip), Graham Turton, Craig Selby and Jill Kennedy who finished with two wins and 30 points.

Runners up were Mal Marshall (skip), Joyce Arnold, Chris O'Donnell and Di Hallas who finished with two wins and 31 points.

The eventual winner with two wins and 34 points was the team of Graeme Dunlop (skip), John Hallas, David Turnbull and Yvonne Kee.

Midweek Pennant:

Division 1: Inverloch 56 Foster 48.

Division 2: bye.

Division 3: Inverloch (4) 39 Mirboo North 35; Inverloch (3) 31 Phillip Island 37.

Weekend Pennant:

Division 1: Inverloch 56 Toora 59.

Division 2: Inverloch 66 San Remo 66.

Division 3: Inverloch 56 Foster 56.

Division 4: bye.

## LEONGATHA

THE Pennant competition resumed last Tuesday after a welcome break over Christmas.

Round nine of the Midweek draw was played at Korumburra, where the two Division 1 sides from the respective clubs had a very competitive battle which is indicative of the final score being 52/51 shots in favour of Leongatha.

Individual rink scores were as follows:

Marje Pearson skip (Leongatha) was defeated by Jenny McVeigh skip (Korumburra) (17/18) shots.

Jenny Miller skip (Leongatha) was defeated by Judith Nicholl skip (Korumburra) 12/15 shots.

Carol Harry skip (Leongatha) defeated Lena Harfield skip (Korumburra) 23/18 shots.

Round 10 of the Saturday Pennant competition resumed on Saturday, January 20, in ideal conditions for bowling.

The Division 1 side played Corinella at home and unfortunately its expectation of featuring in the finals were diminished with a loss of 55/64 shots.

Individual rink scores were as follows:

Anthony Collier skip (Leongatha) was defeated by Steven Bray skip (Corinella) 13/33 shots.

Paul Michael skip (Leongatha) defeated David Burzacott skip (Corinella) 22/13 shots.

John Hall skip (Leongatha) defeated Daryl Cartwell skip (Corinella) 20/18 shots.

The Leongatha Division 2 side journeyed to Loch Bowls Club where it had the pleasure of playing on the new green, which from all

reports is very good.

The Leongatha side was able to record a win on all three rinks with an overall score of 65/50 shots.

This result enabled the Division 2 side to leapfrog into the four and focus on maintaining form leading to the finals. Individual rink scores were as follows:

Greg Hodge skip (Loch) was defeated by Rod Jackson skip (Leongatha) 14/23 shots.

Frank Byrne skip (Loch) was defeated by Vito Serafino skip (Leongatha) 17/22 shots.

Alan Center skip (Loch) was defeated by Ron Symmons skip (Leongatha) 19/20 shots.

The Leongatha Division 4 side headed south to Wonthaggi, where another loss for the season was recorded and a place in the finals is not feasible.

An overall score of 58/54 in favour of Wonthaggi was a close result but not what is required to escape the wooden spoon. The individual rink scores were as follows:

Charlie Wright skip (Wonthaggi) was defeated by Janice Sing skip (Leongatha) 20/21 shots.

Toney Toler skip (Wonthaggi) defeated Susan Wakefield skip (Leongatha) 20/15 shots.

Adrian Grey skip (Wonthaggi) drew with John White skip (Leongatha) 20/20 shots.

## MIDWEEK

IT was another great day for bowls on Thursday – not too hot, not too cold, not too sunny and not too wet.

Over the day, the bowlers did stop play two or three times for a few minutes to allow the quick showers to pass by.

A few had a little problem with the wind, but that just added to the fun.

Even allowing for the wind there was some excellent bowling from all corners of the green.

There was lots of friendly banter as usual, with quite a bit of laughter from all rinks.

David did an excellent job of setting everything up for us all as well as looking after the thirsty bowlers behind the bar.

This week's winners on 34 points were Terry Floyd (S), Laurie Bell (3) and Peter Taylor (L).

Runners up on 32 points were John Nicholson (S), Luke Monckton (3), Gwen Jeffrey (2) and Elaine Williams (L).

Best one game winners on 23 points were Robyn Coulson (S), Frank Hanrahan (3) and Vincent Mancorella (L).

Thanks to David, Luke and Helen for cleaning up after the game.

Thanks also to Peter, Pauline and John for all their hard work.

The group wants to take this opportunity to wish all the players good luck with the resumption of pennant this week.

It would love to see everyone win, but unfortunately

that is not possible when many of the bowlers will meet in opposition.

But, good luck to all.

Next week, the bowlers will be meeting at Lang Lang.

Could everyone be on site by 10am.

## WONTHAGGI

THIS week saw the return of Pennant.

Tuesday saw Division 1 travel to Corinella, looking to start the run to the finals with a win.

Two rinks had wins, with the other having trouble against a team that were just as hell bent on having a win.

The final score Wonthaggi 54 Corinella 63.

Division 2 played host to Tarwin at Wonthaggi, also wanting to start the new year off with a win.

After a battle, with one rink having a win, another a loss, and the other a draw, the final score was Wonthaggi 59 Tarwin 52. Ladder positions have Division 1 first and Division 2 third.

Thursday saw a good number having a roll after Wednesday was a wash out.

Saturday Pennant saw Division 1 play host to Mirboo North at Wonthaggi on a fine day.

With Mirboo North being on top of the ladder, Wonthaggi were ready for a scrap.

All rinks played well to record a solid win.

The final scores were Wonthaggi 64 Mirboo North 50, which keeps Division 1 in third place on the ladder.

Division 2, also at home, played host to Phillip Island looking for a win to start the new year off on the front foot.

After a tight battle, with all three rinks playing well, the top team Phillip Island was able to finish the day in front.

The final scores Wonthaggi 56 Phillip Island 63.

Division 3 travelled down the highway to do battle with Lang Lang, looking for a change of luck in the new year, and start off with a win.

After a tight battle all day, Wonthaggi just fell short against a very strong team, which is their top team.

The final scores Wonthaggi 47 Lang Lang 56.

Division 4 played host to Leongatha at Wonthaggi, looking to keep its season on track with another win.

After a tight battle, Wonthaggi was able to secure a win and much needed points to keep their spot in the top four.

The final scores Wonthaggi 58 Leongatha 54.

Bowls this week: Tuesday Midweek Pennant, Tuesday night from 5pm barefoot bowls, Wednesday social bowls at 1pm, Thursday social bowls at 10am, Friday coaching at 10am and Saturday Pennant.

Don't forget the Australia Day celebration from 4pm with three meats on a spit.

Come and support the day and bring some friends.

Have a good week and good bowling.

## FOSTER

THE final two rounds of the Club Championship were played this weekend.

The championship is played over four rounds of 18 holes – played over two successive weekends.

Chris Buckland, a Fish Creek lad, has dominated the championship since first winning it in 2016.

He triumphed again this year by a wide margin – winning with a score of 67,73,67,78 – 285 – three under par over the 72 holes.

This is the first time that a player has recorded an overall score under par in the Championships and shows clearly why Chris plays off a handicap of plus four.

Trent Price was the winner in B Grade after a playoff with Peter Cambridge, and Darren Piasente won by just one shot in C Grade.

Congratulations to all the winners.

## KORUMBURRA

RESULTS: Tuesday, January 16. Stableford: 50 players.

A Grade: Jack Martin (17) 44 pts. B Grade: David Enbom (21) 43 pts.

NTPs: first Ken Lay, seventh Ian Gibson, 10th Ian Gibson and 13th Jack Martin.

Thursday 18th January: Stableford: 16 players.

Winner: Steve Rose (9) 37 C/B.

NTPs: first Chris McConnell, seventh Shayne Harland, 10th Rob Gallagher and 13th Chris McConnell.

Saturday, January 20:

Stableford: 62 players.

Sponsor: Al and Barb Twite.

A Grade: Malcolm Garnham (10) 38 C/B.

B Grade: Blake Cosson (18) 38 C/B.

NTPs: first Tim O'Neill, 10th Paul Hopkins and 13th Barry Kerr.

## Ladies

THE rain prevented the usual competition last Wednesday.

A small group managed to play nine holes with Julie Hillberg finishing on 16 pts.

Jenny Blackmore was runner up 14 pts after a c/b with Trudy Olden.

The 2023 Singles Knock-out was finally able to be played between the finalists Lynette McIvor and Shelley Snooks with Lynette winning the match.

The 36+ markers Knock-out final was a couple of months ago with Diane Maskell winning in a very close match from Kath Welsh.

Thursday's twilight winners were Colette Pearl and Tim O'Neill, 28 pts and runners up were Julie and Joseph Cole, 26 pts.

Greg Wilson was NTP on the fourth, hitting from the unusual tee spot on the 14th.

It was great to have 16 women play on Saturday and the course was looking magnificent.

Kerri Besley (17) won A Grade, 36 pts and Merrissa Cosson (11) was runner-up, 33 pts.

Deb Wrigley (27) was the B Grade winner, 36 pts, with Lyn Leppin (54), close behind, 35 pts.

BDTL went to Chris Rickard (28), 34 pts and Viv Enbom (35), 33 pts.

Merrissa was NTP on the first (Kelly's Bakery award) and Judy Webb was closest on the 13th.

It is great to report that there have been enquiries into Beginners Day on Wednesday, January 31, and the club has many definite starters.

This is an introduction to the game of golf when equipment can be provided and a member will pair up with those new to golf, providing some guidance and encouragement.

Women who had previously played golf but have had a pause for various reasons are also very welcome to be

part of the day. Alternate hits over nine holes and some chatting along the way will combine to make for an enjoyable morning.

Please phone Merrissa 0438 552 629 to book in or for more details.

## MEENIYAN

MEENIYAN Golf Club had a fantastic turnout for its annual Drummond Golf Day on Sunday, January 21, with 105 players for a three person Ambrose event.

Thanks to Damian Leggo from Drummonds Traralgon for the continued sponsorship.

The men's winners were Dylan Zuidema, Richard Luykx and Kurt Sinclair with 58 net.

Mixed winners were Steve Vuillermin, Craig Hams and Louise Vuillermin with 59 net.

The ladies' winners were Lyn Jennison, Dot Christie and Heather Poletti with 64 net.

## MIRBOO NORTH

SUNDAY, January 14: Hipwell Plate.

Plate winner: Mirboo North (1) 109 pts.

Team: P. Draper 37, R. Robbins 35,

J. Robbins 37 and J. Coleman 24.

Scratch: A. Jessup (5) 74.

A Grade: J. Wrigley (7) 38.

B Grade: D. Burridge (14) 40.

C Grade: T. Humphrys (18) 40.

DTL: P. Draper, J. Robbins, R. Matthews 37, H. Elyasie, J. Hume, G. Geisler 36, R. Robbins, D. Perrin, E. Heller 35, A. West, J. Gray, T. Shearer and J. Langstaff 34.

NTP: fourth R. Matthews, sixth K. Barnes, 13th R. Walker and 16th T. Shearer.

Thursday, January 18: Stableford.

A Grade: M. Woodall, (10) 39 pts.

B Grade: O. Mahoney (24) 45 pts.

DTL: Tom Traill, M. Payne 38

and C. James 36.

NTP: fourth G. Shandley, sixth M. Woodall, 13th S. McKenzie and 16th R. Pentland.

Birdies: sixth M. Woodall and O. Mahoney.

Saturday, January 20: Stableford.

A Grade: T. Baker (7), 35 pts.

B Grade: D. Jerram, (17) 42 pts.

C Grade: R. Clark, (20) 39pts.

DTL: G. Dawson 38, S. McKenzie 35, P. Smart, M. McKay and G. Shandley 34.

NTP: fourth J. Woodall, sixth E. Woodall, 13th G. Shandley and 16th D. Jerram.

Birdies: fourth N. Rutledge, J. Woodall, sixth R. Matthews, E. Woodall and 13th S. McInnes.

## LEONGATHA

TUESDAY, January 16: Stableford.

This Stableford comp round included 74 members/guests.

A Grade winner: Winton Knop (9) with a score of 38 pts on a countback.

A Grade runner up: John Ryan (9) with a score of 36 pts on a countback.

B Grade winner: Fred De Bondt (20) with a score of 38 pts on a countback.

B Grade runner up: Simon Drummond (19) with a score of 38 pts.

C Grade winner: Ron Findlay (30) with a score of 41 pts.

C Grade runner up: John Cadd (33) with a score of 37 pts on a countback.

Extra Balls Comp prizes went to Bert Borg, Neale Gillin, Leo De Bondt, Sean Munley and George Hendry.

Thursday, January 18: Stableford.

An excellent turnout of 90 members/guests scored some outstanding results in this Stableford event.

A Grade winner: Rod MacKenzie

(13) with a score of 39 pts.

A Grade runner up: Christopher Leaver (9) with a score of 38 pts.

B Grade winner: Gordon Allan (17) with a score of 38 pts on a countback.

B Grade runner up: Dave Brownett (16) with a score of 38 pts on a countback.

C Grade winner: Conor Hosking (19) with a score of 35 pts on a countback.

C Grade runner up: Roy Kleverkamp (19) with a score of 35 pts.

D Grade winner: Ian Watson (36) with a score of 36 pts.

D Grade runner up: Gerald Free-stone (28) with a score of 35 pts on a countback.

NTP fifth second shot: Christopher Leaver at 1.20m. NTP 14th: Gordon Allan at .59m. NTP 16th: Craig Hutchinson at 3.26m.

Extra Balls Comp prizes went to Ross McRobert, Garry Rotteveel, Ken Smirk, John Moor and Geoff Bell.

Saturday, January 20: Stableford.

Back to Stableford rounds for Saturdays with a good field of 89 members/guests enjoying truer greens.

A Grade winner: Craig Hams (9) with a score of 39 pts.

A Grade runner up: Dean Kellett (9) with a score of 38 pts on a countback.

B Grade winner: Mark Billows (14) with a score of 41 pts.

B Grade runner up: Andrew Henley (15) with a score of 39 pts.

C Grade winner: Ian Debenham (18) with a score of 38 pts.

C Grade runner up: Nicholas Hill (19) with a score of 36 pts on a countback.

D Grade winner: Ian Watson (36) with a score of 39 pts on a countback.

D Grade runner up: Michael Delaney (27) with a score of 39 pts.

Great score by Gordon Morrison with a hole in one on hole 14.

NTP fifth hole second shot: Stuart Smith at .43m. NTP 16th hole: Grant McRitchie at 1.22m.

Extra Balls Comp prizes went to Gordon Morrison, Mark Anderson, Renato Monacella, Grant McRitchie and Daniel Yeap.

## WONTAGGI

RESULTS: January 18, SR. 71.

Competition: Stableford 18-hole.

Winner: Stephen Kane 41.

Runner up: Paul Cornelis 35.

BDTL to 33 C/B.

Ball sweep: Bob Cornelis 35, Simon O'Halloran 35, Ian McNish 34, Malcolm Stevenson 34, Phillip McCrimmon 34 and Terry Fox 33 C/B.

Results: January 18, SR. 34.5.

Competition: Stableford front nine-hole.

Winner: Norm Burne 19.

BDTL to 17 C/b.

Ball sweep: Bill Howard 18 and Bob Cornelis 17 C/B.

Results, January 20: Stableford 18-hole.

Winner:

A: Dean Winning 41.

B: Jonathon Clayton 41.

C: Ray Hender 39.

BDTL to 36 C/B.

Ball sweep: Kevin Jamison 40, Simon O'Halloran 39, Gary Bates 39, Allan McLean 38, Dean McKeller 38, Ross Lovett 38, Warwick Judkins 37, Shaun Stirton 37, Lynton MacDougal 36 and Graeme Crawford 36 C/B.

NTP: Dean McKeller second, John Geyer fourth, John Geyer propin eighth, Shaun Stirton 13th and Chris Radford 17th money hole.

Visitors: Keysborough, Eastern, Eastland, Churchill and Monash, Warragul and Yallourn.



The leading group in the final round of the Club Championship at Foster Golf Club were Arron Morris, Club Champion Chris Buckland, Pat McKay and Graeme Watkins.



Foster Golf Club's leading group in the final round of the B Grade Club Championship Brad Coates, Danny Jenkins, the winner after a playoff Trent Price, and the runner up Peter Cambridge.



The leading group in the final round of the C Grade Club Championship included the winner by one stroke Darren Piasente, runner up Chris Riddell, John Stone and Rod Coughran-Lane at Foster Golf Club.



Meenyan Golf Club's men's winners Richard Luykx, Dylan Zuidema and Kurt Sinclair with sponsor Damian Leggo from Drummond Golf.



Mixed winners Craig Hams, Steve Vuillermin and Louise Vuillermin were pictured with sponsor Damian Leggo from Drummond Golf (second from right) at Meenyan Golf Club.



Ladies' winners Lyn Jennison and Heather Poletti with sponsor Damian Leggo from Drummond Golf at Meenyan Golf Club. Absent: Dot Christie.

## ALLAMBE MIRBOO AND DISTRICT TENNIS ASSOCIATION

### SECTION 1

#### Results:

Westernport 8.48 defeated Leongatha 0.16; Koonwarra 4.42 defeated Korumburra 4.37; Inverloch bye.

#### Ladder:

Westernport 76, Inverloch 58.5, Koonwarra 41.5, Korumburra 35, Leongatha 35

### Section 2

#### Results:

Leongatha 8.67 defeated Baromi 1.41; Outtrim 8.68 defeated Korumburra 1.33.

#### Ladder:

Outtrim 71, Leongatha 62.5, Baromi 62, Korumburra 24.5

In Section 1 this week, Leongatha's younger players played well, but were not able to take a set from the experienced Westernport team.

Koonwarra vs. Korumburra was the close match of the round - four sets a piece and only five games difference.

Everyone hopes Nikki from the Koonwarra side has a good recovery from her injury.

Thank you to Kerri Besley for being available at the last minute to help Koonwarra finish the match.

Just a reminder for Section 1 teams, in the rules it states that a toss should be done before the start of each set (rule 3 subclause 11 if you would like to look it up).

Section 2 saw Outtrim vs. Korumburra and Baromi vs. Leongatha.

This section has been well contested most of the season, but this week was quite one-sided, with Outtrim and Leongatha winning eight sets to one.

Westernport is well on top in Section 1, and Outtrim are 8.5 points clear in Section 2.

Baromi and Leongatha are contesting second spot in Section 2.

There's no play next week for Australia Day weekend.

It is hoped you all enjoy having a week's rest.

## SOUTH GIPPSLAND BRIDGE

#### RESULTS:

January 19: seven tables competing at Inverloch.

Masterpoint winners were - North/ South pairs:

First: John Currier and John Sutton with a fine 65.48 per cent.

Second: Faye Rowlands and Richard Poole 55.59.

Third: Alan Johnston and Clive Hope 52.38.

East/West pairs:

First: Phillip and Nev Chapman 57.44.

Second: Moya Crowley and Michael Dooley 55.56.

Third: Sandra McCaughey and Tom Kudelka 54.17.

January 16: at Wonthaggi, six tables competing.

First: Hannah Martin and Kathy Geyer 60.37.

Second: Ruth Harvey and Doug McIntosh 58.15.

Third: Faye Rowlands and Richard Poole 55.93.

Fourth: Julie Perriam and Anne Gibson 51.85.

Fifth: Nev and Phillip Chapman 51.48.

Sixth: Ken McKenzie and Marie Sands 49.63.



Michael Rowe, Alan Starkey, Rebecca Thomas and Lianne Addamson from LGC donated their time and effort to find and paint a tree blue on the Leongatha Golf Course, to encourage men to talk about their mental health. ob06\_0424

# 'Gatha golf club tree painted blue for men's mental health

By Courtney O'Brien

AN OLD tree on the ninth fairway of the Leongatha Golf Club was debarked and its bare branches were painted summer sky blue last week.

The painted tree is part of the now worldwide Blue Tree Project and is intended as a symbol of hope and a conversation starter for men, their mental health and a reminder that it's ok to not be ok.

Eighty per cent of the Leongatha Golf Clubs (LGC) members are men and it was Rebecca Thomas, Women's Golf Captain at LGC who initiated the project.

"I'd seen them (blue trees) on a lot of other golf courses, so I thought it would be really nice for our club to help recognise mental health," Rebecca explained.

Lianne Addamson, LGC Board Member, helped to get the ball rolling on the project getting South Gippsland Shire Council on board, who provided a cherry picker and manpower to help trim the tree that had been selected.

"It's more for men's mental health care and awareness - although it's not exclusive to them - because they tend not to talk about things," said Lianne.

A large old tree on the tenth hole was initially selected and prepared, however not everything went smoothly on the morning it was to be painted.

The ground near the tree had become wet underfoot from recent rains and the cherry picker got bogged.

Safety became a concern, but



Alan Starkey rolls the first of the blue paint on the tree at Leongatha Golf Club as part of the Blue Tree Project for mens mental health. ob04\_0424

with firm commitment to the project it was decided another tree on the course would be found and painted.

After scouting the fairways, the tree on ninth was deemed suitable and being quite a bit smaller than the original tree, the cherry picker was sent away after successfully getting pulled from the bog.

Out came a couple of ladders, painting equipment and a large tin of blue paint, kindly donated by Rob Geyer from Haymes Paint in Wonthaggi.

Michael Rowe and Alan Starkey, both members of LGC, got to painting the tree, with Alan on the roller and Michael on the spray gun - and with others mindful to stay up wind of the spray for fear of ending up blue too.

In no time at all the tree was

painted, the branches brightly popping blue against the backdrop of manicured grass and big gums.

Rebecca and Lianne hope the tree will be noticed and prompt men playing on the course to speak up and have the courage to start difficult conversations, particularly those who live in rural and regional areas.

"It's more for focusing on regional areas where we don't have as many services regionally as they do in the city - and access to it," said Lianne.

The Blue Tree Project initially began out of tragedy following the loss of WA man Jayden Whyte to suicide in 2018.

Jaydens family and friends started a legacy in his honour by painting a tree blue.

This was shared and sparked

a wave of support nationally and internationally with communities painting trees blue too.

The idea stemmed from an adventure Jayden and a close friend once embarked upon.

They were asked to clean out Jaydens fathers shed, and to throw out the paint tins.

They came across one with bright blue paint that was still useable and decided to find a tree on the farm and paint it in secret to surprise, confuse and delight his dad.

Over two nights, with all the gear they painted the first blue tree.

Sadly, not long after, Jayden was suffering and sought help but was turned away from an Emergency Department twice in the same day, and subsequently took his own life.

According to the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, males are three times more likely to take their own lives than females.

In 2022 there were 2455 male deaths (by suicide) at a rate of 18.8 per 100,000.

Suicide is the leading cause of death for young people and almost a third of people aged 15- to 24-year-olds died by suicide in 2022.

It is hoped these blue trees will help to save lives and are visual reminders to check in on loved ones and mates who might be struggling.

If this story has raised any concerns, get in touch with Lifeline for crisis support, available 24/7 on 13 11 14 or for emergencies call 000.

## Grand Ridge parkrun welcome first time participants

A NICE little crowd of 41 participants gathered for a cooler than average summer parkrun in Mirboo North, for the 181st Grand Ridge Trail parkrun.

The holidays brought the visitors, with 22 first timers from parkruns across the state including Koo Wee Rup, Warragul, Karkarook and Tamworth.

It was the first timers at the front of the pack with Cash Smith enjoying his first run at Grand Ridge, but the first female this week was parkrun regular Kate Lew Ton.

The cooler conditions were perfect for runners to smash their personal bests this week.

Congratulations to Val Smith, Mary Mauriks, Bryanna Payne, Kevin Bodey, Matt Coughlan,

Kate Lew Ton at

the 181st Grand Ridge Trail parkrun on Saturday.





Monster trucks added to the fun for the large crowd at Nyora Raceway. Photos: Napier Photography



The carnage of demolition derby adds to the fun of the evening at Nyora Raceway.



## Huge night of entertainment at Nyora thrills big crowd

By Dean Thompson, DMT Sports Media for Nyora Raceway Inc

front of Hickson and Greene.

Results for heat four saw Hickson also double up with heat wins, locking in victory ahead of Tindal and Shane Ardley.

At the last Dirt Modified event at Nyora a 20-lap final ran flag to flag.

For the second show in succession the class did the same, with Hickson last time setting a new distance record and this time falling just four seconds short of that time.

Reddecliffe set the fastest lap in the feature; however Hickson finished around 80 metres ahead of him at the chequered flag with Michael Ardley in third, Greene next and Hobson in fifth spot.

There were plenty of local racers in the Standard Saloon action with Bonyip driver Mitch Blencowe winning heat one of the night with a five second margin back to Chris Miles and Jack Yeomans further back.

Coming back after a crash wrecked much of the front end on his race car, Mornington Peninsula based racer Ash Dean started with a win in his first heat race in front of Mark Miles and Jeff Blencowe.

Poowong's Owen Cecil won heat three of the night in front of Andrew Miles and Brodie Robertson.

Victorian champion Rhys Lansdown, visiting from Wahgunyah on the Murray River, claimed victory ahead of Matt Leek and Mitch Blencowe in the fourth heat race before Owen Cecil's younger brother Harry won the fifth heat race in front of Mark Miles and Mitch Blencowe.

Wrapping up the qualifying results, Chris Miles claimed a win in the sixth heat race ahead of Gus Argoon and Owen Cecil.

Standard Saloon feature action began with Catani's Mark Miles leading early from Owen Cecil and Lansdown, with Lansdown overtaking Cecil on lap seven to move into second.

NYORA Raceway pulled off the biggest speedway show in years with entertainment aimed at bringing new people into the venue to see monster trucks, rollover cars, a jet van, and fireworks.

Traditional speedway racing and a demolition derby added to the spectacle.

Nyora's number one Dirt Modified race driver Daryl Hickson continued his winning ways, Victorian Standard Saloon Champion Rhys Lansdown won the feature and three times state champion driver in the Unlimited Sedans, Warrick Taylor, won the feature for the class.

On the night, fans were thrilled by the stunt show with Clive Featherby and his team in monster trucks, rollover cars, and a jet powered van.

The stunts and fun had the crowd fully invested in the entertainment which was later topped off by a huge fireworks show.

The racing portion of the show saw the following results.

In throwback to many years of racing at Nyora, Hobson led the early laps in both the first and second heat before being overtaken, taking many back to when he was out front in most races against the likes of Brett Neylan, Travis Smith, Geoff Hurst, Bob Anderson, Murray Atkin, Colin Jones, and others, in the late eighties early nineties.

Hickson took the lead from Hobson and won heat one of the Dirt Modifieds ahead of Michael Ardley and Bendigo racer Paul Tindal.

Nyora and Hot Rod legend Lloyd Hobson was back behind the wheel of the family Dirt Modified normally driven by his son Todd and finished fourth.

Matt Reddecliffe picked up a win ahead of visiting racer Kevin Greene in the second heat, with Reddecliffe timing under the 15 second mark on one lap.

Reddecliffe backed up and won heat three, this time finishing in

A move on Miles didn't come until lap 13 of 15 and from there Lansdown created a little gap between himself and Miles to win, with Cecil in third, Chris Miles in fourth and Harry Cecil in the fifth spot.

With a Victorian title coming up at Nyora Raceway, the Unlimited Sedans got some laps in on the race-track, with times for one lap getting close to the track record.

Nyora member Warrick Taylor, driving a car for Bendigo friend Peter Farley, claimed the first win of the night in heat one in front of Darren Forrest and Victorian champion Peter Cox.

Another Nyora member, Travis Ramsdale, won the second heat race by almost half a lap ahead of Cox and Taylor.

Showing that he is ready to defend his championship, Cox won the third and final qualifier in front of Daryl Nicolson from the nearby Dracouin club, and Travis Ramsdale.

A 15-lap final finished the night off for the Unlimited Sedans.

Cox led the early laps with Travis Ramsdale in second before Taylor came through to the front.

Forrest and Ramsdale exchanged spots as Cox dropped out of the race and Forrest found himself in second before Ramsdale snatched the spot back.

The race finished with Taylor wheeling the big Late Model chassis car around consistently under 16 seconds, finishing two seconds ahead of Travis Ramsdale, Forrest, Cory Ramsdale and Gavin Ough.

Ending the night's competition was the demolition derby.

The massive crowd were in full voice for the big event with a number of their local heroes among the entrants, including Batman in the Bat Mobile, the Stig and others.

Taking the win was Jackson Bassten a regular on the demolition derby circuit.



Gippsland's Ray Smith defends, but is bowled when the ball rolls onto the stumps.

## Gipps Goannas

### OVER 60s

THE GIPPSLAND Goannas Over-60 cricket team welcomed the Mornington Peninsula Over-60's to Ted Summerton Reserve in Moe on Sunday.

The Goannas won the toss and batted first with Ken Bailey and Ray Smith opening the innings. Both were dismissed early and the Goannas were 2/12 in the fourth over.

Rob Bacchetti and Rino Metlikovec came together and scored at better than six an over.

Bacchetti retired for 40, and Rino was dismissed for 39 as the Goannas reached three for 93 in the fifteenth over.

Ray Floyd and Kevin Lanigan continued to advance the score.

Floyd was out for 21 in the 26th over while KL retired for 40 in the 28th over, as the score mounted to 4/160.

Mark Brown, 14, Chris Devent, 18 and Peter Anton, 18, took the score to 7/213, while Anton DeVent, 8, and Jim Armstrong, 13, completed the innings unbeaten as the Goannas finished their 40 overs at 7/232.

Anton and Bacchetti opened the bowling for the Goannas and the score mounted steadily to 64 after 12 overs when Murray Moore entered the attack.

Bacchetti took the first wicket, caught by Armstrong, and bowled his eight overs straight through to finish with 1/38.

Smith replaced him, Moore took a return catch and Lanigan returned to Metlikovec for a run out as the MP side went to drinks at 3/99.

Captain Rino replaced Smith and Lanigan replaced Moore (1/28 from 6), with Chris DeVent getting a stumping from the captain's bowling.

MP were then 4/133 after 26 overs. Rino took two more wickets to finish with 3/27 from six overs, Armstrong chipped in with a wicket, one for 13 from four, and Barrie Nunn bowled a couple of overs as the MP innings was completed at 7/204 after 40 overs.

The Goannas 60's will play the Warrandyte Over-60's at home next Sunday, while the Over-70 team will play the deferred game against West Gippsland Wombats on 30 January.

The Goannas Over-50 team were due to travel to Sunbury today.

Their next game will be a home game against Geelong in early February.



Rob Bacchetti defends during his innings of 40 retired.



Jade Darose guides Grand Illusion home for the win in the South Gippsland Sentinel Times Maiden Plate. A14\_0424

# Wild wind fails to halt racing at Stony Creek



Jipushi, trained by Corinella's Shea Eden, wins comfortably in race three. A13\_0424



Strapper Kelly Newman with Corinella trained Jipushi after her win in Race 3. A15\_0424

WHILE howling winds cut the expected attendance at Stony Creek Racing Club's 'School Holiday' meeting on Thursday and drove many of those present indoors, it was a fine accomplishment to get through the day's program.

The club's CEO Adam Olszanski expressed his appreciation that riders soldiered on in the torrid conditions.

"It was incredibly windy and at many times during the day probably borderline whether we would be able to continue, but thankfully the riders still believed it was safe and they persevered," he said.

Consultation with jockeys occurred on a race-by-race basis.

The feedback was that some sections of the track were affected more than others by cross winds but there were no concerns horses were being blown off course or that participants would be put in danger.

Although delighted to get through the racing schedule, Olszanski said extensive adaptation was required off track.

"As far as an event, when we had marquees and umbrellas falling over and chairs and tables tumbling across the lawn before the first race, we quickly had to pivot and try and get people inside," the CEO explained.

While most attendees would have hoped for pleasant sunny conditions to enjoy a trackside setting, people still enjoyed the day.

"There definitely was a good atmosphere in those indoor spaces because we had nearly all the people in there," Olszanski said.

The weather couldn't dampen the fun of fashions on the field, with the event moving into the dining room.

With eight races, there was plenty of action to distract pa-

trons from the weather.

Jipushi's comfortable win in race three was one of the highlights on track, with the five-year-old mare bred and trained by Corinella's Shea Eden who also trained her mother 'My Gypsy Jane'.

With Shea having recently lost his grandmother, strapper Kelly Newman brought Jipushi to the track alone, a journey that was far from stress free due to a flat tyre threatening to end the horse's race before it began.

The pair arrived 15 minutes late, with just that amount of time to spare before Jipushi would have been prevented from running.

It was a breakthrough win for the horse, which now has two seconds, two thirds and a first place from her nine starts.

"She's a nice horse, easy to do everything with," Kelly said of the relaxed mare.

The strapper remarked that Jipushi was almost blown down the straight by the wind, something that was no exaggeration albeit she was blown faster than her rivals.

Three-year-old gelding Grand Illusion stunned everyone in the South Gippsland Sentinel Times Maiden Plate, being first past the finishing post, belying its 100-1 odds.

Peppino continued his healthy relationship with the Stony Creek track, the nine-year-old gelding unbeaten there in four starts over the 1600m distance, after winning race 8.

He has been outrun on a couple of occasions at the venue over other distances.

Racing returns to Stony Creek on Tuesday February 6, the penultimate meeting for the season, with the Ladbrokes Stony Creek Cup set for Sunday March 10.



Men of the Match, Warwick Hayes (right) and Les Jones in over 60's cricket Kookaburras verse Paky Punchers.

## The Kookaburra's laugh all the way to a great win

### OVER 60s

WELL, the ol' Kookas, after a "loss they had to have" were keen to jump straight back to the winners list when they took on the Paky Punchers at the wonderful Burra Rec last Sunday.

Special thanks to super curator - "Clackas", Glenn Barrot and Tim Morrison from the mighty Burra Cricket Club.

The Punchers won the toss and inserted the Kookas. Team Australia Pete Miller switched to high gear and pasted a sublime 38 not out.

Skippa Francis continued his rock solid support. Peter perfect little - well was perfect with a classy 36 not out.

Tony Teflon Latham, 27 not out and Mr Cricket Gary Adams (returning with a new and improved hip) 25 not out, kept the Dakar Rally style pace.

As the finish line approached, Master Blaster Pieter Little 33 not out, Geoff Royalty Burnie 32 not out and newby Andrew Ohoy 17 not out, completed the dash at a Kooka record of 6/246.

After well-deserved Tucka, the Kookas took the new nut.

The Punchers had incurred more injuries than your average Joe at the Tet Offensive but were up for the fight.

Best of the trundlers were Burkey Burke 3/23, Loozy 1/7, Perfect Little 1/10 and President Neil Whitey 1/11, in an even and expert bunch of Kooka bowlers.

Paky finally reaching a gutsy 9/129. In an amazing performance Warwick "Wazza" Hayes completed five stumpings in the innings.

Wazza you star, and rightly chosen man of the match.

Well, the Kookas came back! Next week it's a wild west road trip to the Geelong Cats.

Frivolity, fun and stella cricket will follow the re-rampaging South Gippy Kookas!



Karla leads Cougars

Karla Williams during her strong batting performance for the Cougars against Kilcunda-Bass.



Jarrod Standish takes an awkward shot. Ns14\_0424



The ball goes straight through for Glen Alvie's Ian Thorn. Ns13\_0424

## Town merciless against Glen Alvie

### C GRADE

LEONGATHA Town was ruthless against Glen Alvie on Saturday.

Playing in the first day of the two-day match, Town won the toss and chose to bowl.

The Town bowlers made short work of the batting order until captain Ian Thorn stepped up to the wicket.

Thorn made 38 runs before he was dismissed by a catch from Ned Hanly.

Town's destruction continued through the rest of Glen Alvie's line up.

Max Carter had Town's best bowling figures, taking 3/9.

Travis Strybosch was also a multiple wicket taker.

Glen Alvie's result was 10/96.

Town dominated Glen Alvie from the outset of its first innings.

The opening partnership of Nigel Hodges and Tim Cashin successfully opened the account, mak-

ing 23 and 21 runs respectively.

Hanly led the carnage, hitting 84 not out.

Carter made 16 runs and was also not out.

Wickets were taken by Wayne Bridle and a private player for Glen Alvie.

Town finished off the day with 2/170.

It will challenge Glen Alvie for an outright win on Saturday.

### Nyora dominates

AN EXTRAORDINARY 130 run haul from Colin Knox will have Nyora feeling confident going into Koonwarra L/RSL's innings this Saturday.

Koonwarra L/RSL hosted the match and elected to bowl first after winning the toss.

Knox opened for Nyora and the Cougars battled to stop him.

Eventually, he was bowled lbw by Shane Paterson.

However, Nyora's batsmen were not done.

Keith Linford hit 43 and Ben Pugh was 70 not out at

the end of the innings.

Paterson battled to stop Nyora, taking 3/59.

Nyora finished its innings with 4/278.

Koonwarra L/RSL will have its opportunity to bat this Saturday.

### Sharks put pressure on the Cobras

KORUMBURRA was bowled out in the last over against Kilcunda-Bass on Saturday.

Michael Foote top scored for the Cobras, hitting 38 runs.

Rhys Butler was the only other batsman to contribute double figures, making 18 runs.

Kilcunda-Bass' stand out bowler was Kevin McLean, who took 4/14.

Three wickets were also claimed by Ashley Joseph.

Korumburra will be looking to defend its tally this weekend.

Scores for the Phillip Island vs. MDU match were unavailable before going to print.

### C GRADE

#### Town 2/170 v Glen Alvie 10/96

Glen Alvie - 1st INNINGS: D McGuirk 1, W Bridle 2, V Kumar Gopal 4, J Burke 12, I Thorn 38, C Stewart 7, Private Player 9, A Sinclair 8, N Luff 0, O Luff 3\*, H Luff 1, Bowling: T Strybosch 2/24, H Livingstone 1/6, Y Ratnake 1/14, Private player 1/10, J Lindsay 1/22, M Carter 3/9, P Carter 1/7

Town - 1st INNINGS: N Hodges 23, T Cashin 21, N Hanly 84\*, M Carter 16\*

Bowling: W Bridle 1/36, Private player 1/28, O Luff 0/16, V Kumar Gopal 0/13, N Luff 0/21, G Luff 0/34, C Stewart 0/1, H Luff 0/10

#### Nyora 4/278 v Koonwarra L/RSL

Nyora - 1st INNINGS: C Knox 130, J Knox 7, K Linford 43, B Pugh 70\*, D Blackney 0, W Dixon 4\*

Bowling: S Chadwick 0/27, J Geary 1/30, S Paterson 3/59, B Thomas 0/30, R Collins 0/18, R King 0/69, T Lund 0/34

#### MDU v Phillip Island

No results supplied.

#### Kilcunda-Bass v Korumburra 10/98

No results supplied.

#### Inverloch - BYE

## WONTHAGGI & DISTRICT NETBALL ASSOCIATION

## NIGHT NETBALL SUMMER COMPETITION

### LADIES COMPETITION

Wonthaggi Secondary College stadium  
Starting Tuesday, February 13, 6.30pm

Players to be 14 years and older  
Must have VNA registration  
Register teams online via  
Netball Connect  
Individual players contact  
Lee 0419 399 415

### MIXED SENIOR COMPETITION

#### Expressions of interest

Tuesday nights at  
Wonthaggi Secondary College stadium  
Register teams online  
via Netball Connect  
Individual players contact  
Lee 0419 399 415

### MIXED JUNIOR TWILIGHT COMPETITION

11 and under, 13 and under  
Monday nights,  
commencing February 26  
Wonthaggi outdoor courts  
Entry forms available from  
Cargills Sport store  
wdnawonthaggi@outlook.com  
or text 0419 399 415



It's all over for Jarrod as Leongatha celebrates the dismissal. Ns20\_0424



Darren Scott is congratulated by Shane McGrath whose Korumburra club games record he broke on Saturday. Ns02\_0424

## Korumburra's Scott breaks 343 record

DARREN Scott made a valuable contribution with the willow on the opening day of his club record-breaking 343rd match for Korumburra, the righthanded batsman helping the Cobras to a competitive first innings score at home against Imperials.

Stepping up from B2 to B1 for his milestone match, Darren made an unbeaten 28 on a challenging pitch, batting at number eight.

It was a patient knock in which he faced 50 balls but his innings included a boundary and a six.

He did well to maintain his composure after receiving a moving tribute from the competing sides.

"Both teams did a guard of honour for me when I walked out, which threw me a little bit but I was quite chuffed about it all," Darren said.

He noted the young Imperials bowling attack performed strongly.

The Cobras were bowled out for 180, with righthanded medium pacer Darren not yet having taken the ball, Korumburra bowling just six overs before stumps.

Darren's teammate Mathew Olden snared the wicket of Imperials opener Archie Casey, trapping him LBW for a 15-ball duck.

That leaves Imperials on 1/5 entering day two, setting the stage for an intriguing conclusion to what is a special match for the Cobras.

With Korumburra having a strong bowling lineup, Darren is confident the Cobras score will present a challenge for Imperials.

Longstanding Korumburra games record holder Shane McGrath was present on Saturday to congratulate Darren on surpassing his 342-game mark.

"I was lucky enough to play a fair bit of cricket with Shane as a younger player and I've been friends with him for probably 35 years, so to have him there was really good," Darren said.

Darren continues to happily make the trek from Cranbourne South to represent the Cobras, relishing being part of the South Gippsland sporting landscape and making lifelong friends among those he has played alongside and against.

Continuing to enjoy sharing the field with rising young players, Darren has no thoughts of retirement in the short term.

The new Korumburra games record holder said in the lead up to Saturday's contest that he would never have reached that mark without the support of his wife Sam and children Jarryd, Maddison, Harry and Lachie.

Harry has already been part of the action in Darren's big match, as twelfth man, getting to field and will do so again on day two.



Korumburra's Trevor Allen made a handy contribution of 180 against Imps on Saturday. Ns03\_0424

## MDU record competitive score



Paris Buckley fields for Koonwarra Leongatha RSL in its B1 clash with Phillip Island. Photo: Jodie Arnup.



Matthew Allen went on to make his mark against the Imperials. Ns05\_0424

### B GRADE, DIVISION 1

MDU will be looking to defend 9/195 against Leongatha Town this Saturday.

Playing at the Meenyan Recreation Reserve over the weekend, MDU won the toss and went into bat first.

A catch from Town's Luke Bowman was quick to dismiss Gary Webster.

However, the partnership of Tyrone Zukovskis and Mike Olden made an impact on the scoreboard, making 56 and 25 runs respectively.

A further 35 runs was later added by captain Craig Hoober.

Multiple wickets were claimed by Levi Hickey and Lachlan Gill.

Currently sitting just above MDU on the ladder at fifth, Town will be given the opportunity to flex its muscles this weekend.

### Phillip Island battle Koonwarra L/RSL

AFTER a slow start, Phillip Island rallied to produce a score of 10/195 in its two-day B1 match against Koonwarra L/RSL.

Newhaven Recreation Reserve hosted the match, and Phillip Island won the toss, choosing to bat first.

Early bowling pressure from Louis Read made it difficult for Phillip Island to get runs on the board.

Paris Buckley also challenged the Sharks, taking 4/43.

Oliver Duggan ensured Phillip Island was still a force to be reckoned with, hitting 57 runs before he was bowled lbw by Matthew Boswell.

Andrew Finlayson and captain Kurt Lane contributed 24 and 21 runs respectively.

Koonwarra L/RSL took the opportunity to open its account and played five overs.

Michael Thomas and a private player made three and four respectively, facing

bowlers Lane and Timothy McNiven, and were not out at the end of play.

The game will resume this Saturday.

### McGrath challenges Korumburra

THE Imperials will be aiming to step up to the challenge of 10/180 established by Korumburra this Saturday.

The Imps won the toss but sent the home team into bat first.

Korumburra opening batsman Trevor Allen managed to hit 65 runs before he was sidelined by a catch from Gary Sauvarin.

Darren Scott later contributed 28 runs and was not out at the end of the innings.

Imps bowler Klayton McGrath had Korumburra on the ropes, taking 5/27, knocking out the tail end of Korumburra's batting order.

Jack Ballagh was also a multiple wicket taker.

The Imps opened its innings and played six overs.

Andrew Meyer made five runs and was not out.

Archie Casey was bowled lbw for a duck Mathew Olden.

Sitting on 1/5, the Imps will continue its innings on the weekend.

### OMK deliver big ask for Inverloch

LADDER leader OMK made a statement to Inverloch as it finished off its inning with a total of 9/246 on Saturday.

Playing at the Outtrim Recreation Reserve, the home side was the first to bat.

Joel Cuman top scored with 47 runs.

Nick Wylie and Robert Quaife contributed 35 and 30 runs respectively.

Inverloch's bowling figures were unavailable before going to print.

Inverloch will contest OMK's score this Saturday.



A hopeful Jarryd Guganovic took to the crease for Foster but was dismissed quickly after a catch by Charlie Dougherty  
Ns07\_0424

## White thwarts Sharks' batting order

### B GRADE, DIVISION 2

TOP of the table OMK flexed its muscles against Phillip Island at Digger Park on Saturday.

Competing in the first day of a two-day match, the Diggers managed to bowl out the Sharks and will be aiming for a target of 10/150 next week.

Phillip Island won the toss and stepped up to the wicket first.

It was a humbling start to the innings, with OMK bowler Russ White decimating the away side's batting order.

White claimed 6/45, sending Phillip Island's top six batsmen back to the sideline with hardly a dent on the scoreboard.

Phillip Island Captain Daniel McCausland stepped in to save the day, hitting 57 runs before a catch from Thomas Walker dismissed him.

OMK's Harvey Sorenson was also a multiple wicket taker.

OMK opened its account, playing 21 overs before the end of play.

White continued his form, opening the batting and making 48 not out.

Wickets fell to Michael Cleary and Archie Williams.

OMK will see out its innings next week, currently sitting on a total of 2/78.

#### Cobras outdone by the Sharks

KILCUNDA-BASS has taken a massive lead into its second day of its B2 match against Korumburra on Saturday.

The Sharks' bowlers launched their attack after choosing to send the Cobras in to bat first at Poowong Recreation Reserve.

The innings began on a sour note for Korumburra, with Pierre Dunlevie dismissed for a golden duck after being run out by Rohan Duff.

Patrick Beadel top scored later in the innings with 20 runs before he was bowled lbw by Bradley Waldron.

Jacob Havetta recorded Kilcunda-Bass' best bowling figures, taking 3/9.

It was all over for Korumburra with a score of 10/63.

The partnership of Kilcunda-Bass captain Bradley Waldron and Scott Williams won the innings, with the batsmen

making 32 and 33 respectively. Williams was not out at the end of the innings.

Wicket taking was shared between Thomas Sorrell, Kyle Dorman and George Edwards.

Kilcunda-Bass came away with a total of 3/105 and will challenge Korumburra for an outright win this Saturday.

#### Club challenges Glen Alvie

GLEN Alvie has its work cut out as they attempt to defend 10/104 this Saturday (January 27).

Playing at home, Glen Alvie chose to bat first against Wonthaggi Club.

Captain Jay Tiziani led Glen Alvie's campaign with 33 runs before a catch by Justin Licens saw him sidelined.

Nathan Thatcher followed with a top score of 43.

However, Sean Roche was a powerhouse for Club, taking 5/35.

Jack Sheerin also claimed two wickets.

Club took the opportunity to begin its innings and played 10 overs.

Sheerin and Mitchell Davey

made 21 runs each, with Davey not out.

Jack Brown took a wicket for Glen Alvie.

Club will continue play at 1/46.

#### Foster struggle against Nerrena

NERRENA triumphed over Foster in a one-day match at Leongatha's velodrome on Saturday.

The clubs opted for a shorter match format due to the Australia Day long weekend this week.

Foster won the toss and chose to bat first.

Nerrena bowlers Jack Donohue and Jhett Brown didn't allow Foster to get a look in, taking 3/15 and 3/19 respectively.

Tim Garvey top scored for Foster with 16 runs.

Foster closed its innings with 10/59.

Nerrena's Eamon Berryman opened well, making 35 runs before he was run out.

Wickets were taken by Foster's Shaun Chaseling and Brandon Busutil.

Nerrena won the day with 3/65 after just 14 overs.

### B GRADE

### DIVISION 1

#### MDU 9/195 v Town

MDU - 1st INNINGS: G Webster 2, T Zukovskis 56, M Olden 25, W Prosser 22, C Hooper 35, S McRae 11, K Sinclair 27, C Fisher 0, A Dyke 3, D Zuidema 4\*, A Richardson 1\*. Bowling: L Hickey 2/32, L Gill 2/14, S Clark 1/31, F McLennan 0/44, L Ashton 1/18, C Bruce 1/15, N Fixter 1/14, V Peiris 0/15, L May 0/11

#### Korumburra 10/180 v Imperials 1/5

Korumburra - 1st INNINGS: T Crocker 4, T Allen 65, M Allen 8, S Dole 3, N Christensen 13, Private Player 26, J Wrigley 2, D Scott 28\*, M Olden 5, A Damon 0, Private Player 3. Bowling: A Williams 0/21, A Casey 1/46, K McGrath 5/27, N McLennan 1/17, A Meyer 0/22, J Ballagh 2/26, K Gray 1/15. Imperials - 1st INNINGS: A Meyer 5\*, A Casey 0, J Ballagh 0\*. Bowling: T Crocker 0/4, S Dole 0/0, M Olden 1/1

#### Phillip Island 10/195

#### v Koonwarra L/RSL 0/8

Phillip Island - 1st INNINGS: C Epifano 9, J Manning 5, J Williams 11, H Peppard 3, K Lane 21, O Duggan 57, A Finlayson 24, A Tolley 10, A Williams 4, T Niven 16, H Arceo 10\*. Bowling: L Read 2/41, P Buckley 4/43, M Boswell 3/39, A Drury 1/25, M Thomas 0/25, Private Player 0/9. Koonwarra L/RSL - 1st INNINGS: M Thomas 3\*, Private Player 4\*. Bowling: Kurt Lane 0/4, Timothy Niven 0/4

#### OMK 9/246 v Inverloch

No results supplied

### B GRADE

### DIVISION 2

#### OMK 2/78 v Phillip Island 10/150

Phillip Island - 1st INNINGS: T Asurumuni 16, S Angelo 2, D Fusinato 2, D Ivey 9, M Cleary 13, Z Hughes 0, D Womersley 12, D McCausland 57, A O'Brien 7, J Tran 0, A Williams 11\*. Bowling: M Whiteside 1/24, R White 6/45, M Whiteside 0/6, M Sawyers 1/30, H Sorensen 2/18, T Walker 0/25. OMK - 1st INNINGS: A Sorensen 16, R White 48\*, M Sawyers 4, B Hayes 6\*. Bowling: J Tran 0/17, D Womersley 0/11, M Cleary 1/33, A Williams 1/16

#### Nerrena 3/65 v Foster 10/59

Foster - 1st INNINGS: B Busutil 2, B Gay 2, T Garvey 16, S Chaseling 0, R East 6, J Guganovic 4, W Roffey 0, N Samat 0, S Webber 8\*, B Cripps 5, L Moon 1. Bowling: C Dougherty 1/9, J Donohue 3/15, J Brown 3/19, D Grigg 2/10, C Baudinette 1/4. Nerrena - 1st INNINGS: E Berryman 35, R Jefferis 7, S Sparks 0, A Gannon 12\*, C Baudinette 4\*. Bowling: S, Chaseling 1/19, J, Guganovic 0/9, B, Busutil 1/13, W Roffey 0/5, B, Cripps 0/9, L Moon 0/10

#### Korumburra 10/63 v K-Bass 3/105

Korumburra - 1st INNINGS: P Dunlevie 0, M Patten 3, K Rigby 13, K Dorman 8, P Beadel 20, T Sorrell 0, Private player 5, Private Player 6, J Dunn 2, J Douglas 0\*, G Edwards 2. Bowling: R Duff 2/27, A McBride 1/10, J Havetta 3/9, D Clay 1/8, B Waldron 2/9. Kilcunda-Bass - 1st INNINGS: B Joseph 16, B Waldron 32, S Williams 33\*, D Clay 9, R Gardiner 3\*. Bowling: T Sorrell 1/22, J Douglas 0/17, K Rigby 0/16, K Dorman 1/17, G Edwards 1/13, Private Player 0/8, J Dunn 0/7, M Patten 0/1

#### Glen Alvie 10/104 v Club 1/46

Glen Alvie - 1st INNINGS: A Moore 0, R Luke 6, J Tiziani 33, D Tiziani 2, D Hale 3, A Russell 8, A Luke 0, N Thatcher 43, J Brown 1\*, G Hynes 1, L McRae 0. Bowling: S Roche 5/35, C Fraser 0/17, J Sheerin 2/26, S Liddle 1/20, M Sharp 1/5. Club - 1st INNINGS: J Sheerin 21, M Davey 21\*, C Prosser 0\*. Bowling: A Russell 0/17, L McRae 0/21, J Brown 1/6



Nick Samat was another casualty off Jhett Brown's bowling. Ns11\_0424



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## NEXT WEEKEND'S GAMES &amp; UMPIRE APPOINTMENTS

ROUND 11 – DAY 2  
SATURDAY, JANUARY 27, 2024

## A GRADE, Division 1

**Imperials v Korumburra**

LEONGATHA TURF

Ian Salmon

**Town v Nerrena**

SCORPION 1

Ash Stride

**Town v Phillip Island**

WONTHAGGI TURF

John Schelling

**Inverloch v OMK**

INVERLOCH TURF

Ken Schrimshaw

## A Grade, Division 2

**Nerrena v MDU**

NERRENA

Geoff Parkinson

**Foster v Nyora**

FOSTER GC

Graham Wightman

**K-Bass v Korumburra**

BASS 1

Les White

**Club v Glen Alvie**

DALYSTON

Brad Phillips

## B GRADE, Division 1

**MDU v Town**

MEENIYAN

Michael Ryan

**OMK v Inverloch**

OUTTRIM

Ozzie Williams

**P-Island v Koon L/RSL**

NEWHAVEN

Geoff Wyatt

**Korumburra v Imperials**

KORUMBURRA TURF

Neil Graham

## B GRADE, Division 2

**OMK v Phillip-Island**

DIGGER PARK

No Umpire

**Glen Alvie v Club**

GLEN ALVIE

David Fusinato

**Nerrena v Foster**

LEONGATHA VELODROME

No Umpire

**Korumburra v Kilcunda-Bass**

POOWONG

No Umpire

## C GRADE

**MDU v Phillip Island**

DUMBALK

No Umpire

**Town v Glen Alvie**

LEONGATHA SC

Michael Heenan

**Nyora v Koon L/RSL**

KOONWARA

No Umpire

**K-Bass v Korumburra**

BASS 2

No Umpire

**Inverloch-BY**

Subject to Confirmation.

Any prospective  
umpires can contactJason O'Reilly 0439 688 575  
or Geoff Wyatt 0413 081 136

## LEONGATHA &amp; DISTRICT CRICKET ASSOCIATION

A1: Mark Lafferty (Imperials) 73 ; Shiran Rathnayake (Phillip Island) 7/58

A2: Tadgh Gannon (Nerrena) 85 ; Aaron Kaddatz (Nyora) 8/15

B1: Trevor Allen (Korumburra) 65 ; Klayton McGrath (Imperials) 5/27

B2: Daniel McCausland (Phillip Island) 57 ; Russ White (OMK) 6/45

C: Colin Knox (Nyora) 130 ; Max Carter (Town) 3/9



The magnificent bowling of Phillip Island's Shiran Rathnayake combined with a difficult deck at Wonthaggi had Club batsmen in all sorts of trouble, but they battled their way through to a creditable total of 10/197.

# Club fights back despite Shiran's magnificent seven

## A GRADE, DIVISION 1

engaged in a tight contest for a place in the four against OMK and Korumburra.

Nerrena at Scorpion Park and OMK on the turf at Inverloch had the toughest of the conditions, early on Saturday, and managed only meagre totals, Nerrena all out for 112 and OMK only managing 30 overs.

And Wonthaggi Club looked to be going the same way when they lost a couple of quick wickets just before tea to be in a difficult position at 4/80 before the break.

A patient effort by Ben Walsh, 22 off 82 balls, was brought undone when he top-edged a simple catch to Brodie Johnston off Shiran Rathnayake and not long after that, the Island brought in a bat pad, Daniel Mock, to apply pressure to new batter Alex Geyer.

He was almost caught there initially but, hitting out two balls later, was caught on the boundary by Kohen Beaumont, a sharp chance off Zac Brown.

But Club battled it out bravely after tea, and with Joel Brann 57 leading the way in several useful partnerships, they got the target out

to a defendable 10/197 off 72.4 overs.

Shiran Rathnayake was the star with the ball, getting it to spin like a top from the town end of the ground, and enjoying a bit of drift too as he collected a memorable 7/58 off 30 overs.

The outfields at Thompson Reserve in Inverloch and Butch West Oval in Wonthaggi were lush and long, so it will be interesting to see how Phillip Island in particular handles the chase bearing in mind how crucial the result is for two of the teams fighting for a top-two finish with just three matches in an interrupted season to go.

Inverloch made a positive start to their chase and maybe able to go after a rare outright decision.

It's worth mentioning that no batsman in the Imps' innings of 302 managed to make a ton with openers Luke Rogers 34 off 41 balls faced and Nick Eddy 63 off 51 setting the standard and Mark Lafferty 73 off 91 and Dimitri Arachchige 67 off 70 keeping it going. The seven players to get a bat for Imps made healthy contributions in "a team effort".



Wonthaggi Club's Ryan Thomas skies one off the bowling of Phillip Island's Simon Kirton and is caught in the outfield by Max Royal.



Club batsman Jy Hull was caught by Ryan Sinclair off the bowling of Ben McRae after some tight bowling and fielding by Glen Alvie in the middle stages of their A Grade Division 2 match at Dalyston on Saturday.

## Lowly ranked Nerrena shows 'em how in A2

### A GRADE, DIVISION 2

THE only batting side in A Grade Division Two to post a competitive total, on the return to two-day games last Saturday, was the lowly-ranked Nerrena.

Playing at home against a side one place above them on the ladder, in second-last spot, Meenyan Dumbalk United, they took the initiative and batted first, then defied their form to get a contribution from every batsman on the list, finishing with a virtually unassailable 5/299 off 75 overs.

No one went on to make a ton, but Nerrena got solid support from Zack Trease 38, James Kelly 46, Tadgh Gannon

85, Joel Renden 71 and, pressed for time, Mitchell Croatto took 38 (not out) off 25 balls, with three 4s and two 6s, to round out a very satisfying day for the Redcaps.

Elsewhere in A2, Wonthaggi Club had the next best total of 132 against Glen Alvie at Dalyston but it should have been much better. Each time Club looked to be finally getting on top of the bowling, after taking a cautious approach, Ben McRae would strike from the highway end of the ground and put them back to square one.

With good support coming from Ryan Sinclair, taking 3/31 off 11 overs at the other end, McRae kept taking wickets throughout the Club innings to finish with a bag

of five, a very miserly 5/38 off 15.4 overs.

The hope of the side for Club had been Harry West, who struck five boundaries on the exceptionally lush surface at Dalyston but ultimately holed out to Matt Donohue, going the aerial route again, off the bowling of McRae.

Glen Alvie looked to be in total control at the changeover of the innings, but Club's opening bowler Jai Williamson struck three times in his nine overs to take a game-changing 3/6 to have Glen Alvie on the ropes at the close of play – 3/28 chasing 132 has the game very evenly poised.

In the other matches, Nyora has already wiped

off Foster's paltry target of 71 which featured four 'ducks' but it looked anything but certain as the wickets tumbled early in the Nyora response, finally eking out 7/90 off 48 overs at close of play. There may yet be a few twists and turns in this one.

In the other A2 game, at the Bass Recreation Reserve, Killy-Bass took most of the day to get to 85 runs, off 65.2 overs, with only three players reaching double figures. The Koonwarra Leongatha RSL bowlers shared the wickets around and the team was in good shape at stumps, at 1/20, in a match result that effectively represents double points between the fourth and fifth-placed sides.



Glen Alvie's Ryan Sinclair finished with the figures of 3/31 off 11 overs to help his team to a strong position in the match at Dalyston.

### A GRADE

#### Nerrena 112 v Town 2/62

**Nerrena – 1st INNINGS**  
 Mitchell Clark run out: D Hume ..... 2  
 Loc Roberts c: P Jayasinghe ..... 1  
 b: PG Rajapakshage ..... 23  
 Hayden Funnell ..... 1  
 c: J Hume b: R Hume ..... 13  
 Timothy Wightman ..... 23  
 c: A Fixter b: J Hume ..... 23  
 Josh Checkley lbw: J Hume ..... 0  
 Darcy Berryman ..... 0  
 c: R Hume b: R Abeysinghe ..... 14  
 Kade Berryman ..... 0  
 c: A Fixter b: PG Rajapakshage ..... 2  
 Caine Salmon lbw: J Hume ..... 23  
 Ryan Clark b: J Hume ..... 5  
 Josh Trease b: PG Rajapakshage ..... 0  
 Jaxon Checkley not out ..... 1\*  
 Extras (1nb, 2lb, 3b) ..... 6  
**Total 10 / 112 (45.5 Overs)**

Bowling: PG Rajapakshage 14-6-16-3, R Hume 9-3-18-1, J Hume 13.5-5-46-4, D Hume 6-0-20-0 (1nb), R Abeysinghe 3-1-7-1

#### Town – 1st INNINGS

Ron Abeysinghe lbw: J Trease ..... 0

Darcy Hume c: J Checkley b: M Clark 12  
 Amila Ratnaike not out ..... 35\*

Josh Williams not out ..... 12\*

Extras (3lb) ..... 3

#### Total 2 / 62 (28 Overs)

Bowling: Josh Trease 12-1-29-1, R Clark 5-2-10-0, M Clark 4-3-3-1, T Wightman 5-0-16-0, J Checkley 2-1-1-0

#### Imperials d. 5/302 v

#### Korumburra 3/30

**Imperials – 1st INNINGS**

Luke Rogers b: H McNeil ..... 34

Nick Eddy c: R Rangana b: H McNeil ..63

Timothy Sauvarin ..... 0

c: H Ratnayake b: S Hamill ..... 25

Mark Lafferty ..... 0

c: H Ratnayake b: H McNeil ..... 73

DW Arachchige b: H McNeil ..... 67

Jack Ginnane not out ..... 21\*

Damon Ginnane not out ..... 12\*

Extras (1nb, 2lb, 3lb, 1b) ..... 7

#### Total 5 / 302 (55 Overs)

Bowling: S Hamill 12-0-70-1 (1w),

#### Inverloch v OMK

No results supplied.

### A GRADE

#### Nerrena 5/299 v MDU

#### Nerrena – 1st INNINGS

Dave Trotman ..... 0

c: J Sinclair b: J Palmer ..... 4

Zack Trease ..... 0

c: S Bright b: M McGrath ..... 38

James Kelly c: M Olden b: S Bright ..... 46

Tadgh Gannon ..... 0

c: J Sinclair b: J Palmer ..... 85

Joel Renden run out: T Sinclair ..... 71

Mitchell Croatto not out ..... 38\*

William Croatto not out ..... 7\*

Extras (5w, 2nb, 3lb) ..... 10

#### Total 5 / 299 (75 Overs)

Bowling: S Bright 23-8-59-1, M Cantwell

10-2-26-0, J Palmer 10-0-64-2 (2w),

Z Bright 3-0-14-0 (2w, 1nb), M McGrath

16-2-76-1, M Hooper 4-1-17-0 (1w,

1nb), S Arnup 9-0-40-0

#### Foster 71 v Nyora 7/90

#### Foster – 1st INNINGS

Jack Gay b: A Kaddatz ..... 5

Mitchell Jones b: A Kaddatz ..... 11

Josh Toner b: A Kaddatz ..... 0

Jake Staley ..... 0

c: J Hackett b: A Simmons ..... 11

Brad Coates b: A Kaddatz ..... 2

Ben East c: ? b: A Simmons ..... 0

Jack Weston b: A Kaddatz ..... 7

Mitchell Allott lbw: A Kaddatz ..... 0

Harvey Griggs not out ..... 17\*

Eddie Smith b: A Kaddatz ..... 0

Tex Dyson b: A Kaddatz ..... 2

Extras (3w, 2nb, 5lb, 6b) ..... 16

#### Total 10 / 71 (27 Overs)

Bowling: A Kaddatz 14-7-15-8, M Rowe

5-1-19-0 (1w, 2nb), A Simmons 8-1-26-2

(2w)

#### Nyora – 1st INNINGS

Henry Dolphin b: B Coates ..... 6

Daniel Esler lbw: J Gay ..... 10

Gavin Hackett c: J Toner b: B Coates ..... 5

Jake Hackett c: J Staley b: J Gay ..... 0

Jacky Henry c: J Staley b: J Weston ..... 2

Bailey Esler not out ..... 17\*

Aaron Kaddatz b: J Gay ..... 16

Aaron Thompson ..... 0

c: B East b: H Griggs ..... 25

Aidan Simmons not out ..... 0\*

Extras (3w, 1nb, 4lb, 1b) ..... 9

#### Total 7 / 90 (48 Overs)

Bowling: B Coates 15-6-18-2 (2w, 1nb),

J Weston 12-4-40-1 (1w), J Gay 15-6-26-3, H Griggs 4-4-0-1, E Smith 2-1-1-0

#### K-Bass 85 v Koon L/RSL 1/20

#### Kilcunda-Bass – 1st INNINGS

Cameron Davidson ..... 0

c: N Arnup b: N Trotto ..... 26

Aaron Conron ..... 0

c: H Scrimshaw b: N Arnup ..... 0

Ryley Duff b: J Thomas ..... 2

Matthew Grayson ..... 0

### DIVISION 1

J Whiteside 7-1-42-0, H Ratnayake 14-

1-65-0, H McNeil 10-2-47-4, L Gooch

2-0-9-0 (1w), S Head 6-0-43-0 (1nb),

D Whelan 4-0-22-0

**Korumburra – 1st INNINGS**

Jason Richards ..... 0

c: DW Arachchige b: L Wright ..... 2

Zachary Barrett ..... 0

c: D Ginnane b: L Wright ..... 6

Jye Celebrine ..... 0

c: L Anderson b: J Ginnane ..... 6

Rumesh Rangana not out ..... 5\*

Harry McNeil not out ..... 6\*

Extras (3w, 2nb) ..... 5

**Total 3 / 30 (20 Overs)**

Bowling: L Wright 6-3-9-2, L Anderson

5-2-6-0 (1w, 2nb), J Ginnane 4-1-7-1

(1w), T Sauvarin 2-1-3-0 (1w), N Eddy

3-1-5-0

#### Club 197 v Phillip Island

#### Club – 1st INNINGS

Emmet Dempsey ..... 0

c: M Arceo b: S Kirton ..... 0

Mitch Thomas ..... 0

c: S Kirton b: S Rathnayake ..... 52

Ben Walsh c: B Johnston ..... 0

b: S Rathnayake ..... 22

Ryan Thomas c: M Royal b: S Kirton ..... 27

Alexander Geyer ..... 0

c: K Beaumont b: Z Brown ..... 0

Joel Brann ..... 0

c: D Mock b: S Rathnayake ..... 57

Josh Andrigutto ..... 0

c: B Johnston b: S Rathnayake ..... 7

James Sheerin ..... 0

st: B Johnston b: S Rathnayake ..... 17

Fraser West not out ..... 7\*

Mark McCall lbw: S Rathnayake ..... 0

Ryan Birkett b: S Rathnayake ..... 6

Extras (1w, 1b)

Email your reports to [news@sgst.com.au](mailto:news@sgst.com.au) 

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Disabled Surfers Association Bass Coast volunteers giving one of their participants the surf ride of their life at Inverloch last Sunday. Ns35\_0424

## Giving everyone the opportunity to surf

IT WAS 'surfs up' at Inverloch for the Disabled Surfers Association Bass Coast's first event of the year on Sunday, January 21.

The event allows those with a disability to have a go at surfing among other activities, surrounded by dedicated volunteers to ensure it's a safe and enjoyable experience.

It also allows their family or carers to sit back and relax while watching the fun unfold.

Disabled Surfers Association Bass Coast vice president Dan Bruce explained they have four events per year at both Inverloch

and Phillip Island.

"This is the first event for the year, we do free food for all our volunteers and this year is the first year we've done it free for the surfers," he said.

"When the participants are there, depending on their disability they go to a certain flag.

"(Volunteers) come down and use the beach wheelchairs to take them down to the water."

Once in the water, participants are guided on a surfboard through the waves with a volunteer hopping on the back to keep the board

straight with others assisting.

When the surf is finished, participants are cheered on with their special moment caught on camera.

Dan highlighted that they're getting more and more people registering for the events and hope to get as many as they can.

"For the parents that come down, they're so stoked because it's usually the only time they can bring their child with a disability to the beach and have all this support," he said.

For more information on upcoming events, visit [campsite.bio/basscoastdsa](http://campsite.bio/basscoastdsa)



The joy was visible on Bron's face as volunteers guided her through the waves. Ns39\_0424

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