

Sentinel-Times



Celebrating our national treasures

From 2024 Australia Day Honours List OAM recipients to Rotary Club of Wonthaggi's Australia Day Community Service Awards, Friday was a busy day across the communities of Bass Coast and South Gippsland. See all the photos and awardees inside – page 5-6 and 14-19.

SIGNS OF NEGLECT



- How authorities have ignored 'Beach Drowning Black Spot' recommendations

PUBLIC affairs activist, Graham Jolly of Cape Woolamai, is calling for a government inquiry into the catastrophic spate of drownings at Bass Coast beaches, between Friday, January 12 and Wednesday, January 24, when six people tragically lost their lives over a 13-day period.

In the first instance he's going to present what he knows to police in the hope it can be included in their report for the Coroner.

But it's not the first time he's brought this same information to the attention of the Coroner.

He did the same back in December 2020 following the death of a 24-year-old Melton woman, who drowned at Smiths Beach on

November 28 that year.

Mr Jolly wants to know why the recommendations of the 'Bass Coast Shire Coastal Risk Assessment', conducted by Life Saving Victoria in 2018-19, for key local agencies including the Bass Coast Shire Council, Phillip Island Nature Parks, Parks Victoria and the San Remo Foreshore Committee of Management, have not been implemented.

And why the exhaustive efforts he has made, since 2019, to get a full copy of the final report released, have been blocked by those public agencies.

The initiative was funded by the Australian Government in 2018 under the 'Surf

Life Saving Australia (SLSA) Beach Drowning Black Spot Reduction Program', details of which were announced on January 1, 2018 by the then Minister for Health and Aged Care, the former Member for Flinders (including Phillip Island), Greg Hunt, when the Turnbull Government added an additional \$3 million to a \$15 million, five-year plan, to tackle the "the incidence of drowning in identified high risk areas".

The report names Forrest Caves, Surf Beach and beaches near Kilcunda, the sites of the six drownings, as having high hazard scores and needing to be included in a new 'black spot' strategy.

Continued page 3

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PRICE FREEZE

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Signs of neglect

From page 1

One of the key recommendations in what is believed to be a 100-plus page document, relating to warning signs at the high-risk beaches, was released by Life Saving Victoria and the Bass Coast Shire Council on Monday, December 9, 2019 in an Executive Summary (Project Stage 2).

Specifically, it says: "this report strongly recommends a Shire-wide uniform signage strategy".

"One key risk treatment strategy proposed for all sites is signage and this report strongly recommends a Shire-wide uniform signage strategy. Used on public land specific to aquatic recreation drowning and injury event minimisation; it should be implemented in a coordinated and consistent manner."

The recommendation says one way to ensure consistency is to implement signage using the AS/NZS 2416 standard for water safety signs and flags however this standard was withdrawn in 2021.

The report recommends that "the basis for all sign design, sizing and placement decisions should be based on a clear and concise communication objective" and urges all BCS land managers to "commit to a systematic monitoring and review process".

Mr Jolly doesn't believe this has occurred and he wants answers.

In fact, after sending a stream of emails to the relevant authorities, from mid-2019 onwards, copies of which he plans to supply to police and the coroner, Mr Jolly put a question to the Bass Coast Shire Council's September 18, 2019 council meeting, which was diverted away from the meeting as "general correspondence" and to which he never received a reply.

He asked if council had received the report, what the recommendations were and what action had been taken. He also asked if the report had been provided to the elected councillors and when it would be made public.

Little more than a month later, council released its executive summary and joint statement by council and Life Saving Victoria, which among other things noted that "Bass Coast Shire ranks the second highest Local Government Area in Victoria for fatal drowning events".



Emergency service personnel leave the beach at Forrest Caves last Wednesday evening, passing the small warning sign at the bottom of the walkway, after recovering the bodies of three of the four victims. A fourth victim was airlifted but later died in hospital.

It also acknowledged the need to standardise beach safety signage across the shire to meet the AS/NZS 2416 standard.

Mr Jolly said he had spoken to a number of councillors who claimed they had never seen the report, nor were they aware of any implementation measures.

This was confirmed over the weekend by the Mayor Cr Clare Le Serve and the Deputy Mayor Cr Rochelle Halstead.

Cr Le Serve said the council was working with Phillip Island Nature Parks, which has management responsibility for Forrest Caves, and with Parks Victoria and other agencies on ways to improve safety.

"Anything we can do to improve safety at our beaches is absolutely important," she said, promising to make it the first order of business for the new shire CEO, Greg Box, when he started his new role this Monday.

"Our community is deeply saddened and affected by the drownings in our region. Whilst we live in a beautiful region surrounded by beaches; this is sadly a tragic reminder of how dangerous the ocean can be," Cr Le Serve said in an official statement at the weekend.

However, the shire's own beach messaging is not consistent. While there's a "Swimming not advised, unpatrolled location" and "Strong Currents" advise at Kilcunda East, the site of a drowning on January 12, the shire's "Beach Safety" page on its website has the clear and concise message "No Flags = No Swim".

A spokesperson for Phillip Island Nature Parks told The Age that the authority would review warning signs at the beach, which already had a no-swimming symbol and met Australian standards.

"There are currently two large warning signs on the two entries to the Forrest Caves beach area," the spokesperson said.

"Nature Parks will work closely with Life Saving Victoria to review and refresh all signage and act if there is further advice to improve the safety of this beach."

General Manager of Life Saving Victoria, Liam Krige, joined Acting Assistant Commissioner Karen Nyholm at a media briefing at Forrest Caves beach last Thursday, the day after the mass drowning, and ahead of the long weekend.

While he praised the efforts



The 'General Warning' sign at Forrest Caves, including a small logo advising of 'Dangerous Current' with advice about the location of a patrolled beach at Woolamai Beach 4.5km away. The 'No Dogs Anytime Penalties apply' sign posted by Phillip Island Nature Parks, which manages the foreshore, is almost 50-times bigger than the 'Dangerous Current' warning.

of two off-duty lifeguards, who were among the first to respond, and the efforts of other surf lifesavers who joined what was a multi-agency effort, he indicated that more could be done to improve the signage.

"The majority of the signs meet Australian safety standards, but we could always do more," he said, while urging people to do their own research, including consulting the Surf Life Saving Australia Beachsafe website and app, and knowing their limits.

Unfortunately, according to Mr Jolly, the warning signs at the entrance to many of the "high hazard" beaches in Bass Coast are either inadequate or in a poor state of repair.

"Together with the impact on these poor families, this incident has had a profound impact on the emergency services people who responded and on the broader community of Phillip Island and Bass Coast," Mr Jolly said.

"The community is tremendously saddened by what has occurred and they want action.

"What have the authorities done about implementing the recommendations in this report, and why hasn't the full report been released, five years on?"

GoFundMe appeal launched for Forrest Caves' four

A CROWD-funding appeal has been launched on 'GoFundMe' for the families of the victims of last Wednesday's tragic drowning at Forrest Caves on Phillip Island.

They are Jagjeet Singh Anand, a 23-year-old Melbourne-based nurse, students Suhani Anand and Kirti Bedi, both 20-year-old women; and Reema Sondhi, a 43-year-old Indian national who was visiting family in Australia. The three younger victims lived at Clyde.

The appeal for funds is to pay for the repatriation of the deceased remains back to India and also to fulfill other family wishes.

"Many of you have heard the devastating news about the Phillip Island (Forrest Caves) beach tragedy, where we lost four precious lives. This fundraiser is to support the Anand, Sondhi and Bedi family during this incredibly difficult time.

"Reema (age 42), Shivam (age 23), Kriti (age 20), and Suhani (age 20) all tragically lost their lives in this event. Suhani fought bravely in the hospital but was ultimately unable to recover. This loss leaves a void for the families that can never be fully filled.

"We can help by raising funds to assist the family in fulfilling their wishes, whether it be transporting the remains back to India or supporting the cremation ceremony in Australia (the final decision is still being made by the close family).

"Reema had come to Australia for a holiday to visit her brother's family and was staying with them in Clyde. Sadly, she will never return to her two children who are in India.

"Shivam, a registered nurse with a heart of gold, saved many lives throughout his career but was unable to be saved when he needed it himself. Suhani and Kriti, both nursing students, had planned to stay home and focus on their studies, but life had other plans.

"In this time of immense grief, we can come together, not just in mourning, but in a tide of compassion that lifts their families above the depths of despair.

"Every contribution, however small, is a beacon of hope, a hand reaching out to steady those grappling with unimaginable loss. Let us honour their memory with kindness, with a collective show of strength that reflects the vibrant lives they led."

The appeal page is listed under the heading "Phillip Island Tragedy four lives lost where more than \$75,000 of the \$100,000 goal has already been raised. You can help at gofundme.com/f/phillip-island-tragedy-4-lives-lost-pls-help

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SOUTH GIPPSLAND



TUE | Jan 30

Partly cloudy.

Wind AM: Light
Wind PM: SW 15-20km/h

14° 22°



WED | Jan 31

Cloudy.

Wind AM: Light
Wind PM: SW 15-20km/h

13° 21°



THUR | Feb 1

Cloudy.

Wind AM: W-SW 15-25km/h
Wind PM: W 25-35km/h

14° 22°



FRI | Feb 2

Cloudy.

Wind AM: W 25-30km/h
Wind PM: SW 20-30km/h

15° 20°



SAT | Feb 3

Mostly sunny.

Wind AM: Light
Wind PM: Light

11° 24°



SUN | Feb 4

Partly cloudy.

Wind AM: NW-NE 15-25km/h
Wind PM: NW-SW 15-25km/h

13° 28°

IN BRIEF

Music Festival

Competition opportunity at Korumburra Show

LOCAL talent will be highlighted during the Korumburra Show when this year's Music Festival Competition takes place on the afternoon of Saturday February 10, with entries due by January 31.

\$550 is up for grabs for the winner of the Open Section, with \$200 for the runner-up and \$100 for third place.

Those in the junior sections are in the running for an encouragement award in the form of a \$50 voucher.

The event features an open section, as well as one for Under 12s and another for those Under 16.

"You can enter multiple sections but can't win more than one," competition organiser Shirley Cowling said of those young enough to enter junior sections.

Musicians across all genres are welcome, suggesting there will be a diverse offering for Korumburra Show attendees.

The Music Festival Competition runs from 12.30pm until approximately 4.30pm.

Contact Shirley on 0400 976 248 for information and to enter the competition.

The entry fee is \$10 for those aged 16 and over and \$5 for under 16s.

Otherwise you can enter by direct deposit using the details below.

Direct Deposit Details: Korumburra & District Agricultural/Pastoral Society Inc BSB: 063-515 (Commonwealth Bank) Account: 10141633

Please put your name as a reference otherwise we will not know whose payment it is.

People power puts the wheels in motion

THE Baw Baw shire council is forming the Baw Baw Cycling Project Reference Group (PRG), seeking passionate cyclists to provide valuable input into future cycling projects throughout the region.

PRG will collaborate closely with Council Officers to explore and identify opportunities for improved cycling facilities, ensuring that the future cycling landscape in Baw Baw is both inclusive and forward-thinking.

Applications are open now until 5pm on Wednesday, February 14, 2024. Interested parties can find the application form and further details at [bawbawconnect.com.au](#).

More free TAFE courses on offer for 2024

FOUR new courses in hospitality, youth work, kitchen management and tourism are now available through the Government's Free TAFE initiative, giving Victorians more opportunities to learn new

skills and grow their careers.

With enrolments now open, students can kickstart their careers or upskill to gain new experience or qualifications.

Free TAFE courses are available to all Victorians, regardless of their existing qualification level. The program allows thousands of students to enter an in-demand career without the worry of the cost of tuition fees. Students can also enrol in more than one Free TAFE course provided it's within the same priority pathway.

The Free TAFE program is helping Victorians get the skills they need for the job they want.

For the full list of Free TAFE courses visit: [vic.gov.au/free-tafe](#).

'Conditions' close Venus Bay beach

TWO days after the mass drowning event at Forrest Caves on Phillip Island, authorities at Venus Bay closed Number 1 Beach, the main beach for visitors, due to sea conditions at the beach.

Secretary of the Venus Bay Surf Lifesaving Club, Kristian Bradford-Clark, confirmed that the beach was closed all day on both Friday and Saturday due to the unsafe conditions in the water.

"We had a presence at the beach all day but no flags. To my knowledge no one went in swimming but if they did, we would have advised them the beach was closed."

It's not the first time Venus Bay has been closed due to wind and rips, but it has also been closed due to the risk of lightning strikes.

Throughout the book, readers will discover the meaning behind local street names with explanations backed by extensive research by Sam.

A book signing and a musical performance by Josh Hooke will also be part of the event.

Books will be available on the day for \$40.

To RSVP to part of the event, email [fay@destinationq.com.au](#).

Quiet quake off Waratah

AN EARTHQUAKE of magnitude 3.0 occurred last Thursday morning, January 25, at 3.43am, off the coast of Waratah Bay but few felt it.

"No, we didn't feel it and usually someone would have mentioned it," said a spokesperson for the Sandy Point General Store.

"But 3.0 magnitude is still quite a decent one, so I expect someone felt it."

It follows another one at Sandy Point last year, at 7.04.53pm on Monday, April 17.

Several people have since posted on Facebook that they felt a rubble, including someone from Sandringham!

So much happening at Coal Creek

COAL Creek Community Park and Museum is prepped and ready to host an exciting range of events in the coming weeks. Here is a taste of what is going on.

Summer Series

The Summer Series is an

evening of music for all ages. Each part of the Series brings its own unique line up of musical talent.

Series 1: Friday February 2, 5.30pm to 10pm.

Series 2: Friday February 16, 5.30pm to 10pm.

Series 3: Saturday March 2, 5.30pm to 10pm.

Summer Series 1 will see your ears treated to a night of Blues. From the gritty garage grooves of Jungle Jim Smith to the psychedelic blues of Nick Carver and the Mean Street Butchers, and throw in a walk down Ozone St, you know you'll be in for a night of mad, bad, Blues bliss!

Bring a picnic rug or chairs to join us at Coal Creek. You don't have to worry about the food, we have that sorted with everything from woodfired pizza to bao buns and snacks. We'll also have Burra Brewing Co and Gippsland Wine Company taking over the Pig & Whistle to offer alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages.

Charley Crockett

Yes, there is still more! Texan Cowboy Charley Crockett is coming to Coal Creek on Saturday February 10. With his neo-traditional country swagger, Charley will be joined by The Blue Drifters and is a must-watch for anyone who loves Western charm.

For tickets to any of these events, please visit the Coal Creek website and click 'Events': [coalcreekcommunityparkandmuseum.com](#)

Mine Café set to reopen

THE State Coal Mine Café is reopening with Parks Victoria Senior Manager, Victoria Purdie confirming the announcement on Monday.

"I'm pleased to say that we have now awarded a lease to operate the café at the State Coal Mine. The new operators are currently setting up the café and will be ready to welcome customers again in the coming weeks."

"We understand the importance of the State Coal Mine to the community and visitors, and are excited to see the café opening soon."

\$3.5 billion not \$350B

IN LAST Tuesday's edition of the Sentinel-Times, we got our mathematics a bit out when we claimed an additional 5000 houses would mean a \$350 billion investment in Wonthaggi.

In fact, if you multiply the cost of a new house and land package at the moment, of between \$650,000 to \$700,000 by 5000 you get slightly less; a total investment figure of between \$3.25B and \$3.5B. But still substantial, right?

Where big numbers are concerned, we'll stick to buying a ticket in Powerball in future. Good luck!



Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM) Caroline Talbot

Community service a pleasure for Caroline Talbot OAM

The former Bass Coast Shire Citizen of the Year, Newhaven's Caroline Talbot has now earned the gratitude of a nation with an OAM on Australia Day.

WHEN Caroline Talbot (nee Fernie) arrived in Australia on board the Largs Bay passenger cargo ship from Scotland, at age 7, she recalls feeling that she had become an Australian as soon as her feet hit the ground in her new country.

She consciously modified her accent, to gain ready acceptance at school, and never looked back.

The rest, as they say, is history, with her brilliant career in the service of her adopted country earning the Newhaven resident a Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM) honour in the General Division in this year's Australia Day awards list.

"I'm naturalised now of course but I've never really thought of myself as anything other than Australian," said Caroline this week.

"But yes, I remember it well," she said of the family decision to go to Australia and the six-week ocean voyage, on the cargo-passenger ship the Largs Bay, through the Suez, by Malta to Egypt, Colombo in Ceylon, then Fremantle and finally Melbourne.

"It was like a holiday. But I hadn't thought too much about it until I went to the Immigration Museum a couple of years ago and they had a ship's cabin set up from the same era and it just transported me back.

"Mum and dad had lived through the war in Scotland and dad worked on developing Rolls Royce jet engines."

The family lived in Paisley, an outer suburb of Glasgow, just six miles from the Rolls Royce factory in Hillington.

Archie Fernie, an aircraft engineer, together with his wife Betty, had been recruited by the Commonwealth Aircraft Corporation at Fishermen's Bend and with his three children; Caroline 7, Doug 5 and Gordon 3 made the big move to Australia in the early 1950s.

"He was coming to a job, which made it a lot easier, and they loved being in Australia from the outset, so did we."

They settled in Montmorency, which was a pretty quiet place in those days, but Caroline joined the Guides, where she was introduced to community service, and it became a way of life.

"One of the first things I did with the Guides was work at a Children's Home at Diamond Creek. I loved it."

As well as introducing her to the mutual benefit of community service, the Guides provided the perfect entrée to her new country with new friends, the opportunity to explore on camps and at jamborees and all the fun that comes with it.

After school, Caroline found a good job with prominent Melbourne retailer Buckley and Nunn, in the clerical department, and got busy as a Guide leader, and also at night school to improve her administration skills.

As well as a home in

Melbourne, the Fernies had a holiday house at Phillip Island where Caroline's father indulged his main passion, for sailing, by joining the Newhaven Yacht Club.

As luck would have it, Bruce Talbot, a local professional fisherman, was also a member. Caroline and Bruce met and married in 1968, moved to the Island, with sons Darren (1969) and Chris (1973) arriving in short order.

"Honestly, it wasn't that easy moving here for me. I was so busy in Melbourne, and it just seemed so quiet down here."

But Caroline got involved in the yacht club, at the time they were building the marina. She joined the Cubs at Bass, as a leader, and when there was no Cub pack at Newhaven, she started one.

She also joined the kinder committee and followed her kids to the Newhaven Primary School and on to the Wonthaggi Tech and Wonthaggi High School where she also served long spells on the two school councils.

"The best way to get to know people was get out there and get involved. And it's absolutely true what they say, you get so much more out of volunteering than you ever put in."

Now it's an OAM on Australia Day. How does that feel?

"It's a bit emotional really," says Caroline.

For more of Caroline's accomplishments and to read the full story visit sgst.com.au



From dairy paddocks, citizen of the year to an OAM

Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM) George Bird

Lamers stated on Friday.

A charter member of the Wonthaggi Lions Club, joining in 1961, has seen Mr Bird hold various positions over the years, including president, vice-president, and treasurer. He is also a life member of the club, and has received several awards for his dedication and leadership. In addition, he served as the district governor and vice-district governor of Lions District 201V3 in the late 1970s and early 1980s.

Sue could not be prouder of her father's achievements with Mr Bird also a foundation member of the Lance Creek Tennis Club and the Wonthaggi Orchid Society, both of which he still actively supports.

In a long list of voluntary accomplishments George was also recognised as a former board member of the Wonthaggi Anglican Church, and a member of the United Grand Lodge of Freemasons of Victoria since 1957. His contributions to the community have been recognised by various institutions and authorities over the years with George named the co-citizen of the year by the Bass Coast City Council in 2009-10, and an honorary member of the Rotary Club of Wonthaggi in 2011-12.

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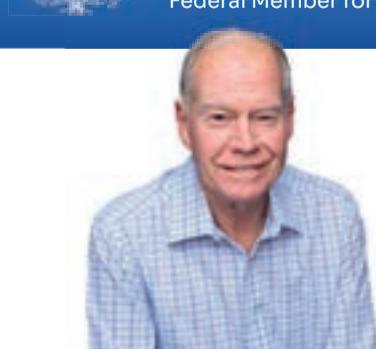
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Mayor's Message



Cr Clare
Le Serve

LAST Friday for Australia Day, I personally welcomed nearly 20 new Australian citizens into the region. We discussed what it means to be Australian – to lend a hand, to give things a go, to be a friend. This citizenship ceremony was one of many Australia Day events across the Bass Coast. It was an honour to welcome in so many new people from all parts of the world who are committed to displaying the values of 'being an Aussie'.

Recent events on our beaches have touched us all and I know that our community is deeply saddened and affected by recent drownings in our region.

Whilst we live in a beautiful region surrounded by beaches; this is sadly a tragic reminder of how dangerous the ocean can be. Not only do I extend my deepest condolences to the families and friends of the victims – but I know the impact these events have had on people and I extend my thoughts and sincerest thanks to the first responders and other beachgoers who tried to save these victims in a major multi-agency operation. These sorts of events affect us all. Please make sure you reach out to friends or family or your doctor if you're feeling negatively impacted by these tragic circumstances.

As always, we encourage all beach users to assess the environment and take precautions to prevent tragedy by swimming on patrolled beaches, checking signs and swimming between the flags. If you are unsure about conditions on a beach; do not swim there. I beg people to please only swim on patrolled beaches where there are lifeguards.

We want everyone who comes to enjoy our beaches to go home safely.

This week, most children will be going back to school and we will all be going back into our normal routines - with the leftover memories of the holidays. I want to thank all the amazing businesses and residents who have welcomed so many people over the holidays. We have had significant tourism and entertainment for our families to enjoy. From festivals to fun fairs; music and events; many cruise ships and of course a great range of shops trading over this time – there's been plenty to do for everyone in the area.

This week at Bass Coast Shire Council, we proudly bring in our new CEO Greg Box who we are looking forward to working with. Greg is a visionary by nature and I know that many people have worked with him already on some projects in the region. On behalf of all Councillors, I would like to congratulate Jodi Kennedy on her stewardship and leadership while in the Acting CEO position.

Our warmest wishes and congratulations to the following Australia Day Citizen Award recipients who were given Medal of the Order of Australia awards: George Bird, Caroline Talbot and Jan Child. What an honour for your incredible work, much deserved!



Eighteen new Australians spoke the oath of allegiance and were presented with their Australian Citizenship at a ceremony in Wonthaggi on Australia Day.

18 new citizens welcomed on Australia Day in Bass Coast



Bass Coast's youngest new citizen, Maya Jun Cui Parvez, with her mother Jun Cui, received a special keepsake at the citizenship ceremony in Wonthaggi last Friday from Deputy Mayor Cr Rochelle Halstead.



Jane and Tony Arnett of Corinella, who came to Australia from Birmingham in England 18 years ago with their three children, were presented with their Australian citizenship by Bass Coast Mayor Cr Clare Le Serve last Friday.

THE centrepiece of Australia Day celebrations in the Bass Coast Shire, on Friday, January 26, was the ceremony in Wonthaggi where the community welcomed 18 new Australian citizens.

It was a joyful occasion for the families and friends of the 18, hosted by Bass Coast Mayor Cr Clare Le Serve, with two Members of Parliament, Melina Bath MLC and Renee Heath MLC in attendance, and also with the Deputy Mayor Cr Rochelle Halstead and Cr Geoff Ellis present when the new Australians each pledged allegiance to their new country.

"From this time forward," they said, "I pledge my loyalty to Australia and its people, whose democratic beliefs I share, whose rights and liberties I respect, and whose laws I will uphold and obey."

Eastern Victoria Province MP Melina Bath stressed the importance of the rights and responsibilities of being an Australian, acknowledging while some had already been residents here for a long time, all should find a way "to embrace your new country" by contributing their talents and enriching the culture and one of the best ways to do that was by volunteering.

It was a theme picked up by 2023 Bass Coast Environment and Sustainability Award winner, Paul Speirs, a Landcare leader who said the community-based movement could always

use plenty more helpers.

"I love Bass Coast and I love being involved. Getting to vote is not the end of democracy. I feel as a citizen that I can make a difference and we have 100s of volunteers prepared to turn up one weekend to start planting and to come back the next weekend to complete the job."

He stressed 'Bass Coast' wasn't just about the beach, that the hinterland needed some love and support from the community as well and Landcare, including its Intrepid Landcare arm for Under 35s, was a great way to get involved.

But, without doubt, there was an obvious highlight when the face of the youngest new citizen, Maya Jun Cui Parvez, lit up as she was presented with a big, fluffy penguin keepsake by Cr Halstead, together with her citizenship certificate by Mayor Clare Le Serve.

Everyone else received a native plant and a book, as well as a framed copy of their Australian Citizenship Certificate.

People from New Zealand, China, Papua and New Guinea, Bangladesh, Europe and the UK were among the recipients, and it was smiles and applause all round at the end, followed by a rousing chorus of 'Advance Australia Fair'.

A meaningful presentation by the Bunurong Land Council Aboriginal Corporation, reinforcing the care for country message opened proceedings.



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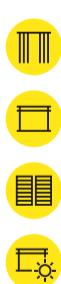
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Tax cuts made by government to put \$800 in some pockets

THE COST of living crises has been pulled into sharp focus by the Prime Minister, as he called MPs back two weeks early for a caucus meeting last week.

The government considered advice from their finance and treasury departments on how they can ease financial pressure and 'put cash back into the pockets of those doing it tough.'

Previous strategies put in place in an effort to try and ease the cost of living, include energy rebates and free childcare, and the current inquiries into supermarket prices are potentially looking to put downward pressure on prices at the checkout.

While in an interview with Sky News last week, Prime Minister Anthony Albanese initially suggested changes may be made to Medicare, medicines, childcare and supermarket prices to help alleviate financial burden, it was changes to the stage three tax cuts, that got the go ahead.

The tax cuts will see an extra \$800 go into the pockets for those on low and middle incomes, while those earning over \$150,000 will see less tax cuts than originally planned.

For those struggling, particularly those on low incomes or Centrelink payments who cannot afford basic necessities, the tax cuts are negligible, at best.

Jessica Harrison from Australian Unemployed Workers Union (Wonthaggi representative) said meaningful change is needed and this would constitute increasing Centrelink payments to come in line, at least, with the Henderson poverty line.



Jessica Harrison (right) is concerned as people are having to choose between a roof over their head and eating. Jessica and Beth (left) are part of Housing Matters Bass Coast.

"At the moment, people on the basic job seeker payments have to choose between having a rental property or other accommodation, or eating, they can't do both," Jessica said.

Figures show that the main unemployment payment, the JobSeeker allowance, is \$375 a week for a single person with no children, \$227 below the poverty line.

While the median rent for a two bedroom unit in Wonthaggi is \$355.

"The use of charity food banks and church provided food parcels has skyrocketed and that is how people are surviving. Maybe all their welfare payment goes towards paying the rent, then they have to try and work out ways they can eat and pay the bills. That's why those

basic changes have to be made," said Jessica.

According to the PM, easing the cost of living without increasing inflation and driving interest rates up once again is a balancing act and the tax cuts were the perceived solution to this.

Inflation dropped to 4.3 per cent in November from 4.9 per cent, according to the from the Australian Bureau of Statistics, which will likely see interest rates kept on hold for February, but no less financial pressure for most.

For people who are experiencing problems with their Centrelink payments, the Australian Unemployed Workers Union can be contacted Monday to Friday from 10am to 2pm on 1800 289 848.



Former Wonthaggi Borough Mayor, the late Cr Brian O'Garey, wearing his chain of office during the visit to Wonthaggi by the former Australian Prime Minister Bob Hawke.

Fears Mayor's chain of office stolen

A SOURCE within the Bass Coast Shire Council has revealed that a central part of the shire's mayoral regalia, the historic, gold chain of office, has been lost, believed stolen.

It is believed the ceremonial chain is worth in excess of \$50,000, a fact that has been confirmed by a former Mayor of the Borough of Wonthaggi Alan Brown.

"I had the honour of wearing that chain, during three consecutive terms as mayor and it was only taken out of the safe on special occasions and put back again," Mr Brown said.

"If it has been misplaced, it must have been stolen because it's not something that was ever left lying around on a desk or in an office.

"The chain was manufactured by Blashki & Sons of Rowville, I believe, and each time someone was elected mayor, an additional link

was added to the chain with the person's name and term of office.

"Those links were solid gold.

"Quite apart from the monetary value, the piece has great historic and cultural significance, and it would be a shame if it has been lost."

It could be more than two decades since the chain of office was last worn. Former Bass Coast Mayor, Cr Peter Paul, doesn't remember ever seeing the chain from when he joined the council in 2007. Brian O'Garey was Mayor of the Borough of Wonthaggi back in the 1980s.

What happened to the chain after the amalgamation of local municipalities, including the Shire of Bass, Borough of Wonthaggi and Shire of Phillip Island in December 1994, is unknown.

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Award-winning free heart health checks a success

IN JANUARY, Latrobe Health Services provided over 400 free heart tests to residents and visitors in Inverloch, Wonthaggi and Cape Paterson.

The 15-minute heart tests were completed by a trained clinician to check key heart health indicators including blood pressure, heart rate, body composition, diabetes risk, and non-fasting cholesterol levels.

Latrobe Health Services CEO, Ian Whitehead, said that research has shown that regional communities have some of the poorest cardiovascular health outcomes in Australia.

"We've now conducted more than 2500 heart health checks across regional Victoria," said Mr Whitehead.

"We were at capacity checks at all our pop ups. The community loved the convenience of having these checks at events and shopping centres".

"Like all our heart checks, results at the events were provided to participants immediately following the test. The clinician provided key insights on the results, advice on how to keep their heart healthy, and informed participants on how to follow up with their GP if further action is required," Mr Whitehead said.

Latrobe Health's free heart health checks initiative has seen some astounding results so far.

SiSU Health has reported

that 29.7 per cent of participants have recorded high blood pressure, triggering 683 patients to be referred to their GP for a follow up appointment.

Other results from the heart health checks have shown that 71.8 per cent of participants were overweight, 6.3 per cent are predicted to develop Type 2 Diabetes in the next five years, and 37 per cent of participants had not received a blood pressure check in the previous 12 months.

Additional free heart tests to detect preventable underlying heart conditions are rolling out across the country – that's thanks to a new partnership with private health insurer Latrobe Health Services, Wesfarmers, SiSU Health and the Shane Warne Legacy Trust.

For more information about Latrobe Health Services free heart health checks visit latrobehealth.com.au/healthy-hearts.

To review your private health insurance cover or for new cover enquiries call Latrobe Health Services on 1300 362 144 or visit latrobehealth.com.au.

If you're interested in our health checks coming to your workplace or community event, please contact marketing@lhs.com.au

Should you have any concerns about your heart health or any other health concerns, please seek the advice of your trusted healthcare professional.

The Big Red Kidney Bus is in the Bass Coast

THE BIG Red Kidney Bus has been parked at the Wonthaggi Hospital for the past two weeks and is giving dialysis patients the chance to holiday on the Bass Coast.

The bus, named Suzie, travels to holiday destinations around Victoria, stopping for four to six weeks at a time giving renal patients who are normally on strict dialysis schedules the opportunity to vacation while still receiving vital treatment.

Across Victoria and Australia, most dialysis units are usually fully booked, making it nearly impossible for patients to holiday in a different area or to see family in another state.

Professor Peter Kerr, a Nephrologist from Monash Hospital said the number of people needing dialysis has increased over the years, making the bus a real boon for patients wanting to get away.

"At Monash alone we've grown by a total of 130 patients over the last three or four years. So, where we used to run about five or six hundred patients, we're now up to 750 patients."

The bus has been running for twelve years by Monash Health together with Kidney Health Australia and has a destination schedule a year in advance, so patients can decide where to go and can book in for a single session or for the full four or six weeks.

John Gahan is from Buelah in the Southern Mallee and has taken the opportunity to use the service for a month while he and his wife stay in Wonthaggi and check out the surrounding area.

They have been across to Phillip



John Gaha, from Buelah is using the Big Red Kidney Bus service in Wonthaggi so he can take a holiday with his wife and check out the Bass Coast, pictured with registered nurse Stacey Neill-Andrews. ob01_0524

Island and visited the beaches of Inverloch, and although John hasn't been impressed with the weather, he doesn't mind it being on the cooler side as he's originally from England.

He is very grateful that the bus gives him the chance to see new places and new faces and to take a break from the monotonous dialysis schedule in his hometown.

Stacey Neill-Andrews is a Registered Nurse working on the bus at Wonthaggi who commented that it's a great place to work as the patients are always happy to be there.

It also gives carers the chance to meet and form an informal support network as they often end up at the

same places because of the service.

"The patients are just really thankful that we can provide this for them, otherwise they just wouldn't have the opportunity. A lot of them are retired, they've retired, then got renal failure and then they've basically got a part time job," said Stacey.

That part time job is being hooked up to a dialysis machine three times a week for five hours each day.

At the end of each stay on the bus, patients are asked about the destinations they would like to visit; these destinations are considered and organised where possible, giving patients the chance to discover great destinations around Victoria.



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New officer making health culturally safe

NEW Gippsland Southern Health Service Aboriginal liaison officer Sonia Weston wants local Aboriginal people to feel comfortable using their local hospital.

Ms Weston's new role, shared with South Gippsland Hospital at Foster, is designed to make the health services more culturally safe for Aboriginal people to access.

As someone who previously travelled out of the area to access an Aboriginal health service, Ms Weston is well placed to help the community.

"Members of our local Aboriginal community aren't accessing local services and are instead going outside the region to go to Aboriginal health services," she said.

"I was one of them - I used to go to the service in Fitzroy. They want it to feel culturally safe and it's also generational stemming back to the Stolen Generation and we're trying to overcome that."

"People will know that I've been in the same boat and struggled to access services and hopefully they can benefit from that."

Ms Weston said she was attracted to the job to try to help others.

"I wanted to be able to make the service more accessible for our mob," she said.

She is already making a



Sonia Weston has joined the Gippsland Southern Health Service and South Gippsland Hospital teams as the first Aboriginal Liaison Officer.

mark.

"Because it's a new position, there has been a lot of networking to get it started, including connecting with other Aboriginal liaison officers at other hospitals including Latrobe, Warragul and Bass Coast," Ms Weston said.

Ms Weston recently conducted a welcome ceremony at Hillside Lodge where two residents are from the Stolen Generation, and she has introduced a possum skin cloak to be given to Aboriginal children born at the health services.

The welcome ceremony was an emotional time.

"One of the residents cried because he felt so overwhelmed by being recognised for who he is. It makes a big change for him to have a cultural connection," Ms Weston said.

"We also heard stories from non-Indigenous residents who didn't know much about Indigenous people when they were young. They really embraced it and it's very rewarding for me."

Before taking this role, Ms Weston worked in cultural heritage and community engagement and had earlier managed an Aboriginal

health service.

GSHS CEO Lou Sparkes said the position was funded as part of the health service's Aboriginal Cultural Safety program to help First Nations people to feel safe in accessing local health services.

"We are aiming to connect with our First Nations groups because we know their health outcomes are poor and they often don't seek treatment because they are scared to come to hospital, a lot of which is connected to what happened in the past, particularly those from the Stolen Generation," Ms Sparkes said.

The role also involves supporting GSHS staff to understand why it's important to have a welcoming environment for Aboriginal people.

"Sonia will often sit in the staff team room and yarn about how First Nations people see things and what the barriers might be, which helps with our staff education and understanding about what supports them to access services and feel safe," Ms Sparkes said.

Ms Weston is GSHS's first Aboriginal Liaison Officer. Ms Sparkes added that GSHS was sharing the role with South Gippsland Hospital to ensure Aboriginal people across the region feel safe accessing services in both health services in South Gippsland.

Gippsland secures funding for safer workplaces

GIPPSLAND Women's Health has been congratulated on their funding success for a unique program that aims to reduce gendered violence and sexual harassment in local government workplaces.

Chair of One Gippsland Cr Ian Bye said, "We are thrilled with the successful outcome of this funding application and the opportunity to work with Gippsland Women's Health, TAFE Gippsland, Federation University and Gippsland Centre Against Sexual Assault to eliminate gendered violence and sexual harassment across all six Gippsland councils."

The project aims to build the capacity of local government to respond in the workplace, and to prevent violence before it occurs.

"Unfortunately, local government entities in Gippsland have advised the Gender Equality Commission that up to nine per cent of their employees have informally reported sexual harassment in the workplace," Cr Bye explained.

"We need to do better to create safer and more respectful workplace for everyone, and in turn a healthier community."

"Preventing gendered violence in the workplace is achieved through systemic change. This change begins with the support and acknowledgment from the State Government, and through the commitment of Local Government leadership to act. We are excited to continue our work and scale up our efforts with local councils in ending gendered violence, which continues to impact our region year on year," said CEO of Gippsland Women's Health, Kate Graham.

Gippsland has some of the highest rates of gendered and family violence in Victoria, with three local government areas ranking in the top four LGA's in Victoria for family violence reporting, indicating a culture of violence against women that often filters through into the workplace.

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PARCELS

BOOKINGS



South Gippsland
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South Gippsland Shire Council News

The Future of Coal Creek

The future of Coal Creek Community Park and Museum is now up for discussion!

At the final Council meeting for 2023, the Coal Creek Discussion Paper was endorsed for community feedback.

The Discussion Paper outlines the Parks current situation, including key issues, strategic planning and proposes potential options for the future to get the conversation started.

South Gippsland Shire Council encourages residents, visitors and stakeholders to share thoughtful feedback about what is currently working well at the Park, areas for improvement and a direction for its future.

To provide in-person feedback, Council will

be holding pop-ups at the following events:

- Friday 2 February (12 noon to 3.00pm) – Leongatha (near Memorial Hall)
- Friday 2 February (5.30pm to 8.30pm) – Korumburra (Coal Creek)
- Saturday 17 February (9.00am to 12 noon) – Foster (Prom Country Farmers' Market)
- Saturday 24 February (9.00am to 12 noon) – Mirboo North (Mirboo North Market)

To read the discussion paper and contribute to the survey online, please visit:

yoursay.southgippsland.vic.gov.au

Feedback will be accepted until 31 March 2024.

50 Years of Coal Creek Exhibition Opportunity



Attention all artists and artist collectives!

As part of the 50-year anniversary celebrations happening at Coal Creek Community Park and Museum, we are inviting artists to respond to the theme of 'What will South Gippsland or the World look like in 50 years?'

The opportunity will not only showcase your work to an array of residents and visitors alike, but also provide a chance to be selected for the People's Choice Award.

The work/object with the most votes will give its maker/s a membership or renewal to an arts organisation or network up to the value of \$300.

To find further details of this rare arts opportunity and make a submission, head to: www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/coalcreek50

Hurry! Expressions of Interest close Wednesday 14 February.

COUNCIL MEETINGS

Wednesday 21 February 2.00pm
(Council Chambers, Leongatha)

Dates are also listed on Council's website at:

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

Please contact the Governance Team for questions about Council Meetings

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

IMPOUNDING OF VEHICLES

Council impounded the following vehicles in accordance with Schedule 11 of the *Local Government Act 1989*.

Boat & Home-made Boat Trailer picked up from Inverloch-Venus Bay Road, Tarwin Lower (1 November 2023).

Colour: Black

Year: Unknown

Holden Sedan picked up from Stanley Street, Toora (13 October 2023).

Colour: Maroon

Year: 1999

Registration Number: N/A

Engine Number: 6H8VTL69HXL483050

Unless the vehicles are collected and relevant fees paid within 14 days of the date of this notice, the vehicles will be offered for sale to the public.

For enquiries, please contact Council's Community Safety team on 5662 9200 during office hours.

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

CONTACT US

9 Smith Street, Leongatha

03 5662 9200

www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au

Council trio take a tour

THE COMMUNITIES of Port Welshpool, Welshpool, Foster and Yanakie had the chance to catch up with South Gippsland Shire Councillors last week when they took to the road.

Cr Clare Williams, Cr Scott Rae and Cr Sarah Gilligan's first stop was the Port Welshpool Old Ferry Terminal.

Following this, the trio took a spin to look at landslips and the damage caused by heavy rains and flooding before making a stop the Welshpool Pub to replenish.

Foster Library was next followed by Lance Moon Park, Yanakie and then Gurneys' Cidery in Foster.

The overwhelming issue that community members and business owners raised was that of poor drainage – and the subsequent impact on all infrastructure in the area.

The flooding of roads due to poor drainage is damaging and eroding them at a rate faster than they can be fixed, creating dangerous driving conditions.

Damage from heavy downpours is creating hazardous walkways and paths for people in towns.

The rail trail, a great tourist attraction has also been damaged in places, leading to it becoming almost unusable.

Poor drainage in towns themselves are a major issue and as we saw in December, flash flooding in Toora and Welshpool caused major damage and costs to businesses and homes.

Cr Gilligan mentioned that while the rain is brilliant for agriculture and creates some of the best farming conditions in Australia, the infrastructure is not coping with the demand that heavy downpours bring or the demand created by heavy haulage or freight trucks, leading to a perfect storm of drainage issues.

In the meantime, Cr Gilligan commented that the whole coast of South Gippsland requires Coastal Hazard mapping, the likes of which have been undertaken between Venus Bay and Cape Liptrap, to plan for the future.

Community plans will be updated and a streamlined, localised emergency response plan created.

This plan will include and draw on surrounding emergency services, with each community feeding into one plan, to produce a well-oiled emergency response strategy for future disasters.

Other requests made by locals include a new public toilet block for the Long Jetty in Port Welshpool along with more bins to cater to greater numbers of tourists (and their rubbish) coming to the area.

Issues experienced by members of community groups that use buildings on state land but have had council funding and need approval from ParksVic, struggle to navigate this complicated territory, and council plans to details and streamline this process for clarity and ease going forward.

The trio wrapped up their day at Gurneys Cider and in support of the local business carried brown bags of tinkling bottles away, and importantly, with a greater understanding of what our communities need.



Friends of Coal Creek's (FOCC) Janet and Roger Powell are encouraging people to provide constructive ideas on the attraction's future at a February 5 meeting which FOCC president Roger will chair. A19_0524

Friends of Coal Creek calls community meeting

By Andrew Paloczi

FRIENDS of Coal Creek (FOCC) want to hear people's views on the attraction's future and has organised a meeting on Monday February 5 at the site to gather everyone's input and ensure its submission to council on the subject reflects community wishes.

FOCC president Roger Powell believes it would be an 'awful shame' to lose Coal Creek Community Park and Museum given its tourism potential and proximity to an expanding Melbourne.

However, he stressed that will happen if people don't take an interest during the current consultation period and share their ideas for Coal Creek's future with South Gippsland Shire Council by the end of March.

FOCC acknowledges Coal Creek can't continue to run as it has been, agreeing the facility is "at a crossroads", as stated in council's Coal Creek Discussion Paper.

That paper outlines three key proposals for Coal Creek, being to rejuvenate it, pursue a new direction, or close it.

"We support this process council is putting forward to engage people about what Coal Creek needs to have as a future," Roger said.

He added that FOCC will do its utmost to encourage community members to become engaged in the process so they understand the issues involved and can help identify solutions.

"The status quo is not achieving anything, and it's being run on the smell of an oily rag," Roger said of Coal Creek, stressing FOCC realises council is bound by financial constraints.

He pointed out there are 60 plus buildings, three of which are heritage-listed, and that Coal Creek has museum status and a vast collection of pioneer items, but is currently maintained on a budget of just \$840,000 a year.

Roger said there has always been a lack of continuous funding to maintain Coal Creek.

"We've got to work out how we get that funding to be more permanent

and more sustainable," he said.

Roger will chair the upcoming FOCC public meeting, explaining its purpose is not to dwell on what has happened at Coal Creek previously but rather to discuss its future.

"We've got to find a way through to get a sustainable future for what we see as an icon for South Gippsland and a gateway for the tourist industry here," the FOCC president said, emphasising Coal Creek's importance in holding events and bringing people together.

Roger expressed his appreciation that council has made Coal Creek available for what is expected to be a well-attended gathering.

Those keen to have their say on the attraction's future are encouraged to read the Coal Creek Discussion Paper at yoursay.southgippsland.vic.gov.au or to view it at council's Leongatha office before providing their feedback.

The FOCC meeting at Coal Creek commences at 5pm on Monday February 5.

Mayor's Message



Cr Clare Williams

HELLO South Gippsland.

After a break over Christmas and the New Year, Councillors will be back to briefings and meetings this week. While it has been great to have a break to reconnect with family and friends, we all look forward to another year of conversations and progress in South Gippsland.

Something that has been a key focus of this Councillor group has been listening and responding on behalf of our community. Councillors Rae, Gilligan and myself took the opportunity to reconnect with some of our Coastal Promontory Ward community, venturing down to Port Welshpool, Foster and Yanakie. We also travelled around looking at landslips and the effects that recent wild weather has had on our landscape and towns. These opportunities are truly priceless and allow us to better represent the views of our community. Thank you to everyone who came along and spoke with us.

Councillors joined our community in celebrating Australia Day. With 12 events happening across our beautiful Shire, there was certainly plenty to choose from.

Events such as these don't happen without the hard work of many volunteers who not only organise the events, but cook the food and make sure everyone is having a great time. Where would we be without our volunteers?!

Events

Are you a music lover who is looking for an event to sing the night away at? Look no further than the Summer Series or Charley Crockett. Both of these are being held at Coal Creek and are sure to be a feast for the ears.

To view all the events happening around South Gippsland, please visit: <https://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.

Community Engagement

The Coal Creek Community Park and Museum engagement is off and running, with a pop-up event being held in Tarwin Lower on Australia Day. There are other pop-up events scheduled across the Shire:

- February 2, 12 noon to 3pm: Near Memorial Hall, Leongatha.
- February 2, 5.30pm to 8.30pm: Coal Creek, Korumburra.
- February 17, 9am to 12 noon: Prom Country Farmers Market, Foster.
- February 24, 9am to 12 noon: Mirboo North Market.

There is also an online survey and a spot to upload a written submission on Council's Your Say South Gippsland platform.

To view any current or past engagements run by Council, please visit: <https://yoursay.southgippsland.vic.gov.au>

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For further information please contact Wendy 0408 721 949 or Sandra 0419 132 860 or email: rescuestationarts@gmail.com



The brand new Karmai Kinder has opened in Korumburra with Jamie Hutchison President KCCC and Grant Newman, Victorian School Building Authority cutting the ribbon to herald the opening. Between them is Deb Ellams KCCC, Tim O'Grady from Fleetwood, Peewee Lewis KCCC, Pule Seane Manager Kinder Infrastructure Delivery, Peter Cook from SGSC, and Chloe Townley KCCC. ob03_0524

Brand new kinder for Korumburra kids

THE CUTTING of the ribbon at the brand new Karmai Childrens Community Centre Kinder was followed by cheers and clapping from the team who've spent the past twelve months working on the project.

The new, purpose designed and built facility has been constructed on the corner of the Korumburra Primary school grounds.

Two separate, large, light filled playrooms with adjoining meeting rooms, kitchen, landscaped gardens, and a playground with all abilities access, complete the kinder.

The KCCC Kinder program caters to four and five year olds and has been operating from an old

building on the Korumburra Primary school grounds for the last few years.

The new site will allow provision for greater numbers of children to attend, holding up to two groups of 33 children each, creating an additional twenty places.

The final touches are being added to the site including furniture, a gazebo, playground, and landscaping, readying it for the first day of kinder on Monday, February 5.

The KCCC team commented that having the new centre so close to other Korumburra schools and childcare centres has helped to form an education like precinct for

Korumburra and makes it easier for families.

"Just having it on the site of the school, is obviously a massive advantage for parents that have got kids at the primary school, they'll just drive through, drop the kinder kids off, drop the school kids. It's just seamless," said Peewee Lewis, Secretary of KCCC.

"It's also fantastic for the little ones that have got older siblings. They can literally watch their siblings playing out in the school grounds."

Despite being a difficult site to build and landscape due to its sloping nature, Jamie Hutchison President of KCCC said the team, which included the primary

school, builders, landscapers and SGSC, met fortnightly for over a year and worked together extremely well, making it a smooth process.

"The school gave up their netball court for our car park and they've been so accommodating for the construction work. They've been amazing to deal with and even the builder commented that this has been one of the simplest sites, because of how well everyone's worked together," she said.

The KCCC team commented that the new kinder heralds a positive and vibrant start to 2024 and the educators are excited to welcome children to the new site for the year ahead.

Slow down for School zones

WITH the summer holidays at an end and school children right across the state returning to their classrooms, The Nationals Member for Gippsland South Danny O'Brien is reminding motorists that school speed zones are back in force.

Mr O'Brien highlighted that the reduced speed limits are enacted around schools between 8am - 9.30am and 2.30pm - 4pm every weekday during Victorian school terms, except for public holidays.

"With the increase in foot and road traffic that comes with the morning pick-up and drop-off it's crucial that motorists slow down and be alert around schools," Mr O'Brien said.

"While we all do our best to educate our children around road safety practices, the excitement of starting school or seeing friends after several weeks can easily lead to distractions and mistakes.

"Reducing your speed is a small action you can take to reduce risk and help keep our children safe.

According to research conducted at the Queensland University for Technology*, a car travelling at 50km/h will typically require 36 metres to stop, while a car travelling at 40km/h will stop in 27 metres while also significantly reducing the risk of death if a pedestrian is struck.

Mr O'Brien said while five or 10km/h might not seem like a huge deal, it was clear that reducing speed reduces risk.

"Save yourself the fine and maybe even a life by slowing down and ensuring you are travelling at a speed that will allow you to stop suddenly if needed."

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Yvonne Morrison feeding 10-month-old Skyla.

High honour for Yvonne

YVONNE Morrison was honoured to receive a Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM) for her services to equestrian sport.

Born into a local equestrian family, Yvonne grew up with a love and respect for horses.

In the 1850s, her ancestor George Watson brought hounds from Northern Ireland and developed the Melbourne Hunt Club.

He was later an influential figure in the Victorian Racing Club.

Yvonne was born in Leongatha and grew up in Middle Tarwin.

Her father was a life member of the Leongatha Show Society and Yvonne began riding in the shows at just four years old.

At age six, she started riding her horse to school with her siblings – five kilometres there and back.

Later, they became part of the Berrys Creek Pony Club.

Her mother became a life member and Yvonne would follow in those footsteps.

Yvonne is an active rider and has been a coach for many years, a role she has enjoyed.

"I enjoy helping people look after their horses and take pleasure in helping them develop a relationship," she said.

Yvonne has coached in Olympic disciplines and horsemanship, as well as at Pony Clubs around Victoria.

Yvonne is still coaching, as well as taking on roles such as volunteer judge of State Pony Club Championship competitions, and team manager and coach of Pony Club of Australia and Equestrian Victoria.

She has been a course builder and a level three steward for dressage

Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM) Yvonne Morrison

and show jumping, ensuring riders respect the rules of competition and their fellow competitors.

Out at Yancowinna in Cape Paterson, Yvonne was a former organiser of the One Day Event Horse Trials.

A world class facility was provided for riders to demonstrate their skills and qualify to compete internationally.

When the property was sold, the trials were moved to the middle of the racecourse at Stony Creek.

Yvonne is also a volunteer for the Melbourne International Three Day Event in June.

This is a level three qualification event, which will see riders qualify for the Olympics.

Another highlight was being an official at the 2000 Sydney Olympics.

"It was of hard work over 21 days – it was a lot of commitment, but I really enjoyed the experience," Yvonne said.

The amazing experiences for Yvonne continued as she worked as an Equestrian Federation International official in countries like New Zealand, Canada and America.

Yvonne has also taken two junior and young rider national teams overseas to destinations such as the South Island in New Zealand and India.

Currently, Yvonne is the president of the Stony Creek Adult Riding Club.

Yvonne said she is very proud of her family and the impact they have also had in equestrian support.

Her daughter Cindy has competed in Korea and India, and her son Russell was the most successful rider in his young rider team in England.

He has also competed in India and worked in Ireland.

Honours across the board for volunteers

LAST Thursday evening, January 25, the Governor-General announced Honours and Awards for 1042 Australians, including awards in the Order of Australia (General and Military Divisions), meritorious awards and recognition for distinguished and conspicuous service.

"Congratulations to the outstanding Australians recognised in today's Honours List. Recipients have made a difference and had an impact at the local, national and/or international level. Individually, they are inspiring and collectively

they speak to the strength of our communities," the Governor-General said.

"Recipients come from all parts of the country. They have served and had an impact in just about every field you can imagine; their stories and backgrounds are diverse. We value their service, thank them for their hard work and selflessness and, today, celebrate them.

"To each recipient: know that you have the thanks and respect of your nation. In my experience most are humble and often try to deflect attention or praise – please enjoy the moment

because your country has decided that you deserve recognition.

Across Gippsland seven members of the community were honoured. They include Caroline Talbot, George Bird, Jan Child, Yvonne Morrison, Elizabeth Wynne, Colin Mitchell and Alan Evers-Buckland.

"To all Australians: our honours system belongs to all of us and the Order of Australia must reflect who we are. We can all nominate someone we admire and respect for recognition. Please consider doing so," the Governor-General said.



Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM) Colin Mitchell

Take a bow Colin Mitchell OAM

The consummate performer, Colin Mitchell OAM stepped out as Uncle Jocko in Leongatha Lyric Theatre's production of Gypsy in 2015 but he's best known as a director and designer.

Melbourne International Comedy Festival.

But the number of stage productions he has been involved in locally, as a director, designer (costumes, sets, lighting) and performer, principally for Leongatha Lyric Theatre, where he has been a life member since 1978, but also for the Wonthaggi Theatrical Group and FAMDA at Foster would defy listing.

He has been the recipient of many industry awards during a long career.

But it's not over yet! Colin Mitchell is back together again with many of his award-winning collaborators in a 60th Anniversary Production of the time-honoured Into the Woods, including the likes of musical directors Carmel Slater and Malcolm McCaffery and choreographer Bron Croatto.

The production, not to be missed, hits the stage in July 2024.

"It's a bit surreal but delighted, yes, chuffed and humbled by it. And there have been some lovely notes posted on Facebook and I'm really accepting it on behalf of all the volunteers I've worked with over the years," said Colin.

"My artform needs 100 people to achieve it and I'd be nothing if I wasn't working with others."

Colin's first steps on stage came in a production of The Mikado with Leongatha Lyric Theatre back in 1970, and it's an experience that has resonated with him for more than

50 years.

"As I said when Lyric celebrated my 50th anniversary a few years, as a shy, creative, disenfranchised 14-year-old, I walked into a room and found my tribe. And Lyric is still doing that."

"People come along to auditions or to help backstage, and while they mightn't be talented in sports and the like, they find that the attributes that made them different out there, are celebrated in here."

As well as working for more than 50 years with amateur theatre groups, Colin has had a highly successful professional career working with stars of film, stage and screen including Geoffrey Rush, Juliet and Hayley Mills, June Bronhill and Bud Tingwell to name a few.

He was the official designer for the Sydney Mardi Gras, designing numerous floats during the 1980s, along with his work for the Melbourne International Comedy Festival.

"One of the first big design projects I had was designing the Myer Christmas Windows in the Show White theme in 1992 for YWIBW productions."

Colin paid a special tribute to his long-time partner, Rodney Lester.

"If you are writing something, above all I want to thank my partner for his tenacious love and support. I couldn't have done any of it without him and at least half of it belongs to him."



Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM) Jan Child

Jan Child's OAM tribute to her health team

New OAM recipient Jan Child, CEO of Bass Coast Health, shared the Australia Day Honour's list news with her mum Bette Allsop, brother Tony, and the team at the Wonthaggi hospital and associated health, community and aged care services.

SINCE her appointment as Chief Executive Officer of Bass Coast Health, after a six-month interim role, from March 2016, Jan Child's life has pretty much been on hold.

From addressing a range of structural problems with the old Wonthaggi hospital and BCH's other health, community, and aged care services, to bedding down the \$115 million stage one of the new hospital, not to mention the pandemic, there's been a lot to deal with.

It's been all-consuming.

But last Friday, Jan found time to spend the day with her mum, Bette Allsop and brother, Tony, to share the announcement that she had been named on the Australia Day Honours List as a recipient of the Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM) in the General Division, for service to community health.

"It's fair to say, when I got the email to say I was nominated, I was really chuffed," said Jan.

"But I wasn't going to accept initially because I've only been one part of the Bass Coast Health journey. It hasn't happened because of me," she said.

"It has happened because there are many health care workers who truly believe in the public health system. These are good people who devote their lives to improving care locally because this local health system is for their friends, family members and neighbours.

"The people who work in public health are in my view, extraordinary people, and they come to work to do

their best in the care of others.

"The last few years during COVID have been the toughest, and workforce challenges nationwide and worldwide are really having a big impact, but the BCH staff have been so resilient, and compassionate during that time; they work hard to build their skills and they stretch themselves, to be better, every day.

"I couldn't be more proud of them, and the difference they have made over the years.

"I know it's a cliché to say it, but this award is about them and in the end, that's why I accepted, as some recognition of what we have all been able to do, so far."

There's still the small matter of a \$290 million state government election promise of funding for Stage 2 of the Wonthaggi Hospital build to be squared away, and the on-going challenge of finding enough health-care staff to provide the much-needed services for a rapidly expanding community.

As well as her role at Bass Coast Health, the citation also lists Ms Child's other achievements:

- Registered Nurse.
- Surveyor, Australian Council of Healthcare Services.
- A range of roles with the Victorian Department of Health and Human Services including Peninsula Health, Alfred Health, Community Health, and various alcohol and drug agencies.

Read more details on the South Gippsland Sentinel-Times' website at sgst.com.au

Double triumph for service to Yarram and lifesaving for Elizabeth and Alan

AMONGST those also honoured with a Medal of the Order of Australia for service to the Yarram community is Mrs Elizabeth Wynne.

Mrs Wynne is a key figure in various local organisations having served as Vice-President of the Yarram Historical Society since 2013, is a life member and pavilion steward of the Yarram Agricultural Society and life member, committee member and former office bearer of Yarram Golf Club.

She has also spent her time volunteering with Yarram Eisteddfod since the 1980s and Yarram Information Centre and is a member of the Yarram Uniting Church.

For the second consecutive Honours list the majority of recipients in the General Division are women.

Mr Alan Evers-Buckland was recognised for service to the community through a range of roles which includes Royal Life Saving Society – Victoria Branch and Wonthaggi Life Saving Club.

Anyone can nominate any Australian for an award in the Order of Australia. If you know someone worthy, nominate them now at gg.gov.au

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OH WHAT A FEELING



Musicians Terry Lay and Christine Ross with Member for Monash Russell Broadbent who is ready to sample an Australia Day biscuit. A10_0524

Korumburra celebrates in a relaxed fashion

SUN shone on Korumburra's laid-back Australia Day barbecue celebration in Coleman Park, local musicians Terry Lay and Christine Ross setting the relaxed vibe with some folk numbers and popular songs.

There was also a playful version of Advance Australia Fair that entertained attendees prior to the ceremony during which the actual anthem was performed.

Formal proceedings were brief and simple, commencing with a speech from South Gippsland Shire Council deputy mayor Nathan Hersey and the unfurling of the Australian flag by Korumburra RSL president David Jackson.

Cr Hersey said Australia Day is something that can be used to unite or divide people.

"As a council, we have endeavoured to continue to support Australia Day in a way that is meaningful," he said.

Cr Hersey noted there has been discussion about what council is doing for local indigenous people.

"We are certainly taking steps to support our indigenous Australians," he said.

Supporting NAIDOC Week, holding a smoking ceremony to open the 2023 council year and a budget submission aimed at benefiting local indigenous art are examples of that commitment.

Member for Monash Russell Broadbent spoke of his delight at seeing the Australian flag flying over Korumburra.

Originally from Koo Wee Rup, Mr Broadbent described being born in Australia as a 'miracle', noting the same could be said of the glorious South Gippsland sunshine in Coleman Park.

"I hope you join with me on this Australia Day and celebrate everything that is quintessentially Australian because there's nothing wrong with who we are," he said.

Mr Broadbent reflected on the past generations who created the opportunities people enjoy today, and those who made sacrifices in wars to secure the freedoms we now have.

Local nominees for South Gippsland Shire Council Citizen of the Year, Avis Tilley and Perry Neil were acknowledged during the ceremony by Cr Jenni Keerie.

So were representatives of the South Gippsland Event of the Year, 'The Southern Lights Festival' and another nominated event the 'Open Studio Art Trail'.

Soon it was time for more songs from Terry and Christine while people enjoyed a Korumburra Lions Club Australia Day snag.



South Gippsland's new Australian citizens proudly display their certificates. A05_0524

Late rain can't spoil Australia Day celebration in Leongatha

SUDDEN rain prompted a slight hastening to the end of formalities at the Leongatha Australia Day Celebration in McIndoe Park, but not before a joyful citizenship ceremony and an engaging talk from local historian Lyn Skillern OAM.

Member for Monash Russell Broadbent left no doubt as to his pride in Australia and his feelings on its national day.

"I get pretty excited about Australia Day and I'm not ashamed of it," he declared.

Ten South Gippsland adults and a couple of kids became Australians, with one from India given an 'Aussie, Aussie,

Aussie, oi, oi, oi' chant from a friend or relative.

The tradition of an Australia Day citizenship ceremony remains popular in South Gippsland at a time when other shires and urban councils are scrapping it.

The happiness and pride of the new citizens offered a strong endorsement of the South Gippsland approach.

One new Aussie provided a visual display of support for indigenous people, wearing a t-shirt emblazoned with the message "Always was, always will be" and the image of the Aboriginal Flag, the gesture not appearing to provide a stir

either way.

Aboriginal groups from the local region were acknowledged by speaker Lyn, who highlighted the irreparable destruction of their lifestyle as a result of the arrival of sealers and whalers, then settlers.

"They had their land taken, their culture destroyed and in many cases their lives were taken," Lyn said of the region's original inhabitants.

She alluded to the controversy that now surrounds Australia Day, noting that without a past we don't have a present and there would be no future.

Lyn delivered a taste of local

history, starting with the original occupants, then moving onto the settlers.

She spoke of the two indigenous nations either side of the Tarwin River.

Lyn moved on to pioneers who farmed and set up businesses after a period of surveying and the sale of settlements.

She highlighted the challenges settlers faced in clearing the land.

As rain fell, South Gippsland Shire Council's Young Citizen of the Year Laila Witteveen and Citizen of the Year nominee Noel Laing were acknowledged in their town.

Bringing the community together at the long table



Rowan, Jenna and Natasha of Tarwin Lower delighted in Friday's events with Rowan also taking wins in the duck races. C05_0524



Felicity, Beau, Hamish and Luca prepared for the start of the duck races along the Tarwin River. C11_0524

THE wind put up a fight but didn't deter residents and visitors from coming out to Tarwin Lower in celebration of Australia Day and raising much needed funds for the renovation of the Tarwin Lower Mechanics Institute Hall.

Organised by the Tarwin District Auto & Machinery Club, the successful event was attended by those from near and far, plus a couple of councillors popped along including Sarah Gilligan and Mayor Clare Williams, alongside Member for South Gippsland Danny O'Brien.

From the duck race spectacular called by MP O'Brien and Cr Gilligan to the raffle, car display and BBQ, the event was an overwhelming hit.

"It's been really well attended," Tarwin District Auto & Machinery Club organiser Lisa explained.

"Considering the weather, we are very pleased. As always, the duck races have been very popular!"

"It's a great community event and day out for the kids," club president Graeme added.

"Not only is it a fundraiser for the hall, but it's great to see the community come together - connecting and re-connecting.

"We'd also like to thank South Gippsland Council, councillors and (Member

for South Gippsland) Danny O'Brien for turning up - it's great to see them amongst the community."

And Stony Creek might have some competition nearby with Cr Sarah Gilligan calling the second and last duck race of the day much to the delight of spectators.

"The ducks have different tactics," Cr Gilligan noted as they made their way down the river, adding that some may have had a few too many at nearby venues and would be best placed to catch the e-bus home later.

In spectacular form, duck number seven took home the win, scoring a nice prize for Joy, Milana, Christine and Scott. Duck number five scored first place in the first race of the day taking a win for Ali's mum, Dave (Poppy), Rowan and Paul.

As for the raffle winners - with such a huge selection of prizes on offer the winners were Jenna, Joy, Terry, Jessica, Melissa, Toby, Sheryl, Leah, Teresa, Jason, Jodie, Chelsea, Laura, Terry, Lori, Michelle, Ange and Anne... plus a couple more.

Council was also on hand consulting and discussing with residents the future of Coal Creek as the extensive community consultation period continues on the future of the site.



Recipients of the 2024 Rotary Club of Wonthaggi Australia Day Awards. C50_0525

Celebrating the gems of our town

THE food was hot outside and the smooth vocals of Eric Collier entertained inside as the 30th Annual Rotary Club of Wonthaggi's Australia Day Community Breakfast and Community Service Awards got underway.

Chatter, laughter and catching up with longtime friends was on the agenda before the real celebrations arrived at 9am.

Club president Nicky Chung welcomed everyone inside the theatre noting it was 'a day of reflection and a day of celebration'.

"Our Club proudly started this event 30 years ago here in Wonthaggi initiated by then president Bob Johnstone and past president and Rotary legend John Owens," Nicky stated.

"It has certainly been a pleasure to host it ever since..."

After an Acknowledgement of Country, the National Anthem was played, councillors welcomed and apologies noted.

"Considering the challenges and terrible impacts on our lives over the past few years through floods, fires, COVID and more recently the pressures brought about by the terrible conflicts overseas Rotary is proud to lead this opportunity once again to celebrate our country's resilience, our diversity and unity, and show our respect and appreciation for the

people who have worked so hard to make our community such a great place to live" Nicky said before reflecting on Australia's rich history.

Rotarian John Duscher introduced the 2024 Rotary Club of Wonthaggi Australia Day Ambassador, Caroline Talbot, who touched on her many years of service and voluntary work amongst the community.

George Bird was also recognised by John, as he sat proudly on stage.

Men at Work's Down Under vibrated through the theatre bringing Craig Amy's vocals to life, supported by guitarist Leigh Owens.

An array of classic Aussie hits entertained the crowd from Hunters and Collectors to Goanna with a final melody of John Williamson's True Blue opening to the awards.

"We now move on to my favourite part of our Australia Day celebrations where we like to acknowledge and thank those special people and organisations, the community "gems" who contribute so well to making a difference to the lives of others and building a stronger, better community," Rotarian Graeme Sprague said.

"These are the volunteers who are the backbone of any community, and it is always

good news to hear the stories of dedication, leadership, passion and community spirit..."

This year seven awards were presented:

Business Excellence and Leadership: Michael and Sue Turton of Cape Tavern. The husband-and-wife duo were honoured for their outstanding leadership and excellence in the hospitality industry, and exemplary community support including Michael's years as president of the Wonthaggi Cricket Club and the Tavern's Royal Children's Hospital event, setting an inspiring example for others in the industry.

Industry Recognition and Achievement Award: Cyclone Tools. A pivotal force and unsung hero in Wonthaggi, Cyclone Tools was recognised for their enduring 72 years of providing crucial jobs to the town, particularly in the early days when the mining industry was showing strong signs of downturn.

Community Club Recognition Award: Wonthaggi Pony Club. Determination, community support and volunteer efforts, Wonthaggi Pony Club was recognised for being a part of the community for 53 years and for their contribution to putting Wonthaggi on the map as an equestrian hub from their humble beginnings in the front paddock of George

Bird's property.

Caring for the Community: Laurie and Barbara Culph. The passionate and quiet achiever husband and wife team were recognised for their long-standing commitment to their community – from Heart Support to the water board, local Wonthaggi Hospital Ladies Auxiliary to VIEW Club and Indoor Carpet Bowls their voluntary work was barely touched on during presentations.

Sport and Community Service: Lynne and Terry Hanley. Well known and respected community members the impressive husband and wife were recognised for their dedication to local sports, most notably the Wonthaggi Blues and later Power, and association with schools and other voluntary roles.

Community Service Award: Colin and Sheila Ormerod. A dedicated couple who embodies community service, the pair were recognised for their positive contributions, hard work and selfless dedication over 42 years to Wonthaggi. Sheila was also credited as part of the working group who got the State Coal Mine reopened in the 2000's.

Community Service Award: Glen Richards – accepted on his behalf by his wife and son. An advertisement for the value

of volunteer work, Glen was recognised for his dedicated leadership, strong advocacy, care and community service, of particular note, his tireless efforts in enhancing aged care facilities at Rose Lodge.

Citizen of the Year: Steven Johnson. A wonderful history of serving his community, Steve was acknowledged as a dedicated and humble community leader who spent 37 years in the police force and left a lasting impact through his leadership, innovation and volunteer efforts ranging from emergency response and the L2P program to conservation programs.

In a special recognition award, John Duscher and Elio Piasente were acknowledged for their tireless efforts in working all year long to bring the Australia Day Community Service Awards to life by president Nicky, much to the shock and disbelief of both recipients.

As Nicky summed up there was "an amazing collection of stories heard (on Friday), all about service above self, about values and respect, incredible teamwork and co-operation, dedication and commitment, so much energy, self-motivation and spirit... It is incredible what can be achieved when volunteers get together to help others..."

Inverloch reflects on Australia Day

INVERLOCH held a short service at the cenotaph in honour of Australia Day on Friday morning.

Led by Inverloch RSL president Ross Gabb, the service reflected on what it means to be an Australian.

The flags were raised by former RSL president and life member Bob Sutton and RSL life member Eric Cross.

Hugh Furlong from the Inverloch Surf Life Saving Club played the Australian National Anthem.

Mr Gabb asked the great turn out to consider what it means to be an Australian.

"Of course, there isn't a single, simple answer. My experience is different to yours, and yours will be different to your neighbour's," he said.

"Mine is formed through the people met at the RSL and community initiatives. They are, in their own experiences, as diverse as our country is big."

Mr Gabb also took the time to reflect on those who have served the country.

"We acknowledge our present and past personnel who have dedicated their service, with some pay the ultimate price, to serving and protecting Australia," he said.

Mr Gabb acknowledged there are challenges, but ultimately Australia is a country to be proud of and worth celebrating.

"We are stronger when we listen and learn from each other in our diverse and strong communities. We are stronger when we listen and learn from each other

and recognise our different experiences and different cultures," he said.

"Our individual identities and stories weave together into a modern, diverse nation of people, and that's worth celebrating. Australia affords us the opportunity to reflect on the 60,000 years of continuous woven culture into the essential fabric of modern cultural Australia, and how we address our colonial history."

"Celebrating doesn't mean universal agreement or pretending everything is perfect. It means looking to our past – our past isn't perfect, but it is important."

Mr Gabb also spoke about celebrating the present and the challenges faced, and the future and its potential.



Inverloch Surf Life Saving Club's Hugh Furlong, Inverloch RSL secretary Lindsay Guerin, Bass Coast Shire Council deputy mayor Cr Rochelle Halstead and Inverloch RSL president Ross Gabb at the Australia Day celebration in Inverloch.



Lauren, Thomas, Oliver and Charlotte Chikan of Bunyip enjoy their Australia Day at Mirboo North Pool. A23_0524

Relaxed vibe and music at Mirboo North Australia Day

UNPROMISING weather early on Australia Day and breezy conditions reduced attendance numbers at Mirboo North Pool but the sun ultimately shone and those present had a ball listening to live music.

As well as locals, the event attracted people from places such as Melbourne, Mornington, Warraugul, Traralgon, Morwell, Longwarry, Inverloch, Leongatha and Hallston.

The large pool inflatable, nicknamed Nessie 2.0 by its owner Friends of Mirboo North Pool, proved popular with those in the water.

Treats such as popcorn and fairy floss were a hit, Bunyip's Thomas Chikan enjoying both, while his mum Lauren praised the coffee from the Boolarra Community Development Group's van.

Traditional Australia Day snags were another appealing option.

Friends of The Mirboo North Pool ran the event, arranging

the live music performances and food vendors.

Volunteers pitched in to complete tasks such as setting up marquees.

"You just do it," Friends of Mirboo North Pool secretary Mary Baker said of the work done to ensure an enjoyable day for locals and visitors.

Off duty pool lifeguard Hayden Barnes, said the live music was a highlight, loving the performance of Deanne.

He and other off duty lifeguards also demonstrated it's not only the kids having fun on the inflatable, with its slippery nature presenting a challenge for all.

'Borderline' followed Deanne, with numbers such as 'It's Too Late,' while earlier entertainment included rock from the 'Loaded Dogs', and more laid-back music from local duo 'Twin Lanterns'.

In addition to the musical entertainment, 'Fairy Julianne' amused the kids.



The sun's rays break through the trees early in the morning
Jodie Bennett-Wood's

Morning sun rays captures judges hearts

JODIE Bennett-Wood and Carter Armstrong have taken the win in this years South Gippsland Shire Council Australia Day Photography competition.

Announced online on Friday at 5pm, Jodie has taken the win in the open category for her image 'Early Morning Sun Rays (Rail Trail at Meenyan)', whilst Carter secured top place in the under 15 category for 'Korumburra South'.

This year there were 98 entries for the competition with many photographers reflecting the theme 'Australia Day: South Gippsland – Our people and places'.

"It was wonderful to see so much talent and variety in this year's Australia Day Photography Competition submissions," Cr Clare Williams, Mayor South Gippsland Shire Council.

"I enjoyed seeing how the new theme was interpreted in such a creative and unique manner. South Gippsland is home to an abundance of truly talented creatives, and I would like to thank everyone for their exceptional entries into this year's competition."

A video announcing the winners, and showcasing entries, can be viewed at: southgippsland.vic.gov.au/AustraliaDay



Tamara Luke with parents Barb and Jon at Glen Alvie's Australia Day morning tea.

Tamara's story inspires

GLEN Alvie celebrated Australia Day with a morning tea at the recreation reserve on Friday.

As a new feature of the Australia Day celebrations, the community will now be inviting local children who have gone on to do extraordinary things to speak at the event.

This year's guest speaker was elite athlete Tamara Luke.

"It's an honour to be back in Glen Alvie. I have so many fond memories here," she said.

"I used to get out onto the oval, running around trying to get fit through my netball days. Growing up in the country is something I am proud of."

Tamara has competed in athletics internationally and has played elite level netball and football.

She went to school at Wonthaggi North Primary School, where she started swimming and athletics.

"I learned my craft by just being a tomboy. I would be kicking the footy or playing cricket, whatever my brothers were doing. They helped me become the athlete I am today," she said.

She started her netball career at Dalyston Football Netball Club at age 12, where she played from U13s into the senior grades.

She also played for Inverloch-Kongwak Football Netball Club, as well as the Alberton and Gippsland rep sides.

At age 14, she was selected for the Eastern Zone Academy.

which was an eye-opening experience.

At 15, she competed internationally in shotput, javelin and discus.

"I was a bit hesitant to go at the time, but my parents convinced me," she said.

"I came back from that experience more mature and realised I enjoyed pushing myself as an athlete. I was excited to really get into sport."

Although she enjoyed athletics, she found the solo aspect wasn't motivating enough.

She wanted to compete in a team environment, so chose to focus on netball.

However, she did continue athletics through her schooling at Wonthaggi Secondary College, going so far as to win state titles in Year 12.

At age 19, she was asked to do trials for the Melbourne Kestrels and competed in the Victoria Netball League.

Her coaching career commenced with Olinda in the Yarra Valley.

She took the A Grade side from the bottom of the ladder to winning three premierships in four years.

"For me, it's something I'm quite proud of. They're not just successful in A Grade, it's right down to the juniors now."

Tamara retired from netball in 2016 but missed the team camaraderie and competitiveness.

Box Hill had a come and try for the VFLW program, so Tamara

registered and went along.

"I thought I would be cut straightaway. I didn't have footy boots and didn't know what position I played," she said.

Regardless, she made the squad, bought a pair of footy boots and fell in love with the game.

"I loved watching footy and barracking for Essendon, but I never thought I would have the opportunity to play," she said.

She was contracted to play in 2017 and went on to play in the AFLW for St Kilda and Hawthorn.

In 2023, she played seven of the 10 games and played her last match against Geelong before announcing retirement.

Away from sport, Tamara studied exercise science and works as an exercise physiologist.

"My main area at the moment is advanced cancer, which is a challenging area," she said.

"I see my role as someone who improves somebody's quality of life, so I try to be as bubbly and happy as I can be, and work towards someone's goals."

The Glen Alvie community also took the opportunity to raise money for a new gazebo at the recreation reserve.

They have received a Bass Coast Shire Council grant, and work may begin in late February.

The gazebo will be situated near the trees planted in honour of local families, overlooking the ground.



Dan, Jack, Ned, Chelsea, Bella and Harry Grant attended Glen Alvie's Australia Day celebration on Friday.



A big crowd stands as one for the flag raising and the playing of the national anthem by the South Gippsland Shire Brass Band at Pound Creek on Australia Day last Friday.

Big turnout at Pound Creek Fire Station



Geo-scientist Andrew Mutton gave the Australia Day address at the Pound Creek celebrations last Friday.

IF Australia was once carried on the sheep's back, it is firmly financed by the mining industry now and playing his part in scoping out some of the mineral boom sites in Queensland, the NT and WA has been part of the life's work of Andrew Mutton.

Mr Mutton came to Victoria from Queensland about 10 years ago and in recent times, moved locally and joined the Pound Creek Fire Brigade, whose efforts, he says, to turn out to more than 150 fires-a-year, to send people away on strike teams and to help with catastrophes in NSW and Queensland, not to mention support road accident response, never ceases to amaze

him of a brigade without a town to support it.

He was the guest speaker at a very well attended Australia Day celebration at the Pound Creek Fire Station, where the South Gippsland Shire Band played Waltzing Matilda and the national anthem and where a hearty lunch of sausages, burgers and salads were served.

Acting Assistant Chief Fire Officer Emma Conway was the special guest, also taking the opportunity to praise Pound Creek CFA for its passion and commitment and for helping to do something that had little or nothing to do with fighting fires; bringing people together in a supportive community.

Australia Day goes off with a bang at Daly



THE wind dropped, the sun took over and a fun, family occasion was had by all at Oz Day at the Daly as Bass Coast rounded out a busy round of Australia Day celebrations that started early in the morning with a breakfast at Wonthaggi.

Events in most towns and hamlets followed, highlighted by the presentation of citizenship to 18 people at the Wonthaggi Workmen's Club in the afternoon.

But many waited until the Dalyston event to join the fun with live music, a selection of rides for the kids, games and plenty of food and drink, plus a fireworks' display just after the sun went down.

It's all over for another year, clearing the way for back to school and a return to some sort of normality in 2024.

TOP LEFT: These kids have fun with a tug'o'war competition at Oz Day at Dalyston last Friday to end Australia Day.



LEFT: Imogen Price makes sure Australia Day in Bass Coast finished on the right note at the Oz Day at the Daly celebrations.



Special guest speaker at Kongwak on Australia Day was South Gippsland success story, the world's top boutique cheesemaker Barry Charlton flanked by Kongwak Hall President Brian Brown, Barry's partner Cheryl Hulls and Kirsty Richardson, from Kongwak but also a staff member at Berrys Creek Cheese.

Just 'say cheese' at Kongwak's Australia Day celebrations

MORE than 120 people filled the tables, and then some, at the annual Kongwak Australia Day celebrations last Friday, January 26 and there wasn't a squabble in sight about possible developments in the town.

The milk was cold for the cereal, the orange juice plentiful and the eggs, bacon, sausages, toast and tea were piping hot as conversation filled the hall after the flag raising and a shower of rain outside.

President of the hall committee Brian Brown couldn't have been happier with the turnout, the efforts of the breakfast volunteers

and the choice of guest speaker, the world's top boutique cheesemaker, Barry Charlton.

He joins a list of luminaries to be invited to give the Australia Day address over the years.

As well as supplying a fine selection of his world-famous cheese to try, Barry spoke about how well the cheese was being received by the restauranteurs of Australia, so much so that their produce is fully subscribed throughout the year.

It was a great way to start Australia Day, and may it continue to be a Kongwak tradition, bringing the whole community together.



South Gippsland Shire Citizen of the Year Kathryn Smith is presented with her local community award by Eastern Victoria Province MLC Melina Bath at Meeniyan's Australia Day celebrations last Friday.

Top citizen feted at Meeniyan

APART from stopping the traffic one day in Whitelaw Street Meeniyan, to let a koala cross the road, Kathryn Smith told the Australia Day crowd in the Meeniyan Hall last Saturday, that she didn't consider she had done anything to warrant the community's nomination for the shire's annual citizenship award.

However, after totalling up 36 organisations she has been involved with since coming to town from Toora North more than 20 years ago, including 10 years as president of the Meeniyan Progress Association, she had to admit it added up to a reasonable body of work.

But, speaking at the Australia Day celebrations, after being congratulated on the shire's top honour, Ms Smith said she had barely noticed the contribution she had made, and found it no way a chore to be involved.

"Since my husband passed away, I can honestly say I haven't felt like I'm on my own living here in Meeniyan. It's such a wonderful community."

"They say it takes a village to raise a child but it takes a network of people to run a community as well as this one and I'm delighted to be a part of that."

Whether it's table tennis, the Christian fellowship, community op shop or Meeniyan Progress; there's been a lot to do.

Highlights of the celebrations at Meeniyan were some poetry readings by the captains of the Meeniyan Primary School Harriet Fields and Stevie Batten, the musical presentation by the Serenity singers Kerrie Tudor, Robins Simpson, Mark Tudor and Brian Hoskins, and of course the egg and bacon rolls afterwards by the Meeniyan Fire Brigade.



Valued member of the Wonthaggi RSL Malcolm Brodie playing pipes at the January swap meet and market. Z04_0524

A place to gather and share

THE Wonthaggi RSL Sub Branch committee president Dan Lucas recently installed two silhouettes of a soldiers profile at the entrance of the historic building to highlight the RSL's hall.

Dan shared that many locals and visitors alike saw the building as the 'bingo hall' with some naïve to the fact that it is the home of the Wonthaggi RSL. "With the installation of our three flags in 2023, the silhouettes too highlight the historic building and its history within the town."

"These features allow the building to now stand out," said Dan.

President of the Wonthaggi RSL Sub Branch for the past 18 months – Dan is planning to gather the valued members to hold a working bee for the historical building to help maintain the appearance of the exterior – including a repaint of the entrance and removal of weed growth to the roof of the building and the entry way.

Visit the Wonthaggi RSL Sub Branch at 60 Graham Street, Wonthaggi to see the new silhouettes that were installed on Monday, January 22.

• FAITH FACTOR

A year of possibility

By Rev Charles Lazarus,
Wonthaggi Baptist Church

FEBRUARY is usually an interesting month of the year. It is the last month of summer, and the only month that has the least number of days. Normally February has 28 days, but 2024 being a leap year has 29 days.

This is the month when everyone is back after celebrating Christmas, New Year and enjoying their holidays. Now they are looking forward to what is in store for the rest of the year.

Each year is a year of possibility and potential for everybody. We have a choice to either do something special this year or just drift along. As a follower of Jesus Christ, I believe that God has a plan and purpose for my life. And it is up to me to discover what He has predetermined for me each year, so that I can rise to my full potential.

The Bible has a lot to say about God plans for those who choose to trust Him and follow His word. For example, the apostle James says: 17 Whatever is good and perfect is a gift coming down to us from God our Father, who created all the lights in the heavens. He never changes or casts a shifting shadow. 18 He chose to give birth to us by giving us his true word. And we, out of all creation, became his prized possession. James 1:17-18. We can take great comfort from those words for our own life.

But, as soon as we decide to follow our own agenda, we miss out on what God wants for our lives. Can I encourage you to get yourself a Bible if you do not have one already. Any one of the Churches can help you get one. Then, commence systematically reading through it this year and discover God's plan for your life!

The year ahead of us is surely a year of great Potential. Only, if we are willing to surrender to Jesus, follow Him and obey His word. God bless you this year!



BASS COAST ADULT LEARNING

TERM 1 is upon us. Classes in English have already started at BCAL this week, and it's lovely to see everyone back again, and hear their stories from over the break.

The Certificate courses in Information Technology, Horticulture, and Hairdressing begin soon. Whether you're a school leaver, returning to the workforce, taking a gap year, or looking for a career

change, BCAL can help make 2024 your year.

And if you're not sure, give the Centre a call to discuss your options.

For more information on all BCAL's courses and services, please visit bcal.vic.edu.au or call 5672 3115 to learn more.

■ WONTHAGGI WOODCRAFTERS

All the regular workshops

are up and running at the shed again. Members say it's like they've never been away – and some of them barely have been.

The Monday woodturning sessions are almost full so anyone who is interested should not delay.

Last Saturday the Woodies did the sausage sizzle at Bunnings, which is always a great fundraiser and will

help with equipment for the workshop.

For more information about joining the Woodcrafters, visit wonthaggewoodcrafters.com.au or visit the store at the workshop.



239 White Rd, Wonthaggi PH: (03) 5672 3115 www.bcal.vic.edu.au



MILPARA COMMUNITY HOUSE

MILPARA Community House is excited to start our first full term at the Korumburra Community Hub. Our new space is beautiful, so make sure you drop in and have a look around. Milpara will be open Monday to Friday from 9.30am-4.30pm starting Tuesday January 31. Our Centrelink Agent and Food Bank will be available Tuesdays 10am-2pm, and Wednesdays and Thursdays 10am-1pm. Please remember to bring your own bags.

Our Term One program is out now, with lots of new classes and workshops, as well as many of your favourites returning. If you didn't receive a program in our

letterbox drop, you can find it on our website milparacommunityhouse.org.au or contact us on 5655 2524.

Some of the interesting new items in this term's program include:

Our English as a Second Language information session which will be held on Monday February 5 5pm - 7pm. These sessions are for people who come from a non-English speaking background and who seek assistance to improve their language and communication skills, progress their job and education prospects and gain help with things they are unable to understand in our Australian culture.

Gee I Wish I Could... is a session designed to help people explore their options and opportunities when it comes to making a change. You may wish to get a job or find a better one, find a new purpose, pursue a career change or perhaps there is something else you wish you could do. This session will help you get started. Join us on Monday February 5 at our 10am or 5pm sessions.

We would love everyone to come along to our Share Your Ideas session. Join us on Wednesday February 7 for a cuppa and to chat to us about your input and feedback on what we can offer to cater to our community. If you can't

make it, drop into the Hub foyer and put your ideas in our suggestion box or email us at hello@milpara.org.au.

Also new to our program is our Basics of Backyard Chicken Keeping Workshops beginning on Wednesday February 14 at 12pm.

To book in, to any of our classes go to milparacommunityhouse.org.au/bookings-and-activity-page or for more information call us on 5655 2524.

We look forward to seeing you soon.



21 Shellcot Road, Korumburra PH: (03) 5655 2524 www.milparacommunityhouse.org.au



YES YOUTH HUB

THE YES Youth Hub is a community project managed by the YMCA Bass Coast on behalf of Bass Coast Shire Council and young people. It 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 on Monday to Wednesday between 2.30pm - 5.30pm.

Nominations are now open for the Youth Advisory Council. The Youth Advisory Council (YAC) is a group of young leaders who are connected to Bass Coast and are passionate about making a difference in the local community. The YAC acts as a channel through which young people can formally communicate

with Council in a way that is meaningful and recognises the value of their voices and lived experiences. The YAC also plays a key role in driving the YES Youth Hub. The YAC had a successful and fun year in 2023 which included planning Holiday Programming, consulting with Council, designing the outside space at the YES Youth Hub, and meeting the Councillors. They have also been pivotal in the successful delivery of a number of projects, including, 2023 Bass Coast Youth Pride Prom and Halloween Howl.

Reminder: The 2024 Bass Coast Youth Pride Prom is just around the corner. It has been made possible through generous funding from Midsumma, and includes a

community visit from PrideFinder – an LGBTQIA+ 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 thank the talented Patrice Mahoney, OAM, for working with the young people of Bass Coast on an inspiring new mural for the YES Youth Hub (funded by Youth Central). Patrice's ability to share her skills and story was inspiring for all involved. The mural will make an excellent addition to the vibrant space we are creating here at the YES Youth Hub.

If you haven't heard we run a Young Mum's Hub on Tuesday morning between 11am

and 1pm. The invite is open to any young mothers to pop down and join our gorgeous group. Additionally, if you're a young person in Bass Coast you should pop down to the YES Youth Hub and say hi to Tracey Cobb and Co. We have free food and wifi, gaming, music space, a free youth pantry and laundry. Also, if you have any ideas on the type of programming we should be doing in 2024 please let us know.

You can find us on Facebook and Instagram on the following handle @YESYouthHub



76 Watt Street, Wonthaggi PH: 0477 224 430 @YESYouthHub



COURSES FOR 2024



Student Nick is pursuing a Masters of Forensic Behavioural Science with the assistance of CUC.

Diverse learning journeys at Country Universities Centre

IN THE dynamic tapestry of education, the stories of our students at Country Universities Centre Bass Coast unfold as diverse narratives, each weaving a unique path in pursuit of knowledge. For CUC BC, it is both a privilege and a joy to be a part of these individual learning journeys.

Embarking on higher education is a profound step, with students propelled by various motivations. The pursuit of passion stands as a common thread, as many aspire to enter dream fields or elevate existing careers. Others seize the opportunity to make a meaningful impact in our local community.

Take Lucy, for instance, a dedicated student with aspirations to become a nurse. Her motivation echoes through her words: "I've always wanted to be a nurse. I love helping and caring for people; it brings me joy."

The crucial role played by CUC BC in supporting our region's students throughout their academic careers cannot be overstated. From quiet study rooms, dual screen computers, high-speed Wi-Fi and academic support to fostering a sense of community among students facing similar obstacles, CUC ensures that every student has the necessary facilities

to thrive.

Nick, who is pursuing a Masters of Forensic Behavioural Science, reflects on his experience at CUC: "Studying at CUC feels like a university where I can interact and connect with other students."

This community-centric approach lies at the core of our mission, recognising the diverse needs and lifestyles of our students.

As part of our commitment to knowledge-sharing within the CUC community, we have gathered invaluable advice from students like Kate, who is pursuing a Bachelor of Nursing, provides insight, saying, "You can achieve anything if you have passion and a positive mindset."

Paige, who is studying for a Bachelor of Education, speaks

highly of CUC's supportive network. "Being a part of a supportive network of students where we are able to build each other up."

We hope these words of wisdom strike a chord with people who are now navigating the obstacles of higher education or who are planning their future journey. If you are studying this year or thinking about it, contact our team at Country Universities Centre Bass Coast.

"Studying at CUC feels like a university where I can interact and connect with other students."

- Nick (Student at CUC)



Salon Assistant students had the opportunity recently to visit Elly Lukas Beauty Therapy College.

Explore study opportunities

DO you want to upgrade your skills or change your career path but don't know where to start? Bass Coast Adult Learning (BCAL) offers a variety of courses to help you reach your educational goals and prepare you for further learning or a new profession. Their hands-on courses and real-life experience provide students with an inclusive, friendly environment in small face-to-face classes.

BCAL is a great place to begin a career in hairdressing. The Certificate II course is perfect for school leavers or those who want to re-enter the workforce. The course is taught by Kate McNish, a hairdresser and beauty therapist with experience in a large variety of local salons. Kate has been a trainer since 2016 and is

dedicated to her student's well-being. The course covers styling, colouring, makeup, and is a stepping stone into future studies.

The Certificate III in ICT offers students foundational knowledge in cloud computing, networking, programming, cyber awareness, and IT support services. This course also focuses on critical thinking and customer support skills, preparing students for IT support positions. Bill Street, BCAL's IT trainer since 2001, teaches this course with his friendly and casual style, making learning enjoyable for everyone.

If you love gardening and are interested in a horticulture career, BCAL offers a Certificate III in Horticulture. The program teaches plant recognition and

nutrition, pest and weed management, landscaping, and garden maintenance. Students receive practical training, including work experience in the BCAL garden. Jacquie Wheatley, a qualified horticulturalist with over 20 years of experience, will teach this course, with her endless energy and enthusiasm.

For more information on all BCAL's courses and services visit bcal.vic.edu.au or call 5672 3115.

Mark your calendars for the Bass Coast Edible Gardens weekend on Saturday 10 and Sunday 11 February. This event offers the chance to visit 17 fantastic gardens and learn more about plants and gardening. Find all the details at basscoastediblegardens.com.

IS 2024 YOUR YEAR TO STUDY?

CUC Bass Coast can support your higher education dreams

All students have to do is step through the door

- It's **FREE** to register
- Dedicated study spaces
- Dual screen computers
- Fast, reliable internet
- Free academic assistance
- Open 5am to midnight

A space to gain focus, expert support and tools for motivation and success



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Bass Coast Adult Learning



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- 20 years experience
- Passionate about plants
- Enjoys teaching

Study locally with expert trainers



KATE - HAIRDRESSING

- Salon owner and operator
- Experienced beauty therapist
- Prioritises students wellbeing



BILL - COMPUTING

- Trainer for 23 years
- Makes learning fun
- Loves innovative technology

239 White Road Wonthaggi 5672 3115 bcal.vic.edu.au



Bass Coast Edible Gardens Weekend

Sat 10 & Sun 11 Feb 10am - 4pm



COURSES FOR 2024



Years 9 and 10 are now on offer at Education Centre Gippsland Secondary College's Leongatha and Warragul campuses.

ECG expands and introduces Years 9 and 10 Classes in 2024

ECG Secondary College has expanded its offerings by introducing Year 9 and 10 classes to its Warragul and Leongatha campuses starting in 2024. The school currently offers Years 11 and 12 (VPC and VCE VM) across all four campuses.

This is in response to an alarming rise in disengagement among Year 9-12 stu-

build individual resilience, confidence, health, and practical life skills, tailored to respond to students' specific interests and passions.

ECG Secondary College is backed by a team of dedicated and passionate teachers, youth workers, counsellors, and learning support officers, along with collaborative

agencies and organisations that provide a comprehensive support system for student wellbeing. The school adopts an applied approach to learning, integrating real-world scenarios into its curriculum through in-class and out-of-class activities such as incursions, excursions, camps, and skills-based programs.

By bringing purposeful education to Year 9 and 10 students, ECG Secondary College aims to counter the disengagement trend and offer an alternative,

supportive environment where every student can flourish academically and personally. The expansion aligns with the school's vision of positively changing lives and enhancing social inclusion through the transformative power of education.

Find out more on ecg.vic.edu.au or contact us on 5622 6000 or info@ecg.vic.gov.au.

The curriculum is designed to build individual resilience, confidence, health, and practical life skills, tailored to respond to students' specific interests and passions.

JOIN OUR GROWING TEAM

Transform learning with ECG!

We are growing in 2024 and welcoming more students to our campuses at Warragul, Leongatha, Pakenham and Dandenong.

Seize the chance to make a difference and explore opportunities to positively change lives through education.



Teachers x 2 at Leongatha campus

- Full-time; or
- Part-time

APPLY NOW www.ecg.vic.edu.au/jobs

ECG is a Child Safe organisation that has zero tolerance for child abuse.



BE WATER WISE

Protecting our future

WATER tank installations are solutions for domestic and rural properties and with tank connection a requirement in many new suburban developments, Van Steensel Timbers can provide Urban Poly Tanks and All Weather tanks from their Grantville site.

The initiative to have water tanks in new regional developments help residents to make use of tank water for their gardens and water closets.

Whether you need a 500L tank to water the garden or a 26,000L solution for a rural property, The Van Steensel team can assist with size, colour selection, pumps, and home delivery.

Domestic tanks include the slimline range from All Weather - proudly 100 per cent Australian made and owned, as well as a vast

range of round tanks from Urban Poly Tanks – an Australian company – both providing products that are structurally fit for purpose and aesthetically appealing.

Joanne Van Steensel and the team at Grantville stock a selection of accessories and fittings.

"We can assist instore to help each customer with the best solution in accessing rainwater to use around the home, including effective joining systems for tanks to auto re-fill from the mains."

For further information contact Van Steensel Timbers online at vansteenseltimbers.com.au, in store at the corner of Bass Highway and Dalston – Glen Forbes, Grantville or phone the Grantville team on 5678 8552.

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BE WATER WISE



Shielding your property from water woes

FEW concerns are as pressing and potentially damaging as water infiltration whether from a leaking roof or tank, balcony or compromised foundation. Water on the wrong side can wreak havoc on the structural integrity of the item in question.

Meet Colin and his team at Pro Waterproofing Services, experts in cost effective polyurea waterproof membranes that come with a 60-year guarantee.

Whether your needs are for residential, industrial, agricultural or commercial the team has you covered, and the best part is, their polyurea waterproof membrane is fully functional in 24 hours, dry to touch after 10 seconds and can be walked on after 30 seconds – gone are the days of waiting days for waterproofing to dry.

Locally owned and operated, the team pride themselves on their many years' of experience with projects taking them from Bass Coast and Gippsland to Mornington Peninsula and Nort East Victoria.

"Our spray-on coatings have been successfully applied to walkways, factory floors, driveways, shed and garage floors, dairies, stock yards, metal roofing, decks, water tanks, swimming pools, retaining walls, foundations, boats, trucks, tippers and much more," Colin explained.

"Polyurea is a fast setting and rapid curing flexible two-part spray on liquid membrane which can be applied to metals, wood, concrete and fibreglass substrates at any thickness from 0.5mm to 50mm."



Before and after – run down old tanks are not a challenge for Colin and his team who gave life back to these old tanks.

Pro Waterproofing's expertise spans the entire spectrum of waterproofing challenges with the team well-versed in tackling various structural complexities, employing cutting-edge techniques and premium materials for optimal results.

A key choice in residential, agricultural, marine, commercial and industrial applications, Pro Waterproofing Services approach offers five key benefits:

Waterproof and corrosion protection: Seamless Polyurea waterproofing membranes are moisture resistant, offering outstanding corrosion protection. This makes them ideal tank linings.

Minimum downtime: Polyurea cures in 30 seconds. It can be walked on in 30 minutes, offering an almost immediate return to service time.

Strength and flexibility: Polyurea is highly flexible and is tear and puncture proof.

No need for extra coats: the need

for extra coats is eliminated with the 1:1 volume ratio. Because there are no solvents, the coating is environmentally friendly, potable and VOC free.

Exceptional resistance: The tough, flexible Polyurea membrane will withstand extreme variations in temperatures, offers superior protection against chemical contact and abrasion as well as excellent UV resistance which makes it ideal for sealing roofs.

Equipped to handle waterproofing challenges of any scale and recognising that each project is unique, the membrane can be applied vertically, horizontally and overhead with solutions tailored to address specific needs.

Don't use a product that will need replacing in 7-10 years or breaks under pressure – seek a trustworthy partner and save money, give the team at Pro Waterproofing Services a call and shield your investment from water woes.

Aussies have the will, but the majority are struggling

NINE in 10 Australians (91%) are concerned about saving water, more than biodiversity (85%), reducing carbon emissions (80%) or climate change (77%), yet good intentions are failing to translate into action for the majority, research shows.

The national data released by The Water Conservancy reveals a nation acutely aware of water scarcity and ready to do its part but unclear on the everyday actions that impact.

As the study shows, nearly seven in 10 (68%) correctly agree that the world faces major water shortages within the next two decades unless water is drastically reduced.

Further, over three-quarters (77%) rate themselves as being knowledgeable about water usage, including one in five (19%) who believe they are extremely knowledgeable.

Over nine in ten (92%) agree that it is necessary to limit water usage in the event of a drought.

Ready to do their part, an overwhelming nine in ten nationwide (89%) say they either presently limit their water usage or intend to do so in the future, and nearly all (97%) say they

commit to or try to commit to day-to-day behaviours to support a healthy environment.

However, while awareness is high and intentions good, the study reveals a lack of understanding around the small changes that can make a big difference when it comes to saving water every day.

Less than half (46%) keep showers for less than five minutes, fill up the washing machine (49%) or dishwasher (42%) before they go on. Only four in 10 have installed water efficient taps and shower heads (41%) or avoid washing up under taps (39%). The most common consistent water habit is checking for leaks in taps, pipes and toilets but still only committed to by just over half (54%).

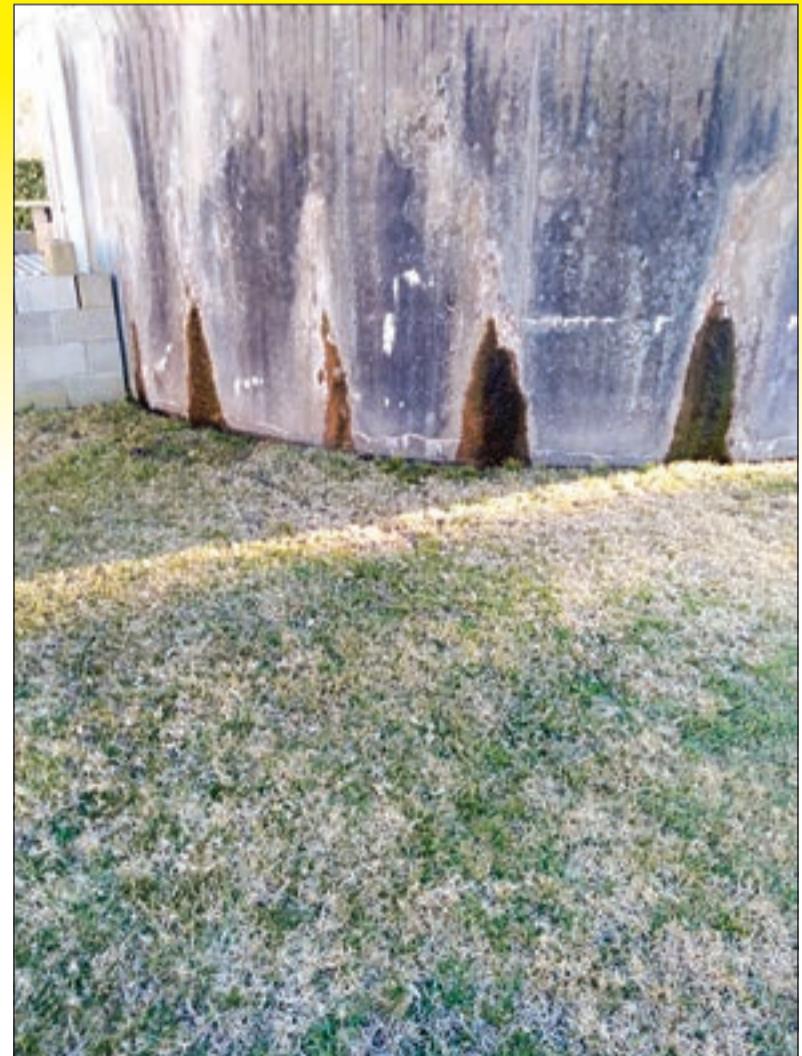
CEO of The Water Conservancy, Chris Philpot, said the research highlights a gap between what people think they know, best intentions and what they do, when it comes to water usage.

The good news is that Australians are responding positively to the government's Water Efficiency Labelling and Standards (WELS) scheme, designed to help people save money.

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Volunteers Drew, Dina, Frosty and Jy giving away the San Remo Co-Op lobsters as part of the spinning wheel prize. Z17_0524

38th annual lobster festival - proactively sustainable

SUNDAY'S Kilcunda Lobster Festival was the 38th annual event for the coastal town with locals and tourists alike fronting the crowds to partake in what seemed like the biggest turnout yet.

Tunes live from The Times entertained families and friends as they strolled over 50 market stalls - ranging from handmade jewellery and artwork by Da-Suze Art, all whilst indulging in crepes and lemonade from Le Gourmet Lemon or enjoying a cocktail from the bar.

The family and pet friendly festival again catered for all ages with face painting from Laurie Faulkner, rides from Taylors Amusements, and carnival games with prizes to be won.

The SES and CFA volunteers also had their trucks and gear on display, showcasing the tools and training of those in the community that work meticulously to help the coastal town of Bass Coast and surrounds - with Flynn Swanwick and Rod Legg demonstrating the hydraulic cutters used in road rescue.

"Our team are always looking for volunteers," said San Remo SES Unit Controller Mandy Chancellor.

The lobster festival is just that - a community event that brings locals together in support of one other and in support of the local township, with sustainability a core focus.

Visitors indulged in a fresh seafood lunch and purchased tickets to the famed spinning

wheel for their chance to win a fresh lobster from the San Remo Fisherman's Co-Op.

In an effort to continue sharing the message on sustainability, the Kilcunda Community Association collaborated with the Bass Coast Shire Council once again where 'Waste Warrior' Shana Bremner and the Phillip Island Scouts' Steve Scott with Harvey and Hannah helped visitors divert their waste appropriately.

"The festival is proactively sustainable, there is enormous effort and resources to help educate the community," said Shana.

"With the clear message to avoid use single-use plastic and dispose of waste correctly."

President of the Kilcunda Community Association Marcel Van de Bronk shared that all funds earned at the festival will go back to the community.

"I am so grateful for the support of the volunteers, and the members of the Kilcunda Community Association," said Marcel.

"This year we welcomed YMCA Skate Parks to hold the inaugural skate competition."

Skate Park Coordinator for Bass Coast Jerrie Liberaty collaborated with Action Sports Program leaders Dylan Lewis and Burt Smith to run the scooter and skate competition; a highlight of the day getting children and youth involved in the annual event to share their passions and showcase their talent.



John Duscher hosting the spinning wheel at the 2024 Lobster Festival. Z16_0524



Phillip Island Scouts' Steve Scott with Harvey and Hannah volunteering as waste warriors with Shana Bremner of Bass Coast Shire Council. Z20_0524



Wonthaggi Show n' Shine & Swap Meet President's Choice Best Overall went to Adrian's 1973 Nissan 240Z. C26_0524

Rec reserve roared to life

WONTHAGGI Power roared to life on Sunday as trucks, motorbikes and cars from the early 1920s right through to modern engines wheeled into place.

With car numbers near to equal to last year, foot traffic was near on double with the swap meet also seeing a significant improvement in the number of stalls on previous years.

As for the raffle, it was the biggest ever according to organiser Kris, which he noted came down to the kids running around selling raffle tickets.

"A (first time car attendee) said it was one of the best shows he had been to, especially due to the mix of cars," Kris explained.

"It's been a great smooth event with lots of happy people and smiles," AutoPro co-owner Gavin concurred.

"We'd like to say a very special

thank you to all the junior club volunteers - parents and children - who came along today and helped out. It was fantastic!" Kris said.

The top prize of the day, the President's Choice Best Overall, went to Adrian's 1973 Nissan 240Z.

Finished in November 2023, Adrian of Nar Nar Goon explained he had built the beauty from a \$250 shell over eight years with a GDR Skyline engine and drive train.

Amongst the other winners of the day were 'Marilyn' - Leigh Smith's red Aussie built 1968 Chev Impala (Best Tuff Street).

"I've had her for six years," Leigh explained, noting that the previous owner was a kid in a lolly shop each time they reunited with each other.

Best Vintage (pre-1950) went

to Leongatha's Jessie and Tim with their 1926 Bayliss Thomas, whilst Cowes' David and Kelly secured the Best Engine Bay with their 454 big block inside the 1968 Holden HK Monaro.

Built over 15 months with the engine finished in 12, the fully engineered car was spec'd by Kelly and built by David with the pair noting they'd kept the interior appearance as original as possible even if a few mod cons behind the dash had been added.

Shane Bolding's 1987 Series II Calais Turbo won Best Original in show.

Fellow local Brendan Benetti's 1941 Indian 741 v-twin three speed took out Best Bike.

A hobby, Brendan explained the bike has been built from a set of engine cases with all the work done over the 10 years he has owned the bike.



Valued member of the Wonthaggi RSL Frank Stupar, committee member Bert Orr, Lucas Family - Chloe, Melissa and president of the Wonthaggi RSL Dan with Malcolm Brodie at the Saturday market and swap meet. Z01_0524

Collectables that shape history

THE finer things shape history and together the committee members of the Wonthaggi RSL and their fellow collectors shared their military possessions at a swap meet and market; with each piece holding a unique story.

Whether members went to war, or just had a common interest in military history - together they gathered at the Wonthaggi RSL Hall displaying their uniforms, books, and archives, dating back to the first world war.

Valued members and committee members Frank Stupar, Bert Orr, and Melissa and Chloe Lucas volunteered their time to hold a sausage sizzle for the

community that raised funds for the Wonthaggi RSL.

Inside the hall, member (Major) Graham Eva displayed his vast range of military uniform - selling this piece of history showing his time in service. CPI Wayne Fuller who served from 1964-1975 shared that this uniform of Graham's was after his time.

"We never had polished boots in my time," said Wayne.

Moving through the swap meet, Geoff Trigg shared his fascination with military history stating that he never served but has been collecting pieces since he was 10 years old.

Geoff was selling helmets in

original condition that back dated to 1916 - including the French WW2 Army Helmet and the Dutch/Rumantan Helmet from WW2 used in Russia by the Romanians.

"In my lifetime of collecting I have travelled from Adelaide to Brisbane attending swap meets, garage sales collecting items that take my interest, and I researched each piece I owe. It's important for me to share these items with people that may also have a common interest in military history," said Geoff.

"I will continue to collect and research, because there is always something new to learn."



Xavier and Mitchell Lester enjoy their local Australia Day event. A09_0524



Nicole and Phil Fowler relax at Korumburra's Australia Day event. A13_0524



Korumburra Lions Linda Whitaker, Jean Worthy and Kevin Cook ensure nobody goes hungry on Australia Day at Coleman Park. A14_0524



Mal and Ange Clarke with Russ Matthews at the Australia Day celebration in Glen Alvie on Friday. C01_0524



Les White, Graham Walker and Marie Walker enjoy a traditional Aussie breakfast at the Kongwak Hall on Australia Day.



David Walker and Mick Hughes help out at the Pound Creek Australia Day celebrations last Friday.



Enjoying the Australia Day celebrations at Pound Creek last Friday were Jan Appleton, Jenny Christensen, Carmen Grayden and Noel Grayden.



John Hattam and Liz Cummins share a cuppa after the Australia Day celebrations at Meenigan.



Wonthaggi Rotarian Graeme Sprague and Western Port Ward Cr Geoff Ellis attend the Rotary Community Awards and Breakfast event on Friday. C01_0524

Snapped Out

Pictures of you and your friends at Australia Day events across Bass Coast and South Gippsland shires.



Judy Murphy, Helen Barrow, Lyn Skillern and Pearl Christoffersen at the Leongatha Australia Day celebration. A08_0524

Loretta Mabin, Barb Luke and Hans Kamphuis enjoyed Glen Alvie's morning tea in celebration of Australia Day on Friday.



Lucian Armstrong, Nate Forte and Sebastian Armstrong celebrated Australia Day in Inverloch.



The Inverloch Lions Club, including Dawn Rasmussen and Hazel Missen, provided a sausage sizzle at the Australia Day ceremony in Inverloch.



Musician Craig Amy and Andrew Tucker of Wonthaggi catch up during breakfast ahead of the Rotary Community Awards Ceremony. C02_0524



South Gippsland Shire Councilor Sarah Gilligan and Mayor Clare Williams took a moment after the duck races at Tarwin Lower for a photograph. C03_0524



Executive chef of the a la carte BBQ Patrick alongside wife Melissa Ferrie of Tarwin District Auto & Machinery Club had the BBQ spread down pat on Friday. C04_0524



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Saturday and Sunday, February 3 and 4

Public gates open (no dogs allowed): Sat 10am-4pm, Sun 9.30am-2pm
Lardner Park, 155 Burnt Store Road, Lardner

Admission Adults \$15, 12-18 years \$5, exhibitors and under 12 free
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An array of machinery will be present at Lardner Park over the weekend.

Bigger and better than ever

LARDNER Park will be swarming with all manner of vehicle and engine enthusiasts this weekend for the inaugural Heritage Vehicle and Machinery Display, a combined undertaking by Trafalgar Truck Restorers Club and Baw Baw Old Engine and Auto Club.

An exciting weekend for patrons and exhibitors, the event will see historic, classic and veteran trucks, tractors, cars, motorbikes, caravans, steam engines and stationary engines over 25 years old in a display that promises to be bigger and better than ever before.

The committee have been working hard to bring the event to life in what is shaping up to be a fantastic day out for young and old, solitarians and families with everything from restored examples and working trucks.

Committee member Peter Farley spoke

of the broader range of exhibits people will see noting that truck enthusiasts, and those curious about them, will learn plenty over the weekend.

From local favourites to those from further afield, and originals that have been dragged out of the shed jump in the car and head down to Lardner Park.

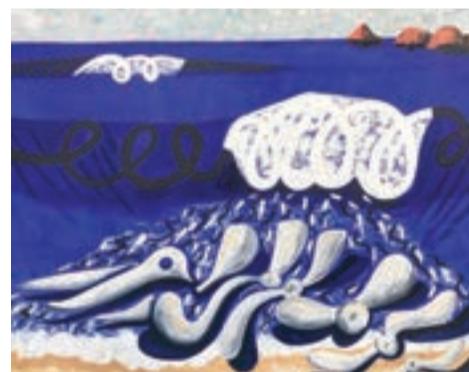
Exhibitors are urged to set up before 9.30am.

They gain free entry, as do those aged under 12 years.

The admission cost for those aged 12-18 is \$5, with adults paying \$15.

Gates open to the public at 10am and close at 4pm on Saturday and 9.30am to 2pm on Sunday.

Saturday night dinner is available for \$35 a head, with bookings essential and they can be made by calling Helen on 0437 953 304.



Hear their stories, see their creations and enjoy the diversity of three renowned artists artistic expressions. Work by Mark Schaller.



Works by Mae Adams will be on display as part of the PICES in Focus exhibition from January 31.

Discover the diversity of local contemporary art at PICES

AS THE PICES 2024 Pop Up Exhibition draws to a close, a new and exciting exhibition is about to begin. In collaboration with Bass Coast Shire Council, PICES presents "PICES in Focus", a two-week exhibition featuring three highly respected local and regional contemporary artists Mae Adams, Andrew Kasper and Mark Schaller. PICES are very thrilled to have this calibre of artists participate.

In this exhibition paint, fibre and steel are brought together in this collective body of works, with each artist contributing a unique voice and story to their works. The diverse mediums employed reflect not only technical prowess but also a profound individuality, contributing to the richness and diversity of the overall artistic dialogue.

PICES in Focus emerges as a celebration of the local contemporary art scene, offering viewers a unique opportunity to

delve into the personal stories and creative journeys woven into the fabric of the works.

The artists invite you to join them in the gallery on Sunday, February 4, at 2pm when they will share ideas about their art practice in a discussion moderated by well-known and local journalist Catherine Watson. All welcome.

The PICES in Focus Exhibition will be held in the Art Gallery, Berninneit, 91-97 Thompson Avenue, Cowes and will be open daily 10am - 4pm from January 31 - February 12.

PICES is very pleased to have received grants from Bass Coast Shire Council to assist with mounting this exhibition and from Regional Arts Victoria to make a short film of the artists involved.

Visit the PICES website pices.com.au for more information and keep up to date on Instagram or Facebook @picesartspace



Jan 31 - Feb 12

Open 9.30am-5pm weekdays;
10am-4pm Saturday and Sunday

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Interpretations Exhibition officially launched at Coal Creek

INTERPRETATIONS, an exhibition featuring the creativity of artists living and working in South Gippsland, was officially opened on Thursday night at Coal Creek, offering a happy mix of ceramics, painting, photography, sculpture and decorated gourds.

Three of the artists whose works are included in the show exhibit at Anne Roussac-Hoyne's Rare Earth Studio Gallery in Toora, including Anne.

She and Julie Lundgren Coulter paint with earth pigments derived from crushed soft rock, otherwise known as ochre, and with charcoal, while Sue Gilford loves transforming the gourds she grows into works of art using pyrography.

Fish Creek pair Andrew and Domenica Wallace, who run Wallace & Wallace Sculpture & Photography, are also part of the Coal Creek exhibition.

Andrew is the photographer and Domenica the sculptor.

Mandy Gunn's paintings and Kate Stuart's ceramics add to the impressive variety on display.



Most of the artists displaying their works in the 'Interpretations' exhibition at Coal Creek were at the official opening, with Mandy Gunn, Anne Roussac-Hoyne, Kate Stuart and Domenica and Andrew Wallace present. A17_0524

Anne explained that her passion for earth pigments sprang from a Meenyan workshop she attended, learning how to use the naturally occurring colours to create dyes.

She was inspired to paint on canvas, which was a new experience for her, and was pleasantly surprised when she sold 17 paintings at her first exhibition, held at the Waratah Hills winery in Fish Creek.

Being a French teacher rather than a trained artist, Anne wanted to see what

experienced artists could create with earth pigments, encouraging others to take part in an exhibition at Fish Creek Hotel, her association with Julie starting there.

"We don't mix colours; they are exactly as they come out of the earth," Anne said.

The earth pigments are sourced from various places including a carpark in Tasmania and on Anne and her husband's large beef farming property in Yanakie.

South Gippsland Shire

Council mayor Clare Williams opened the 'Interpretations' exhibition, alongside council's manager of economy, community and investment Christian Stefani.

"Something I love about our region is the unique creative scene," Clare said.

Tying in with the South Gippsland theme of the 'Interpretations' exhibition, council's tourism video was projected on a wall, showcasing the Shire's natural environment, including seascapes.

The Royal Hijinks at Inverloch Jazz Club



THE "Royal Hijinks" are an exciting energetic collection of talented musicians.

Terry's mandolin playing and quirky sense of humour set the tone, Sarah's high energy gypsy violin and simultaneous gymnastic performance has to be seen to be believed. Silas' simultaneous playing of keyboard and drums the real engine room of the band while Jen leads this group with guitar and fine vocals.

This group will be playing at the Inverloch RSL on February 4 from 2pm - 4.30pm.

Visitors \$28 cash. Enquiries Marg 0438 420 770

LEFT: A musical spectacle will be on display by the Royal Hijinks this Sunday at Inverloch RSL.

Fly high with art

THE Neerim Bower Sculpture Exhibition, in Neerim South, is a vibrant celebration of art in Gippsland, with a flock of spectacular sculptures and the live creation of a brand-new mural.

For two weeks from February 10 - 25, Neerim South will play host to the fourth Neerim Bower Sculpture Exhibition, a celebration of art that brings this cultural village to life.

This year's theme is 'Free as a Bird', drawing inspiration from the majestic Neerim Bower sculpture that welcomes visitors to town.

During the festival, the town of Neerim South will be flying - with sculptures popping up on streets and at Algie Hall (10am - 4pm). Expect to see stunning recreations of flight, metallic murmurings, and abstract wings, all made by skilled sculptural artists with a deep appreciation for birdlife.

Sculptures aren't the only artworks on display during the festival. A mural by celebrated Gippsland artist Melanie Caple will be painted live on the IGA supermarket's south wall in an interactive art experience. Visitors are encouraged to watch the artistic process as the mural comes to life.

You can pick up your map to guide you around the outdoor sculpture exhibition from Algie Hall or from local businesses.

Where: Neerim South

When: February 10 - 25

For more info visit neerimbower.com.au

To plan your visit to Gippsland, see visitgippsland.com.au

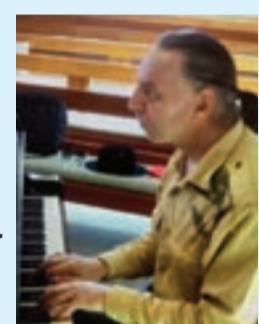
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Sentinel-Times

COMMENT

Signs of bureaucratic breakdown

THE lack of transparency and accountability in the public service has reached epidemic proportions.

Interminable delays with completing the Cape to Cape Resilience Project, supposed to address erosion issues at Inverloch, and the Distinctive Areas and Landscapes (DAL) review of the Bass Coast Shire Council's planning scheme are cases in point, both holding up vital work.

The inability of Parks Victoria to reopen the underground tours at Wonthaggi's State Coal Mine before the busy holiday season, despite receiving a \$1.5 million grant for the purpose last July, is just one of the examples that we know about because of public action and some level of transparency.

They haven't even been able to reopen the café to date.

But it's unfair to single out Parks Vic though because it is a seriously under-funded service without the manpower or funding to manage its extensive responsibilities.

But there are many, many more necessary works and services that has been delayed, shelved or buried due to the malaise and waste in the public service and a lack of transparency and accountability in government.

The Commonwealth Games, Victoria's Big Build, the cost and mistakes made in the pandemic response... it's frightening what's going on in government at the moment and you can add local government into that as well.

It seemed like a small thing before there were six drownings on Bass Coast beaches in 13 days this month, but the failure by various government agencies to address the recommendations in the 'Bass Coast Shire Coastal Risk Assessment' report, as part of the Surf Life Saving Australia Beach Drowning Black Spot Reduction Program, are now in sharp focus.

Among other things (and we don't know it all because agencies including Life Saving Victoria, the Bass Coast Shire, Parks Vic and PINP have refused to release the report in full) the report strongly recommends a shire-wide uniform signage strategy at our beaches and a commitment to a systematic monitoring and review process.

Signs aren't everything, and as pointed out by readers of the Sentinel-Times on social media at the weekend, they aren't specifically to blame for the drownings but, despite what people say, clear and effective signs do work...

No dogs, don't walk on the grass, no entry, no parking; most people do read these signs and comply.

A sign that says: "Do not swim here, people have drowned" would have far more impact than the present messages, including the "Strong Currents" warning at Kilcunda Beach which may mean nothing at all to the inexperienced visitor.

And it's an absolute disgrace to say the victims of these drownings should take responsibility for their own actions – they simply don't know what they don't know about the dangers that exist.

While taking immediate action to address the weak messaging and poor state of our beach warning signs is vital, it's more important for government to engage with the community on all these things with more transparency and accountability.

Let this be the hallmark of the new Bass Coast regime under its new CEO Greg Box.

Vox Pop

Are you concerned about youth crime?



Bob Rennie

Moe

"It seems to be on the rise, and the law doesn't protect the innocent."



Fran Vodden

Pakenham

"Youth crime's clearly an issue everywhere; it comes down to boredom mostly and they need a pathway for kids who have left school, and entertainment and activities."



Adrian Darakai

Leongatha

"I'm not particularly concerned; we're fortunate enough to live in an area that doesn't seem to be affected by it, but I acknowledge it's a problem for areas with higher rates of youth crime."



Mark Pearce

Leongatha

"Yes, I am concerned about the volume of it and it seems to be the same ones, so they get into trouble and they're back out doing it again."

Action required to avoid more lives lost

I WAS involved in assisting the recovery and failed resuscitation of a man near Surfies Point on January 12. The rips there claimed another life.

A young lady near me told me that she and another rescued a 15-year-old girl from the same rip the previous day.

The rips are localised but powerful if surf is above 1.5 – two metres.

As I regularly stay on The Esplanade, I am cautious but have seen others rescued over the years. The signage of caution is woeful.

There are multiple signs, mostly about dog restrictions and wildlife protection, but a small note of 'dangerous current'.

I feel clear signs of beware of rips, and a description of how to recognise them.

As there are no life savers, perhaps cameras or drones might be used, and warnings delivered on high-risk days.

Action is required now to avoid loss of more lives.

Terry Ahern

Thank you for the ceremonies

A BIG thank you to Bass Coast Council and its Councillors for continuing with the traditional Australia Day ceremonies unlike some of the eighty odd woke councils that have cancelled them.

Remember that 68 per cent of Australians want Australia Day to remain on January 26. Something that a particular Bass Coast Councillor did not understand last year and is totally out of step with.

Australia Day: Reflect, Respect, Celebrate. Go back and read these three important words again. We are all part of this story.

We have the best country in the world. Australia. Don't divide it. Don't spoil it.

Rob Parsons, The Gurdies

Cultural venues a hit

CONGRATULATIONS to Bass Coast Shire Councillors, executive and staff for your stroke of sheer genius and determination in establishing Bass Coast Cultural Venues in Wonthaggi and our new Cultural Centre, Berninnett in Cowes.

We ratepayers are often quick to voice our opinions and criticise our local government for their perceived mistakes. However, we also need to applaud their vision and tenacity when they get it brilliantly right, as Bass Coast Shire certainly have with this cultural initiative.

I've now had the pleasure of attending a number of live performances at both venues, culminating in Kate Ceberano's evening concert at Berninnett last Saturday evening.

Great performers, great planning, great

staff, great acoustics and beautiful accommodation at two central and local Bass Coast locations – well done Bass Coast Shire!

Peter Lynch, Tenby Point

Let the fireworks continue

EVER since living in Inverloch and even around the other towns, I have always attended the Council run fireworks. It is a special event for families and coming from India it always brings back memories for me of celebrations.

I was surprised to read that a child was injured as this is a family event. Being so parents and those with children in their custody need to also take the responsibility that these events have their risks and children should not be in areas around this, so they are not compromised.

Safety is not only the responsibility of the organisers, but every individual attending needs to be accountable too. I actually saw people bringing their pets to the fireworks, which does not show much intelligence. Pets are always scared for loud noises and it shows how little people know about that.

I sincerely hope the child recovers and it is a shame that that had to happen. I hope that does not stop the event from happening because it brings a lot of joy to the town as it one of the most anticipated events as the crowds indicated.

Dilene Hinton, Inverloch

A "balanced plan" you say?

CLEARLY the opinion of at least two foreshore committee members is that views are their top priority, while the other suggests previous mismanagement of the foreshore, (Sentinel Times: January 23, p.5) despite the fact that the previous committee contracted expertise to outline a comprehensive plan for appropriate vegetation management of the foreshore (Vegetation Management Plan 2020-24 Oates and Frood).

This important document is not referenced by the current committee. The landscape plan is not reflective of the 60 per cent of survey respondents who regarded "protection and enhancement of native vegetation to be of the highest priority" (ranked above those who sought water views).

In addition, DEECA agrees with this protection saying, "State government policy supports this response, and the reserve will be managed in compliance with native vegetation policy." Adding, "striking a balance between water views, access, aesthetics, and native vegetation management will require careful and considered planning at a greater detail than the landscape plan can provide for" (How Community Engagement influenced Corinella Foreshore Reserve Landscape Management Plan 2022).

How far has DEECA strayed since then? There are many who wish to be further enlightened on this "balanced plan". We

ask that the Corinella Foreshore Committee of Management, and DEECA fulfil their accountability requirements to the community, by holding a public meeting to explain their plan further, clarify points of difference, and openly discuss any concerns before any works commence on the foreshore.

Alison Normanton, Corinella

Out-of-control weeds taking over

I RECENTLY read in the Sentinel regarding ragwort and the damage it causes.

Last year I had a conversation with the Agricultural Department about the out-of-control weeds throughout Gippsland, East Gippsland and South Gippsland – the noxious weeds are taking over our natural fauna.

Ragwort, wide leaf broom and blackberries grow in abundance in properties and along most of our roadways.

Six years ago I attended a seminar about these weeds, it was noted significant fines apply if they are not removed from your property.

In the recent conversation with the Agricultural Department, I was told that shire councils have lost control of eradicating the weeds and no fines are in place.

You can put so much time and expense into controlling the weeds on your own property, but it makes little difference when the weeds are in abundance outside your boundaries.

Fran Jacobsen

Cans go a long way

THANK you for this bigger picture snapshot of the 10c can and bottle container deposit scheme (January 16, pg. 5). As District Commissioner I have only seen it in a really local level like the Tarwin Junction Rover Crew Unit of Leongatha who were given 4500 cans that they recently returned to the Wonthaggi depot to add to fundraising for the 2024 programs they are running for youth aged 18 to 26.

Not all returns in scouting have been big, but I know of many youth collecting up items around their community and returning these to fundraise for the 2025 Jamboree in Queensland. These young people have also enlisted grandparents and extended families to keep a box at home and pass on their 10c item.

I'd be foolish not to take this opportunity to ask wider community members to donate to scouting with their returns, either passing on the physical cans to us, contacting your local group to arrange, or when returning to machines, collection points or the big depots turning that return into a donation searching in the app or on the machine for a local scout group or giving to our state body "Scouts Victoria" which still has a positive impact on scouting in the South Gippsland district.

Wombat Lyons, Scouts Victoria



O'Brien Judith Wright Real Estate auctioneer, Stavros Ambatzidis, described the superbly located Cowes property, up for auction on Lovers' Walk at Cowes as a "memory maker" when it was offered for sale on Saturday for the first time in almost 45 years.

'Rare' Lovers' Walk property passed in at auction

A COWES' property, described as 'a rare find' and a 'memory maker' by O'Brien Judith Wright Real Estate auctioneer, Stavros Ambatzidis, when he put the premium location on Lovers' Walk up for auction on Saturday, January 27 was nonetheless passed at a final vendor's bid of \$4 million.

More than 120 people turned out at the eagerly anticipated auction on site at 5 and 7 Charmandene Court, Cowes, a property on two titles, with two houses spanning approximately 1698 square metres, with north-facing frontage to Western Port Bay, a short stroll from town.

However, while there was a significant amount of interest prior, and on the day, including possible buyers on the phone, there were no public bids, and it was left to Mr Ambatzidis to make the play with an initial vendor's bid of \$3.8 million, inviting \$50,000 rises, but there were none.

However, it seems likely that the property will sell within days.

Principal of O'Brien Judith Wright, Greg Davis, said there had been four offers made after the auction which were "close to the reserve" and he expected to conclude a sale within days.

Government won't meet housing targets

AUSTRALIA began construction of just 23,058 new houses in the September Quarter 2023, the weakest quarter in over a decade and down by 21.6 per cent on the same quarter last year, according to Housing Industry Australia senior economist Tom Devitt.

The ABS recently released its building activity data for the September quarter.

This data provides estimates of the value of building work and number of dwellings commenced, completed and under construction across Australia and its states and territories.

"This data reveals there were 103,707 detached houses that commenced construction in the 12 months to September 2023, down by 17.0 per cent on the 124,940 commenced in the previous 12-month period," Mr Devitt said.

"This points to a slow start to National Cabinet's ambition to build 1.2 million homes over the next five years starting mid-2024."

"Since the RBA's first cash rate increase in May 2022, sales of new homes have tumbled. A number of earlier projects are also being cancelled, with banks withdrawing finance in the face of soaring building costs and shrinking home-buyer borrowing power."

"This lack of new work entering the construction pipeline is expected to produce a trough in new house commencement in 2024, when Australia will start

construction on just about 95,400 new houses, the weakest year in over a decade.

"There was also a decline in the number of multi-unit projects commencing construction, down by 9.6 per cent in the September Quarter 2023 to just 13,916, one of the weakest quarters in over a decade.

"Multi-unit commencements are mounting a recovery on the back of population growth and land constraints, with Australia expected to commence 84,400 new multi-units in 2024."

"This would still put total detached and multi-unit commencements at less than 180,000 in 2024, far below the 240,000 per annum required to meet National Cabinet's target."

"As fewer new projects begin construction, the pipeline of work that Australia's home builders have under construction is expected to shrink rapidly this year."

"Meeting National Cabinet's target will be largely dependent on the delivery of adequate private housing across the housing continuum. This will also have the biggest impact on the cost of housing and rental availability."

"Holding all levels of government to account for improving planning regimes, reducing red tape and supporting the development of appropriate infrastructure and a skilled construction workforce, must be a priority this year."

Elders

Real Estate

MORTGAGEE AUCTION

125 CLANCYS ROAD, KORUMBURRA



"CLANCYS LOOKOUT" SCENIC VIEWS ON 10 ACRES

- Picturesque 10 acres of undulating land
- 4-bedroom, 2-bathroom solid brick home
- Superb shedding
- Ideal for tradesmen, truck, or machinery storage
- Located a 5-minute drive to Korumburra town centre

Inspection by private appointment or the following open for inspection time: Saturday February 3, 2024 at 11am **Auction** Sat, Feb. 10 at 11am (if not sold prior). **Terms** 10% deposit, balance in 30/60 days **Web ID:** 300P134425 **Contact:** Don Olden 0417 805 312 Katrina Griggs 0428 571 083

Elders Korumburra | 11 Commercial Street, Korumburra

eldersrealestate.com.au

WANTED

Do you have a house in Venus Bay?
Lets do a deal!
A tree change for a sea change.

I am the owner of 2 blocks of land in Flowerdale VIC.

Flowerdale is a 1 1/4 hr drive north of Melbourne.

Both blocks are in Riverside Crescent, one at #5 and the other #18. Check them out on realestate.com.au both blocks have sealed road frontage.



5 Riverside Crescent, Flowerdale 3717



18 Riverside Crescent, Flowerdale 3717

1100m² and on a flood free site with the King Parrot creek running along the rear boundary, soil testing has been done and approval to build a three bedroom house. So catch a trout for breakfast and hunt deer in the afternoon. This block is cleared, flat and fully fenced.

Currently advertised for \$295,000

1360m², power connected, two structures on this block. Structure 1: furnished and made into 4 sections - sitting room, kitchen, one bedroom and an office with desk, filing cabinet and stationery cabinet.

Power is also in place to service a two bedroom house. Block is fully fenced.

Currently advertised for \$330,000
Original asking price \$440,000

Combined value of the two blocks \$625,000

Happy to do a deal with either both blocks or just one with a cash adjustment.

Please ring Vern on 0409 418 460

Email: nataliefriend@outlook.com
PO Box 21 Ivanhoe, VIC 3079

P.S. prefer as close to shops as possible as I am having difficulty walking.

Looking for a walk-in walk-out deal.



5 | 2 | 2 3,065m²

1195 Nerrena Road, **Nerrena**
For Sale \$920,000
Agent SEJ Real Estate
 Irene Walker 0429 045 632

Quality home with rural views

WITH uninterrupted, north facing views over the surrounding farmland, you will find this spacious five-bedroom family home.

Perfectly positioned on a neat three quarters of an acre (approx.) which was once part of the former Mackay State School site which opened in 1913 and closed like so many small schools, in 1958. With the school closed and classrooms relocated, the land was sold off and here we are today with this well-crafted family home.

Built in 2006 by the renowned local builders Considine & Johnston, you can be assured all the quality foundations are in place with this family home.

The spacious sized home is well suited to families, even dual occupancy or perfect if you work from home, with plenty of space and lovely rural views.

The home features:

- Open plan living with kitchen, dining, and living
- Sliding doors opening out to the verandah, garden and farmland views
- Electric oven, hot plate, dishwasher, and plenty of bench space and storage
- A Nectre combustion wood fire in addition to a reverse cycle air conditioner
- Double-glazed windows throughout
- Two additional rooms provide a sitting lounge and home study/office all with storage
- Five bedrooms all with built-in robes with the master having a walk-through robe to a dual access ensuite
- Family bathroom with separate bath, shower, and toilet
- The laundry once again provides great storage, bench space and easy access inside from the double garage shed

Externally:

- Large two car garage with workspace and a second high clearance shed. And small garden shed.
- Driveway parking, septic treatment plant, heat pump solar hot water including a 4.5kw solar system on the house and two water tanks providing approx. 64,000L of water storage.
- The well established, low maintenance garden is a mix of fruit and citrus trees, vegetable and berry patch, ornamental carpet roses and beautiful natives.

Located just 11km, 10 minutes' drive on a bitumen road from Leongatha, with a stunning rural outlook.



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LEONGATHA NORTH



- Magical 36 acres & great views
- 3 bed, 1 bath spacious home
- Open plan living & second living
- Productive grazing, 8 paddocks
- Ideal for cattle and hay production
- Shedding, garden, great location

\$1,195,000

KOONWARRA



- Prepare to fall in love!
- Contemporary Victorian Home
- 3 acres (approx.) paddock, garden
- Views, private & peaceful
- Open plan living, spacious & bright
- 4 QS BRs, 2 bath & family rooms

\$1,850,000 - \$1,920,000

BUFFALO



- Exceptional lifestyle – 10 acres
- All set up for cattle & horses
- Sandstone home with open plan
- 3 bed, 2 bath, 2 carport
- Exc. Shedding to suit all!
- Walk to the great southern rail trail

\$1,170,000

MARDAN



- Est. 1908 Edwardian Home
- Quiet location set on 5 acres
- 12ft ceilings, timber floors
- Country kitchen & spacious living
- 3 bed, 2 bath with formal dining
- Shedding, creek, dam & privacy

CONTACT AGENT





'Clancys Lookout' scenic views on 10 acres

WELCOME to "Clancys Lookout" an affordable lifestyle property located on the outskirts of the popular South Gippsland township of Korumburra. The perfect opportunity for your new lifestyle property with breathtaking views awaits.

The solid brick home is a renovator's delight to add your own distinctive touch. There are four large bedrooms and two central bathrooms which include walk-in showers, bath and vanity. The kitchen features an electric wall oven, gas cook top, pantry, and ample of storage space. A spacious open plan living area leads out to the front porch and overlooks the picturesque land.

There is no shortage of shedding on the property which consists of a 18x9m fully lock-up shed with power and concrete floor; which is an ideal space for machinery storage or a workshop, a 6x14.5m shed with concrete floor, 13.7x9m shed plus a horse shelter.

'Clancys Lookout' comprises 10-acres of beautifully undulating land, which is made up of five paddocks making it ideal for a wide variety of hobby farm interests including horses, cattle, sheep, alpacas and more.

This property offers potential owners a relaxed and secluded lifestyle while only a short drive to Korumburra's shops and schools, 15 minutes to Leongatha, 20 minutes to the pristine beaches of Inverloch for swimming, fishing, and boating and Melbourne CBD is only 1.5 hours away.

Don't miss out on this unique opportunity to secure an affordable lifestyle property on the outskirts of Korumburra. Contact Katrina Griggs on 0428 571 083 or Don Olden on 0417 805 312 for an inspection or further information. Inspection by private appointment or the following open for inspections times at the property: Saturday February 3, 2024 @ 11am

Terms: 10% on signing and balance 30/60 days with vacant possession.



4 | 2 | 4 10 acres

125 Clancys Road, **Korumburra**

Mortgagee Auction Saturday, Feb. 10 at 11am (if not sold prior)

Agent Elders

Katrina Griggs 0428 571 083

Don Olden 0417 805 312



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Buffalo 90 acres

Excellent Grazing/Lifestyle at Buffalo

- 90-acres of quality grazing land
- Laneway system & tracks to 15 paddocks
- Water supply via dams, spring & troughs

Web ID: 300P137238



DON OLDEN
Licensed Estate Agent
0417 805 312



Korumburra 99.7 acres

Splendid Lifestyle Property

- Undulating to rolling hill country
- 4 BR, 2-bath home & 1 BR, 1-bath cottage
- New 8-bay shed, hay sheds, disused dairy

Web ID: 300P110309

\$1,895,000



Leongatha 705m²

Charming Home in Convenient Location

- 3 BR 2 bath home, colonial style kitchen
- Front lounge has a gas log heater
- Fully fenced yard, low maintenance garden

Web ID: 300P6183

\$670K - \$720K



Korumburra 756m²

Great Investment or Ideal Family Home

- 4-bedroom, 2-bathroom home
- Open plan & spacious living area
- Ducted gas heating & split system R/C

Web ID: 300P101126

\$500,000

Elders Korumburra
11 Commercial Street
Ph 5658 1894



KATRINA GRIGGS
Sales Consultant
0428 571 083



SHARON TURTON
Property Manager
0439 383 091



HELEN ARRESTIA
Sales Support
03 5662 3523



NATALIE RES
Sales Support
03 5662 3523

Elders Leongatha
37 Bair Street
Ph 5662 3523



Golf course views - relaxed beachside living



3 | 2 | 2 | 738m²

300 Coghlan Road, **Silverleaves**
For Sale \$1,130,000
Agent Alex Scott & Staff
 Cowes Office 5952 2633

Prime position - price reduced by \$50,000

WELCOME to 27 Radovick Street, Korumburra! This solid three-bedroom, one-bathroom residential house is now available for sale. With its prime location, quality construction, and ample shedding, this property is ideal for those seeking a comfortable and convenient lifestyle and is perfectly situated for those wanting to create that work from home situation.

Step inside this well-built brick and tile home and feel comfortable you will have limited maintenance in the years to come. The layout seamlessly connects the living, dining, and kitchen areas, creating an ideal environment for family gatherings and entertaining guests.

The bedrooms are generously sized and offer plenty of natural light, ensuring a peaceful and relaxing ambiance. With two garages and room for four vehicles, you'll have more than enough space for a workshop, tools, storage needs or even to work from home.

One of the standout features of this property is the newly constructed front deck, where you can unwind and enjoy the fresh air while overlooking the picturesque surroundings. Whether you're sipping your morning coffee or hosting a barbecue, this outdoor area will become your favourite spot to relax and entertain.

Located in the centre of town, this property offers the ultimate convenience. You'll be just moments away from local shops, cafes, schools, and medical and sporting facilities, ensuring everything you need is within easy reach. Don't miss out on this fantastic opportunity to own a quality-built home in Korumburra. Contact us today to arrange a private viewing and make this property your own.

Disclaimer: Whilst every care has been taken in preparing the above information, it is to be used as a guide only. Please refer to the appropriate legal documentation to complete your due diligence.



3 | 1 | 4 | 1160m²

27 Radovick Street, **Korumburra**
For Sale \$725,000
Agent Alex Scott & Staff
 Scott McKenzie 0427 552 898



FIRST time offered in many years is this traditional style custom built Federation home overlooking the ninth fairway of the Cowes Golf Course, and just a short stroll to the beautiful north-facing beach of Silverleaves. Here you will find this grand style home nestled amongst established gardens and native trees.

Designed to accommodate a big family, this large north-facing home offers open-plan living with nine-foot ceilings. As you walk through the entrance you are greeted with a light bright sunny living space and formal dining area with bay windows showcasing the uninterrupted views of the golfers playing the ninth hole. The open fireplace with a period timber mantel piece is a real showcase.

The second living area offers a huge light filled north facing living, dining area and fully appointed kitchen with American oak solid timber cabinetry with stone benchtops and black glass splashback. A Coonara wood-fired heater and split system is a welcome touch and complements this living area.

The expansive master bedroom is situated at the back of the house for privacy and offers a full ensuite. The remaining

two bedrooms, all generously sized, have built-in robes and a modern family bathroom services this area. Plantation shutters throughout with carpet and new vinyl plank flooring give you a modern feel.

This traditional Federation style home features ornate cornice, ceiling roses, dado rails and fretwork. The traditional exterior brickwork consists of soldier course bricks above the windows, bull-nose bricks on the window ledges as well as corner and plinth bricks. The double garage, with plenty of storage and a workbench, is located at the front for ease of access.

This home offers the ultimate beachside lifestyle with its close proximity to the beach. The popular Silverleaves General Store is a five-minute walk away and the cafes and shops of Cowes are just a short stroll along the beach or along the newly completed beach track. All that the Island has to offer is within easy reach.

An exciting opportunity awaits to also purchase the adjoining block of land with a huge double garage to accommodate a boat and/or caravan.

Call Alex Scott & Staff on 5952 2633 to arrange your private inspection... You will not be disappointed!

LEONGATHA

OPEN THURS. FEB 1, 4.30-5PM



5 Gray Street

- 2 bedroom, 1 bathroom 1 carport
- Upgraded internally
- Close to Leongatha CBD

\$460,000

Contact: Leongatha Office

RANCEBY



800 Korumburra-Warragul Road

- Rural 13 acres
- 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom homestead
- Garage / disused dairy

\$950,000

Contact: Korumburra Office

CORINELLA



21 Smythe Street

- 3 bedroom + study, 2 bathroom and shed
- 1026m² (approx.) Corner Allotment
- Fully fenced with room for boat, caravan etc

\$660,000

Contact: Grantville Office

WONTHAGGI



2/26-28 Graham Street

- 2 bedrooms
- Modern unit
- Close to shopping

\$480,000

Contact: Wonthaggi Office

LEONGATHA

OPEN FRI. FEB 2, 4.30-5PM



KORUMBURRA



18 William Street

- 4 bedroom/ 2 bathroom
- Outdoor entertaining
- Views

\$599,000

Contact: Korumburra Office

CORINELLA



34 Smythe Street

- Tastefully Renovated
- 958m² allotment (approx.)
- 3 bed, 2 bath, outdoor entertaining area

\$799,000

Contact: Grantville Office

KILCUNDA



6A Hill Street

- Character filled home
- 1442m² allotment
- Beautiful native gardens

\$1,190,000

Contact: Wonthaggi Office

LEONGATHA

OPEN THURS. FEB 2, 5-5.30PM



KORUMBURRA



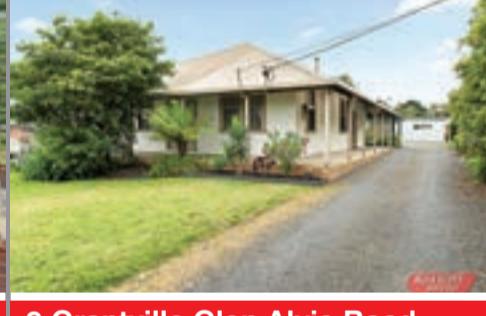
27 Radovick Street

- Centre of town
- 1,160m² block
- Shedding, rear access

\$725,000

Contact: Korumburra Office

GRANTVILLE



9 Grantville Glen Alvie Road

- Charming weatherboard home
- 1/4 acre allotment (approx.)
- Double garage and workshop

\$739,000

Contact: Grantville Office

WONTHAGGI



162 White Road

- 3 bedrooms
- Renovated cottage
- Plenty of parking

\$549,000

Contact: Wonthaggi Office

KOONWARRA

OPEN SAT. FEB 3, 9.30-10AM



KORUMBURRA



9 Riflebutts Road

- Modern family home
- 4 bedroom, 2 Living, 2 bath
- Inground heated pool

\$665,000

Contact: Korumburra Office

CORONET BAY



6 Semaphore Street

- Immaculately maintained 3 bedroom home
- Fully fenced, carport & garden shed
- Great first home buyers

\$470,000 - \$490,000

Contact: Grantville Office

WONTHAGGI



12 Willow Court

- Court location
- Great shedding
- 3 bedrooms plus studio

\$699,000

Contact: Wonthaggi Office

LEONGATHA

5662 0922

41 Bair Street

Andrew Newton 0402 940 320

Emily Clifford 0422 622 299

Tony Giles 0407 528 192

Dan Huther 0418 334 801

KORUMBURRA

5655 1133

36 Bridge Street

Scott McKenzie 0427 552 898

GRANTVILLE

5678 8433

1505 Bass Highway

WONTHAGGI

5672 1911

Cnr Murray & Billson Streets

Cal Nation 0439 334 163

Mick Chambers 0418 349 783

Phil Hanley 0417 140 508



Decision on duck hunting following inquiry

THE BAN on duck hunting has long been a contentious issue and looks set to continue as it is expected the Premier of Victoria, Jacinta Allen will allow the sport to stay.

Calling a meeting yesterday, the Premier was expected to discuss stricter controls around hunting seasons, bag limits and greater penalties for hunters not doing the right thing.

This move ultimately rejects the key recommendation from an inquiry into the sport, held last year, which was for the government to ban duck hunting.

The inquiry received a record 10,300 submissions, showing great support from Victorians on both sides of the argument.

Findings from the inquiry show that there are 58,000 licenced hunters in the state and the Government makes over \$8 million per year from game and licence revenue.

It also found significant concerns around the wounding and death rate of threatened native bird species during hunting season, whether that be accidental or intentional.

There was also reportedly a major problem with duck shooters complying to rules.

However, pressure about allowing the sport to continue isn't just coming from hunters and hunting groups, it's also coming from a large metropolitan based union.

In March 2023, hundreds of Electrical Trades Union (ETU)

members walked off Victoria's Metro Tunnel project to protest their right to hunt and camp.

Following this protest, in June 2023, ETU state secretary Troy Gray informed the inquiry there would be a mass walk off from major construction projects if the ban was implemented.

Providing more than a few reasons for the Government to maintain a duck hunting season.

Aside from banning the sport, the inquiry made other major recommendations, including allowing Traditional Owners to retain hunting rights, turning public game reserves into outdoor recreation areas – constituting up to 3.5 million hectares of public land, authorities can still hunt and control native birds that are pests to agricultural land, to end the use of lead shot and investigate the impact of hunting on wetlands and if no ban is made, require hunters to undertake an Aboriginal cultural heritage awareness program.

Shooters, Fishers and Farmers MP Jeff Bourman told ABC Radio Melbourne that he welcomed the decision and would back greater education for hunters to reduce the wounding rate of birds.

"I think that there has been a fairly dedicated group of people, including myself but not just myself, that have made this happen," he said.

An imperfectly perfect garden

A SMALL community corner cupboard on the front lawn of a Wonthaggi yard graced with mature trees and a path leading to the wide verandah of a weatherboard house beckons you inside to discover what might grow beyond.

Going through to the backyard, perfectly imperfect gardens cultivated by members of a young family showcase a real and practical example of what can be achieved by a busy family.

And it is one of 17 gardens that people can peruse with all their senses in the upcoming Bass Coast Edible Garden Weekend.

Clare Zagorski and her family began gardening, among other things, in an effort to live in line with the principles and ethics of sustainability; to live in an environmentally conscious and responsive way, in answer to the global malady of climate inaction.

Part of this effort involved gifting their children, Ziggy and Etta with their very own empty garden beds.

"I'm quite passionate about the principles of permaculture, and gardening is a training ground or a learning opportunity to teach those principles of sustainability," explained Clare.

"Sustainable ways of living were just born of a genuine concern for the planet and for the future of not only my kids, but also the next generation."

Etta plants a beautiful



Etta shows off her garden of flowers, from which she collects the seeds and plants again the following year, and will show others how, as part of the Bass Coast Edible Garden Weekend.

assortment of flowers each year, collecting the seeds to plants again and she has gained an understanding of the closed ecological systems of plants and nature.

While Ziggy appreciates aesthetics, his garden is more about growing edible plants with watermelon saplings shooting in a sparse and untamed space.

Instilling the idea to her children of putting in a bit of effort, grit and hard yakka to reap benefit as well as teaching her children about how and where food is grown are also Clare's goal.

A well-established and always fruiting lemon tree has branches

that arch under the weight of fruit, which often keeps the community corner stocked.

Around the corner, beds burst with tomato bushes, trailing cucumbers and a rambling assortment of other veggies.

The fruits of Clare's labour are shared with the birds, but she's ok with that, and figures they can take half and the family can take half.

Rescued and rehomed bees buzz at the back of the garden, their usefulness as pollinators to help create an abundant garden is the motivation for keeping them, rather than the honey.

"Gardening is so experimental and you don't really have to spend any time researching or understanding it. I kind of love that about gardening because I just don't have time to be too fussy with it," Clare explains.

While not a showy garden, the Zagorski's patch provides an opportunity for the couple to connect with their kids, to have fresh veggies and to share their abundance and exchange through the community corner.

"Gardening is incredibly forgiving and there's an opportunity to learn together and just have a go, and for children and families to be able to connect more with dirt and just the basic principles of living," said Clare.

The Bass Coast Edible Garden Weekend is on February 10 – 11. Follow Clare on Instagram at [waste_conscious_mama](#).

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A real and practical example of a garden created by a young busy family will be one of 17 gardens as part of the Bass Coast Edible Garden Weekend.

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AND STAFF**
Est. 1886

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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
Kaleb Jans	0487 155 471	David Holden	0428 749 390

WARRAGUL

Neil Darby - Livestock Manager	0418 595 265	Alan Bolding	0419 723 255
Terry Ahearn	0438 562 816	Dale Atherton	0428 888 300

PAKENHAM

Jordan Sim	0448 058 435	David Setches - Livestock Manager	0409 443 473
Mark Malacarne	0418 654 590	Glenn Barwick	0408 975 476

FOSTER

		Dick Faulkner	0408 595 174
		Brian Vuillermi	0429 436 040

WONTHAGGI

Rob Ould - Livestock Manager	0408 595 183
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MELBOURNE LAND

David Setches - Livestock Manager	0409 443 473
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COWES

Glenn Barwick	0408 975 476
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VENUS BAY

Morgan Croucher	0457 001 877
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KOO WEE RUP

Tim Gibson	0420 306 599
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Real Estate Sales

KORUMBURRA

Scott McKenzie	0427 552 898	Andrew Newton	0402 940 320
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LEONGATHA

Phillip Hanley	0417 140 508	Peter Dwyer	0428 855 244
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GRANTVILLE

Cal Nation	0439 334 163	Emily Clifford	0422 622 299
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INVERLOCH

Mick Chambers	0418 349 783	Tony Giles	0407 528 192
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PAKENHAM

Marni Lee Redmond	0403 525 413	Dan Huther	0418 334 801
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BERWICK

Tom Gibson	0438 574 472	Alan Steenholdt	0409 423 822
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LANG LANG

Tom Gibson	0438 574 472	Scott McKenzie	0427 552 898
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KOO WEE RUP

Michelle Lunney	0457 120 277
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Online farm business program helps manage risk

AGRICULTURE Victoria is offering farmers an opportunity to participate in a free online business program designed to help farm businesses better manage risk in the face of a variable climate.

The online program, commencing in February on Wednesdays, is suitable for livestock, grain, mixed farmers, horticulturalists, and apiarists.

Agriculture Victoria Farm Business Resilience Project Leader, Kit Duncan-Jones said participants will improve their skills and knowledge to better prepare for and manage risk, adapt to change, and strengthen their farm businesses.

'The course is designed to help farmers set and achieve their individual business goals and is relevant to those who are new to farming and young farmers, as well as more experienced farmers,' Mr Duncan-Jones said.

An introductory session will be run in early February, followed by five sessions on key farm management topics, including:

- Identifying and managing risks, strategic planning and setting business goals
- Financial management, budgeting and profitable decision making
- Managing people on farm, succession planning and farm safety
- Climate risk and natural resource management
- Business planning.

As part of the course participants will be offered a one-on-one session with an experienced farm management consultant to review their business plan.

Mr Duncan-Jones said participants will be supported by Agriculture Victoria staff and team of consultants from Pinion Advisory.

'Online delivery of the course allows farmers from anywhere in the state to participate, from the comfort of their own homes and without the added time commitment of travel.'

'If you're a farmer who wants to better manage your business, strengthen your farm resilience to withstand future droughts and shocks, and set up your farm for success now and into the future – this is the program for you.'

To register your interest, please complete this short survey at forms.office.com/r/ag5FRM7IV3

For more information, contact Sarah Clack on 0417 316 345 or at sarah.clack@agriculture.vic.gov.au

The Farm Business Resilience Program is jointly funded through the Australian Government's Future Drought Fund and the Victorian Government's Future Agriculture Skills Capacity Fund.

Further information can also be found on the Agriculture Victoria at agriculture.vic.gov.au/farm-management/managing-for-and-during-drought



David Meikle of Tarwin Poll Herefords. Z24_0524

Over seventy years of breeding

THE Meikle family opened their farm on Sunday afternoon to share their Tarwin Poll Herefords herd with Gippsland producers. The annual occasion allows David and Ann to interact with local farmers and share the story behind their seventy years of breeding.

Tarwin Poll Herefords was established in 1950 by the Meikle family after David's parents moved to the Meenyan farm in 1926; today the South Gippsland property is home to the fifth generation.

David explained that beef week isn't purely about retailing but an opportunity to meet new people, build relationships with clients and interact with new buyers.

"I find the open days valuable; we're given more time to chat - discuss what is needed on their end and to also receive feedback – which keeps me on track."

"On days like today I simply bring all the bull calves down from the gully where visitors can walk through and see what we will have

available for the following year," said David.

Tarwin Poll Herefords is also a part of the Gippsland Performance Herefords group who annually run a September online auction.

"These open days are a great opportunity for buyers to make note of numbers for sales at a later date and for us to have a good conversation about breeding programs - it's a two-way flow of information."

For more information on Tarwin Poll Herefords visit tarwinpollherefords.com.au

Turn your trash into trees with Landcare

SOUTH Gippsland Landcare Network is thrilled to introduce a new way to turn your trash – specifically cans and bottles – into trees.

Through Victoria's Container Deposit Scheme, you can choose that the 10 cents you are entitled to receive for each eligible drink container deposited at a refund point is donated to the South Gippsland Landcare Network.

Every cent donated will go towards tree plantings for koala and wildlife habitat in South Gippsland.

How it works is as easy as one, two, three:

1. Collect: gather eligible drink containers.

2. Find: locate your nearest refund point.

3. Donate: set South Gippsland Landcare Network Inc as your chosen charity in your CDS app.

Every cent counts – 100 per cent of the donations



Fosky donating to the South Gippsland Landcare Network for koala habitat.

received will be dedicated to tree plantings, ensuring the preservation and expansion of koala and wildlife habitat in South Gippsland.

"It's great to see the government giving the community a real incentive to recycle their trash," South Gippsland Landcare Network chair Jillian Staton said.

"I encourage you and your kids to collect as many eligible containers as possible and return them to the refund point so that we can reduce waste and help local wildlife."

By getting involved, the community can make a significant difference and contribute to a healthier environment for wildlife.

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Lardner Park Calf Market Report

Monday, January 22, 2024

Jersey & Jersey x \$20 to \$30

Friesian Bulls \$42 to \$106

Beef Bulls \$80 to \$290

Beef Heifers \$30 to \$305

Number of Calves: 61

Number purchased to rear: 28


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DEATHS

ATTENBOROUGH (Hancock), Lilian Dorothy (Dorrie):
Late of Poowong North.
Passed away peacefully at Tarago Views Aged Care, Neerim South on January 23, 2024, aged 96 years.

Loving wife of Alf (dec.) for 69 wonderful years.

Loved and special mum of Dorothy, Pam, Max, Mal, Maurie, Merv (dec.) and Kit, mother-in-law of Julian, Paul, and Ross. Dear friend of Anne.

Cherished and much loved nan of all her grandchildren, great grandchildren and great great grandchildren.

So dearly loved and sadly missed.

Mum and Dad reunited.

"Go Blues!"

For Funeral details please visit: www.nielsenfunerals.com.au
NIELSEN FUNERALS
5623 2771.

DEATHS

CRAWFORD (nee Moon), Carole Anne:
13.07.1944 - 26.01.2024.
Daughter of Lance and Daphne Moon (both dec.), sister of Myles and Lyn, Alex and Tricia. Mother and mother-in-law of Julie and Raoul, Belinda and Craig, Clare and Mark, Ruth and Mark.

Nanna of Will, Rhy and Serena; Laura, Sarah; Abbey, Brodie, Ebony; Nate. Great Nanna of Harriet.

We toiled, we shared, we cared. We laughed, we cried, we loved. We did it all together, What a wonderful journey.

With all our love Julie, Belinda, Clare, and Ruth.

CLASSIFIED DEADLINE 12.30PM MONDAYS

DEATHS

CRAWFORD (nee Moon), Carole Anne:
Passed away peacefully 26.01.2024.
Beloved sister of Myles, sister-in-law to Lyn.
Aunty to Scott and Cate, Paul and Gen, Colin and Rob. Great Aunty to Lily, and Darcie.

Thank you for being a big part of lives.

Sadly missed.

Rest In Peace.

Much loved sister of Alex and sister-in-law to Tricia.

Loved Aunty to Lachlan and Chantelle, Ainsley and Chris, Jared and Melissa, Ellen and Tim, Callum and Annie.

Great Aunty to Riley, Lance, Charlotte, Xiana, Harrison; Hazel, Gus; Celeste, Audrey; and Hattie.

You and I have always had a special relationship from the days of matchbox cars through to the end. You have always been there for me and my family. You will always be in my heart.

Love now and always.

-- Alex, Tricia, and families.

GARRETT, Phil:

Valued friend and riding mate of our family for 40 years.

Ride safe on the highways of the sky.

We will miss calling in to see you.

Andy, Val Grayden, and family.

DEATHS

PROSSER (nee Alexander), Marjorie Isabel:
28.03.1925 - 25.01.2024.
Died peacefully at Hillside Lodge, Korumburra. Formerly of Koonwarra.

Daughter of Alex and Elsie Alexander (both dec.), sister to John and sister-in-law to Ivy (both dec.).

Loved wife of Harry (dec.) for 68 years.

Sadly missed.

Rest In Peace.

Devoted mum of Geoff (dec.) and Dianne, Leon and Kim, Beverley and Geoff Coulter. Friend of Lyndal.

Caring grandma to 9 and loving great grandma to 12.

Reunited with Harry.

For Funeral details, please visit www.handleyfuneralservices.com.au

DEATHS

PROSSER, Marjorie Isabel (Marj):
A laugh, A smile, A giggle or two, *That's the way we'll remember you.*

Love Geoff (dec.), Dianne, Brad, Gem, Max, and Harvey. Clint, Shan, Jaz, and Callum, Lorrelle, Paul, and Harrison.

Privately Cremated.

FUNERALS

CRAWFORD (nee Moon):
A Celebration of Carole's life will be held at the Leongatha RSL, corner of Smith Street and Michael Place, Leongatha on Friday, February 2, 2024 commencing at 2pm.

All Welcome.

Handley & Anderson Wonthaggi 5672 1074

VAN DILLEN:

A Funeral Mass for the Repose of the Soul for Mr. Wilhelmus Joseph Van Dillen will be offered at St. Laurence's Catholic Church, Ogilvy Street, Leongatha, on Friday, February 2, 2024, commencing 11.30am.

This Service will be livestreamed, to view please visit www.handleyfuneralservices.com.au

ROGERS, Wayne Noel:
Born June 27, 1947.
Passed away at Wonthaggi Hospital on January 25, 2024.

Dearly loved brother of Barry and sister-in-law Stephanie. Loved uncle of Natalie, and Vaughan. Close and dear friend of Denise.

He was a kind and gentle soul who will forever be in our hearts.

Rest in Peace.
The Funeral will be held at The Coalfield Chapel, 102 Graham Street, Wonthaggi on Friday February 2, 2024, commencing at 1pm, followed by a private cremation.

MILKINS FUNERALS
Mob: 0439 320 099

BEREAVEMENT THANKS

EDEN, May Connorville:

We, May's family, would like to extend our heartfelt thanks for the phone calls, messages, cards, flowers, baking, and the many who attended and shared in the celebration of her life in the garden setting last Tuesday.

Very much appreciated.

-- The Eden family.

WHITE, Trevor:

Our heartfelt thanks to Prom Country Aged Care, Foster Medical Centre and the Ambulance service for the compassion, respect, love, and care given to Trevor.

To Paula, from Gippsland Funeral Services who was so helpful, patient, and compassionate. To Jacky Webster for so beautifully leading the Memorial Service to celebrate and honour the life of the man we proudly call "Dad" and "Pa".

Thanks to Elsie's Florist, the Leongatha RSL, friends, and family who supported us at Trevor's Memorial Service and those that sent cards and messages of sympathy.

-- Merryn, Jennifer, Nadine, and family.

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JENC568

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PUBLIC NOTICES

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ROCK N ROLL 50's & 60's Dance Classes:

7.30pm Dakers Centre, Smith Street, Leongatha. Every Thursday night from February 1, 2024. Beginners to advanced. No partner required.

\$10 P.P.
Contact John 0418 586 324.

MEETINGS

Inverloch RSL Sub-Branch Inc

ACN: A0094752X

Inverloch RSL Sub-branch announces its Annual General Meeting will be held Friday, February 23, 2024 at 1330h at the RSL Hall Bolding Place, Inverloch. Members are encouraged to attend.

Submissions to The Secretary, Inverloch RSL PO Box 95, Inverloch Vic 3996

JENC513

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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.



Powlett River Primary School Outside School Hours Care (OSHC) Coordinator

Powlett River Primary School is seeking an OSHC Coordinator to join their team to coordinate the service in 2024. The OSHC Coordinator's role is to lead and oversee the day-to-day operation, service development, implementation, and evaluation of the service. This will involve working directly with children within the OSHC program and focusing on the administration, planning, monitoring and management of the service.

Applicants need to have or be working towards a Diploma/Advanced Diploma of Children Services/Degree in Early Childhood Education and Care, Primary Education or equivalent, and a current WWCC.

Hours: 37.6 hours per week
Classification: Ed Support Level 1
– Range 3

Applications close: Tuesday, February 6, 2024

For a full position description or more information please contact Wendy Nicol on 03 5678 7240 or powlett.river.ps@education.vic.gov.au

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LB1032

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LB0566

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Centre Manager

Employment type: Full Time
Location: Wonthaggi

About us

The Country Universities Centre (CUC) is a network of affiliated Regional University Centres providing support, connection, and dedicated facilities for higher education students in regional communities.

CUC students benefit from being part of a local learning community, with opportunities to engage with peers, educators, and local industry. Through enhanced higher education access, regional people are empowered to shape vibrant and prosperous futures for themselves and their communities.

Country Universities Centre Bass Coast Region is a not-for-profit community-driven organisation, jointly funded by the Department of Education and key local support. The centre open in March 2021.

The role

This is a highly rewarding and unique opportunity to join the CUC team in shaping the education landscape for students in the Bass Coast area.

As Centre Manager, you will work with the Board of Directors and be supported by the CUC in implementing the strategic plan to increase access to higher education opportunities in the region. You will be integral to the management of the Centre in Wonthaggi and coordinating ongoing operations to support successful outcomes for students. You will also work with the CUC to develop and implement a marketing plan, foster and maintain relationships with stakeholders, and represent CUC Bass Coast at community events.

We are looking for

- A self-starting, enthusiastic individual who is passionate about creating opportunities for regional and remote students;
- The ability to engage with local students from diverse backgrounds and pursue key opportunities to support students to identify and achieve their academic goals;
- An experienced collaborator with the ability to build strong relationships within the CUC network, the Bass Coast community, and with diverse external stakeholders to promote the CUC's aims;
- Excellent organisational and time management capability, combined with high-level computer skills; and
- A dedicated individual with the agility to execute the strategic plan and manage the day-to-day running of the Centre.
- Excellent leadership skills with the ability to motivate and inspire a team.

How to apply

A position description is available by emailing Ash Jones: recruitment@cuc.edu.au. Confidential enquiries can be made to Ash Jones on 0409 843 414.

To make an application

You are required to submit the following: Responses to the key questions:

- Describe a community-led project you've been actively involved in. Share the specific role you played, the challenges you encountered, and the impact the project had on the community.
- Provide an example of a situation where you have effectively worked with internal stakeholders to create a cohesive and supportive environment.
- A cover letter addressed to the Board of Directors; and
- Your full CV.

Applications close Wednesday, February 14 at 5 pm and must be emailed to recruitment@cuc.edu.au.

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PUBLIC NOTICES

PROPOSED SALE OF COUNCIL LAND

Council at its ordinary meeting held 13 December 2023 resolved to commence the community engagement to:

Commences statutory procedure in accordance with Section 114 of the Local Government Act 2020 to sell the following properties:

a. 270 Mount Best Tin Mine Road, Toora North – being the land described in Volume 11543 Folio 725 with an area of 6.219Ha



b. 44 Pound Road, Foster – being the land described in Volume 12175 Folio 009 with an area of 2.846Ha



c. 14 Radovick Street, Korumburra – being the land described in Volume 07208 Folio 519 with an area of 1618.6m²



d. 21 Shellcot Road, Korumburra – being the land described in Volume 09436 Folio 778 with an area of 1135 m²



It is proposed to sell the above properties by public sale for not less than a valuation obtained for the land which is made not more than six months prior to the sale. A person may make a submission to this proposal.

Submissions are to be received no later than by 5pm Tuesday 27 February 2024 and addressed to the CEO, 9 Smith Street Leongatha Vic 3953. Any person making a submission is entitled to be heard in support of the submission. If a person or a representative wishes to be heard in support of the submission, they must state this in their submission.

Copies of the submitter's name and address will be disclosed at any public Council meeting at which the proposal will be considered.

If no submissions are received, the proposal will be implemented.



Energy efficiency assessor Rhys Freeman looks forward to helping senior citizens in Korumburra and surrounds to reduce their energy use and bills while remaining comfortable.

Energy efficiency opportunity in Korumburra and surrounds

WITH the current cost of living challenges, the 'Senior Citizens Energy Solutions Project' running in Korumburra and nearby localities can help householders boost the energy efficiency of their homes and reduce their power bills.

Participation in the project is free due to funding from a grant through the Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal (FRRR), with the Wonthaggi-based Energy Innovation Co-operative being the auspicing body.

The FRRR funds provide for energy assessments for 10 to 15 homes in the year.

Fish Creek based energy efficiency assessor Rhys Freeman will help determine improvements people can make to achieve the above aims.

"When I visit a house, I look at both its structure and the appliances that are being used," Rhys said.

He discusses household energy use, then looks at structural issues such as which way the building faces and whether there are trees around it that influence energy use.

The location and placement of windows and how well the house is insulated are other matters considered.

During his initial visit, Rhys asks occupants their views on the comfort and energy performance of the house.

He'll help set up access to the AusNet myHomeEnergy site and download smart meter data for further analysis.

Rhys then considers all the information he has gathered, prepares a report and returns to chat about his findings, including which appliances are costing you the most to run.

He'll offer suggested changes, which may be measures you can take in the home, or alterations to your energy retailer billing arrangements.

The report would include recommendations for changes in house structure, Rhys said, elaborating that could relate to such things as insulation, blinds and awnings.

Alternative technology will also be outlined, such as heat pumps versus electric and gas water heaters.

Different energy sources can be compared, including gas versus electricity, and grid electricity against solar electricity.

Rhys said some changes can be as simple as people fitting doorstops or blocking gaps around doors and windows, while others require retrofitting of further energy saving measures.

While he won't carry out such projects, he can provide contacts and is also happy to outline possibilities for rebates when applicable.

Call Rhys on 0409 536 995 for further information and to request an inspection.



Mary MacKillop
Catholic Regional College

Guitar Teacher Individual Lessons and ensemble

Mary MacKillop Catholic Regional College is seeking a suitably qualified Guitar Tutor to join our school community from the beginning of Term 1, 2024.

Approximately 1 day of teaching per week is available as a part time salaried role, with the potential to increase over time. The successful applicant will have experience teaching guitar to students in years 7-12.

Experience in contemporary and classical styles is essential as well as proven ability to direct ensembles.

In support to the music program, attendance at some afternoon or evening events may be required.

The successful applicant must have either a current Working with Children's Certificate or VIT registration. All Staff must demonstrate an active commitment to the ethos of a Catholic school. Mary MacKillop College is a Child-Safe school.

Further information can be found on our website or contact the Principal's Personal Assistant, Carly Kitchingman ckitchingman@mmcrc.catholic.edu.au.

Applications close 4pm, Friday February 2, 2024.

Applicants will be requested to upload:

- A letter of introduction addressed to the principal; and
- A resume

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PUBLIC NOTICES



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, or search gofundme.com for "Caring for Sams Children".

LB1260



Club Captain Ash Easton. Photo: Jo O'Reilly Stubbs

PIBC specialty twin fin comp

ON Sunday, January 27 Phillip Island Boardriders Club (PIBC) held their first specialty event for the year, with the choice of surfboard as Twin Fin.

Club Captain Ash Easton and team coordinated a fun filled day of approximately 40 surfers across two locations. Beginning at 8am with round one at Summerlands, until tide allowed for round two to be held at Kitty Miller Bay.

Conditions were epic with some sizeable waves coming through and big scores all day.

In round one of Open Men's and the very heat of the day Dumpy scored an eight, and Jay Panopoulos's top two waves were both in the sevens. Tate Russell and Harry De Roth later each produced heat scores with an impressive wave combo of eights and sevens. So did Eli Curry in the final at Kitty Miller, also clinching the Open Men's.

Notable waves in the Open Women's included Dannielle Baylis, winning her semi-final heat with a two-wave combo of

a six and 6.5. Zoe Adams and junior Scarlett Rennie both scored waves in the sevens. In the final Evie Lutz nabbed the highest scoring wave of the heat with a clean seven and secured the Open Women's.

Special Awards went to "Best Air" by Eli Curry, "Best Tube" went to Jay Panopoulos, with two "Encouragement Awards" to juniors Scarlett Rennie and Tate Russell.

It was a community group effort with Sam Fullarton of @samfullartoncreative generously donating the winner prizes of custom tide charts. Photographer Andrew Lindsey @bunpix and Treasurer Jo O'Reilly Stubbs @joanna_oreilly_stubbs also captured all the action with surf snaps throughout the day.

Final results:

Open Women's
1st Evie Lutz
2nd Zoe Adams
3rd Scarlett Rennie
Open Men's
1st Eli Curry
2nd Harry De Roth
3rd Dylan Thomas James



Scarlett Rennie, Evie Lutz, and Danielle Baylis (Open Women's final). Photo: Jo O'Reilly Stubbs



Evie Lutz, Eli Curry, and Sam Fullarton. Photo: Jo O'Reilly Stubbs

Swimrays take on open water challenge

WHILE many treasure their morning sleep-ins, a group of keen open water swimmers, The Inverloch Swimrays, has been rising three times a week to meet at the Inverloch Surf Life Saving Club to practice open water swimming.

The group has been swimming laps between markers they have placed about 200-300m apart.

The group have a range of different motivations, some ranging from maintaining fitness or completing the Channel Challenge in the coming weeks.

Others have higher ambitions with triathlons and longer water (up to 25 km swim events) coming up in the next few months. All levels are equally welcome.

As a result of different focuses, some people swim one lap to gain confidence and fitness, while others do four or five laps before the group meets for post swim takeaway coffee from the cafe.



A group known as the Inverloch Swimrays meet on Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings to practice their open water swimming.

All levels of ability are welcome and all you need is willingness to get in the water – some of the group brave the elements without wetsuits, while others enjoy the extra buoyancy and warmth.

The group hopes to increase connections with the other groups, the Walkerville Walruses and the Phillip Island Turtles in the area to help

build increased participation as the groups swim at different times and this would enable more people to be involved in Open Water Swimming.

The group started when a few of the regular Inverloch bike riders decided they should get together on the non-riding day and swim.

A notice went out to the

community Facebook groups and over the past six weeks the group has been going, they have been joined by approximately 50 swimmers over the time, with a core group of seven there each day.

Some have holiday houses and are here for a few weeks, some swim and then dash off to work.

Tourists to the area and locals alike have enjoyed joining the swim, especially on the many calm mornings the group has had this year.

The group expects to continue till Easter and then restart next October, however if people are keen, they can continue through winter.

The group hopes to see more swimmers come along.

Everyone is welcome to come join in.

The group meets at 7.30am Monday, Wednesday and Fridays at the picnic tables.

See you at the Inverloch Lifesaving Club.



The Prostate Cancer Charity Drive adventurers head off on their final leg from Meenyan to the Koonwarra saleyards. A28_0524

Prostate cancer charity drive ventures along Southern Rail Trail

PARTICIPANTS in the Biannual Prostate Cancer Australia Day Charity Drive began the harness drive fundraiser in testing conditions at Alberton West Recreation Reserve on Friday, finishing at Koonwarra on Monday with sunshine and a temperature in the mid twenties.

All proceeds from the event were donated to the Prostate Cancer Foundation of Australia, dedicated to reducing the impact of prostate cancer on Australian men, their partners and families.

"It was raining and coming in sideways," event organiser Leanne Prosser of Toongabbie said of the first day.

A diversion was required at Hedley, with the rail trail "washed out there" and drivers guiding their animals on a detour of a few kilometres, going through the bush then crossing the South Gippsland Highway.

"We wish the (car) drivers would slow down," Leanne said of that challenge.

After a trip of approximately 26 kilometres, day one ended at Welshpool Recreation Reserve.

On Saturday, it was on to Bennison, stopping along the way to enjoy a packed lunch at the Toora horse yards, the day's journey being a little over 16 kilometres.

Sunday took the intrepid travellers to Buffalo Hall, breaking the almost 27-kilometre day's riding at Hoddle Station.

A further 22-kilometre stretch was undertaken on the final day, participants resting at their Meenyan lunch stop before continuing along the Great Southern Rail Trail towards their destination at the Koonwarra saleyards, the end of the journey.

Leanne was accompanied by granddaughter Mia Jones, the pair pulled by Welsh Pony Manny.

Fiona Mottram of Woorarra West brought dogs Texta and Saffy along for the adventure, Daisy the mini mule acting as their 'engine'.

Participants came from localities such as Mirboo North, Yarram, Lancefield and Traralgon.

The first running of the Australia Day Charity Drive was in 2018, between Toongabbie and Maffra on the Plains Rail Trail and it's been held every couple of years since.

Leanne said this year's route was ideal as it offered less likelihood of unsuitably hot conditions for the horses, ponies and mules and wasn't too far from home for participants.

Venus Bay Men's Shed ferried everyone back and forth to their floats each day, making its bus available for the purpose.

Around the Bay

By Jim's Bait and Tackle

THAT'S it for another Christmas holiday fishing season and, as is the case every year, the fish went on holidays as well for the majority of the time.

Although trade slows considerably now and its mostly weekends, we are heading into what is considered to be the best time of the year. February, March, April and even into May and early winter generally has the most settled weather and more predictable wind patterns.

The fishery opens up and offshore comes into its own for the smaller boat owners and while it's not a time for bagging out on every species its certainly a time for quality fish.

What you will find is quality over quantity and while you might not find 8kg snapper there is a good chance you will come home with a couple around 40cm added to a handful of 40cm whiting, 45cm flathead and maybe even a gummy around the 6kg.

Frustrating is the best word to sum up the tuna over the last month with dozens of schools and plenty of fish but at times very difficult to catch.

The trick is to work out when they are going to bite and that's exactly what the more successful anglers do.

How do they do it? They spend hours on the water working the fish until something gets them started, tide, barometer, light change many different things can make a difference but if you keep records of your fishing, you will find patterns.

Often the success of your trip out fishing has little to do with the lure colour, type or bait but more to do with timing.

The trick to any lure fishing is to have a variety and try different ones at different times of the day.

There are definitely popular ones, but it never ceases to surprise how often people will use a spread of the exact same lure, troll at exactly the same speed all the time, or go to the exact same spot each time and are catching nothing, instead of mixing it up until you find what works on that day.

When you do find them and they won't take the lures you have out it most probably has nothing to do with the lure but more to do with they just aren't feeding yet.

Don't drive over the fish to get to somewhere.

There was a dozen tuna caught within about 2km of the entrance this season already.

From the past few years, the next couple of months will give you your best chance of catching a tuna.

In the very few chances to fish over the last couple of weeks the fishing has been better than the first couple of weeks of the holidays but nothing special.

Probably more to do with the weather than the fish and it is expected this will improve as the weather does.

There is a lot of very small whiting in the bay that seem to be concentrated around the Dickies Bay area.

Bigger ones have been found along the Rhyll bank and in Cleeland Bight between the bridge and the firs green pole.

There has been patches of whiting from other areas Long Point, Tortoise Head, top light at Newhaven but not big numbers, either way a few moves will be needed to get decent numbers.

Calamari reports have been about the same and similar areas similar results.

They have been nothing special all season so let's hope the autumn run of them is better.

There have been several reports of flathead in the bay with plenty actually big enough and worth taking home.

Flathead reports have got better and better over the last few years and almost getting to the stage that people are heading into the bay to target them, across the corals being the best area.

Pinkies have been patchy, or a nuisance just depends on where you fish but there are some better ones amongst them you just need plenty of bait and patience.

Gummies of the big variety just haven't been there - maybe it's because there are so many smaller fish they aren't getting a chance or because the weather is not allowing boats to spend time on the water after dark which is where we get most of our better reports from, either way those fishing offshore has produced several of quality, so they haven't left all together.

The salmon reports have slowed a little and the bigger ones seem to have headed out chasing the bait around with the tuna.

There is still plenty of bait around with yakkas and mackerel turning up at the back of the boats that have a bag of berley in the water so make sure you have a rigged set up ready to go because they will just turn up with little warning.

With the end of January, we will be going back to our regular hours at the shop, still open seven days a week but not until 8am Monday to Friday and 7am weekends.

Beach volleyball comp

SOUTH Gippsland Volleyball's largest beach volleyball competition took place at Inverloch on Sunday.

Attracting 27 teams from across Gippsland and metro areas, the competition dressed the beach with six full beach courts.

Teams of families, school mates, volleyball beginners as well as some of Australia's elite players competed in this social competition - the longest continuously run beach volleyball competition in Victoria. The competition is in its 31st year.

The quality of play attracted plenty of spectators along Inverloch's stunning foreshore and were rewarded with fun but competitive games.

Ninja Nets defeated Eastside Hawks to earn the top division's Grand Final.

Congratulations to Ninja Nets: Lachlan Morland, Jack McIntosh, Lachlan Bray, Tom Boyle.

In the Green division 1, Silly Peppers were runners up to Seasalted (Lloyd Lok, Zach Ceola, Les Kosem and Alba).

In Green division 2, Jessie Tan's Ride or Dive were too strong for the Sun Blockers.

Congratulations to the local team, Ride or Dive (Jessie Tan, Noah Anderson, Darren Gardiner and Antonella Olmedo).

The Orange division was the tightest competition for the day with four of the five teams finishing the round-robin matches on equal points.



Green Division 1 Grand Final Winners, Seasalted, Zach Ceola, Lloyd Lok, Les Kosem and Alba.

In the end, local team Beached seals won (Esther Caarels, Rebecca Caarels, Ethan Caarels, Andrew Noble and Joemar Gloria).

In the Blue division, another local team, the Herbs, took the top honours (Michael Axford, Christopher George, Tim Berger and Ashton Westwood).

The Yellow division was the most colourful court on the sand as the Beetles and Vikings enjoyed their Grand Final game.

The Beetles, in their first entry to the competition, won their division (Erin Webster, Seb Jakobi, Clay Jakobi and Grace Orfanellis).

Other winners on the day included Erik Webster who won the lucky raffle and Cal Goldsmith who won the player door prize which was a shirt signed by Olympic and World Champions Giba and Mauricio Lima from Brazil, donated by VIP.

The strong performances exhib-

ited by local teams in the tournament set the scene for an exciting Junior program and social competition this season at South Gippsland Volleyball.

The Fun Night is Thursday February 8, 7.15 pm and is open to all at Splash Leongatha.

A Grade and B Grade competition begins Thursday February 15.

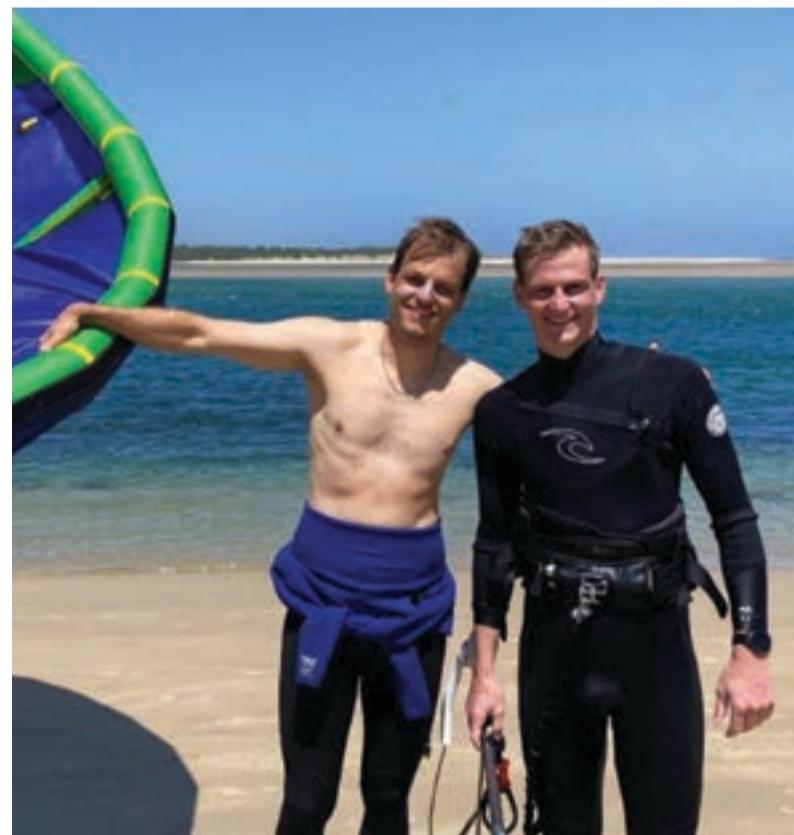
Junior training also begins on Thursday February 15 at 6 pm.

Open club training is now running Wednesdays at 7 pm and alternate Sundays at 1 pm. Training is open to current and new players.

New players, of all levels of experience, are welcome.

Follow the club on Facebook and Instagram (South Gippsland Volleyball). Contact Secretary Jess Sanders 0447 262 522 or email southgippslandvolleyball@outlook.com for information.

It's a long way to come to go kiteboarding



Swiss visitors Adri Kunz and Teddy Meller were delighted with the kiteboarding conditions on Anderson Inlet on Wednesday and also with one of the best days of the Victorian summer so far.

IT'S the second time that Adri Kunz and Teddy Meller have found their way to Inverloch's Anderson Inlet to go kiteboarding but when the wind and weather is right, there's no better place in the world and they should know.

The pair hail from snowbound Zurich in Switzerland, where there are a couple of lakes close by but without allowing the freedom to make the most of the conditions that Anderson Inlet provides, also with the option of trying out the waves on the bar.

"It's fantastic. I'm moving to Melbourne soon," says Adri, which is true.

Teddy is just visiting but has also been making the most of the conditions.

"We've been here one time before and we've also heard about Sandy Point as well but it's already great here," said Teddy on coming out of the water after dozens of exhilarating runs along the channel between the shoreline and the huge sandbar between Inverloch and Point Smythe.

"We'll be back," they said as they loaded up the car and headed for their temporary home back in Melbourne after one of the best days of summer so far.

TIDE GUIDE

TIDAL PREDICTIONS FROM PORT PHILLIP HEADS

Approx. Tide Variations: Seal Rocks, Venus Bay, Waratah Bay and Cape Woorlami (Same), Tooradin +2hrs 45, Cowes Pier +50, Stoney Point +40

TUESDAY	January 30
4.12am	1.56m
10.03am	0.54m
4.04pm	1.37m
10.00pm	0.39m

WEDNESDAY	January 31
4.39am	1.56m
10.37am	0.49m
4.43pm	1.39m
10.33pm	0.45m

THURSDAY	February 1
5.05am	1.55m
11.08am	0.44m
5.20pm	1.41m
11.06pm	0.50m

FRIDAY	February 2
5.32am	1.53m
11.39am	0.40m
6.00pm	1.41m
11.41pm	0.57m

SATURDAY	February 3
6.01am	1.49m
12.09pm	0.37m
6.41pm	1.41m

SUNDAY	February 4
12.16am	0.64m
6.32am	1.45m
12.41pm	0.35m
7.28pm	1.39m

MONDAY	February 5
12.54am	0.72m
7.06am	1.40m
1.15pm	0.34m
8.21pm	1.37m

Email us your fishing photos
news@sgst.com.au



The South Gippsland Bass 2024 team achieved excellent results in the Victorian Country Championships at Traralgon.

Swimmers retain third place

SOUTH Gippsland Bass continued its domination of Regional Victorian Swimming, retaining third place position at the Victorian Country Championships in Traralgon on January 20 to 22.

The team prides itself on being day three specialists, being able to sustain itself over the three days, keeping strong in their racing right to the end; the lead over fourth place was just one point at the start of the day and 129 by the end of the day.

The Gippsland Regional Aquatic Centre in Traralgon was packed to the rafters for the weekend, with over 700 swimmers and their families converging on the centre for the event.

Spectators and competitors overflowed into the tent city outside as the best of regional Victoria battled it out in the pool.

The strength of Gippsland swimming was on display with the Gippsland District as co-hosts, with the region well represented.

South Gippsland Bass (SGB) was the second biggest team at the meet with 76 swimmers behind Traralgon (who finished second) and Warragul also finishing in the top 10.

The purple caps were dominant in the pool, with most swimmers qualifying for a number of events at the meet and many SGB swimmers qualifying for finals.

Some events had up to eight SGB swimmers in the heats, highlighting the depth of talent in the squad and up to four SGB swimmers in one of the finals.

The club fielded swimmers in all age sections, from U11 to the open category, with the coaches involved as well, leading by example with their competitive racing much to the delight of the younger swimmers who cheered from the sidelines.

With the event being held locally, many family members were able to come and add support to the cheering.

The relay teams were extremely competitive, the cheering echoing around the pool as the teams came in to touch with a number coming home with medals and B teams earning much needed points by finishing top eight.

Coaches Dylan, Caiden, Sam and Lorri were extremely happy with how the swimmers performed.

Coach Dylan praised swimmers at the team meetings who had given their best – riding the ups and downs of the journey, bouncing back from a disappointing swim to come through with personal bests and medals in following swims.

He praised a number of individuals who gave their all in races, such as Max who held his own in the butterfly leg of the relay against one of the state's best swimmers to help his team win gold in the relay, or Miah who went from being ranked ninth in the 400IM to making



The U12 boys achieved second place in the freestyle and medley relays.

the finals and hunting down the Geelong swimmer to overtake and take out fourth.

After the final results were announced, Dylan praised the team for their whole team effort.

"It wasn't one of you who earned most of the points and the others did little bits. It was the whole team stepping up, giving it their all, especially in the relays, that really made a difference," he said.

Lorri, who works with the junior and country squads was pleased to see how far her charges have come.

"I just love seeing the smiles on their faces when they race, especially those who have worked so hard to get a qualifying time for their first time here," she said.

Lorri who also coaches the multi-class swimmers said, "I loved seeing my multi-class swimmers being so competitive in the multi-class and able-bodied relay, especially with the handicap system. They had a ball being part of it and helping add to the club's points. Seeing them on the podium was just wonderful."

The team has a busy few weeks ahead with All Juniors, School Swimming and Gippsland Championships, but the swimmers are excited and buoyed on by the weekend's success.

Finalists:

Rex Brocklesby: 12 6th 100m Freestyle, 5th 100m Butterfly, 2nd 100m Backstroke

Asha Chalmers: Open 6th 200m Butterfly

Nyah Chapman: 12 8th 100m Freestyle
Gemma Cook: MC 6th 50m Butterfly, 7th 50m Backstroke, 7th 50m Freestyle, 3rd 200m IM

Emily Croatto: 11 and under 4th 50m Backstroke, 6th 50m Freestyle, 6th 50m

Butterfly, 5th 50m Breaststroke,
Isabel Croatto: 13 8th 100m Butterfly
Tomei Dal Pozzo: 18 and Over 8th 50m Butterfly, 5th 50m Backstroke, 5th 200m IM

Jaya Dowel: 11 8th 50m Breaststroke
Maggie Fisher: 12 5th 100m Freestyle, 7th 100m Backstroke

Nathan Foote: 18 and over 2nd 50m Backstroke, Open 5th 200m Backstroke, 3rd 100m Backstroke

Caiden Gill: 18 and over 5th 50m Butterfly, 7th 50m Backstroke, 1st 50m Freestyle, Open 4th 100m Freestyle, 7th 200m Freestyle

Joshua Hunt: 14-15 6th 100m Butterfly, Open 7th 200m Butterfly

Sienna Hunt: 13 6th 100m Freestyle, 7th 100m Breaststroke, 3rd 100m Butterfly, 7th 100m Backstroke

Holly Hurst: 13 6th 100m Backstroke

Mostyn Lumsden: 16-17 6th 100m Butterfly, 8th 100m Backstroke, Open 6th 200m Freestyle

Isabella Lynch: 12 3rd 100m Breaststroke

Rahni Matheson: 14-15 2nd 100m Breaststroke, 8th 100m Backstroke, 6th 200m IM, Open 3rd 200m Breaststroke, 4th 100m Breaststroke

Sienna Matheson: 16-17 1st 100m Breaststroke Open 6th 200m Breaststroke, 6th 100m Breaststroke

Sophie McKenzie: 18 and over 1st 50m Breaststroke, Open 1st 200m Breaststroke, 8th 200m IM, 4th 100m Breaststroke

Harper McRae: 13 4th 100m Butterfly
Ruby McRae: 12 6th 100m Butterfly, 6th 100m Backstroke

Dylan Muir: 18 and over 8th 50m Butterfly, 4th 50m Backstroke, 7th 50m Freestyle, 5th 200m IM



The South Gippsland Bass captains received the third-place award.

Trinity O'Keefe: 18 and Over 6th 50m Breaststroke,

Cooper Quaife: 16-17 year old 3rd 100m Butterfly, 7th 100m Freestyle, 5th 200m IM Open 3rd 200m Butterfly, 4th 100m Butterfly

Gypsy Quaife: 13 and Under 6th 200m IM, 2nd 100m Butterfly

Miah Roberts: 14-15 2nd 100m Backstroke, 8th 200m IM, Open 4th 400m IM

Jemma Rump: 12 7th 100m Freestyle

Zachary Sherar: 14-15 6th 100m Breaststroke, 5th 100m Freestyle,

William Simmons: 14-15 3rd 100m Backstroke, 8th 100m Freestyle,

Archie Smyth: 11 and Under 1st 50m Backstroke, 1st 50m Freestyle, 1st 50m Butterfly, 5th 50m Breaststroke,

Jedda Tagell: 11 50m Breaststroke Relay Team:

7th Mixed able-bodied and para freestyle team, 8th Medley team

12 and U Girls 3rd A, 7th B, 2nd A, 8th B Freestyle teams,

12 and U Boys 2nd A, 9th B Medley teams, 2nd A Freestyle team

14 and U Girls 3rd A Medley team, 5th A Freestyle team

14 and U Boys 1st A, 9th B Medley team, 2nd A, 8th B Freestyle teams

16 and U Girls 6th Freestyle team, 3rd A Medley team

16 and U Boys 2nd A, 7th B, Freestyle teams, 4th A, 8th B Medley team

17 and Over 4th Women's Medley team, 5th Freestyle team

17 and Over 3rd Men's Medley team, 2nd Freestyle Team

Women's 5th 4 x 100m Medley team, 4th A, Freestyle team

Men's 4th 4 x 100m Medley team, 2nd A, 8th B, Freestyle team

Mixed 5th 4 x 50m Medley team



The South West Gippsland Midweek Bowls Group winners were Terry Floyd (S), Peter Thorley (L), Chris Brooks (3) and Pauline McWilliams (2).



The best one game winners for the South West Gippsland Midweek Bowls Group were Jenny Smith (2), Graeme McLeish (L), Cheryl Floyd (3) and Phil Wright (S).



Dennis Turner, Karen Orford, Joyce Arnold and Terry Orford (skip) were Inverloch Bowling Club's Social Bowls winners.



Wonthaggi Bowls Club's Wednesday winners were Tony Marotta and Rob Westbrook.



Paul Kerr, Graham Hosking and Ray Watkins were the Monthly Triples winners at Leongatha Bowls Club.



Winners of the Les and Jessie Chapman annual Memorial Australia Day Tournament Ken Cecil (organiser), Frank Garden, Janis Parks, Bernie Garden, Wayne Parks and sponsor Lyn Perks (daughter of Les and Jessie) at Korumburra Bowls Club.

INVERLOCH

SATURDAY Pennant results:
Division 1: Inverloch 67 Mirboo North 43.

Division 2: Inverloch 41 Fish Creek 52; Inverloch 69 Wonthaggi 51.

Division 4: Inverloch 49 Korumburra 51.

Midweek Pennant results:
Division 1: Inverloch 56 Phillip Island 59.

Division 2: Inverloch 48 Phillip Island 61.

Division 3: Inverloch (4) 22 Port Welshpool 72; Inverloch (3) 24 Mirboo North 39.

Thursday Social Bowls saw 37 players try their skills on the greens.

Teams of fours and triples fought hard over two games of 10 ends.

Only one team finished with two wins.

Terry Orford (skip), Karen Orford, Joyce Arnold and Dennis Turner were the winners with two games and 33 points.

Seven teams finished with one win and a loss.

Runners up with one win and a loss on 22 points was the team of Laurel Lee (skip), Jill Kennedy and Peter Gentsch.

The hard luck story for the day finishing on one win and 21 points was the team of John Duthie (skip), Jon Justin, Christine Corrigan and John Cook.

KORUMBURRA

CONGRATULATIONS to Charlie Edgerton and Ken Cecil on winning the men's pairs final defeating Shane O'Loughlin and Neil Green.

In Midweek Pennant, Division 1 travelled to Corinella and came home with a good win.

Judith Nicholl had a 25 to 15 shot win, Jenny McVeigh got up 21 to 15 while Joanna Lomagno had a 18 all draw.

Division 2 travelled to Tarwin Lower with the opposite result.

Cheryl Moore lost 17 shots to 28 and Erica Hayes lost 14 shots to 34.

On Australia Day, the club hosted its annual tournament sponsored by the Chapman family in memory of Les and Jessie Chapman.

Winners on the day were Wayne and Janis Parks with Bernie and Frank Garden.

Runners up were Charlie Edgerton, Christine Cousins, and Rob and Vera Sund.

Best last game went to Jim and Heather Garnham along with Geoff Barber and Graeme Turton.

The day was catered for by Tracey Pepperell, Kellie Dorling and their families and everyone was treated to a fine meal.

In Saturday Pennant, Division 1 travelled to Corinella and came home the victors.

Shane O'Loughlin had a 34 to 18 shot win, Peter Spark got up 21 shots to 17, but unfortunately Rob Cossen went down 16 shots to 21.

In Division 2, Korumburra hosted Wonthaggi with mixed results.

Jim Garnham won 24 shots to 22, Ross Lomagno went down 17 shots to 18 while Rob Sund went down 10 shots to 33.

In Division 4, Korumburra hosted Inverloch.

Alan Cherrett won 24 shots to 11, George Hams had a 17 shot draw and Hayden Rees went down 10 shots to 21.

Members are reminded that the next counter tea is on February 9. The list is on the notice board.

LEONGATHA

ROUND 10 of the Midweek Pennant competition for the Division

1 side continued last Tuesday with a welcome by the Wonthaggi Division 1 side.

Leongatha won on two rinks but were dealt a hiding on the other rink with a margin of 15 shots resulting in an overall score of 58/48 shots.

Individual rink scores were as follows:

Janice Reeves skip (Wonthaggi) was defeated by Carol Harry skip (Leongatha) 15/18 shots.

Caroline Donohue skip (Wonthaggi) was defeated by Marj Pearson skip (Leongatha) 15/17 shots.

Kathleen Simpson skip (Wonthaggi) defeated Jenny Miller skip (Leongatha) 28/13 shots.

Last Wednesday, the club staged the Monthly Triples event which was sponsored by Nesci's.

Twenty-two teams from neighbouring clubs in South Gippsland entered.

Marion Older, a visitor from Queensland, was thrilled to play in the third placed team and collect prizemoney so the club can expect her to return.

The team dressed in the Fish Creek colours collected first prize with a score of four wins plus 31 shots.

The all-girls team dressed in a mix of colour made loud noises about the third prize calculated by the electronic scoreboard but were soon convinced by the technology and had to settle for fourth place.

Second prize went to Ian Griffith's team from Toora.

Marion Older's team accepted the third prize.

Round 11 of the Weekend Competition was played in difficult windy weather on Saturday and the results across the board for the Leongatha club were disappointing – not a happy club at the end of the day.

Leongatha Division 1 side motored south to Toora where they were soundly defeated with an overall score of 44/67 shots. Individual rink scores were as follows:

Ian Rogers skip (Toora) defeated Anthony Collier skip (Leongatha) 16/15 shots.

Sebastian Biancato skip (Toora) defeated Paul Michael skip (Leongatha) 31/10 shots.

Terry Corcoran skip (Toora) defeated John Hall skip (Leongatha) 20/19 shots.

Leongatha Division 2 side journeyed across the water to the Phillip Island Bowls club where it was outplayed by the Division 2 side.

Leongatha will take the hiding on board as a measuring stick for participation in the finals.

The overall final score was 45/80 shots and the individual rink scores were as follows:

Stuart Cunningham skip (Phillip Island) defeated Vito Serafino skip (Leongatha) 28/15 shots.

Kevin Brown skip (Phillip Island) defeated Rod Jackson skip (Leongatha) 23/17 shots.

Mark Hone skip (Phillip Island) defeated Ron Symmons skip (Leongatha) 31/13 shots.

Leongatha Bowls Club were the host club for a contest with the Corinella Bowls Club involving the Division 4 sides. Corinella outplayed Leongatha and recorded a mammoth overall score of 78/38 shots.

Individual rink scores were as follows:

John White skip (Leongatha) was defeated by Anthony Heppleston skip (Corinella) 15/25 shots.

Susan Wakefield skip (Leongatha) was defeated by Ernest

Daddy skip (Corinella) 12/30 shots.

Janice Sing skip (Leongatha) was defeated by Lance Bullock skip (Corinella) 11/23 shots.

Bankers is still being played on Saturday and new bowlers are most welcome.

Kitty Club is on again this Friday night so please enter your name before the occasion.

MIDWEEK

IT WAS a great day at Lang Lang for the bowlers.

The green was in excellent condition, but was quite challenging for many.

It was great to see some new bowlers joining in and it is hoped they continue to grace social group with their presence in the future.

Lots of laughter throughout the day and a reasonable amount of friendly ribbing.

It was a pleasure to see so many (44) players turn up, but it does make it harder for Peter to prepare the teams.

The group will have to look at how to start sharing this job in the near future.

In the meantime, the bowlers thank Peter for all the hard work he does week in and week out.

The winners on 34 point were Terry Floyd (S), Chris Brooks (3), Pauline McWilliams (2) and Peter Thorley (L).

Runners up on 29 points were Ken Harding (S), Mark Hanrahan (3), Derek Fenn (2) and Mike Waring (L).

Best one game winners on 25 points were Phil Wright (S), Cheryl Floyd (3), Jenny Smith (2) and Graeme McLeish (L).

Thank you very much to Vicki, Jenny and everyone that helped clear up after the game.

It is always appreciated by us all.

Next week, the bowlers will be meeting at Corinella.

Everyone looks forward to meeting up with their friends once again.

Good luck to all the bowlers with pennant matches over the week.

Please be on site at Corinella by 10am.

WONTHAGGI

IT WAS another good week at the club.

Tuesday Midweek Pennant saw Division 1 play host to Leongatha at Wonthaggi on a fine sunny day with a slight breeze. Two rinks had narrow losses, with the other having a solid win, to secure an overall win on the day.

The final scores Wonthaggi 58 Leongatha 48.

Division 2 travelled down the highway to Lang Lang looking for a win to keep its march to the finals on track.

Once again, all three rinks played well, with one going down, but the other two having good wins.

The final scores Wonthaggi 75 Lang Lang 51.

Tuesday evening saw good numbers at Barefoot Bowls with a lot of happy faces.

Wednesday saw a smaller number at social bowls with another event at a nearby club.

There were three teams that were two game winners with pairs and triples playing two games over 12 ends.

The results were scored on a shots up system, with scores at eight shots up, 11 shots up and the winners being Tony Marotta and Rob Westbrook on 16 shots up.

Continued page 45

From page 44

Thursday saw a good number of bowlers grace the greens on a fine sunny morning.

The club welcomed Mark P, Mark L and Mike from the Coatesville Bowls Club who enjoyed their morning and said they will be back.

Saturday Pennant saw Division 1 play host to Phillip Island at Wonthaggi on a fine sunny day with a breeze all day to keep the bowlers on their toes.

One rink had a narrow loss with the other two rinks having wins to secure a win on the day.

The final scores Wonthaggi 60 Phillip Island 56; a very good win against another team in the top four.

Division 2 travelled to Korumburra looking for a change of luck and to return to the winner's stalls.

Well, things went according to plan with all three rinks playing well to record a solid win.

The final scores Wonthaggi 73 Korumburra 51.

A good win to keep in touch with the top four.

Division 3 went down the road to Inverloch looking for a win and

also a bit of luck.

After a day full of hope one team was able to secure a win with the other two rinks having trouble against the home team. The final scores Wonthaggi 51 Inverloch 69.

Division 4 travelled to Tarwin looking for a win and to keep their place in the top four.

Things didn't go according to plan with one rink not having a good day.

The other two rinks had better matches but going down overall.

The final scores Wonthaggi 41 Tarwin 74.

Just a note about the Australia Day night.

It was a great success with a lot of people putting in a huge effort; a blueprint for next year.

Looking forward to it already.

Bowls this week: Tuesday Pennant, Tuesday night from 5pm Bare Foot Bowls, Wednesday social bowls at 1pm with names in by 12pm, Thursday social bowls at 10am, Friday coaching at 10am and Saturday Pennant.

Have a good week and good bowling.



Leongatha Golf Club legend Fred de Bondt scored an outstanding round of 85 off the stick, which beat his age of 86 and helped him score 41 pts and win the C Grade competition on Thursday.

MIRBOO NORTH

THURSDAY, January 25: Stableford. A Grade: N. Rutledge (14) 41 pts. B Grade: M. McKay (18) 40 pts. DTL: S. Woodall 39, R. Matthews 38, N. Baker and N. Whichello 37 c/b.

NTP: fourth D. Taylor, sixth D. Taylor, 13th G. Shandley and 16th M. Payne.

Birdies: fourth D. Woodall, sixth M. Payne and S. Woodall, 13th G. Shandley, and 16th M. Payne and R. Robbins.

Saturday, January 27: Par. A Grade: M. Woodall, (9) 3up. B Grade: O. Mahoney (17) 2up C Grade: A. Woodall (31) 5up.

DTL: G. Renwick, N. Bickerton, N. Baker 2up, and J. Coleman, T. Baker and T. Whitelaw 1up.

NTP: fourth N. Baker, sixth T. Whitelaw, 13th C. McKay and 16th G. Renwick.

Birdies: fourth R. Matthews and D. Evans, sixth T. Whitelaw and P. Cummaudo and 13th C. McKay.

LEONGATHA

Tuesday, January 23: Stableford. This Stableford competition round included 96 members/guests.

A Grade winner: Ryan Thomas (13) with a score of 40 pts.

A Grade runner up: Nathan Wardle (12) with a score of 38 pts.

B Grade winner: Ashleigh Hutton (14) with a score of 39 pts.

B Grade runner up: Paul Kennedy (16) with a score of 37 pts.

C Grade winner: Liam Keating (21) from the Cowes GC with a score of 38 pts.

C Grade runner up: Grant Sexton (19) from the National GC with a score of 36 pts.

D Grade winner: Tim Kirley (24) from the Royal Park GC with a score of 38 pts.

D Grade runner up: Hugh Goodman (26) with a score of 36 pts.

NTP second shot fifth: Alan Starkey. NTP 14th: Michael Westaway at 3.56m. NTP 16th: Ian Murchie at 2.60m.

Extra Balls Comp prizes went to Steve Foster, Fran O'Brien, Roy Kleverkamp, Gerald Freestone and Ian Murchie.

Thursday, January 25: Stableford.

Another great summer turnout of 97 members/guests played in this Stableford event.

A Grade winner: Rod MacKenzie (12) with a score of 40 pts.

A Grade runner up: Ashleigh Hutton (14) with a score of 37 pts on a countback.

B Grade winner: Jamie Grenville (15) with a score of 43 pts.

B Grade runner up: Ian Murchie (16) with a score of 41 pts.

C Grade winner: Fred de Bondt (20) with a score of 41 pts.

C Grade runner up: John McInenan (22) with a score of 38 pts.

D Grade winner: Ron Findlay (31) with a score of 36 pts on a countback.



Korumburra's Opening Day winners were Merrissa Cosson, Karen Sorrell and Gail Beer with their trophies from the day's sponsor, Parry's Gift Store.

D Grade runner up: Ian Watson (36) with a score of 36 pts.

Congratulations on a great score by Fred de Bondt, who hit 85 off the stick and beat his age of 86, to register an outstanding score of 41 pts.

NTP second shot fifth: Trevor Rickard at 0.5m. NTP 14th: Renato Monacella at 3.12m. NTP 16th: Gordon Morrison at 2.0m.

Extra Balls Comp prizes went to John Feddersen, Roy Kleverkamp, Winton Knop, Simon Drummond and George Hendry.

Saturday, January 27: Par.

Tackling the first Par round for Saturdays in 2024 was an excellent field of 118 members/guests enjoying delightful summer conditions.

A Grade winner: Nathan Wardle (11) with a score of +3.

A Grade runner up: Phil Douglass (11) with a score of +2 on a countback.

B Grade winner: Ian Murchie (15) with a score of +3 on a countback.

B Grade runner up: Steven Piasente (15) with a score of +3.

C Grade winner: Barry Wright (20) with a score of +3 on a countback.

C Grade runner up: Nicholas Hill (19) with a score of +3.

D Grade winner: Dylan Wilson-Browne (31) with a score of +5.

D Grade runner up: Karen de Groot (35) with a score of +1 on a countback.

Great score by Heath O'Farrell with an eagle three on the 18th hole.

NTP fifth hole second shot: Alan Starkey at .40m. NTP 14th: Lou Fuataga at 1.21m. NTP 16th hole: Glenn Marsham at 2.44m.

Extra Balls Comp prizes went to Lou Fuataga, Jacob Drummond, Neryl Hopcraft, Kevin McMenamin, Colleen Touzel, Gordon Morrison and Ian Blencowe.

SOUTH GIPPSLAND GOLF INC MIXED

SOUTH Gippsland Golf Inc held its Opening event at Meeniyan Golf Club on Sunday, in calm and sunny conditions.

The event was a relaxed mixed four-ball, with great trophies and the conditions for golf were ideal.

A Grade winners combined 38 handicap were Irene Holm (19) and Phil Johnston (19) with 43 pts (Meeniyan). Runners up were Veronica Park (14) and Neil Park (18) with 40 pts (Meeniyan).

B Grade winners were Graham Hoskin (14) and Sue Hoskin (29) combined 42 (Meeniyan) with a score of 43 pts. Runners up in B grade were Col Graeme (14) and Jo Graeme (26) (Meeniyan) combined (40) also with 43 pts.

Down the line: Jan (22) and Ian Trease (23) 43 pts, Mark Carruthers (9) and Janet Thomson (32) 41 pts. Graeme Watkins (5) and Barb Warren (14) 39 pts, and Elly Berryman (13) and Brian Wilson (27) 38 pts.

Nearest the pins: 2nd Elly Berryman,

8th Graham Hoskin, 11th Graeme Watkins and 14th Bec Thomas.

The South Gippsland Golf Inc board would like to thank Meeniyan Golf Club for the making its course available – excellent presentation of the course the splendid catering and good administration.

It was much appreciated.

KORUMBURRA

Ladies

THE Korumburra Golf Club thoroughly enjoyed its Opening Day with fine weather and a fun team three or four person Drop-out Ambrose on Wednesday.

The club extends a huge thank you to Parry's Gift Store for once again sponsoring this annual event and providing the lovely prizes.

Winners were Karen Sorrell, Gail Beer and Merrissa Cosson, 62.667.

Runners up with 63.5, were Julie Hillberg, Heather Grist, Beryl Brown and Lynette McIvor.

BDTL went to Jenny Blackmore, Sherrin Solly and Lorraine Knox, 64.197.

Lorraine was NTP on the first and 10th, and Merrissa was closest on the seventh and 13th greens.

Well done to Lyn Leppin (54) who had a fantastic score of 45 pts to win the Saturday competition.

Runner up was Aliesha Wrigley (20) 36 pts and Diarne Maskell (32) won a BDTL with 33 pts.

Aliesha was NTP on the first (Kelly's Bakery award) and Lyn was closest on the 10th.

WONTHAGGI

RESULTS: January 25, SR. 71.

Competition: Stableford 18-hole.

Winner: Ian Murrells 41.

Runner up: Mick Bourke 40.

BDTL to 34 C/B.

Ball sweep: Malcolm Stevenson 40.

Rod Walker 38, Colin Banks 37, Malcolm Stephenson 37, Philip McCrimmon 36, Glenn Hewlett 36, Graeme Campbell 36, Stephen Kane 35 and Paul Cornelis 34 C/B.

Results: January 25, SR. 36.

Competition: Stableford back nine-holes.

Winner: Norm Burne 22.

BDTL to 17.

Ball sweep: Ian Murrells 20, Ray Hender 18, John Davies 18 and Kevin Bayley 17.

Results: January 27, Stableford 18-hole.

Winner: A: Mark Tiziani 39. B: John Walsh 38. C: Steve Terrill 41.

BDTL to 35.

Ball sweep: Ian McDonald 38, Steven Laing 37, Ian Baker 36, Paul Brusamarello 36, Robert Geyer 36, Frank Huber 36, Graeme Campbell 36, Darren Brown 35, Alan Cubbon 35 and Connor Ireland 35.

NTP: Mat Dawson second, Connor Ireland fourth, Ben Clark propin eighth, Messy Chand 13th and Jonathan Clayton 17th money hole.



Rita Richardson won the Strzelecki South Women's Champion of Champions earlier this month, making the Meeniyan Bowling Club very proud.

Rita takes out Champion of Champions for Meeniyan

RITA Richardson made the Meeniyan Bowls Club members very proud after winning the Strzelecki South Women's Champion of Champions at Wonthaggi in early January.

The playoffs ran across two days, one of which was played in inclement weather, with the rain being so bad that it drove the men's teams' home, but the women braved the conditions to continue competing.

"Rita came up against some very good players down at Wonthaggi and she managed to overcome them all, and come out the winner on the Sunday," said Darrellyn McRae, Secretary of the Meeniyan Bowling Club.

Rita hung on to come runner up, being only five shots behind the winner with a final score of 21 and 16.

"She did terrific. We are only a very small club and she made us feel very proud."

The Meeniyan Bowling Club has less than fifty members and it's been a number of years since someone has taken out the Champion of Champions from the Club, and even longer since it was a woman.

Rita went on to compete at the Newborough Bowling Club the following fortnight, whittling out the competition until it was down to Rita and another champion bowler - who reportedly wins everywhere.

Rita hung on to come runner up, being only five shots behind the winner with a final score of 21 and 16.



Jodie Pincini reached her 50th volunteer milestone and celebrated alongside her mum on Grand Ridge Rail Trail parkrun on Saturday.

Grand Ridge Trail Run

WE WELCOMED 33 participants to Grand Ridge Rail Trail parkrun in Mirboo North on Saturday. It was a cool and chilly summer morning but a stroll / run on the trail quickly warmed everyone up. One of our regular helpers (Jodie Pincini) reached her 50th volunteer milestone and celebrated alongside her mum on.

If you haven't yet tried parkrun - there is something for everyone. You can walk, run, connect with your community and give something back. Held every Saturday 8am with various locations throughout Gippsland.

Phillip Island bridge

RESULTS:

The club was joined by Australian champions Justin Mill and James Coutts, who took out first place for East/West with percentage of 77.92 on Monday, January 22.

Second East/West were Moya Crowley and Michael Dooley on 60.42 per cent, with Ruth Harvey and Anne Green third with 54.57 per cent.

In first place for North/South were Greg Nicholson and Anne Gibson on 59.07 per cent, in second place Peter George and Jill Short on 55.21 per cent and in third place Ruth Harvey and Anne Green on 54.57 per cent.

Wednesday, January 24, saw James Coutts return, this time partnered by Jane Rennie. They were first on 59.72.

Second were Judy O'Connell and Molly Dowling on 57.64 per cent with Caroline Shaw and Marnie Myall in third with 52.78 per cent.

Just a reminder that the club is running Social Bridge every Tuesday night through the summer.

If you are looking to learn bridge, brush up on your skills or you just feel like a social game please come and join in.

For further details, call Jill on 0438 248 578.

Go Fives competition a hit

LEONGATHA Knights Football Club's Summer Go Fives Competitions concluded last week with some exciting grand final games.

Increasing their competition offerings from two competitions to six competitions this summer, the popularity with which the offseason competitions have been received reflect the increasing popularity of soccer within the South Gippsland shire.

With more than 215 players taking part across all competitions, the Go Fives format provided an opportunity for regular season players and beginners alike to have a run in a small-sided game format.

All competitions ran for eight weeks with a break over the Christmas period.

A big thank you to all players who participated and congratulations to the following competitions winners:

U12s Mixed Competition winners: ALTAK.

U14s Girls Competition winners: Fabulous Foords.

U14s Mixed Competition winners: International FC.

Senior Social Competition winners: Two Goals One Cup.

Women's Competition winners: Red Hot Oompah Loompahs.

Senior Competitive Competition winners: Mighty Migrants.



The Senior Social grand final went to the team Two Goals One Cup.



The U12s Mixed Competitions winners following the Summer Go Fives grand final.

The power of professional guidance

POSITIVELY guiding a path for positive energy within the surfing culture and the Phillip Island community is Dominique Salerno - sharing the art of yoga at the Phillip Island Boardriders Club (PIBC).

As an authentic and passionate educator in the industry for the past 24 years, Dominique has supported her students to practice the technique of yoga and paniyaram - the colloquial term for breathwork - and was approached by PIBC president Hannah Eisen to bring this technique safely and 'functionally speaking for surfing' into their inclusive environment.

Dominique has now been teaching at the clubrooms for over 12 months and said, "I'm really interested in serving whoever's in front of me. I don't come to class married with a class plan. I wait to see who turns up to our casual ongoing sessions, because we welcome a very mixed demographic," said Dominique.

"Sometimes we have children as young as 13, as well as the 'OG' board riders in their mid-70's, so in each session I am catering for a very broad range, so my modus operandi is to meet each person where they are, and I teach to that."

All the sessions at PIBC are open, casual, and ongoing. The club are very fortunate to have a large, beautiful space so there is no need to take bookings - Dominique welcomes anyone to join, as she believes that 'yoga is a tool for navigating our lives and developing our human potential.'

The beginning of Dominique's journey started with a qualification in counselling



Dominique Salerno. Taking students and teachers deep into their practice.

- sharing that she happened to find a training that just spoke to her at the time for her own reasons.

"I didn't undertake that training with a view to using it. It was just for me, but as it happens, it layers on nicely with everything else that I do today."

On the island Dominique works as a yoga therapist, (in public classes at PIBC) and in individual yoga therapy sessions - or smaller group

settings which is where the counselling and her study of Ayurveda (the medicinal branch of yoga) meet.

"This means that we can bring that toolkit together in a way that again serves whoever's in front of me. Some people I work with just want to learn breath work, some are after nutritional and lifestyle advice; whilst others are after the physical practice."

With a background of owning and operating The Australian

Yoga Academy - a premier teacher training institute in Melbourne and teaching foundational training. Dominique now lives on Phillip Island and for the past three years has concentrated on refining an instructor's ability to teach the breathwork components of the yoga practice, as well as general teachers mentoring, 'because many people make a gradual progression into full time teaching, and it is important to guide their practice.'

"Yoga has been around for thousands of years, but over the past decade many more people for various reasons are taking responsibility for their health - whether that be their physical, mental, or emotional wellbeing, and I have been pleasantly surprised that at least 40 per cent of the class participants at the group session at PIBC are over the age of 35 - which demographically is very unique," said Dominique.

The shift that Dominique has seen in teaching on Phillip Island is that the surfing community already have a beautiful connection to their physical, mental, and spiritual health, "and the way that yoga has really galvanized that community and brought those different age groups together, is really something to behold."

PIBC sessions are held on the following days in 2024:

- Monday: 6pm - 7pm
- Wednesday: 6pm - 7pm
- Thursday: 9.30am - 10.45am
- Friday: 6am - 7am
- Or for individual sessions or mentoring visit Yoga with Dominique | Dominique Salerno Yoga

George Lomagno hits 500 game mark for OMK

By Andrew Paloczi

GEORGE Lomagno achieved the stunning total of 500 games for Outtrim Moyarra Kongwak (OMK) when he helped the Diggers B2 side to a four-run victory against Wonthaggi Club on January 6.

"It's a huge milestone," OMK president and George's teammate on the day, Russ White said.

Medium-pace outswinger George recovered from an expensive first over, capturing a couple of wickets in his second, then holding his nerve as he delivered the game's final over.

George summed up what went through his mind as he prepared to send down the last ball of the match with Club still a chance of spoiling his celebration.

"Where the hell am I going to put it?" he pondered.

Yorker length outside off stump was the verdict, the perfectly executed plan drawing a play and miss as the batsman aimed for 'cow corner', and sparking OMK joy.

"You couldn't have scripted it better," George said.

The outcome of the T20 match was touch and go throughout, with Wonthaggi Club threatening to dash OMK's quest to mark the milestone game with victory.

Satisfyingly for George, he had Luke Anstey caught for a duck after earlier falling to the same player for eight runs.

The 500 gamer then sent Callum Prosser on his way without scoring, trapping the Wonthaggi number seven



Family support has enabled George Lomagno to reach the 500 game milestone for OMK.

batsman LBW.

George's senior cricket career started at the age of 15 when the Outtrim local began representing the then Outtrim Kongwak, with the games played in his first season additional to his now just over 500 for OMK.

"I still consider myself a one-club player," he said, a view nobody is likely to dispute.

OMK Life Member George has featured in a couple of A Grade premierships, a further two in B Grade and six in C Grade.

He also starred in a D Grade premiership during a period in which that was a much higher standard than it now sounds, taking five wickets and scoring around 70.

George's top score is 153 not out and he has made one A Grade century and four in B

Grade.

He's not renowned for scoring at a blistering pace, having in the past been compared to English Test batsman Geoff Boycott, and has only hit two sixes in his career.

There is one other six George has heard about many times over the years.

"I was in the outfield and went to take a catch and I missed it and it bounced off my head and over the fence for six," George said.

"The pride was injured," he conceded, albeit he can now laugh about the incident.

As for his maximums off the bat, George recalls a shot back in the mid-1980s when his top-edged effort hit the Outtrim fence on the full.

His second six came at Kambahra High School, pleasantly sailing well over the

boundary.

There may be just a few more games left for George, the veteran contemplating "pulling the pin".

"The body is finding it harder and it takes nearly a full week to recover," he said.

When he reaches retirement, George looks forward to spending more time with his grandkids and on his Outtrim beef farm.

He expressed his appreciation of the family support he has enjoyed over the years, saying he couldn't otherwise have reached such a milestone.

It was a great celebration on the day he did so, as the winning B2 players took in the end of OMK's A Grade game, with past players and family on hand to mark George's achievement.

Gippsland Goannas win Warrandyte clash

OVER 60s

IT was a bright sunny day with a nice breeze as the Gippsland Goannas Over-60 team welcomed the Warrandyte Over-60's to the picturesque Toongabbie Recreation Reserve for the round 11 clash.

The ground was in magnificent condition and the wicket superb as the visitors won the toss and asked the Goannas to bat first.

Ken Bailey and Ray Floyd opened the innings and took the score to 39 in the 10th over when Bailey was dismissed for 19. Ray Smith joined Floyd who retired with 30 runs to his name when the score was 50.

Rob Taylor joined Smith and they took the score to 84 at the drinks break.

Smith retired for 40 in the 27th over allowing Neil Meredith to join the fun.

This pair were both out in the 30th over, Merro for nine and Taylor for 38 as the score reached 3/145.

Mark Brown, 16 from 23 balls, Kevin Lanigan, 2, bowled by Goannas Barrie Nunn playing for Warrandyte, Ian Gibson, 24x and Bernie Symons, 8x, took the score to 5/199 at

the end of the 40th over.

Rob Bacchetti and Peter Anton opened the bowling for the Goannas and the score reached 34, without loss after 10 overs.

Symons and Murray Moore were the next bowlers, with them taking a wicket each as the score reached 2/67 at the drinks break.

Symons had 1/14 from eight overs and Moore 3/33 from seven when Chris DeVent and Meredith took over the attack.

Warrandyte were 4/99 after 30 overs, and Merro's figures, six overs, four maidens, three for four, indicate that Warrandyte were unable to reach the target.

Taylor bowled three overs as the visitors innings ended at 7/127.

The fielding, especially by the visitors, was of a very good standard and Goannas catches were taken by Brown, Smith and Moore.

Goannas' Over-70 team will play the West Gippsland Wombats, also at Toongabbie, on Tuesday, while the Over-50 team are due to play a home game against Geelong next Sunday.

The Over-60's are due to play away against ACS, also next Sunday.



Goannas president Neil Meredith was bowled in the 30th over.

Island sharks defeat OMK in an all-time classic final

From page 52

Some sharp work from Kurt Lane in the deep was able to produce a much-needed run out and next ball Shiran skittled another OMK batter and the equation became 16 runs off nine balls with four wickets in hand.

What happened next will be told for many years. After a dot ball, the next two balls sailed over the fence from the bat of Clayton Quaife, leaving the Diggers needing only four runs to win off the last over and the Sharks hopes looked gone. Enter Simon Kirton, who along with some questionable decisions from the opposing team, bowled the perfect over.

The first ball was a knocked into the ground and fell to keeper Lochie Cleeland who managed to throw the stumps down to execute a smart stumping from 10 metres back. Another perfect ball led to panic from the OMK batters and saw Simon pick up a run out off his own bowling.

The next ball was a sharply taken leg bye before a textbook Yorker saw Quaife head back to the sheds as his stumps were skittled. The equation now 3 to win off two balls with one wicket in hand.

Simon with another well bowled wide Yorker produced a play and miss as the batsmen set off for a run taking on Lochie again, who as cool as you like threw the stumps down to dismiss the Diggers two runs short, in one of the all-time classics' games.

The win makes it three T20 titles in a row and another piece of silverware for the Sharks.

Player of the final was adjudged to be the captain Daniel Mock; however, a number of people could have made a case to receive the award.

Kookas nearly pull off a stunner

OVER 60s

THE Kookas went on their ultimate road trip – thanks Warrick Hayes – against the Geelong Megacity Stars.

The Cats won the toss and decided to bat.

Master Blaster Pieter Loos and Ol Grayza Wighty took the new pill, keeping it tighter than an Australia Day presentation ceremony.

Then the OMK twins Dazzling Dave Tessari and Mr Cricket Adams came up against some snarling Cats and the runs ran freely.

It was 1/110 at drinks.

Once again, the plucky ol' Kookas were up against it.

Enter president Whitey, Joey Spinmyster Burke 3/26, Tight Brendan Thomas 2/15 and with Ol Wighty 0/26 and Master Blaster Loos 0/23 who were able to clip the Cats' claws to a gettable 6/178.

A well-earned cup of tea steadied the Kookas.

Ol Grayza 10 and Waza Hayes 22 (after superb glovework) got the Kookas cooking.

Then three unnamed players "ducked up".

Afterwards, Super Calves Whitey 40no, Basha Burke 40no and Mr Cricket Gary Adams 27no, moved within a micrometre of winning and that's with only 10 batsmen.

They finally reached 6/160.

It was a great effort with a few missing soldiers down.

Special thanks to Peter Powerful Petro, who was the ultimate team man in making the long journey to support his mates, and that's what senior cricket and the Kookas are all about.

Next week, it's the Koowy Swamprats, and time for the Kookas to re-group.

C GRADE

Phillip Island 109 d MDU 61

Phillip Island - 1st INNINGS: D Mani 9, P Francis 7, W Paterson 7, C Fall 20, F Russell 8, B Marshall 8, J Parry 14, S McMillan 0, J Marshall 3*, J Johnston 7, P Cleary 1. Bowling: K Brown 1/23, D Feild 1/16, J Cleator 1/15, J Phillips 0/21, S Riley 3/14, R Prosser 0/2, G Cocksedge 4/14. MDU - 1st INNINGS: D Thomas 3, T Bright 5, H Cocksedge 0, W Cocksedge 1, G Cocksedge 22, C Prosser 5, R Prosser 3, L Webb 1, S Riley 8*, K Brown 2, L Thomas 2. Bowling: P Cleary 2/12, S Sirirathnage 2/17, P Francis 2/7, C Fall 3/12, B Marshall 0/4, J Marshall 1/3, S McMillan 0/1.

Town d. 2/170 d Glen Alvie 96 & 91

Town - 1st INNINGS: N Hodges 23, T Cashin 21, N Hanly 107*, M Carter 26*. Bowling: W Bridle 1/56, Fill-in 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, D Hynes 0/16. Glen Alvie - 2nd INNINGS: J Burke 2, D McGuirk 0, L Scholz 5, W Bridle 11, D Hynes 15, I Thorn 40*, O Luff 11, A Sinclair 0, N Luff 0, G Luff 0, H Luff 0. Bowling: H Livingstone 2/13, P J Kallookkaran 3/21, J Lindsay 1/13, Y Ratnaike 0/14, M Carter 2/25, Paul Carter 1/3.

Nyora 4/278 d Koonwarra L/RSL 139

Koonwarra L/RSL - 1st INNINGS: S Paterson 29, A Boxall 8, A Thorne 62, G Mathies 6, K Thorne 5, A Piksons 3, S Chadwick 4, J Geary 0, B Thomas 2, R Collins 6*, T Lund 2. Bowling: L Brock 0/18, K Maclure 2/11, D Blackney 1/22, B Pugh 3/29, T Perkins 0/40, W Dixon 2/13, J Knox 1/1.

K-Bass 8/136 d Korumburra 10/98

Korumburra - 1st INNINGS: N Belvedere 0, H Jefferis 4, C Gooch 6, E Belvedere 5, J Foote 0, M Foote 38, M Foote 0, G Barrett 7, R Butler 18, Z Brady 0, S McKinnon 5*. Bowling: P Cornelis 1/8, K McLean 4/14, A Joseph 3/40, S Tapscott 0/7, T Gold 0/8, L Magnussen 2/14, H Huckett 0/5. Kilcunda-Bass - 1st INNINGS: P Cornelis 8, K McLean 63, S Oates 20, T Gold 2, Fill-in 4, L Magnussen 1, H Huckett 1, J Huckett 1, J Huckett 31*. Bowling: S McKinnon 1/32, R Butler 0/44, N Belvedere 2/16, H Jefferis 2/4, E Belvedere 0/3, Z Brady 3/7, J Foote 0/3, Owen Maskell 0/18, M Foote 0/9.

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
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MIXED JUNIOR TWILIGHT COMPETITION

11 and under, 13 and under
Monday nights,
commencing February 26
Wonthaggi outdoor courts
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Imperials and Inverloch cricket clubs acknowledge local legends

A PAIR of Leongatha & District Cricket Association players will be celebrated during Round 12, to be played on February 3 and 10, with Imperials representative Luke Rogers and Inverloch's Dean Cashin acknowledged in this year's Recognition Round.

Luke shoulders the responsibility of opening the batting for Imperials A1 side, having been an integral part of the club and LDCA since moving to the area from Bendigo in 2005.

He has played over 260 games for Imperials Cricket Club and more than 30 for the LDCA.

Throughout his tenure with Imperials, Luke has consistently delivered exceptional performances, establishing himself as one of the club's key players, with his versatility as an all-rounder a valuable asset to the team.

His ability to start an innings positively from ball one makes his wicket a prized one for opposition teams, knowing he can take the game away from them.

Luke has a highest score of 119 against Korumburra at the East Campus in 2006/07.

He has made three other centuries, all of which would have been scored at quicker than a run a ball.

As a medium pace bowler, Luke has consistently taken crucial wickets, breaking partnerships and putting pressure on



the opposition.

He has claimed five wicket hauls on three occasions, including 5/21 against Phillip Island in 2013/14.

Luke has achieved several accolades during his career with Imperials Cricket Club, including being captain for four seasons.

He won back-to-back Club Championships (Fennell/ Sauvarin Medal) in seasons 2011/12 and 2012/13.

He also won A Grade batting and Cricketer of the Year in 2011/12.

Luke has been part of an Imperials A2 premiership and also a successful LDCA Gippsland Cricket League campaign.

He remains a vital asset to Imperials Cricket Club, with the likelihood he will continue to take apart opposition attacks with his aggressive batting approach.

Luke's dedication to his club and the LDCA makes him a worthy nominee for Recognition Round.

Inverloch Cricket Club's Dean Cashin, known simply as 'Casho', began representing the



club in 1989/90.

His crafty bowling has led to him taking plenty of wickets over the years since, in both A Grade and lower grades.

Dean is a three-time A Grade premiership player, also twice coaching premiership sides at that level and featuring in a B Grade premiership.

He won the A Grade bowling award in 1990/91 and, demonstrating the longevity of his playing career, claimed the C grade bowling award in the 2015/16 season.

Dean is currently playing in Inverloch's B Grade side, continuing to be a great mentor to younger cricketers, and offers plenty of advice and encouragement on game day and at training.

'Casho' is a Life Member of the club and is also on its committee.

His Recognition Round nomination demonstrates how fortunate those at Inverloch Cricket Club feel to have Dean around and show their appreciation that he continues to help grow the club.

Nyora claim impressive win

C GRADE

COLIN Knox's 130-run haul secured a convincing win for Nyora over Koonwarra L/RSL.

Going into bat on Saturday, Koonwarra L/RSL had the tough ask of passing Nyora's impressive score of 4/278.

Opening batsman Shane Paterson made a strong start for the Cougars, making 29 runs.

Adam Thorne stepped up to the wicket at 1/30 and managed to hit 62 runs before he was caught by Keith Maclure.

Nyora upped its pressure on the field, and there was little impact on the scoreboard from the rest of the batting order.

Ben Pugh ran through the batting order, taking 3/29.

Maclure and William Dixon were also multiple wicket takers.

At the end of 50 overs, Koonwarra L/RSL conceded defeat with a final score of 10/139.

Town too good

LEONGATHA Town steamrolled over Glen Alvie, declaring with a final score of 2/210.

Glen Alvie produced the gettable score of 10/96 on the first day of the two-day match, and Town responded by achieving 2/170 at stumps on January 20.

Town went into Saturday's match looking for an outright win.

Ned Hanly continued his run from the previous week, hitting 107 not out.

Max Carter was 26 not out at the end of the innings.

Glen Alvie was sent back into bat.

It was a weak start with the opening partnership of Joe Bourke and Daniel McGuirk dismissed for a duck under the bowling pressure of Hugh Livingstone.

Glen Alvie captain Ian Thorn top scored with 40 runs and was not out at the end of the innings.

Poly Joseph Kallookkaran had Town's best bowling figures, claiming 3/21.

Glen Alvie ended the day with 10/91.

Sharks outclass the Cobras

KORUMBURRA was unable to defend its total of 10/98 against Kilcunda-Bass on Saturday.

The Sharks stepped up to bat with opening batsman Kevin McLean taking control of the match with 68 runs.

His run was ended by a catch from Shaun McKinnon.

Steven Oates put 20 runs on the scoreboard before he dismissed by Noah Belvedere.

Joel Huckett rounded out the innings with 31 not out.

Belvedere and Hudson Jefferis were Korumburra's multiple wicket takers.

Kilcunda-Bass claimed its win with 8/136.

Phillip Island defend its score

PHILLIP Island was too strong for MDU in the two-day C Grade match.

Playing at the Dumbalk Recreation Reserve, MDU won the toss and sent Phillip Island in to bat on the first day of the game.

It was a humble innings for the Sharks, with Chris Fall top scoring with 20 runs.

Jon Parry was the only other batsman to reach double figures, adding 14 runs to the tally.

Glen Cocksedge was the standout bowler for MDU, taking 4/14.

Three wickets were also claimed by Stephen Riley.

Phillip Island was tasked to defend 10/109.

A similarly quiet innings for MDU secured the win for Phillip Island on Saturday.

Cocksedge continued his fine form by putting 22 runs on the scoreboard.

Fall claimed 3/12, and Peter Cleary, Sachin Sirirathnage and Peter Francis took two MDU wickets each.

At the end of the innings, MDU had fallen short on 10/61.

Cougars swing hard in 20/20 semis



Amad Khan bats for Koonwarra Leongatha/RSL during its T20 semifinal clash with Phillip Island. Photos: Jodie Arnup.

Jason Kennedy goes on the attack for Koonwarra Leongatha/RSL against Phillip Island during the sides' T20 semifinal on Sunday.

Richardson leads MDU bowlers to success against Town

B GRADE, DIVISION 1

ANDREW Richardson toiled manfully for Meenyan Dumbalk United, starring with the ball on day two as the Demons knocked over Leongatha Town 25 runs short of the MDU total.

Richardson finished with 5/55 from 26 overs, with his skipper Craig Hoober (2/22) MDU's only other multiple wicket taker.

While five Leongatha Town batsmen made scores of at least 20, Colin Bruce's 38 runs was the top contribution, with Hoober having him stumped by Anthony Dyke.

Richardson proved damaging from early in the Scorpions' innings, bowling Town opener Davern Goss for just three runs.

He also accounted for Leongatha skipper Luke Ashton (26), then continued to make breakthroughs in the Scorpions' middle and lower orders.

Tyrone Zukovskis helped build the foundation for MDU success with his score of 56 on day one.

Inverloch up to demanding task against OMK

INVERLOCH responded in style to the imposing 247-run target set by then top of the table OMK on day one.

Brett Debono's 81 was crucial in the Stingrays' four-wicket win, a performance that now has them heading the ladder.

John Richardson's 36 was next best for the winning side, opener Riley Harris making just one less.

All but one Inverloch batsman called on reached double figures in a solid team effort.

Nick Wylie was the only OMK bowler to strike more than once, claiming 3/81 from his 17 overs.

Adam Trotto, with 1/70 off the same number of overs, caught and bowled Inverloch's star performer Debono.

Cougars fall just short of Phillip Island total

A DETERMINED innings of 77 from opener Michael Thomas had Koonwarra Leongatha/RSL in with a shot at Newhaven Recreation Reserve, but Phillip Island's bowlers dismissed the Cougars for five runs less than the Sharks' total.

Phillip Island skipper Kurt Lane and Timothy Niven each took three wickets, conceding just 88 runs between them from a combined 44 overs and continuing their excellent season with the ball.

Phillip Island president Andrew Finlayson, who played in the match, said left arm opening bowler Niven would have bowled more overs if not for a restriction on how many junior players can send down.

Under 17 player Niven has played some A grade cricket this season as well as representing the LDCA in junior ranks.

Keeper Finlayson gives



Wonthaggi's Luke Anstey batting against Glen Alvie. Z11_0524



Glen Alvie's Gaby Hynes bowling against Wonthaggi. Z10_0524

B GRADE

DIVISION 1

MDU 9/195 d Town 170

Town - 1st INNINGS: D Goss 3, N Fixter 8, L Ashton 26, L Bowman 6, C Bruce 38, S Clark 1, J Schelling 3, L Hickey 28, L May 21, L Gill 9, V Peiris 20*
Bowling: J Riley 0/26, A Richardson 5/55, S McRae 1/25, K Sinclair 1/8, C Fisher 1/32, C Hoober 2/22

Inverloch 6/249 d OMK 9/246

OMK - 1st INNINGS: A Busana 8, D Creed 12, J Cuman 47, J Hayes 17, R Quaife 28, N Wylie 25, S Taylor 10, B Maguire 21, A Trotto 39, H James 21*, B Furness 4*
Bowling: I Seuren 2/31, K Rotthier 3/73, D Cashin 0/19, C O'Flynn 0/23, C Newman 3/25, T Debono 0/27, A Mankhong 0/20, W Chapman 0/22
Inverloch - 1st INNINGS: R Harris 35, B Debono 81, I Seuren 14, W Rankin 17, J Richardson 36, T Debono 6, A Mankhong 23*, J Rowe 17*
Bowling: A Trotto 1/70, H James 1/37, B Maguire 0/14, S Taylor 1/40, N Wylie 3/81

Korumburra 180 d Imperials 75

Imperials - 1st INNINGS: A Meyer 11*, A Casey 0, J Ballagh 12, G Sauvarin 28, K McGrath 9, C Honeysett 3, N McLennan 0, D McLennan 1, F Materia 5, K Gray 3*, Ja Forrester 0
Bowling: T Crocker 0/4, S Dole 2/11, M Olden 2/18, Fill-in 1/11, D Scott 5/21, B Riddell 0/9

Phillip Island 195 d Koon L/RSL 9/180

Koonwarra L/RSL - 1st INNINGS: M Thomas 77, Private Player 14, K Scrimshaw 0, M Scrimshaw 6, J Pickersgill 5, L Read 12, N Grimes 17, A Stanley 4, P Buckley 31*, M Boswell 0, A Drury 12*
Bowling: K Lane 3/56, T Niven 3/32, H Arceo 1/25, A Williams 0/10, J Williams 1/15, A Tolley 0/43

B GRADE

DIVISION 2

Kilcunda-Bass d. 4/167 d

Korumburra 63 & 7/154

Kilcunda-Bass - 1st INNINGS: B Joseph 16, B Waldron 32, S Williams 73*, D Clay 9, R Gardiner 16, A McBride 6*
Bowling: T Sorrell 2/50, J Douglas 0/45, K Rigby 0/16, K Dorman 1/17, G Edwards 1/19, Fill-in 0/8, J Dunn 0/7, M Patten 0/1

Korumburra - 2nd INNINGS:

P Dunlevie 35, Fill-in 18, K Dorman 71*, P Beadel 1, T Sorrell 4, T Morrison 11, J Dunn 3, Fill-in 0, J Douglas 0*
Bowling: R Duff 2/30, A McBride 0/19, J Havetta 2/34, D Clay 0/18, B Waldron 0/11, S Williams 0/13, A Bedford 1/15, N Miller 1/8, E Magnusson 0/1, B Joseph 0/5

Club 7/135 d Glen Alvie 104

Club - 1st INNINGS: J Sheerin 21, M Davey 21*, C Prosser 3, L Sawyer 4, J Licitis 43, K McGregor 3, J Caddy 2, L Anstey 2, C Fraser 28*, Fill-in 2*
Bowling: A Russell 0/17, L McRae 3/35, J Brown 3/21, A Luke 0/22, G Hynes 0/9, A Moore 1/5, D Hale 0/18, N Thatcher 0/6, A Dakin 0/2

OMK 2/78 v Phillip Island 150

No Day 2 results supplied.

Nerrena 3/65 d Foster 59

Nerrena won on Day 1.

SCOREBOARD

Local Cricket... 130 years strong

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LEONGATHA & DISTRICT CRICKET ASSOCIATION

A1: Shiran Rathnayake (Phillip Island) 102* ; Lachie Wright (Imperials) 8/99

A2: Mitchell Hoober (MDU) 76* ; Zack Trease (Nerrena) 4/54

B1: Brett Debono (Inverloch) 81 ; Darren Scott (Korumburra) 5/21

B2: Scott Williams (Kilcunda-Bass) 73* ; Jack Brown (Glen Alvie) 3/21

C: Ned Hanily (Leongatha) 107* ; Zane Brady (Korumburra) 3/7

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LADDERS

RD 11

Team	Points	%	Team	Points	%	
A GRADE, Division 1						
Phillip Island	90	2.006	Nyora	102	1.649	
Town	90	1.021	Foster	90	1.363	
Club	78	1.376	Glen Alvie	78	1.306	
Imperials	66	0.980	Koonwarra L/RSL	78	1.258	
OMK	54	0.887	Kilcunda-Bass	54	0.836	
Korumburra	54	0.598	Club	42	0.802	
Inverloch	42	0.905	MDU	42	0.731	
Nerrena	42	0.747	Nerrena	42	0.591	
B GRADE, Division 1						
Inverloch	102	1.503	OMK	90	1.759	
Phillip Island	102	1.267	Nerrena	90	1.384	
OMK	90	1.702	Phillip Island	78	1.189	
Korumburra	66	1.239	Kilcunda-Bass	66	1.339	
MDU	54	0.874	Club	66	1.279	
Town	54	0.803	Foster	54	0.725	
Koonwarra L/RSL	42	0.704	Korumburra	42	0.447	
Imperials	18	0.506	Glen Alvie	30	0.608	
C GRADE						
Nyora	84	2.751	Local cricket			
Phillip Island	72	1.452	South Gippsland and Bass Coast			
Town	68	1.858	Sentinel-Times			
Kilcunda-Bass	60	1.121	 www.sgst.com.au			
Glen Alvie	54	0.458				
Inverloch	48	0.922				
Koonwarra L/RSL	42	0.500				
MDU	36	1.500				
Korumburra	30	0.500				

NEXT WEEKEND'S GAMES & UMPIRE APPOINTMENTS

RND 12 - SATURDAY
FEB 3 & 10

A GRADE, Division 1

Nerrena v Imperials	Leongatha Turf	John Schelling
P-Island v Inverloch	Newhaven	Graham Whiteman
Korumburra v Town	Korumburra Turf	Ian Salmon
OMK v Club	Outtrim	Ashleigh Stride

A Grade, Division 2

Nyora v Club	Nyora	Brad Phillips
Koon L/RSL v Nerrena	Koonwarra	Les White
Glen Alvie v Foster	Wonthaggi Turf	Warren Williams
MDU v Kilcunda-Bass	Meenihan	Geoff Parkinson

B GRADE, Division 1

Town v Korumburra	Scorpion 1	No umpire
Koon L/RSL v OMK	Leongatha Vel	No umpire
Imperials v MDU	East Campus	Michael Ryan
Inverloch v P-Island	Inverloch Turf	Neil Grabham

B GRADE, Division 2

P-Island v Korumburra	Rhyll	No umpire
Foster v Glen Alvie	Foster GC	No umpire
Kilcunda-Bass v OMK	Bass 1	No umpire
Club v Nerrena	McMahon	Ken Scrimshaw

C GRADE

Inverloch v Nyora	Inverloch FG	Michael Heenan
Town v Kilcunda-Bass	Scorpion Park 2	No umpire
P-Island v Koon L/RSL	Bass 2	No umpire
MDU v Korumburra	Dumbalk	No umpire
Glen Alvie - BYE		

Subject to Confirmation.
Any prospective umpires can contact
Jason O'Reilly 0439 688 575
or Geoff Wyatt 0413 081 136

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Inverloch's Jake Dennerley works the ball fine to collect some runs. Z08_0524

Rathnayake rattles Club

A GRADE, DIVISION 1

ANOTHER awe-inspiring effort from Shiran Rathnayake resulted in another win for top of the table Phillip Island.

Coming off the back of his seven wicket haul the previous week, Rathnayake hit 102 not out against Club on Saturday.

Club challenged Phillip Island with a total of 10/197, but Rathnayake's time at the wicket ensured the score was gettable.

Daniel Mock contributed 30 runs to Phillip Island's total.

Club captain Joel Brann and James Sheerin tried to keep the pressure on Phillip Island, taking 2/44 and 2/66 respectively.

Phillip Island went home with the win with a final score of 6/207.

Imps get it done

THE Imperials pulled off an impressive win over Korumburra on Saturday.

A fairly even distribution of runs throughout the batting order resulted in a final score of 5/302.

The Cobras went into Saturday's match with a challenge ahead.

Korumburra captain Rumesh Rangana kept pace with the Imps' batsmen, hitting 83 runs before a catch by Timothy Sauvarin sent him back to the sideline.

Hemal Rathnayake also



Peter Dell coils to release another delivery for OMK. Z06_0524

put up a fight, making 67 runs.

However, the rest of the batting order did not manage to break into the double digits.

The demolition of Korumburra's batting order was at the hands of Imps bowler Lachie Wright, who took 8/99.

Wickets were also claimed by Lucas Anderson and captain Jack Ginnane.

Korumburra finished its innings with 10/188.

Town trounce Nerrena

DESPITE the bowling pressures of Nerrena, Leongatha Town enjoyed a rather convincing win on

Saturday.

During the first day of the two-day match, Nerrena made 10/112 and would be in for a challenge against the mighty Leongatha side.

Josh Trease bowled opening batsman Ron Abeysinghe lbw for a duck – a shaky start for Town.

However, Amila Ratnayake had Town back on track, contributing 39 runs before a catch from Jaxon Checkley saw him dismissed.

Rounding out the innings, Pandukabhaya Jayasinghe hit 59 not out.

Trease and captain Mitchell Clark were Nerrena's top bowlers, taking

3/43 and 3/17 respectively.

Town's winning tally was 10/179.

Nerrena opened its second innings with opening batsman Hayden Funnell making 23 runs.

Clark top scored with 24 not out.

Pamuditha Geemal Rajapakshage took 2/21, with the rest of the wicket taking shared between Rhett Hume, Josh Williams and Ethan Smith.

Nerrena were at 5/80 at stumps.

The scores for Inverloch vs. OMK match were unavailable before going to print.



Kilcunda-Bass bowler Jackson Baker snared a wicket in his five over spell. Z12_0524

Triumphant victory for Nerrena over MDU

A GRADE, DIVISION 2

LAST placed Nerrena held on to a triumphant win over MDU on Saturday.

MDU's batsman Mitchell Hooper gave it his all to keep the away side in the match, resulting in a 76-run haul.

Hooper was not out at the end of the innings.

Troy Sinclair also performed well, adding 44 runs to the score-board.

Sinclair was caught by Joel Rendan at 8/212.

However, Nerrena bowler Zack Trease was eager to record the win, taking 4/54.

Scott Checkley also claimed three wickets.

In the end, MDU fell short of its target of 5/299, finishing off its innings with 10/233.

Nyora trounce Foster

NYORA stood its ground and declared victory over Foster on Saturday.

Coming off bowler Aaron Kadatz's star performance – claiming 8/15 – Nyora opened its account on the first day of the two-day match and passed Foster's meagre total of 10/71 after 48 overs.

Nyora finished the day on 7/90 with Bailey Esler and Aidan Simmons still at the wicket and came into Saturday hungry for an outright win.

Esler top scored with 51 runs before a catch by Mitchell Jones saw him sidelined.

Simmons also had a good run to accumulate 37 runs.

Jack Gay was Foster's top bowler, taking 3/31.

Brad Coates was also a multiple wicket taker.

Nyora finished off its innings with 9/181.

Foster was sent into bat for a second innings, as Nyora eyed off that outright win.

Opening batsmen Gay and Josh Toner made 21 and 14 runs respectively off the remaining 15 overs and were not out at the end of the day.



Cougar's captain Jimmy Rushton ensured his team took first innings points scoring an unbeaten 37. Z13_0524

Cougars secure the win

WITH Kilcunda-Bass producing a small tally of 10/85, Koonwarra L/RSL pounced on a win this Saturday.

Opening the batting for the Cougars, Matt Cooke started strong with 20 runs.

Jason Kennedy entered at 2/20 and batted well in a partnership with Cooke, hitting 44 runs.

Captain James Rushton was 37 not out at the end of the innings.

Ben Rookes tried to keep Kilcunda-Bass competitive, taking 3/35.

Multiple wickets were also claimed by Todd Smith.

After 46.4 overs, Koonwarra L/RSL declared with a total of 8/145 and sent Kilcunda-Bass back into bat.

Aaron Conron was caught by Rushton after making two off 14 balls.

Smith and Daniel Ferguson made 11 and six respectively and were not out at stumps.

Kilcunda-Bass fended off an outright win with 1/21.

Glen Alvie hold on to victory

GLEN Alvie proved it was up for Wonthaggi Club's challenge and came away with a win on Saturday.

Playing at the Dalyston Recreation Reserve, Club finished its first innings with 10/132 – not enough to feel comfortable against third placed Glen Alvie.

Opening batsman Matthew Donohue was caught for a duck, which rattled Glen Alvie early.

Scott Peatling also opened Glen Alvie's batting and hit 36 runs, but the batting order was silenced by Club's bowlers for most of the innings.

Captain Stephen Kennedy stepped up to the wicket to lead his team to victory, making 58 not out.

Ryan Sinclair added 17 runs to round out the innings.

Club bowler Jai Williamson caused Glen Alvie the most stress, taking 3/23 – two ducks and one golden duck.

The rest of the wicket taking was shared between Luke McGuirk, Heath Dobbie and Jy Hull.

Glen Alvie managed to take the win with a final score of 7/134.

A GRADE

Town 179 d

Nerrena 112 & 5/80

Town – 1st INNINGS

Ron Abeysinghe lbw: J Trease	0
Darcy Hume c: J Checkley b: M Clark	12
Amila Ratnaike c: J Checkley b: J Hoy	39
Josh Williams b: J Trease	12
DLMP Gallage st: H Funnell	
b: M Clark	22
Ethan Smith b: J Hoy	0
Jack Hume c: R Clark b: J Trease	0
Rob Eddy c&b: T Wightman	31
Pandukabhaya Jayasinghe not out	59*
PG Rajapakshage b: T Wightman	0
Rhett Hume c&b: M Clark	0
Extras (4lb)	4
Total 10 / 179 (60.3 Overs)	

Bowling: J Trease 18-2-43-3, R Clark 5-2-10-0, M Clark 8.3-4-17-3, T Wightman 15-4-52-2, J Checkley 4-1-19-0, J Hoy 10-2-34-2

Nerrena – 2nd INNINGS

Hayden Funnell b: J Williams

Loc Roberts lbw: PG Rajapakshage	5
Josh Checkley c: R Abeysinghe	
b: R Hume	2
Kade Berryman c: DLMP Gallage	
b: PG Rajapakshage	16
Mitchell Clark not out	24*
Jarrod Hoy b: E Smith	5
Timothy Wightman not out	0*
Extras (4w, 1b)	5
Total 5 / 80 (29.2 Overs)	

Bowling: PG Rajapakshage 8-2-21-2, R Hume 5-0-16-1 (1w), J Hume 4-1-10-0 (2w), J Williams 5-2-11-1 (1w), R Abeysinghe 3-0-12-0, E Smith 4.2-1-9-1

Imperials d. 5/302 d

Korumburra 188

Korumburra – 1st INNINGS

Jason Richards c: DW Arachchige	
b: L Wright	2
Zachary Barrett c: D Ginnane	
b: L Wright	6

A GRADE

Nerrena 5/299 d MDU 233

MDU – 1st INNINGS

Matt Olden b: Z Trease	5
Mitch McGrath b: S Checkley	20
Joel Sinclair c: R Checkley b: Z Trease	0
Paul Le Page lbw: S Checkley	17
Steve Arup b: S Checkley	3
Mitchell Hooper not out	76*
Matt Martin b: T Harris	23
Troy Sinclair c: J Renden	
b: R Checkley	44
Sam Bright run out: J Renden	2
Mark Cantwell c: J Renden b: Z Trease	7
Zak Bright lbw: Z Trease	0
Extras (20w, 4nb, 2lb, 10b)	36
Total 10 / 233 (65.2 Overs)	

Bowling: W Croatto 16-2-60-0 (7w, 1nb), Z Trease 20.2-7-54-4 (3w), S Checkley 8-1-22-3 (1w), M Croatto 5-0-26-0 (4w), R Checkley 4-0-12-1, T Harris 7-0-32-1 (2w, 3nb), P Johnston 5-0-15-0 (3w)

Nyora d. 9/181 d

Foster 71 & 0/40

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
Jake Henry c: J Staley b: J Weston	2
Bailey Esler c: M Jones b: M Allott	51
Aaron Kaddatz b: J Gay	16
Aaron Thompson c: B East	
b: H Griggs	25
Aidan Simmons c: J Staley b: E Smith	37
Lochie Row not out	14*
Mitch Rowe not out	1*
Extras (4w, 5nb, 4lb, 1b)	14
Total 9 / 181 (78 Overs)	

Bowling: B Coates 15-6-18-2 (2w, 1nb), J Weston 20-6-56-1 (1w), J Gay 16-6-31-3, H Griggs 14-6-26-1 (1nb), E Smith 3-1-3-0, J Toner 3-0-7-0, B Coates 4-0-8-1 (2nb), M Allott 3-0-27-1 (1w, 1nb)

Foster – 2nd INNINGS

Jack Gay not out	21*
Josh Toner not out	14*
Extras (5lb)	5
Total 0 / 40 (15 Overs)	

Bowling: A Kaddatz 7-1-15-0, A Simmons 5-12-0, H Dolphin 2-0-8-0, A Thompson 1-1-0-0

DIVISION 1

CRICKET | SPORT

DIVISION 1

Jye Celebrine c: L Anderson	
b: J Ginnane	6
Rumesh Rangana c: T Sauvarin	
b: L Wright	83
Harry McNeil b: L Wright	6
Hemal Ratnayake b: L Wright	67
Steven Hamill b: L Wright	1
Tom Jenkin b: L Wright	0
Levi Gooch c: L Anderson	3
Scott Head b: L Wright	0
Daniel Whelan not out	0*
Extras (9w, 2nb, 3lb)	14
Total 10 / 188 (70.5 Overs)	

Bowling: L Wright 24.5-5-99-8, L Anderson 13-7-13-1 (1w, 2nb), J Ginnane 14-5-20-1 (6w), T Sauvarin 7-2-14-0 (1w), N Eddy 8-2-21-0 (1w), D Ginnane 4-0-18-0

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Phillip Island – 1st INNINGS

Thomas Niven	
run out: J Andrighto	11
Heath Womersley c: E Dempsey	
b: R Thomas	11
Daniel Mock c: M Thomas	
b: J Sheerin	30
Shiran Rathnayake not out	102*
Thomas Blackwell c: R Birkett	

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Phillip Island Sharks won the Sunday T20 match against the Diggers. Left to right back row - Simon Kirton, Zac Brown, Kurt Lane, Tom Niven, Kohen Beaumont and Tim Niven. Left to Right front - Lachlan Cleeland, Shiran Rathnayake, Daniel Mock, Heath Womersley and Charith Keerithsinghe. Z31_0524

Island sharks defeat OMK in an all-time classic final

ON Sunday the Phillip Island T20 team travelled over to Leongatha for the final's day of the LDCA knockout T20 competition.

In the semi-final the Sharks easily beat Koonwarra, who won the toss and crawled to be all out in the last over for 66. The highlight being Simon Kirton with incredible figures of 5/5 off four overs. The Sharks top order easily chased down the total in the 12th over, one wicket down. Lochie Cleeland 26 not out and Shiran Rathnayake 26 the major contributors.

This win saw the Sharks move

into the final to take on the talented OMK side at Scorpion Park.

After winning the toss, the Island boys batted first hoping to put some scoreboard pressure with a big total. Lochie and Shiran got the innings underway, with both batters putting the pressure on the bowling side early with some sharp running and boundary hitting. Lochie was dismissed in the sixth over for 21 with the score on 45.

This brought to the crease Daniel Mock who continued to keep the score moving along, as he found the boundaries. Just

as the Sharks were looking to up the ante, Shiran was out caught and bowled for a well-made 31.

The Sharks now 2/79 in the 10th over, two more wickets for no runs saw the Sharks scrambling to get the pads on as they fell to 4 for 79. Tom Niven joined Mock at the crease as the pair looked to resurrect the innings through good running and clever placement.

The partnership lasted until the 18th over with the score on 124 when Mock was dismissed for 41. Niven was dismissed late for a mature 21 and the Sharks finished on 7 for 133, a little

short of what they would like but a tricky chase ensued for the Diggers.

Heath Womersley opened with his swing bowling and looked ominous early. Bowling without luck in the early overs the Diggers looked to be progressing nicely before a great catch from Zac Brown who was parked under a skied ball off the bowling of league legend Charith, as they removed the dangerous Ethan Lamers for 20.

Some more sharp fielding from Shiran saw a run out and the second wicket lost for the over. With score now 2 for 38

off six overs, the game was very much in the balance.

Some tight bowling from Tom Niven and Charith kept the run rate manageable but a plucky partnership was starting to turn the game in the Diggers favour. Tom eventually bowling the hard hitting Riaz and adding another twist to the match, with the Diggers now 3 for 78.

Another little partnership formed before Kirton was introduced with immediate effect removing the opposing skipper Brann for 40 with the score now 107 with three overs left.

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ALEX SCOTT & STAFF
WOOLAMAI CUP

SATURDAY 3RD FEBRUARY

Country Racing at Woolamai - join us to celebrate our Cup Day our way. It's yours too, the moment you arrive. There's live entertainment, fashions on the field and up-close racing action.

Gates Open at: 11:00am

- Live entertainment
- Fashion
- Up-close racing action

General Admission

\$20^{PP}

Kids under 17 FREE



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