

Sentinel-Times

COVERING SOUTH GIPPSLAND AND BASS COAST

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Australia's best on our doorstep



Photo: Zac Porter.

IN A remarkable display of resilience, despite the recent tragic drownings, beach rescues and floods, South Gippsland has been recognised for its world-class offerings.

Berrys Creek Gourmet Cheese's Oak Blue has been crowned the best cheese in Australia after taking out the Grand Champion Cheese and Champion Blue Cheese last Thursday night at the 25th Australian Grand Dairy Awards.

Meanwhile, Squeaky Beach, nestled in Wilsons Promontory National Park, has been crowned Australia's Best Beach for 2024 outshining 11,761 other beaches across Australia's mainland and islands, showcasing the hidden treasure on our doorstep.

In an even more incredible feat, it's the first time a Victorian beach has claimed this title.

However, these victories come amidst a wave of tragedies. Seven people drowned off South Gippsland and Bass Coast beaches in just 13 days with the region witness to a series of major beach rescues over the summer, the latest on Sunday evening where the 'hero' good Samaritan was airlifted after suffering a heart attack.

And one must not forget back on November 18, 2020, a near-drowning at Australia's newly crowned best, Squeaky Beach.

Despite the challenges, South Gippsland continues to shine.

"It is wonderful that Squeaky Beach has been recognised as the best beach in Australia for 2024. This achievement came shortly after Berrys Creek Gourmet Cheese was named Grand Champion on Cheese at the 25th Australian Grand Dairy Award. It's clear that it is an exciting time for South Gippsland," South Gippsland Mayor Clare Williams stated.

"South Gippsland is home to stunning countryside, pristine beaches and some of the best produce going around. Of course, everyone who lives here knows how lucky we are, but it's nice to see our region being acknowledged at a national and international level. We hope that this recognition will encourage more people to explore South Gippsland and discover just how much we have to offer."

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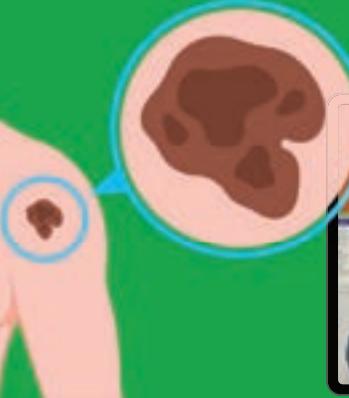


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PRICE FREEZE



Oak Blue has been named the best cheese in Australia for 2024.

Cream of the crop for Berrys Creek Gourmet Cheese

DELICIOUS and decadent dairy was in abundance at the 25th Australian Grand Dairy Awards held in Melbourne on Thursday evening hosted by Dairy Australia and the Royal Agriculture Societies. The annual awards acknowledge excellence, quality and innovation across 18 dairy product classes, attracting entrants from each state.

Local Gippsland cheesemakers, Berrys Creek Gourmet Cheese, took out the top prize the Grand Champion Cheese and Champion Blue Cheese for their Oak Blue cheese – making it the best cheese in Australia.

The rigorous judging process was conducted by a panel of expert judges comprising of dairy experts, cheesemongers, retailers, chefs and food experts from across the country.

World renowned cheese expert and Australian Grand Dairy Award chief judge Russell Smith said this year's entries are testament to the innovation and creativity of producers, and Australia's high-quality dairy.

"Each year we expect to taste exceptional dairy products. Year after year, our expectations are exceeded. The class of products presented saw winners and finalists from across the nation – showcasing the breadth of excellence Australian dairy has to offer," Mr Smith said.

Winner of the Grand Champion Cheese product Barry Charlton and Cheryl Hulls said the award was a welcome surprise.

"We are honoured to have been acknowledged on this occasion.

Our Oak Blue is a crowd favourite among our customers, and this award is a testament to the hard work of the whole team to bring the best cheese to Victoria and Australia," Barry said.

The Oak Blue also secured the 2024 Champion Blue Cheese, whilst Berrys Creek Gourmet Cheese Riverine Blue took out the Champion Goat's/Sheep's/Buffalo Milk Cheese.

The duo and their dedicated team on Fish Creek-Foster Road are no strangers to the awards circuit after being named Supreme Specialist/Artisan Cheesemaker at the 2023 International Cheese and Dairy Awards, in Staffordshire, England.

The latest award is just as spectacular according to the pair.

"We are quite overwhelmed and excited," Cheryl explained.

"The team are over the moon, and we are so proud of them – we're on an absolute high."

"Our cheesemakers do a fantastic job," Barry added noting he no longer makes the cheese, only helps out, and it wouldn't be for the dedication and passion of the team.

"We have a brilliant team, and we are so proud of them. The whole team is absolutely awesome."

"We are thrilled to have won and have such special cheesemakers to back us up – it's very humbling."

Dairy Australia Head of Marketing Glenys Zucco added the Grand Dairy Awards is a long-standing legacy of Dairy Australia.

"We continue to be impressed by the quality of the entries year

on year. This year was no exception," Ms Zucco said.

The Awards saw 380 entrants across 18 categories judged on flavour, aroma, texture, body, and visual appearance to determine the finest products.

Cheryl and Barry relished the opportunity to engage in insightful conversations and reconnect with esteemed industry colleagues last Thursday before heading home on Friday to celebrate with the team.

"Everyone is treated as family – we are one big extended family," Barry remarked, noting they couldn't wait to return and join the festivities.

"It goes to show that we are consistently keeping the quality and standards, and it shows our passion."

But it was back to work come Monday with the Royal Sydney Show not too far away and World Cheese Awards in Wisconsin also around the corner.

"The (World Cheese Awards) are very technical with 22 Australian cheeses heading over – it's wonderful to have so many Australian cheeses represented and for Australia to be competing on the world stage."

As for the duos favourite bites:

"Our Riverine Blue or Oak Blue," Cheryl smiled.

"The same, I like a strong blue – the beautiful soft, creamy texture," Barry added.

"We'd like to thank everyone in the Gippsland community for buying our products and supporting us."

Read the full story at sgst.com.au

Squeaky beach is Australia's best

SQUEAKY Beach has taken out the number one spot of Australia's Best Beaches for 2024.

The glorious beach is enclosed by massive granite boulders at both ends, Squeaky Beach earns its distinctive name thanks to the famous white quartz sand that squeaks beneath your feet as you stroll along.

Squeaky Beach can be easily accessed on foot from the carpark but, if you're after the full experience, walk from Tidal River to take in some of the beautiful views across Tidal River, Norman Bay and Squeaky (6.34 km/1.5-hour walk).

The top 10 list showcases the diversity of Australia's breathtaking beaches and coastal destinations. This is the first time a Victorian beach has been named at No.1 - with the top spot usually going to NSW or Queensland.

Squeaky Beach was in competition with 11,761 beaches across Australia's mainland and islands, with The Farm in New South Wales and Cockle Creek in Tasmania taking home silver and bronze.

Australia boasts the largest number of beaches of any country in the world and the list serves as an inspiration for travellers here and abroad for their next holiday destination.

South Gippsland Mayor Cr Clare Williams has hailed the news as a major boost for local tourism and visitor numbers.

"It's awesome news. It's got to be good for tourism. Imagine being able to say we have the best beach in Australia. That's pretty amazing," Cr Williams said.

Destination Gippsland CEO Terry Robinson said to be named as Australia's Best Beach is a fantastic, and very well-deserved, accolade for Squeaky Beach, in the Wilsons Promontory National Park.

"Our region has an abundance of beautiful, unspoilt coastline to be discovered and we hope that this will encourage beach-lovers to visit and enjoy all that we have to offer."

It turns out Lonely Planet has also got in on the act - Squeaky Beach has been included in their newly released book - 'Lonely Planet's Best Beaches: 100 of the world's best beaches.' Squeaky Beach was one of only nine Australian beaches named in the top 100!

Tourism Australia's annual list of Best Australian Beaches is crafted by expert Brad Farmer, author of 101 Best Australian Beaches.

Senator for Victoria Jess Walsh said move over Queensland and Bondi! Victoria officially has

the best beach in the country.

"Squeaky Beach deserves every bit of the top spot – with its iconic squeaky white sand, clear water and striking orange rocks," Senator Walsh said.

"Many Victorians already knew Squeaky Beach was something special, now all of Australia does too."

Brad Farmer said that "beaches are much more than just a place to lay a towel and get wet. Our coasts have the potential to become this nation's greatest sustainable resource for generations to come."

Mr Farmer also warned swimmers to always bathe between the flags, where possible, and if you can't get to a patrolled beach assess conditions and plan how to stay safe before entering the water.

In fact, the Parks Victoria website carries the following warning about swimming at Squeaky Beach: "Beware of wave surges and strong currents. This beach is not patrolled."

The main beach at Tidal River/Norman is patrolled on weekends during the summer, while nearby Whisky Bay, with its distinctive granite boulders is considered a better choice for a swim on hot (offshore wind) days. Both Squeaky Beach and Whisky Bay have small carparks.

Check out the beachsafe app/website for a guide to conditions at beachsafe.org.au

Top 10 Best Australian Beaches for 2024:

1. Squeaky Beach, Victoria
2. The Farm, New South Wales
3. Cockle Creek, Tasmania
4. Madfish Bay, Western Australia
5. Pulu Blan Madar Island, Cocos (Keeling) Islands
6. Cylinder Beach, Queensland
7. Lagoon Beach, Lord Howe Island
8. Long Beach, South Australia
9. Cow Bay, Queensland
10. Casuarina Beach, Northern Territory

The Minister for Trade and Tourism Don Farrell said Australia's beaches are the best in the world, and the list of 'Best Australian Beaches', showcases some of the hidden treasures to travellers here and abroad.

"With tourism to Australia continuing to rebound following the pandemic, it's important we continue to make sure Australia is front and centre on the world stage, and showcasing the diverse range of beautiful beaches we have to offer is a great way to do just that."

To plan your visit to Squeaky Beach head to visitgippsland.com.au/do-and-see/nature-and-wildlife/beaches/squeaky-beach

Russell Broadbent MP
Federal Member for Monash

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6 Day Weather Forecast

SOUTH
GIPPSLAND



TUE | Feb 6

Partly cloudy.

Wind AM: Light
Wind PM: SW 15-25km/h

13° 21°



WED | Feb 7

Partly cloudy.

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

12° 22°



THUR | Feb 8

Cloudy.

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

12° 22°



FRI | Feb 9

Cloudy.

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

14° 21°



SAT | Feb 10

Partly cloudy

Wind AM: Light
Wind PM: E-SE 15-25km/h

13° 23°



SUN | Feb 11

Sunny.

Wind AM: NE-SE 15-20km/h
Wind PM: NE-SE 15-20km/h

14° 27°

IN BRIEF

State firefighting championships return in March

CFA is encouraging brigades across the state to compete in this year's CFA/VFBV State Firefighter Championships in March.

Mooroopna Recreation Reserve will again be the site of the events; with the Urban Junior State Championships kicking off on March 16 and 17. The Senior Urban and Senior Rural events will be held at the same site the following weekend, March 23 and 24.

Interested brigades need to register by February 18. Nominations are online via bit.ly/3un7uoT

More support for women in manufacturing and energy

THE State Government is continuing to support more women to enter and succeed in the male-dominated energy and manufacturing industries – with applications for a new round of grants to drive equality in the workplace, now open.

The first grants round supported a range of initiatives including mentoring programs for women run by the National Association of Women in Operations through virtual group and one-on-one sessions and school awareness campaigns for solar energy careers run by Australian Women in Solar Energy.

Applications for this grant round close on February 19, visit vic.gov.au/women-energy-and-manufacturing-funding-program for more details.

Swift action and working smoke alarm save residents

A POTENTIALLY dangerous situation was averted on Friday in Wonthaggi due to the quick response of residents and the effectiveness of a working smoke alarm.

Just before lunchtime a small fire ignited near the

front door inside a residential property, leading to the house quickly filling with smoke.

Local firefighters attended the scene and assisted in ventilating the property.

The incident underscored the critical importance of having functional smoke alarms.

Local authorities are urging residents to take this incident as a wake-up call and prioritise the well-being of themselves and their loved ones by regularly checking and maintaining their smoke alarms.

Farming Resilience Workshop

BASS Coast Shire Council welcomes everyone from the local agricultural community to join them for a Farming Resilience Workshop with Council's Rural Engagement Group facilitated by Leigh and Liz Crocker from Ion Group.

Leigh and Liz support farming businesses to build resilience and help balance business and personal lives.

A light lunch will be provided and there will be opportunity to connect with Council's Rural Engagement Group members and representatives from industry.

Thursday February 15, from 12.30pm to 3pm (lunch 12.30 to 1pm) at the Kernot Community Hall. Register to attend REGworkshop.eventbrite.com.au

Change the game for women and girls

THE STATE Government is backing more women and girls to get involved in the sport they love, right across the state.

Minister for Community Sport Ros Spence today opened applications for the 2023-24 Change Our Game Community Activation Grants program.

Grants of up to \$10,000 are available to support community sport and recreation clubs or organisations to increase participation, build capability, promote gender equity

and support the professional development of women and girls playing, volunteering and working in community sport.

Applications for this program close at 5pm AEDT, Monday March 4.

For more information about Change Our Game programs visit changeourgame.vic.gov.au

Pink Stumps Cattle Sale this Friday

WITH Outtrim Moyarra Kongwak's (OMK) major breast cancer fundraising cricket afternoon for the McGrath Foundation just around the corner on February 17, the club's annual Pink Stumps Cattle Sale is set to take place this Friday February 9 at Koonwarra saleyards.

There are 50 Angus, Murray Grey, Speckle Park and Friesian steers being auctioned for the cause by SEJ.

Cattle in the pink-themed pens will be the first on sale when bidding commences at 10am.

The animals were agisted to local farmers anywhere between Loch and Foster, all of whom were happy to raise them free of charge to bring in funds for the McGrath Foundation.

"We expect to raise about \$20,000," OMK's Amy White said of the cattle sale, those proceeds to be added to funds from the sold out 250-head Pink Stumps Day lunch the following Saturday at Outtrim.

The McGrath Foundation helps fund Breast Care nurses who support those with breast cancer and their families.

Beach drownings: Land managers 'not proactive' he says

BASS Coast community advocate, Graham Jolly, has campaigned for years to get a report and recommendations released about the hazards that exist on Bass Coast beaches and what to do about it.

The assessment conducted by Life Saving Victoria as part of the Surf Life Saving Australia Beach Drowning Black

Spot Reduction Program, funded by the Federal Government, has never been fully released or implemented.

At the weekend, in response to "near misses" at Cape Paterson and Kilcunda, in the exact location where a 20-year-old man drowned on January 12, Mr Jolly made the following comments on Facebook:

"Land managers have not been proactive by adding additional warning signs to this location, Forrest Caves and other locations knowing Surf Life Saving Victoria (in 2017/2018) surveyed Bass Coast beaches and provided a 162-page report, named "Black Spot Coastal Risk Assessment for the Bass Coast". The land managers were provided the report in 2019. The number one recommendation in the report was for all land managers (Phillip Island Nature Parks, Parks Victoria, Bass Coast Shire Council and the San Remo Foreshore Committee) to improve beach and water warning signage.

"That report has repeatedly been stopped by land managers from going public," Mr Jolly said at the weekend, having delivered the evidence of his claims to the Wonthaggi police for inclusion in their report to the coroner.

"Bass Coast Shire Council would not allow the full 162-page report to be released to the public. Instead, the council released a 7-page summary report, covering up the survey spot inspection findings.

"The report must be released to the public, new international signs must be added to all beach entry points and, at the last step before the beach sand.

"More importantly the 2017/18 report must be reviewed, as of 2024, by Surf Life Saving Victoria.

"We all must stop the potential of drownings along the Bass Coast.

Our current land managers are currently not acting in a proactive, positive manner. Why, may I ask?"



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Same'ol beach signs on their way, they say

IN THE wake six drownings on our beaches in 13 days, between January 12 and January 24 this year, and more near misses last weekend, the authority which manages the beach where five of those fatalities occurred says it is rolling out a new set of signs. Except that they're the same'ol signs.

Despite public concern that the present signs are not read by beachgoers, that the key warnings are diminished by competing information and that the signs don't carry compelling enough messages, including such words as 'This Beach Is Too Dangerous for Swimming', only minor changes are being made to the present format.

The contract for the 'new' signs was awarded to a local manufacturer late last year but they are not expected to be erected until well after the summer season is over and potentially, not before the next school holidays starting on March 28.

The following statement has been received from Phillip Island Nature Parks:

"The terrible drowning accident is a reminder of the dangers of the ocean and particularly unpatrolled beaches.

"Nature Parks works very closely with Life Saving Victoria and Bass Coast Shire Council to ensure all beach warning signs are designed to



One of the signs at Kilcunda, similar to those at Forrest Caves on Phillip Island. The families of the victims say they simply did not see the warning signs.

Australian Standards and follow LSV

direction and advice at all times.

"Signage at beaches is one important component of the drowning prevention education process.

"There are currently two large permanent warning signs erected at the two entries to the Forrest Caves beach area. They carry the Australian Standards no-swimming symbol, and warn of no lifesaving service, dangerous current and submerged objects.

"Nature Parks has been working with LSV to review and make minor adjustments to the permanent signs, in line with a Council report (Bass Coast Shire Coastal Risk Assessment Report). Like the current signs, the new signs also

show the no-swimming symbol and warn of dangerous currents and submerged objects.

"A Coastal Public Access and Risk grant was approved to replace the signs and following a public tender Nature Parks awarded the contract to a local signage manufacturer late last year and the signs will be installed within the next two months.

"The new signs comply with Australian Standard ISO 20712 – 3:2020.

"Nature Parks will continue work closely with Life Saving Victoria and the Council and review signs and act if there is further advice to improve the safety of this beach and other beaches."

Background

It's worth noting that the 'Bass

Coast Shire Coastal Risk Assessment' was conducted by Life Saving Victoria which produced a report for: the Bass Coast Shire, Phillip Island Nature Parks, Parks Victoria and San Remo Foreshore Committee of Management. It is not specifically a 'Council report'.

The "Risk Assessment" makes a number of recommendations about signs at high hazard score beaches, including the following:

"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."

"Finally, it is recommended that the land managers within BCS commit to a systematic monitoring and review process. Continuous monitoring and review of hazards ensures that new hazards are detected and managed and linked to modification or maintenance of existing action plans."

The present Australian Standard ISO 20712 – 3:2020, to which the new signs are expected to comply, must be reviewed every five years and a new standard is presently "in development" to be introduced in 2025.

Family happy 'hero' Simon has recovered

FORMER Pakenham resident, Simon Broadbent of Cranbourne, the nephew of Federal Member for Monash, Russell Broadbent, is lucky to be alive after playing a crucial role in the rescue of three young people from the Latrobe Valley at Kilcunda on Sunday.

According to his brother, Benson Broadbent, Simon was at the beach body surfing with his daughter Hannah, when three people were caught in the same treacherous rip, at the Trestle Bridge end of the beach, that claimed the life of Sahil Panwar, a Melbourne man in his 20s, who drowned there on Friday night, January 12.

Responding to messages of support on Facebook, Benson assured FB that his brother was recovering.

"The rescuer is my eldest brother. They've just finished testing him at the Alfred. He had a mild heart attack induced by the rescue but is okay and will be monitored for a couple of days.

"He wouldn't consider himself one, but our eldest brother Simon is the hero who went into help rescue the swimmers while he was learning to body surf at the beach with Hannah. He was flown to the Alfred where testing showed he suffered a mild heart attack during the event. He is doing well and will stay in for at least 24 hours for further monitoring."

His ex-wife, Elinor, posted similar sentiments:

"The "hero" was my ex-husband and my daughter. He is always putting other people's welfare first and I'm not surprised at all. I would like to thank everyone who helped, particularly two strangers Cécile and Stefan who stayed with my daughter and helped contact me to come and be with her, to the nurse who helped my ex while paramedics were enroute and to the strangers who handed out cold bottles of water, to the emergency services on such a sweltering day... Humanity at its finest."

The praise for Simon and first responders has been widespread.

Back in Canberra for the week in Parliament, Mr Broadbent was also relieved to hear his nephew and Simon's daughter were safe, as well as those rescued.

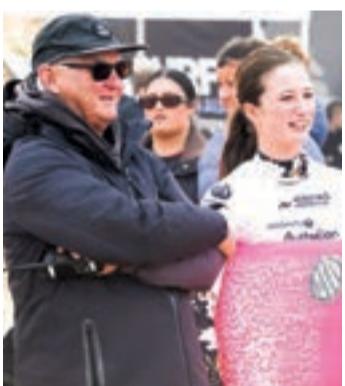
"Simon might not be the strongest swimmer himself, and I appreciate it was a close call for him too, but we could have been talking about nine or 10 deaths by drowning in the Bass Coast area in less than three weeks without his efforts, and the others involved," Mr Broadbent said today.

"Honestly, I don't know how we can combat it. Some people simply won't listen even when they are warned not to go in but thank God for Simon, and the others."

Mr Broadbent said the Federal Government's role with beach and ocean safety was to provide the funding for buildings and equipment, for surf lifesaving clubs, volunteer coastguard and the like.

"We've been able to get some funding in our area for these facilities, and a stack more is needed, more regularly, because they are subject to the impact of coastal conditions. We do contribute funding for programs but that's through the state government which is essentially responsible for surf lifesaving and beach safety."

Serious gap in our beach knowledge, says Max Wells



Local surfing community leader Max Wells says there's a serious lack of knowledge about what visitors are seeing when they go to an open ocean beach and whether their skills are up to going in.

RETIRED former Surfing Victoria CEO, Max Wells of Inverloch, says there's a serious gap in the knowledge people have about the dangers that exist at the state's open ocean beaches.

He was speaking on Gippsland ABC Radio on Monday this week after two "near misses" over the weekend when four people almost drowned at Kilcunda on Sunday afternoon and a swimmer was rescued by local surfers after patrol hours, at Cape Paterson on Sunday evening.

"I have just spoken to the owner of one of the surf schools down here who knows the three people that did that rescue," said Mr Wells.

"But there wouldn't be a surfer with a fair bit of

experience surfing in this area who hasn't been involved in rescues of that kind.

"There's a real concern about poor decision making," said Mr Wells.

"Kilcunda was huge at the weekend. I had a look at it and there would be a lot of surfers who wouldn't go in but there were tents lined up there with people having a day at the beach."

Mr Wells said the water near the rocks, at the trestle-bridge end of the Kilcunda beach, often looked smooth and inviting but noted there had been a rip in that location for 40 years.

"What surfers do when they get to the beach, is stop before they consider going in and assess if there body-boarding or

surfing skills are up to what they are seeing.

"It's something swimmers should be doing as well," he said.

But Mr Wells said there was a serious gap in people's knowledge about the conditions at open ocean surf beaches even if they have done a learn to swim program.

"They might have learned to swim in a controlled pool location, but it's a very different situation to what you'll experience when you go to an open surf beach."

"There's a gap in our knowledge at the moment, what we are seeing when we go to the beach and assessing whether we can go out in the conditions we are seeing."

Danny O'BRIEN MP
State Member for Gippsland South

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Mayor's Message



Cr Clare Le Serve



HELLO Bass Coast community

Back to school

Our schools are filling again with all our Bass Coast children who are hopefully settling in and looking forward to this next year of continual learning. I'm told there are over 600 children who entered our many kindergartens across the region. I hope they are all having a warm and welcoming entrance into the education environment.

Hawks Partnership

We have many events around the region this week including a fantastic family-friendly session in Wonthaggi Rec Reserve to see the Hawks - Hawthorn Football Club VFLW and the Box Hill Hawks. We expect around 125 people from the clubs to come to our region.

Bass Coast Shire Council has a formal partnership with the Hawks and we are very excited to host them here again. We encourage everyone in our community to get involved. There will be six local coaches and local players training. There will also be a free kid's football clinic on 10 Sunday for ages 5-12, no matter the skill level.

To kick start this year's program Hawks are hosting a range of activities and we encourage those interested to get involved. We will have further events being planned, so please keep and eye out for further information on our Bass Coast Shire Council website.

Register here: <https://hawthornfc.typeform.com/to/XafgbTS1...>

Events for Business

On other matters, Council will shortly be

Have your say and join the Bass Coast forum

THE Developing Bass Coast Forums, hosted by Bass Coast Shire Council, are an opportunity for local business and industry stakeholders to network and discuss the key trends expected to shape our region over coming years.

The Forums help to ensure developments in the region are best-in-class and align with the Bass Coast Community Vision, which emphasises the important role of the natural environment in underpinning the character and economy of the region.

The 2024 Forum theme is Opportunities for sustainable development in Bass Coast. Learn how sustainable development practices can be embedded in new residential development in a way that meets the environmental challenges of today, while being affordable.

Join us for breakfast and conversation at our upcoming forum on Wednesday 28 February.

Book your ticket to attend (\$10) - <https://developingbasscoast.eventbrite.com.au>

On Thursday, February 15, we host the Rural Engagement Group, where everyone from our agricultural community can join us for a resilience workshop at Kernot Hall.

Register to attend <https://REGworkshop.eventbrite.com.au>

Other Key Events this week

Get out and have a go in our community. Check out our website for a comprehensive list of events across the Shire and see all the ways you can engage with our neighbours.

- Saturday, February 10 - San Remo Channel Challenge - San Remo
- Saturday 10 and Sunday, February 11 - Inverloch Speed cubing Tournament Inverloch
- Saturday 10 and Sunday, February 11 - Bass Coast Edible Gardens Bass Coast
- Monday, February 12 - Love Phillip Island Millowl - Give Back Beach Clean Cowes Foreshore
- Saturday 17 and Sunday, February 18 - Inverloch Classic Wooden Dinghy Regatta Inverloch

Path upgrade to Cowes-Rhyll Trail underway

A 700 METRE stretch of the popular trail between Cowes and Rhyll will be upgraded to a shared use path for pedestrians and bicycles.

Bass Coast Shire Council contractors started work this week to upgrade the current gravel path and replace some sections with concrete. Phillip Island Nature Parks construction staff will also soon start works to widen boardwalk sections and replace decking with non-slip material.

The works will be conducted in stages from late January to May, with a section of the trail between Conservation Hill car park and the Cowes-



Expert panelists Wade Bashaw, Dr Rachel Goldlust and Brendan Condon will join Bass Coast Shires's development forum on February 28.

design, off-grid living, renewable technology, housing and energy policy.

Brendan Condon, The Cape Sustainable Housing Project: Brendan is a sustainability innovator who has helped design and implement sustainability projects. In his work, Brendan aims to create a better designed, more efficient, more equitable society that can meet the challenges of the future.

Wade Bashaw, North South Homes: Wade is a registered building practitioner and certified PassivHaus

Tradesperson with a passion for outdoor lifestyle and building homes that are well designed.

You will have the opportunity to learn more about Council's new Economic Development Framework. Along with a presentation about the Wonthaggi North East Precinct which will provide the structure for sustainable housing growth, guiding investment in the construction of homes for 12,000 new residents, community amenities, and an expanded business and industry precinct.

Rhyll Road crossing closed for two weeks from January 29. Phillip Island Nature Parks General Manager Infrastructure and Planning, Jarvis Weston, said a section of trail would be closed while the works were completed.

"We have scheduled the work to coincide with the off-peak season to minimise any impact to trail users," Jarvis said. "However, it is necessary to close a section of the trail while the works are undertaken.

"The trail may be opened intermittently while the work is undertaken so we encourage locals and visitors to

modify their routes to avoid disruption, to observe the signs and respect cordoned areas to ensure safe trail use."

Bass Coast Mayor Clare Le Serve said the latest round of works would allow users safer and better access to the trail and would complement the \$326,000 upgrade of the Cowes-Rhyll Road pathway funded by the council in 2020.

"These works will offer greater access for trail users to enjoy the trail and spectacular views of the coastline and Phillip Island."

For more information, visit basscoast.vic.gov.au/cowesrhyllpath

Free community webinars to boost sustainable living

BASS Coast Shire Council and South Gippsland Shire Council have partnered with not-for-profit organisation Renew to deliver a series of free interactive webinars across 2024, to equip residents with information and tools to reduce their energy bills and live more sustainably.

Presented by experts in their field, the webinars will cover a range of topics including solar, home battery storage, electric vehicles, keeping warm in winter and cool in summer, and sustainable building practices. Renew has

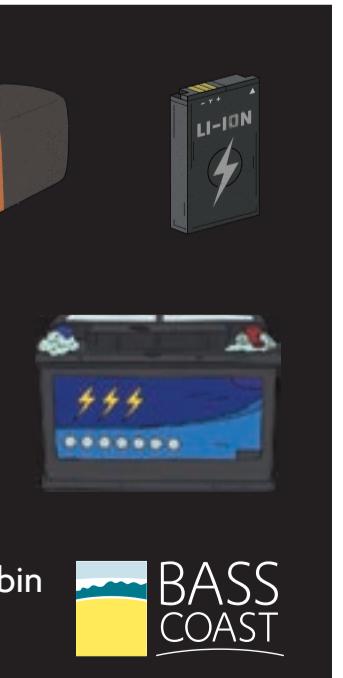
been working in this space for over 40 years as an independent, not-for-profit body with a mission to inspire, enable, and advocate for people to live sustainably in their homes and communities.

The first set of four webinars kicks off on Wednesday February 21 and will focus on home solar and all-electric homes. Future webinar series later in the year include topics on summer and winter home comfort, and sustainable building and renovating. Each webinar will take around 90 minutes and include time for questions.

Summer Webinars

- Wednesday February 21, 6-7.30pm – Introduction to Solar
- Wednesday February 28, 6-7.30pm – Home Battery Storage
- Wednesday March 6, 6-7.30pm – All Electric Homes
- Wednesday March 14, 6-7.30pm – Electric Vehicles

To register for a webinar, please visit thecap.com.au/sustainable-living-series



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Duck hunting season announcement welcomed

WESTERNPORT Field & Game Association president Rob Passarin is delighted with the news that duck hunting will continue in Victoria.

"I reckon it's a great decision," he said of the recent State Government announcement the pursuit won't be banned.

Mr Passarin commended Nationals representatives Melina Bath and Danny O'Brien for their determined efforts to achieve that outcome, including organising a well-attended meeting at the Workmen's Club in Wonthaggi late last year.

"They've been pivotal those two," he said, also noting the contribution of Member for Murray Plains and Victorian Nationals leader Peter Walsh.

"The Nationals understand how country people live," Mr Passarin said.

He argues duck hunting is sustainable and that Westernport Field & Game members have contributed extensively to wetland conservation projects over many years. That included work a little over 30 years ago at what is now known as Baxters Wetland, close to Wonthaggi.

"We created a moat and put a wall at one end to raise the water level because it was an ephemeral wetland and used to dry out over the summer months," Mr Passarin said.

"It captures water from south and east of Wonthaggi and by the time it leaves there it's clean water and it heads down to the



Powlett River."

Mr Passarin explained that at the time club members worked on the wetland, school students planted trees, with the combined efforts resulting in a magnificent spot that is enjoyed by the local community and includes a bird hide.

He said Westernport Field & Game members have since helped in conservation efforts at many other wetlands. One recent initiative involved replacing nesting boxes in the lake at the local cemetery, providing habitat for waterbirds.

Mr Passarin said the Westernport Field & Game Association, like other such organisations, provides simulated field shooting, making it an important training ground for people to learn how to hunt appropriately before heading into the field.

He described wild duck as "the best organic feast", arguing, "everyone has a right to decide

whether they eat lamb, beef or roast duck."

While pleased with the Government's decision to allow the continuation of duck hunting, Mr Passarin is disappointed in the announcement shooters can only commence hunting at 8am, stressing that is more likely to result in wounded birds.

"In March, it's daylight at 6.30am, and early in the morning birds fly at a much lower level, so they're an easier target," Mr Passarin said.

He stressed that later, birds tend to fly at an altitude of 50 to 60 metres, a distance many people aren't prepared to shoot from as it is more difficult to ensure a clean kill.

While the Association advises its members such a distance is problematic, Mr Passarin expects some hunters will become frustrated by the late start and shoot from too far away.

"There's a very good chance that you'll only wound it and it will fly off somewhere and die," he said of the risk that birds will suffer due to the 8am stipulation.

While welcoming the announcement to continue duck hunting, Member for Gippsland South, Mr O'Brien also expressed concern about the 8am commencement of shooting.

He suggested the proposed daily start time "seems designed simply to frustrate hunters".

Mr O'Brien considers the decision to continue the duck hunting season a win for common sense and science, saying debate on duck hunting's future is shrouded in emotion and politics, something he argues was demonstrated by the "biased recommendations of the parliamentary inquiry".

"The evidence tendered to the inquiry made it clear that habitat is the main driver of duck populations and hunting has little impact on native bird numbers."

Mr O'Brien laid the blame for duck hunting's threatened future on inner city activists.

"We should always be vigilant and hunters will need to continue to do the right thing to guard against ongoing campaigns to shut down their legitimate activity."

While pleased there will be a duck season, Mr O'Brien believes it was unnecessary to reduce its duration to eight weeks or impose a six-bird bag limit given the extent of wet weather and bird breeding.

Reduced mass limit for San Remo bridge

WESTERNPORT Water is undertaking critical maintenance work on the main water and sewerage pipelines connected to the underside of the Phillip Island/San Remo bridge from February 26 until November 2024.

To minimise impacts to traffic and the community, suspended scaffolding will be attached under the bridge so works can safely access the pipes.

Both lanes of the bridge will remain open and unaffected.

With safety the priority, the vehicle mass limit on the bridge will be temporarily reduced to 42.5 tonne to protect the structural integrity of the bridge while this critical maintenance work is carried out.

"Using suspended scaffolding results in the bridge remaining safe and open for all general road users – including emergency response vehicles – and freight vehicles weighing 42.5 tonnes or less," Westernport Water managing director Dona Tantirimudalige said.

"We're working closely with the freight industry and the Department of Transport and Planning to ensure heavy vehicle operators are well informed so they can plan ahead to minimise impacts to their operations."

Gippsland's Department of Transport and Planning executive director Beth Liley said the National Heavy Vehicle Regulator is responsible for enforcing mass limits and will monitor compliance as part of the everyday activities when working in the area.

"Heavy vehicle operators are advised to refer to the Heavy Vehicle Map Networks in Victoria for planned and unplanned disruptions to the road network," she said.

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Inspiring inclusion

BASS Coast Shire Council invites the community to celebrate this year's International Women's Day by joining in on a special lunch at Silverwater Resort, San Remo on Friday, March 8 with keynote speaker Nicole Livingstone OAM.

International Women's Day is a time for inspiration and change. Every year since 1911, this global day marks the social, economic, cultural, and political achievements of women, while calling to accelerate women's equality. For this year's Bass Coast event the theme is inspiring inclusion, and the shire will focus on women in sport at a professional and community level.

When women themselves are inspired to be included, there's a sense of belonging, relevance, and empowerment. The aim of the 2024 #InspireInclusion campaign is to collectively forge a more inclusive world for women.

Please join us to be inspired by our keynote speaker Nicole Livingstone OAM, who is well known for her illustrious swimming career including an Olympic record held for over 16 years and her expert sports commentator career spanning 20 years. Nicole also co-founded and is patron of Ovarian Cancer Australia and is now the head of AFL Women's Football.

Guests will also hear from a panel of other women in sport including some inspirational Bass Coast local residents.

This event is not just for people who identify as women: everybody is welcome. International Women's Day is a time for us all, regardless of gender identity, to acknowledge the progress that women have made towards equality - while remembering there is still much to do. Inspiring inclusion, achieving equality, building allyship and dismantling damaging stereotypes is as important for men as it is for women, so the shire welcomes everyone to attend.

"Council celebrates any opportunity to include and empower all communities in Bass Coast. It is important that we increase representation of women at all levels of sport. Women should be able to embrace and participate in sports and physical activity that suits them in our community without fear of judgement.

"I am looking forward to listening to Nicole Livingstone and our panel but also meeting our community and enjoying a lunch at one of our fantastic local venues," said Mayor, Cr Clare Le Serve.

Bass Coast Shire Council thanks the sponsors Bass Coast Health, Phillip Island Nature Parks and Westernport Water for their continued support.

Tickets for Bass Coast International Women's Day: Inspire Inclusion went on sale yesterday at 9am from eventbrite.

- Date: Friday March 8
- Time: 12:30 to 3pm
- Venue: Silverwater Resort, Potters Hill Road, San Remo
- Tickets*: \$45 per person (includes two course meal and speakers)

Buy from: internationalwomensday2024.eventbrite.com.au

'No closure' for Kirk Skinner's victims

THE victims of former private school music teacher, Kirk Skinner, who pleaded guilty in June last year to eight sex offences against six victims, spanning three decades, during his time at Caulfield Grammar and Newhaven College, say they have been left with "no closure" following Skinner's death last month.

Mr Skinner was found dead, in unexplained circumstances, by friends at a Seaford property on Tuesday, January 23, following months of delays to his criminal case and sentencing, due to a "serious" medical condition.

In the latest rescheduling, his sentence hearing was postponed until March 12 this year.

A police spokesman said they had been called to the Nepean Highway address at 4.40pm on January 23 after a 64-year-old man was located deceased at the property.

They said his death "is not believed to be suspicious", traditionally a euphemism for suicide, however Mr Skinner may have died of causes associated with a "pretty serious" kidney and heart conditions which reportedly kept him from the courts. The autopsy results have not been revealed.

He last appeared in court, via video link, in December last year where he was told he would have to make himself available, at a later date, if his victims wished to address the court prior to sentencing.



In a bizarre public campaign, leading up to the sentencing and death of sex offender Kirk Skinner, a series of messages and images of the former local music teacher were stencilled in public locations around Wonthaggi and district.

Skinner admitted to the eight charges, which included the sexual penetration of a child and intentional sexual touching of the genitals of boys aged between 16 and 18 in June last year after a gag order was lifted on those charges after a separate case concluded, in which he was found not guilty of sexually assaulting a 12-year-old school boy, one of his music students, at Newhaven in 2019.

However, it is understood that the charges Skinner was ultimately found not guilty of, resulted in at least some of the other victims coming forward.

The boy's disclosure of the incidents to his parents in November 2019 led to a police investigation and the teacher being stood down from his leading role in the college's music department.

Mr Skinner, who was also involved in local music, sporting and community organisations, was the subject of a bizarre shaming campaign in the months leading up to his sentencing, including stencils being painted in public locations with questions such as "Where is Kirk?".

Made of tough stuff, our Hugh!

MUCH-loved, 97-year-old Korumburra WWII veteran, Hugh Hendry, for many years the manager of Coal Creek is clearly made of tough stuff after surviving plenty in his life, including a fall in the shower two weeks ago when he broke his neck.

But don't be overly alarmed, Mr Hendry is making a steady recovery in the Alfred Hospital where medical and hospital staff have had trouble trying to get him to sit still long enough for the C5 injury to mend.

"They expect a slight loss of movement in his left arm and leg to come right, thank goodness," said a family member this week.

Get well soon, Hugh.

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POLICE BRIEFS



Fires in Corinella

BASS Coast Crime Investigation Unit are investigating two grass fires in Corinella that occurred on Sunday, February 4.

Emergency services were called to a grass fire at a vacant site on Gaudi Boulevard, just after 8pm. A second fire occurred on Hughes Street near the walking trail, just after 9pm.

No one was injured and there was no damage to property. The fires are being treated as suspicious.

Anyone who witnessed the incident or with information is urged to contact Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000 or online at crimestoppersvic.com.au.

Four more youths arrested after cyclists struck in Melbourne's southeast

FOUR more youths, including a 14-year-old Wonthaggi boy, have been arrested following an investigation into two cyclists that were hit by a car in the south-eastern suburbs last week.

A 51-year-old Aspendale man and a 72-year-old man from Bentleigh East were taken to hospital with serious injuries after being struck by a vehicle on Tuesday January 23.

The vehicle, a stolen Holden Astra, allegedly used in the incidents, failed to stop both times.

Police arrested two 16-year-old boys in Noble Park, a 16-year-old boy from Clyde North and following further enquiries, arrested four more youths on Friday.

This included a 14-year-old Wonthaggi boy, charged with five offences, including reckless conduct endangering life, intentionally cause serious injury, theft of motor vehicle, and commit indictable offence whilst on bail.

A 13-year-old Hampton Park boy and a 16-year-old Healesville boy were also charged.

The trio have been bailed to appear before a children's court at a later date.

Did you attend Nyora Speedway on January 20?

POLICE are appealing for witnesses at Nyora Speedway on January 20 after executing a search warrant in South Gippsland last week.

It's understood a group of youths were involved in an affray around 8pm inside the speedway with any witnesses urged to come forwards to Leading Senior Constable Smith at Korumburra Police Station (5655 1244).

Alternatively anonymous reports can be made through Crimestoppers on 1800 333 000 or online at crimestoppersvic.com.au/report-a-crime



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South Gippsland Shire Council News

The ArtCubes are on the Move!

On Friday, the ArtCubes made the big move from Fish Creek to Meeniyian.

If you aren't yet familiar with the ArtCubes, they are reimagined shipping containers that provide space for artists across the region to showcase their artistic craft.

Meeniyian will host the ArtCubes for the next three months (from Saturday 3 February to Saturday 27 April), and they will be situated along Tompkins Road between the Great Southern Rail Trail and Meeniyian Recreation Reserve.

From painting, mosaic and ceramics all the way to musical scores, the ArtCubes provide limitless possibilities from within.

The line-up of artists and community

groups presenting in the ArtCubes include:

- Anthea Williams.
- Mandy Gunn.
- Constance Barker.
- Janine Durston.
- Rachel Knoester.
- Dianne Beavers and Scott McFadden.
- Angelo Saridis.
- Andrew Murray.
- Nicky Fraser.
- Koonwarra School.

To see the full schedule of who will be in each ArtCube and when in Meeniyian, please visit:

www.visitsouthgippsland.com.au/artcubes

The Future of Coal Creek 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 of the community facility to get the conversation started.

To read the discussion paper and to have your say on the future of Coal Creek, please visit: yoursay.southgippsland.vic.gov.au

Feedback will close Sunday 31 March 2024.

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*.

- A black boat and home-made boat trailer picked up from Inverloch-Venus Bay Road, Tarwin Lower (1 November 2023).
- A 1999 maroon Holden Sedan picked up from Stanley Street, Toora (13 October 2023). 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 2024.

RFT/395 – Meeniyian and Poowong Stadiums Re-Roofing Project

Tenders close at 2.00pm AEDT on Tuesday 27 February 2024.

RFT/396 – Bena Public Toilet Facility

Tenders close at 2.00pm AEDT on Tuesday 27 February 2024.

Documentation is available from Council's e-Tendering Portal:

www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/tenders

CONTACT US

9 Smith Street, Leongatha

03 5662 9200

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Chance to have say on planning future of South Gippsland Shire

ACKNOWLEDGING the emerging role of Nyora as South Gippsland Shire's principal development front is one of a host of proposed amendments to council's planning strategy and policy framework, with community members urged to provide feedback on intended changes by February 16.

Council proposes to implement the collective recommendations of the South Gippsland Planning Scheme Review 2023 by introducing new and revised local content in the Municipal Planning Strategy, and the Planning Policy Framework.

It is proposed to amend the schedules to zones, overlays, general provisions and operational provisions.

One stated aim is to remove onerous permit triggers in the rural zone schedules.

Exhibition documents and the proposed mapping can be accessed by visiting yoursay.southgippsland.vic.gov.au and selecting 'Planning Scheme Review Amendment' under the 'Current Projects' heading.

Anyone wishing to make a submission must do so in writing by 5pm on February 16, including your name and contact details and how the proposal impacts you.

Submissions can be uploaded through the aforementioned 'Your Say' site, or can be emailed to council@southgippsland.vic.gov.au or mailed to South Gippsland Shire Council, 9 Smith Street, Leongatha, 3953.

The emphasis on Nyora as an emerging district centre is sparked by the fact it is the closest South Gippsland Shire town to metropolitan Melbourne.

In council's document titled 'Municipal Planning Strategy Tracked Changes', it is made clear that a challenging balancing act will be required to achieve the anticipated expansion of Nyora in a healthy fashion.

"Planning for the town and new residential areas needs to accommodate new infrastructure and commercial and community services that support the community's social and employment needs whilst respecting the town's rural character," it is stated.

A council spokesperson stressed that the Nyora Development Strategy 2016 was prepared in consultation with the local community and remains council's leading document for the planning of Nyora township.

"The Strategy was prepared anticipating strong growth for Nyora and surrounds, and the need for additional land supply," it is stated.

In relation to land supply, Council has issued permits for:

- A staged subdivision at 379 Lang Lang - Poowong Road which allows for the development of over 300 residential lots.

- A subdivision of approximately 40 lots on vacant land between Davis Street and Grundy Ave.

- Development of a supermarket at 29 and 31 Davis Street.

Council has been working to progress the Strategy and a number of actions are now complete, one being the rezoning of a section of land in the central business district from Township to Commercial zone, which is intended to help facilitate retail and commercial opportunities.



Bruce Jarrett, Penni Ellicott of South Gippsland Shire Council, and Margot Parry during Friday's Leongatha pop-up feedback session on Coal Creek. A16_0624

Positive Coal Creek response

THERE has been an enthusiastic response from South Gippsland Shire community members and others who have leapt at the opportunity to share their thoughts on Coal Creek's future, a pop-up feedback session in Leongatha on Friday proving popular.

That followed a well-supported pop-up session in Tarwin Lower.

"We've had a really good response," South Gippsland Shire Council's coordinator of arts, culture and visitor economy Penni Ellicott said.

She explained that applies not only to feedback at pop-up sessions but to the many people completing Coal Creek survey forms, whether online or at council's Leongatha office.

Many community members have registered to join the Community Assembly that will make a recommendation to council on Coal Creek's future, having received a written invitation from council, which selected people at random.

Only those contacted by council about joining the assembly will be considered.

About 25 community members will form the assembly, its composition intended to be representative of the demographics of South Gippsland Shire.

Penni noted the chance to provide feedback on Coal Creek has already sparked interest across the shire, something that is pleasing for council.

"This is not a Korumburra discussion; it is a South Gippsland discussion," she said.

Leongatha locals Bruce Jarrett and Margot Parry were among those sharing their thoughts on Coal Creek at Friday's Memorial Hall pop-up.

As the granddaughter of John Parry, chairman of the Coal Creek mine in 1892, Margot is keen to see the tourist attraction have a strong future.

She envisages that being achieved by blending the historical element of Coal Creek with entertainment offerings at the site that will generate funds to ensure the



Tanja Kahl of Korumburra sees great potential for Coal Creek and hopes to be selected for the Community Assembly that will advise council on its future. A15_0624

park's viability.

On the historical side, Margot argues children need to learn the positive aspects of what coal did for Victoria, not just hear the present-day negatives and references to "dirty coal" and the need to eradicate its use.

While confident entertainment provided at Coal Creek can ensure its financial viability, Margot doesn't consider it possible to keep the attraction at its current vast size.

"Close down the bottom half, bring the Pig & Whistle up to the entrance area so there's somewhere to entice people in to get a pie and a pastie and a coffee," she said, adding it is important for it to be visible from the street rather than hidden away.

Margot and Bruce agree there are accessibility concerns with the bottom section of the park, making it difficult for some older people and others with limited mobility.

"I would concentrate totally on the top section; it would be different if there was loads of money but there's not, and we've got to be sensible," Margot said.

Bruce added there needs to be effective promotion of what Coal Creek has to offer.

Being a member of the South Gippsland Brass Band, he sees scope to use the site for many more musical performances.

Korumburra's Tanja Kahl received an invitation to register for the Community Assembly, something she didn't hesitate in doing.

"I was good friends with Barry Harms who was caretaker at the park many years ago and he was passionate about Coal Creek," she said, recalling photos he showed her of Coal Creek's packed train and hearing how it drew many tourists on weekends.

"Even when I lived on the Mornington Peninsula, we came to Korumburra to go to Coal Creek," Tanja said.

"My kids love it."

Tanja would love to see the Pig & Whistle café back in regular service, enabling visitors to sit down and have a bite to eat.

She said it may be possible to form a partnership with a TAFE in the region, providing experience for hospitality students and affordable food for Coal Creek visitors.

Tanja commented on the fact Coal Creek has so much history and pointed to the success of events such as the Southern Lights Festival and last year's Halloween evening as evidence the park can still attract large numbers of people.

She hopes to see a train running at Coal Creek again, even if just the small tramway, believing it would be a great drawcard.

Mayor's Message



Cr Clare Williams



HELLO South Gippsland.

I would like to start this week's message by congratulating Colin Mitchell and Yvonne Morrison for receiving a Medal of the Order of Australia. Both of these amazing South Gippslanders have made an impact beyond our region, inspiring others to do fabulous things.

I would also like to congratulate the winners of the South Gippsland Australia Day Photography Competition - Jodie Bennett-Wood (open category) and Carter Armstrong (under 15s category). There were some spectacular images submitted this year, so thank you to everyone who took the time to submit their photos.

Australia Day 2024

Councillors were out-and-about on Friday, January 26 celebrating Australia Day with our communities. There were 12 events across our beautiful Shire, and Councillors attended multiple events each. I attended Leongatha, Mirboo North and Tarwin Lower which were great celebrations of our people and even our new citizens.

These opportunities to come together feel so important to help foster strong connections. As Councillors, we feel so honoured to be representing such an amazing region.

We are all so lucky to have people and groups who organise and run these events for us all to enjoy. Thank you to everyone involved in making them happen.

Events

It was a privilege to officially open Coal Creek's new exhibition - Interpretations on Thursday, January 25. The exhibition features the work of artists who live and take inspiration from South Gippsland. I really encourage you to head along and experience this exhibition and explore the Park.

The colourful ArtCubes have finished up their residence at Fish Creek and made the move to Meenyan on Friday. To check out their line up of talented artists, please visit: <https://visitsouthgippsland.com.au>

If you are an event organiser, make sure you head over to the Visit South Gippsland page and add your event. It is a great way to expand the reach of your event.

Community Engagement

On Friday, January 26, a pop-up for the Coal Creek Community Park and Museum engagement was held at Tarwin Lower. Council staff and consultants supporting the engagement came along to listen to those with feedback on Coal Creek.

There was lots of great discussion and plenty of ideas that can be considered.

If you weren't in Tarwin Lower and want an opportunity to provide your feedback, you can do so online at the link below or by coming along to another pop-up. There are two remaining at the:

- Prom Country Farmers Market, Foster: Saturday, February 17 9am to 12 noon.
- Mirboo North Market: Saturday, February 24 9.00 to 12 noon.

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

Ward boundary review of South Gippsland Shire Council

Notice of preliminary report and response submissions period

Preliminary report

Under the *Local Government Act 2020*, the Victorian Electoral Commission (VEC) must review a council's ward boundaries at the request of the Minister for Local Government when there has been a change in the number of voters per councillor in one or more wards.

South Gippsland Shire Council is one of 10 local councils to have its ward boundaries reviewed between February and April 2024 to make sure voters are represented equally at the next local council elections.

The councils with ward boundaries under review have been divided into 3 groups. The VEC will soon share ward boundary options for these councils in a preliminary report.

Making a submission

You are invited to make a response submission to the preliminary report to have your say on the ward boundaries of South Gippsland Shire Council.

Submissions open at 9 am on Wednesday 14 February.

The VEC website features a public submission tool, which you can use to map your proposed ward boundaries and make a submission.

You must make your submission by 5 pm on Wednesday 6 March:

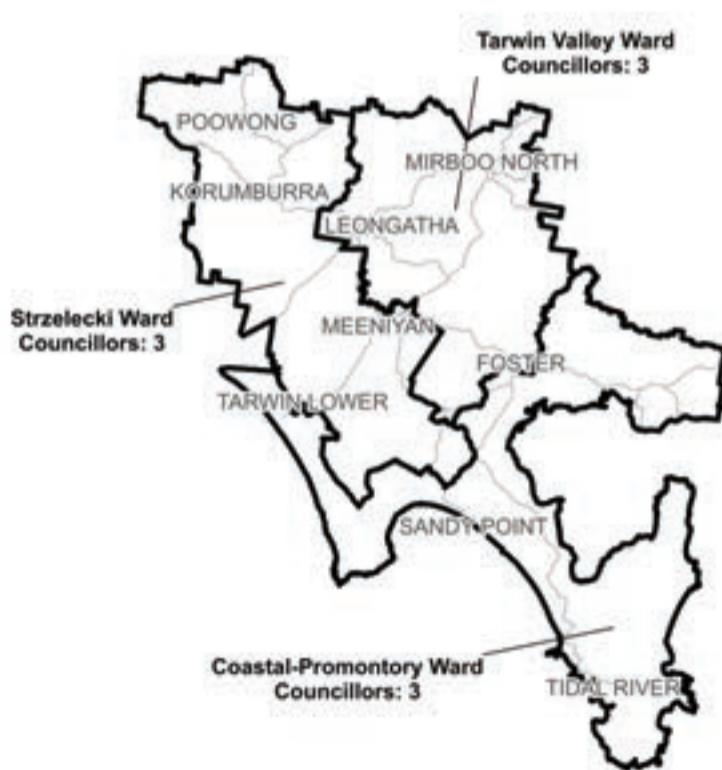
- online at vec.vic.gov.au
- by email to southgippsland.wardreview@vec.vic.gov.au
- by post to VEC, Level 11, 530 Collins St, Melbourne VIC 3000.

Public information session

Online public information sessions to explain the processes and open the preliminary submissions period will be held at:

- 12 noon on Monday 12 February
- 12 noon on Tuesday 13 February.

For more information or to register please visit vec.vic.gov.au



Public submissions close at 5 pm on Wednesday 6 March



Mandy Gunn will be showing how work can develop from sketch book drawings to larger paintings, with associated workshops held at the ArtCubes in Meeniyian this month.

ArtCubes arrive in Meeniyian

TRAVELLING from Fish Creek to Meeniyian, the ArtCubes arrived in town on the weekend, and creatives will be delighted with the lineup of artists inhabiting the cubes in the first weeks of February.

Mandy Gunn will be bringing See Scapes to one of the three cubes.

A Master of Arts who has exhibited across large regional galleries and small private ones and taught in schools, galleries and universities, the artist is keen to teach others the value of sketching and sketchbooks.

"I always think that sketchbooks are something that the public never see. They see the finished work and never actually where it's come from," said Mandy who also exhibits and teaches from the Thirsty Work Studio Gallery in Tarwin Lower.

Noticing and sketching the small and large elements of the land and sea scapes around her, has

kept Mandy's sketchbooks full, and then used later to inform larger works.

While on a trip down the Canning Stock Route, a track running from Halls Creek in the Kimberleys, WA to Wiluna in the mid-west region, Mandy detailed the journey through daily sketches and paintings.

She has mounted some of these on big sheets of paper to hang in the cube, along with some larger versions, to show examples of how final work can be developed from a small sketch.

During her time in the cube Mandy will be talking about sketching, teaching drawing and holding watercolour workshops.

Taking over one of the other cubes will be Constance Barker, a portrait and animal artist.

Constance will be exhibiting her work and showing how a portrait progresses from a drawing through to the finished product.

Constance uses a range of mediums to paint human portraits and simple pencil on paper for animals. Accuracy of the subject is an important element of Constances work, as well as capturing the essence and energy of the person or animal.

Viewers can watch how Constance works and she will be offering casual simple drawing exercises to anyone interested.

The other cubes will feature work from Anthea Williams, who will respond to the Meeniyian environment and though various materials and mediums, including drawings, digital photography, sound recordings and found objects, will document and interpret the people, places and objects that take her interest.

For some creative adventures and learning, go and check out one or all of these ladies work in the cubes at Meeniyian this month.

Hyland Highway slip needs urgent action

THE NATIONALS Member for Gippsland South, Danny O'Brien is demanding the Minister for Roads step in to deliver an urgent solution to the major landslip on the Hyland Highway between Yarram and Traralgon.

Mr O'Brien said he was pleased to hear that funding has been secured for the repairs to the major landslip and final designs and engineering assessments are almost complete.

"This landslip has been a long time in the making with the issue originally recorded by VicRoads in April last year and the problem rapidly deteriorating after heavy spring and summer rains.

"I'm pleased that there is now a pathway forward, but I am concerned that there will be an ongoing delay in reconstruction occurring.

"It's time the Minister for Roads acknowledged just how crucial this link is for the people of Yarram and district and the anxiety it has caused over recent months.

"Frankly, I'm astounded



The Nationals Member for Gippsland South, Danny O'Brien, is demanding the Minister for Roads step in and deliver an urgent fix to the Hyland Highway landslip.

that the slip, which has reduced the highway to one lane, has not worsened and taken the remaining lane with it, and I fear that is still a prospect.

"That's why the Minister needs to step in and ensure that this project is prioritised. It is unfathomable that a major road linking a

district population of some 6000 people could be left in limbo this long.

"While I acknowledge that it's a difficult and technical fix, the prospect of a road closure is not something a community the size of Yarram and district should be forced to contemplate."



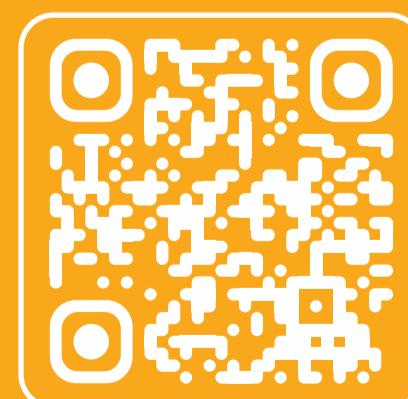
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Cr Nathan Hersey highlights the fact a guard rail at the corner of South Gippsland Highway and Victoria Road remains unrepairs. A19_0624

Loch intersection concerns response from Minister Horne

COUNCILLOR Nathan Hersey welcomed a response from the Victorian Government's Minister for Roads and Road Safety, Melissa Horne, after she was contacted regarding community concerns about the dangers of the intersection of South Gippsland Highway with Loch-Poowong Road and Victoria Road in Loch.

Cr Hersey said while community concern already existed, a fatal motorcycle accident at the site late last year prompted more people to speak out about the safety issues they perceive at the intersection.

A guard rail near the corner of South Gippsland Highway and Victoria Road remains severely damaged from a previous vehicle accident, with no repair having occurred.

Cr Hersey stressed there are significant issues with the line of sight for those turning right from Loch-Poowong Road onto South Gippsland Highway, with the situation exacerbated by excess vegetation.

"Before you know it, there are cars on you," he said.

That was starkly illustrated as trucks and cars hurtled by the Loch-Poowong Road median strip vantage point on which this scribe and Cr Hersey stood.

While Minister Horne's response indicates a combination of vegetation removal and trimming is scheduled for mid-February this year at the intersection, there is no guarantee of further safety improvements.

"The Department of Transport and Planning receives many requests each year for improvements to its road network to increase safety and accessibility; proposals for improvement projects must be evaluated on a State-wide basis and reviewed for relative priority," Ms Horne's letter states.

She indicates that traffic volumes, pedestrian activity levels, the historical safety record, the effectiveness of any treatments to improve safety, implementation costs and advice received from key stakeholders such as Victoria Police and councils are all considered.

"Any improvement proposals for this section of the

South Gippsland Highway, including the Loch-Poowong Road intersection will be considered in this context," Ms Horne wrote.

She added that traffic engineers will undertake a safety assessment of that section of the highway but no timeframe is specified for that to occur.

"Should this assessment identify safety improvements that it considers appropriate, DTP will consider them for implementation based on the above criteria; this includes a review of the crash history, current speed zones, signing, line marking and other road infrastructure," Ms Horne said.

"Council seeks your support to consider and implement changes that will improve safety for road users and the community," the correspondence received by Minister Horne stated.

One suggestion put to the minister is to consider the introduction of a 70km/h 'approaching vehicles warning' for the Loch-Poowong Road/Victoria Road and South Gippsland Highway intersection.

Join the Youth Pride Prom this Saturday

Come join YES Youth Hub, YMCA Bass Coast, FReeZA, Bass Coast Shire Council, headspace, VicPol and Engage! for an unforgettable night of fun and celebration at the Wonthaggi Town Hall. The 2024 Bass Coast Youth Pride Prom is the place to be for all LGBTQIA+ youth and their allies. Get ready to dance the night away, make new friends, and express your true self in a safe, welcoming and inclusive environment. This in-person event promises an incredible atmosphere filled with love, acceptance, and lots of glitter! Don't miss out on this epic party!

In partnership with the Victorian Government's Department of Families, Fairness and Housing (DFFH), Midsumma has delivered "Victoria's Pride" for the past two years, and it is with their generous



support and funding that we're bringing the Pride Prom back to the Bass Coast for the third time!

This annual event was dreamed up by a group of passionate young people, who wanted a safe, inclusive event for LGBTQIA+ youth to be able to be themselves, feel accepted, have fun, and celebrate together with their allies.

Enjoy music, dancing, and excellent vibes in an event planned by and delivered for young people at this Identity-Celebrating night!

All tickets are gloriously FREE for young people aged 12 - 25 ONLY. Visit Eventbrite: YES Youth Hub for tickets.

This event is an alcohol, smoke, vape, and drug free event.

Toni puts lifesaving skills to use

THE SOUTH Gippsland region means a lot to Toni Arfaras. A part-time Venus Bay resident, she was at her holiday home in 2013 when a stroke changed her life.

Aged just 46 at the time, it would be a week until Toni received the lifechanging diagnosis.

"Hearing that news, it was like the world was ripped out from under me. I will always remember hearing those words, you have had a stroke," Toni said.

"Since then, I have had three more mini strokes, or TIAs. I had to give up my job as a primary school teacher, I am unable to drive, and I have issues with sensory overload and fatigue. It has had a huge impact on my life."

Toni is now using her experience to help others and has been giving StrokeSafe talks for the past eight years. She has helped educate thousands by giving informative talks at aged care homes, schools and community groups.

"I love that I am able to educate people about strokes and put my some of my passions, like volunteering and teaching, that I previously had to give up, to good use," Toni said.

"I enjoy giving back to the community and knowing that I could be helping save a life or preventing disability



Toni Arfaras, who has a holiday house in Venus Bay, and has been personally affected by a stroke, will be delivering a StrokeSafe talk in Leongatha next week.

is very rewarding."

Next week Toni will speak to a group of 80 at the Woorayl Probus Club in Leongatha. Toni is among the 113,000 survivors of stroke living in Victoria. Regional Australians are 17 per cent more likely to have a stroke than those in metropolitan areas.

Stroke is one of the country's leading causes of disability. It kills more women than breast cancer and more men than prostate cancer.

Stroke Foundation Chief Executive Officer Dr Lisa Murphy commended Toni on helping educate more Australians about stroke.

"We want someone in every home and business in Australia to be able to recognise the F.A.S.T. (Face, Arms, Speech and Time) signs of stroke, and thanks to dedicated volunteers like Toni, we may one day achieve that," Dr Murphy said.

"We know there is no time to waste when it comes to stroke. Don't wait until it's too late. Take action and call triple zero (000) at the first sign."

StrokeSafe presentations are available in-person and online. If you would like to request a free presentation please call 1300 194 196 or book online.

Women aren't surprised by gender pain gap survey

THE RELEASE of a landmark survey dedicated to Victorian women's health has confirmed what women already know: their pain is real – and regularly overlooked.

The results of the survey, undertaken by the State Government, show that close to half of all women are impacted by issues related to their periods, pregnancy, birth and postnatal care, or conditions like endometriosis.

Nearly 60 per cent of participants reported having had positive healthcare interactions. But one in three said they'd experienced insensitive and disrespectful practitioners who left them feeling dismissed and unheard.

Sharing the findings this week, Premier Jacinta Allan and Minister for Health Mary-Anne Thomas also announced the new Inquiry into Women's Pain – the next stage of the Government's nation-leading \$153 million women's health transformation.

The Inquiry will examine systemic issues and solutions and hear directly from women across Victoria. Led by a panel of experts and overseen by the Women's Health Advisory Council, submissions opened on January 30.

Putting women's voices at the heart of the Government's reform, the Listening to Women's Voices report comprises the insights of more than 1700 Victorian women who shared their personal experiences of our health care system.

Findings from the survey include:

- Four in 10 Victorian women live with chronic pain.
- Around half of participants reported that period-related conditions (heavy periods, cramping, PMS) affected their health and wellbeing.
- Similarly, about 50 per cent said that pregnancy and birth complications continued to impact their health.
- Around 30 per cent said they were affected by the symptoms of perimenopause or menopause.
- 30 per cent said conditions such as endometriosis, menopause and chronic pain led to poor mental health.
- One in three have health conditions that affect their ability to work and keep a job.
- 20 per cent said they missed out on social connections because of their health.

The report also includes participants' personal stories. In an all-too-common occurrence, one woman said she was prescribed antidepressants when she had acute pelvic pain that was stopping her sleeping and working – but was later diagnosed with advanced endometriosis.

Victoria has a proud track record of work to improve women's health outcomes – from establishing Victoria's first clinic for women's heart health, delivering 11 sexual and reproductive health hubs, and launching the state's

first ever sexual and reproductive health phone line. But as today's results show, there is still more to do.

Work is underway to establish 20 new comprehensive women's health clinics, which will be crucial to overcoming some of the barriers women face in accessing healthcare.

Offering free, wide-ranging care and support, the clinics will allow women to see specialists – gynaecologist, urologist, specialist nursing and allied health – in one spot, making it easier and faster to access the world-class care for conditions like endometriosis, pelvic pain, and polycystic ovary syndrome (PCOS).

An additional nine sexual and reproductive health hubs are also being established across Victoria, adding to the 11 already operating. Offering free or low-cost services and advice on contraception, pregnancy termination and sexual health testing and treatment, three new hubs have been announced for Mildura, Mill Park, and Wallan.

The Government is also doubling the number of endo and associated surgeries, delivering around 10,800 extra laparoscopies over the next four years – as well as providing scholarships for 100 more women's healthcare specialists.

Submissions can be made to the Inquiry into Women's Pain from today (January 30) at health.vic.gov.au/public-health/inquiry-into-womens-pain.

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2023 the year that was

- Review and 2024 outlook

By David Caporale,
Investment Manager of Gippsreal Limited

The swing from negative returns in 2022 to positive returns in the 2023 is a year to year trend that the investment markets have repeated since 2017. A diversified investment portfolio performed better than forecast 12 months prior, mostly attributed to stronger than anticipated economic growth both internationally and domestically.

Whilst there was continued geopolitical tension with the war in Ukraine and the Israel/Hamas conflict, they had minimal impact on investment markets the past 12 months, albeit remaining a high risk situation and one to keep an eye on. Additionally, 2024 will see major elections in the US, the EU, India, Russia & South Africa which historically sees average share returns.

On a positive front inflation has continued to track down towards the Reserve Bank's (RBA) target band, with the Consumer Price Index (CPI) rising only 0.6% in the December 2023 quarter and 4.1% annually, according to the latest data from the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS)*. This was the smallest quarterly rise since the March 2021 quarter.

The inflation highs of 8 to 11 per cent last year are now around 3 to 5 per cent. With the sharp drop in inflation worldwide, economists believe that interest rates have peaked and that in the back half of 2024 they will drop. In Australia some are predicting the RBA will drop the cash rate from 4.35% to 3.60% by year end which should see some reprieve for borrowers.

Looking at the 2023 returns* from the major asset classes, it was mostly positive with the exception being unlisted non-residential property such as commercial properties. The losses in this asset class were due to the reduced space demand as more people are working from home.

Global shares performed the best of all major asset classes at 23.30 per cent, a turnaround of 35.80% from

the previous year. This turnaround was far greater than Australian shares which yielded a 12.40 per cent return for 2023 up by 13.5% from 2022, mainly due to interest rate sensitive consumers and worries about China and Australia's trade.

Similarly, shares in emerging markets saw a turnaround of 25.40%, from negative 15.50 per cent in 2022 to 9.90 per cent in 2023. Asian shares also yielded a positive return of 3.4% with economists predicting nearly three times that in 2024.

Both real estate investment trusts and residential property outperformed their previous 12 month returns at 17.60 per cent and 9.50 per cent respectively. Australian home prices rebounded from negative 7.0 per cent in 2022, as supply shortfalls combined with immigration inflow annulled the negative effect of higher mortgage rates.

The bond market domestically and internationally recovered from one of its worst years in a decade by posting 5.30 per cent returns each for 2023, mostly due to anticipated future cash rate changes. Whilst they lagged, bank term deposits also improved off the back of the interest rate hikes with returns of 3.9 per cent for the year, though still below the current cash rate in Australia.

Most economists appear to be generally optimistic about the 2024 outlook due to easing inflationary pressures and subsequent cuts to rates by central banks, however whilst positive, predictions for returns are modest.

On the other hand, other economists in the pessimistic camp have predicted a possible recession due to slow economic growth which would severely impact all markets, particularly the share market.

Like every year there are some with a glass half full view and others with a glass half empty view; only time will tell who guesses it right.

The information above does not constitute financial or other professional advice and is general in nature. It does not take into account your specific circumstances and should not be acted on without a full understanding of your current situation and future goals and objectives by a fully qualified financial advisor. Before you make any decision about whether to acquire a certain financial product, you should obtain and read the relevant product disclosure statement.

*Source: ABS, Thomson Reuters, Morningstar, REIA, AMP

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Dr Ann Capling talks at V4M 'Politics at the Pub'

Grassroots political movement, Voices for Monash (V4M) is hosting political scientist, Dr Ann Capling, as guest speaker at their next "Politics in the Pub" event - held at the Railway Hotel, Warragul on Wednesday February 14 from 6pm.

Ann was the campaign director for community nominated independent Dr Monique Ryan in the electorate of Kooyong which, against all odds, saw Monique unseat the sitting Liberal Federal Treasurer in what was for decades considered the safest seat in Australia.

V4M 'Politics in the Pub' events generally see a group of interested community members come together to discuss issues relevant to both their local community and on a state or federal level.

In Warragul, Ann will lead the discussion on the journey of Kooyong to independent representation, and how the community drove the campaign rather than a political party.

This event is part of a series of Politics in the Pub events hosted by Voices for Monash, with the aim of inspiring the community to get involved in the movement for democracy to do politics differently.

V4M committee member Deb Leonard says their last event, with guest speaker Denis Ginnivan, focused on the formation and journey of Voices for Indi, which saw both Cathy McGowan and subsequently Dr Helen Haines elected as community independents in a once-safe Liberal seat.

"It will be interesting to hear how two starkly different electorates employed similar principles and methodology to each achieve better outcomes for their region".

"These events also provide a fantastic opportunity for people of the community to meet like-minded people and come together to discuss various issues affecting them" says Deb.

More information can be found at voicesformonash.org.

Southern Women's Business Network unveils thrilling 2024 event lineup



Embark on a journey of self-discovery with Kellie Stirling on February 16.

THE Southern Women's Business Network (SBWN) is back for 2024 with a series of events planned for the next 12 months.

Although the name may suggest, the network is not just for business women with its mission to provide opportunities for established and aspiring business owners, industry and career professionals to connect across South Gippsland and Bass Coast. A place for women to connect, gain new skills, support one another and take time out of their busy lives to share successes and challenges, learn from each other and nurture friendships. The network also welcomes retired, stay at home women and men to their dinner events which are usually held the third Thursday each month.

Membership is opened to all women who wish to be empowered, connect and grow. Our members generally live and work in the Bass Coast and South Gippsland regions. What brings our members together is a desire and willingness to be open to new experiences and ways of thinking, to support each other and have lots of laughs along the way!

This year kicks off on the February 16 in Leongatha with 'Cultivating a Magnificent Midlife' with guest speaker Kellie Stirling. Kellie is an organisational development consultant, somatic coach, facilitator and guide who is passionate about supporting people to thrive in their lives. She works holistically with her clients, and works at the intersection of adult development, systems thinking, integrated sexuality, embodiment work, somatic experiencing, leadership, and business. Kellie has a strong focus on trauma

resolution in her work and believes that connecting people with the wisdom of their bodies, is a huge enabler of them coming home to themselves and thriving in life. She is a relationship and life transitions coach and works with people to support them through big changes in their lives during parenthood, midlife and menopause and elderhood rites of passage, and other life transitions like grief, divorce and big career changes. Kellie works with people to help them grow and flourish in all aspects of their lives.

This year the committee aims to seek sponsorship for each event the aim to enable offering discounted tickets to the network's members. This month our event sponsor is Hears Pty Ltd. Hears is a boutique, female owned, Melbourne-based market access consultancy, providing expert health economics, analysis, research and strategy services to the Australian and New Zealand pharmaceutical and medical device industries.

Planning is well underway for the International Women's Day (IWD) Event which will be held at the Inverloch RACV on the Thursday March 7. This year's theme for IWD is Count Her In - Invest in Women. Accelerate Progress. We are thrilled to have inspirational influencer Melanie @letsgetlayered as our keynote speaker. Melanie will share her story and empower women to invest in themselves and each other with confidence.

Head to the SWBN website sbwn.com.au if you would like find out more details about the Network has to offer, events or how to become a member.

Talking about Midlife

KELLIE STIRLING - CULTIVATING A MAGNIFICENT MIDLIFE

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Recognising the need for ease and affordability in this process, Park Lane Living is dedicated to offering the Wonthaggi community exceptional downsizing options without compromising on quality and features.

At Park Lane Living, the commitment to providing an undaunting downsizing experience is evident in every aspect of their offerings. An exclusive offer, available until March 31, 2024, is designed to turn the dream of downsizing into a reality, providing a \$10,000* saving on the purchase price for newly built or off-the-plan custom homes.

What makes this offer truly remarkable is Park Lane Living's standard 'No exit or deferred management fees' policy, marking it as a truly rare opportunity indeed.

This limited-time offer aligns seamlessly with Park Lane Living's dedication to

creating communities tailored for those aged over 55. Recognising that in retirement homeowners seek more than just a home; they seek a lifestyle.

The homes are crafted to be havens of comfort, combining quality construction with thoughtful features that cater to the unique needs of the over 55s. Park Lane Living communities exemplify lifestyle living, ensuring that residents can enjoy their golden years in a vibrant and supportive environment.

To explore the possibilities, interested parties are invited to visit parklaneliving.com.au. The website not only provides details about the exclusive offer but also offers a glimpse into currently built and under-construction homes. This allows potential homeowners to envision their new lifestyle before even stepping through the door.

Don't miss the chance to secure your dream downsize at an affordable price and embark on a new chapter of comfortable lifestyle living.



Embark on effortless downsizing with Park Lane Living – where \$10,000* savings meet comfort and quality.



No exit fees, no compromise – Park Lane Living redefines downsizing with affordability, quality, and comfort.

The diversity of artistic expression at Meeniyian Gallery

THE walls of the Meeniyian Gallery are showcasing the works of three talented artists until February 26, with a diverse collection from Adam Cochrane, Bob Hickman, and Florence Crighton.

The community were welcomed to a 'Meet the Artist' event on Sunday afternoon; giving all in attendance the opportunity to connect with the art through speaking with the artists themselves.

In gallery one Adam Cochrane is holding his first solo exhibition. Adams work is unique – a beautiful suite of portrait paintings in 'Light & Lace: A.I.' His exhibition is an exploration of contemporary portraiture where the boundaries between the real and artificial blur. Works that challenge perception through the technique of drypoint etchings and vividly coloured oil paintings.

Adam shared that with the 'Light & Lace series' he felt there was a natural progression with trying to learn between whether it was graffiti, or lace or a natural pattern, and in this series of portraits, Adam's detail on each piece drifts



Artist Adam Cochrane exhibiting a suite of portrait paintings in 'Light & Lace: A.I.' at the Meeniyian Art Gallery. Z30_0624

the eye to see a shadow of light or the art itself on the subject – a compelling series of portraits with an inspiration of abstract art.

Through his art Adam embraces artificial intelligence (A.I) in replacement of a human subject and photography – in doing so, Adam is using A.I to generate a photo and then spends countless hours adding in pattern, lighting and texture before painting - using that image as reference to his

final piece.

In gallery two is artist Bob Hickman, exhibiting 'From City to Sea'. Bob's preferred medium – acrylic, and enamel on canvas presents his love of Melbourne city streets – capturing pedestrians as they are drawn to street art, or moments in time on the coast - he re-creates the tranquil beauty in which he sees, allowing that time to stand still through his perspective.

"I love capturing a slip of light

on a lane way wall, or a fleeting gesture in a busy street," said Bob.

Bob's uses vibrant colours in his work and says that acrylic has always been his preferred medium because of its willingness to mould and change if need be.

South Gippsland has been home to Bob for over 23 years, living in the town on Koonwarra and teaching art workshops both in his home studio and within the community.

Florence Crighton is the third artist to exhibit in Meeniyian, showcasing 'Watercolour Wonder' in gallery three. Her deep love of the medium allows her to explore its possibilities and push the boundaries. Florence said her work is inspired through photography; capturing landscapes, flowers, and much more she then experiments with colour, depth, and light to develop each piece.

Florence shared her experience in travelling and learning from renowned artists played a significant role in shaping her artistic perspective.

The exhibitions will be open at the Meeniyian Art Gallery until Monday, February 26.



Dr. Julie Fenwick (author) and Robert Kiddell (Chair of MNDCF) recognised at the 2023 Victorian Community History Awards for Mirboo North Community Foundation History book.

History book commended

THE MIRBOO North & District Community Foundation is delighted that 'From Rural Health to Community Strengthening' was recognised at the 2023 Victorian Community History Awards from a field of 168 nominations.

At an awards ceremony at the Melbourne Arts Centre last Friday, February 2, the 148pp history book, which tells the origin story of the MN&D Community Foundation, was commended in the Small History Publication category.

The Victorian Community History Awards have been running since 1999 and are organised by the Royal Historical Society of Victoria in partnership with the Public Records Office.

From Rural Health to Community Strengthening tells the origin story of the Mirboo North & District Community Foundation, a place-based perpetual charitable organisation set up in 2010 with \$5 million.

In the 13 years since its inception, this Community Foundation has grown its perpetual fund to \$8.3 million, distributed more than \$1.6 million to the district, received more than \$1.2 million in donations and built a medical centre facility for a bulk billing medical practice.

However, the story really began 90 years ago, with the creation of the Mirboo North Bush Nursing Hospital in 1932.

The MN&D Community Foundation engaged professional historian, Dr. Julie Fenwick, to write this book, with the dual objectives of celebrating and honouring the hard work of hundreds of volunteers over 90 years, but also to empower the community to continue towards the vision of a healthy vibrant and resilient community.

The beautifully designed book was brought together by The View from Here.

There are a number of ways to access this publication: four copies are available through the MyLi - My Community Library organisation (Mirboo North, Leongatha and Korumburra libraries); there are copies for sale in the Royal Historical Society of Victoria's shop in Melbourne CBD and you can purchase a copy directly from the Mirboo North & District Community Foundation (\$20 donation plus postage) by emailing info@mirboodistrictfoundation.org.au.



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Artist Andrew Kasper, Sculptor with his work 'Reflections'.

PICES in Focus

The PICES in Focus artists' talk on Sunday, February 4, 2024, drew in an audience of more than 60 guests who enjoyed the works in the PICES in Focus, paint, fibre, and steel exhibition at Berninnett's art gallery as a backdrop.

The event was expertly moderated by Catherine Watson, owner-editor of the Bass Coast Post. Mae Adams - weaver, Andrew Kasper - sculptor and Mark Schaller - painter, engaged the audience with insightful discussions about their artistic journeys and experiences in shaping successful art practices within the Gippsland region.

The artists' generosity in sharing their creative processes and inspirations provided valuable insights for the attendees.

A documentary capturing the essence of the talk and featuring the artists in their studios is in the making, promising to offer a deeper understanding of their artistic endeavours.

The video will be a valuable resource for many artists and will be available to view on YouTube with links posted on PICES social media and website once editing is complete.

PICES expresses gratitude to the Bass Coast Shire Council and Regional Arts Victoria for their support, providing grants that enabled the presentation of the PICES in Focus exhibition and the creation of the documentary.

The exhibition will continue to run in the Berninnett art gallery until February 12, offering visitors an opportunity to immerse themselves in the diverse and inspiring artists' showcase of works.

High cash flow and established position

Bass Coast Self Storage Business - 174 purpose designed self storage units with 94% average occupancy and strong cash flow on freehold and leasehold land.

SELF storage properties and businesses are a well-regarded commercial property investment for several reasons.

They tend to be well established businesses on significant prominently exposed sites, and they generate very high business and personal occupancy storage rates and thus high cash flows.

Operating expenses are generally low hence their profitability and investment return is quite significant. Highway Frontage Real Estate is a specialist in the sale of self storage property investments Australia wide and currently has listed for sale a strong regional self storage property and business in Wonthaggi.

Highway Frontage principal Matt Walsh notes that the self storage centre which has been in operation since 2013 trades as Bass Coast Self Storage from 323 and 323A White Road, South Dudley.

The location is about 130 kilometres south east of Melbourne and the self storage centre has a prominent exposure and access from the Bass Highway a major regional road.

The centre occupies freehold site area of 3022 square metres



Prominently located with exposure to the major Bass Highway regional road the Bass Coast Self Storage business at Wonthaggi has 174 storage units with 94 per cent occupancy generates a strong cash flow and profitability. The property is for private sale by Melbourne self storage expert agency Highway Frontage.

and a lease over 257 sqm adjoining.

Mr Walsh says that the self storage facility has a total of 174 self storage sites within a Commercial 2 zoned site.

Of this total, 137 self storage units are constructed on the freehold area of 323 White Road with the balance of 37 units adjoining on the leasehold area of 257 sqm with a long term lease in place

"This self storage centre and business enjoys a 94 per cent occupancy factor and created a gross income of \$289,000 excluding GST in the 2023

financial year.

"The business operating costs were low (actually \$53,000 in the latest financial period), having been predominantly remotely operated since COVID with the vendor estimating a personal time involvement of about ten hours per week.

"This facility was purpose designed with each unit typically having steel framing and cladding with a secure roller door access and entry.

"There is an onsite office provided while the offer for sale is on a walk-in walk out basis inclusive of all services including

a site security gate entry, a PIN coded entry system for hirers, security lighting, a client management software system and twenty four CCTV cameras on the site."

Also included is membership of the Self Storage Association of Australasia.

"There is an opportunity here to increase the business offer to storers by introducing merchandise and insurance sales."

Mr Walsh notes that the business and storage units will have appeal to a buyer seeking a passive property investment or wanting to be personally involved in management of the business, or a local real estate agent could be appointed to conduct the management of the centre.

He adds "the Bass Coast Self Storage is in a coastal municipality with a strong local economy and a growing population.

"This is an opportunity to invest in the lucrative self storage industry with an established business, quality build storage facilities, with strong business and personal hirer demand for a fully established local facility."

For more property and business information an Information Memorandum is available on request to Matt Walsh at Highway Frontage Specialist Estate Agent on 0411 880 054 or by emailing matt@highway-frontage.com.au

New shelter for Cape Paterson Surf Life Saving Club



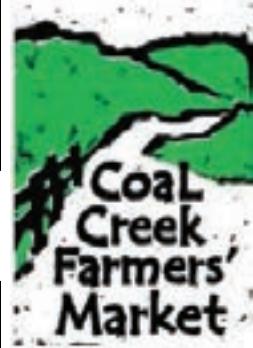
Life Savers can use the new patrol shelter for shade at the Cape Paterson surf beach following the purchase, made with a grant from the Bass Coast Shire Council.

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2013 Mazda 3 Maxx BM Series
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 118,999kms, 6 speed sports auto sedan
 SN: W101722



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2021 Toyota Kluger Grande
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2018 Volkswagen Passat 132TSI Comfortline
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 107,566kms, 7 speed auto wagon
 SN: W101530



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2018 Mazda CX-5 Maxx Sport KF Series
28,990 DRIVE AWAY
 70,050kms, 6 speed sports auto SUV
 SN: W101692



FINANCE AVAILABLE
2019 Volkswagen Tiguan 162TSI Highline SN
41,990 DRIVE AWAY
 49,994kms, 7 speed auto 4-motion SUV
 SN: W101405

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2016 Holden Cruze SRI Z series JH
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 SN: L101020



FINANCE AVAILABLE
2018 Ford Ranger XLT MkIII
41,990 DRIVE AWAY
 104,393kms, 10 speed CVT auto 4x4 double cab
 SN: L101103



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2019 Ford Everest Trend UA III
42,990 DRIVE AWAY
 95,117kms, 10 speed CVT auto RWD SUV
 SN: L100990



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2018 Holden Captiva LTZ CG
19,990 DRIVE AWAY
 62,716kms, 6 speed CVT auto 4x4 SUV
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2022 Ford Ranger XL Hi-Rider
39,990 DRIVE AWAY
 31,156kms, 6 speed CVT auto double cab CET 923



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2022 Mitsubishi Triton GLS MR
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 75,539kms, 6 speed CVT auto 4x4 double cab
 SN: L101113



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OH WHAT A FEELING

New preps begin first big day

SIXTY-six new preps started their very first day of their school journey at Leongatha Primary School last Tuesday.

The children were excited and breezed through the morning with the only tears being shed by a few of the parents seeing their first born little ones off for the day.

The new preps are familiar with their new environment as they participated in the Step into Prep Program, run by the school.

The program is run over ten sessions, beginning last year, where the children go into the school and get to know the people and surroundings, so it's not so daunting on their first day.

"By the time the children started today, they're very much used to our school and the classrooms, and feel very settled and safe," said Dot Coghlan, principal of Leongatha Primary School.

"Our teachers are extremely thorough with making sure the children are settling very well and that's what they've done today."

The 66 children are spread across four separate classes, with teachers and several aides in each class giving the children lots of attention and a good start to the year.

"They're having a wonderful day. They've already started teaching them, they're learning and it's wonderful. They've been out in the yard and had a lovely time out there playing on the play equipment, so it's all going really well," said Dot.

The preps have a big week ahead with five days of classes and one shorter day, and then will have every Wednesday off from next week for the next six weeks.

The day off also gives the children some time to rest, have some time at home and refresh before going back for the last two days of the school week; and teachers do their peak testing to find out where the children are with their academics.

The school also has two dogs that can be called on for some furry assistance to help settle anxious children, but Dot said she hadn't needed to call on them yet as the day was going very well.

"I'm sure that maybe when they go home they'll be absolutely worn out and tired especially with a warm day like it is today, but we know that they're very happy in the school," she said.



Thumbs up for first day

Inverloch Primary School student Cody Behmer started Grade Prep on Wednesday, January 31.

Leongatha Secondary College year begins

LEONGATHA Secondary College (LSC) welcomed 103 Year 7 students, the majority making the short journey from Leongatha Primary School (LPS), while the 2024 Year 12 group is ready to tackle the challenges ahead.

Cooper Rogers has quickly settled into Year 7, a process made easier by participating in an orientation day there last year as he neared the end of his time at LPS.

He's looking forward to woodwork and the chance to undertake "more out there experiments" in science, such as dissection and mixing chemicals to make a formula.

"We get to actually do it instead of theorising," Cooper said.

In the short term, he's adjusting to juggling more books and having a sports uniform, necessitating greater organisational effort.

Ida Hilligso Chadwick has also shifted across from LPS.

She is delighted with the food on offer at LSC, with apple pie an instant winner.

Ida said the focus in the first couple of days of secondary school has been on introductions to teachers, subjects, and students who have come from various schools in the region and further afield.

While she is still learning where everything is situated at her new campus, Ida quickly got to know the names of her new classmates.

Year 7 students are buddied with others from Year 10 through the school's 'Peer Support Program', helping them find their feet at secondary level.

"They're looked after and guided, particularly during the first term, by the Year 10 students who act as their mentors," assistant Junior School principal Warwick Ford said, having responsibility for those from Year 7 to Year 9 inclusive.

The mentors also help during offsite 'experience days', conducted midterm, that involve activities designed to foster unity among the Year 7 cohort, laying a platform to get



Bodhi Abernethy, James Heneghan, Julian Callaghan, Alli Tuckett and Sienna Goldsmith are ready for the challenge of Year 12. A04_0624



Flynn Kew, Lacey Clark, Maddison Pocklington, Eliza Stein, Ida Hilligso Chadwick and Cooper Rogers have finished their primary school days, making the shift to Leongatha Secondary College. A05_0624

the best out of their schooling.

Year 12 students will also have valuable guidance available, a point noted by one of the group, Alli Tuckett, who is striving to go to university next year, perhaps to study a Bachelor of Education.

"There's a long road ahead of me but I'm feeling hopeful because we're backed up by a supportive Year 12 coordinator and good teachers who can support our learning," Alli said.

Mackenzie Nash is the coordinator referred to, having worked with the current crop of Year 12s while they tackled Year 11.

"I have high expectations for all of them; they're a motivated group and supportive of one another, and they have high

expectations for themselves," Mackenzie said.

She added that it's up to her and her colleagues to encourage the Year 12s to get the best out of themselves.

School captain Bodhi Abernethy is looking forward to combining leadership with his VCE Vocational Major (VM).

Aiming to become a builder, he is confident the school will help prepare him to enter the workforce, and is planning to gain as much hands-on experience as possible this year.

Bodhi explained the school has a flexible approach to its VM program, tailoring it to the needs of each student and what they want to achieve.

"They're willing to make change and help us wherever

we need it," he said.

As school captain, Bodhi outlined his intended approach to the leadership role.

"I'm one for leadership and I'm always the first to put up my hand for anything, so I'm going to take it head on and it's a great learning curve for me," he said.

Bodhi looks forward to working with those on the school council and seeing things from a different perspective, while representing the students and working with other college leaders.

While this scribe met just a small number of the new arrivals and VCE students at LSC, a positive vibe was apparent in what promises to be another productive year.



Last Wednesday marked the Year 7 students first day of high school and they were welcomed by Principal Mr John Freeman to Mary MacKillop Catholic College.

First day of high school for Mary MacKillop's Year 7s

NINETY-three new Year Seven students were welcomed to their first day of high school at Mary MacKillop Catholic College by Principal Mr John Freeman last Wednesday.

The Year 12 students also commenced their final year of school and started off by going on a retreat. The Year 8, 9, 10 and 11 students were

lucky enough to have another day of holidays before starting their school year last Thursday.

All students were in attendance yesterday for an Achievers Assembly held to celebrate the success of the Class of 2023.

The upcoming term will see students participating and

competing in both the swimming and athletics carnivals, as well as the Year 12 Retreat, the Year 7s and 8s will be heading off on their respective camps.

Along with many other schools, Mary MacKillop has several vacant teaching positions to be filled and prospective employees can check the

advertised positions in the paper for further details over the next two weeks.

The school is currently looking for both Maths and Science Teachers, a maternity replacement teaching English and Psychology, commencing in term two and a guitar teacher for their musical program.



Emmy and Eden, ready to embark on their academic adventure, exploring their new classroom on the first day of prep.

Students return for an exciting year ahead

NEWHAVEN College was abuzz with students returning to school over Thursday and Friday last week. Teachers and support staff commenced early to partake in three days of collaborating, professional learning sessions and planning for the year ahead. Everyone was ready and excited to welcome students back to campus.

The greatest excitement was the arrival of the 2024 Preps, with a welcome parade, greeting every Junior School student with a fist bump, handshake, or wave. Although there were some nerves amongst the College's youngest students, they all settled in very quickly.

New Year 7 students enjoyed meeting their teachers, connecting with new friends, and exploring their new school environment.

Year 5 students were excited to spend their first day in middle school and quickly settled into their classrooms.

The 2024 Year 9s have strapped on their hiking boots and pulled on their ranger-style uniforms ready for a year of adventure at the special Year 9 Environmental Centre. Everyone is looking forward to hearing about their escapades over the coming year.

A special Forum Day was held for the 2024 Year 12 cohort. Designed to prepare students for their last year of school, the specialised program forms the basis for a successful year. Educational consultant Ben Taylor from the English lab presented 'Making Study and Revision your Superpower' - a workshop on how to improve learning practices. Students enjoyed a delicious lunch in the college pavilion, followed by a house focused pastoral care activity with Year 7 students, including sharing stories and walking around campus. Year 12 can be daunting, but Newhaven College staff provide excellent support and pastoral care throughout the year so students can achieve their best outcomes.

The College grounds have had a facelift over the summer break, with the Newhaven College grounds and maintenance crew working on cleaning and staining decks and facades and refreshing the gardens. The school campus has never looked so good.

College Principal, Tony Corr welcomes those new to the College community including 11 new and returning staff. The new staff and teachers truly represent the broad range of employment opportunities provided by Newhaven College.

To top off the week, College leaders and staff welcomed parents and guardians with drinks and canapes on Friday evening, providing the perfect opportunity to show off the new performing arts wing. This provided an excellent opportunity for connection in a relaxed atmosphere.

Newhaven College still has limited places available for 2024. Please contact our registrar, Belinda Manning for details or to arrange a college tour call 5956 7505 or visit newhavencol.vic.edu.au



New staff for 2024 welcomed during their induction day. From left, back row, Leisa Lomax (HR Manager), Maira Carlin, Tony Corr (Principal), Andre Whitton, Sue Finlayson, Kerryn Lynch, front, Cath Huther, Jessica Brent, Meagan Hollings, Kurt Chadwick, Aaron Chaston. Absent: Jennifer Haigh and Lucas Chilhotski.

Newhaven College welcomes new staff

NEWHAVEN College is abuzz with preparations for the new year. College educators and support staff participated in professional development sessions on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday before school commenced. These sessions provided an opportunity for staff to reconnect, collaborate and plan for the year ahead.

The College grounds have

had a facelift over the summer break, with the Newhaven College Grounds and Maintenance crew working on cleaning and staining decks and facades and refreshing the gardens. The school campus has never looked so good.

College Principal, Tony Corr welcomes those new to the College community including 11 new and returning staff. This new group of staff and

teachers truly represents the broad range of employment opportunities provided by Newhaven College. The group includes Cath Huther (Head of Junior School), Jessica Brent (Lab Technician), Andre Whitton (School Chaplain), Sue Finlayson (Performing Arts Administrator), Jennifer Haigh (Education Support), Meagan Hollings (Food Technology Assistant), Aaron

Chaston (Maths Teacher), Maira Carlin (Humanities and English Teacher), Kurt Chadwick (Head of Student Support), Kerryn Lynch (returning Junior School Teacher) and Lucas Chilhotski (AFL SportsReady Trainee).

Newhaven College anticipates a wonderful start to 2024 and look forward to welcoming families back this year.



New Head of Junior School Cath Huther welcomes students back to school on the first day of term.



Ready for adventure: Raph, Harvey, Jude, and Mauve embark on their first day of prep.



Year 6 students Magnus Bathgate, Callan Reilly, Saxon Collier, and Michael Christofi are ready for what 2024 brings.

We go the extra mile



Newhaven College consistently goes above and beyond in fostering an environment of academic excellence and personal growth. The College's sub-schools and house structure are designed to create a sense of community and belonging. With innovative teaching methods and a commitment to nurturing well-rounded individuals, students at Newhaven College not only receive a quality education but also gain invaluable life skills.

Come and find out more about our College. Call our Registrar Belinda Manning on 03 5956 7505 or email belinda.manning@newhavencol.vic.edu.au



NEWHAVEN
COLLEGE

1770 Phillip Island Road
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newhavencol.vic.edu.au



New research reveals gap in reaching healthy lunchbox goals.

Prizes to be won for healthier lunchboxes

NEW research shows that veggies and protein are the top food items being left out by parents when packing their child's lunchbox. This is despite the fact that these foods provide children with the best source of sustained energy.

That's why Life Ed and Woolworths are partnering to launch their annual search for Australia's Healthier Lunchboxes, to encourage healthier choices as the school year begins.

"While these results are concerning, the intention is not. Our national survey found that 78 per cent of parents believe that giving their kids enough energy for the school day is the most important factor when packing a lunchbox. This highlights a gap in education, for growing students and busy parents," said Russell D'Costa, CEO, Life Ed Australia.

"That's where Australia's Healthier Lunchboxes comes in. It shines a light on the food facts and provides practical and affordable ideas and inspiration to show parents and children what's possible.

The four-week initiative launched on January 22, and for the first time, schools are also invited to take part.

"It's about involving the whole community. Divide and conquer doesn't cut it when it comes to embedding long-term learning and healthy habits. We need to work together – inside and beyond the classroom – to give Aussie kids the fuel and tools they need to make healthy choices into the future," explained Russell.

By simply taking a photo of their kids' healthier lunchbox or education efforts from schools, participants will be in the running to win a share of \$12,000 in prizes. This includes Woolworths e-gift cards and Healthy Harold vouchers.

Judging will take place at the end of February, with winners to be announced in April. As part of the Australia's Healthier Lunchboxes initiative, parents and schools will be able to access free engaging and practical resources and activities from Life Education's Healthy Harold and Woolworths – including \$5 lunchbox recipe ideas, tips on easy and affordable swaps, tricks like batch cooking to help ease the load, and hacks to help food stay fresh.

The aim is to encourage parents and schools to work together to take a holistic approach when it comes to keeping future generations healthy.

To learn more and enter the Australia's Healthier Lunchboxes competition, visit lifeed.org.au/healthierlunchboxes



Alex Beach and Lily Lovell are enjoying the start of Year 7 at Korumburra Secondary College. A08_0624



Jacqueline Turton and Siena Lane are ready to get the most out of their Year 12 experience at Korumburra Secondary College. A06_0624

Korumburra Secondary underway

STUDENTS have quickly settled into the new school year at Korumburra Secondary College (KSC), including the Year 7 group beginning their journey and the Year 12s who are looking to make the most of their final year of school.

KSC has 48 VCE students this year, up from 32 in 2023.

Fifteen of this year's VCE group are undertaking a Vocational Major (VM), with that program having taken over from the old VCAL last year.

KSC principal John Wilson said a lot of effort has gone into building a high-standard vocational option for students over the last seven or eight years, with the current VM promoting excellent student work that leads into employment opportunities.

He credited VCAL coordinators and those running the VM program with their efforts to build valuable connections in the community that benefit

students keen to boost their practical skills.

John said there is now a real blend between those undertaking VM studies and the rest of the VCE group, with classes such as English and Maths bringing the two groups together.

Breanna de Bondt has her sights set on a career in early childhood education and is already well on the way to achieving that as she starts Year 12 at KSC.

She is gaining experience through a placement at Karmai Children's Centre, and will spend her Fridays at TAFE, combining VM subjects with maths and English when at school.

Breanna is also enjoying the support of the Head Start program, which works in seamlessly with the school and will provide ongoing support as she builds her career.

Jacqueline Turton and Siena

Lane are also beginning their final year of secondary school, both doing VCE.

They enjoy sport and are keen to take every opportunity to get involved in swimming, athletics and interschool activities, with the pair having completed VCE Physical Education while in Year 11.

Jacqueline intends to study nursing and midwifery at Uni, with her VCE subjects this year being biology, health, food technology, English and maths.

She is confident in the support available at KSC with Year 12 Coordinator Steve Scott having overseen the current VCE crop since Year 10.

"He's someone you can talk to and feel comfortable because you know him," Jacqueline said of Mr Scott, adding that he understands the challenges of Year 12 and how to assist students to get the best out of it.

Siena is determined to make it a successful and fun year.

She is aiming for a career as a paramedic and is studying health, psychology, English, maths and history for her VCE.

Alex Beach and Lily Lovell have begun Year 7, arriving at KSC from St Joseph's Primary School Korumburra, a three-day orientation at KSC in September smoothing the transition.

"It helped a lot because I started to learn where things are and got to meet people as well," Alex said.

She is excited about the chance to take a more practical approach to science than is possible at junior school level.

Both girls have brothers in Year 9, with Alex's sibling Xander quick to show her around the school.

Lily said that being a sociable person has enabled her to settle in easily at her new school, adding that if there is anything she can't find around campus she just follows Alex.

Numbers on the rise at the San Remo campus

THE Year 7 intake at the Bass Coast College San Remo campus has outnumbered the Dudley campus for the first time.

San Remo welcomed 163 students on Tuesday, January 30 with 158 starting school at the Dudley campus.

The rise in numbers was attributed to continued growth in the Phillip Island and Waterline areas.

Only Year 7 classes ran on Tuesday, with Year 8 and 9 students beginning their school year last Wednesday, January 31.

This special induction was developed to help the Year 7 students make the transition from primary school to high school and settle into the new environment.

"It's an opportunity for our new students to get to know their teachers and classmates, familiarise themselves with their timetables, lockers and equipment, and navigate their way around the school," Dudley campus principal Matt Rose said.

"The induction is really well structured. Our Year 7 coordinators have done an awesome job with the planning and preparation for this day. There's been a nice buzz around the campus this morning."



Year 7 students made the transition to Bass Coast College on Tuesday, January 30.

College principal Darren Parker said the college had seen plenty of benefits since introducing the induction.

"With around 300 kids, it can be very overwhelming. Our Year 7 students did have orientation activities in 2023, but this is another way to support their transition," he said.

The Year 7 students have a lot to look forward to in term one, starting with the swimming sports at the Korumburra Outdoor Pool next week.

The athletics carnival is also

scheduled for term one and the Year 7 camp at the Phillip Island Adventure Camp in week six.

"It's an exciting start to the year. The Year 7 camp is always a lot of fun – it's where the students really start to build friendships with each other," Mr Rose said.

At the McKenzie campus, the Year 12s have hit the ground running and will be away at the Melbourne Tertiary Camp for the week, where they will be able to tour universities and

consider their options for next year.

The Year 10 and 11 students started their regular classes today.

Mr Parker was also pleased to report the college is starting the school year with 30 new staff members, including teachers and education support staff.

"We've seen a lot of growth and it's very exciting. I'm pleased to say we have all our staffing positions filled and we are looking forward to seeing some quality outcomes," he said.

Familiar faces and heartfelt letters set the tone for memorable first day

THE air was filled with a mix of excitement and a few nervous jitters as 54 of the newest members of Wonthaggi Primary School stepped through the school gates for the start of their schooling.

Greeted by Principal Wendy Truett last Thursday the atmosphere was tinged with sense of familiarity with many of this year's preps having the advantage of older siblings having walked the corridors before them.

It's an exciting year at the 113-year-old school for the 400 students and 19 teachers with renovations and new buildings set to start before the end of the year after the electoral promise of \$6.7 million.

Whilst there were a few tears, on both sides, the smallest students were ready to start, excited to be seeing their friends, playing sport, developing their skills and learning new topics.

"We spend a lot of time transitioning the preps prior to their first day," foundation teacher Jo Ross explained.

"Making the school a familiar and comfortable environment (ahead of the big day)."

Jo explained that each student also received a letter during the holidays that was all about their teacher with one parent even commenting that their child reads the letter each night before bed – a touching and thoughtful gesture.

"It's a way for them to get to

know us. They are a great bunch and we have had a really great start to the year."

As the bell rang to commence the first day, a myriad of emotions played out. However, the caring and supportive environment from the teachers and classroom assistants very quickly had the tears turned around.

Dinosaurs and farm animals were played with, stories read, drawings made, Play-Doh modelled, and magnetic Meccano-like shapes made into endless possibilities from the imagination.

This year's Wonthaggi Primary School foundation teachers include Jo, Sarah, Cassie and Taya.

Looking ahead, the preps expressed their anticipation for the upcoming year, for some swimming was at the top of the list, whilst for others maths and reading.

Sam Amos and Amy Richardson have joined Wonthaggi Primary School as new teachers for 2024, whilst the school has also welcomed back teacher Philip Waugh.

Term 1 will see a number of exciting programs take place including the swimming program, which started last week, alongside grade 5 and 6 camps, NAPLAN and parent/teacher/student conferences.

As for the new builds, architects are currently working with the school to ensure the most is achieved from the grants.



A read of Peter Rabbit was first on the agenda for Macie, who is most looking forward to swimming. C02_0624



Students settle back into their routine at Wonthaggi Primary School.

San Remo Primary starts school year with strong programs

SAN REMO Primary has had a wonderful start to the year. With 22 new preps and other new families to the school, there are 170 children at the school this year.

This number seems to be growing each year due to the new housing in the area but also because the school offers strong educational programs that give all students the opportunity to learn in a safe and supportive environment.

There is a strong focus on catering to individual differences and caring staff who encourage and help children to learn and socialise in a supportive environment.

Some exciting new programs

are happening this year as well, which the school community are very excited about.

These are STEM being taught by Mr Daniel Earle and The Resilience Project. The Resilience Project is a whole school community program, which includes parents and carers and will be rolled out alongside our Zones of Regulation and Respectful Relationship Programs within classrooms.

The school are very excited to finalise our Whole School Masterplan this year, that will create new learning spaces and set the school up for 21st Century learning and provide a wonderful space for the community in and out of school times.

San Remo Primary are looking

forward to seeing this work begin at the end of the year, when building commences.

In the meantime, they have the sensory play area and garden space being started next week, and can't wait to show it off when it is finished.

In 2024 their OSCH partner TheirCare will offer a holiday program each term break to children in the area.

Children don't have to be enrolled at San Remo Primary to access this program in the holidays, just visit the TheirCare site to access any details.

This is a wonderful opportunity and service for local working families and the school are pleased to support this.



This is Camille on her first day of Prep, with others working busily behind her.

A positive start at Wonthaggi North

STUDENTS at Wonthaggi North PS (WNPS) completed the end of their first week of term with a Supercharged! dance workshop and Welcome Back to School Family Picnic recently.

The dance workshop was conducted by Ausdance and linked the Arts-Dance with English and Drama, PE and Mathematics, Personal and Social Capability and Critical and Creative Thinking.

Students explored new ideas on how to use their bodies and discussed the processes and experiences with opportunities to practise, refine and share their movement ideas and sequences within their classes.

The Welcome Back to School Family Picnic was a wonderful way for students, families and

carers to connect with staff and each other to celebrate the beginning of the new school year.

Nineteen new students in prep started this year with twelve teachers across the school, plus tutoring staff, education support staff and administration staff.

Coming up in March the school will be celebrating Harmony Day and holding the whole school athletics carnival.

WNPS Principal, Andrew Strickland, said,

"We have a very capable and stable group of staff that are extremely committed to ensuring every child is provided a safe and welcoming environment that gives them every opportunity to reach their full potential. We look forward to an exciting year of learning at WNPS."



Riley, Daniel, Lakhisha, Emma and Vicki attended the Back to School Family Picnic at WNPS recently.

Turn to page 52 for more Back to School news

Establishing long term knowledge

DR Kylie Murphy, Senior Lecturer in Educational Psychology in the School of Education at La Trobe University has offered advice and tips on how parents across South Gippsland and Bass Coast can help their children, particularly those tackling Year 12 study.

Build knowledge over the long term

Year 12 can seem like a bigger deal than other years of schooling, but all the learning and habit-forming that happens before Year 12 is just as important as what happens during that final year. Certainly, what the student does from the start of Year 12 is much more important than what they do in the few weeks before their exams start.

Parents can help their Year 12 students a lot more than many parents and students think! They don't need to be an expert in the subject area. And it doesn't need much time – just half an hour a week can be really helpful.

Parents can help in two key ways: retrieval practice and learning by teaching.

Retrieval practice

At a minimum, learning means the information sticks in our long-term memory and can be recalled when it's needed. To get info into our long-term memory, it's not enough to just read it, hear it, or write it. The human brain has evolved to remember what needs to be remembered. Our brain takes cues about what to remember. If we ask our brain to retrieve information we've recently been exposed to – that is, simply by trying to remember that info – our brain takes that as a cue. That info is obviously important. Our brain will store that memory for longer because we seem to need it.

A sports analogy can help. If we want to get better at kicking goals or shooting hoops, it won't work to just look at the ball. We have to actually practise kicking or shooting the ball. In the same way, just looking at (or hearing or writing) information won't help us remember it. To get better at remembering a piece of information, we have to practise remembering it.

Remembering lots of information is a big part of performing well in Year 12 exams and the time to start getting that info into long-term memory is now. Parents are in a great position to help.

Tip: If your child can give you some information they've tried to learn – for example, a handful of new definitions – you can easily quiz them and tell them whether or not they are remembering the concepts accurately. If they get it wrong, tell them, so they can have another go. It's the retrieval practice that helps more than just hearing the right answer.

Learning by teaching:

Another tip for helping students study effectively is by asking them to explain what they are learning. Explaining to others or even to ourselves what we are trying to learn is a powerful study technique. This is partly because of the retrieval practice effect, but also because it can reveal gaps in our knowledge or aspects that we don't understand as clearly as we thought we did. It's very easy to think we understand content we have read or heard. It's much harder to prove we understand it by explaining it to someone. We tend to put more effort into learning information if we have to explain it to someone else.

Tip: Parents can be a helpful sounding board for students who want to test their understanding.

Come and join us

Every club, group and volunteer organisation
IS ALWAYS LOOKING FOR NEW MEMBERS!

What's on at Wonthaggi RSL

THE Wonthaggi RSL Sub Branch is a hive of activity over February and March as it fosters a sense of community and support among members. One of the highlights is the upcoming AGM on Saturday March 23 at 12pm at Wonthaggi RSL Hall. This pivotal meeting, followed by a light lunch and sippers, offers members an opportunity to contribute to the shaping of our beloved RSLs future. Every voice counts, every member matters.

In addition to the AGM, the monthly Veteran and member morning tea is a staple in the calendar. Held every third Wednesday of the month at 10.30am at the RSL Hall, it's more than just a gathering; it's a sanctuary for camaraderie and support. Join members for a cuppa, chat, Wayne's famous scones and learn about local Veteran and community supports available.

Step onto the manicured lawns of elegance and competition, where mallets meet precision, and the clack of balls echoes the heartbeat of the most thrilling croquet showdown in history – Veterans, First responders and their immediate families are invited for a sausage sizzle and croquet by Wonthaggi RSL Active on Sunday February 25. Taking place at Wonthaggi Croquet Club (41 Wentworth Road) the day promises laughter, friendly competition and banter, jump online to register your attendance at trybooking.com/COPJU.

Furthermore, Wonthaggi RSL are excited about their upcoming Plum Jam Making Class on Thursday February 29 at 10am. Guided by the dynamic duo, Shirley from OK Let's Bake and Mel from Wonthaggi RSL Sub-branch this isn't just about crafting jam – it's a golden opportunity to exchange smiles, forge companionship, and indulge in laughter. Bring a gold coin to cover the jar cost, and let the joyous jam-making festivities begin.

And on Sunday, March 24 it's time to unleash your competitive spirit as Wonthaggi RSL and Inverloch RSL clash in a nail-biting RSL Active Clay target shooting contest. This is one event you don't want to miss – secure your tickets today at trybooking.com/COOQM

These events are just some of the incredible happenings at Wonthaggi RSL over the next couple of months, for more information visit the Wonthaggi RSL Sub Branch Facebook page or call 0428 731 923.

We look forward to seeing all members there – your presence is what makes Wonthaggi RSL Sub Branch truly special.



Studio Phoenix offer a diverse spectrum of dance and performing arts disciplines.

Why Studio Phoenix is the choice for your child



Studio Phoenix are the official Bass Coast location for Ready Set Dance where dance dreams take flight.

WITH high level training allowing students to reach their full potential, dance teachers who have worked professionally in the Dance and Performing Arts industry, Studio Phoenix is more than a dance studio. Studio Phoenix is a community focused on helping students achieve their goals so they can truly thrive (both inside and outside of the dance studio). Whether you're a beginner, an experienced dancer, a toddler or an adult, Studio Phoenix has a class that is perfect for you.

At Studio Phoenix, we pride ourselves on offering a diverse array of dance disciplines to cater to every passion and inclination. From the timeless elegance of Royal Academy of Dance Classical Ballet to the infectious energy of hip hop, the expressive fluidity of contemporary to the rhythmic precision of tap, the exuberance of musical theatre to the high energy of jazz, our

studio resonates with the heartbeat of artistic diversity. And we love sharing that too! Check out our Instagram @studiophoenix for exciting moments in class and fresh new choreography.

We're also the official location on the Bass Coast for Ready Set Dance, the award-winning pre-school dance and performing arts program which can be seen on Nickelodeon TV. We also offer Ready Set Dance, Ready Set Ballet, Ready Set Move, and this year Ready Set Acro!

More than just a venue for dance instruction, Studio Phoenix is a nurturing environment where children blossom into confident, empowered individuals. It is our mission to not only impart technical proficiency but also instil invaluable life skills such as discipline, teamwork, and resilience.

There's always something to do at Studio Phoenix, Discos Movie Nights,

Day Camps, Parent Social Nights, we love an event to remember! From dazzling sold out mid-year showcase performances to exhilarating end-of-year concerts, competition work and guest workshops by industry professionals (this year we welcome the esteemed New York Choreographer/Director David Wren again). Studio Phoenix provides a platform for our students to shine brightly both on and off stage, igniting self-confidence and kindling memories that last a lifetime.

Studio Phoenix offer R.A.D Classical Ballet, Tap, Jazz, Contemporary, Hip Hop, Lyrical Musical Theatre, Competition work, adult classes and Ready Set Dance, Ready Set Ballet, Ready Set Acro and Ready Set Move.

Head to their new website studiophoenix.dance for more information or email admin@studiophoenix.dance for enquiries.



WONTHAGGI RSL SUB BRANCH

Serving veterans and the local community
60 Graham Street, Wonthaggi VIC 3995
President Dan Lucas 0432 417 401



WHAT'S ON AT THE RSL

Plum jam making class – Thursday, February 29 at 10am at the RSL Hall. Gold coin donation. RSVP to Mel 0413 415 174

RSL Active events – Next event Sunday, February 25, 10am at the Wonthaggi Croquet Club includes sausage sizzle and croquet.

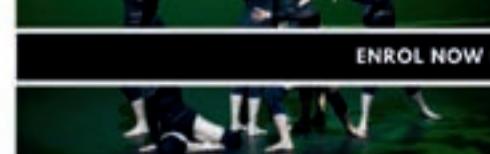
Monthly Veteran Member morning tea
Every third Wednesday of the month, 10.30am at the RSL Hall

AGM – Saturday, March 23 at 12pm at RSL Hall

HP11207



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Come and join us

Every club, group and volunteer organisation
IS ALWAYS LOOKING FOR NEW MEMBERS!

A place for fun and fitness

If you are looking for a place to have fun, learn new skills, and stay fit, Summersalt is the place for you.

Summersalt is a family-friendly 'launchpad for children to skyrocket' in Wonthaggi that offers a variety of classes and programs for all ages and abilities.

Whether you want to try out trampoline, ninja, gymnastics, or a combination, Summersalt has something for everyone. You can show off your skills to your family and friends, or just enjoy the flipping good fun in a safe and supportive environment.

One of the most popular programs at Summersalt is the lil-groms and groms sessions, which are designed for children aged one-year to pre-school. These sessions help the little ones build their confidence, concentration, fine-motor skills, and imagination, while having the time of their lives. The best part is, these sessions are casual - as long your insurance and registration are up to date, you only pay when you attend.

Summersalt also caters to NDIS plans and physio and occupational therapy referrals, so you can be sure that you are getting the best pos-

sible care and guidance.

For the young at heart, the adult's program is back for term one. Scheduled for a Wednesday evening during the term tune into Summersalt's socials for dates and prices - but be quick because it's guaranteed to book out fast once announced.

No matter what your age or schedule, you can find a class that suits with a variety of sessions from 9.30am until 7.15pm Monday to Friday and new sessions on a Tuesday afternoon (closed Friday afternoons).

For the audience, you can relax and enjoy a coffee, muffin, pastry, or snack from the Milkbar, while the younger ones run, jump, climb, and learn. Pop in for a tour and chat with the friendly team or head online to book classes, a trial or party. Birthday parties are available on Friday evenings and over the weekend.

Come and see why Summersalt is the place to be. Smell the sea and feel the sky, let your spirit fly at Summersalt.

RIGHT: Swinging, picking up and landing is just one of the many activities on the ninja course. C11_0623



Inverloch VIEW Club seeking friendly new faces

INVERLOCH VIEW Club is on the lookout for new members who want to give back to their community and make connections with women in the area.

VIEW - which stands for Voice, Interests and Education of Women - is a network of close to 300 clubs and more than 14,000 women throughout Australia.

It provides a place for women to connect in the community, enjoy social activities and develop lasting friendships - all while supporting the work of children's education charity The Smith Family.

Inverloch club president Heather said this year is the perfect time to join VIEW with the upcoming International

Women's Day on March 8 and social events throughout the year.

Last year was a great year for the Inverloch VIEW Club with members working hard to make the 25th anniversary celebrations a big success.

"Also, last year included a trip to Hobart for the National Convention, which featured fabulous dinners and speakers, and it was a great way to hear about how we help children and young people through The Smith Family," Heather said.

"This year, we will begin planning for the next National Conference at Brisbane in September 2025."

VIEW is the largest community sponsor of the charity's Learning for Life program,

which provides students with financial, educational and personal support.

Heather says this is crucial, particularly in the current economic climate.

"We have all been hit by the rising cost of living, be it power prices, food or petrol. But these rises have had an even greater impact on those already doing it tough. Parents shouldn't have to choose between putting dinner on the table or buying their child a uniform for school. This is why it is so important that we can help children experiencing disadvantage with their education," she said.

Inverloch VIEW Club supports the education of seven students through the Learning

for Life program, ensuring they have what they need for the school year.

In addition to their ongoing support of The Smith Family, Inverloch VIEW Club hosts a variety of social events, such as trips to local vineyards and lunches.

"We are always looking for women of all backgrounds and ages to join us and look forward to welcoming new faces at our next monthly meeting," Heather said.

Anyone interested in becoming a member can call Heather on 0412 463 344 or visit view.org.au for further information.

The next Inverloch VIEW Club meeting will take place on February 27 at the Inlet Hotel, Inverloch, at 12pm.



Embark on an enchanting adventure - sip wine in Bordeaux, stroll the Siene, and discover Italy's treasures.

Journey through Europe's charm

WANDER along the Siene in Paris, sip wine in Bordeaux, eat traditional French fare in a château-studded countryside and visit picturesque villages in Dordogne.

Explore vibrant markets in Toulouse, enjoy an al fresco dinner in the warm air of Carcassonne, marvel at renaissance buildings in Avignon and feel the gently lapping Mediterranean on your feet in Nice.

Enjoy an Aperol spritz in Turin, take a boat and explore the enchanting Borromean Islands, discover the ancient streets of San Gimignano, admire the statue of David in Florence, and follow the ancient road back to Rome.

Vanessa Roberts of South Gippsland Travel has done all of these things and with nearly twenty years of travel consulting experience, she is well placed to create joyful and wonderous travel adventures for others to experience too.

Vanessa invites locals to come in and have a chat with her at 63 Bair Street, Leongatha, about all their travel dreams, whether that be Europe, Asia, Africa or America, it doesn't matter.

"I knew I wanted a shop front as being able to offer quality service and the option to sit down face to face to build a personalised itinerary with my clients is very important to me," explained Vanessa.

Together with business partner and local, Peter McAlpine, a man who has visited nearly every continent. A hand handcrafted, three-week, small group tour of France and Italy is on offer.

Peter will be escorting 14 passengers on an itinerary taking in the very best of the major highlights and regional villages of France and Italy.

Solo, couples or friends are invited on this authentic and immersive experience into the life, food, art, culture, scenery and architecture of these delightful countries.

Travellers will enjoy a balanced combination of escorted touring and having enough free time to explore, shop, people watch with a glass of wine, interact with locals and create unique and memorable experiences with travel companions and locals.



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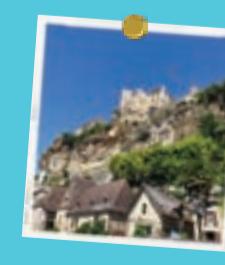
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Health service to offer insights

SOUTH Gippsland residents will learn more about their local health service at an upcoming healthy connections community forum in Leongatha.

Gippsland Southern Health Service (GSHS) will host the forum on February 21 at the Memorial Hall from 3pm to 4.30pm.

The open forum will provide information about GSHS's services, outline its vision for the future and hear from local residents about how they envision its future.

CEO Lou Sparkes will present information about the health service and its programs, its strategic plan and health reform and clarify matters often misunderstood in the community.

Ms Sparks will also invite the community to comment about what they would like to see in the service and to ask questions.

"We want to encourage people to get involved in the health service and to better understand what we do," she said.

"We will encourage people to ask questions and have their say about what they want from the health service."

A similar community consultation meeting was held in Korumburra last September.

GSHS wants more volunteers



Supporting patients and local residents Gippsland Southern Health are looking for volunteers to help.

GIPPSLAND Southern Health Service (GSHS) is looking to boost its pool of volunteers to support patients, residents and the local community.

GSHS volunteer coordinator Lucinda Smith said that being a volunteer has many benefits for both the volunteer and the community.

The benefits flow both ways and to the volunteers themselves. "They love the sense of giving back to their community," Ms Smith said.

GSHS currently has 22 active volunteers across Leongatha, Korumburra and Tarwin Lower and Ms Smith encouraged others to join the team. GSHS is looking for diverse range of people to volunteer across areas such as aged care, planned activity groups, administration and patient transport.

"The more the merrier," she said.

"We are happy to have as many people who are willing to give us their time."

The contributions are welcomed across the health service.

"Our residents and patients love the volunteers," Ms Smith said.

Ms Smith said volunteers could be matched to their areas of interest.

"We need volunteers in our aged care facilities across Leongatha and Korumburra and we'd also like people with an interest in gardening and volunteers to assist with our Planned Activity Groups," she said.

Planned Activity Groups provide social opportunities for people from the community.

Volunteers can also help with driving people to appointments. The drives could be as far as Melbourne or locally between Leongatha, Korumburra and Wonthaggi. It all depends on what fits for the volunteer.

"A lot of people have trouble in regional areas accessing transport to get to medical appointments, so the volunteer patient transport service is very important," Ms Smith said.

"We can all work together to build a healthier community in South Gippsland."

People interested in volunteering can contact Ms Smith on 5667 5536 or email volunteer@gshs.com.au.



Pic: Korumburra Campus,
District Nursing Entrance

COME JOIN US!

Did you know we offer amazing community programs for your health and wellbeing. Join our team as a volunteer and make a difference in the lives of those around you. Whether you're interested in lending a hand or participating in our programs, we've got options for everyone. Contact us via the number below and ask to be put through to the relevant program/forum for further information. Let's make a positive impact together!



BECOME A VOLUNTEER

We are looking for enthusiastic people to join our volunteer team to assist in a range of areas across GSHS including; Aged Care Facilities, Planned Activity Groups, Administration, Patient Transportation. Possible locations; Korumburra, Leongatha, Mirboo North & Tarwin Lower.



MEET, GREET & HAVE A CUPPA!

Join us for a chat about our current priorities and how we're working to meet the needs of the community. Offering these forums quarterly, we encourage members of Leongatha, Korumburra, and the surrounding areas to join us.

Next forum held on February 21, Leongatha Memorial Hall, 3pm



CANCER SURVIVORSHIP

The Cancer Survivorship Program aims to support and empower cancer survivors in South Gippsland. The program focuses on understanding survivors' needs and providing appropriate referrals and information for monitoring long-term effects and accessing support close to home.



PLANNED ACTIVITY GROUPS

These programs offer recreation, entertainment, laughter, activity, fun, food, and help establish new friendships. Available for frail/older individuals, those with disabilities, and those receiving NDIS or Home Care Packages. Referrals by contacting the Planned Activity Group Coordinator, Gateway, or My Aged Care.



GIPPSLAND SOUTHERN HEALTH SERVICE

Building a healthier community in South Gippsland together.
CONTACT US 03 5667 5555

VOLLEYBALL

SOUTH GIPPSLAND

2024 Summer/Autumn Season

Thursday nights – Leongatha SPLASH Stadium
SENIORS: 7.30pm starts Feb 8
SPIKEZONE & JUNIORS: 6pm starts Feb 15

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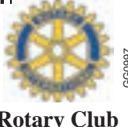
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or email: korumburra.rotary@outlook.com



Come and join us

Every club, group and volunteer organisation
IS ALWAYS LOOKING FOR NEW MEMBERS!

Wonthaggi Neighbourhood Centre is turning 40

WONTHAGGI Neighbourhood Centre at Mitchell House in Wonthaggi is always busy and brimming with people, activity and ideas.

This is even more so at the moment, as plans are underway to celebrate the house's 40th birthday anniversary on Saturday, February 17.

It was 40 years ago that local people came together with many ideas, strong commitment and much hard to work develop and create the Neighbourhood House.

Their vision was to provide a place where the community could come to meet and share their ideas, their interests, their needs and develop solutions to local issues.

Mitchell House was originally the Wonthaggi Station Master's residence, which was owned by Vic Rail.

The Apex Club purchased the house in a state of disrepair and began renovations.

When the renovations were completed, the Borough of Wonthaggi agreed to manage the property and a lease was issued to Wonthaggi Neighbourhood

Centre at Mitchell House.

The Committee of Management was first formed by a dedicated group of volunteers who worked to ensure the centre offered countless opportunities of diverse activities and ensured that everyone was included and felt welcomed.

Their basic philosophy was to provide support to encourage everyone to work together for a better, more meaningful and satisfying sense of belonging and, most importantly, to be part of the community.

These values and goals are upheld and maintained by each new committee of management since the beginning.

Plans for the 40th birthday celebrations at Apex Park – adjacent to Mitchell House – include lots of fun, food and great entertainment for the whole family.

Put this date in your calendar to come and enjoy a fantastic day with the community, including everyone associated and connected to Mitchell House.

Look up Wonthaggi Neighbourhood Centre on its website or Facebook to see if it can be of service to you.



Toni Cornelius, Ellen Harvey, Thelma Kyval, Faye Elliott and Mary Vanderbell gather at Mitchell House twice a week for a craft session. The craft group was formed at the Wonthaggi Neighbourhood Centre seven years ago, with participants creating beautiful works. A variety of forms of craft are welcome, including knitting, sewing, crocheting, quilting and embroidery. The final products are often gifted to friends and family or donated to charity. The group is open to all and has provided a lovely social space for those who have been involved. Participants continue to seek the services of the Wonthaggi Neighbourhood Centre for the friendships and the broad range of activities. The Wonthaggi Neighbourhood Centre is celebrating its 40th birthday on February 17.

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The Lions Club of Wonthaggi welcomes membership enquiries from community minded men and women.



We meet for dinner at 6pm every 1st and 3rd Tuesday at the Wonthaggi Club
For further information call Neil Barnes on 5672 2559

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HM11206



Wonthaggi Neighbourhood Centre at Mitchell House
Invite the community to come help us celebrate our
40th birthday with a free family event.

Saturday, February 17

6 Murray Street, Wonthaggi • 11am – 3pm

PRIZES FOR BEST DRESSED

(categories: men, women, children and family)

Themes for the day are: Time Warp dress for the 80s,
C.O.O. Country of Origin (traditional dress)

Lots of exciting activities

- Free entertainment • Free food and drinks
- T-Rex the Dinosaur will entertain the children
- Chatty café will be serving tea and coffee with some local history
- Circle dance display • Seated yoga display
- Welcome to Country Smoking Ceremony
- Guest speakers • L2P and other services



Wonthaggi Neighbourhood Centre at Mitchell House acknowledges Bass Coast Shire Council's generous financial contribution to our 40th anniversary event

Email enquiries to aisha@wonthaggineighbourhoodcentre.com

Slip, slop, slap
Wear a hat,
bring a blanket
or chair
Strictly
no alcohol

HM11162

Speed cubing tournament coming to Inverloch

INVERLOCH will host its first official World Cubing Association tournament this weekend, February 10 and 11.

Speed Cubing Australia encouraged local puzzle solvers to get involved and register by February 3.

All things speed cubing will be happening at the Inverloch Hub with an action-packed two-day tournament planned. Spectators are encouraged to attend (free entry).

Whilst registration is now closed, spectators and those interested are encouraged to pop along over the two days to find out about local clubs.

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

Everyone, especially newcomers to cubing and competing have registered to be a part of a fabulous and supportive community.

There is a great mix of events, open to all ages, genders and solving speeds with participants encouraged to enter one event or enter them all.

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

Along with six first time local cubers, current Australia record holder for the Pyraminx,



Jeff Hobbs, Emmet Hobbs, Michael Tripodi and Harvey Welsford were ready to compete in Melbourne earlier this month as a warm-up to the Inverloch event.

Gippsland solver Emmet Hobbs is already registered.

Also coming to compete and mentor is Oceanic champion in blind fold cube solving Michael Tripodi.

Michael will astound you as you watch him memorise then solve the bigger cubes blind-folded.

Speed cubing was officially introduced to Inverloch back in 2022 when local teenager Harvey Welsford and some friends who were so enthusiastic about getting others involved in speed cubing approached the Inverloch library for support in setting up a speed cubing club after school, and were given the go ahead to do so.

He is excited that he can finally compete in his hometown and some of the others who attend Cubing Club will also have a chance to do so.

"It's exciting as our times are recorded so we also have an official World, Oceanic and Australian ranking," Harvey said.

"I love the solving, but it is also a great way to meet new friends and challenge myself in a really fun and supportive place."

You would expect any parent or principal would support the past time given cubing has been shown to; develop problem solving skills, build motor skills, enhance observation and concentration skills as



Seth Carter and Oliver Thomas competing as penguins in San Remo last year.

well as keeping the mind active, increasing speed and agility and getting kids off screens and having fun together.

Rubiks cubes, originally invented in 1974 by Hungarian Erno Rubik, took the world by storm in the early 1980s, becoming the most popular puzzle toy in the world.

In 1981, the first ever speed cubing event was hosted by the Guinness Book of World Record with the goal being that competitors set their ultimate speed cube times.

In 1982, the New York Times declared it to be a fad and a toy that would not stand the test of time.

It seems they could not have

got it more wrong, with more than 450 million cubes being sold pre-COVID and pre the rapid acceleration and interest in speed cubing events around the world.

Speed cubing competitions give entrants the chance to win titles, awards and prizes for being the fastest to solve cubes.

The club hopes to see lots of new comers getting involved in speed cubing, and this Inverloch event is a fabulous starting point.

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



Support your
community

Volunteer for your sub-regional health service, covering Bass Coast and South Gippsland.

We offer these roles:

- Transport driving
- Auxiliaries
- Residential Aged Care visiting
- Gardening
- Concierge service
- Ward visiting and more.

To learn more, contact Vicki Riley, 0439 367 129 or email vicki.riley@basscoasthealth.org.au



Wonthaggi Hospital, 5671 3333
Phillip Island Health Hub, 5951 2100
basscoasthealth.org.au/volunteer



The peoples house invite you to learn a new skill and make some new friends

Term 1 Courses & Activities Available now



Bookings are essential for all programs

Phone: 5662 3962

www.leongathacommunityhouse.org.au
16 Bruce Street, Leongatha



Check out the courses and classes on offer in Term 1 in our Term Program.

This Program would have been delivered to your letterbox at the end of January. Or you can check out the activities via our website.

JOIN US

What are your plans for 2024?

Have you asked yourself the question—
'gee I wish I could...., what do I want to do?' Come and talk with us, Monday March 18, 10 am to 12 noon, or 5 pm to 7 pm, share what you'd like to do, and we will help to set you on this journey.

15 Little Commercial Street, Korumburra (in the Korumburra Community Hub)
P: 5655 2524 | Office Hours: 9.30am - 4.30pm Monday to Friday
www.milparacommunityhouse.org.au

Andrea passes the baton for a new chapter

ANDREA Evans-McCall has been a powerhouse of energy and persistence in establishing, advocating and promoting the services of Country University Centre (CUC) to students across the Bass Coast.

After a long term vision and much groundwork and advocacy from the community, funding for the CUC was granted in 2020 and a council building allocated for the service, which provides free access for university students to technology, internet and academic support.

Andrea came on board as the Centre Manager in November 2020, her passion coupled with her diverse skill set, from teaching art and working with students with disabilities transitioning to further education to qualifications in career development, saw her firmly and confidently take on the role.

In March 2021, after the building in Wonthaggi had been gutted and fitted out for purpose, the doors finally opened up to students.

This was one of the most exciting times for Andrea, despite starting in the middle of COVID and having to overcome lots of



Andrea Evans-McCall, Centre Manager of CUC Bass Coast has been instrumental in establishing the service and building solid organisational networks to benefit local students.

challenges.

"Since we opened there has been 286 students that we have supported and 52 have graduated in that time," explained Andrea.

An incredible number of regional students completing degrees that they may not have otherwise without the CUC service and dedication of Andrea and two other staff members.

With support from a passionate board of volunteers, Andrea built important relationships with Bass Coast Health and

Federation University, among many others, to establish mutually beneficial resources and partnerships for local students.

"It's really important that young people are able to stay here and that we're not losing talent, that they leave and they don't come back," said Andrea.

"It's great to have more young people that can stay connected to the community and they can keep in touch with the footy club or netball club and go to their jobs."

Andrea has personal experience of this as her own children had to leave the region to pursue further education and she commented that having the CUC makes education that bit more accessible and affordable for those in the Bass Coast.

It's also Andrea's children that will draw her away from the CUC and see her move to New Zealand, to join them living in Dunedin; and turn her passion and skills to something else, what it will be she does not yet know.

"I've always had a passion of working with people with a disability to empower them to reach their full potential. So, I don't know quite what it looks like yet, but I also want to have some time to be a bit more creative."

Andrea's efforts have paved the way to ensure a smooth transition and continued success of the CUC when she hands over the reins to a new Centre Manager in March; and she hopes the CUC Bass Coast will keep growing and become a solid presence in Wonthaggi that will keep on providing a great service to students.

Give a child safe place to thrive as the school year returns

AS SCHOOL returns for another year, one of the state's major foster care providers is encouraging families and education professionals to consider opening their home to a child in need – and consider just how much it could enrich their lives.

New Anglicare Victoria foster carer Amanda Dyson's caring journey with eight-year-old Alice* has so far been one of unexpected wins.

"She's been kicking goals since she arrived. In five weeks, I've seen massive changes in her. We can walk to school together, and her anxieties around mealtime have improved out of sight," she said. "Having a safe place to stay really lays the foundation that gives a child a chance to thrive."

For Amanda, caring for a child with complex disabilities has been challenging at times but, she said, mostly surprising in how easily the pair have adapted to each other.

"When I finished my training, I did specify an age range for any placements but not disability. When I got the call for Alice I thought, 'I'm willing to give a child with a disability a go'. All children deserve a fair go," she said.

"I still think about those days worrying before she arrived and laugh. Look, there's definitely challenges. There's going to be tantrums, there's going to be tricky moments, but there's also going to be a lot of joy."

"She's very cuddly. And like any eight year old, she's cheeky and full of mischief. She's keeping me on my toes. I wouldn't have her any other way."

Amanda said there were a lot of perceived barriers about fostering – which weren't really barriers at all.

"I'm single, I'm in a rental, I do shift work. You've got a lot of support around you, not just family or friends, but with Anglicare Victoria. There's a community around you to back you up," she said.

"You're not only helping a child, you're gaining the trust of a little person. It feels like a huge milestone when those small moments of connection begin and build on each other," she said.

"If you've worked with children before you've already got the tools to be a foster carer. If you've got a safe place, patience, compassion, some steady guidance, and a little bit of playfulness, you might be more suited to it than you realise."

Anglicare Victoria Gippsland regional director Vicki Levey said people might be surprised to find there were many ways to be a foster carer to fit in with different lifestyles and family situations.

Anglicare Victoria runs regular information sessions about all things to do with foster caring. Visit their website to find out when the next one is running near you.

New A&P Society president Robbins outlines his aims

KARDELLA South based Danial Robbins has quickly settled into his role as president of Korumburra Agricultural & Pastoral (A&P) Society since being appointed late last year and is looking forward to the upcoming Korumburra Show.

The horticulturist grew up on a 7500 acre wheat and cereal farm in Northern Victoria and now runs a stud sheep stock business.

"I just love the land," Danial said, adding that being cooped up in a town isn't for him.

His passion for land extends to revegetation.

"We've regenerated probably four or five acres on the property," he said, with those efforts including planting trees suitable for koalas, being manna gums and to a lesser extent Strzelecki gums.

After featuring in a couple of Reserve grade footy premierships for Korumburra-Bena

following his move to the area, Danial shifted across to Korumburra A&P Society of which the footy netball club is a tenant at Korumburra Showgrounds.

Making that move, he stepped away from direct involvement with the club at which he coached a couple of junior sides, both boys and girls.

Daniel became part of the A&P Society committee five or six years ago.

The new president didn't hesitate when asked about his priorities in the role.

"Volunteers," he declared, elaborating that his number one aim is to grow the society's volunteer base.

While acknowledging that committee positions aren't everyone's cup of tea, he stressed that people can contribute in other ways such as volunteering an hour or two to help at a market, the Show or sheep dog trials.

Longer term, he has ambitions for more events at Korumburra Showgrounds but that wouldn't be practical with the current volunteer base.

Construction of a new toilet block on the highway side of the oval is another thing Daniel is keen to see happen.

"That's a goal in my tenure that I want to get to," he said.

As well as his presidency, Daniel is the chief sheep steward at the Korumburra Show and organises markets at the showgrounds, including one on Show Day.



Daniel Robbins is keen to boost volunteer numbers at the Korumburra Agricultural & Pastoral Society.

WONTHAGGI & DISTRICT NETBALL ASSOCIATION

NIGHT NETBALL SUMMER COMPETITION

LADIES COMPETITION **POSTPONED**

Wonthaggi Secondary College stadium

Starting Tuesday, February 20, 6.30pm

Players to be 14 years and older. Must have VNA registration

Register teams online via Netball Connect

Individual players contact Lee 0419 399 415

MIXED JUNIOR TWILIGHT COMPETITION

11 and under, 13 and under

Monday nights, commencing February 26

Wonthaggi outdoor courts

Entry forms available from Cargills Sport store
wdnawonthaggi@outlook.com or text 0419 399 415

Help serve the community with Rotary...

Come join us and make a difference in our community.

Be part of Rotary International and enjoy fun fellowship and volunteering.

Warm welcome to prospective new members.

**We meet 1st Thursday of each month
at our club rooms South Dudley and
3rd Thursday of each month at The Wonthaggi Club**



For further information contact
Nicky Chung, President, 0475 871 589
or email rotaryclubwonthaggi@gmail.com

Cold Soup Weather

By Meg Viney

DUE to the warm weather, some cold soups. The way to achieve a good texture is to make your own chicken stock using chicken drumsticks which have a lot of gelatine.

So firstly, how to make a good chicken stock – I find a slow cooker is the best.

- 6 chicken drumsticks
- A couple of carrots, cut up into chunks
- A teaspr salt
- A few peppercorns
- 3 litres of water (almost to the top)

Cover and place on high until it is hot, then turn to low and cook for about 24 hours. The stock is beautiful. Strain (I give the meat to my dog and discard the bones).

Freeze what you don't need for the next soup.

Zucchini Soup

As zucchini are plentiful at present a cold zucchini soup – this is also good hot, but very refreshing cold.

- 2 tabs. butter
- 1 onion, chopped
- Pinch salt
- 2 cups chicken stock
- 500 gm zucchini, chopped into rounds
- 1/4 cup sour cream

Saute onion in butter with salt, lid on, over a low heat for 10 minutes, until golden and aromatic.

Add zucchini and sauté gently for a few minutes, then add the stock.

Cover and cook for about 20 minutes.

Put through a blender with sour cream and a pinch of white pepper.

Serve cold with extra sour cream. It can also be served hot.

• FAITH FACTOR

Turning a challenging day around

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

THE number of times I, and countless other believers throughout history, have had a bad or challenging day and then after prayer, the problems disappeared like clouds over the horizon and solutions appeared for seemingly insurmountable problems, and gloom and doom were replaced by hope are countless.

My experience is that these changes occurred after I made a choice and did something very simple.

Quite simply, I reached out to God who, in the person of his son Jesus, taught us the Lord's Prayer to pray, "Our Father who art in heaven...."

Our prayers don't have to be formal, they can be as simple as, "God help me".

The same Jesus who met people where they were at meets us where we are at. We don't have to feel or be holy to pray. Quite simply, all we need do is call out to God in our own words.

It is my experience that God meets me where I am at, and that can be a troubled situation. The words in Romans 8:26 come to mind: "Likewise, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words."

Many people can relate to the words of Romans 8:28: "And we know that God works all things together for the good of those who love Him, who are called according to his purpose".

It is my firm belief based on experience, that the words in Jeremiah 29:11 are true: "For I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord. They are plans for good and not disaster, to give you a future and a hope."



Hot rod classics, custom and classic cars, new cars, trucks and motorbikes will be on display this weekend at the family friendly Lang Lang Show N' Shine and Swap Meet.



With over 150 swap meet stalls, children's entertainment, art and craft stalls, food and coffee vans, the Lang Lang Show N' Shine can be enjoyed by the whole family.

Rev up the excitement for a roaring weekend at Lang Lang

LANG LANG will be rumbling with the sound of engines as hundreds of vehicles roll into the showgrounds for this year's Show N' Shine and Swap Meet.

The family friendly event is on this weekend and will feature hot rod custom and classic cars, new cars, trucks and motorbikes with over 150 swap meet stalls.

The tenth anniversary was celebrated last year and saw a

huge turnout of 800 vehicles and it's expected to be big this time around, and 80 – 100 of the vehicles entered will be judged in a fierce competition.

Gates open at 6am and the annual and hair-raising, spectator favourite lawn mower races will take off at a roaring start at 10am.

Carnival sideshows, entertainment and activities for the kids will keep them busy and having fun and a good

selection of food and coffee vans will ensure everyone is suitably satiated.

Trade vans will be there to browse for those that are looking for something to add to their shiny prized possessions.

In the pavilion will be a wide range of art and craft stalls for those that are more interested in things less noisy.

Event organiser Jan Kruizinga also commented there may be some surprising

action to catch on the day, and attendees will have a great time at this family friendly event.

The event is an initiative of the Rotary Club of Koo Wee Rup Lang Lang with funds going back to Rotary to support various community initiatives.

It is always a huge success with support from the local community, sponsors, vendors, exhibitors, competitors and attendees.



Lester family celebrates 350 year legacy

FIFTY-FIVE descendants of John Lester and Agnes (Binny) of 'Burnside' Ascot Ballarat gathered again after 38 years. They reconnected to celebrate a legacy of 350 years of the family line from England. It was an emotional day – some family met for the first time, sharing stories and recent contact reconnecting them with distant American Lester-Rowntree families. John's sons Francis, Henry and Robert Lester were pioneer farmers at Leongatha and their families still farm or live in South Gippsland. Son Ernest remained at 'Burnside' and members of his family attended. It was wonderful to have so many family members reconnect and celebrate together again at 'Weeroona'. A great day was had by all.



Protect the coast from waste

THE Red Rocks Coastcare and Saltwater Creek Coastcare (RRSWCC) group will assemble at Penguin Avenue, Cowes on Sunday, March 3 to clean up the shoreline. Register your interest at Beach Clean Up - Red Rocks Coastcare Tickets, Red Rocks Beach, Cowes | TryBooking Australia

Valentine's Day

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14



Ten years married to my best friend! His support never waivers for me or the kids. He is always there to make me laugh, comfort me and lift me back up. I wouldn't want to do life with anyone else. – Vicki Sullivan



My Forever Valentine. My husband and I have been married nine magical years! – Kaylene Clay

My hubby and I have been together 12 years and married 10 years. I'm so blessed to have him in my life. He's such a wonderful father helping raise our four children. – Renee Smith



Kathy Richards of Korumburra Florist is looking forward to helping people celebrate Valentine's Day. A09_0624

Australian elegance in full bloom

KORUMBURRA Florist is ready for Valentine's Day, its owners encouraging people to place their orders for fresh flowers and other romantic items for the occasion, including teddy bears, cards, wine and chocolates.

Kathy Richards began running the business last July with her partner George Hill who makes deliveries.

"We go to the market three or four times a week," she said, noting there is a strong focus on obtaining recently picked fresh Australian grown flowers rather than overseas blooms picked much longer ago.

Many of Korumburra Florist's flowers come from a couple of Allambee growers.

Products sold in the shop are sourced in the local region where possible, or otherwise from Victoria or elsewhere in Australia.

Local offerings include

Wild Dog wines from Warragul, and hand-crafted Corinella Candles.

While orders are encouraged for those wanting something specific for their Valentine, or requiring delivery, walk up customers will be well looked after on the day.

Local Heidi Johnston popped in during the Sentinel-Times' visit to the shop, making a purchase and happy to recommend the business.

"The flowers are always fresh and beautiful and it's great to be able to pick up a bunch immediately without pre-ordering," Heidi said.

"We've always got something ready," Kathy noted.

Kathy was studying floristry for a hobby before she and George bought the business, a move she's clearly pleased to have made.

"It smells great and it's fun, and people come in

to chat all the time," the Ranceby local said of the shop.

She's looking forward to her first Valentine's Day at the store and while not yet certain what to expect, is sure to deliver a pleasing outcome for customers, regardless of their budget.

"The community has been extremely supportive, including other business owners," Kathy said of the positive experience she and George are having running a shop in Korumburra.

Orders can be placed by visiting the store at 48 Commercial Street, Korumburra, through the website at korumburraflorist.com.au or by calling 5655 2777.

Korumburra Florist delivers to numerous places in South Gippsland and Bass Coast Shires, with delivery locations listed on the store's website, along with applicable delivery fees.



Korumburra Florist

48 Commercial Street | Ph: 5655 2777 | flowers@korumburraflorist.com.au

G09392



♥ ♥ ♥

Let love bloom this Valentine's Day

♥ ♥ ♥

Aspire Flowers Inverloch Nursery

Specialising in fresh beautiful floral arrangements including traditional blooms and Australian native flowers

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HMT1213



Show your love with Flowers & Gifts

Elsie's Florist

11 McCartin Street, Leongatha

5662 0463 

www.elsiesfloristleongatha.com.au

G09391



My husband of 14 years is silly with me and embraces the small stuff. This is us celebrating our first egg from our chickens. Bacon and egg hats to boot! – Jeanette Fowkes



Been together for almost six years. He's my best friend, my partner in crime. I'd be lost without him (but don't tell him that). – De-Leigh McKenzie

Sentinel-Times

COMMENT

Same signs the definition of insanity?

THE definition of insanity, they say, is doing the same thing over and over and expecting a different result.

That adage could be applied to the attitude of foreshore management authorities to the effectiveness of beach warning signs.

Last week we heard several things that should cause these authorities locally, including Life Saving Victoria, Parks Victoria, Phillip Island Nature Parks and Bass Coast Shire Council, to completely rethink the way they are developing warning signs at our beaches.

In an interview with the ABC over the weekend, Ankur Chhabra, who was with his sister, niece, nephew, and sister-in-law, when they went into the water on that fateful day at Forrest Caves on Wednesday, January, along with his brother-in-law, said the group simply did not see the warning signs at the entrance to the beach walkway.

Many locals agree, people simply don't read the signs.

And with small logos on the sign at Forrest Caves bearing the message "Dangerous Current" and "No Lifesaving Service", competing with a relatively large message "NO DOGS ANYTIME - Penalties apply"; it's easy to understand why.

But signs do work, right, or we wouldn't bother putting them up - Danger Do Not Enter, Danger High Voltage (authorised personnel only), Wrong Way Go Back... anything with a clear, simple message, not with a whole lot of complicated little messages that require a lot of reading, will deter most people.

But, during the week, we also heard that Phillip Island Nature Parks is getting ready to roll out a whole batch of new signs, but guess what, while these signs do comply with the latest Australian standard, they will include only minor changes to the existing signs.

"Wrong way, go back!"

Clearer, simpler messaging is needed.

So, what signs will people read? Do some market research with some prototype signs and ask the people who use the beaches which ones they would read, and which ones would change their behaviour.

And in line with the recommendations of Surf Life Saving Australia's Beach Drowning Black Spot Reduction Program report for Bass Coast, the new signs "should be implemented in a coordinated and consistent manner" across the shire area.

It's not all about the signs, but it's a part of the solution for addressing the dangerous behaviour and rate of drownings at our beaches that we can endeavour to get right.

Fireworks must become a way of the past

COUNCIL has requested feedback re: Fire Works held on New Year's Eve.

There are many who are not consulted but severely impacted by these events.

Those who have no voice and no representative. I am of course referring to all the animals, native and others.

Is Bass Coast wildlife friendly?

Or, is the promotion of wildlife merely a financial drawcard and misrepresentation?

Cessation of firework big bangs would show some sincerity and commitment.

Canberra seems to be leading the way at

Vox Pop

Are you trying to eat healthier?



Daryl Hook

Leongatha

"We always eat healthy food. I used to love to run and play football and I've never smoked or drunk alcohol."



Kylie Tierney

Baxter

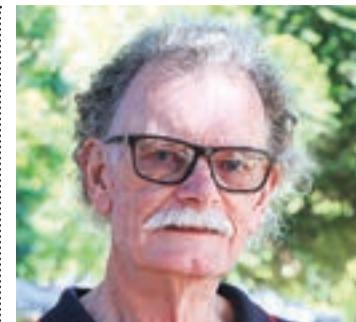
"I changed probably six months ago to a vegetarian and organic diet, have joined a gym and am more mobile, and there's a lot to be said for going back to the basics such as fruit, vegetables and seeds."



Sue Ritchie

Mardan

"Very much so; we are trying to give our bodies food and energy to live a happier life and it's nice to be able to come to markets and pick up beautiful fresh food that lasts well in your fridge."



John Moore

Leongatha

"We are; we grow what we can, a variety of vegetables and try and eat less processed food."

the moment. Why not Bass Coast? This presents an opportunity to be a leader in the field.

We already have enough pollution of all sorts. Why not use some of the new technology to entertain our valuable visitors?

Big bangs are a pagan way to express ourselves and must be relegated to the distant past.

J. Rainey.

Do not let the fireworks continue

RECENTLY Dilene Hinton has sent letters re: dogs and I totally agree with her re: obeying rules and the horror of taking them to fireworks.

However, why are dogs and cats so different from the effects on local birds and wildlife. Many pet owners stay home to try to pacify their pets, but wildlife would be terrified too. I know of one flock of roosting parrots that took off when fireworks started.

A light show would disturb some wildlife too but to a lesser extent than the noise of fireworks. It would also be more environmentally friendly, less wasteful, recyclable and a lot less expensive.

I say do not let fireworks continue.

Helen Dand, Inverloch

Barry Beach no turbine terminal

IN THE article 'Blow for Hastings, boon for Barry Point' in the January 9 edition Gippsland South MP Danny O'Brien suggests Barry Beach could be some sort of staging point for offshore wind farms.

This is in response to the decision by the Hon Tanya Plibersek MP federal Minister for the Environment to refuse such a facility at Hastings on the grounds of the adverse impact on the Western Port Ramsar site.

An examination of the boundaries of the Corner Inlet Ramsar site reveals that any construction at Barry Beach, of the scale proposed at Hastings, would intrude into the internationally protected wetland east of Wilson's Promontory, with all the implications that halted the Western Port plan.

Maurice Schinkel, Cowes

The plan is a point of perspective

COMMENTARY on the Corinella Foreshore Landscape Plan (Sentinel Times, 23/1) was all from a human perspective. People's wants, needs, rights, priorities and opinions were aired but there was

no mention of the thousands of other life forms, seen and unseen - birds, animals, insects, microbes, plants - both above and below ground. A foreshore is a complex, rich, diverse ecosystem, where everything is important to the whole, even when compromised by human intervention.

The language used is revealing. Words such as 'jungle', 'tidying', and 'mess' suggest a particular perspective.

Your editorial headline mentions '... (unmanaged) vegetation.' A Corinella Foreshore Committee has existed for many years, working with the responsible government department of the time. It is hard to believe that the foreshore was not managed to the department's standards during these years.

Trees are important allies in dealing with climate change. This doesn't mean a tree should never be removed, for safety and other reasons but, one of the recommendations in the plan is that 'All trees should be removed from bio islands ... and only low-growing shrubs and ground cover to remain'.

This 'balanced' plan has not resolved the divisive debate between views, vegetation and values. Can we change perspective? There doesn't need to be conflict between the environment and amenity. We don't have to choose 'either/or' but seek ways to have both. We must try.

Anne Heath Mennell, Tenby Point

The parlous state of the ramp on Beach One, Venus Bay

I REALISE I am like the "squeaky gate", banging on about this, but unless I - and hopefully others - do, then nothing will be done.

I have now written to Parks Victoria on three occasions, the latest on December 27, again outlining the dangers of this ramp to the elderly, the pregnant, the disabled, children, and all users of this ramp.

I received a reply to one of my letters on November 17 last year that "a ticket has been created and Customer Service will forward it to the appropriate management team."

To this point I have not heard from Parks Vic.

Have they swept it under the carpet, placed it in the "too hard basket" or consider it not worthy of their attention? I can see the point that Parks Vic may be held to legal action if a fall occurs due to the state of the ramp and injury results. This ramp is a danger to all!

Locals, and visitors rely on the ramp to gain access to the beach, the only one of five accessible beaches that is patrolled during summer! Yet it remains in a ter-

rible neglected state - rocky, with undulations, a perfect trip hazard. I struggle in using it and have seen others needing help to negotiate it. The most pitiful sight I have witnessed was two women struggling to help a disabled male up the ramp. Hopefully by keeping on about it something will be done!

Keith Tindall, Venus Bay.

Local elections, local say

IT HAS come to my attention that local ratepayers and property owners who do not live permanently in Bass must register directly with Council or be disenfranchised. The SEC refers enquiries to your local council but there is no link or assistance on the Bass Coast Website.

I have asked Bass Council for information.

I suspect that many people will be unaware of this.

Analysis of Bass Coast Shire Council's property rates database found that 74 per cent of residential properties in Bass Coast were owned by individuals or organisations which have a postal address in a different postcode to the dwelling address postcode.

This confirms that a high proportion of dwellings in the municipality are not owner-occupied, and that 44 per cent (11,423) are unoccupied. The 2016 estimate for holiday homes was 9000 homes but the rate is as high as 60 per cent in San Remo and 55 per cent in Inverloch. Clearly this substantial minority should have a say in the actions of local Council.

Robert Taylor, Harmers Haven

Annual Inverloch "Comedy-Insanity" Festival

WITH 'free entry' to the annual Inverloch "Comedy - Insanity" festival we can observe from the skate park, a continuous floor show from the C.H.D.B namely; "The Clay Headed Driver Brigade" as they tailgate down Reilly Street then sweep 'shark-like' into the jammed Foodwork's car park and sit anxiously waiting to secure a spot no less than two yards from the entrance to the supermarket.

Obviously the vacant parking both in Reilly Street, (a 10-yard walk) and the footy oval, a 'torturous' 25 yard walk is just too stressful to contemplate!

Meanwhile, we the observers of this blatant insanity can stand back and marvel at yet another free display of moronic cretinism.

John Hennessy, Inverloch

~ NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE & ADULT LEARNING NEWS ~

BASS COAST ADULT LEARNING

THIS Friday will be the first White Card course for the year. The Construction Induction course, commonly known as White Card, is the mandatory health and safety course required to enter a building or construction site.

Next Monday will see the start of the Computer Basics course. While it seems everyone has a few digital skills, this course helps people of all ages to understand what they're doing with a computer. Bill's friendly and easy-going manner helps demystify the digital world and ensures everyone has a good time learning.

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

■ WONTAGGI COMMUNITY GARDEN

It's hard to imagine ever getting tired of eating strawberries or peaches. But some community garden regulars are saying 'enough.'

It's been a bumper season for the garden's fruit with still more to come as the nectarines and apples ripen. The plum trees went over the top – one branch so laden with fruit it collapsed and broke!

Garden volunteers, members, visitors and friends of the garden have shared the bounty over the holiday season. They are now tidying up the windfalls and preparing to prune as required.

All are welcome to visit the garden on a Thursday between 10am and noon, or at other times on request. The Wonthaggi Community Garden will not be open during the Bass Coast Edible Garden Weekend this month (10-11/2) but they enjoy sharing our productive space with visitors. Please contact tgordon@westnet.com.au for more info.

■ U3A WONTAGGI

U3A Wonthaggi is back from holidays and is ready for an exciting Term 1. As the group embarks on another year of fun and enrichment, a warm welcome is extended to all members, returning and new.

As an all-volunteer organisation, U3A Wonthaggi caters to the diverse interests of people over the age of 50 offering a rich tapestry of educational, creative, and leisure activities. The 2024 program boasts an array of engaging options and while a number of courses and activities are fully subscribed, there are still some vacancies in some courses. Visit u3awonthaggi.org.au to learn more.

■ WONTAGGI WOODCRAFTERS

Several members joined in a special session last week all about making dovetail joints. There was a twist though – they made them all by hand, without any jigs or power tools.

Dovetail joints can be one of the most difficult aspects of woodworking, requiring great precision and concentration. Doing them entirely with hand tools added to the challenge.

While the Woodies welcome novices, there's always something for the more seasoned woodworker as well.

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



239 White Rd, Wonthaggi
PH: (03) 5672 3115 [F](https://www.facebook.com/bcal.vic.edu.au)
www.bcal.vic.edu.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 is open on Monday to Wednesday between 2.30pm – 5.30pm (Thursday's are coming soon). With school returning, now is a great time to introduce any young people you know to the YES Youth Hub. So please come on down and check out the space during Drop-In.

The countdown has commenced for the 2024 Bass Coast Youth Pride Prom which will be held on Saturday, February 10 @ 6pm. All tickets are gloriously free for young people aged 12 - 25 years, yet bookings are essential. So, type "2024 Bass Coast Youth Pride Prom" into your browser and follow the links to "Eventbrite" and get a ticket. This annual event was dreamed up by a group of passionate young people, who wanted a safe, inclusive event for LGBTQIA+ youth to be able to be themselves, feel accepted, have fun, and celebrate together with their allies. Enjoy music, dancing, and excellent vibes in an event planned by and delivered for young people! We would like to thank Midsumma and the Office for Youth for funding this gorgeous event.

This week the YES Youth Hub was back in full flight. We provided some tasty afternoon tea thanks to some generous donations from Bass Coast Housing Matters and the Salvation Army. We had a number of races on Mario Kart and bands were heard practicing throughout the week in our music studio. On Monday evenings our staff are funded to provide a community meal for young people. This week we were treated to Chicken and Veg Tikka Masala. If you find yourself in need of a feed next Monday and are aged between 12 – 25 years old, I highly recommend popping down to the YES Youth Hub between 4.30pm – 5.30pm. If you miss out you can find portions in the Youth Pantry freezer.

Also, 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.

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



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

MILPARA COMMUNITY HOUSE

MILPARA Community House is enjoying a busy start to term one. If you haven't had a chance yet, make some time to check out our wonderful new space at the Korumburra Community Hub, 15 Little Commercial Street, Korumburra.

We are open Monday to Friday from 9.30am-4.30pm.

Our Centrelink Agent is open Tuesdays 10am-2pm, and Wednesdays and Thursdays 1am-1pm.

And our Foodbank is open Mondays, Tuesday and Fridays 9.30am-3pm

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

We are introducing lots of new classes this term and many of our popular ones returning.

Coming up in the next few weeks, we have:

Try something different with our Tarot and Oracle Cards for beginners' workshop, starting February 7 at 10am.

We also have the Backyard Chicken Keeping workshops, where you will learn all about what you will need to get started and how to successfully keep chickens, from our highly experienced tutor Jo. Beginning Wednesday February 14 at 12pm, you will have the option to join all or some sessions.

Also coming up is our Learn Local Computer Classes. Easy Steps for Beginners starts on February 15 at 9.30am and Computers Next Step starts February 22 at 1.15pm.

Or if you are looking to learn a language, our Learn French class might be for you. Starting Thursday February 15.

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.



15 Little Commercial St, Korumburra
PH: (03) 5655 2524 [F](https://www.facebook.com/milparacommunityhouse)
www.milparacommunityhouse.org.au



WONTAGGI NEIGHBOURHOOD CENTRE

THINGS are back in full swing here at Wonthaggi Neighbourhood Centre. Our Connections newsletter is out as is our Term 1 program. You can pick up copies of both when you're next in the centre or check them out on our website wonthaggineighbourhoodcentre.com.

The usual favourites are up and running – play groups, yoga, craft group and chess club amongst others. Including of course our multicultural women's group, circle dancing and the vibrant gang of ukulele players.

There have been a few changes since last term including a wonderful new program of Peace Education Workshops. These one-hour workshops will be running across the whole term on Tuesday 12 to 1pm. Each workshop is self-contained so you can do a few or do the whole series – it's up to you. For more information just give us a call on 5672 3731.

Other notable returning programs include the Renters' Rights sessions – second Thursday of the month, starting this week on February 8 and the Bass Coast Parkinson Peer Support Group on the second Friday of the month.

One change to note is that we have a Wednesday AA group starting soon. It is replacing the Saturday morning group, but exact details are still to be confirmed. We will advise you all as soon as we know.

Some big news for this term is that Saturday, February 17 is the day that Wonthaggi Neighbourhood Centre celebrates its 40th birthday. Our posters detailing what will be happening at Apex Park and Mitchell House are starting to appear so do check it all out and plan your participation. And of course, if you're interested in volunteering at the event, we would love to hear from you.



6 Murray St, Wonthaggi
PH: (03) 5672 3731 [F](https://www.facebook.com/wonthaggineighbourhoodcentre)
www.wonthaggineighbourhoodcentre.com

Bass Coast Fine Film Group presents "Caravaggio's Shadow"

ON SUNDAY February 11 at 10.45am, the BCFFG is screening "Caravaggio's Shadow", from multi-award-winning Italian writer/director, Michele Placido.

Caravaggio's Shadow is a historical drama that takes place in the early 17th century, following the story of Michelangelo Merisi da Caravaggio (played by Riccardo Scamarcio). The film is centred around the Catholic Church's secret investigation of Caravaggio as the Pope deliberates whether to grant him clemency for killing a rival. The lead investigator, known as "Shadow," played by film maker/actor, Louis Garrel (The Innocent, BCFFG 2023), reveals the contradictory vices and virtues of Caravaggio. The movie's plot is engaging and keeps the audience hooked, with its portrayal of the turbulent life of the famous Italian painter.

One of the strengths of the movie is its stunning cinematography and visual style. The film's director, Michele Placido, has masterfully recreated the light and shade effects that dominated Caravaggio's paintings. The use of non-linear narrative structure, which jumps back and forth in time, adds to the movie's visual appeal. The film's sets and costumes are sumptuously staged, immersing viewers into the world of 17th-century Italy. The movie's portrayal of the tormented mind and impassioned life of Caravaggio is both captivating and visually striking.

Overall, Caravaggio's Shadow is an engrossing movie that explores the life and legacy of one of the greatest Baroque painters in history. While the film falls short as a biography, it offers viewers an immersive experience of Caravaggio's world and the events that shaped his life. The movie's impact and effectiveness come from its ability to bring the audience into the painter's world and to showcase the aspects of reality that entered into his works. The film's portrayal of the tensions between art and power, as well as the complexities of human nature, make it a timely and thought-provoking piece of cinema.

To find out more head to bcffgfilms.weebly.com/caravaggios-shadow.html

Now is a great time to join or renew your membership to the Bass Coast Fine Film Group. For \$65 a year, members get free entry to all BCFFG screenings, as well as other benefits throughout the year, including discounts on non-concession ticket prices to regular cinema screenings. It's great value for money and makes a wonderful gift for film fans.

BCFFG Members entry is free on presentation of membership card; general public welcome with tickets at usual box office prices.

Film screening at Wonthaggi Union Community Arts Centre, 96 Graham Street, Wonthaggi.

The Bass Coast Fine Film Group is proudly sponsored and supported by the Bass Coast Shire.

Bass Coast Fine Film Group

10.45am SUNDAY 11th FEBRUARY
CARAVAGGIO'S SHADOW

Set in early 17th century Italy, the film follows the story of renowned painter, Michelangelo Merisi da Caravaggio, who is under secret investigation by the Pope as he deliberates whether to grant him clemency for killing a rival. The film masterfully recreates the light and shade that dominated Caravaggio's paintings.

General public welcome. Members Free Entry!

@ WONTAGGI UNION CINEMA
96 Graham Street, Wonthaggi.

Check the website for more info:
basscoastfinefilmgpgroup.weebly.com



The Black Sorrows hit Gippsland

Joe Camilleri. Renowned for high-energy live shows.
Photo: Paul Ross.

JOE Camilleri and The Black Sorrows have announced their Gippsland show this February as part of the Victoria/Tasmania tour for 2024.

Joe Camilleri has been at the forefront of the Australian music scene for decades as the leader of Jo Jo Zep & The Falcons and The Black Sorrows, and as writer of radio anthems "Hit & Run", "Shape I'm In", "Chained To The Wheel", "Harley & Rose" and "Never Let Me Go". He is the consummate entertainer constantly honing his craft, an ARIA Hall of Famer and a rock'n'roll lifer.

Renowned for their high-energy live shows, musicianship and infectious raw, rootsy, rhythms, The Black Sorrows are masters of the eclectic and one of the most sophisticated ensembles in the country. From gospel to sweet soul, raw blues to country with a hint of jazz and wild rock'n'roll joyrides,

no musical style is left in the corner waiting for a dance partner. Renowned for their high-energy live shows, musicianship, and infectious, roots-soaked blues rock.

They've sold more than two million albums to date and won an ARIA Award for Best Group.

2022 saw the band return to the ARIA charts with their 19th studio album Saint Georges Road hitting #1 on the ARIA Jazz and Blues chart three times. For Joe Camilleri it was extra special as the album also represented his 50th career release. The album was quickly followed by the release of The Black Sorrows' Live from The Shangri-La, an incredible live recording that captures that spark that defines The Black Sorrows.

In Joe's words: "Live from The Shangri-La gives you a sense of how far the Sorrows have come, of how we're always moving forward as a band. It's never about the

past. Although we are always celebrating where we been, we are constantly finding a new and fresh pathway... for the beyond."

"I'm currently working on another two albums; it's easy to talk about love and loss, but this music is an observation of love affairs – those companions that find their reconcile in each day, it's about an energy of people and making those moments cinematic," said Joe.

The Black Sorrows, in one form or another, haven't stopped recording or performing since Joe pulled the thing together.

"I'm an entertainer – it's who I am. I turn 76 this year and I care more now than ever about performing, there is a sisterhood and brotherhood on stage that I just love."

The current version of The Black Sorrows showcases some of Australia's finest musicians – Joe Camilleri (vocals/guitar/sax/harp), Claude Carranza (guitar/vocals), Mark

Gray (bass/vocals), James Black (keyboards/vocals) and Tony Floyd (drums/vocals) – and has toured Europe several times playing songs that have become radio staples like "Chained to the Wheel", "Harley & Rose", "Hold On To Me" and "Stir It Up".

Joe shared that playing sax is unique to each person.

"From my perspective the sax is an extension of singing, and I bring emotional connection to the instrument," he said.

The joy of live music, the excitement of watching great performers playing off each other and feeding off the room, and the thrill of never knowing what is coming next but knowing it will be incredible is what The Black Sorrows are all about.

Tickets for the Saturday, Feb 10 show with guest Freya Josephine Hollick at the West Gippsland Arts Centre, Warra-gul are available at sales.wgac.com.au/event/379:2383

There is 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, kicking off last week with the first of three Summer Series events. 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. Here are the dates for each event:

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

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

Summer Series 2 welcome a night of Indie Aussie Rock. DJ Golden Fleece will be there to spread the love of groove.

Harry Hook is Real will have you up on your feet, and for good measure, The Sand Brothers and Desert Alien will be there to make sure there is something for every rock fan.

Summer Series 3 is the

spectacular conclusion to this musical series. To send the series off in style, Series 3 will feature a massive electro-rock party. Duo Shouse will be here with their international hit, Love Tonight. There will also be irresistible beats from Ganga Giri with his Yidaki (didjeridoo), Cool Out Sun and Two Last Names.

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 wood-fired 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.

A Day at the Park

To celebrate the 50th anniversary of Coal Creek Community Park and Museum, on Saturday, March 2 there will be exhibitions held in the Main Foyer, Auditorium Gallery and in buildings through-

out the park. A tea party will take you back in time as you watch silent movies in the theatre, or have a laugh at the celebrity Edwardian cricket match on the Pavilion Oval. All this and more happening during the day before Summer Series 3 takes it away at night.

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



Harry Hook is Real will be wowing crowds and have you up on your feet on February 16 as part of Summer Series 2.



RIGHT: Series 3 features a massive electro-rock party with the duo Shouse performing their international hit Love Tonight.

Full day of fun at the Korumburra Show

THIS year's Korumburra Show is bursting with activities that will entertain patrons from 9am until 9pm on Saturday February 10.

"Twelve months of planning goes into a show, and we've worked tirelessly to bring more entertainment and exhibits to show patrons," Korumburra Agricultural & Pastoral (A&P) Society president Danial Robbins said of the organisation's committee.

A substantial increase in the number of carnival rides and side show offerings is anticipated and there will be almost 50 market stalls.

Energetic cover band The Picassos will perform sets from 4.30pm until 8.45pm, ensuring patrons are entertained right through until the fireworks display that caps off the day.

The evening fun will also include a 'Best Mullet' competition at 7pm.

Traditional agricultural show favourites will feature earlier in the day, with cattle, sheep and poultry on display.

The Sanders Pavilion hosts sheep shearing.

"Then we roll over to the exhibition pavilion where the art, fresh produce, and baking display (feature)," Danial said.

Stockhorses will take to the oval for competition, as will dog events flyball, high jump and agility.

There will be a tractor display



Korumburra Show offers a complete day of fun and entertainment for the whole family on February 10. A01_0524

from Brandt and TTMI, as well as vintage machinery.

A Music Festival Competition, pet parade and display of cars add to the action.

Those keen to display their physical prowess will tackle the keg throwing competition, with Danial unsure what distances might be achieved but confirming the kegs will be empty.

The jam-packed kids entertainment program includes free pony rides, face painting, magic shows, whip cracking demonstrations and workshops with champion Emiliqua East, and more.

Children's author Mandy Kuhne will be present.

Black Snake Productions is set to introduce show attendees to a variety of animals.

With Texan performer Charley Crockett holding a concert at Coal Creek on the evening of Show Day, ticket holders for his concert receive half price admission to the Korumburra Showgrounds.

Tying in with Crockett's cowboy image, show attendees can test themselves on a mechanical bull from 4-6pm.

Admission fees: Family (2 adults, 2 children) \$25, Adult \$10, Pensioner/Senior/Concession \$8, 10-14 years of age \$5, Under 10 years of age free.

Passouts are available.



Kaylah to perform first headline show

KAYLAH Thomas from Korumburra has been making waves with her music and her ability to evoke emotion in her listeners and invites them into her 'Tiny World'.

"There's a flair to Kaylah's writing that is filled with wisdom, vulnerability, and a softness for baring herself, flaws and all." – Amplify the Noise.

Kaylah's first ever debut headline show is upcoming and will be held at The Workers Club in Fitzroy on Sunday March 3, for all who want to go enjoy and support our local talent.

In this intimate performance, showcased are Kaylah's tracks from her debut EP 'Tiny World', with honest lyrics that connect and inspire listeners to reflect on their own lives.

Kaylah invites listeners into the raw beauty of early demos

and to be among the first to hear her latest acoustic creations.

Kaylah's retrospective style has seen her grace audiences, including those of The John Cain Arena as part of The Victorian State Schools Spectacular, and the MCG grounds as part of the Annual AFL Festival.

Don't miss the chance to be part of this special moment in Kaylah Thomas's musical journey.

Join her for an afternoon filled with enchanting melodies and the electric energy of a debut performance.

With guest performers Kaiyah Mercedes and Rance Laz, secure your tickets now for a performance that promises to be a highlight on your calendar.

Supported by an IgniteLAB Grant from the Melbourne Conservatorium of Music.



Saturday February 10, 2024

Animals | Side Shows | Car Displays | Free Kids' Activities and much more...

Live music by Picassos 4:30pm-8:45pm | Fireworks at 9pm



**WEDNESDAY 1pm - 3pm
THURSDAY 8pm - 10pm**

Wonthaggi Workmen's Club, 75 Graham Street

Come and join in the laughs at South Coast FM Bingo

★ RAFFLES ★ DOOR PRIZES ★ LUCKY NUMBER JACKPOT



www.italianfesta.net



Archies Creek rocks out with Gippsland's finest

LAST weekend Archies Creek was buzzing with excitement as it hosted some of the best acts from Gippsland and beyond.

On Friday night, the crowd was treated to a stellar performance by Melbourne five-piece indie rock band Floodlights. Floodlights have been making waves in the Australian music industry with their debut album *From a View*, which was nominated for the Australian Music Prize in 2020, and their second album *Painting of My Time* also nominated. Their songs blend catchy melodies, jangly guitars, and honest lyrics that reflect on the social and political issues of our times.

The band played a mix of old and new, whilst the audience sang along to favourites such as *Matter of Time*, *Glory of Control*, and *Shifting Shadows*, and cheered as the band delivered a powerful rendition of *Tropical Fun*. It was raw, it was intimate.

Saturday night the balmy beer garden of the friendliest venue in the southern hemisphere came to life as *Snarskicrylicuslindyband* took to the stage. Featuring Rob Snarski, Lindy Morrison, Shane O'Mara, Dan Kelly and 'Evil' Graham Lee the audience was in for an absolute treat – there was laughter, tears and lots of toe tapping, it was definitely not for the faint hearted but



A music lovers haven, Archies Creek will host Frente this weekend after last weekend's sold out crowd – tickets are still available. C51_0624

the romantics, readers, writers, displaced, misfits, fanatical, lovers and the lost.

On Sunday afternoon, Archies Creek was packed again for another sold out show, this time featuring Frank Yamma, a legendary singer-songwriter from the Pitjantjatjara nation at the hall. Frank Yamma is widely regarded as one of Australia's most important Indigenous voices, with a rich and soulful voice that can move listeners to tears or laughter.

Frank Yamma performed songs from his acclaimed albums *Countryman* and *Uncle*, as well as some new material

from the lockdown. His songs are stories of love, loss, family, culture, and country, sung in both English and Pitjantjatjara. He was accompanied by his longtime collaborator and friend, guitarist David Bridie, who also added some keyboard and harmonica to the mix.

The audience was captivated by Frank Yamma's charisma and humour, as he shared anecdotes and jokes between songs. The gentle, melodic sounds of Pirritu accompanied the afternoon.

Down the road, the Celtic rock-country fusion was

brought to life as Claymore and Darren Coggan graced the same stage for the very first time at Archies Creek Hotel.

Breaking musical barriers, the electrifying fusion of Claymore's Celtic folk rock and Darren's soulful melodies captivated, leaving audiences breathless and wanting more.

And more there is to come over the coming weeks.

Steve Kilbey, frontman for Australian dreamy psychedelic rock pioneers, The Church is heading back to Archies Creek to celebrate the band's incredible songbook by performing all of The Church's Singles from 1980 – 1992, this Saturday (February 10).

Sunday (February 11) a monstrous sing-along and awkward dancing are promised when Frente (featuring Angie Hart) takes to the stage in a much-anticipated performance. Share in the soundtrack to your special moments and celebrate the thirtieth birthday of Marvin the Albulon on the road.

Delsinki and the Quiet Coachmen with special guest Maggie Alley and Band play on Saturday February 17, whilst Sunday February 18 the Models will be heading to Archies Creek.

To secure your tickets and to see what's happening in the weeks ahead visit caravanmusic.com.au

Party in the Pear Orchard

THE TOORA Heritage Pear Orchard are hosting their Pear Party once again this year, where attendees can pick their own pears from the orchard.

There are over one hundred pear trees of European, Asian and American varieties sourced from the Huon Valley in Tasmania and some Gippsland farms, all growing very happily in Toora.

The trees are a part of a rich heritage of selective breeding that began in Asia and Europe hundreds of years ago.

Pears were brought to Australia on ships in the First Fleet and were planted and grown in the first orchard in Sydney Cove, near what is now Circular Quay.

Heritage varieties don't have the same disease or pest resistance that modern varieties have, but are way ahead in taste, and are great for eating fresh, cooking and preserving.

There is a variety to suit each purpose.

They aren't perfect! But if people want perfect pears, they can get them from the supermarket.

There are no sprays used on the pears, they are organic and are safe.

Local musicians, market stalls, plants, Lions BBQ, CFA display, raffles, children's games, and of course pears, will be offered at this year's Pear Party.

Toora Pear Party will be held on Sunday February 25 from 10am to 3pm.

For more information call Tony on 0490 352 600 or look up Toora Heritage Pear Orchard on Facebook.

THE ARCHIES CREEK HOTEL
AND THE CARAVAN MUSIC CLUB PRESENT

SAT 10 FEB STEVE KILBEY PLAYS THE CHURCH SINGLES
SUN 11 FEB FRENTÉ
SAT 17 FEB DELSINKI & THE QUIET COACHMEN
SUN 18 FEB MODELS
SAT 24 FEB CHECKERBOARD LOUNGE
SAT 24 FEB CLAIRE ANNE TAYLOR + JETHRO PICKETT
SUN 25 FEB LUKA BLOOM
SAT 2 MAR JONNIE GOES TO CHURCH ALBUM LAUNCH
SUN 3 MAR JAZZ PARTY
THU 7 MAR THE WHITETOP MOUNTAINEERS (USA)
FRI 15 MAR HUSSY HICKS
SAT 16 MAR GABY MORENO
SUN 17 MAR MIA DYSON
THU 21 MAR DON WALKER & BAND
SUN 24 MAR STEVE POLTZ 'THE 22ND TIME'S A CHARM' TOUR
SUN 7 APR ED KUEPPER
SUN 21 APR KEVIN WELCH & THE WEEPING WILLOWS

SHOWS BEING ADDED DAILY SO BEST TO CHECK THE WEBSITE!!!

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SUMMER SERIES 2

FEAST YOUR SENSES
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DESERT ALIEN

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tickets @trybooking

TOORA HERITAGE PEAR ORCHARD



Captain of Bass CFA Andy Stewart with Barry Dakin and Peter Dann at the Woolamai Races. Z02_0624



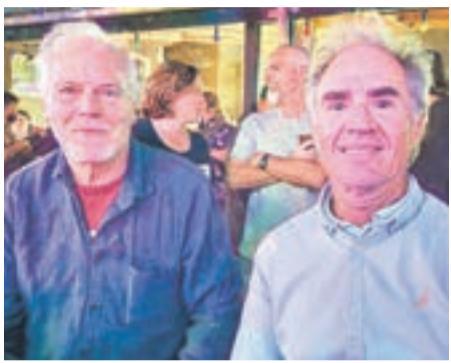
Winner of the Eventful Horizons Fashions on the Field Karlie Owen and runner up Katherine Williams. Z03_0624



Jess Odgers of Eventful Horizons with Fashions on the Field judge Baylee Walters at the Woolamai Races. Z04_0624



Kathy and Peter McClusky enjoy an afternoon of racing at February Woolamai Cup. Z05_0624



Andrew Hale of Rye and Graeme Hellyer of Hampton enjoyed an evening at Archies Creek. C10_0624



First time Archies Creek Hotel visitors from Venus Bay were Jacinta Speakman and Andrew Rush. C11_0624



Louis, Bella, Lilly and Liam from Foster, Port Welshpool and Glen Alvie respectively awaited the start of Floodlights on Friday evening. C12_0624



Phillip Island's Philip Ross and Ann Finger and Mt Martha's Bonnie Taylor popped along on Friday evening with Bonnie a longtime follower. C13_0624



Hetty Rodda and Stevie Wynen of Phillip Island were front of stage for Floodlights on Friday. C14_0624

Snapped Out

Pictures of you and your friends at Woolamai Races and Floodlights at Archies Creek Hotel.



Kate and Brylee celebrate their sister-in-law Tess at her bachelorette party held at the Woolamai Races. Z09_0624

Leah Cook, Georgia Douglas and Sammy Fisher celebrating bachelorette Tess at the Woolamai Races. Z07_0624



Lorraine, Kim, and Leanne celebrate bride-to-be Tess at her bachelorette party. Z08_0624



John Deller and Ross Osborne enjoyed an afternoon with friends and family at the Woolamai Races. Z10_0624



Regular Archies Creek performer and local Tracey Miller and Jacqui Luscombe of Phillip Island have been popping along to the Hotel for five years - enjoying a night out on Friday. C16_0624



Performer Maddy Mae and Luke Barda of Phillip Island enjoyed a bite to eat whilst listening to the evocative lyricism of Floodlights. C17_0624



Phillip Island's David Luscombe and Dalyston's Steve Ginnivan had front row seats to the fire at Floodlights show. C18_0624

Sentinel-Times

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Fran celebrates rhubarb during a visit to one of the edible gardens as she walks amongst the veggie patches.

A bountiful harvest of food gardens

THIS coming weekend, February 10-11, sees the return of the third annual Bass Coast Edible Gardens event. Organised as a fund-raiser for Bass Coast Adult Learning, the event includes a record 17 gardens, opening for visitors to be inspired and learn how to grow food.

This year nine of the gardens opening are in Wonthaggi, Inverloch and Cape Paterson. Some returning favourites include two gardens in Wonthaggi that will show visitors how they can preserve and pickle produce from their garden, while in Inverloch two large three-acre properties each feature orchards, as well as extensive vegetable gardens.

"The Harvest Centre is always popular, with live music from 11am on the Saturday and Sunday this year", said Sharon Willcox, Gardens Coordinator.

For those keen for a drive through the hills or along the coast, there are new food gardens opening this weekend in Glen Alvie and Kilcunda.

The 17 participating gardens will be open from 10am-4pm on Saturday February 10 and Sunday February 11. Gardeners will be easy to spot this year, as they will be wearing red 'Edible Garden' t-shirts, thanks

to sponsorship from Westernport Water.

And as that historical steak-knives ad goes, wait, there's more!

Maddy Harford, the secretary of BCAL, said she was delighted to have recently opened a complementary exhibition at ArtSpace in Wonthaggi.

The Edible Gardens exhibition which is on until early March features artwork celebrating the creativity of growing food.

"Some of our gardeners are also artists, and many local artists also garden, so it was a natural next step to have an art exhibition about growing food", said Maddy.

Bass Coast Shire Council has also come to the party in spades. As well as providing a community grant to help with organising the annual edible gardens event, the Council has just announced that it will be funding free gardening workshops for Bass Coast residents to be delivered at community gardens across the shire later in 2024. Attendees at the Edible Garden weekend can pick up a postcard with more information about these gardening workshops, known as the Bass Coast Garden Gems program.

Shasta daisies and Echinacea take centre stage in summer

By Karen Haw,
Mirboo North
Garden Centre

HERE we are, February already, which is generally our hottest and driest month and not generally the nicest time to be working in the garden except maybe early in the morning or in the evening. While not all of us appreciate the heat many plants especially some of the perennials love it.

Many think that all perennials die down in winter this is not so, a perennial plant is any plant that lives more than a year. One of my favourites and a real space filler is the Shasta daisy also known as leucanthemum superbum. They are bright, cheerful and eye catching with their fresh white petals and yellow centres. Shasta daisies with their sturdy stems and long vase life also make the terrific for cutting. Shasta daisies are also easily propagated by division as they are an area clumping plant. Dividing the plant every three to four years not only produces new plants, it also rejuvenates them. There are many varieties of Shasta daisy some with single flowers, shaggy, double and ragged flowers. They love a sunny spot and require very little care just remove spent flowerheads to prolong flowering and cut old foliage to the ground as new growth emerges in spring.

I have a daughter in Colorado in America where they get very cold winters and hot, dry summers and in America they have lots of flowering gardens in their streetscapes and one of the flowers used extensively are echinacea or better known as the cone flower. Echinacea is a member of the daisy family and is renowned for its health benefits. They are native to North America and both the plants upper parts and roots are used in tablets, tinctures, extracts and teas. Echinacea is loaded with antioxidants and is linked to many health benefits, such as reduced inflammation, improved immunity, and lower



Mike Dodson, who has been with Grow Better potting mixes for over 30 years, recommends their Terracotta and Tub Mix.

blood sugar levels. We plant it for its attractive long-lasting flowers. Originally Echinacea was available with white or purple flowers but now with breeding there are all colours including red, orange and yellow and even double flowering varieties.

Echinacea prefer full sun with well-drained soil. They are frost hardy and tolerant of drought conditions and they do die down in winter. The flowers can be used fresh or dried for flower arranging and attract birds and butterflies to the garden.

There are many perennials that flower over summer and most love the sun and are drought hardy so take a look in your local nursery and see what you can find to brighten your garden. Many plants can be grown in pots but to grow a plant well you need a good potting mix. Cheap mixes often become hydrophobic where the potting mix is unable to absorb any moisture and therefore plants are not getting the water or nutrients they need. When buying a potting mix look for the red tick and this indicates the potting mix is made from

quality products from compost meeting Australian standards.

The overall objective of the standard is to provide manufacturers, educational institutions, consumers and growers with a set of minimum requirements which will ensure that potting mixes can germinate seeds, grow seedlings, strike cuttings and maintain plant growth. Potting mixes followers of Facebook that follow Tim's Garden page will have seen how he does trials with different potting mixes and the premium mix always outperforms cheaper potting mixes from box stores. When choosing a potting mix for plants that are going to stay in pots for long periods it is best to pay to the extra and buy a tub and terracotta mix. Terracotta and tub potting mix contains water storing granules, rewetting agent and controlled release fertiliser. It is the complete package for container grown plants and has longer lasting slow-release fertiliser and, natural growth stimulant (x Facta). However, when growing native plants in pots native potting mix is the one to use.

In the vegetable patch it seems the zucchini are going crazy, but tomatoes are slow this year. Hopefully with the warmer weather and more sun things will improve. Tomatoes love potash and this helps with flowering and fruiting and improves the flavour, and the plants benefit from regular applications when they start flowering. Take care when watering tomatoes and always water at the base of the plant – watering from above invites disease and be consistent – fluctuations in water supply lead to cracking and blossom end rot. The best time to water your tomatoes is early in the morning. This will allow any moisture that makes its way to the leaves an opportunity to dry before the heat of the day and that can help to prevent diseases and burning of the plants. Tomatoes can be a trial but there is nothing nicer than freshly picked tomatoes and basil.

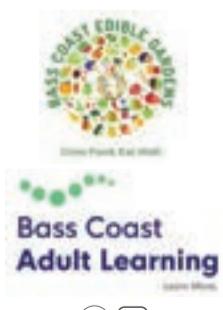
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Housing crisis hurting most vulnerable

DAMIAN Midwinter is one of thousands of Victorians who is sitting idle on the Government's priority transfer housing waitlist.

Damian lives with intellectual disability, has reduced vision in his left eye and can only see shadows in his right eye. He has been desperately trying for over 18 months to relocate from Foster to Wonthaggi in order to access crucial medical and disability support.

The Nationals Member for Gippsland South Danny O'Brien said he first wrote to the Minister for Housing to advocate on Damian's behalf in January 2023.

"When Damian's mother Monica, who is also his carer, first contacted me for help Damian had already spent six months on the priority transfer waitlist," Mr O'Brien said.

"Damian's vision is deteriorating further each day and after more than 18 months of waiting, Monica is understandably desperate to see Damian settled into a new home before he is completely blind."

Figures from June 2023 show there are 9373 applicants on the transfer housing waitlist with 5965 of those having met the criteria for a priority transfer. This is in addition to 55,822 applicants on the social housing waitlist.

Mr O'Brien said Monica



The Nationals Member for Gippsland South, Danny O'Brien (right) with Monica and Damian Midwinter.

turned to him for help as she was feeling let down by the State Government.

"Monica was led to believe that Damian would be allowed to transfer to a vacant unit in Wonthaggi that is typically reserved for over 55s, if she was able to provide supportive reports from her son's NDIS support worker and occupational therapist.

"It is evident that we are in the midst of a housing crisis right across Victoria, and while the State Government may talk a big game with its much-touted Big Housing Build Program, the proof is in the pudding.

"The truth is that in my electorate of Gippsland South, there are fewer social houses now than in 2015."

Mr O'Brien said that it was

not just his own electorate, but all of Gippsland that was seeing social housing stock dwindle, with data recently released by the Department of Families, Fairness and Housing* showing that social housing stock across the six local government areas that make up Gippsland decreased from 4874 in 2015, to 4834 as of June 30, 2023.



Artist Jenny McDonald exhibiting 'Sunflower' photo on art paper. Z29_0624

Living art and art for life

THE edible gardens collaboration with Artspace sparked artistic style and inspiration for local artists at the inaugural exhibition, open now at Wonthaggi Artspace until March 3.

Artspace curator Ursula Theinert and co-coordinator of Bass Coast Edible Gardens Maddy Harford collaborated the annual edible gardens event with an exhibition to show support for artists and Bass Coast Adult Learning (BCAL) in Wonthaggi.

"The edible gardens are BCAL's biggest fundraiser," said Maddy and Ursula has shown great support for the community event.

Maddy officially launched the exhibition on Sunday afternoon in the presence of the exhibiting artists sharing that they gathered to celebrate not one but two kinds of art and creativity.

"The weaving of these events is a remarkable combination of art as an expressive record of life and experiences, and the art of the garden and of gardening," said Maddy.

"There are many similarities and lessons that can be transferred between the

two kinds of art. At its core, gardening is about hope for the future, and artists also seek to leave something behind that represents their ideals, and just like gardening a piece of art is never quite finished, with artists and gardeners wanting their creations to change over time as their vision changes."

These artists were invited to exhibit their works that represented this collaboration, and on Sunday, artist Jenny McDonald shared her art that signified her connection with art and garden - with the most extraordinary 'photo on art paper' pieces - 'Sunflower' and 'The Nursery' that characterise both her garden at home and a memorable trip to Northern Queensland where she photographed black perch in the gardens of a historic castle.

"The quality of printing on art paper is absolutely fabulous," said Jenny.

Jenny has touched on a range of mediums both in this exhibition and in her time as an artist; too showcasing her technique in watercolour with her piece 'The Half Dozen'.

The Edible Gardens Exhibition is open until March 3 at Wonthaggi Artspace.

Invasion of the giant cucumbers

By Burnsie - The Rhyll Gardener

BASICALLY, I'm a tomato grower. Every year I grow all variety of tomatoes, (Burnsies Organic Tomatoes) many exotic and unusual. I grow 200-250 seedlings and sell a lot of them.

However, this season I thought I might have a go at cucumbers, just to supplement the tomato growing. I obtained seeds from the internet for three varieties, Crystal Apple, Lebanese and Russian Giant.

I grew all three from seed and planted out seedlings into the garden around the end of August. I never expected to achieve a lot, so the results have been quite surprising. All three varieties have taken off like a rocket, the Russian Giant with leaves almost as big as a small pumpkin! Huge cucumbers, 20-23cm long and 7-8cm wide.

Dark green with yellow stripes, turning more yellow when fully mature. But then the story gets interesting, my Russians decided to cross pollinate with my Crystal Apple, and instead of nice tennis ball sized cucumbers, I ended up with pale skinned giants the shape of a football.

Lebanese seemed unaffected and continued on their merry way to produce nice dark green cucumbers of around 20cm in length.

What I discovered was the rats and ring-tailed possums developed a taste for cucumber.

So I have "bagged" my cucumbers (and tomatoes) with mess bags, in most instances, two bags to stop the little rascals chewing through to the fruit. The Russians grew so heavy that additional support was needed so they didn't break the vine; I tied them with wool to the trellis.

I can report all are good eating, with the flesh of the Russian being a little



The Rhyll Gardener breaks all records with giant cucumbers. A Crystal Apple Cucumber weighing in at a whopping 790gms and a giant Russian Cucumber weighing in at a fantastic 737gms.

firmer than we are perhaps used to.

Cucumbers are like pumpkins and melons; they have a male and female flower. The female needs to be pollinated, but I have found the regular garden pollinators do a wonderful job and no hand pollination was needed. They are suspect to mould and other disease if the foliage is watered; but a good dose of watered down milk acts as a deterrent, leaving a thin skin and so preventing any fungus diseases taking hold. Apply by spray once or twice a week.

They love a good feed also - I'm using "Power Feed" at present, and as they are predominantly water in their makeup, keep the water up to them constantly.

Happy Gardening

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Spectacular 'Shadow's Run'

WELCOME to Shadow's Run. Located only a handful of minutes from the delightful township of Korumburra and half an hour from the beach, this 9.5-acre small acreage property is the perfect place to live the life you've always wanted.

As you arrive, you will appreciate the sweeping driveway and landscaped gardens that form the grand entry to this truly unique and remarkable property and the views are sure to instantly impress.

The home is an impressive four-bedroom, two-bathroom residence with plenty of living space. Entertain in style in the generous open plan kitchen and lounge area that opens onto a large, covered outdoor entertaining area with built in barbecue and open fireplace. Stunning views of the surrounding countryside can be enjoyed from here, while the wrap-around deck is perfect for summer barbecues and sunset drinks.

The quality-built sandstone home is fully appointed with quality features including high ceilings, built in wardrobes, lots of extra storage throughout, reverse cycle air conditioner, solid fuel heater and some double-glazed windows. The kitchen features breakfast bar, 900ml oven, oodles of storage drawers and cupboards, dishwasher and walk-in pantry.

All the bedrooms are generous in size and have garden views. The master bedroom is rather regal and boasts a sizeable walk-in robe and ensuite with oversized shower.

There is direct access into the laundry from the double car garage with remote door for ease of unloading shopping or getting the family inside on a rainy day. A single carport and breezeway also provides extra vehicle storage and a handy place to have a sheltered clothesline.

There is attention to detail everywhere you turn at this property from the extensive retaining walls and gardens to the kids' play area with cubby house, swings and monkey bars. There's even a deluxe rabbit or guinea pig run with tunnels and all!

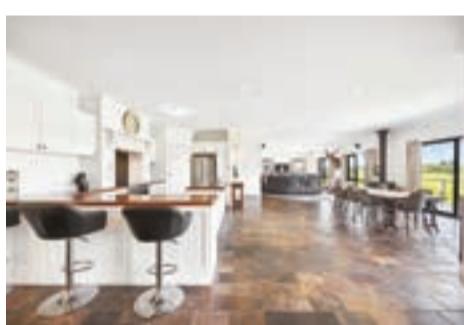
If storage or a place to have projects is on your bucket list, look no further. A massive Colorbond shed with power, concrete floor, toilet, high clearance and additional space for a gym or a studio, are all on offer here. There's also a 12x3m lean-to for a boat, wood or hay storage for example.

The land is gently undulating, well fenced with a picturesque dam and is ideal for raising some livestock or cutting for hay.

Located on a sealed road, 1.5 hours from the city, this expansive home offers you a rare opportunity to escape the hustle and bustle of city life while being close to schools, shopping centres. The Great Southern Rail Trail, the Golf Club plus many other incredible amenities.

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Boasting four bedrooms with the potential to create a fifth, plus an office, this residence offers a master bedroom with a ceiling fan, scenic views over the property, a spacious walk-in robe, and a luxurious ensuite featuring a walk-in shower, spa bath, and separate toilet – strategically placed at the opposite end of the other bedrooms for ultimate privacy. Two of the remaining bedrooms both have walk in robes and the fourth room has built in robes, whilst additionally, all the bedrooms and living area have ceiling fans.

The open-plan kitchen/dining/living area is the heart of the home, featuring Caesarstone benchtops, an upright stainless-steel stove, dishwasher, and a walk-in pantry. This expansive space enjoys breathtaking views over the property, extending to the feature dam with a jetty. A wood fire and ducted reverse cycle air-conditioning ensure year-round comfort.

Step through sliding doors onto the immense 18m x 9m decking area, perfect for entertaining. The property includes a separate office, a central family bathroom, and a large laundry with ample storage. A spacious living room/teenagers retreat provides additional living space.

With a top fire rating, double glazed windows, solar hot water, and a 7.4kw solar system, this home combines comfort and sustainability. The bitumen driveway, lined with silver birch trees, leads to a double car garage with direct home access. Two sheds – a 10m x 10m barn-style shed with high clearance and a 9m x 6m shed/workshop – cater to storage needs.

Situated on approximately 7.4 acres, the property features two small paddocks, vegie boxes, fruit trees, and a loading race for small hobby animals. The large dam with a jetty and over 1400 mature native trees along the boundaries enhances privacy. Immaculately manicured, this property offers a serene lifestyle just minutes from Leongatha. Don't miss the opportunity to call this extraordinary estate home!



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Philosophical outlook on Leongatha cattle sale changes

WHILE there is some disappointment with the Victorian Livestock Exchange (VLE) decision to close the Pakenham saleyards and alter the sales schedule at Leongatha saleyards, agents are preparing for the transformation and generally taking a philosophical approach.

VLE has advised agents they will be operating Tuesday prime (fat) sales from July 2 and Thursday store sales from July 4, with both set to occur weekly.

"It is a huge boost for Leongatha with a significant increase in throughput," VLE managing director Brian Paynter stated.

"It will be the biggest and busiest saleyards in Victoria."

Phelan & Henderson partner Simon Henderson is currently the president of the South Gippsland Stock Agents Association.

"Overall, the agents have had to accept the decision that the VLE has made," Simon said, conceding some expressed disappointment with the way the news of the planned changes was delivered.

Simon also reflected on the timing of the decision to close the Pakenham Saleyards.

"We think it was premature and we would have liked more infrastructure (at Leongatha) to be completed before they shut Pakenham, for holding cattle and being able to feed cattle," he said.

"However, they've made the decision and we've got to do our best moving forward."

He noted the VLE has recently opened two new lanes of selling pens in Leongatha, describing them as "very efficient", adding there are plans to shift some



Current president of the South Gippsland Stock Agents Association Simon Henderson is pictured with Phelan & Henderson partner David Phelan, and Jake Anthony. A20_0624

infrastructure from Pakenham saleyards to those in Leongatha.

"They're going to build more undercover holding pens and feeding pens but they're a couple of years away from being completed," Simon said, explaining that may present some logistical challenges for agents in the meantime.

He said the need for a day between sales became clear some time ago, so it is logical that if store sales are held on Thursdays fat sales be conducted on Tuesdays, but added that will clash with some markets in the north such as in Shepparton and Wodonga.

That has raised some concerns, including the need for the VLE to ensure cattle not being trucked out immediately after Tuesday sales are well fed and looked after until they are ready to be moved.

Nutrien auctioneer and territory manager Brian McCormack expects there will be some challenges but is confident they will prove manageable and agents will adjust to the VLE's plans.

"We've got to abide by their decision, so we've just got to see how it all pans out moving forward," Brian said.

He expects there to be some challenges from the point of view of carriers in moving stock around to fit in with the new arrangements.

"We'll still have our major core of buyers operating," Brian said, adding there are a lot of other 'fat market' centres operating on a Tuesday and it remains to be seen if some will alter their schedule.

He noted that with Pakenham saleyards closing at the end of June, there will be greater staff

availability from the start of July.

However, Brian said it is not yet known what extra cattle will come to Leongatha, noting distance may become a factor for some who were happy to send cattle to Pakenham.

"It's all a bit of a wait and see, but no one really knows what's going to happen until it starts happening," he said.

Asked about what consultation has taken place regarding the planned changes, Brian said meetings were held late last year, and he is philosophical about the decision on days of operation.

"They're their yards; they've made the decision," he said, adding, "They've got to have time to maintain their yards and keep them up to a standard, or otherwise we'd jump up and down."

Deer on camera

FISH Creek Landcare was excited to have the opportunity to loan a number of internet-connected wildlife cameras to five interested Fish Creek Landcare Group members from September to December last year, through the South Gippsland Landcare Network.

The deer species Fish Creek Landcare members recorded were fallow, Sambar and hog deer.

Individual property owners were surprised by the number of deer recorded and by the presence of hog deer numerous kilometres from the seashore, where they are usually exclusively found.

Damage to vegetation was also clear and the number of feral cats caught on camera was a surprise.

A summary of the results:

Deer: 240. Macropod: 1608. Wombat: 209. Fox: 155. Cat: 47. Koala: 7.

The trial was supported by Jenny O'Sullivan and inspired by the active and successful actions by the Cape Liptrap Community Deer Control group working together with Parks Victoria in monitoring and controlling feral deer on the Cape.

Central to this success have been the 19 wildlife cameras installed across 17 properties on loan for 10 months from the National Deer Management Coordinator to monitor deer movements.

The cameras have 4G capability and property owners were able to share the data with local hunters to help with more effective control.

As a result of this three-month trial, Fish Creek Landcare Group plan to continue monitoring deer numbers using its own simpler wildlife cameras in order to follow trends in deer numbers over a longer period.

The challenge of deer control in areas close to towns and peri-urban areas is also a topic that needs to be explored.

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GRANTVILLE

Cal Nation	0439 334 163	Emily Clifford	0422 622 299
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Mick Chambers	0418 349 783	Tony Giles	0407 528 192
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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	0427 552 898	Scott McKenzie	0427 552 898
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MARKET REPORT

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Lardner Park Calf Market Report

Monday, January 29, 2024

Jersey & Jersey x	\$20 to \$50
Friesian Bulls	\$28 to \$62
Friesian Heifers	\$305
Beef Bulls	\$120 to \$390
Beef Heifers	\$50 to \$150

Number of Calves: 34

Number purchased to rear: 11

Phelan & Henderson & Co.

STOCK & STATION AGENTS

- Prime & Store cattle sales at VLE Leongatha
- Auctions Plus Sales
- Live Heifer Export Orders
- O/Hooks sales to Processors
- Rural Property Real Estate



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The Victorian Farmers Federation launch their new industry handbook, 'Stay Farming Longer and Safer: a practical guide for older farmers and their families' with farmers Bill and Amanda Cleeland of Surf Beach, Phillip Island. Z34_0624

Farmers over 60 the target of new safety campaign

THE VICTORIAN Farmers Federation Making our Farms Safer project (VFF MOFS) held the launch of their new handbook in Phillip Island yesterday.

The handbook, Stay Farming Longer and Safer: A practical guide for older farmers and their families, is aiming to reduce the over-representation of farmers aged 60 and over from dying on Victorian farms.

VFF Vice-President and Chair of the Making our Farmers Safer Committee Danyel Cucinotta said the free handbook is available to all Victorian farmers, and offers practical safety tips, information and advice that are critical to save lives.

"In 2022, over 40 per cent of all deaths on farms were tragically in people aged over 60. Everyone deserves to go home safely at night, and this handbook is a step in the right direction."

"It's so important that we disrupt the 'it'll be right mentality' when it comes to farm safety. We know complacency kills, and it's through resources such as this handbook that we shift the dial."

"The average farmer is now aged 63, and there's been a genuine lack of engagement with this age group in the past when it comes to farm safety. It's all about sharing information and starting a conversation that could save someone's

life," Ms Cucinotta said.

Ms Cucinotta said the much-needed handbook fills a hole within the industry. It has been written for farmers, by farmers, while keeping front of mind the unique challenges that living on a farm presents.

"This handbook has been created with the goal to prompt thoughtful consideration of changes, both big and small, that can enhance safety outcomes that is led by farmers, for farmers."

"There is no other resource out there like this for older farmers. I'm so proud that this handbook now exists, but it's all for nothing if farmers don't use it. We hope to see a reduction of older farmers getting injured and dying on our farms as a result of it being available," Ms Cucinotta said.

The campaign and accompanying handbook have been created as part of the VFF Making Our Farms Safer project, a free farm safety education and support service for Victorian farmers, funded by the Victorian Government through Agriculture Victoria.

You can find the Making Our Farms Safer project on all social media platforms and download a free copy of the handbook at makingourfarmssafers.org.au.

Clara awarded tertiary scholarship

CLARA Linn was named a 2024 Gardiner Foundation Tertiary Scholar recently.

Clara grew up on a family dairy farm in Childers and recently had a gap year after completing Year 12 at Mirboo North Secondary College.

She will study a Bachelor of Medical Studies/Doctor of Medicine at Monash Clayton.

Clara received the Jakob Malmo scholarship.

Each of the seven scholars will receive \$10,000 annually for three years to support costs associated with their studies.

These scholarships are granted to students accepted into courses that will benefit the Victorian dairy industry or dairy communities.

Gardiner Foundation CEO Allan Cameron said the program encourages students to return to Victoria's dairy regions upon graduation or after gaining work experience.

This ensures a diverse range of essential skills within these regions.

"More students from dairy communities obtaining skills and experiences in

their chosen field of endeavour will help create thriving and vibrant communities where people want to live, work and invest," he said.

There is no preferred field of study, with past students enrolling in a variety of courses, including agriculture science, nursing, medicine, engineering, journalism and commerce.

Gardiner has been providing these scholarships since 2008, having awarded 82 scholarships with a total value of more than \$1.9 million.

A recent review indicated that more than 70 per cent of past scholars have gone on to live and contribute to the dairy industry and dairy communities.

"Investing in rural Victorian students builds the social capital of our dairy communities. Gardiner is proud to provide students with the opportunity to gain their tertiary qualifications without some of the financial constraints that can often exist for student from the country," Mr Cameron said.

The tertiary scholarships are named in recognition of services to the dairy industry by Niel Black, Shirley Harlock, Jakoc Malmo, Bill Pyle and Doug Weir.

DAIRY COWS FOR SALE

Calving February & March

25 Holstein cows 3-8 year old, calving 7th February for 6 week pattern. In calf to Angus & Hereford bulls. This is a genuine sale as the vendor is selling the Holstein portion of his herd.

\$2500 + \$250 GST

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180 Angus steers, 16 mths, Landfall blood, EU Accred, G/H NE Accred

A/c JA Commins, Ensay (ELDERS)
180 Angus & BB steers, 14-15 mths, Hazeldean & Sparta blood, VB, GF & ABF

A/c Gem-Brae Ag (ELDERS)

175 Angus steers, 15-18 mths, Te Mania blood, VB, GF & ABF, Moxidectin Drench, 3X 5in 1, 2X B12 & Sel A/c "Malabar Farm", Tarwin Lower (SEJ)

100 Hereford Angus & Angus X steers, 16-18 mths, VB, GF, ABF, Sires Inc Top Weeran & Innesdale Angus bulls, Mt Difficult & Tarwin Poll Herefords

A/c PBI Pty Ltd, Stony Creek (ELDERS)

31 Angus steers, 18 mths, Western District bred

34 Angus x steers, 14 mths

A/c C & G White, Foster (SEJ)

40 Angus steers, 16-17 mths, Pure Banquet blood, GF & ABF

A/C O'Loughlin Farms P/L, Tarwin Lower (NUTRIEN)

40 Angus steers, 15-16 mths, Kunuma blood

A/c Gibson Farm (ELDERS)

20 Angus steers, 20 mths

12 Angus X steers, 20 mths

East Gippsland bred & quiet

A/c B & P Svenson, Berrys Creek (NUTRIEN)

30 Angus steers, 16-17 mths, By Millah Murrah & Landfall Bulls

A/c D & H Campbell, Mardan (NUTRIEN)

30 Angus steers, 16 mths, By Innesdale Bulls, NE Accred

A/c G&D Smith (ELDERS)

15 Angus steers

12 Angus/Hereford X steers

16-18 mths, VB, NE Accred, super quiet

A/c T Haymes (ELDERS)

25 Angus & AA/Hereford X steers, 18 mths, East Gippsland bred, GF & ABF

A/c L Missen, Kilmany (NUTRIEN)

25 Angus steers, 14-16 mths, Leewood blood

A/c SL & LM Harrison, Giffard West (PHC)

25 Angus & Angus X steers, 14-16 mths, Cold Country bred

A/c J Killian, Glen Forbes (NUTRIEN)

20 Angus, Angus H/F & H/Ford steers, 2 yo, VB

A/c JW & BJ Dunbar, Traralgon (NUTRIEN)

20 Angus steers, 20 mths, Leewood bloodlines, VQ, Drenched Eprinex Pour On, NE Accred

A/c "D Harris Earthmoving", Tarwin Lower (SEJ)

20 Angus steers, 16-18 mths, VB, GF, Battersby bloodlines

A/c M Sweeney (ALEX SCOTT)

20 Angus steers, 17 mths

A/c R & B Broadbent, Heyfield (NUTRIEN)

10 Hereford steers, 17-18 mths

10 BB steers, 17-18 mths, By Leewood Bulls

A/c SP Dunlop, Middle Tarwin (NUTRIEN)

20 Angus steers, 16 mths, By Black Spur Angus

A/c Faulkner Lees, Mardan (PHC)

20 Angus steers, 14-16 mths, Merlewood & Langi Kal Kal blood

A/c A & A Missen, Woodside (NUTRIEN)

20 Angus steers, 14-15 mths

A/c Melaleuca Pastoral Trust, Ruby (NUTRIEN)

20 Angus steers, 14 mths

A/c R & D Chisholm, Outtrim (NUTRIEN)

12 Angus steers, 2 yo, By Merlewood Stud Bulls

A/c A O'Loughlin, Berrys Creek (NUTRIEN)

10 Angus steers, 18 mths

5 Hereford steers, 18 mths

A/c Lorstan Nominees, Bengworden (SEJ)

12 Hereford Angus X Angus steers, 18-20 mths, GF & ABF

A/c G&J Tucket (ELDERS)

15 Angus steers, 17 mths, VB, GF & ABF

A/c Savage Family (ELDERS)

15 Angus steers, 14-15 mths

A/c J Always (ELDERS)

8 Angus steers, 2 yo

A/c C & K Hole, Seaton (NUTRIEN)

4 Angus steers, 18-20 mths

4 Speckle Park mixed sex, 18-20 mths

GROWN HEIFERS

A/c Doonagatha, Sandy Point (SEJ)

60 Angus heifers, 14-16 mths, Harris Farm blood, GF, ABF, NE Accred

A/c Kuch Grazing, Darriman (NUTRIEN)

55 Angus heifers, 16 Mths, Landfall blood, EU Accred, G/H NE Accred

A/c Jeetho Farms, Jeetho (ELDERS)

40 Angus heifers, 17-18 mths, out of Te Mania blood cows, by Bowman Bulls, VB, GF & ABF

A/c AF Sheridan & Partners, Bengworden (NUTRIEN)

20 Angus heifers, 16-18 mths

EU Accred, NE Accred

A/c L Missen, Kilmany (NUTRIEN)

25 Angus heifers, 14-16 mths, Leewood blood

A/c G & B Pocklington, Dumbalk North (SEJ)

10 Black Baldy heifers, 15 mths

14 Hereford heifers, 15 mths

NE Accred

A/c P & S Campbell, Mardan (SEJ)

22 Angus heifers, 15-16 mths, 3 x 5in1, Merlewood blood

A/c M & M Cattle Co, Powlett River

20 Angus/Hereford heifers, Battersby & Faithfull blood, 17-18 mths, VB, GF & ABF

A/c C Stafford, Nayook (SEJ)

10 Angus heifers, 20-22 mths

18 Angus heifers, 12-14 mths

VB, GF, all sired by Bowman Genetics

A/c R & H Stephens (ALEX SCOTT)

24 Hereford heifers, 16 mths

WEANERS

A/c Gem-Brae Ag (ELDERS)

140 Angus mix sex weaners, 9-11 mths, Te Mania blood, VB, GF & ABF

40 Char/Angus X mix sex weaners, 9-11 mths, Mount William blood, VB, GF & ABF

All weaned 3 weeks, Moxidectin drenched, 2 X 5in1 vaccine, 2 X B12 & Sel

A/c Estate of BS Cantwell, Stony Creek (PHC)

40 Angus heifers, 12 mths, EagleRock, Fernleigh & Leewood blood

40 Charolais/Angus & Red Angus X heifers, 12 mths, Rangan blood

A/c M&H Johns (ELDERS)

22 Angus mix sex weaners, 8-9 mths, weaned, Te Mania blood, VB, GF & ABF, 2 X 5in1

50 Angus mix sex calves, 4-5 mths, Te Mania blood, VB, GF & ABF, 1 X 5in1

A/c M & M Cattle Co, Powlett River (SEJ)

70 Angus steers, Battersby blood, 11-12 mths

A/c Lorstan Nominees, Bengworden (SEJ)

45 Angus steers, 10-11 mths, Tambo Valley blood, Weaned 8/1/24, GF & ABF

20 Hereford Angus x Angus heifers, 10-11 mths, Nunniong blood, weaned 8/1/24, GF & ABF

A/c R Wight & Sons (ELDERS)

60 Angus steers, weaned 4 weeks, Innesdale blood, GF & ABF

A/c S & D Curtis, Leongatha (ELDERS)

60 Angus mix sex weaners, 10 mths, Battersby blood, VB, GF & ABF

A/c NP & JA Chandler, Hedley (PHC)

35 Angus steers,

25 Angus heifers,

10-11 mths, Langi Kal Kal & Yancowinna blood, weaned

A/c Tarwin Pastoral Co P/L (NUTRIEN)

60 Angus heifers, 10-11 mths, Alpine Angus blood, drenched late Dec

A/c P&M Batters (ELDERS)

40 Angus steers

20 Angus heifers

Weaned 4 weeks, Innesdale blood, GF & ABF

A/c KL Calder, Koonwarra (NUTRIEN)

25 Angus heifers, 12 mths

31 Speckle Park heifers, 12 mths

A/c Ponderosa Herefords, Meeniyana (NUTRIEN)

50 Hereford steers, 12-14 mths

A/c Beloka Pastoral (ELDERS)

50 Hereford & Hereford X steers, 12-14 mths, Kent Park blood, NE Accred, very quiet

A/c Mrs C Jefferey (ELDERS)

50 Hereford steers, 11-12 mths, Bowman & Newcomen blood, weaned, VB, GF & ABF

A/c MR Higgins, Glemaggie (SEJ)

20 Angus Hereford X steers, 12-13 mths, By Innesdale & Bowman Angus Bulls

30 Angus Hereford X heifers, 12-13 mths, By Innesdale & Bowman Angus Bulls

A/c R & D Knight, Glengarry (NUTRIEN)

50 Angus mixed sex, 12 mths

A/c BM & SM Higgins, Glemaggie (SEJ)

20 Angus Hereford X steers, 12-13 mths, By Innesdale & Bowman Angus Bulls

20 Angus Hereford X heifers, 12-13 mths, By Innesdale & Bowman Angus Bulls

A/c R & D Knight, Glengarry (NUTRIEN)

50 Angus mixed sex, 12 mths

A/c Missen Farming, Wy Yung (NUTRIEN)

15 Angus steers, 10-11 mths, Pinora & Sharinda blood

A/c Cameron Hill, Arawata (SEJ)

15 Angus & Angus Hereford X steers, 10-12 mths, weaned 3 wks

A/c Ben Cruachan Station (ELDERS)

40 Angus & Angus X steers, 14 mths, VB

A/c P & P Walker, Krowera (NUTRIEN)

40 Angus mixed sex, 14-15 mths, By Black Spur Angus Bulls

A/c AW & CM O'Mara, Glengarry (NUTRIEN)

40 Angus steers, 12 mths</

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Call Rick 0400 155 679

ROOF RESTORATION

S.O.S. ROOFING

YOUR LOCAL ROOFER

- Find and fix leaks • Roof repainting
- Roofing repointing • Valley renewal
- Roof demassing • Guttering • Gutter cleaning

ALL WORK GUARANTEED

FAMILY OWNED & OPERATED

Call Steve 0412 160 071

LB1982

DEATHS**DEATHS****DEATHS****DEATHS****DEATHS****FUNERALS****FOR SALE****USED CARS
TRUCKS & TRACTORS****GOBEL,
Adrian Marc:****MILES, June
Florence:****PILMORE, Bernard
Douglas (Bernie):****TANOA,
Antoinette Mere:****CAMPING GEAR:**
Camping gear no
longer required in near
new condition and
some items never
used.21.12.1966 - 26.01.2024.
Passed away peacefully at Leongatha Hospital surrounded by family aged 57 years.

Loving husband of Maree. Father to Ashleigh, Alanna, Mary, John and son-in-law Ben.

Loving son of Carolyn and Jos. Brother to Michael, and sister-in-law Miriam. Uncle to Max, Anika, and Mia.

Forever Loved and Remembered.Passed away on 02.02.2024.
Loving wife of Ken. Devoted sister to Bev and Bill.**MILES, June:**

Adored mother of Carolyn (dec.), Narelle, Nicole, Leanne and Sheryl.

Mother-in-law of Scott, Aaron, Robert and Glenn.

Cherished grandmother of Sarah, Katelyn, Chloe, Amelia, Olivia, Tyler, Lachlan, Zachary and Mitchell. Great grandmother to Ryder and Luca.

Forever In Our Hearts.19.11.1945 - 01.02.2024.
Loving partner to Wendy for 47 years. Father to Jodi (dec.) and Melissa and grandfather.

He could put his mind to anything, and fix a problem he was working on, didn't matter how big or small.

Would help anybody and had a sense of humour.

Loved being in the car club meeting up with all his friends.

Miss You

Remembered Always.

-- Wendy.

Our dearest mum, no longer are we able to hold you, hear your voice or see your smile. In god's arms you lay to rest, too soon, but at eternal peace.

May we all meet again with loving embrace and tears of happiness and joy, you filled our hearts with so much love and warmth. Your dedication, support and selflessness a pillar of strength to us all. Until then my beautiful mum, be still, be peaceful, rest your weary head. May the angels give you comfort in your happy place instead.

Gone but never forgotten.
We love you mum.

Sheryl, Leanne, Nicole, Narelle. Loving wife to Ken. Devoted sister to Bev and Bill. Mother-in-law to Scott, Robert, Glenn and Aaron.

Wonderful grandmother to Mill, Liv, Ty, Zach, Mitch, Lach, Sarah, Kate, Chloe. Great grandma to Ryder and Luca.

For Funeral Service details please visit www.handleyfuneralservices.com.au**ROUTLEY,
Cheryl:**

Passed away peacefully with loving family by her side on Wednesday, January 24, 2024, aged 76 years. Loving wife of David (dec.).

Loved mother and mother-in-law to Katrina, Narelle and Guy, Leanne and Greg. Adored Mama to all of her grandchildren and great grandchildren.

At rest in Gods Garden.

Loved and remembered every day.**TANOA,
Antoinette Mere:**

07.06.1997 - 28.01.2024.

Late of South Pambula and formerly of Korumburra.

Treasured daughter of Tracy Walker and Faaron Tanoa.

Adored sister of Candice, Kim (dec.), Alyssa and Gina.

Loving Aunt of Hayden, Olivia, Ashley, Brayden, and Zahlee.

A private family service will be held.

**John R Whyman
Funeral Services**
Bega 02 6492 4111.**FUNERALS****ROUTLEY:**
The Funeral of Mrs Cheryl Routley will be held at The Anglican Church of Saint Paul, 3 Queen Street, Korumburra on Wednesday, February 7, 2024, commencing at 11am. At the conclusion of the Service the Funeral will leave for the Korumburra Cemetery. Cheryl's service will be live streamed. To View the service please go to www.handleyfuneralservices.com.au**Handley**

Phone: (03) 5662 2717

FUNERALS**BEREAVEMENT THANKS****CLARK:**

Leanne Charlotte Clark's family would like to thank Korumburra Hospital and Palliative Care for all their love and support for the Clark Family.

Rebecca at Handley's for her love and compassion. Korumburra City Soccer Club for organising the occasion, Anna Wong, the celebrant, for her beautiful service. Also all those who attended the funeral, sent cards and messages with love for our daughter.

-- Fred and Margaret Clark and family.

**LINDSAY,
Rayma:**

We would like to thank all Doctors and beautiful staff at Rose Lodge for all their loving care for Rayma and also Scott and Sharon Anderson and staff.

-- The Lindsay families.

**SUTHERLAND,
Donald:**

13.04.1937 - 02.01.2024.

Margaret and family would like to thank family and friends for your love and support during this sad time.

Heartfelt thanks to you all.

FOR SALE**GARAGE SALES****LEONGATHA:**

29 Brumley Street, Saturday February 10, 9am - 12pm.

Assortment, garden tools, tiles, furniture, toys, and large dolls house.

WONTHAGGI:

18 Cameron Street, Saturday and Sunday, February 10 and 11, 8am - 2pm. Tupperware, clothes, bedding and bric-a-brac. All must go.

WONTHAGGI:

Unit 1, 56 Reed Crescent, Friday and Saturday, February 9 and 10, 8am - 3pm.

Lots of bargains!

2008 HOLDEN RODEO SINGLE CAB 1 TON TRAY UTE
Excellent condition inside and out. Ladder racks, lockup toolbox, tow bar etc. Full service history. 194,000kms. Rego to September 2024. R.W.C. supplied. Rego UZQ 816.**BASS COAST CAR REMOVALS**
We pay you for your unwanted cars, 4x4's & trucks

We can remove farm scrap metal for free. Towing now available.

**Call Shane
7 days a week
5678 2002 or
0407 599 616****GW TRAY UTE 2012:**
Excellent condition. Manual, genuine 30,000km, 12 months rego, (ZNW 983), \$8,500. Phone 0437 436 401.**NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS:**

Advertisements offering a used motor car for sale must include in the advertisement:

- The cash price of the motor car; and
- Whichever of the following is applicable...

- If the motor car is registered, the registration number; or
- If the motor car is unregistered, the engine number of the vehicle.

SITUATIONS WANTED**FARM WORK WANTED:**
69 year old 6ft 4" willing to work on farm where farmer unable to do farm work because of ailment. Contact: Geoffrey 0401 911 192.**SIGN WRITER:**
Older or retired sign writer for repairing old pub mirrors. Contact Ray 0417 115 317.**PUBLIC NOTICES****CORINELLA COMMUNITY MARKET**

Community Market, Smythe Street, Harold Hughes Reserve

Saturday, February 10, 9am-1pm

All enquiries to 0490 852 753

Lifeline

HELP IS AS CLOSE AS THE TELEPHONE

13 11 1421.12.1966 - 26.01.2024.
Passed away peacefully at Leongatha Hospital surrounded by family aged 57 years.

Loving husband of Maree. Father to Ashleigh, Alanna, Mary, John and son-in-law Ben.

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Mother-in-law of Scott, Aaron, Robert and Glenn.

Cherished grandmother of Sarah, Katelyn, Chloe, Amelia, Olivia, Tyler, Lachlan, Zachary and Mitchell. Great grandmother to Ryder and Luca.

Forever In Our Hearts.**CLASSIFIED DEADLINE
12.30PM MONDAYS**


EST 1530 UK
1882 AUSTRALIA
ABN 83 076 028 790
**BARRY WAKLEY
SCULPTORS AND
MONUMENTAL MASON**
"Memorials of Distinction"
Solid Granite monuments in many colors and designs to suit any budget. Letter cutting and renovation.
18 Inverloch Road, Wonthaggi **5657 3341**
info@barrywakleysculptor.com.au


Locally owned and operated by
Scott & Sharon Anderson
5672 1074
Caring and personal 24 hour Service
Main office Wonthaggi 3085 Loch-Wonthaggi Road, Wonthaggi (P.O Box 35)
Cowes office (by appointment) 15 Warley Avenue, Cowes 5952 5171
Email: info@handafunerals.com.au
www.handleyandersonfunerals.com.au
A.F.D.A.


Caring For Our Community
Our experienced and qualified staff provide personal, dignified service to all areas
Pre-need Funeral Plans available
5662 2717
24 hours - 7 days

Office and Chapel:
24 Anderson Street, Leongatha
info@handleyfs.com.au
www.handleyfuneralservices.com.au

**MILES, June:**

Passed away peacefully surrounded by her family at St John of God, Berwick 02.02.2024.

Our dearest mum, no longer are we able to hold you, hear your voice or see your smile. In god's arms you lay to rest, too soon, but at eternal peace.

May we all meet again with loving embrace and tears of happiness and joy, you filled our hearts with so much love and warmth. Your dedication, support and selflessness a pillar of strength to us all. Until then my beautiful mum, be still, be peaceful, rest your weary head. May the angels give you comfort in your happy place instead.

Gone but never forgotten.
We love you mum.

Sheryl, Leanne, Nicole, Narelle. Loving wife to Ken. Devoted sister to Bev and Bill. Mother-in-law to Scott, Robert, Glenn and Aaron.

Wonderful grandmother to Mill, Liv, Ty, Zach, Mitch, Lach, Sarah, Kate, Chloe. Great grandma to Ryder and Luca.

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Loved being in the car club meeting up with all his friends.

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Loved and remembered every day.**DEATHS**07.06.1997 - 28.01.2024.
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A private family service will be held.

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To View the service please go to www.handleyfuneralservices.com.au**Handley**

Phone: (03) 5662 2717

FUNERALS**BEREAVEMENT THANKS****CLARK:**

Leanne Charlotte Clark's family would like to thank Korumburra Hospital and Palliative Care for all their love and support for the Clark Family.

Korumburra City Soccer Club for organising the occasion, Anna Wong, the celebrant, for her beautiful service. Also all those who attended the funeral, sent cards and messages with love for our daughter.

-- Fred and Margaret Clark and family.

**LINDSAY,
Rayma:**

We would like to thank all Doctors and beautiful staff at Rose Lodge for all their loving care for Rayma and also Scott and Sharon Anderson and staff.

-- The Lindsay families.

**SUTHERLAND,
Donald:**

13

Sentinel-Times Classifieds

PUBLIC NOTICES

ISLAND CRAFT MARKET

Thompson Ave. Cowes

Saturday, Feb. 10 9am - 2pm

Stall holders wanted - craft only

Inquiries: Monica 0412 710 276

Mental Health is vital in these crazy times.

Jason Crestani, Psychologist is still open!

Over 25 years experience. Local resident. Specialises in children & also sees adults!

NDIS registered & Medicare rebates.

Call us with your questions today.

www.inspiredhoney.com

P: 0425 764 733

PUBLIC NOTICES

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

Leongatha Table Tennis Association

AGM
Thursday February 22 7-30pm

at the club rooms, 52 Roughead St, Leongatha. Hit-ups start Tuesday February 6 @ 7pm. All ages welcome.

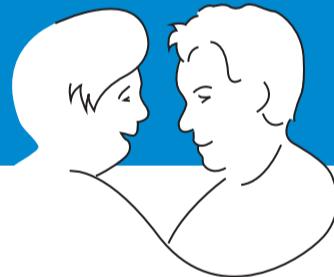
SITUATIONS VACANT

Positions available

Registered Nurses

Casual / Perm / Full or Part time

Venus Bay



If you are a Registered Nurse looking for a rewarding role, then this may be a wonderful opportunity to join a small growing team of Health Professionals who provide support for our client with complex needs in his own home and community.

Your skills and experience will help provide relevant specialist support to assist our client to live a healthy, active, fulfilling life.

We offer flexibility and have regular day, evening and overnight shifts available weekdays and weekends.

Contact Alex Todorovski, General Manager, for a confidential discussion and a copy of the position description

Phone: 0400 753 502
email: alex@adamsupport.org.au



SITUATIONS VACANT

School Bus Driver

Korumburra/Leongatha

Medium rigid driver licence. Working with children card required. Driver accreditation required.

21 hours per week.

Contact 0428 551 145

SITUATIONS VACANT

ADVERTISERS PLEASE NOTE:

Much hardship and difficulty is caused to jobseekers by misleading advertisements placed in the employment columns.

Our Positions Vacant / Situations Vacant columns are reserved for advertisements which carry a specific and genuine offer of employment.

Ads for 'Business Opportunities', 'Commission Only/Sales,' training courses and employment services should be submitted under those headings.

Placing misleading job ads is an offence against the ACL and all advertisements are subject to the publisher's approval. For further advice contact the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission on 1300 302 502 or Consumer Affairs Victoria.

DEADLINES

Classified single column

Mondays 12.30pm

Classified double column

Fridays 4.30pm

Please note that double column advertisements requiring a proof must be received at least two hours prior to deadline and proofs will not be provided for single column advertisements.

TO ADVERTISE



Phone:
5672 1888



Email:
ads@sgst.com.au



In person:
47 McBride Ave, Wonthaggi
36 McCartin St, Leongatha



Mail:
47 McBride Ave, Wonthaggi



Mary MacKillop
Catholic Regional College

Director of Learning
Pedagogy and Innovation
(POL5)

Mathematics and
Science Teachers
- full or part time available

English and Psychology
- Maternity leave commencing Term 2

Guitar Teacher
- one day per week

All Staff must demonstrate an active commitment to the ethos of a Catholic school. Mary MacKillop Catholic Regional College is a Child-Safe school.

Further information can be found on our website or contact the Principal's Personal Assistant, Carly Kitchingman kitchingman@mcmcrc.catholic.edu.au.

Applications close 9am
Thursday, February 15, 2024.

Office Hours:

9am-5pm Monday to Friday

Payments accepted:



Advertising conditions:

Full name and address of advertiser must be supplied even though not necessarily included in advertisement.

The publishers reserve the right to omit and alter any advertisement. Please check your ad is correct the first day it appears. While every care is taken to ensure your ad is correct, errors can occur. We regret that we cannot be responsible for any errors beyond the first day if you fail to bring it to our attention.

All advertisements must be prepaid unless client has an existing credit facility. Accounts are due and payable on the due date as shown on the account.

The Motor Car Traders Regulations:

States that from July 1, 1998 all advertisements for used vehicles including motorcycles must include the cash price of vehicle and registration number or engine number if not registered.

ICT Systems Support Officer



South Gippsland Water is launching our 2040 Vision and Strategy, guiding us toward our vision to be a trusted partner, advancing water services to support customer and community aspirations. To progress this vision, we are seeking a skilled and enthusiastic person to join our organisation in the role of ICT Systems Support Officer. South Gippsland Water is a diverse, community-oriented organisation and offer the following:

- Strong focus on career opportunities, professional development and training
- Highly flexible work options, including modified hours and/or work weeks
- Employee Assistance Program and broad wellbeing offers
- Family friendly workplace, including Paid Parental Leave
- Flexibility to work from home, with base location at any of our offices in Wonthaggi, Foster or Leongatha

Diversity is celebrated and respected as important for our wellbeing and success. Through our Equity, Inclusion and Diversity Strategic Plan, Gender Equality Action Plan and upcoming Reconciliation Action Plan we are actively working to address the gender pay gap, create opportunities for underrepresented groups and partner with Traditional Owners.

ICT Systems Support Officer

- Permanent Full Time
- Starting Location – Foster/Hybrid Working Arrangements available.
- SGW EBA Band 6 \$81,081.04 - \$87,400.20

Please go to <https://www.sgwater.com.au/careers/> for more details about SGW, the role and how to apply.

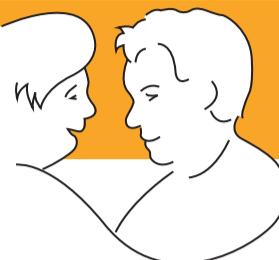
Applications Close Monday February 12, 2024 at 5pm

1300 851 636 | www.sgwater.com.au

Positions available

Disability Support Workers

Casual / Perm / Full or Part time
 Venus Bay



Can you provide the relevant support to make a difference and help our client maintain an active and fulfilling life?

A unique and rewarding opportunity is available for the right person to support our client, with complex needs, in his own home and community.

You will be part of a team with some regular day, evening and overnight shifts, weekdays, and weekends.

Contact Alex Todorovski for a confidential discussion and a copy of the position description

Phone: 0400 753 502
 email: alex@adamsupport.org.au

Adam Support
 Inc.

BLUE WOLF PHOTOGRAPHY

Childcare & Kindy Photographer Wanted!

Are you a talented photographer with a passion for working with children?
 Do you have a knack for building instant connections with little ones and centre staff? If so, we have an exciting opportunity for you!

Jobs available Monday to Friday, starting at 8:15am, finishing approx 12pm

Responsibilities:

- Creatively capture genuine moments of joy and learning in Childcare and Kindergarten settings.
- Build strong rapport quickly and easily with both children and centre staff.
- Work efficiently and proficiently to ensure a smooth photography session.

Requirements:

- Access to professional photography equipment.
- Availability to travel.
- Current Working with Children check.

We are looking for:

- Passion for working with children and a keen eye for capturing their unique personalities.
- Previous experience in photography, preferably with a focus on newborns, family portraits, or related areas.
- Excellent communication skills & a bubbly personality to interact with children, parents, and centre staff.

Benefits:

- Competitive rate of \$200 per session (4-5 Hours), plus travel expenses.
- Choose your availability from 1 - 5 days a week.

Please forward your Resume & Portfolio/Samples to info@bluewolfphotography.com.au with the subject line 'Leigh, I'm the photographer you have been waiting for!'



EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST RACV Emergency Roadside Assistance and Towing

Mirboo North and surrounding areas

RACV is seeking "Expressions of Interest" from suitably qualified and enthusiastic businesses to provide 24 hour/7 days a week, Emergency Roadside Assistance and towing to our members.

This will involve the utilisation of appropriate mechanically skilled staff, equipment, service vehicles and towing capability within this unique area. Businesses do not have to be located in Mirboo North; however the operation of a workshop which practices a high level of customer service and workmanship in the area will be an advantage.

For an Expression of Interest document please email mark_beveridge@racv.com.au COB Tuesday, May 14, 2024.

JEN2023



Lecturer or Senior Lecturer (Practice)

Monash Rural Health Churchill

Monash Rural Health Churchill is seeking to appoint a Lecturer or Senior Lecturer (Practice) to play a key clinical teaching role in the Bachelor of Medical Science and Doctor of Medicine (MD) program. Bring your wealth of clinical expertise to a dynamic team, where you will develop content, facilitate small group teaching, learning and assessment, and foster the personal, professional and academic development of medical students.

If you have a tertiary qualification in a field relevant to clinical medicine, hold current medical registration with the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) and/or possess substantial relevant skills and experience, you are encouraged to apply.

This is a part-time position (0.6 FTE) on a 3-year fixed-term contract.

At Monash University, we are committed to being a Child Safe organisation. This position will require the incumbent to hold a valid Working with Children Check.

Your application must address the selection criteria. For further information, Position Description and to apply, please visit: www.monash.edu/jobs

Search Job No.: **659241**

Enquiries: Associate Professor Marianne Tare +61 3 9902 7485

LB1271

Closing date:

Wednesday February 21, 2024, 11.55pm

Is your employment opportunity listed online?

Advertise your job vacancy in the Sentinel-Times and get a FREE listing in our online and searchable directory at www.sgst.com.au

Email your job adverts to: ads@sgst.com.au

DEADLINE: Fridays 4.30pm

Sentinel-Times

HM1221



South Gippsland Hospital

Positions Vacant

After Hours Coordinator

NM5D

Negotiable up to 1.0 EFT

Registered Nurse Midwife or Registered Nurse

RN Grade 2 up to 1.0 EFT (negotiable EFT)

Expressions of Interest Enrolled Nurse Transition to Practice Program

Podiatrist

Grade 1 or Grade 2
 0.84 EFT, permanent part time

For more information

<https://southgippslandhospital.com.au/employment-2/>

LB1273

Expressions of Interest - Volunteers

- Consumer Information and Communications
- Transition Care Program

<https://southgippslandhospital.com.au/volunteers/>

PUBLIC NOTICES

FIREWORKS DISPLAY

Notice to all animal owners in and around Korumburra area

A Fireworks display will be held on Saturday, February 10, 2024 Approx. 9.00pm

Please ensure your animals are secure at this time thank you

Further info contact 0430 021 100

LB1192

PUBLIC NOTICE

Reduced Mass Limit Phillip Island/San Remo Bridge

The maximum vehicle mass allowed on the Phillip Island/San Remo Bridge will be temporarily reduced.

From 26 February to November 2024 the mass limit will be reduced to 42.5 tonne.

With safety a key priority, the mass limit is to protect the structural integrity of the bridge while we carry out critical maintenance works on water and sewage infrastructure.

Bridge access remains unchanged for all general road users and freight vehicles weighing 42.5 tonnes or less.

Further information, please visit our website or contact us on 1300 720 711.

WESTERNPORT WATER

VICTORIA
 State Government

Planning and Environment Act 1987

SOUTH GIPPSLAND PLANNING SCHEME

Notice of the preparation of an amendment to a planning scheme

Amendment C119sgip

Overview

The amendment proposes to update the Erosion Management Overlay. It does this by replacing the existing mapped areas of Environmental Significance Overlay Schedule 5 with the Erosion Management Overlay Schedule 1 to protect areas susceptible to erosion.

Details of the amendment

The South Gippsland Shire planning authority has prepared Amendment C119sgip to the South Gippsland Planning Scheme.

The land affected by the amendment is approximately 6,000 properties across the municipality in the Environmental Significance Overlay Schedule 5 (Areas Susceptible to Erosion) and the Erosion Management Overlay Schedule 1.

The amendment proposes to replace the Environmental Significance Overlay Schedule 5 and the Erosion Management Overlay with a new Erosion Management Overlay Schedule 1 to protect areas susceptible to erosion. The land area covered by erosion overlay controls is not changed by the amendment.

You may inspect the amendment, any documents that support the amendment and the explanatory report about the amendment, free of charge, at:

- the South Gippsland Shire Council's website at <https://www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/planning-scheme-amendments>;
- during office hours, at the office of the planning authority, South Gippsland Shire Council, 9 Smith Street, Leongatha.
- at the Department of Transport and Planning website <https://www.planning.vic.gov.au/planning-schemes/amendments/amendments-on-exhibition> or by contacting 1800 789 386 to arrange a time to view the amendment documentation.

Any person may make a submission to the planning authority about the amendment. Submissions must be made in writing giving the submitter's name and contact address, clearly stating the grounds on which the amendment is supported or opposed and indicating what changes (if any) the submitter wishes to make.

Name and contact details of submitters are required for the planning authority to consider submissions and to notify such persons of the opportunity to attend planning authority meetings and any public hearing held to consider submissions.

The closing date for submissions is **Friday, 8 March 2024**. A submission must be sent to the South Gippsland Shire Council, Strategic Planning, Private Bag 4, Leongatha VIC 3953.

The planning authority must make a copy of every submission available at its office and/or its website for any person to inspect free of charge until the end of the two months after the amendment comes into operation or lapses.

Lucas Gardiner
 Manager Planning Services



South Gippsland Shire Council



Making a real difference in the lives of people across Bass Coast.

If you can give, please give where you live.
www.bccf.org.au

HM1277

Cancer treatment close to home eases burden for patients and carers

PATIENTS receiving chemotherapy and other specialty treatments are benefiting from first-class treatment by leading specialists at Bass Coast Health (BCH), conveniently close to home.

The L. Rigby Centre at Wonthaggi Hospital has a dedicated team that works together in providing excellence in care.

With World Cancer Day last Sunday, February 4, the aim is to raise awareness of cancer and to encourage its prevention, detection and treatment.

This World Cancer Day recognises the power of working together to have a global effect on cancer. BCH is blessed to work with an amazing team of Medical, Nursing, Pharmacy and Allied Health staff, who work alongside our excellent cancer specialists from Alfred Health, to provide the community with treatment options underpinned by best practice and access to additional services.

The team at BCH includes Medical Oncologists, Haematologists, Breast Surgeons, Radiation Oncologist, Dermatologist, Palliative Care Medical Specialist, McGrath Foundation Breast Care Nurse, Melanoma Specialist and Lymphoedema Physiotherapist, along with many other Allied Health professionals and the L. Rigby Centre cancer team.

Wonthaggi Hospital is able to provide Radiology services, CT, MRI, Ultrasound and



Cancer patient Lynn Pendry receives care from Registered Nurse Erin Passarin at the L. Rigby Centre at Wonthaggi Hospital.

also has Breast Screen Victoria onsite.

Service delivery at the L. Rigby Centre has grown significantly over the past two years and it continues to grow, with cancer clinics seeing 4088 single treatments over the 2022-2023 year.

The Bass Coast and wider community benefits from the cancer service, delivered with some excellent partners in Alfred Health and McGrath Foundation supporting contemporary care.

Our strong partnership with Alfred Health means local patients can receive care from Alfred specialists

locally, rather than travel to Melbourne.

“Receiving a cancer diagnosis is an incredibly stressful time, often filled with uncertainty and unanswered questions, and the treatment that often follows can be exhausting,” according to Jan Child, BCH CEO.

Lynn Pendry has been receiving treatment at L. Rigby Centre since November.

“It is fantastic to have provision of care locally, as treatment that often follows can be exhausting,” she said.

“It’s just marvellous having this facility here. It takes me exactly five minutes to

get here. I have a lot of days when I’m feeling unwell and the last thing I want to be doing is travelling to Melbourne for treatment.

“Having treatment here also gives my husband a day off from having to look after me and he gets to do what he wants to do.”

Wonthaggi Hospital is able to provide Radiology services, CT, MRI, Ultrasound and also has Breast Screen Victoria onsite.

To receive treatment at BCH, ask your medical practitioner to email a referral to access@basscoasthealth.org.au or fax 03 9102 5307.

Faster ambulance response times in Gippsland

AMBULANCE Victoria paramedics are reaching patients in the Gippsland region faster than a year ago, despite another record-breaking quarter for emergency ambulance demand.

Acting Gippsland regional director Stuart Reid said the average response time to Code 1 “lights and sirens” cases across Victoria was now under 15 minutes for the first time in more than two years.

“While there is more work ahead of us, it is encouraging our response to Code 1 emergencies improved a full minute and 46 seconds across Victoria compared to a year ago,” he said.

“The Productivity Commission’s recent report on government services shows Victoria has Australia’s most trusted paramedics and leads the nation in cardiac arrest survival and pain management.

“Our dedicated paramedics

and first responders are to be commended for the outstanding care they deliver to communities across the state.”

The last quarter of 2023 was the busiest in Ambulance Victoria’s (AV) history with 154,267 emergency cases.

This includes 99,833 Code 1 cases – the second most on record – and 54,434 Code 2 cases.

Between October and December 2023, paramedics across Victoria responded to 67.3 per cent of Code 1 cases within the statewide target of 15 minutes – up from 66 per cent for the previous three months and 7.1 percentage points better than 60.2 per cent a year ago.

Performance against the 15-minute target for Code 1 cases improved in 74 of Victoria’s 79 local government areas (LGAs) compared to a year ago.

In the Gippsland region, the

biggest improvements were in the Latrobe, South Gippsland, Baw Baw and Wellington LGAs.

Compared to a year ago, response times to Code 1 patients were 49 seconds faster in the South Gippsland LGA and 57 seconds in the Baw Baw LGA.

Executive director clinical operations Anthony Carlyon said improved performance followed increased use of alternative and virtual care services for people in the community who did not require an ambulance.

“From October to December 2023, 38,695 people who did not need an emergency ambulance were instead connected to more appropriate care by paramedics and nurses in AV’s Secondary Triage team,” he said.

“There are now so many options for people in the community to get timely, non-urgent health advice and save Triple

Zero (000) for emergencies.

“For non-life-threatening matters, you can connect directly with emergency doctors and nurses at the Victorian Virtual Emergency Department (VVED) from anywhere in Victoria, at any time.

“Since October 2021, paramedics have referred more than 56,000 patients to the VVED, while a further 5400 have been referred to the VVED following assessment by our Secondary Triage team.

“Other options also include your local Priority Primary Care Centre, your GP or pharmacist, or Nurse-On-Call on 1300 60 60 24.

“While we continue to work with hospitals to improve transfer times, avoiding unnecessary ambulance attendances and trips to hospital relieves pressure in the health system and means paramedics are more available for emergencies in the community.”

SES acknowledge local support

THE San Remo SES has acknowledged the generous and ongoing support of Nick Say from the Westernport Hotel. Nick has assisted the local SES over many years, by allowing the units collection helmet to be placed on a prominent place on the bar. Since 2017 this has raised over \$1300.

Rodd Legg of San Remo SES explained that Nick has

been a great supporter of not only the SES but the town in general.

“He is a member of the San Remo CFA and supports Anzac Day and Armistice Day activities at our armed services monument located opposite the San Remo hotel.”

Nick was presented with a certificate of appreciation by Ron Chambers and Rod Legg.



Ron Chambers with Nick Say and Rod Legg.

Government amps up Ocean Sounds with music grant

PHILLIP Island’s Ocean Sounds has secured more than \$80,000 in funding from the Albanese Government for its 2025 edition.

It’s part of the Government’s \$2.7 million injection into Australia’s music industry – which will fund 37 music festivals across the country.

Ocean Sounds has become a hit with locals and visitors for both its live music and beautiful surrounds. The festival has attracted big acts from across the country – including this year’s headliners Xavier Rudd and Spiderbait.

Senator for Victoria Jess Walsh said the funding was another way the Albanese Government is backing the Australian music industry.

“Festivals like Ocean Sounds are the life-blood of our live music sector and the local jobs they create,” Senator Walsh said.

“I’m looking forward to seeing many more music lovers flock to Phillip Island for Ocean Sounds early next year.”

The event is run by the Hills Are Alive Group, which run festivals across Australia.

Their Co-Founder Rhett McLaren said the 2025 festival will directly support 175 workers with more than half of these workers being local.

“Ocean Sounds allows for friends and families to connect while enjoying their local area, bonding over music, food and all-round good times!” Mr McLaren said.

“Our 2025 festival will provide paid opportunities for 175 workers across music, arts, events, tourism, and hospitality.

“This funding will allow the event to continue in 2025 and ensure Ocean Sounds becomes an ongoing annual event for Phillip Island and the Australian live music scene.”

Spend more on your family and less on your energy bills

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

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

Persistent payment difficulty is experienced by an estimated 180,000 – or one in every 14 – Victorian households. Approximately one in every seven (14 per cent) of Victorians who are eligible for an energy concession are missing out – something the Energy Assistance Program aims to address.

The Energy Assistance Program has already helped over 7000 Victorians with their energy bills, saving nearly \$1 million by finding available concessions, helping switch to better deals, and access Utility Relief Grants.

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

Eligible concession card holders are also entitled to an ongoing 17.5 per cent discount on annual electricity and winter gas bills, and Utility Relief Grants of up to \$650 per utility are available every two years for eligible Victorians unable to pay their bills due to temporary financial crisis.

Call Anglicare Victoria on 1800 531 741 between 8am and 7pm Monday to Friday to chat to one of our Energy Assistance Program consultants about how we can help. Language translation services are available.

Anglicare can also organise in-person meetings at one of their outreach locations across Victoria. Visit anglicarevic.org.au/our-services/financial-counselling/energy-assistance-program

School has started – how can parents support their children?

WITH school about to start, it's easy to focus on the logistics – new school supplies, shoes, and uniforms – but an early childhood expert says children need emotional and behavioural support to ensure a smooth transition into the classroom.

Dr Elise Waghorn, education expert shared that children need supportive adults around them during school transitions.

For parents, this is a crucial time to be asking your children how they are feeling about going to school, are they nervous, and what are they excited (or scared) about.

"Framing direct questions to the child like 'You look a bit nervous this morning, did you need to talk?' or 'You seem a bit quiet after school today, did anything happen?' instead of 'How was your day?' gives them the opportunity to open up.

Adults need to provide a calm home life for children to ease into school," said Dr Waghorn.

"Avoid any unnecessary stress in their life. For example, you may need to stop any extra-curricular activities in the first six months, so the child does not become overtired.

"It is also vital that children have a consistent routine after school, so they do not become overwhelmed, and that they have a well-balanced diet, so they are getting all the right nutrients.

Headspace skate to find out about young men's mental health needs

HEADSPACE Wonthaggi kicked off a new men's health initiative last Thursday at the Inverloch Skate Park.

Crushing some tricks with other skaters while handing out cold drinks and questionnaires is where Matt and Harry from Headspace will be on Thursday afternoons for the next few weeks.

Matt, Youth Access Worker with Headspace and avid skater along with Harry, Community Engagement Coordinator at Headspace are keen to hear from young males directly about what they want and need in the mental health support space.

The Headspace team are going to the youth directly as they have found there's a barrier for this cohort of guys to take the first few steps to getting help if they need it.

"We want to get a gauge as to where the majority of these men want assistance, because once we feel like we know that, then we can cater a program specifically towards them that can better educate and support these guys," explained Harry.

"We also know that look there's probably a huge proportion of young men don't

"Some children may become more emotional before or after school. Parents can help by giving their child time and eye contact, listening and being responsive. What might seem trivial to a parent, can be a big deal for a child.

"Children might also require earlier bedtimes, as they will become more tired due to the busier schedule at school.

"Parents should focus on talking positively about school and helping to prepare their children by:

- Highlighting the fun and interesting aspects to encourage an optimistic attitude towards school. For example, 'You are going to make some wonderful new friends' or 'I bet your teacher can't wait to meet you.'
- Helping to develop their child's independence skills. Involve them in making their lunch, packing their school bag, and getting dressed themselves.
- Encouraging their child to talk openly and express their emotions through prompts like 'What made you smile at school today?', 'What made you laugh?' or 'Did anything made you sad today?'

"Finally, each child will approach the school transition differently. Therefore, parents should avoid treating all children the same."



The Phillip Island Village School welcomes eight new prep students for the 2024 school year.

Phillip Island Village School welcomes eight new preps

PHILLIP Island Village School is a relatively new addition to the Island, being established in 2016.

This year the school welcomes two new staff members, Christie Edwards, 'Shooting Stars Mentor', foundation program and Tim Anders - 'Allstars Mentor' for the middle years.

increase of two, from last year's numbers.

Eight teachers will be in classrooms and the school welcomes two new staff members, Christie Edwards, 'Shooting Stars Mentor', foundation program and Tim Anders - 'Allstars Mentor' for the middle years.

An upcoming highlight for the school in term one will be the whole school Family Camp (FAMP) in mid-February.

The school also have a new building for the Foundation students, as well as some new rooms in their main space for staff and students.

Fun, laughter and learning at Welshpool



Welshpool and District Primary School's new Prep students with Chloe Wade class teacher and Ella Rendell Education Support Trainee.

WELSHPOOL and District Primary School have welcomed four new prep students as well as five new students across Grades 1, 2, and 3.

The number of students has increased by a total of six this year, making up to 40 attending the school.

Four classroom teachers will be supported by an additional four specialist teachers, and the school welcomes new Education Support Trainee, Ella Rendell to the team.

The Primary School is looking forward to kicking off their Bike Ed program, which is supported by the class set of bikes, purchased last year.

This term, students will participate in swimming and athletics programs culminating in District and Division events.

They are also working on the redevelopment of the basketball court which includes the installation of a roof as well as the upgrade of the existing basketball court and rings.

"We are looking forward to a wonderful term full of fun, laughter, and learning," said Gabrielle Boyd, Principal.

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, Stony Point +40

TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
February 6	February 7	February 8	February 9	February 10	February 11	February 12
1.35am 0.81m 7.43am 1.35m 1.54pm 0.34m 9.21pm 1.36m	1.35am 0.89m 8.29am 1.29m 2.43pm 0.34m 10.31pm 1.35m	2.23am 0.94m 9.30am 1.25m 3.47pm 0.34m 11.45pm 1.35m	3.25am 0.95m 10.50am 1.23m 5.06pm 0.33m	4.44am 1.44m 6.05am 0.88m 12.18pm 1.27m 6.24pm 0.29m	12.54am 1.51m 6.05am 0.76m 1.32pm 1.36m 7.31pm 0.26m	1.51am 1.51m 7.16am 0.60m 1.32pm 1.46m 8.30pm 0.26m

Email us your fishing photos
news@sgst.com.au



Students at the new playground at Tarwin Lower Primary School with Vanessa Fisher (School Council President) who was the driving force behind the fundraising to get the new equipment.

Tarwin Lower's new playground

THE STUDENTS of Tarwin Lower Primary School were very excited when they arrived back at school to find new playground equipment had been installed during the holidays.

The funding for this playground has been a whole community project.

When the school announced that they were fundraising for the playground, various individuals and community organisations eagerly offered to assist.

The school would like to publicly acknowledge the support of

the following people/organisations who have been instrumental in enabling us to achieve our goal, Tom Ochia, Venus Bay Men's Shed, Tarwin Lower Bowls Club, CERT, Straightline Plumbing, Spiffy Spouts, Oceanview Electrics, Mitre 10 Tarwin Lower, Venus Bay General Store, Agapi Fish and Chips, 4 Shore Pizza, Bird and Wolf Café, Venus Loves Gelato, Tarwin IGA, Tarwin Fuel Supplies, Tarwin Lower Auto and Mechanical Club, Riverview Hotel, Issy Dye and Glen Rogers, Tarwin Lower Football Netball Club, Dave

Harris Earthmoving, Leongatha Party Shop, South Gippsland Quarries, Tarwin Lower Hall Committee, Bald Hills Wind Farm, Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal, Member and friends of the Tarwin Lower Venus Bay communities for their support and assistance.

Also the school would like to thank families and friends for their donations of time, goods, knowledge and expertise.

The students are very fortunate to have such a wonderful supportive community surrounding them.

St Joseph's welcomes three new teachers

ST JOSEPH'S School was established in 1912 by the Josephite Sisters (the order of St Mary MacKillop) and moved to its current site on Korumburra Road, Wonthaggi in 1980.

Well over 300 students now attend the school which is steadily growing.

This year the school has welcomed two new Prep classes to join the Grade 1/2, 3/4 and 5/6 classes.

Each of the 14 classes is part of an open level area or neighbourhood, in a vibrant, modern, well-resourced classroom.

All the classrooms have been updated and refurbished in the last few years and students have ready access to technology to support their learning.

Forty diligent and dedicated staff work at the school, with classroom teachers being well assisted by support staff, a school counsellor and two highly qualified Learning Adjustment Leaders, to provide a dynamic and comprehensive curriculum targeted at the children's needs.

The students enjoy specialist classes for Italian, Physical Education, Performing Arts (Dance, Drama and Music) once each week.

Among the school improvements planned for this year is a new, large sandpit and new climbing net to complement the senior playground. The students were highly involved in choosing these new playground additions.

Three new classroom teachers are welcomed to St Josephs this year, Miss Tara Macdermid, Ms Belinda Isted and Mr Tim de Freitas.



Mr Tim de Freitas is one of three new teachers welcomed to St Joseph's this year.



Miss Tara Macdermid at the start of a new year with students at St. Josephs.

Practical tips for a smooth back-to-school transition for children with disabilities

AS THE new academic year kicks off, LiveBig, a prominent provider of allied health supports, emphasises open communication, routine establishment, and collaboration with education providers.

Open Communication: Acknowledge that it's okay to feel scared or anxious. Discussing these emotions is the first step towards a smooth return.

Establish Routine: To create a sense of routine, begin to start meals around the same time as during school days, packing lunch boxes, and ensuring sleep habits align with school bedtimes.

Familiarise with School Environment: Organise excursions to the school to familiarise children with the environment. Discuss practical aspects such as lunch spots and classrooms. Look at the school's website together. This step helps in easing anxieties related to the unknown.

Collaborate with the School: Collaboration and pro-active communication is key. Discuss your child's needs, inquire about available resources like sensory rooms, and ensure staff are well-informed about medical requirements or chronic conditions.

Involve Children in Preparation Activities: Encourage children to participate in activities like a "fashion parade" with their school uniform. Discuss what aspects of their disability they may want to share with their peers, to them to take ownership of their narrative.

Create a checklist of items to bring to school daily, such as medication, assistive technology, communication aids, or any items that assist with stimming. Pack the bag together for better preparation.

Parents seeking more information on LiveBig's disability support services can visit livebig.com.au.

Victorian-first curriculum-aligned resources launched about youth vaping harms

TEACHERS of year 7-10 students will now have access to a range of new vaping education resources designed to teach young people about the dangers of vaping and help create healthy communities.

Quit Victoria, in partnership with Monash University, VicHealth, the Victorian Department of Education, Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority (VCAA), and the Australian Council for Health, Physical Education and Recreation (ACHPER) Victoria, worked together to develop Seeing through the Haze: a suite of free, evidence-based, curriculum-aligned vaping education resources for Victorian schools.

Quit Director, Rachael Andersen commented on how the resources will help schools.

"Almost 1/3 [29.1 per cent] of secondary students have tried vaping, which presents a very real challenge for schools. Given the strong alignment to the Victorian school curriculum, these resources provide new and best-practice opportunities for engagement in classrooms, something we haven't had on the important topic of vaping to this point."

Minister for Education Ben Carroll welcomed the free education resources and said they will support schools to prevent and respond to vaping by providing further opportunities to help students understand the dangers

of vaping through day-to-day learning.

"While vaping is a societal issue, schools are rightly concerned about the impacts of vaping on the physical and mental health of their students and are keen to be part of a broader, community-wide solution," said Minister Carroll.

CEO of Cancer Council Victoria, Todd Harper AM said the need to help students understand vaping health harms is urgent.

"The more we can discourage young people from taking up vaping or to support them to stop, the better the long-term health outcomes for the community. Because we know people who vape are three times as likely to take up smoking. Vaping can cause lung injury, lead to seizures and interrupt concentration. So, our intention is for these resources to empower students to work together to design vape-free spaces and advocate for a vape-free future".

The resources are broken into separate modules to help students get the facts on vaping, to understand how social factors contribute to vaping and to develop anti-vaping campaigns to make change. Students eager to test their skills can then submit their anti-vaping campaign to the Seeing through the haze schools challenge running throughout 2024.

To find out more: vapingfacts.org.au/for-schools.



Dave Busuttil (3), Phil Wright (S), Wilma Rees (2) and Max Summers (L) were the South West Gippsland Midweek Bowls Club winners.



South West Gippsland Midweek Bowls Club's runner ups were Chris Coulson (3), Michael Dady (S) and Arch Connel (L).



The best one game winners for the South West Gippsland Midweek Bowls Group were Michael Waring (L), Cheryl Floyd (3), Dini Home (2) and John Nicholson (S).



Terry Orford (skip), Yvonne Kee, Cheryl Abbott and Jeff Curwood were Inverloch Bowling Club's social bowls winners on Thursday.



John Rook, Betty Huitema and Brian Newman were the Wonthaggi Senior Indoor Bowls winners on Friday.



Wonthaggi's Wednesday social bowls winners were Aldo Sartori, Frank Tagell and Roger Lee.

INVERLOCH

CORPORATE bowls started back last Wednesday with some very enthusiastic bowlers.

A few were a bit rusty with their skills. The barbecue boys were working flat chat, as well as the bar staff.

Bowls sorters worked overtime trying to find particular bowls for enthusiastic bowlers.

Midweek Pennant: Division 1: Inverloch 61 Corinella 40. Division 2: Inverloch 53 Meeniyian 50. Division 3: Inverloch (4) 31 Foster 55; Inverloch (3) 45 Fish Creek 34.

Weekend Pennant: Division 1: Inverloch 41 Leongatha 63. Division 2: Inverloch 80 Korumburra 35. Division 3: Inverloch 34 Lang Lang 80. Division 4: Inverloch 64 Wonthaggi 49.

Thursday social bowls saw 51 bowlers try their luck on the greens.

In fourth place was the team of Laurel Lee (skip), Chris O'Donnell, John Turner and Veronica Muir.

They finished with two wins and 32 points.

Third place went to the team of Wayne Parks (skip), Marg Griffin, Karen Orford and Nell Van Grunsven.

They finished with two wins, 33 points and 10 shots up.

In second place on two wins, 33 points and 17 shots up was the team of Bruce Corrigan (skip), John Hallas, Di Selby and Liz Jacobs.

The winners for the day on two wins and 34 points was the team of Terry Orford (skip), Cheryl Abbott, Jeff Curwood and Yvonne Kee.

KORUMBURRA

IT was another interesting week of bowls. In Midweek Pennant, Division 1 travelled to Toora with mixed results.

Jenny McVeigh was the only successful rink getting up 19 shots to 16.

Judith Nicholl went down 15 shots to 17 and Joanna Lomagno lost 13 shots to 21.

In Division 2, Korumburra hosted Phillip Island and it was a different story with both rinks successful.

Cheryl Moore won 25 shots to 12 and Erica Hayes won 22 shots to 18 – well done.

In Saturday Pennant, Division 1 hosted Wonthaggi with all rinks successful.

Rob Cosson won 23 shots to 15, Peter Spark got up 22 shots to 21 and Shane O'Loughlin won 19 shots to 12 – a good win.

In Division 2, Korumburra travelled to Inverloch all to no avail.

Rob Sund went down 16 shots to 24. Jim Garnham went down 12 shots to 26 and Ross Lomagno went down seven shots to 30 – a bad day all round.

Division 4 travelled to Port Welshpool and came away with a tie.

Hayden Rees won 31 shots to 20, George Hams went down 25 shots to 27 and Alan Cherrett went down 11 shots to 20 – well done to all.

Don't forget counter teas this Friday night names on the board by Wednesday.

LEONGATHA

ROUND 11 of the Midweek Pennant competition for the Division 1 side continued last Tuesday with a welcome by the Foster Division 1 side.

Leongatha won on two rinks but was defeated on the other rink with a margin of one shot, resulting in a drawn game with an overall score of 53/53 shots.

Individual rink scores were as follows: Maureen Taylor skip (Foster) was defeated by Carol Harry skip (Leongatha) 16/17 shots.

Jenny Roffey skip (Foster) defeated Janice Sing skip (Leongatha) 21/16 shots. Bev Tyres skip (Foster) was defeated by Marje Pearson skip (Leongatha) 16/20 shots.

Round 12 of the weekend competition was played in warm conditions with very little wind.

The results across the board for the Leongatha club were a great

improvement to the previous Saturday's results.

Leongatha Division 1 side was at home to Inverloch, where it recorded an overall 63/41 shots.

Individual rink scores were as follows: Anthony Collier skip (Leongatha) defeated Martin Hannaford skip (Inverloch) 17/11 shots. Paul Michael skip (Leongatha) defeated Andrew Rowe skip (Inverloch) 19/14 shots. John Hall skip (Leongatha) defeated Ron Burge skip (Inverloch) 27/16 shots.

Leongatha Division 2 side was at home to San Remo Bowls Club, where it recorded a comfortable overall final score of 52/48 shots and the individual rink scores were as follows:

Ron Symmons skip (Leongatha) drew with Barry McGowan skip (San Remo) 14/14 shots.

Rod Jackson skip (Leongatha) defeated Mark Andreatta skip (San Remo) 20/17 shots.

Vito Serafino skip (Leongatha) defeated Tony McKiernan skip (San Remo) 18/17 shots.

Leongatha Bowls Club Division 4 side was given a shellacking on a slow green where Division 4 Fish Creek humiliated their opposition.

Fish Creek outplayed Leongatha and recorded a mammoth overall score of 78/38 shots.

Individual rink scores were as follows: Milton Heywood skip (Fish Creek) defeated John White skip (Leongatha) 27/13 shots.

Mark Angwin skip (Fish Creek) defeated Janice Sing skip (Leongatha) 37/4 shots.

Bankers is still being played on Saturday and new bowlers are most welcome.

Kitty Club last Friday night was well attended with 80 people enjoying the food that was well presented by the ladies.

MIDWEEK

CORINELLA really turned it on for the bowlers – great weather, great green and great friends.

It was a pleasure to see 54 bowlers turn up to fight it out for team(s) of the week. The group hopes the new bowlers will continue to bless it with their presence in the future.

As usual, the bowlers seemed to really enjoy themselves with quite a bit of friendly banter along with much laughter across all the rinks.

Not a lot of wrong bias problems, but they are still adding to the Royal Children's Hospital donation tin each week.

Thanks go out to Terry for all his hard work. He opened up, set up the rinks, looked after the bar as well as the kitchen with some help from Robyn.

As usual, the bowlers thank Pauline and John for their help, and Peter for all his hard work to get everyone out and onto the green to compete in such a great day.

The winners on 38 points were Phil Wright (S), Dave Busuttil (3), Wilma Rees (2) and Max Summers (L).

Runners up on a score of 35 were Michael Dady (S), Chris Coulson (3) and Arch Connel (L).

Best one game winners on 35 points were John Nicholson (S), Cheryl Floyd (3), Dini Home (2) and Michael Waring (L).

The group looks forward to meeting again next week at San Remo.

It is hoped everyone can once again meet up to keep the numbers up.

Good luck to all the Pennant players over the coming week, and hope for success to as many of the group as possible.

Could all players please try to be on site by 10am to help Peter.

WONTHAGGI

ONCE again, it was a good week at the club. Tuesday saw Division 1 and

Division 2 playing Phillip Island at Wonthaggi.

Division 1 had a good day with two rinks having very good wins, while the other had a real battle that went down to the wire.

Wonthaggi was able to get a win by one shot for maximum points.

The final scores were Wonthaggi 85 Phillip Island 34.

Division 2 needed a win to keep second spot on the ladder.

All three rinks played well with two wins and a draw to record a solid win.

The final scores Wonthaggi 67 Phillip Island 44.

Ladder positions: Division 1 are first and Division 2 are second with three rounds left.

Wednesday social bowls saw 31 bowlers grace the greens on a fine sunny day.

There were two teams that were two game winners, with the runners up being a team of three.

They were John Duscher, Peter Miller and Glenn Birt with a score of two wins and 27 points.

The winners, also a team of three, were Aldo Sartori, Frank Tagell and Roger Lee with a score of two wins and 32 points. Thursday saw a very good number of bowlers for social bowls with fine weather which is always good.

Saturday Pennant saw Division 1 travel to Korumburra on a fine and sunny day.

From the start, Korumburra, who are top of the ladder, were intent on showing Wonthaggi why they are in that position. Even though Wonthaggi fought the match out, they just fell short to a better team on the day.

The final scores Wonthaggi 48 Korumburra 64.

Division 2 played host to Fish Creek at Wonthaggi with only a win in their thoughts to keep their march to the finals on track.

All three rinks set about the task by playing well to record a very good win to record maximum points.

The final scores Wonthaggi 58 Fish Creek 39. That leaves Division 2 just two points out of the top four with two rounds to go.

Division 3 found the going tough against a team that wanted to finish their season off well.

It's time to reset and enjoy the last couple of rounds and finish on a high.

The final scores Wonthaggi 52 Mirboo North 77.

Division 4 played host to Inverloch at Wonthaggi, looking for a win to keep in touch with the top four.

Two rinks played well with another not having a good day.

Once again, against a team that they are capable of beating, things didn't go according to plan.

The final scores Wonthaggi 49 Inverloch 64.

Bowls this week: Tuesday Midweek Pennant, Tuesday night from 5pm for Bare Foot Bowls, Wednesday, Turkey Triples Day, Thursday is social bowls with names in by 9.30am, Friday coaching from 10am and Saturday Pennant.

Have a good day and good bowling.

WONTHAGGI INDOOR

AFTER a delayed start to the year due to damage to the hall, the bowlers are back to bowling once again.

It has been a slow start to the year with a total of 39 players over the two days.

Tuesday's winners with a plus 18, winning both their games, were Lia Smith, Sylvia Mattock and Jim Rodhi.

Runners up on plus 12, winning one game only, were Thelma Kavanaugh, Jean Wyld, Mary Spooner and Brian Newman. Friday saw 19 players compete.

The winners on plus 12 were John Rook, Betty Huitema and Brian Newman.

Runners up on plus seven were Rhonda Rattenbury, Jeannie Slocombe and Jos Kemper.

Each team won both their games.



The winners and runners up at the Leongatha Golf Club were Kate Rowe, Lianne Adamson, Rebecca Thomas, Sue Wylie, Delia Perry and Mel Willder.



Leongatha Golf Club members Fay Quilford and Sue Woods won the Thursday Annual Tournament Stableford 4BBB event.

KORUMBURRA

Ladies

KORUMBURRA Golf Club members had a fantastic time last Wednesday, welcoming 18 beginners and guests playing in the nine-hole Canadian Foursomes event.

Much appreciation to Dave and Viv Enbom for once again sponsoring the Beginners Day and providing the lovely handmade, unique trophies.

The club also thanks Fleet Wines from Leongatha for donating the selection of wine for the prizes.

Well done to all players, particularly the beginners, for 'giving golf a go' and we encourage you to continue on the golfing journey.

Winners of the member/new guest section were Lyn Perks and Kim Enbom 21 points with runners-up, Merrissa Cosson/Robyn Wilson 20 points.

Colette Pearl/Carol Stiff won the member/experienced guest, with 21 points and Kath Welsh/Heather Spry were runners-up, 18 points.

Merrissa was NTP on the first.

The member/member comp winners were Trudy Olden/Chris Rickard 20 points on a c/b from Lyn Leppin/Julie Cole. Lynette McIvor was NTP on the 13th.

A small number played on Tuesday with Lorraine Knox (42) winning 32 points and Sherrin Solly (21) runner-up, 31 points.

The twilight winners on Thursday were Julie and Don Hislop, 22 points on a c/b from Denise and Ian Gibson.

Diarne Maskell and Ian were NTP on the 13th.

Four members enjoyed playing in the Ambrose event at Leongatha on Friday.

The daily event on Saturday was won by Chris Rickard (28), 73 net and Diarne Maskell (32) was runner-up on a c/b, 76 net. BDTL went to Judy Webb (23), and Lorraine Knox (41), both 76 net.

Lynette McIvor had the best scratch score 98.

NTPs were Julie Hillberg first (Kelly's Bakery award) and Chris Rickard on the 10th.

MIRBOO NORTH

THURSDAY, February 1: Stableford.

A Grade: J. Smeriglio (17) 40 points.

B Grade: Tom Traill (19) 36 points.

DTL: S. Beitz, 37, N. Rutledge, W. Reynolds, 36 and R. Pentland 35c/b.

NTP: fourth N. Rutledge,



Korumburra's Beginner Day winners were Kim Enbom, Lyn Perks, Carol Stiff and Colette Pearl.

sixth C. Le Page, 13th N. Baker and 16th S. McKenzie.

Birdies: sixth C. Le Page, 16th and J. Smeriglio and S. Beitz.

Saturday, February 3: Stroke. A Grade: M. Woodall (9) 68 net.

B Grade: R. Clark (19) 66 net.

C Grade: C. McKay (25) 71 c/b.

DTL: R. Taylor 69, Tim Traill, N. Baker, N. Bracecamp 71, T. Baker, M. Payne, R. Jenkins and B. Bradshaw 72 c/b.

NTP: first R. Taylor, fourth J. Chila, sixth S. McInnes, 13th E. Woodall and 16th T. Whitelaw.

Birdies: fourth J. Chila, sixth J. Chila and S. McInnes, and 16th T. Whitelaw and G. Renwick.

Eagles: M. Woodall 11th hole.

LEONGATHA

Tuesday, January 30: Stableford.

This Stableford competition round included 73 members/guests.

A Grade winner: Renato Monacella (12) with a score of 39 points.

A Grade runner up: Paul Prendergast (11) with a score of 36 points on a countback.

B Grade winner: John Housley (17) with a score of 36 points.

B Grade runner up: Darren Fletcher (17) with a score of 35 points.

C Grade winner: Greig Williams (26) from the Churchill and Monash Golf Club with a score of 39 points on a countback.

C Grade runner up: Donald Smith (23) with a score of 39 points.

NTP second shot fifth: Christopher Leaver at 1.10m. NTP 14th: Ian Murchie at .25m. NTP 16th: Michael Thomas at 1.38m.

Extra Balls Comp prizes went to Ron Findlay, Marilyn

Williams, Ron Robinson and Craig Hutchinson.

Thursday, February 1: Annual Tournament Stableford 4BBB event.

Thursday kicked off the Leongatha Golf Club Annual Tournament with great conditions and an excellent field of 108 members/guests playing in a Stableford 4BBB event.

Overall winners:

1. Sue Woods (34) and Fay Quilford (27) with a score of 48 points.

2. John Moor (18) and Jill Moor (46) with a score of 47 on a countback.

3. Alison Strong (31) and Maryanne Gartner (28) with a score of 47 on a countback.

Friday, February 2: Annual Tournament Ambrose Fours event.

The Friday Leongatha Golf Club Annual Tournament event was an Ambrose Fours round, with another excellent turnout of 103 members/guests.

Overall winners:

1. Norman Hughes, Craig Hams, Steve Vuillermin and Neryl Hopcraft with a net score of 55.75.

2. Mark Dunn, John Moor, Alan Starkey and Keith Godridge with a net score of 56.5.

3. Steve Fisher, Jamie Grenville, Stuart Harry and Grant Farmer with a net score of 56.625.

NTP fourth: Norman Hughes at 2.60m. NTP seventh: Mark Hanger at 1.30m. NTP 14th: Yvonne Smith at 7.50m. NTP 16th: Fay Quilford.

Saturday, February 3: Annual Tournament Individual Stableford event.

The first individual event for the tournament was a Stableford round with a field of 84 members/guests enjoying delightful summer conditions.

Overall winners:

1. Callum Beattie (28) with a score of 42 points.

2. Matthew Hildebrand (11)

with a score of 41 points.

3. Timothy Danks (15) with a score of 39 points on a countback.

NTP fourth: Michael McKitterick at .10m. NTP seventh: Alan Starkey at 4.78m. NTP 16th: Marilyn Williams at 9.20m.

Extra Balls Comp prizes went to Kate Dwyer and Timothy McCarthy.

Ladies

IT was perfect weather for the 47 women who played a stress-free Ambrose 3's event to open the 2024 season.

The winning team were Sue Wylie, Delia Perry and Mel Willder with a score of 59.667.

In second place, just .226 behind, were general manager Kate Rowe, Lianne Adamson and captain Rebecca Thomas.

Third placing went to Ev Indian, Nicole Whiteside and Joy O'Sullivan with a score of 64.333.

Balls down the line were awarded to Team Howson: Joc Howson, Cheryl Borg and Chris Lay with a score of 64.667.

Nearest the pin on the 16th was Shirley Welsford (almost a hole in one), and Joy O'Sullivan was the closest on the 14th. Second shot on the fifth was won by Chris Lay.

WONTHAGGI

RESULTS: February 1, SR. 71.

Competition: Stableford 18-hole.

Winner: John McDonald 39.

Runner up: Frank Huber 37.

BDTL to 33 C/B.

Ball sweep: Philip McCrimmon 37, Colin Banks 36, Robert Wilkinson 35, Graeme Campbell 35 and Glen Turner 33 C/B.

Results: January 18, SR. 34.5.

Competition: Stableford front nine-hole.

Winner: Bob Cornelis 22.

SOUTH GIPPSLAND SENTINEL-TIMES

Results: February 3, SR. 72. Competition: MM stroke and Putting 18-hole.

Winner:

A: Michael Scott 71.

B: Jonathon Clayton 68 (Monthly Medal).

C: Ian Johnson 70.

BDTL to 72 C/B.

Ball sweep: Steven Brann 69, Bill Fennell 70, Doug Putt 70, Allan McLean 70, Steven Laing 71, Glen Turner 71, Graeme Rogers 72, Messy Chand 72, Julian Wintle 72 and Blake Cornelis 72 C/B.

NTPs: Ireland Connor second, Michael Scott fourth, Mick Bourke eighth propin, Daniel Crellin 13th and Michael Scott 17th money hole.

Putting: Michael Scott.

Ladies

WEDNESDAY was a fun day to open the 2024 syllabus with a mystery draw for partners to determine the winners on the day after everyone played a round of Stableford.

Lots of "sorry partner" when Catherine read out the pairings.

A Grade winners were Marg Ryan and Geraldine Prentice 67 points from Yvonne Everett and Catherine Bolding on 66 points

B Grade winners were Donna Brosnan and Patsy Britt 74 points from Pam Hanley and Karen Sheerin 60 points.

The nine-hole event was won by Betty Bowmar 19 points from Judy Berry 18 points.

Wonthaggi Opening Mixed Day

THE opening mixed day was played on Sunday, and a huge thank you to Handley and Anderson Funerals for its ongoing sponsorship.

The game was American Foursomes and thankfully the field finished before the expected heat hit Wonthaggi.

The mixed days are always fun, lots of laughs, and a few great golf shots as well.

A Grade winners were Jonathan Clayton and Lisa Brusamarello 68.625 net.

A Grade runners up were Simon O'Halloran and Patsy Britt 70.25.

B Grade winners were Bailey Harvey and Layla Robertson 66.625, with B Grade runners up Matt and Donna Brosnan 66.75.

NTP men: 13th Steve Kane and 17th Andrew Hooton-Shandley. NTP ladies: not claimed.

BDL: Rob and Kathy Geyer 70, and Alex Geyer and Karen Sheerin 70.875.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2024 | 55

ALLAMBE MIRBOO AND DISTRICT TENNIS ASSOC.

Section 1 Results:

Koonwarra 4.33 defeated Leongatha 4.32; Inverloch 6.46 defeated Korumburra 2.25; Westernport bye.

Ladder: Westernport 81, Inverloch 66.5, Koonwarra 47.5, Leongatha 39, Korumburra 37

Section 2 Results:

Leongatha 8.70 defeated Korumburra 1.41; Outtrim 6.68 defeated Baromi 3.36.

Ladder: Outtrim 79, Leongatha 72.5, Baromi 65, Korumburra 25.5

Leongatha v Koonwarra was the pick of the matches this week across both sections.

The teams were even on sets, with just one game separating them.

A close match in a great, social atmosphere.

Shelley Walker and Ekala Moore for Korumburra won a set against Michelle Krohn and Angie Williams – a great win for these two ladies.

This week, Inverloch welcomed back Justin Krohn for just his second match this season.

Well done to Leongatha, who had another big win against Korumburra this week.

Ben Watson has proved a handy fill in and a quiet achiever, winning all of his sets.

While Korumburra hasn't won many matches this year, they are bringing through some younger players which is great for the game.

Outtrim was the winner over Baromi, with Baromi winning two tiebreakers.

It was a family affair for both teams – Outtrim with the Beale family and Baromi with the Frasers.

Families certainly help the association continue living on, with family members in the same team in both sections.

RIVERSIDE TENNIS ASSOCIATION

ROUND 11 results:

Section 1/2 Doubles:

Warragul 7 - 49 defeated Poowong 2 - 22; Drouin Maroon 6 - 46 defeated Hallora 3 - 34; Moe 8 - 53 defeated Drouin Gold 1 - 19; Trafalgar 3 - 32 defeated by Neerim District 6 - 48.

Team Points: Drouin Maroon 89, Moe 86.5, Neerim District 69, Warragul 66, Hallora 54, Poowong 46.5, Trafalgar 37, Drouin Gold 36.

Section 1 Singles:

Moe Blue 3 - 6 - 37 defeated Trafalgar 1 - 4 - 34; Moe Red 1 - 4 - 36 defeated by Drouin 3 - 6 - 40; Moe White had the bye.

Participant Name Points: Moe White 37.5, Moe Red 36, Moe Blue 32.5, Drouin 20, Trafalgar 11.5.

Section 2 Singles:

Warragul 1 - 16 defeated by Pax Hill 5 - 43; Drouin Gold 1 - 22 defeated by Trafalgar 5 - 42; Drouin Maroon 2 - 36 defeated by Moe 4 - 41.

Team Points: Trafalgar 61, Pax Hill 59, Drouin Maroon 37, Moe 34, Drouin Gold 31, Warragul 9.



President Brad Steer (middle) says big things are happening at the Grantville Rifle Club this year as they look to boost their membership. Ns430424

FCGRC come and try your hand



Grantville Rifle Club is looking forward to boosting their new Sporter/Hunter Class which is suited to those who have a hunting rifle but are looking to shoot in a competition style. Ns410424

members.

The Come and Try Day costs \$50 per person and includes 10 rounds of ammunition, equipment use, range fee and insurance.

Bookings are essential, to allow the club to prepare for and provide the best experience possible for shooters.

Under careful guidance and instruction, each person will fire ten from a scoped F-Class rifle off a front rest and rear bag.

For those who are new to shooting and don't have their

own rifle or firearms license, presenting photo identification, signing the range register and filling out a form is all it takes to get yourself behind one of our club rifles with ammunition provided and a friendly highly experienced shooter by your side, to ensure you get the most from your shooting experience.

FCGRC frequently introduce people of all ages above 14, both male and female of all abilities to the sport.

Visitors that are already licensed and have their own

equipment are welcome to join for a \$20 range fee.

Head down at 10am to the clubhouse to prepare all the paperwork required to allow people to shoot, then moving to the 300 metre mound, where a team of highly experienced accuracy nuts will introduce each group to long range shooting.

To find out more, or to book a spot contact Geoff on 0488 652 790 or visit the range on Saturday mornings.

Dedicated Come and Try mornings have also been allocated to the yearly calendar.

10th Annual Shoot for Autism is back

On May 4 and 5, FCGRC will host the 10th Annual Shoot for Autism which supports the Bass Coast Specialist and Southern Autistic School.

To date FCGRC has raised some \$55k and to keep this great initiative going any local business wishing to donate prizes are urged to email club president Brad Steer at presidenfcgrc@gmail.com.

For more information visit fcg rifleclub.com.

Shawcroft inspires with strength and resilience

WONTHAGGI local Ethan Shawcroft has continuously shown his strength and resilience competing in parra sports and spreading awareness of positive mental health to his community.

Ethan most recently competed in Canberra for the wheelchair sports NSW/ACT GIO Summer Down Under series, and the Sydney OZ Day 10km marathon.

He competes against athletes from around the world, including America, Japan and New Caledonia and is currently being coached by Australian paralympic and world Champion Richard Colman.

Ethan proudly came home with a bronze medal for the 800 metre race in Canberra.

"I like to seek out challenges and to face them head on. Whether it be in the competitive world or at home, and I surround myself in nature as much as possible," said Ethan.

Ethan's achievements have seen him compete in the 10km 2023 XCR at Albert Park with a 44:8 result, and he positioned fifth in the Victorian open and

Under 20 Victorian track and field championships in 2023 for 100 metres.

At the GIO Summer Down Under most recently in 2024, Ethan achieved the following results: 100m 19.37, 200m 37.10, 400m 1:09.84, 800m 2:38.23, and 1.5km with a time of 4:41.41, - as well as competing in the OZ Day 10km Sydney marathon.

"Being from the small town of Wonthaggi, I grew up as a cattle/dairy farmer until I could no longer at the age of 17, but my interest still sits with agriculture, horticulture, landscaping, and Landcare, as well as wood and steel construction.

"I enjoy keeping my mind occupied by doing self-study in other fields, such as psychology and physiology, and above all else helping and guiding others in my spare time," Ethan explained.

Ethan's strength and determination is inspiring to his peers, and he is currently training with rowing Victoria to start another path in competitive sport and continue his message of fitness and mental health within the local community.



Parra sport athlete Ethan Shawcroft changing lives through sport. Photo: John Tibben.



There has been some high-calibre racing at Stony Creek this season and more of the same today, Tuesday, February 6.

Day out for publicans at Stony Creek today

THERE'S a great card of racing at Stony Creek today, Tuesday, February 6 for the annual publicans' day, a get-together for the industry which has so far attracted representation from 11 Gippsland hotels.

They'll get come together for a 200-strong publican's lunch in the betting ring prior to the start to racing at 1.30pm.

However, more local hoteliers are welcome to attend at the general admission prices of \$15 and \$10, or anyone else for that matter on a day set to be ideal for racing, partly cloudy and 21 degrees.

The publicans will no doubt keep an eye on the omen bet of the day, No.6 Whisky Moon in Race 3, in the betting at \$3.90 while others to follow might be No.3 Dummy Spit at \$4.60 in the sixth Race, and No.4 Midnight Poker in Race 8 at \$3.70. The outsider omen bet might be No.6 Bossy Star at the juicy odds of \$23 in Race 4.

According to Stony Creek Racing Club CEO Adam Olszanski, all is in readiness for a great day of Stony Creek racing.

"The track is superb, the weather should be ideal and we've got good fields across eight races," Mr Olszanski said.

Foundation support

The Stony Creek Racing Club is excited to announce the second recipient of its Community Fund, The Go Girls Foundation. The Foundation empowers women at risk who have experienced family violence, social isolation and homelessness by assisting them to become work ready and financially independent.

Announced for the 2023/24 racing season, the club has introduced an annual Community Grant Fund, as a mechanism to continue to give back to the South Gippsland community through contributing to projects with direct benefits to local people. This financial year the club has allocated \$10,000 to organisations working in the broad areas of education and resilience in the South Gippsland community.

The other recipient announced prior to Christmas was Meeniyan Primary School, who will use the funding to refurbish the science and art room, including new flooring and shelving to improve its functionality for students and staff.

Last week members of the Stony Creek Community Fund, a subcommittee of the Stony Creek Racing Club



Sarah Bourke (SCRC Committee Member and Community Fund Chair) meets with Michelle Jobson, CEO of Go Girls to discuss how the SCRC Community Fund will support local women through their upcoming program across Bass Coast and South Gippsland.

met with Go Girls CEO and Founder Michelle Jobson.

"As a committee we have done a lot of work in upgrading the racing experience with a particular focus attracting women and families, so we are delighted to make a contribution to a program which is driving real change and helping local women to be their best," said Sarah Bourke, SCRC Committee Member and Community Fund Chair.

The next Go Girls Program commences in April across South Gippsland and the Bass Coast, through a series of workshops, retreats and events, providing a supportive and inclusive environment to empower women to create a vision for their own future. You can also attend their information Session: Thursday, March 28th @ Wonthaggi ArtSpace, The Centennial Centre, 1 Bent Street, Wonthaggi.

For more information contact Michelle Jobson on 0406 998 612 and visit gogirls.org.au.

This week's Publicans Day will be the fourth of five race meetings for the season, with the feature event of the season being the Ladbrokes Stony Creek Cup on the Labor Day Weekend, Sunday March 10.



Jockey Ben Moffat with Greg Price of Alex Scott & Staff and owner of Woolamai Cup winning horse Popeye the Sailor, Ray Douglas. Z23_0624

Popeye the Sailor flexes his muscles

From page 64

Race four saw Grant Seccombe score a convincing 3.5 length win on Marco Spada with leading jockey Shaun Cooper getting his best result for the day on Whoopti Fizz in second.

The final race of the day was taken out by the Troy Kilgower trained Impel winning by a convincing five lengths in the Workmen's Club Maiden ridden by Henry Jaggard.

A feature of the day was the Eventful Horizons team that were assembling

those in their finest for the renowned Fashions on the Field, judged by Jess Odgers and Baylee Walters, where Karlie Owen was presented with first place, and runner up was awarded to Katherine Williams – the two parading pastel colours for the summer race day.

After the presentation of the Woolamai Cup, Amanda Tinner of the Victorian Wakeful Club presented owner of 'See it All' – horse number five, Brenda Watts with the strapper award

valued at \$200 – the prize was awarded to the best presented horse.

"We are a club that encourages women in racing, and today we were looking at the horse that was the calmest, and it was our observation that she was well in touch with the horse," said Amanda.

"It was a pleasure to be able to present the award at the event so well put on by Woolamai."

The Woolamai Whirlwind Race Day is up next on Saturday, February 17 with gates opening at 11am.



Eventful Horizons judge Baylee Walters with Fashions on the Field winner Karlie Owen, runner up Katherine Williams and Eventful Horizons organiser Jess Odgers at the Woolamai Races. Z24_0624

BASS COAST SURF ACADEMY

AFTER SCHOOL LEARN TO SURF PROGRAM - TERM 1

DETAILS : 4, 6 OR 8 WEEK AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMS FOR 8 - 17 YEAR OLDS

COMMENCING : TERM 1 - WEEK 3

MON - FRI, 12 - 16 FEBRUARY 24

LOCATIONS : INVERLOCH BEACH & SMITHS BEACH

COST : 4 WEEK PROGRAM = \$200

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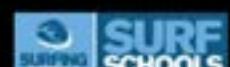
8 WEEK PROGRAM = \$350 (1 SESSION FREE / SAVE \$50)

TIME : 4 PM - 5:15 PM GROUP SIZE : MIN : 3 MAX : 8 STUDENTS

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Bridge results

SOUTH GIPPSLAND

JANUARY 23 at RSL Wonthaggi: Seven tables competed in North/South pairs.

Master point winners:

First: Alan Johnston and John Sutton 59.57 per cent.

Second: Ruth Harvey and Sue Edwards 50.99.

Third: Greg Nicholson and Jean Barbour 50.55.

East/West pair winners:

First: Julie Perriam and Anne Gibson with a great 64.48 per cent.

Second: John French and Debbie Anglim 61.10.

Third: Nev and Phillip Chapman 54.41.

January 26: seven tables at Inverloch Fishing Club.

North/South point winners:

First: John French and Debbie Anglim 59.52.

Second: John Currier and John Sutton 56.85.

Third: Tom Kudelka and Denise Allott 56.85.

East/West winners:

First: Mary Brewis and Carole Sowden 55.36.

Second: Maureen Stiles and Penny Loughran 53.57.

Third: Anne Gibson and Richard Poole 52.68.

January 30: six tables at Wonthaggi RSL.

First: Ruth Harvey and Sue Edwards with an excellent 65.62.

Second: Hannah Martin and Maureen Stiles 56.77.

Third: John French and Deb Anglim 55.21.

Fourth: Julie Perriam and Anne Gibson 50.52.

Fifth: Marie Sands and Ken McEnzie 49.48.

February 2: nine tables at Inverloch.

North/South pairs:

First: Caroline Shaw and Marney Myal 57.14.

Second: Maureen Stiles and Penny Loughran 54.50.

Third: Alan Johnston and Clive Hope 54.50.

Fourth: John Currier and John Sutton 53.70.

East/West winners:

First: Lois Dwyer and Robyn Egan 58.04.

Second: Phillip and Nev Chapman 57.44.

Third: Julie Perriam and Anne Gibson 55.95.

Fourth: Chris Hall and Doug McIntosh 54.17.

It is very pleasing to see new players interested in learning bridge attending the teaching/social bridge Thursday mornings, now at the Wonthaggi RSL starting at 9.30am. All welcome in a fun atmosphere.

PHILLIP ISLAND

RESULTS: Monday, January 29.

In first place Justin Mill and Jane Rennie (69.63 per cent); second placed were Deborah Anglim and Greg Nicholson (58.52 per cent); third Anne Hodgson and Caroline Shaw (57.78 per cent).

Wednesday, January 31: Nationwide.

First place went to Jane Rennie and son Finn Rennie (55.56 per cent); equal second were Molly Dowling and Judy O'Connell (54.17 per cent), and Jill Short and Shirley Stewart (54.17 per cent).

Social bridge every Tuesday night is gaining momentum with four new players starting last week and another three joining in this week.

If you are looking to learn bridge, brush up on your skills or you just feel like a social game, please come along.

For further details, call Jill on 0438 248 578.

Basketballers selected for Vic Country squad

KORUMBURRA Basketball Association's Krystal Arnason and Meg Cooper were recently selected for Victoria's U18 Country Women's team.

The team will compete at the National Championships, set to be held in Brisbane from April 7 to 14.

Training began for the squad last Sunday in Diamond Valley.

The squad will continue to train every Sunday at venues around Victoria until the championships.

Krystal said she was excited to be named in the squad.

The 16-year-old from Leongatha has loved the sport for as long as she can remember, and thanked her coaches Bill Jeffs, Chloe Hogg and Matt Holmes for helping her to reach this level.

Krystal was selected after an impressive performance at the Australian Country Junior Basketball Cup, where she represented Victoria Country U18s in Albury in mid-January.

Her team won the gold medal against a competitive New South Wales country side, winning seven of the eight games played.

A practice match will be played against Victoria Metro on March 10, and the jersey presentation will be held in Melbourne.

In 2023, the U18 Metro and Country Women put up a great performance through the tournament, proving great determination on the national stage.

The National Championships are the pinnacle event for emerging athletes on a national stage, as the teams compete to be crowned National Champion at the end of



Leongatha's Krystal Arnason was recently selected for Victoria's U18 Country Women team headed for the National Championships in April.

the tournament.

Basketball Victoria's general manager performance and pathways Grant Wallace said the regular calendar of play and preparation, plus recent stellar performances at the East Coast Challenge and Country Cup, has determined a high calibre group of athletes to be selected from.

"Our biggest strength is our culture, and we have seen the success of our High-Performance Hubs as part of our State Development Program that has helped drive the standards and competitiveness to a new level. Our whole group is looking forward to the trip to Queensland in April," he said.

Big month for Wonthaggi Croquet Club

THE lead up to Christmas was quite eventful for the Wonthaggi Croquet Club, with two groups from the Bass Coast Shire Council enjoying the facilities and having a few fun games over several hours.

A large group attended on December 13, incorporating a barbecue into the day's event.

The weather was kind on both days and a number of club members came along to assist in pointing out the finer nuances of the game.

The club's Christmas break up was held at the club for the first time in many years with the new clubrooms now able to accommodate more than a dozen or so people.

Around 30 members and spouses attended.

A visit from Father Christmas (aka Neil Warburton) was a highlight with a raffle rounding off a great day.

Thanks to all those who organised and coordinat-

ed the catering, raffle and cleaning up.

January started with several members attending a singles tournament at Sale.

Tom Lacey competed in Section 2 where he won three out of his eight games and Sue Baker competed in Section 3, winning four out of her eight games.

Cairnlea was the venue for tournaments played over five days from January 24 to January 28 inclusive.

On January 24 and 25, in the Victorian Open Doubles, Neil Warburton teamed up with Graham Smith (Kyneton) in Blue Block, winning two of their seven games and ultimately finishing 10th, and Tom Lacey and Sue Baker contested Red Block also winning two of their seven games and ultimately finishing 13th.

Australia Day produced a round robin singles event and in Division 3.

Tom Lacey won three of

five games, whilst in Division 4, Neil Warburton won two of five games.

The Victorian Open Singles was held on January 27 and 28.

Neil, Paul Andrews and Tom contested this event, where the competition features some of the best from Victoria and interstate.

Competing in Blue Block, Neil won two from four.

Paul and Tom competed in Red Block with Tom winning two from four and Paul unfortunately going down 0/4.

A tough, but satisfying few days at the office.

Australia Day was celebrated at the club with a few social games and a barbecue ably managed by ever reliable chef Allan Mullaney.

February shapes up to be a busy month.

The club days are Monday 4pm onwards during daylight savings, and Wednesday and Saturday from 10am, so come along and have a try.

Ellinbank gear up for round one

POOWONG Football Netball Club is set to face Yarragon in the season opener on April 6.

The Ellinbank Football Netball League fixture was released earlier this month.

Poowong's clash with Yarragon will take place to Poowong's home ground.

This will be an interesting start to the Magpies' season, as they were fairly evenly matched with Yarragon in 2023.

"Both teams will be going in with a few changes, so you never know what's going to happen. They were a young, improving side, much like we were," Poowong club president Matt Henshall said.

Ultimately defeating Yarragon twice, Poowong finished ahead of its round one challenger in 2023.

However, it's a new season and the team will be going in with no presumptions, ready to put Yarragon to the test.

Nyora Football Netball Club will face Nilma Darnum away in round one.

The local derby between Poowong and Nyora will take place at Poowong in round three as part of the town's 150th celebrations.

"We imagine the town will turn out for it – it's going to be massive," Henshall said.

"We put in a request to the league to have the derby played in round three. It's going to be a great opportunity for both clubs."

Henshall said Poowong's goal for 2024 is to continue the development of the juniors.

"We have a club full of them. We'd like to see more improvement of skills and fitness, and enjoyment from our youngsters," he said.

Poowong returned to preseason training last week, and numbers have been strong.

The club is looking forward to the season ahead, and have been working hard to upgrade the kitchen and bar to further improve its facilities.

U14s GUFC vs Dandenong Thunder

A TOUGH first outing for the United 14s against a strong Thunder squad saw the team end up on the wrong side of the results column in their first grading game of 2024.

The game started with the Thunder scoring a cheap first goal from a defensive error four minutes into the first half, which put the home team on the back foot - chasing the game from the get-go.

Thunder again applied the blowtorch in already hot conditions and scored a second goal at the 10-minute mark.

With substitutions made, McCann-Diston put the ball into the back of the United goal to open the teams account on the 17-minute mark. The bullish young striker was involved again in the 27th minute when he earned a penalty that was calmly put away by Semmens to even the score.

Unfortunately for United, Thunder scored quickly from the next kick off and went in 3-2 up at halftime.

The second half saw United ramp up their pressure and intensity, but they couldn't put the ball in the back of the net from the chances they created with several shots going wide of the target.

Thunder was better at finding feet with their passing and had United working hard to close down play for the vast majority of the second half.

McNeill and Halkett-Dobson worked tirelessly down back all game, but their efforts could not stop the Thunder scoring again in the 49th and 55th minutes to run out 5-2 winners.



Gordon Cowling drives for the Goannas.



Goannas' Dick Noble attacks the Warrandyte bowling.



Aydan Williams of Leongatha and Liam Cumiskey of Latrobe Valley were named equal winners of the Graham Challis Trophy for the Under 18 GCL Cricketer of the Year, presented by the Leongatha legend himself after Sunday's final at Hallora. GCL UNDER 18s_0624

Latrobe and Leongatha share GCL Under 18 honours

IT'S been a big week for the Gippsland Region 7 Leongatha and District Under 18 team, taking out the T20 Gippsland premiership on Tuesday and taking it right down to the wire in the GCL One Day Grand Final at Hallora on Sunday.

Try as they might, they couldn't quite pull off the double, but they battled it out in a worthy final against Latrobe Valley.

Here's Scott Checkley's report from Sunday's one dayer:

Latrobe Valley 7/218 off 50 overs def Leongatha 10/199 off 64.1 overs.

Latrobe Valley won the toss and elected to bat on a very good-looking Hallora pitch. Tim Niven and Aydan Williams opened the bowling with both boys getting the ball to swing nicely.

Niven started things off, trapping LV skipper Burrows in front then No.3 Bellingham with a sharp catch taken by Rhett Hume.

The next period proved to be costly for the LDCA lads with Mulley and Seymour forming a good partnership of 115 aided by a few dropped catches from the LDCA.

When both these lads were dismissed in quick succession the score was 4/141. A few more quick wickets and at 6/168 the LDCA had their tails up.

At this point Bloomfield and Stockdale finished off the LV innings well adding 50 to get the LV score up to 218, a good total but one the LDCA thought was very gettable with the good pitch and lightning fast outfield. Niven, Williams and Seuren all claiming two wickets.

Our turn to bat saw Harry West and Matty Dakin open up with both lads in really good form playing some great shots all around the oval. Dakin particularly savage on any short balls on offer, getting the score to 63 in good time before West unluckily chopped one on. Skipper Gannon joined Dakin and again the boys looked in total control until Dakin was dismissed for a brilliant 65, featuring 11 boundaries to have the score at 2/116.

At this point LV had introduced leg spin from both ends with both players bowling well, claiming the wicket of Dakin then the unfortunate run out of Seuren, and when Gannon was caught and bowled by Walsh, the middle order were now under pressure.

Butcher, Croatto and Williams all got starts but the pressure of the chase proved to be a bit much for a gallant LDCA team.

Congratulations to LV, both teams should be very proud that they put on a great display of cricket.

Congratulations to Aydan Williams who was named joint winner of the U18 Graham Challis player of the year, a huge thrill for an LDCA player to receive the award from one of the greatest LDCA players of all time.

Thanks to Hallora Cricket Club for hosting, what a great place to play cricket!

Goannas outplay the Wombats

OVER 70s

THE Gippsland Goannas over-70 team welcomed neighbours, the West Gippsland Wombats, to the beautiful Toongabbie Recreation Reserve on Tuesday for the round six clash, which had been deferred by bad weather from January 9.

The ground was in excellent condition, the weather cool and the pitch well-prepared as the Wombats won the toss and batted.

Russell Ferguson and Jeff Phillips (who has played for the Goannas) opened the batting to Gordon Cowling and new 'Old' player Neil Meredith (he has just become eligible to play in this grade).

Phillips was bowled by Cowling in his first over and Ferguson by Meredith in his second.

This brought Carl Muscat (Vic1 player) and Goanna Fred Debono to the crease.

Debono faced 16 balls before losing his off stump to Cowling (who had two for one after four overs) and Peter Loos joined Muscat.

They took the score to 32 in

the 12th over when Loos (23 from 21 balls) was bowled by Andrew Smith, who had replaced Meredith. Ian Southall replaced Cowling and Smith bowled Neil White in his second over.

Dick Noble came on for a couple of overs before drinks and had immediate success, having Muscat (17 from 37) well stumped by 'keeper Ian Gibson.

At drinks the Wombats were 6/65.

Keith Houghton and Mike Newton rescued the situation for the Wombats, with a partnership of 61 as Houghton retired with 40 from 45 balls.

Noble continued in the attack with Barrie Nunn bowling four overs and Donald Cameron two.

Houghton's retirement brought the Wombats captain John Moore to face his nemesis Phill Higgins.

Higgins had bowled three balls in a match a few years ago, at Toongabbie, and took three for zero, including Moore.

Phill again bowled Moore first ball.

The Wombats were 7/115 in

the 30th over.

Higgins also removed Brendan Thomas to have 2/18 from four overs.

Last man in Jim Gregory batted with Newton for the last eight overs, and finished with 21, run out off the last ball, while Newton ended up at 38 not out from 60 balls.

Bob Duljas had bowled two overs, for five runs and Cowling and Noble returned to bowl the last four overs.

The Wombats final score was 9/154 from 40 overs.

Successful bowlers' figures: Cowling eight overs, 2/17, Meredith five overs, 1/11, Smith five overs, 2/17, Noble seven overs, 1/36 and Higgins four overs, 2/18.

After a lovely lunch, supplied by the Goannas, Warren Dummett and Southall opened the batting for the Goannas.

Southy played across the line on his second ball and was bowled by Gregory, bringing Donald Cameron to the crease.

These two took the score to 29 in the 11th over when Dummett was caught at square leg for 15.

Ian Gibson and Cameron put on 33 runs when the latter played on and was bowled by Newton for 33 (from 49 balls). Meredith joined Gibson and the Goannas score at 3/73.

The score advanced at better than six an over with this pair forcing the pace, until Gibson departed, bowled by Houghton for 33 (from 53 balls).

Cowling and Meredith put on 17 runs, with Merro hitting a monstrous six, then 'walking' after being hit on the pads next ball.

He made 31 from 31 balls and Noble joined Cowling and was bowled for seven by Fred Debono.

The Goannas were 6/141 in the 34th over. Smith (4) and Cowling (22) managed to take the score to the Wombats total, retiring so that Wayne Tatterson, Nunn and Duljas could have a hit.

After 39 overs, the game was finally called off, with the Goannas at 7/160.

The Goannas Over-70's next game is on Tuesday next and is a home game against the Warrandyte Over-70 team.

Lamers named Gippsland Player of the Year

LEONGATHA cricketer Ethan Lamers was named Player of the Year for the Gippsland Cricket League at the weekend.

Lamers took the honour after scoring all but 200 runs at an average of all but 50 this season, to go with a handful of wickets for Leongatha District.

The all-rounder put together a consistent GCL campaign across four games, scoring three half centuries and twice taking three wickets in an innings.

He showed his class with a fine 62 against eventual grand

finalists Sale-Maffra in Round 2, while his match against Warragul in Round 4 saw him take 3/30 and smash 72 off 80 balls.

That innings featured five sixes at Korumburra Recreation Reserve.

His home club, Outtrim Moyarra Kongwak, will be hoping some of this form translates to regular Saturday cricket, as OMK are 12 points outside the top four in the Leongatha District Cricket Association.

He scored a mighty 144 out of 236 for OMK in November, but the runs seem to have dried up since then. As GCL

Player of the Year, Lamers received the Alan Rankin Memorial, named after the Gippsland cricket legend, as well as an All-Gippsland Cap for making Team of the Year.

Rankin is generally regarded as one of the greatest cricketers ever seen in Gippsland.

He scored in excess of 60 centuries at club and representative level, playing for Trafalgar and Warragul District.

RIGHT: Ethan Lamers was named Player of the Year for the Gippsland Cricket League.



Nyora challenge the Stingrays

C GRADE

INVERLOCH will be looking to fend off ladder leader Nyora's onslaught this Saturday.

Nyora won the toss at the Inverloch Recreation Reserve and decided to send the home team into bat first.

Nyora's bowlers quickly picked off the top of the order, however, Wayne Chapman and Archie Terlich managed to make an impact on the scoreboard for Inverloch.

Chapman contributed 36 runs and Terlich top scored with 46 runs.

The bowling efforts were shared between Keith Maclure, Ben Pugh and Daniel Blackney, who claimed three wickets each.

Inverloch played 52 overs and finished up with a score of 10/115.

Nyora opened its account with Jordan Knox and Lincoln Brock making 10 and 13 runs respectively – both were not out.

After eight overs, Nyora finished the day with 0/28 and will continue its innings this weekend.

Strong innings for Phillip Island

PHILLIP Island will be defending 7/208 against Koonwarra L/RSL this weekend.

Phillip Island made the decision to bat first and started strong with opening batsman Gavin Excell making 37 runs.

The dismissal of opening batsman David Fusinato – bowled by Jordi Geary – after contributing 17 runs made way for Steven Niven, who top scored with 52 runs.

Niven retired not out.

Drew Fusinato hit 46 runs, allowing Phillip Island to reach its competitive total.

Koonwarra L/RSL bowler Campbell Riseley was the standout, claiming 3/31.

Other wickets were shared between Spencer Chadwick, Geary and Ashley Boxall.

Koonwarra L/RSL will have its opportunity to bat this Saturday.

The match details for the MDU vs. Korumburra game were not available before going to print. Scores: Korumburra (10/144).

Scores and match details were not available for the Leongatha Town vs. Kilcunda-Bass game before going to print.

C GRADE

Inverloch 115 v Nyora 0/28

Inverloch - 1st INNINGS: W Stewart 6, A Hall 4, C Terlich 1, W Chapman 36, A Terlich 46, M Woods 8, C O'Flynn 1, J Foote 2, M Marston 0, J Mottram Carter 0, M Dugard 1*

Bowling: K Maclure 3/18, M Rowe 1/18, L Brock 0/29, T Perkins 0/13, B Pugh 3/26, D Blackney 3/8, A Linford 0/1.

Nyora - 1st INNINGS: J Knox 10*, L Brock 13* Bowling: C O'Flynn 0/9, M Marston 0/10, W Chapman 0/0, A Terlich 0/6

Phillip Island 7/208 v Koonwarra L/RSL

Phillip Island - 1st INNINGS: G Excell 37, D Fusinato 17, S Niven 52*, D Fusinato 46, M Cleary 18, S Sirirathnage 2, P Francis 11*, C Fall 6, J Parry 0, Zack Hughes 4*

Bowling: S Chadwick 1/44, C Riseley 3/31, S Paterson 0/28, J Geary 1/30, A Boxall 1/43, T Collins 0/25

Korumburra 144 v MDU

No match details available.

Town v Kilcunda-Bass

No match details available.

Glen Alvie - BYE



Phillip Island's Steven Niven top scored with 52 n.o. against Koonwarra. Z19_0624



Shane Paterson in action for Koonwarra against Phillip Island. Z22_0624



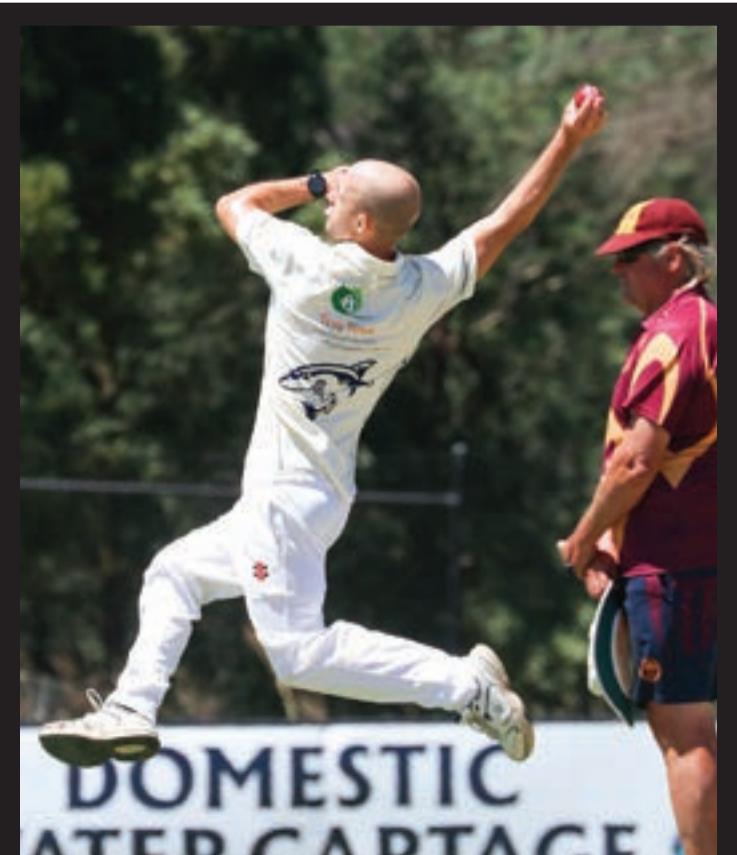
Koonwarra's Jordi Geary broke through for a wicket against Phillip Island. Z20_0624



Phillip Island's opener Gavin Excell scored 37 to give his team a steady start. Z21_0624



OMK's Scott Handley batting against Killy-Bass. Z16_0624



Alister McBride of Killy-Bass in full flight. Z15_0624



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OMK's Brad Hayes drives through the covers against Killy-Bass in B2. Z17_0624

Ladder leaders battle it out

B GRADE, DIVISION 1

In a top of the table clash, first placed Inverloch went head-to-head with second placed Phillip Island on Saturday.

Phillip Island travelled to Inverloch's Thompson Reserve to compete in the first day of the B1 two-day match.

The home side won the toss and went into bat first.

The partnership of Riley Harris and captain Brett Debono opened well, making 38 and 21 runs respectively.

Harris was bowled by Phillip Island captain Kurt Lane and a catch from Timothy McNiven sidelined Debono.

Further down the batting order, Andot Mankhong matched Harris' top score, contributing 38 runs before he was caught by Henry Peppard.

Lane and Andrew Tolley produced Phillip Island's best bowling figures, taking 3/27 and 3/10 respectively.

Jobe Williams was also a multiple wicket taker.

Inverloch finished off its innings and Phillip Island went into bat, eyeing off Inverloch's 10/173 target.

Phillip Island faced six overs and is sitting on 0/19 heading into this Saturday.

Oliver Duggan hit four runs and Sarith Angelo contributed 15 runs to the Sharks tally.

Dole stars for the Cobras

A MASSIVE 135 run effort from Korumburra's Shane Dole has the Cobras sitting comfortably against Leongatha Town after Saturday's B1 match.

The first day of the two-day match was played at Leongatha's Scorpion Park.

Korumburra won the toss and chose to step up to the wicket first.

The Cobras seemed to be in trouble early, with Cory Arnold, Jacob Wrigley and Matthew Allen dismissed before making double digits.

Town's Fletcher McLennan's early work on the field was making it difficult for

Korumburra to make an impact on the scoreboard.

Dole was fourth in the batting order and kept the Cobras well and truly in the match.

He hit his 135 runs before he was dismissed by a catch from Levi Hickey.

Mathew Olden finished off the innings with 34 runs.

Town captain Luke Ashton was the top bowler, taking 3/24.

Korumburra will be defending 10/247 this Saturday.

Koony boosted by Hughes' haul

SAM Hughes contributed an impressive 108 runs to Koonwarra L/RSL's tally on Saturday.

Playing at the Leongatha velodrome, OMK won the toss and sent the Cougars into bat first.

Opening batsman Michael Thomas hit 37 runs before he was bowled by Ben Maguire.

Hughes, batting at number 4, hit 13 fours and two sixes before he was caught by Adam Busana.

Paris Buckley finished off the innings with 27 not out.

OMK's Nick Wylie tried to slow the Cougar's run, taking 4/60.

Koonwarra L/RSL played out its 70 overs and set a target of 7/237 for OMK this Saturday.

MDU hassle the Imps

THE Imperials are in danger coming into this Saturday with MDU threatening to pass its final score.

The Imps won the toss on the weekend and chose to bat on the first day of the two-day match.

Momentum was gathered gradually, with captain Kristian Gray top scoring with 23 runs midway through the batting order.

Campbell Reid and Clint Honeysett each made 15 runs.

MDU bowler Clayton Fisher demonstrated his prowess, taking 4/30.

Mike Olden also gave a strong performance as he claimed 3/23.

The Imps were bowled out with a score of 10/115.

MDU opened its account and faced 28 overs.

Opening batsman Olden was 50 not out at stumps.

Imps bowler James Forrester fought hard to slow MDU's run, taking 3/4, including the dismissal of Jai Bright for a golden duck.

MDU is currently on 4/78 and will continue its innings this Saturday.

B GRADE, DIVISION 2

Checkley dominates

SCOTT Checkley's monstrous 142 run effort has Nerrena sitting comfortably ahead of Wonthaggi Club's innings this Saturday.

Nerrena travelled to Wonthaggi's McMahon Reserve and were sent into bowl first by the home side.

Checkley hit 23 boundaries including two sixes and was finally stopped by Club bowler Sam Liddle.

Cameron Baudinette kept the momentum going with 52 runs to be not out at the end of the innings.

Liddle was Club's star bowler on the day, taking 3/75.

Chris Fraser also claimed two wickets.

Nerrena played out its 70 overs, resulting in a final tally of 6/262.

Glen Alvie show competitive edge

A STRONG start from captain Steve Smith saw Glen Alvie hold its nerve against Foster on Saturday.

Playing away at Foster, Glen Alvie won the toss and chose to bat first.

Smith opened the batting for Glen Alvie and hit 69 runs before he was dismissed LBW.

Later in the innings, Darcy Hale contributed a further 51 runs to the scoreboard.

Nathan Thatcher and Albert Russell's 31 and 30 runs respectively pushed Glen Alvie to the respectable score of 10/255.

Four wickets were taken by a private player, with Andrew

Pattie and Brad Cripps also claiming multiple wickets for Foster.

Foster opened its innings and played 13 overs.

Opening batsman Brett Gay made 12 runs before his wicket fell to Russell.

Brandon Busuttil and Tim Garvey made two and eight runs respectively and were not out at stumps.

Foster will continue its innings this Saturday.

Sharks show no mercy

PHILLIP Island will be seeking an outright win against Korumburra this Saturday.

Playing at the Rhyll Cricket Ground, Korumburra made the decision to bat first.

Opening batsman Caleb Turton was dismissed for a duck, which allowed Darren Scott to step up.

Scott kept the hopes alive for Korumburra, hitting 41 runs before he was caught by Tarryn Allan.

Timothy Morrison was the only other batsman to make double figures, contributing 10 runs.

Phillip Island bowlers David Womersley, Archie Williams and Tony Hornsby claimed two wickets each.

Korumburra played 40 overs, resulting in a score of 9/81.

Phillip Island opened its innings and stormed past Korumburra's total in a consistent effort from the top of the order.

Opening batsman John Manning made 21 runs before he was caught by Patrick Beadel.

This was followed by Tharidu Asurumuni's 56 runs, Hornsby's 56 runs and Daniel McCausland's 58 runs.

Hornsby and McCausland were not out at stumps.

Wickets were taken by Beadel and Glen Barrett.

Phillip Island played 30 overs and made 2/196.

The match details for the Kilcunda-Bass vs. OMK game were not available before going to print. Scores: Kilcunda-Bass (0/16) OMK (10/128).

B GRADE

DIVISION 1

Inverloch 173 v Phillip Island 0/19

Inverloch - 1st INNINGS: R Harris 38, B Debono 21, I Seuren 8, J Richardson 2, A Mankhong 38, G Eddy 11, C Newman 21, J Rowe 10, T Debono 7, J Bowring 5, D Cashin 3*
Bowling: T Niven 1/12, H Arceo 1/24, A Williams 0/30, J Williams 2/36, K Lane 3/27, A Tolley 3/10
Phillip Island - 1st INNINGS: O Duggan 4*, S Angelo 15*
Bowling: J Richardson 0/9, I Seuren 0/10

Korumburra 247 v Town

Korumburra - 1st INNINGS: C Arnold 3, J Wrigley 6, M Allen 6, S Dole 135, J Walsh 14, D Whelan 9, T Sorrell 0, S Head 1, B Riddell 1, M Olden 34, M Loader 4*
Bowling: L Hickey 1/33, F McLennan 1/13, S Clark 2/52, A Fixter 0/13, L Ashton 3/24, N Fixter 1/22, C Bruce 0/33, V Peiris 0/8, L Bowman 1/25

Imperials 115 v MDU 4/78

Imperials - 1st INNINGS: G Sauvarin 4, C Bruce 3, J Forrester 10, F Botha 13, C Reid 15, K Gray 23, D McLennan 9, F Materia 13, C Honeysett 15, N McLennan 3*, I Bolge 0
Bowling: M Olden 3/23, K Brown 2/33, C Fisher 4/30, C Hooper 1/24
MDU - 1st INNINGS: M Olden 50*, K Sinclair 9, W Prosser 5, J Bright 0, G Cocksedge 0, C Hooper 8*
Bowling: I Bolge 0/26, K Gray 1/17, C Bruce 0/19, J Forrester 3/4, F Botha 0/7

Koonwarra L/RSL 7/237 v OMK

Koonwarra L/RSL - 1st INNINGS: M Thomas 37, A Hunt 13, K Scrimshaw 1, S Hughes 108, M Scrimshaw 16, L Read 5, N Grimes 6, P Buckley 27*, B Anderson 10*
Bowling: A Trotto 0/32, H James 0/23, R Foster 0/17, N Wylie 4/60, B Wyatt 0/28, B Maguire 1/23, J Hayes 0/16, A Busana 1/26

B GRADE

DIVISION 2

Glen Alvie 255 v Foster 1/29

Glens Alvie - 1st INNINGS: S Smith 69, A Moore 13, J Tiziani 4, A Donohue 9, H Smith 3, N Thatcher 31, D Hale 51, A Russell 30, R Luke 24, L McRae 1, Private player 0*
Bowling: D Clearihan 0/9, A Pattie 2/54, B Busuttil 1/39, Private player 4/67, L Moon 0/24, B Cripps 2/49, G Singh 0/10
Foster - 1st INNINGS: B Gay 12, B Busuttil 2*, T Garvey 8*
Bowling: L McRae 0/1, A Russell 1/21, D Hale 0/2

P-Island 2/196 v Korumburra 9/81

Korumburra - 1st INNINGS: C Turton 0, A Damon 6, D Scott 41, P Beadel 5, G Barrett 9, T Morrison 10, J Dunn 1, A Knight 4, S McKinnon 0*, H Scott 0, Private player 0*
Bowling: T Allan 1/24, D McCausland 1/25, D Womersley 2/8, J Tran 1/14, A Williams 2/5, T Hornsby 2/3
Phillip Island - 1st INNINGS: J Manning 21, T Asurumuni 56, T Hornsby 56*, D McCausland 58*
Bowling: D Scott 0/29, A Damon 0/21, G Barrett 1/34, P Beadel 1/30, A Knight 0/26, S McKinnon 0/23, J Dunn 0/21, C Turton 0/9

OMK 128 v Kilcunda-Bass 0/16

No match details available.

Nerrena 6/262 v Club

Nerrena - 1st INNINGS: B Gannon 14, R Jefferis 3, M Croatto 36, S Checkley 142, Private player 0, C Baudinette 52*, R Checkley 0, B Croatto 6*
Bowling: A Babu 1/54, C Fraser 2/72, M Sharp 0/19, S Liddle 3/75, M Chisholm 0/10, W Speed 0/28

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NEXT WEEKEND'S GAMES & UMPIRE APPOINTMENTS

ROUND 12 – DAY 2
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2024

A GRADE, Division 1

Nerrena v Imperials

LEONGATHA TURF

John Schelling

Phillip 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

Koonwarra L/RSL v Nerrena

KOONWARRA

Les White

Glen Alvie v Foster

WONTHAGGI TURF

Warren Williams

MDU v Kilcunda-Bass

MEENIYAN

Geoff Parkinson

B GRADE, Division 1

Town v Korumburra

SCORPION 1

No umpire

Koonwarra L/RSL v OMK

LEONGATHA VEL

No umpire

Imperials v MDU

EAST CAMPUS

Michael Ryan

Inverloch v P-Island

INVERLOCH TURF

Neil Graham

B GRADE, Division 2

Phillip 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

NEWHAVEN COLLEGE

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

LEONGATHA & DISTRICT CRICKET ASSOCIATION

A1: Tom Crocker (Korumburra) 90 ; Timothy Wightman (Nerrena) 6/57

A2: Henry Dolphin (Nyora) 118 ; Chris Peckett (Kilcunda-Bass) 4/10

B1: Shane Dole (Korumburra) 135 ; Clayton Fisher (MDU) 4/30

B2: Scott Checkley (Nerrena) 142 ; Private Player (Foster) 4/67

C: Steven Niven (Phillip Island) 52* ; Daniel Blackney (Nyora) 3/8

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Sharks set to defend a strong total



Phillip Island's Tom Niven plays to leg. Z14_0624



Opener Heath Womersley gave the Sharks a steady start against Inverloch. Z13_0624



Harry Butcher was lively bowling for Inverloch. Z11_0624

A GRADE, DIVISION 1

PHILLIP Island set itself up well to defend its total against Inverloch.

Playing at the Newhaven Recreation Reserve, Inverloch won the toss and sent the home team to the crease.

Phillip Island's opening batsman Heath Womersley had the Sharks off to a nice start with 22 runs.

Captain Daniel Mock stepped in after the early dismissal of Thomas Niven and top scored with 54 runs.

Shiran Rathnayake also contributed 38 runs to the scoreboard in a team effort to achieve a comfortable score.

Inverloch bowler Andrew Donohue fought back against the Sharks, claiming 3/79.

Harry Butcher was also a multiple wicket taker.

After playing out its 75 overs, Phillip Island challenged Inverloch with a final score of 9/209.

Wightman challenges the Imperials

SIX wickets claimed by Timothy Wightman kept the Nerrena underdogs competitive in the A1 match against The Imperials.

The Imps won the toss and chose to bat first.

The opening partnership of Luke Rogers and Nick Eddy combined well to contribute 18 and 33 runs respectively.

Dimitri Weerakkodi Arachchige top scored with 42 off 65 balls before Wightman ended his run.

Wightman worked his way through the rest of the order, with wickets also shared between Jarrod Hoy and Josh Trease.

The Imps ended its innings with a score of 10/154.

Nerrena opened its innings with Loc Roberts contributing nine runs and Hoy making three runs.

Both were bowled LBW by Lachie Wright and captain Jack Ginnane.

Hayden Funnell made 13 runs and was not out at stumps.

Nerrena made 2/32 and will finish off its innings on Saturday.

Cobras demolish Town's tally

KORUMBURRA will be going for an outright win against a shellshocked Leongatha Town this Saturday.

In the first day of the two-day A1 match last weekend, the Cobras won the toss and made a good decision when it sent Town into bat first.

Jacob Whiteside's was in hot form as he and Thilakaratna Dilshan decimated Town's batting order.

Whiteside and Dilshan claimed 5/20 and 3/32 respectively.

Town batters found it tough going with no one reaching double digits until Pandukabhaya Jayasinghe came to the wicket.

Jayasinghe ended as the Scorpions' top scorer with 16 runs, with Jack Hume contributing a further 12.

Totally outplayed Town's innings ended on 60.

With plenty of time available the Cobras commenced their innings and opening batsman Tom Crocker helped them sail over Town's tally.

Crocker put in a huge solo effort making 90 runs before he was dismissed.

Nadeesha Belpage contributed 25 runs to the Cobras' total.

Multiple wickets were taken by Town bowlers Rhett Hume, Ron Abeysinghe and Josh Williams.

Korumburra faced 38.5 overs and made 9/156.

OMK deliver tough contest

A MIGHTY effort from OMK resulted in a tough ask for Wonthaggi Club on Saturday.

The first day of the two-day A1 match was played at Outtrim, with the home side winning the toss and opting to bat first.

Opening batsman Ethan Lamers set a nice pace with 35 runs before he was caught by James Sheerin.

Sheerin was also accurate with his bowling, taking 6/75 to keep Club in the contest.

Batting at second drop, Mudassar Riaz made a statement by hitting 82 runs.

Club stood its ground and took regular wickets until Peter Dell stepped up to the crease and added an extra 80 runs to OMK's tally.

Zavier Lamers also rounded out the innings with 39 runs and was not out.

OMK lasted 70 overs to finish up with a total of 10/285.

Club had the opportunity to open its account and faced five overs.

Opening batsman Stewart Beaumont was caught by Jacob Lamers after making eight runs.

Mitch Thomas on seven runs and Fraser West with four runs, survived not out at stumps.

Sitting on 1/21, Club will continue its innings this Saturday.



Nyora's Henry Dolphin played a genuine Captain's knock peeling off an impressive 118 runs.

Dolphin and Hackett set Nyora alight

A GRADE, DIVISION 2

NYORA captain Henry Dolphin marched his team to an extraordinary total of 10/325 with a 118-run haul on Saturday.

Coming up against Wonthaggi Club, Nyora won the toss and chose to bat.

Dolphin opened the batting for Nyora and was a force to be reckoned with until he was run out.

However, Nyora wasn't finished.

Jack Hackett contributed an impressive 82 runs to the scoreboard.

Club's bowler Jai Williamson gave the best performance for the away side, claiming 3/48.

Multiple wickets also fell to Heath Dobbie.

With a demanding task ahead, Club will have its opportunity to bat this Saturday.

Cougars put the pressure on Nerrena

KOONWARRA L/RSL ended its innings with a handy score against Nerrena on Saturday.

Isuru Darshana steered the Cougars' innings in the right direction when he made 52 runs.

He was sidelined by a catch taken by James Kelly.

Azhar Mehmood later top scored with 68 runs.

Nerrena bowler Mitchell Croatto

kept the Cougars on their toes, taking 4/31.

Tyson Harris also put the pressure on, claiming 3/29.

Koonwarra L/RSL finished its run with a final score of 10/235.

Nerrena opened its account and faced 14 overs.

Captain Dave Trotman made six runs before he was caught by James Rushton.

Kelly and Billy Trotman made 31 and three runs respectively to remain not out.

Nerrena had made 1/42 at stumps and will continue its innings this Saturday.

Target set for Kilcunda-Bass

KILCUNDA-BASS will be eying off MDU's total of 10/181 coming into the second day of the two-day match ready for a fight.

Foster sitting just above Glen Alvie on the ladder, Glen Alvie went into the first day of the two-day match ready for a fight.

Matthew Grayson.

MDU will now be looking to defend its score.

Glen Alvie goes in for battle

FOSTER will be looking to fend off a hungry Glen Alvie side on Saturday.

With Foster sitting just above Glen Alvie on the ladder, Glen Alvie went into the first day of the two-day match ready for a fight.

Foster won the toss and chose to bat.

Things weren't looking good for Foster early, as opening batsmen Mitchell Jones and captain Josh Toner were both dismissed without scoring.

Jake Staley and Ben East stepped up to the crease and rectified the situation, putting 32 and 35 runs on the scoreboard respectively.

Multiple wickets fell to Glen Alvie bowlers Ryan Sinclair, Dean Williams and Zack Scholz.

Foster finished its innings on 10/127.

Matthew Donohue and Scott Peatling opened the batting for Glen Alvie.

The pair made 10 and 38 runs respectively and were not out at stumps.

Glen Alvie successfully played out 14 overs unbeaten to be 0/54.

It will continue its run this Saturday.

Kilcunda-Bass bowler Chris Peckett caused some trouble for MDU, picking off 4/10.

Multiple wickets were also taken by captain Ryley Duff and

Paul Le Page was MDU's star batsman, making 54 runs before he was bowled LBW by Todd Smith.

Steve Arnup also contributed nicely to MDU's tally, hitting 41 runs.

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Popeye the Sailor ridden by Ben Moffat wins the Alex Scott & Staff Woolamai Cup. Z25_0624

Popeye the Sailor flexes his muscles in Woolamai Cup

RACE day drew a huge crowd to the Woolamai and District Racing Club last Saturday with Popeye the Sailor trained by Christine Boyd and ridden by Ben Moffat out in front to take the win for the Alex Scott & Staff Woolamai Cup.

Longtime sponsor Greg Price of Alex Scott & Staff shared his delight for owner of horse number four – Popeye the Sailor, Ray Douglas.

“A really good race and a really bright finish, we’re thrilled to see you and Christine take out the silverware today, congratulations,” said Greg.

Ray himself had a tumble off a horse a few weeks ago but was out there on the track with plenty of gusto watching on. Jockey Ben Moffat has

earnt great success on the circuit and showed great satisfaction in bringing home the cup for Ray and Christine.

“I’m happy to win the cup today, but blood, sweat and tears go into these horses and I’m very grateful to have had the opportunity to sit on it today.”

During the post-race presentation it was declared that Moffat was tucked away on the inside, but he put pressure on and eyeballed the leader and that might have just been the winning move.

The substantial crowd were on the sidelines placing bets on six races throughout the afternoon, firstly witnessing Summerhill, the son of

champion European Group One galloper and sire Frankel a convincing winner.

Race two was won by Here’s to Jane making the trip from Colac for trainer John Slater and it made a race to race double for personality jockey Jack Virgona, met and acclaimed at the jockeys’ room door by former Marcellin College classmates who declared Jack a more capable jockey than a fellow physics student.

Race three saw Dustin Dhahran a popular winner for local trainer and “At the Picnics” co-hostess Dani Walker, saluting for jockey Sophie Clayfield.

Continued page 57



Ben Moffat celebrates the Woolamai Cup win on Saturday afternoon. Z26_0624

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