

Sentinel-Times

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Tracee Brusamarello, owner of the Lotto store in Inverloch with staff member Sarah Febey who both got to inform eight locals of their Division One win in a syndicate which equated to over \$375,000 each. ob08_0724

Syndicate scores \$2.8 million win

EIGHT Inverloch shoppers will be sporting winning grins this week after their syndicate scored a Division One win in the weekend's TattsLotto draw.

Shares into the winning store syndicate, called The Lot, were sold at Lotto, Inverloch Foodworks store.

The syndicate held one of the seven Division One winning entries in TattsLotto draw 4441, drawn Saturday, February 10, 2024.

Each division one winning entry pocketed \$2,857,142.86 and each member of the syndicate received a share worth

\$366,217.83.

The Lot syndicate also had a System 9 entry, giving the group an additional \$72,599.75 between them, equating to a final total of \$375,292.80 each.

Inverloch Lotto owner Tracee Brusamarello said the town was buzzing with the

news of the division one winning syndicate.

"We're super excited! This is a long-standing syndicate that's been running for about 10 years," she said.

"It's called The Lot as it has an entry into every draw during the week."

Continued page 3

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Earthquake talk of the town on Friday

WHILE in Elvis' words people were 'all shook up' in Leongatha and further afield early on Friday morning, with many getting an almighty shock when an earthquake struck, there were plenty of humorous comments later in the day.

A couple of those were shared with this scribe during a coffee stop at Joe the Barista.

Customer Lily Akers of Leongatha said the structural soundness of her self-assembled Ikea bed was sternly tested.

Owner Joe Licciardi was surprised by the size of the quake.

"I have never experienced an earthquake of this magnitude in the South Gippsland area; it was scary and it woke us up," he said.

The event was recorded as having a magnitude of 4.3, its epicentre near Leongatha (between Meenihan and Tarwin towards Nerrina (Latitude: -38.56, Longitude: 146.00), occurring at 12.49am Friday morning.

This Leongatha-based journalist was shocked by a loud bang that sounded like something had struck the house roof, although the town's SES unit controller Matt Saario said there were no reports of damage in and around the Leongatha area.

However, Vivien Engassner of Koonwarra discovered broken items such as glass candle holders and champagne glasses which fell onto tiles, along with various knick-knacks that tumbled from shelves.

Some paintings fell while others were left askew.

"I feel like it was right under us, and it was terrifying," Vivien said of the quake, adding that it was later discovered that a freestanding fireplace had moved a few centimetres to the right.

"We were in bed and were woken by the bang," she said, explaining it sounded like an explosion accompanied by the noise of shattering objects, and she and her husband thought a gum tree may have fallen on their house.

Nerrina's Joanne Dyer said that having been woken by the quake, it felt like the earth was going to open up, objects fell in the shower and kitchen and drawers opened in the bedroom.

"We were a bit shaky for probably half an hour and couldn't sleep for a couple of hours," she said.

Continued page 3

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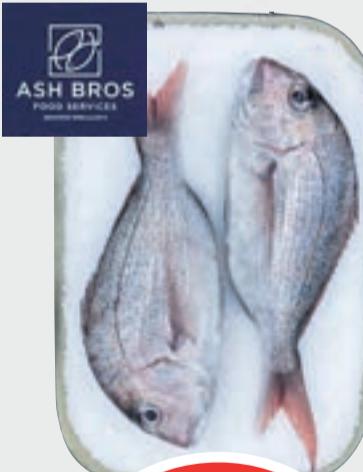


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Earthquake alley's birthday bang for nonagenarian Glenys

MEENIYAN identity, Glenys Shandley, was left shocked and scared by an enormous bang early last Friday morning, and clinging to her armchair for dear life while her rural home on Meeniyen-Nerrena Road shook violently as a 4.3 (Mw) magnitude earthquake struck the area.

Never mind that she was due to celebrate her 90th birthday, on the same day, Friday, February 9, at the Meeniyen Hotel later with family and friends.

"It was terrifying. I never want to go through that again," Mrs Shandley told the Sentinel-Times this week.

"I was sitting in my chair when there was this enormous bang, a huge bang, and the whole place shook. Some photos and things I had on the mantelpiece fell down and I was just worried the air conditioner was going to fall on me next."

"I suppose it took only a few seconds, but it feels like a week when it's happening."

"It was very strong. The strongest I've felt. It was a whopper!"

Mrs Shandley's home is located little more than a 100-metres away from the epicentre of the quake (GPS coordinates longitude 146.00 latitude -38.56), that was felt over a wide area of the state at 12.49am last Friday morning, near the corner of Meeniyen-Nerrena Road and Beecroft and Hanks Road, just north of the township of Meeniyen.

"There was a huge bang and a huge roar, and then the noise rolled up from the east and hit the house. It really rattled and shook. It was scary, honestly. I don't want to experience that again."

Mrs Shandley went on later in the day to celebrate her 90th birthday at the Meeniyen Hotel but the whole experience caught up with her and she was taken to the Wonthaggi Hospital by ambulance after collapsing at the birthday gathering.

"I fainted and they took me in to the hospital. I'm feeling better now," she said this week.

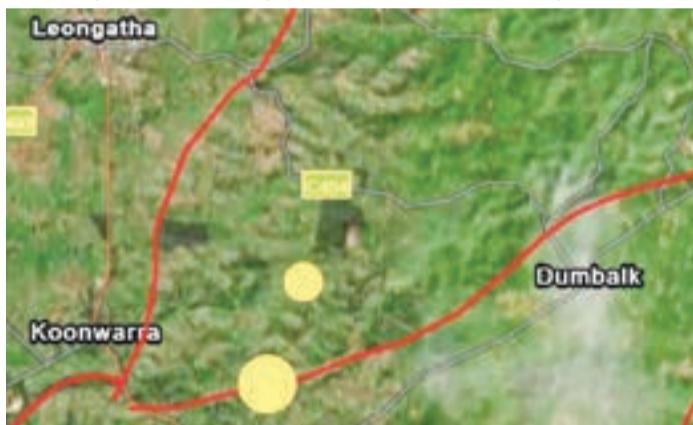
That's some sort of 90th birthday!

There were plenty of other stories, although not quite as dramatic as that, shared around the streets of local towns last Friday and on social media. It was all everyone wanted to talk about.

The Sentinel-Times' Facebook



It was some sort of 90th birthday present for Meeniyen identity Glenys Shandley when her rural home shook violently near the epicentre of last Friday morning's 4.3 magnitude earthquake. Pictured with nephew Nick Findlay and partner Christine celebrating her birthday at the Meeniyen Hotel later in the day.



The 4.3 magnitude earthquake last Friday morning was located right on the Tarwin fault line, north of Meeniyen, while Sunday's smaller 2.9 (Mw) tremor was centred further north between Leongatha South and Nerrena.

page had almost 10,000 views and there were 220 comments, including the following:

- Andee Dee, Leongatha: House shaking, dogs and birds going nuts and a large thunderous sound in Gatha.
- Jess Edwards, Wonthaggi: Yup, woke me up in Wonthaggi. Friends in Bittern felt it as well.
- Bronwyn Lee, Beaconsfield: Yes, I felt it in Beaconsfield. I heard it coming and then the place rattled for a few seconds.
- Irene Holm, Buffalo: Sounded like a truck driving through the house!! Very noisy.
- Adam Dowling, Leongatha: I live in Leongatha. The whole house was shaking. I was sitting on the couch rocking with it.

More expected, Geoscience Australia

To answer some of the questions posed by Sentinel-Times' readers, Spiro Spiliopoulos, a seismologist at Geoscience Australia, said the 'Leongatha Earthquake' last Friday morning wasn't connected to the Korumburra seismic activity of the past 20 years, last quake 3.7 (Mw) in 2011. And yes, they do expect more.

"Not wanting to alarm anyone, but yes, we do expect more, although we can't predict when," Mr Spiliopoulos.

"Parts of Western Australia are our most active, but the Korumburra-Leongatha area has a network of known faults

and is considered more active than average. There have been three in the area in 2024.

"Typically, when you get a reasonable one like that, 4 or above, you can expect aftershocks, smaller and trailing off, and that's what we have seen."

He said the monitoring equipment Geoscience Australia had located in the Korumburra area was "still proving useful".

Small quake Sunday

A LIGHT magnitude 3.0 earthquake hit between Leongatha South and Nerrena (Latitude: -38.52, Longitude: 146.01) in the early morning of Sunday, February 11, 2024 at 1.54 am local time.

The quake had a very shallow depth of 6.5 km (4 mi) and was felt by many near the epicentre. It follows several others in South Gippsland lately including a 4.3 magnitude earthquake north of Meeniyen on Friday, February 9 at 12.49am. Recent tremors include:

- Tuesday, February 6 at 12.15pm at Foster 3.3 magnitude
- Friday, February 9 at 12.49am north of Meeniyen 4.3 magnitude
- Sunday, February 11 at 1.54am at Nerrena 3 magnitude



Lily Akers and Peter Baird share stories about the Leongatha earthquake. A15_0724

Earthquake talk of the town on Friday

From page 1

"I don't know how a house can move so much and still be standing."

Ryanston's Peter Baird said there was a thump and a sideways movement of the house, adding that the noise resembled something landing.

"Oh my God! That was a big possum; it shook the whole house," he said in jest of his immediate response when the quake struck, noting it took a moment to process what was happening in his half-asleep state.

And, whilst some were soundly asleep others were finishing up their evening with Michelle Poecher of Wonthaggi noting on Facebook that she was in the middle of watching apocalyptic Netflix film 'Leave the World Behind' when the earth rumbled.

"It happened just as all the cars (Teslas) in the movie started taking off on their own and crashing into each other."

Syndicate scores \$2.8m

From page 1

"We've had four division one wins over the years, and they have all been from syndicates."

"We were well and truly due for one so it's great to see it happen."

It's the biggest win the Inverloch Lotto owner has seen at the store and she had the exciting task of informing the winners.

Seven winners were aware of their winnings and the eighth had yet to find out as of Monday afternoon.

One winner thought she had only won \$40,000 and was shocked to find out it was almost ten times that amount.

Sarah Febey, a staff member informed another winning member - who was joking about what she might have won - and when she found out how much she had actually won, she became so overwhelmed, Sarah had to help her into a chair until she recovered.

Most winners told Tracee and Sarah they would use the money to help out family members, pay off mortgages and go on holidays.

Tracee said everybody was excited and wanting to know who the lucky winners were, but of course she is not at liberty to tell, but it could be those walking around with winning grins.

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*Please note changes occur as a result of public holidays.

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6 Day Weather Forecast

SOUTH GIPPSLAND



TUE | Feb 13
Possible storm.
Wind AM: Light
Wind PM: N-NW 20-30km/h
18° 33°



WED | Feb 14
Cloudy.
Wind AM: W 25-30km/h
Wind PM: SW 15-25km/h
13° 20°



THUR | Feb 15
Partly cloudy.
Wind AM: Light
Wind PM: S 15-20km/h
10° 21°



FRI | Feb 16
Mostly sunny.
Wind AM: Light
Wind PM: S-SE 15-20km/h
12° 23°



SAT | Feb 17
Sunny.
Wind AM: Light
Wind PM: S-SE 15-20km/h
13° 25°



SUN | Feb 18
Partly cloudy.
Wind AM: Light
Wind PM: Light
15° 25°

IN BRIEF

Shire requests erosion management feedback

SOUTH Gippsland Shire Council is seeking submissions on a proposed update to the Erosion Management Overlay.

If approved, the updated Erosion Management Overlay would mean the need for a planning permit for buildings, such as sheds, with low erosion risk would be removed, but retained for areas at higher risk of erosion.

Specifically, no permit would be required for buildings and works where the difference between finished ground level and natural ground level resulting from excavation or filling does not exceed one metre.

This could mean that sheds located on a relatively flat piece of land would not require a planning permit due to the Overlay.

Information on the proposed Erosion Management Overlay can be viewed at yoursay.southgippsland.vic.gov.au

Written submissions, in line with the Victorian Government's process for Planning Scheme Amendments, can be sent to council@southgippsland.vic.gov.au or 9 Smith Street, Leongatha.

Shire turns a negative into a Korumburra positive

NOW there's a good idea, and from a local council no less!

The South Gippsland Shire Council has purchased the property at 27 Commercial Street, Korumburra that used to be the home of the Korumburra Newsagency, and before it a bank.

When a fire destroyed the building in July 2022, it was described as a "devastating loss for the town". The building wasn't restored, and a key business lost to the town.

Now the shire looks like turning a negative into a positive.

In a statement last week, the council said it intends to use the space to increase pedestrian connection between Commercial Street and Little

Commercial Street, which is home to the new Korumburra Community Hub.

"This property purchase will provide additional connection between key projects including the Korumburra Streetscape, that will be starting this month, and the Korumburra Community Hub," said South Gippsland Shire Council CEO, Kerryn Ellis.

"It is also expected to benefit future projects such as the Korumburra Railway Precinct Revitalisation and support Commercial Street businesses through improved pedestrian access," she said.

In the short term, Council will investigate options to create safe public access through the site.

Council will then explore landscaping and further design opportunities to complement the upcoming Korumburra Streetscape works.

Failed in their duty, claims Jolly

A LOCAL public affairs activist, Graham Jolly, has written to State Coroner drawing his attention the 'Black Spot Coastal Risk Assessment for the Bass Coast 2019' report and claiming land managers have not complied with its recommendations.

He says, among other things, that beach warning signs have not been upgraded in accordance with the report, and need to be replaced as a matter of urgency, with more compelling warnings about the dangers that exist for swimmers.

"It is evident all identified land managers have not taken action carrying out each of the recommendations of the report that might have given a greater alarming warning to all beach users and saved their lives," Mr Jolly alleges.

He further claims they have failed in their duty "to safeguard the health and wellbeing of all beach users, tourists and local people".

Mr Jolly has included the correspondence he used to have the beach hazards report released.

"I am asking the coroner to undertake a comprehensive public enquiry into matters of Bass Coast beach safety covering matters including signage for beach entries and exits to ensure the beach warning signage is the only details shown on each sign. Signage must be located so they are in your face and readable to international visitors of all languages to understand."

Mr Jolly wants the information included in the coroner's reports into the cases of multiple drownings at Bass Coast beaches over the summer.

Yarram high among nation's best murals

IF THE idea of turning Yarram into 'Heesco town', with 25 stunning murals by one of the world's best mural artists, Heesco Khosnaran, was to get noticed then it's mission accomplished for the movers and shakers of the town.

And in some extra big news for Yarram, the town's water tower mural has been announced as a finalist in the Best Mega Mural category of the 2023 Australian Street Art Awards!

The Heesco Town Water Tower Mural was officially unveiled in April last year and is the last of a truly epic 25 murals by Heesco Khosnaran that now adorn the walls and other prominent vantage points across Yarram.

The winners of the 12 categories in the 2023 Australian Street Art Awards will be announced in Queensland on Friday, March 8 - good luck Yarram!

UV app helps reduce skin cancer

SOUTH Gippsland and Bass Coast Shire locals and visitors, along with others around Australia and further afield can take advantage of the SunSmart Global UV app to protect themselves against skin cancer.

The app is celebrating its one year anniversary in Australia.

"In Australia we're exposed to some of the harshest and most dangerous levels of UV

radiation in the world, and this is reflected in our skin cancer rates, with more than two in three Aussies diagnosed with skin cancer during their lifetime," head of SunSmart Victoria Emma Glassenbury said.

The organisation developed the SunSmart Global UV app to guide people to protect themselves from the sun when the UV is likely to cause damage in order to reduce skin cancer and harm to eyes.

Free Amazon exhibition

THE AMAZON 1863 Project has a free exhibition for the month of February, being held in the Inverloch Community Hub.

On Wednesday February 21 at 2.30 pm there will be a very interesting Amazon shipwreck presentation shown in the Inverloch Library where attendees can find out more about the shipwreck on the Inverloch Surf beach.

It is a free event and the presentation will be followed by a tour of the exhibition and further discussions with the team from the Amazon 1863 project will be on offer.

Power to local winners

THERE have been dozens of message of congratulations and support for the Inverloch syndicate members who won \$366,000 each in last Saturday night TattsLotto draw, including some funny ones.

Here's a selection of the messages posted on the Sentinel-Times' Facebook page:

Michelle Boyle: Fantastic when it's someone local that wins, enjoy.

Lyn Anne: \$366,000? If they still have mortgages that'd be swallowed up if they did the sensible thing and paid a house off first. Hope it makes a huge difference for all of the winners.

Jan Kent: Travel agents will be busy!

Melinda Milkins: Congratulations to them. \$366,000 is just enough to pay their electricity bill!

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Coal Mine café reopens but mine sits shut

IF LITTLE changes Wonthaggi will see the biggest town meeting since the coal days, that's what the Friends of State Coal Mine (FSCM) stated noting that the impassioned pleas of volunteers, locals and Friends are going unnoticed.

The cherished historical site has sat untouched for over a year with the usual buzzing of holiday activity a distant memory. It's hoped the reopening of the café over the weekend will change that, but the Friends are also frustrated at being re-coiled into the side room - a decision made by Parks Victoria without any consultation with FSCM or according to the president, the new café lessee.

"We were told we had to move into this area," Friends of the State Coal Mine president Steve Harrop explained with fellow volunteer Margaret noting the Friends had not taken residence in that space since the building opened near on 20 years ago.

"There has been absolutely no consultation - and after speaking with the new café lessee they were just as shocked for us to have moved from the space by the front door."

Religated to the small side room, no doubt the new café will be inundated with questions from visitors about the site and non-existent mine tours.

"Being in front of the door we were able to filter whether



Friends of the State Coal Mine are frustrated that the mine is seemingly at the bottom of the agenda. C06_0724

people wanted information on the State Coal Mine, tours or were simply visiting the café. That will now no doubt fall on whoever is at the café till."

Those behind the till are new business partners Nicole Pearson and Macy Hambrook, who have been overwhelmed with support on their reopening.

"We had our work cut out for us - we are exhausted," Nicole smiled on Monday happily explaining the support over the weekend was beyond belief.

"We brought something back to the community that people have wanted for so long."

Serving a variety of fresh local produce well and at a good price is the duo's aim.

"Everything is homemade with local fish sourced from San Remo and a variety that

includes gluten free, vegetarian and vegan options."

And whilst the café was abuzz with the new opening, the tours are still a distant thought with the drift cart sitting in pieces.

"(The mine) is the best kept secret in Australia," Steve said.

"For a while I was biting my tongue, but I've got to the stage now where it's just frustrating - we are almost at the point of another public meeting."

"The café should have been reopened last year and our drift car should have been done prior to COVID."

The drift cart passed a structural integrity test with flying colours during COVID but now sits locked away in pieces with no information of when it will be pieced back together.

and that's just one part of the complexities with health and safety requirements further exacerbating frustrations.

"We are in the dark. We've got (a volunteer) who kept his workshop empty for the cart's return, so we could all go there and work on it, but we're not allowed.

"We've got gas detection gear underground that has been decommissioned, because (from our understanding) WorkSafe has this idea that if the alarm goes off there might not be someone in the office, so now, everyone has to carry a personal gas monitor with them - I have no idea how much this has been costing; we've never had an issue with gas... The natural ventilation keeps the air quality good (in the mine)."

Perhaps it's time to bring back the canaries and pit ponies.

"We need to keep the story alive of the mine and the miners who lost their lives - they'd be turning in their graves if they knew what was going on now," Steve stated.

"(The carts) have never derailed - we ran the old wooden skips for 21 years without incident. The cage on wheels is so unreliable now, it was okay when it first came, but it is so over engineered - it's an absolute nightmare."

Nevertheless, the community remains hopeful - the café reopening is a significant step forwards, now, it's time to get the wheels back on the tracks.

Incorrect signage sending visitors away from Wonthaggi

AN INCORRECT road sign at a roundabout in Wonthaggi is sending unsuspecting tourists and visitors away from the township instead of towards it.

Wonthaggi local, Carol Thorn became aware of the inaccurate sign at the roundabout on Bass Highway, McKenzie Street and White Road last November.

A friend of her sons received directions to follow the signs into town and to turn right after reaching the BP service station.

The sign at the roundabout, pointed the driver down White Road instead of McKenzie Street and after not coming upon the service station, the driver called to check directions.

This happened also to a friend of Carol's husband and she

suspects, to many others.

"It's a big sign and it's completely wrong," said Carol.

Prior to Christmas Carol contacted Vic Roads about the sign.

It wasn't until Thursday, January 18 after her second contact with Vic Roads that Carol received a written reply, as follows (not in its entirety).

"Please be advised, DTP has reviewed the sign in this vicinity and is currently in the process of arranging minor improvements (sign overlay). Work is subject to contractor availability, weather and regional priorities."

The sign remains unchanged and Carol remains dismayed.

"It doesn't affect me, I know where I'm going, but it needs to be clear to visitors..."



The misleading sign at the new roundabout in Wonthaggi is causing much confusion. C02_0724

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Man assaulted in Inverloch

POLICE are investigating the circumstances surrounding an assault in Inverloch on Friday January 26.

It is believed a male offender approached another man on ABeckett street about 12.25am and assaulted him.

The victim sustained minor injuries and was taken to hospital for observation.

Anyone with information is urged to contact Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000 or submit a confidential report at crimestopperservic.com.au.

Cricket Club dealt another blow

THE KOONWARRA Leongatha RSL Cricket Club faced a second devastating blow last week after having over \$2500 worth of irrigation hose and fittings stolen, just one month after having two of their mowers stolen.

Last Wednesday morning a volunteer arrived at 6.30am to water the ground and noticed that all the irrigation cables were gone.

Cricket Club member Jodie Arnup said the club is extremely disappointed.

"Because it's happened again, it just rubs salt into an already really fresh wound."

The club have reported both thefts to police and are undergoing a lengthy insurance claim process, but as it takes time it means their grounds, the club and other clubs will bear the brunt of the loss.

With four weeks of home and away rounds left, two will be played on the Koonwarra L/RSL Cricket Club grounds.

The lack of irrigation means the club will not be able to water the ground and it is likely to become hard, dry and cracked.

The club are using their funds to pay someone to mow the ground, and someone is donating their time to mow the surrounds of the recreation reserve, so the public can still enjoy that.

"We're only a small club, but we're a very passionate small club, and it is really disappointing and upsetting," said Jodie.

Petition for Police Presence

THE NATIONALS Member for Gippsland South, Danny O'Brien has launched a petition calling for greater police presence and resources in Gippsland following the State Government's failure to combat a growing crime rate right across the region.

Mr O'Brien said he was regularly being contacted by constituents right across his electorate who are frustrated by crime and a lack of police presence in their community.

"I am encouraging all Gippslanders to get behind this campaign and sign this petition so that we can send a clear message to the State Government that they cannot continue to ignore this issue."

Mr O'Brien's petition can be signed online at dannyobrienmp.com.au/issue or at various local venues around Gippsland South.

POOWONG'S Not so LITTLE Market
SUNDAY FEBRUARY 18
10:00AM - 02:00PM
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Mayor's Message



Cr Clare
Le Serve

100 days of Berninnett, Cowes

This past weekend, we reached one of many milestones at Berninnett, Cowes – 100 days of performances, cinema, art exhibitions and community space. This has included our community enjoying the library and inviting places within the beautiful Passivhaus designed building.

We have been thrilled to hear of the support from residents, artists, producers, media as well as visitors. It is so rewarding to know Berninnett will be a hub of creativity and learning for many generations.

I'd like to thank everyone again who has been involved in making this project come to life. The tremendous success in such a short time of 100 days has meant so much for our community, our staff as well as all the artists and producers who have come through the doors. The numbers tell the story – and after so many sold-out shows, I'd encourage everyone to connect with us and make sure you book early so you're not disappointed to miss out on any future shows.

Basscoastculturalvenues.com

International Women's Day

On Friday, 8 March we are looking forward to hosting our annual International Women's Day event in partnership with Phillip Island Nature Parks, Bass Coast Health and Westernport Water. You are invited to join us for this event featuring Olympian and former head of AFLW, Nicole Livingstone OAM as well as a panel of women in local sport.

I welcome any opportunity to include and empower all communities in Bass Coast. It is important to me that we increase representation of women at all levels of sport particularly when noting the physical and mental health benefits of community sport. Team sport in particular fosters a sense of belonging and friendship which is so important in the fast-paced world we live in.

I am looking forward to listening to Nicole Livingstone and our panel as well as meeting members of our community and enjoying a lunch at one of our fantastic local venues. You can find the event at internationalwomensday2024.eventbrite.com.au or please contact our Customer Service team for more information. Everyone is welcome.

What's happening in Bass Coast?

There are always so many events and activities happening in our community and at Council. If you are online, I'd encourage you to connect with us through our social media pages and our Engage Bass Coast website. This way, you can stay up to date with infrastructure projects, upcoming community engagements, community group and business training opportunities and events.

We also strongly encourage you to download both the VicEmergency and BeachSafety apps. These are a great source of up-to-date information to keep you safe and informed.



Our vibrant cultural haven, Berninnett, is celebrating a whirlwind 100 days of sold-out shows, spellbinding performances, and community exhibitions.

Berninnett celebrates 100 days

THE newest and hottest cultural hotspot in Victoria has marked its momentous 100-day milestone.

Berninnett has flung open its doors to over 10,000 passionate souls who flocked to witness spellbinding performances and explore captivating exhibitions. From sold-out shows that left audiences breathless to thought-provoking displays that ignited imaginations, Berninnett has become a beating heart in our vibrant artistic scene.

This Passivhaus masterpiece has been applauded for its sustainable architecture, community warmth and incredible acoustics – lauded for months by visitors, architects, celebrities, artists and media.

So far, our community as well as visitors from all around Australia and the world have been treated to

a series of full house events featuring live music, cinema, dance, exhibitions, community curated productions, family theatre, music and much more.

The success has come from a perfectly curated suite of programs featuring Australia's finest artists alongside high-quality community accessible events for all ages and for all tastes including the likes of Kate Ceberano, Kutch Edwards, Baluk Arts 'Millowl' exhibition, Elly Poletti, Kate Miller-Heidke and Steph Strings.

The library, which is positioned in a beautiful garden lit corner of the ground floor, has hosted thousands of visitors and seen a great uptake in library memberships.

"In what has taken many years to become a reality – the dream of Berninnett is

truly alive and well and has become a pulsing heart of arts in southern Victoria," said Mayor, Cr Clare Le Serve.

"We have had a ground-swell of support from residents, artists, producers, media as well as visitors from across the world. It's been marvellous to hear so many wonderful reviews of the space and to know that it will be a hub of creativity and learning for many generations."

"I'd like to thank everyone again who has been involved in making this project come to life and for getting the message out. The tremendous success in such a short time of 100 days has meant so much for our community, our staff as well as all the artists and producers who have come in. The numbers tell the story – and after so

many sold-out shows, I'd encourage everyone to connect with us online and make sure you book early so you're not disappointed to miss out on any future shows."

Upcoming shows

- NEWK The John Newcombe Story: February 20, 2pm-3pm.
- Ralph McTell: February 23, 7.30pm-8.45pm.
- The Robertson Brothers presents: 60s Variety TV Show: February 29, 7pm-9.30pm.
- Elly Poletti - Jazz & Soul: March 23, 7.30pm.
- Little Wing Puppets: A little bit of blue: April 11, 2pm-2.40pm.
- Slava Grigoryan: September 1, 2pm-3.20pm.
- 'On the Horizon' an exhibition featuring selected works from the Bass Coast Shire Council Art Collection

Changes coming for local councils through boundary reviews

WARD boundary reviews are set to start this week for 10 Victorian councils including Bass Coast and South Gippsland shires.

The Minister for Local Government has asked the Victorian Electoral Commission (VEC) to carry out the reviews because each of these councils has one or more wards where the number of voters per councillor is forecast to be outside the legislated +/- 10% tolerance at the next local council election.

In the case of Bass Coast, significant changes are expected to accommodate the major growth areas of Phillip Island, Wonthaggi and Inverloch with the large (by area) Western Port Ward already unwieldy in size and scope.

Deputy Mayor, Cr Rochelle Halstead, who with the Mayor Cr Clare Le Serve and Cr Geoff Ellis, represents Western Port Ward said she believed that because of the large area of the ward, it suited three representatives.

"There has been talk of nine single-member wards but I wouldn't like to see that," said Cr Halstead.

"I believe it would make councillors too parochial rather than taking a wider view of what's best for the municipality."

"Obviously there has to be change but it's ideal having three councillors for the bigger rural and coastal area of Western Port because the representatives can share the load. Maybe you could have three wards with two

representatives and one of three councillors for the big rural ward."

For South Gippsland, the number of ratepayers in the Venus Bay area has increased significantly since the last redistribution and is expected to result in changes to the Coastal Promontory Ward in particular.

A public information session will be held at 12noon on Tuesday, February 13 and public submissions open at 9 am on Wednesday, February 14.

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THE NATIONALS for Regional Victoria





The Victorian Minister for the Environment, the Hon. Steve Dimopoulos, visited properties at Mardan and Arawata last Friday to see first-hand the important work of Landcare.

Weeds and other Landcare worries for Enviro Minister

VISITING properties at Mardan and Arawata last week, Victorian Minister for the Environment, the Hon. Steve Dimopoulos, saw first-hand the environmental, economic and social benefits that flow from the Victorian Landcare Program.

Mardan Mirboo North Landcare Group (MMNLG) members and South Gippsland Landcare Network (SGLN) staff welcomed Minister Dimopoulos and Tom McIntosh, member for Eastern Victoria, to Heather Matthies' beef farm to see the impacts of two Victorian

Landcare Grants (VLGs).

The pair then travelled to Alex and Claire Aeschlimann's property at Arawata where work done by Arawata Landcare Group (ALG) to enhance and protect biodiversity is on display.

At the first site, Heather and MMNLG President, Helen Hastie, described the work being done through a VLG to combat soil erosion and ensure the improved health of Berry's Creek and its ecosystem into the future.

SGLN Facilitator, Nick Stephens explained that an important part of the project

involves sharing knowledge to assist other farmers facing similar problems by holding field days on-site.

Landcare's value in building healthy communities by giving volunteers of all backgrounds and abilities the opportunity to connect with nature and each other was also emphasised. This led to discussion about the surprisingly high social costs of weeds and pests. SGLN Facilitator, Jane McKenzie-Smith, described receiving daily calls from landholders expressing anxiety regarding high levels of pest fauna and

weed species in the region and the need for control obligations to be met.

SGLN Chair, Jillian Staton, urged the Minister to consider funding Pest and Weed Coordinators through the Victorian Landcare Grants Program to build community capacity to address the issue.

The group then moved to Arawata where the Minister was able to see the extensive revegetation work achieved by ALG with the assistance of VLGs.

More details online at sgst.com.au

Inverloch SPS Upgrades: Have your say

OVER the past eighteen months, South Gippsland Water has been upgrading Inverloch's Sewer Pump Station (SPS) systems situated at Veronica Street and Meanderri Drive. This endeavour is an integral component of their \$10 million sewer upgrades initiative aimed at ensuring the efficiency and sustainability of our vital assets.

South Gippsland Water's Managing Director, Robert Murphy announced that the final stages of the Inverloch SPS works are drawing to a close, marking a significant milestone in enhancing the community's sewerage infrastructure.

"With most of the construction now completed, we are turning our attention to the next crucial phase: the restoration of the surrounding landscape. In collaboration with the Bass Coast Council and Inverloch's Melaleuca Nursery, we are embarking on the planning of the revegetation.

"Our landscape designers have come up with two options to best foster biodiversity, attract indigenous wildlife and celebrate native vegetation.

"Your input is invaluable to us as we strive to select the most suitable revegetation plan for Veronica Street. We invite you to participate in our short survey and lend your insights and preferences. Together, we can ensure that the rejuvenation of this area aligns with the aspirations and needs of our community." Mr. Murphy said.

Please take the time to review the proposed options and share your feedback with us. Your contributions will help shape the final design and contribute to the long-term sustainability and ecological integrity of our beloved Inverloch neighbourhood. Please visit sgwater.com.au.

For any questions or comments, please reach out to media@sgwater.com.au.

The survey will remain open until 11.59pm on Sunday, March 9. Thank you for your continued support and engagement.

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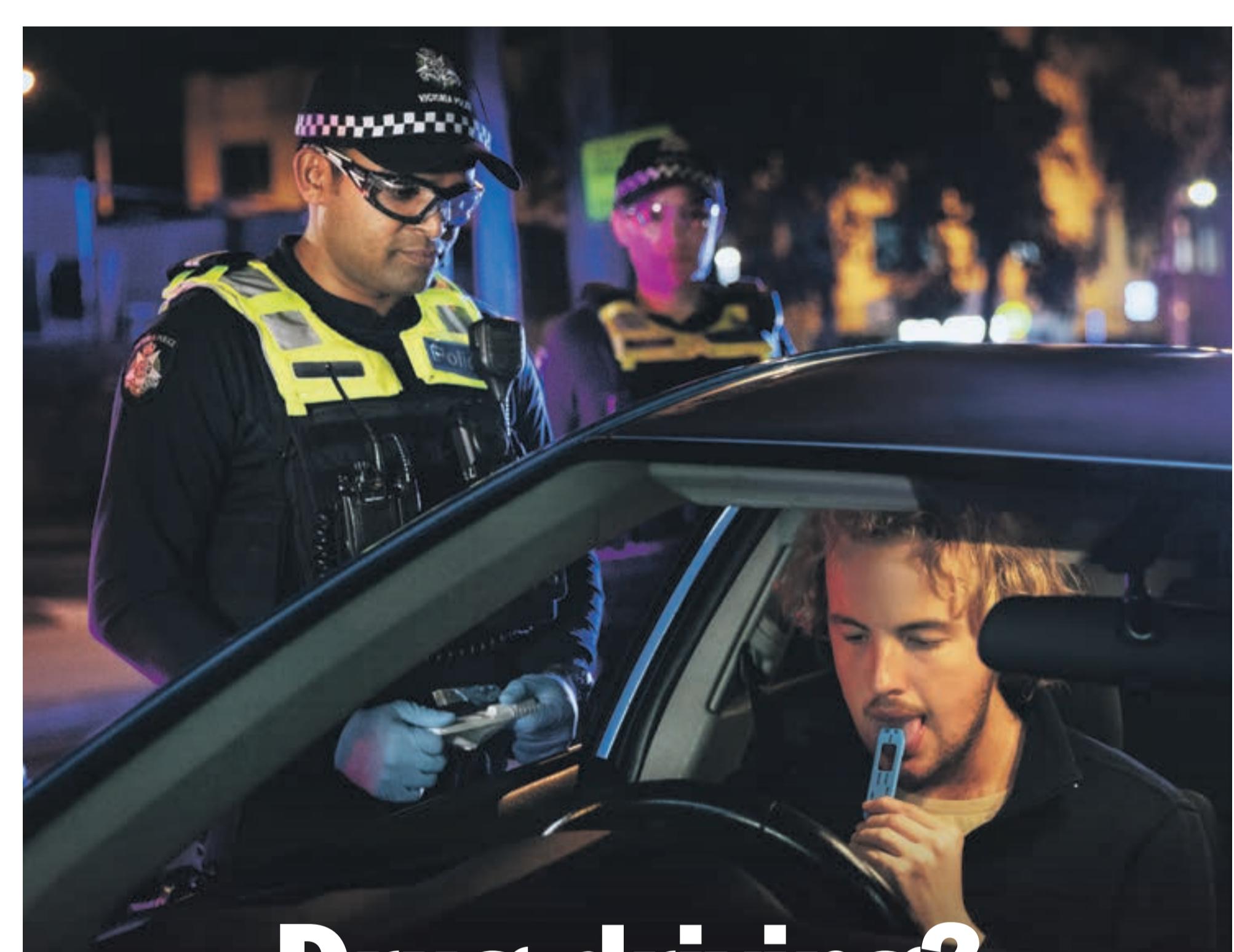
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New car for Bass Coast L2P

LEARNER drivers across Bass Coast who are without access to a suitable supervising driver or vehicle to learn in will find it easier to gain 120 hours driving experience and get their Ps thanks to a new car arriving for the Bass Coast TAC L2P program. Purchase of a new car was made possible thanks to generous support from the Freemasons Foundation, who provided a \$10,000 grant.

The Freemasons Foundation is one of the largest in Victoria and aims to support the community at large by assisting with funding charitable organisations and charitable works thereby assisting to improve our society and culture. Freemasons accept good men irrespective of race, colour, creed or religion and express a belief in a Supreme Being. Membership leads to self-improvement and an extensive worldwide network of likeminded good men from all walks of life and experiences.

The local Powlett Masonic Lodge, as well as assisting Bass Coast L2P to apply for the grant, also donated towards the new car, along with the Phillip Island Masonic Lodge, Phillip Island Bicycle Users Group and Wonthaggi RSL.

The L2P program supports people like twin brothers Hayden and Bailey from San Remo, who both passed their Probationary Driver's Licence test on consecutive



A new car has arrived for the L2P program giving more learner drivers the opportunity to participate.

days in the week prior to Christmas.

They had been driving with the TAC L2P program, which uses volunteer mentors, as well as their mother, in order to achieve the 120 hours of supervised driving, including 20 hours at night. Driving home on red P plates after the test, Hayden said, "This will change my life. I'll be able to catch up with my mates more easily, drive myself to basketball and drive to work next year."

Bailey was pretty circumspect, saying, "I'm really pleased I passed at my first attempt. I was pretty nervous, particularly about the reverse parallel parking, but I nailed that first try. After that I relaxed a bit."

Their parents were grateful for the support of the TAC L2P program.

"We would have struggled to get the 240 hours in without the volunteer mentors, who not only set the boys up with safe driving habits, but

also gave them tips about what the driving test is like.

To be eligible for the program, learners must have their Learners Permit, and have limited access to a roadworthy car and/or fully licenced supervising driver. Mentors need a full licence, relatively clean driving record and an interest in supporting youth and road safety. For more information, contact the Program Coordinator, Melanie, on 0467 590 679.



Wilson's Prom is a much-loved location, but according to Eastern Victoria MP Melina Bath, facilities aren't up to scratch.

Best beach, but what about the Prom's crappy toilets?

WHILE celebrating in State Parliament during the week that her beloved Squeaky Beach had just been named the Number 1 Beach in Australia, the Member for Eastern Victoria Melina Bath had a backhander to the Allan Government.

The granite boulders, pristine beaches, turquoise water, wildlife and breathtaking views are sensational, she said, the toilets and other "antiquated" facilities – not so much.

"Given the importance of Wilson's Promontory to the state's tourism economy it is essential that the Allan Labor Government act on the park's aged infrastructure to reflect its status," said Ms Bath last Tuesday.

"The less attractive side of the Prom is one which greets tourists arriving at Tidal River public toilets which can only be described as antiquated.

"The facility is decades old, there's stained toilet seats, damaged doors and an out of order disability toilet.

"It's an embarrassing look for a location with international and world heritage values, and which is home to Australia's best beach 2024."

Read the full transcript of her Members' Statement on our website at sgst.com.au/news/best-beach-but-what-about-the-proms-crappy-toilets

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**South Gippsland
Shire Council**

South Gippsland Shire Council News Community Training Sessions

South Gippsland Shire Council offers free workshops throughout the year for South Gippsland community groups, not-for-profit organisations, clubs and volunteers.

The 2024 South Gippsland Community Training Calendar (from February to June) is now available on Council's website.

The free opportunities available through Council Community Training Calendar are focused on building capacity and sustainability for our groups, clubs and volunteers so they can play a vital role in supporting our community. At each session you will be provided with tools to develop new skills, strengthen your community group and network with others.

The upcoming training opportunities include:

- Governance 101
- Sport for All

- Culture, Diversity and how to be Inclusive
- Save Money in the Home this Winter: How to be Energy Efficient
- New Ways for Volunteer Recruitment and Retention – Part 1
- New Ways for Volunteer Recruitment and Retention – Part 2
- Grant Writing Workshop
- South Gippsland Shire Council Community Grants Information Session

Make sure you head to Council's website to save the dates and reserve a spot at our upcoming training sessions.

For more information about each event and to register your place, please visit:
www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/communitytraining

Have Your Say



Your Say is your opportunity to respectfully provide your thoughts, feelings and ideas on a range of Council projects, services and activities.

Council is currently seeking your feedback on a number of items ranging from community facilities to planning amendments.

Make your voice heard at:
yoursay.southgippsland.vic.gov.au

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

GOVERNANCE 101

Join South Gippsland Shire Council's **Governance 101** training session to learn all the tips and tricks required to make your group or organisation a success.

This session will support your group with planning, operations and decision-making. Topics covered in the session include:

- Explanation of Constitutions and the requirements of Consumer Affairs Victoria.
- Legal responsibilities.
- Committee roles and responsibilities.
- Tips for running effective meetings.

For more information and to register your spot, please visit:

www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/communitytraining

REQUEST FOR TENDER

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

RFT/395 – Meeniyana 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



Representatives of organisations that received Community Grants from South Gippsland Shire Council gather outside the council chambers with councillors. A14_0724

\$117,000 in grants for twenty South Gippsland organisations

TWENTY organisations contributing to South Gippsland shared in \$117,000 of Community Grants announced at the council chambers in Leongatha on Wednesday evening.

"They're one of the most direct ways that we support projects in our community," Council CEO Kerryn Ellis said of the grants, noting "Volunteers and community groups are the lifeblood of South Gippsland."

She highlighted the fact the total value of the projects supported is over \$442,000.

The grant recipients were selected from 38 applications, with the Community Grants divided into four categories.

'Strengthening Community Sport' attracted the most funding with \$45,000, followed by 'Building Community Capacity' which received \$28,700, with \$26,000 towards 'Creating Community Culture' and \$17,300 to 'Developing Community Assets'.

Cr John Schelling was delighted to present Rachel Brown of Friends of Toora & District Swimming Pool with \$6000 towards large shade umbrellas, sharing a story related to the pool from his childhood.

"My father was vice president of the Toora Pool Committee when the pool was built in the

sixties and I remember being paraded with two of my siblings up and down the street in a bathtub," he recalled of a fundraising drive initiative to help build the pool.

2023/24 Round One Community Grant recipients by category were:

Developing Community Assets

Woorayl Golf Club - \$5000 funding is assisting the club to make its paths maintenance free through the purchase and installation of Diamond Grid mesh (\$10,000 total project cost)

Bena Public Hall - \$5300 towards resurfacing of the hall's floor (\$10,653 total project cost)

Poowong North Association Incorporated - \$2500 to assist with restoring the toilet facilities at the Poowong North Hall (\$13,200 total project cost)

Loch-Poowong Uniting Church Parish - \$4500 towards heating and cooling of the Play-Group room and Mya Mya Community Café through the purchase of two split systems (\$9060 total project cost)

Building Community Capacity

Foster War Memorial Arts

Centre - \$6600 to assist in the development of a strategic plan (\$8899 total project cost)

South Eastern Target Archers - \$5000 to assist in developing a strategic plan (\$7234 total project cost)

Friends of Toora & District Swimming Pool - \$6000 towards large shade umbrellas (\$16,094 total project cost)

Venus Bay, Tarwin Lower & District Men's Shed - \$2000 to assist in updating computer and printing equipment (\$13,030 total project cost)

Leongatha Knights Football Club - \$5100 to assist the club to embark on a strategic planning program aimed at increasing soccer participation and future growth (\$7320 total project cost)

Welshpool & District Advisory Group - \$4000 towards the creation of a community garden at the rear of the Welshpool Op Shop (\$13,848 total project cost)

Port Welshpool & District Bowling Club - \$10,000 to assist in an irrigation system upgrade (\$33,090 total cost)

Nyora Football Netball Club - \$10,000 towards new male and female umpire change rooms

(\$35,200 total cost)

South Gippsland Gliding Club - \$10,000 to help purchase an aircraft to launch gliders (\$95,000 total cost)

Korumburra Gun Club - \$10,000 toward new trap houses (\$20,139 total project cost)

Mirboo North United Football Club - \$5000 to help purchase mobile goals (\$11,080 total cost)

Creating Community Culture

The Friends of the Mirboo North Swimming Pool - \$3000 towards summer festivals and events for the 2023/24 pool season (\$10,150 total cost)

(it's no) drama LTD - \$5000 to assist in the creation of a new performance work for disabled artists and regional arts workers (\$11,000 total cost)

Mirboo Country Development Incorporated - \$5000 to assist with Christmas in the Boo (\$38,000 total cost)

Poowong Community Consultative Committee - \$7000 towards festivals and events celebrating Poowong's 150th Anniversary in April 2024 (\$21,850 total cost)

Meeniyian Progress Association - \$6000 to assist in creating town murals (\$57,000 total project cost)

Mayor's Message



Cr Clare Williams

HELLO South Gippsland.

Well, it's official, we have the number one beach in Australia right in our backyard! Squeaky Beach at Wilsons Promontory claimed top spot on Tourism Australia's annual list of best beaches – the first Victorian beach to do so.

Congratulations Berrys Creek Gourmet Cheese for taking home multiple awards including the Best Cheese in Australia for their Oak Blue, at the 2024 Australian Grand Dairy Awards, hosted by Dairy Australia and the Royal Agriculture Societies. Congratulations Barry, Cheryl and your superstar team for the amazing products you create and all the well-deserved awards.

We really do have it all in South Gippsland – from food to natural attractions, there is something for everyone! To plan your next adventure, visit: <https://visit-southgippsland.com.au>

Community Grants

On Wednesday, we celebrated the recipients of the 2023/24 Community Grants Round 1.

Congratulations to all 20 community groups that will positively impact our region, turning \$117,000 into over \$440,000 of value with their incredible projects. We know our volunteers are the heart of South Gippsland, so thank you for all you do.

If you are part of a not-for-profit organisation or community group with a project you want assistance funding, the second round of the 2023/24 Community Grants is now taking applications. Applications close on Sunday 31 March 2024. For more information, please visit: www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/grants

Events

Summer is a prime time for events across South Gippsland.

Last weekend I had the privilege of being part of the Mirboo North Italian Festa. This brings huge numbers of visitors to our region to enjoy all the best parts of Italy. Where possible, I encourage you to get out and explore your backyard by heading along to as many local events as you can to show your support. Those who organise them would really appreciate it.

Summer Series 1 was held at Coal Creek, and with Series 2 and 3 around the corner, now is the perfect time to book your tickets. To see all the events happening at Coal Creek and to book, please visit: www.coalcreekcommunityparkandmuseum.com

Community Engagement

There is a new engagement opportunity now available on Your Say South Gippsland.

Due to the risk of landslip and erosion in South Gippsland, this new engagement opportunity proposes a change that removes the need for a planning permit for some buildings and works, but will be kept for areas at a higher risk of erosion.

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



A glider takes to the Leongatha skies with the assistance of a tug plane that has recently been purchased by South Gippsland Gliding Club.

South Gippsland Gliding Club buys tug plane

SOUTH Gippsland Gliding Club members will continue taking to the sky, with the organisation purchasing the plane it has been hiring for the last few years, aided by a \$10,000 South Gippsland Shire Council Community Grant.

Club committee member Ray Wakefield explained the tug plane, a Pawnee aircraft, would otherwise have become unavailable.

"We were left with the option of buying it or losing it – we did look around to see what other aircraft were available and we decided this was the way to go," he said.

He stressed that the \$95,000 cost is substantial for a small club, labelling council's contribution "a big help".

Members pay towing and glider hire fees, which will help pay

off the loan for the recently purchased plane.

Interestingly, the plane has a car engine, rather than an aircraft one, something Ray explained is advantageous for its purpose, being well suited to short flights to get one glider airborne and return to tow the next.

"Normal aircraft engines, you have to be careful how quickly you lose altitude because you can cause the motor to cool too quickly and you can crack the engine, but this is a normal car engine and it's got water cooling so you can come down as fast as you like," he said.

The club's four gliders, a couple of twin seaters and two single seaters are regularly in action over Leongatha on the weekends when the weather permits.



THE WHAT DAY IS IT BIT

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Productive Friends of Coal Creek meeting

FRIENDS of Coal Creek (FOCC) president Roger Powell committed to the organisation delivering a "succinct and smart" submission on the attraction's future, based on community feedback received at a February 5 meeting in the tourist park's Mechanics Institute hall.

Once prepared, the submission will be made publicly available as well as being lodged with South Gippsland Shire Council through its current consultation process on Coal Creek.

Roger urged community members to complete their own submissions to council, whether online, at its Leongatha office or at one of this month's pop-up feedback events.

The opportunity to complete council's survey on Coal Creek runs until the end of February.

Two of council's three proposals for Coal Creek's future were discussed in detail during the Monday evening meeting, these being 'Revitalisation' and 'New Direction'.

Early in the piece, Roger called for a show of hands from those who wish to see Coal Creek continue, having acknowledged something needs to change to assure its long-term viability.

Almost everyone in the room thrust a hand skyward, demonstrating that council's third option of 'Ceasing Current Operations' enjoyed next to no support among this audience.

While the FOCC committee isn't necessarily opposed to the 'New Direction' option, it argues that the existing historical focus of the park should be retained, with revitalisation



Audience member Greg said Coal Creek is the leading facility in South Gippsland Shire for community events. A03_0724



President of Friends of Coal Creek Roger Powell oversees the meeting on the attraction's future. A02_0724

also occurring.

Those on the committee also believe that any new direction should complement the existing park.

Concerns were raised that council's Coal Creek Discussion Paper suggests the 'New Direction' option would involve taking the park in a different direction to its current historical focus.

"History to me is the key thing and that's why I want to see this place retained so we can go back and look at the history of what Coal Creek meant to us," Roger said, having noted that without valuing history people don't progress as a race.

FOCC argues any new direction for Coal Creek must benefit all of South Gippsland Shire, not only Korumburra, a key to winning widespread community and

Ideas put forward for new directions included accommodation options.

One is to purchase the existing Coal Creek Motel, renovate it to a high standard and incorporate it into Coal Creek.

Building short term accommodation in Coal Creek's lower park was also suggested as a possibility, whether B&B style or camping, RV and caravan park options.

Education opportunities were floated, such as developing a First Nations education facility, expanding school programs, or the building of an energy education and research centre.

Earlier, when discussing 'Revitalisation' opportunities, strong audience support was expressed for boosting the park's engagement and interactivity, ensuring it offers

interesting activities rather than only static displays.

"Technology helps people engage with history in new ways," one audience member said.

Another stressed the need to bring part of Coal Creek into the main street, making it a visible attraction, while a suggestion was made to link the attraction to the Great Southern Rail Trail.

There was also a call for signage to promote Coal Creek.

Having an operating visitor centre at Coal Creek with a bookings function that would benefit communities around South Gippsland was suggested.

The old lolly shop was recalled, with more than one attendee commenting on the need for a retail offering at Coal Creek, along with the requirement for a café.

The need to restore dilapidated buildings was another much-discussed element of revitalisation.

While there was some finger pointing from some present about long-term neglect of Coal Creek, Roger stressed that the purpose of the meeting is to look ahead.

When someone expressed concern about what will happen to Coal Creek's extensive museum collection if the attraction is closed, Roger made it clear the ball is in the community's court.

"The only way it's going to close is if we let it," he declared.

He stressed that FOCC is determined to work closely with South Gippsland Shire Council to achieve a positive outcome for Coal Creek.

Foster Show photography and ambassadorial opportunities closing soon

THE FOSTER & District Agricultural Show is fast approaching, with the action set for Saturday February 24, and time is running out for those keen to enter the photography competition or put themselves forward as a Show or Rural Ambassador.

The entirely digital photography competition is divided into Junior, General, Advanced and Technology sections, the latter consisting of 'phonography' and drone photography.

Kylie Whelan's stunning image 'Lighthouse' took out last year's phonography award.

Photography entries must be received by 5pm this Friday February 16, saved to a USB and accompanied by an entry form.

Visit the Foster Agricultural Show Facebook page to find out more about entering your photography and participating in other competitions.

Those aged 16 to 19 can put themselves in the running to be selected as a Victorian Agricultural Society (VAS) Junior Show Ambassador, if they can demonstrate an active involvement and desire to contribute to the improvement of their local community and show society.

Junior Show Ambassadors highlight the importance of shows.

People aged 20-30 who are involved in a rural or agriculture-based industry, or are associated with a show society or field day, are encouraged to enter the VAS Rural Ambassador competition.

The Rural Ambassador Award puts the spotlight on the creativity and ingenuity of young rural people, encouraging entrants to be role models in local communities.

It is an opportunity for all entrants to develop their communication and leadership qualities.

Entry for both ambassador categories closes on Monday February 19.

Entry forms are available at fostershow.com and should be submitted with your resume to fostershow@gmail.com

Entry forms for those entering items in the exhibit shed must be received by 8.30pm Wednesday February 21.

The items need to be delivered to the Foster Showgrounds between 8am and 3.30pm on Friday February 23.

Judges will have a busy afternoon determining winners on the eve of the show.

High entry classic's for the 11th Rotary Show N Shine

THE 11th Rotary organised Lang Lang Show N Shine saw in excess of 550 vehicles attend as well as a very successful Swap Meet and Lawn Mower racing events.

There were 15 classes for both cars and motor bikes to be judged in with all classes well supported.

The most popular class was Classic cars from 1967 to 1984 with 22 vehicles judged. Due to the entry size, there was two awards based on year of manufacture. Ian Wilson from Rosebud won the earlier section in his one owner 1972 Holden HQ SS with Owen Ainsworth

victorious in the later years with his Holden HQ I tonner.

The most travelled entrant was Steven Carlon from Warracknambeal arriving in a highly modified Holden FJ ute which won the custom cars 1948 to 1966 section.

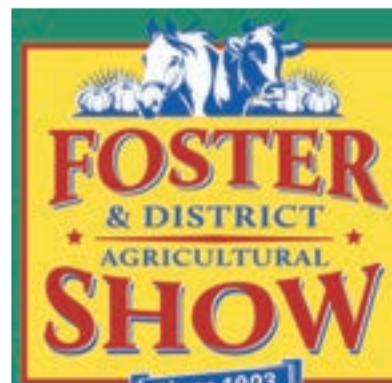
The highly prized President's award was taken out by Les Dole with his 1970 Boss Mustang, while Lang Lang's Lee Smith won the People's Choice award with his red 1968 Chevy sedan.

RIGHT: Winner of the President's Award, Les Dole with his 1970 Boss Mustang.



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Cuts target female CFA volunteers

A LACK of respect for female CFA volunteer firefighters was called out in State Parliament after it was exposed the station's feminine hygiene disposal service was being withdrawn.

During Question Time, The Nationals Member for Eastern Victoria Melina Bath took the Minister for Emergency Services to task for Labor's penny pinching decision to cut female sanitary services in rural stations.

"The sanitary bin collection service had been in place at the Erica station since 2011 and the cancellation of it flies in the face of dignity and respect," said Ms Bath.

In response Minister Symes admitted she had been aware of the service cancellation impacting female volunteers.

Ms Bath said despite being aware for two months, Minister Symes has allowed the cost cutting exercise that also impacts other CFA volunteer brigades to go ahead.

"The Labor Government must stop penny pinching from volunteers and immediately reinstate the CFA's sanitary bin collection service for female firefighters," Ms Bath said.

Docs hot, now dentists

LOCAL doctors don't want it, even Federal Labor Health Minister, Mark Butler, has urged the Allan Government to reconsider its new approach to taxing doctors.

Now dentists are threatening to join the rush for the exits if the Victorian Government stays the course on this one.

"This tax will drive up out-of-pocket costs for patients, force medical clinics to close and see Victorians either deferring care or ending up in already overwhelmed emergency departments," said Shadow Minister for Health, Georgie Crozier.

The Australian Dental Association (ADA) is set to meet with Treasury officials over concerns dentists who rent rooms from healthcare practices will be hit by Labor's new approach to payroll tax calculations.

Local GPs and medical centres have also been caught up in the row and are concerned about the implications.

Italian culture celebrated in Mirboo North



Anna Giardina, Nucia Tanguzzo, Adele Giardina, Lorella Calafiroe and Rosie Romano are among the Mirboo North Italian Festa Committee members who ensure a highly anticipated event each year.



Inverloch's Ken, Jodie and Josh Truman enjoyed the tastes of Italy in Mirboo North on Sunday.

THOUSANDS descended on Mirboo North to celebrate all the wonderful aspects of Italian culture on Sunday.

Despite the heat, the Mirboo North Italian Festa attracted upwards of 27,000 people to the popular event.

Since its inception in 2016, the Italian Festa has grown exponentially and is known for its happy, celebratory atmosphere.

There was plenty to see and do right through Mirboo North's Baromi Park.

There was entertainment up on the main stage, flag throwing, spaghetti eating and grape stomping competitions, cooking demonstrations, a children's entertainment area featuring magician Luigi Zucchini, the Mirboo North Italian Festa market showcasing the very best in fresh produce, artisan home-ware, arts and crafts, and jewellery, and of course an abundance of delicious foods.

Everyone was encouraged to enjoy the taste sensations from different regions of Italy with more than 40 food vendors taking part in the event.

South Gippsland Shire Council's Cr Adrian Darakai thanked the Mirboo North Italian Festa Committee for once again bringing the fabulous event to the region.

"As the traditional saying goes, the greatness of culture can be found in its festivals, and I think that's true. When you judge the Italian culture by the scale and the quality of this event, we can reasonably

say the Italian community in South Gippsland is one of our greatest," he said.

"It is more than just a festival, it is a testament to the power of culture to bring us all together and it doesn't matter if you have Italian heritage or not, we're all sharing in this culture."

The Mirboo North Italian Festa was established by a group of passionate women who love the Italian culture.

Coordinator Rosie Romano said she was incredibly proud with how amazing and beloved the event has become.

"We have had the support of so many wonderful people," she said.

"One of the things I am most proud about this event is we have formed all these friendships, not just with performers and vendors, but with operational and hire companies as well. We've gathered around as like-minded people who are positive and have a great outlook on life. I always feel like I'm welcoming back old friends."

Siesta Cartel was back to entertain the crowds for the second year, and James Liotta returned to MC the event, a role he has taken on since the beginning.

On behalf of the committee, Rosie thanked the sponsors, community members, council, volunteers and those who attended the event for producing another incredibly successful Mirboo North Italian Festa.

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Top honours for Venturers

CHARLI Ogden and Angus McMillan of the 1st Inverloch Venturer Scouts were honoured to receive their Queen's Scout Award during a presentation at the Inverloch Scout Hall on Saturday afternoon.

The Queen's Scout is a prestigious award and is obtained by challenging oneself to seek knowledge and gain experience through a range of activities over three years and thousands of hours of work.

Venturers must participate in weekly programs, lead and assist with activities, take turns as unit leader and take on the responsibilities that go with that role, and complete six 12-hour special interest activity badges.

For Charli and Angus, these special interest activity badges ranged from making coffee to chemical safety courses and aerial acrobatics.

Obtaining their Queen's Scout in 2023 was a high honour for Charli and Angus, who will be one of the last Venturers to receive this award in this lifetime.

Charli also received her 500 kilometre hiking badge.

Angus and Charli received their Queen's Scout in front of their peers, leaders and dignitaries, including Bass Coast Shire Council mayor Cr Clare Le Serve, Victorian Venturer Council representatives, and representatives of the Inverloch RSL and Men's Shed.

Charli has always scouted and started with the Venturers in 2019. However, she suffered the disruption from the COVID-19 lockdown.

Despite everything happening



Tayla, Kei, Sam, Assistant Venturer Leader Brendan Eishold, Venturer Scout Leader Belinda Ogden and Tom congratulated Angus McMillan and Charli Ogden (centre) for receiving their Queen's Scout.

over Zoom, Charli attended as many events as she could.

Coming out of lockdown, Charli started hiking and putting in the work to obtain her Queen's Scout. She did her Venturer's journey at the start of 2023 and completed her Queen's Scout in May last year.

"My Queen Scout was a very long journey. It's been a bit tumultuous. I was really struggling with staying in Venturers during COVID because I do not sit well on Zoom calls," she said.

"Coming out of it, though, I have some of the best friends in the world. I've had a lot of opportunities to see different things that I never would've otherwise – from really pretty caves to abseiling down 50 metre waterfalls and

exploring half of the Victorian high country on hikes. I've been very lucky in this experience, and I feel I've grown a lot as human because of it."

Angus' journey was a little different, coming into the world of scouting later than Charli.

Despite the COVID struggles, Angus managed to do as much scouting as possible has gone on to hike 300 kilometres, experience adventures in New Zealand and participate in a triathlon.

"Without scouting, without Venturers and without my parents, I wouldn't have seen so many wonderful things or met so many wonderful people," he said.

State Venturer Scout Commissioner Duncan McColl congratulated Charli and Angus.

"Queen's Scout is a big

challenge at the best of times, but obviously COVID really threw the rulebook out the window," he said. "Our young people who have achieved their Queen's Scout in COVID have had to adapt, rethink and replan multiple times on the different activities. Plans they might've had for three years for what they might want to do for a journey or for an activity had to be changed multiple times to get this end result.

"I'd like to congratulate (Charli and Angus) because those who achieve their Queen's Scout during the challenges of COVID I think are the most deserving."

Cr Le Serve congratulated the 1st Inverloch Venturer Scouts for continuing to engage young people.

Locals locked out of flood clean-up funding

CHANGES should be made to disaster recovery funding arrangements to prevent flood-impacted locals missing out on support in times of localised natural disaster such as the 2023 Boxing Day floods.

That's the view of The Nationals Member for Gippsland South, Danny O'Brien who took the matter to State Parliament this week, asking the Minister for Emergency Services to advocate for changes to the disaster funding arrangements that operate between state and federal governments.

"The current funding arrangements have a threshold which requires a certain percentage of a region to be directly affected by the natural disaster before there will be clean-up assistance from the state and federal governments," Mr O'Brien said.

"Such clean up grants were widely available after the big storms of June 2021.

"Following last year's Boxing Day flood event I was contacted by several impacted farmers and locals asking whether there would be any assistance from the state government for clean-up. The early morning Boxing Day storm and rain event caused rapid flooding in places like Welshpool and Woodside that led to significant localised damage – fences and crops destroyed, buildings and homes inundated, trees and other debris left across paddocks and creeks and land eroded."

Mr O'Brien highlighted that land and homeowners are impacted exactly the same in a natural disaster.

"The government will jump in and provide assistance when there is a big event, but when there is a very localised event with exactly the same impacts on individuals no help is available. I think it's a flawed argument. All property owners should seek to prepare for the worst with their own resources and insurance, but there are some events that can't be managed or insured against."

"While I appreciate that governments have thresholds for generally good reasons, I am calling for more flexibility in these arrangements."



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Graduate chiropractor Danielle Martin of Wonthaggi Chiropractic & Natural Health Centre. Z02_0724

A holistic approach to healthcare

BECOMING a chiropractor wasn't on Danielle Martin's mind until her final six months of schooling; however, as soon as she was introduced to the profession her values aligned and she has since devoted the past five years to healthcare.

Danielle moved from her hometown of Wonthaggi to the city of Melbourne after being accepted into RMIT to begin a five-year double degree in a Bachelor of Health Science and a Bachelor of Applied Science (Chiropractic).

Since graduation, home was calling and Danielle left the city with her double degree to commence her career as a chiropractor in her hometown of Wonthaggi where Dr. Neil Smith provided her with the opportunity to join a friendly, supportive, and conscientious team at the Wonthaggi Chiropractic & Natural Health Centre.

"My family have lived here in Wonthaggi since before the town of Dallyston was developed, and it was the connection to my family and the community that brought me home to Wonthaggi to start my career."

Dr Smith shared that as a chiropractor with

over 40 years of practise experience he is still passionate about how a chiropractor with a holistic approach to healthcare can improve the well-being of their patients.

"Danielle holds similar values and will no doubt bring new energy to the practice allowing me to wind back while continuing to enjoy my professional career."

Danielle explained that she was intrigued to become a chiropractor after understanding that just because you're experiencing pain in one specific area doesn't mean that's the physical problem.

"It's a matter of looking beyond the pain," she said.

"As a chiropractor we're treating the whole body; looking at a person's overall health, and that could be anything from joint pain to muscle pain, or helping with their diet," said Danielle.

Neil and the team at the Wonthaggi Chiropractic & Natural Health Centre work with each client on an individual basis using the very best treatment modalities, for a consultation call 5672 2061 or visit 95 McKenzie Street, Wonthaggi.

Koala conservation paramount in Cape Paterson

COME what may we need to improve our bio links/animal corridors from Wonthaggi to Cape Paterson, Harmers Haven, Inverloch and surrounding areas.

With that in mind, we have ordered 300 Manna Gums from Adrian at The Cape Farm and expect to take delivery of these gums for a March plant out.

We will offer them free to Cape Paterson residents and farmers/landowners living along the animal corridors to plant them on their properties.

If you are interested in being part of this conservation project, please text

By Virginia & Robert Hayward

us on this special number 0491 193 302 with your name, address, phone number and how many Manna Gums you require. This will give us some idea of how many plants we will require to reorder.

We very successfully delivered 200 plants last year.

RIGHT: Virginia and Robert Hayward are offering free manna gums to Cape Paterson residents to help build out and improve local animal corridors.



Sam Gatto researchers the mining town's story behind the signs



Sam Gatto launches his newest book *Aspects of Wonthaggi's History through Street and Place Names*.

publishing my first book in 2010 on the Wonthaggi Hospital, and with this now sixth book there were so many stories to tell – which was somewhat difficult because sometimes getting that information was not straightforward," he said.

Sam shared that there is so much he could write about, and addressed the fact that even in his sixth book that took him four years, he is only scratching the surface in Wonthaggi's history.

"I've been researching the history of Wonthaggi for the past 20 years,

he knew almost nothing about the place he called home.

"I now know a little, but there is so much more to know – about how pioneers who believed in solidarity and cooperation were prepared to fight for adjusting fairer society.

"And there's so much to know about the men and women who fought on daily survival and the rebirth from the mining town into the prospering commercial, government and service centre it has become today."

Over 100 people from the local community gathered at the Baptist Church in support of Sam's sixth book, enjoying light refreshments and a personal book signing. *Aspects of Wonthaggi's History through Street and Place Names* is available at the Wonthaggi and District Historical Society at 40 White Road, Wonthaggi, open Tuesday, and Thursday 10am until 3pm and Saturday 10am until 2pm.

Sam's work on this story is pro bono and all profits from *Aspects of Wonthaggi's History through Street and Place Names* will go directly to the Wonthaggi and District Historical Society.

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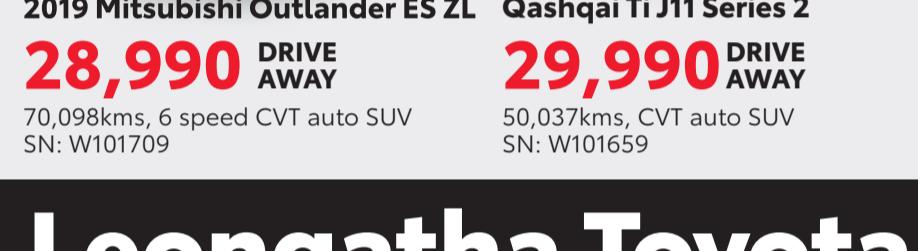
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OH WHAT A FEELING

Sentinel-Times

COMMENT

Time to get real about Cowes cultural centre

LAST Friday, the Bass Coast Shire Council made a statement about the success of the first 100 days of the new Cowes cultural centre, Berninnett.

Chris Hemsworth, they said, reckons it's a great space.

Sandra Peeters, President of the Phillip Island Contemporary Exhibition Space Inc is delighted with the gallery and the encouragement of visual arts locally and regionally.

And more than 10,000 people, they say, have attended a range of sold out shows and exhibitions.

In that number are reportedly 5327 who've attended 'over' 105 cinema sessions (not sure how you arrive at a figure that's 'over' 105, but anyhow).

And how that lines up with another report from a Sentinel-Times reader, we're not sure, who attended a session of 'Napoleon' over the summer, with his wife and another couple. Perhaps we could see some figures on numbers that attended each show, and how many actually paid for their tickets.

The point is that while the statement from the shire was all froth and bubble, a promotional piece if you like, and why not, 100 days is a great achievement, but somewhere along the line we've got to get real about the cost blowout of the project, whether the all-up, final cost is really \$31.3 million as announced by the former mayor Cr Michael Whelan on opening day, and what the all-inclusive operating loss is projected to be after 12 months.

And surely, there must be some critical appraisal about how the facility is operating day-to-day.

Because over the summer holidays, while the main streets of Cowes were absolutely groaning with people, in and out of shops, cafes, pubs and restaurants; if there was a place that was quieter than a church mouse, it was Berninnett.

The library was doing a great job with its activities and if library memberships are up, great! But what are the negatives from the first 100 days? What improvements can be made?

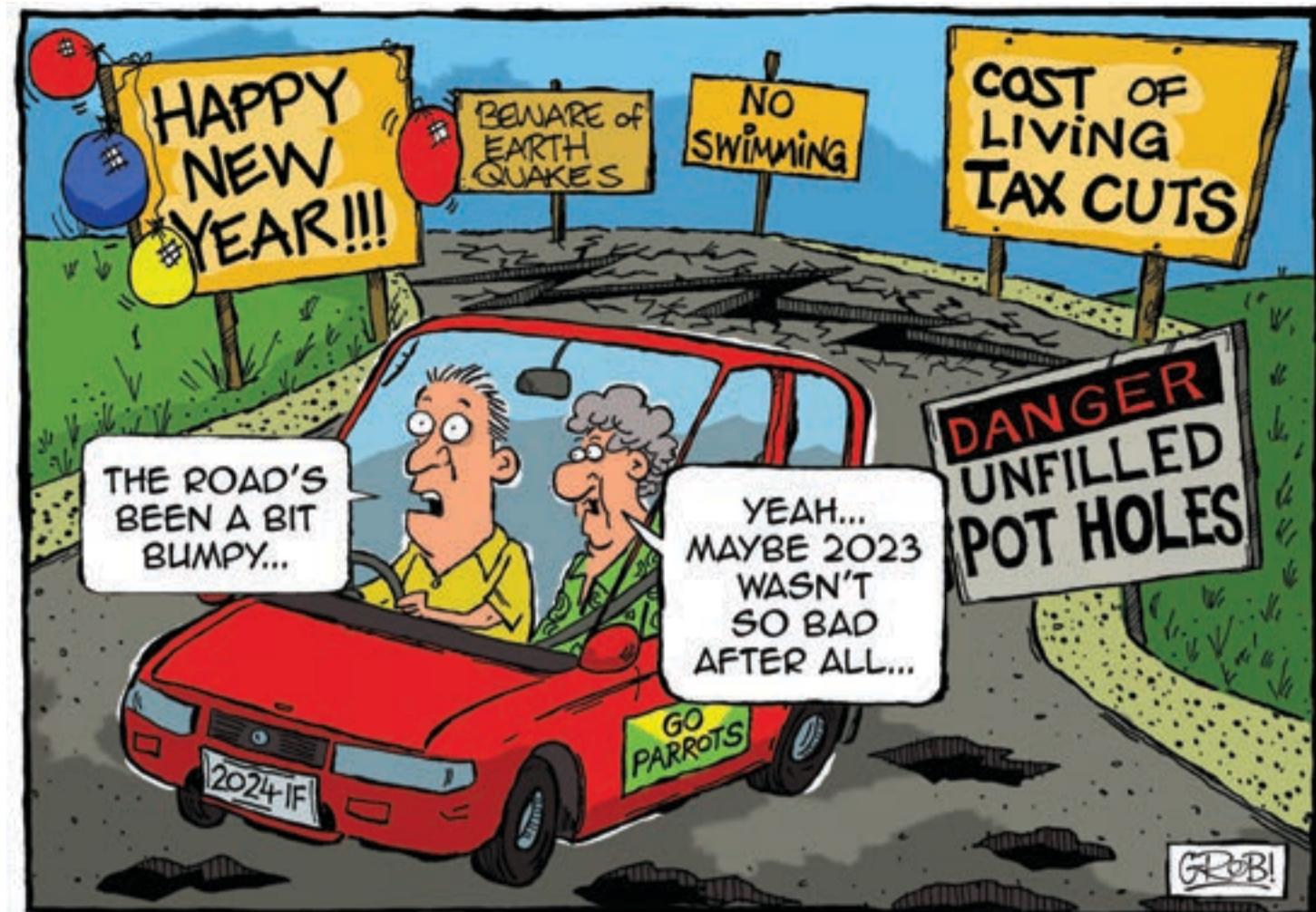
Film posters on the windows? Some outward sign that the building is actually open? How about leasing out the café and putting some tables and umbrellas outside? What about the landscaping? Is that it? How many local groups are using it or is it simply too expensive?

And do shire staff have to be occupying such expensive real estate upstairs? What happened to the idea of leasing it out to PINP (or someone else) to subsidise the cost.

And there's no getting away from the fact that when the previous council made the decision to reject a 'Redevelopment & Refurbishment' option, allegedly costing \$19,001,953 for a 'Demolition & New Build' option costing just \$2306 less (really?) at \$18,999,647 in October 2019, it was a full \$12.3 million below the ultimate cost.

At an overrun of more than \$12 million, if that is really the all-up cost, it's got to be the worst managed capital project in the history of the Bass Coast Shire Council.

Surely, there's got to be a more critical assessment of the first 100 days of Berninnett, and what adjustments are going to be made... and such a report not only needs to be prepared as a matter of urgency, it also needs to be released to the people who are paying the bill – the ratepayers.



Cartoon by Glenn 'Grobb' Robinson.

How much more in rates?

What the! "Government is screwing councils over rate capping" (The Advertiser Newspaper 24 January 2024, page 6).

Ex-Mayor Cr Michael Whelan, while being asked to comment about sea level rise changes and the need for clarity to be provided by Federal and State Governments, stated "Government is screwing councils over rate capping".

Our ex-Mayor of two years and councillor for two terms is indicating to the ratepayers the rate cap set each year by the Victorian Government is below expectations of the councillor.

Has Cr Michael Whelan, in criticising the State Government, spoken without authority and in doing so violated the Bass Coast Shire Council Media Engagement Policy and the Councillor Code of Conduct? Will the new Mayor Cr Clare Le Serve, the Deputy Mayor Cr Rochelle Halstead and the newly appointed CEO, Mr Greg Box, discipline Cr Michael Whelan and record the criticism (words reported) of the State Government as a course of procedure or will they all stay silent by doing nothing.

Just remember Cr Michael Whelan, ex-mayor, all at council are paid either by taxes or rates making all at council customers of ratepayers.

Ratepayers are experiencing first-hand this cycle of a high cost of living. The Federal Government acknowledges that fact.

The rate cap for 2024 is 2.75 per cent, that most likely will generate approximately \$59m from General Rates out of \$76m of Total Rates and Charges for 2024/2025.

So how much more does Cr Michael Whelan expect ratepayers to fork out and what for?

It's time for change.

Community questions to council meetings is a way of change.

Two questions x 50 words to be sent to council no later than 48 hours prior to a meeting.

Graham Jolly, Cape Woolamai.

Recognising the past

On January 20, the Bass Coast South Gippsland Reconciliation Group with the support of eight Victorian State Government entities held a Memorial Service to commemorate the lives of two Aboriginals, Tunmerminnerwait and Maulboyheenner.

These two men were captured near Harmers Haven where they had killed two non-combatant sealers possibly over the "theft" of Aboriginal women. Reluctantly, the Chief

Judge applied English Law to condemn the men to be hung. While recognising the tragedy of the event, after reading some background information regarding these two men, I believe it is interesting to claim they were freedom fighters in a Frontier War. Ironically, there were frontier wars between tribes when displaced Aboriginals sought refuge within another Tribes' boundary uninvited. Since Tunmerminnerwait and Maulboyheenner were originally from Tasmania, I wonder if they understood the dialect of the mainland Aboriginals and if they were made welcome by the Bunurong Tribe.

The memorial service was also designed to engage in truth telling. The address given prior to the Smoking Ceremony invited women and children to come before the men to inhale the smoke, as the society they were accepting a welcome from was matriarchal. When I queried this with an Elder after the Ceremony, they agreed it was not universal, but claimed it was true of the Bunurong Tribe. Information given regarding the deaths of the two sealers and the preferential sentences given to white men who had killed Aboriginals was short on what could have been relevant detail.

Rosemary Hutchinson, Inverloch

Keep pork on your fork

I WRITE to seek the support of your readership to save the Victorian pork industry.

As many of your readers will be aware, the native timber industry recently fell victim to Labor's capitulation to inner-city green groups.

I now hold grave concerns that Premier Jacinta Allan has set her sights on Victoria's pork industry through the Labor, Animal Justice Party and Greens-led Inquiry into Pig Welfare in Victoria.

The Inquiry is a sham and an insult to an industry that already has the support of independent, audited quality assurance programs.

This well-monitored sector contributes \$488 million to the Victorian economy and supports almost 2700 full-time jobs and I, along with my colleagues in The Nationals are urging Gippslanders to help save this important industry by completing an online submission at saveourbacon.com.au.

With the native timber industry history and recreational duck hunting under threat – please do your part to save our pork industry from the same fate and keep Victorian pork on your fork.

Danny O'Brien MP, The Nationals Member for Gippsland South

Vox Pop

Do you use cash?



Lyn Wilson

Korumburra
"Yes, I use it for everything so I can keep track of what I spend."



Kate (and Emma) McCarthy

Leongatha
"Yes, for small things. It's always good to have a bit of cash on you."



David Panther

Leongatha
"Yes, I always have a little bit of cash on me to pay for the little things like coffee."



Jill Carmody

Leongatha
"Occasionally, for my grandchildren's birthday gifts."

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

Wonthaggi's Pride Prom a joy

POSITIVE vibes and a welcoming atmosphere were delivered in spades during Saturday night's Pride Prom.

Hosted by the Yes Youth Hub, Pride Prom took place at the Wonthaggi Town Hall, welcoming local LGBTQIA+ youths and allies to join in the fun.

Pride Prom is now in its third year and continues to grow.

"This is a really incredible event. It was thought up by a really passionate group of young people who came together and decided they wanted an event that was welcoming and accepting of the LGBTQIA+ young people in our community," Yes Youth Hub programs coordinator Tracey Cobb said.

"It was identified that during COVID, a lot of people missed out on those formative opportunities, and some of the traditional opportunities through schools weren't always welcoming."

More than 100 tickets were booked for Saturday's event.

At the inaugural event held in Dalyston, tickets were capped at 100 people.

Over the last two years, tickets have been capped at 150 with more and more people getting involved.

"It means young people in our community are feeling safe, and they want to come back year after year. That's really important to us," Tracey said.

The entire event was designed by young people, including the entertainment, the photo booth, the food and the playlist.

The event catered for young people between the ages of 12 and 25, with all ages represented.

"This event is really important because it gives all the LGBTQIA+ youths and allies a place to feel welcomed, enjoy

themselves and express themselves. It's a place for them to be who they are," Levi (Isabelle) Simon said.

"Ever since I joined the YES Youth Hub, I feel more proud and I can be more myself. It's a positive place to be."

Rue Grainger said the YES Youth Hub and the pride events had helped to improve mental health, with the opportunity to be surrounded by a community of caring, supportive people.

Tracey said Pride Prom is incredibly significant because it helps local youths feel visible in their community.

"We recognise it's not an event for everyone, but it's here for the people it matters to. It helps the young people feel that their community sees them and accepts them for who they are," she said.

"We are seeing more supportive families and more supportive people get on board, and our partner list continues to grow. Schools have also been incredibly supportive and they love sharing the information about these events."

Yes Youth Hub senior coordinator Ben Cavender thanked the organisations that ensured Pride Prom could go ahead this year, including the Victorian Government, Midsumma, headspace, Victoria Police, Freeza, Bass Coast Shire Council and the Bass Coast YMCA.

Victoria Police was on hand to provide security through the night, and headspace provided a "chill out zone" for attendees.

Tracey said Pride Prom has very much become a fixture on the Yes Youth Hub's annual calendar.

Three more LGBTQIA+ programs will also be introduced this year, thanks to the HEY (Healthy Equal Youth) Grants Organisation.



Harper Farrell, Jack Fincher, Livi Pedley and Naomi Krause at Pride Prom, held at the Wonthaggi Town Hall.



Riley Ross-Bryant, Richie Arnold and Harlan Lester had a ball at Pride Prom on Saturday night.



Olivia Walker, Hayley Dixon and Arlieya Whykes enjoyed the activities provided at Pride Prom.

Cubers amaze in Inverloch

INVERLOCH was buzzing over the weekend as the first ever official Speed Cubing Australia Tournament hit town.

More than 70 competitors from around Victoria, including 19 first timers, was an amazing response to a regional event.

The Inverloch Community Hub was filled with the unmistakable sounds of turning cubes, cheers of support, excited chatter, laughter and colour; as well as the usual bustle of an event with cubes being constantly scrambled and run out to competitors.

Spectators dropped in to find out what it was all about and were fascinated by the incredible display of speed and skill, the variety of the cubes used, the community effort to bring it all together, the friendly welcoming atmosphere and the fact that age was no boundary with seven-year-old Parker competing alongside plenty of adults having a go.

It was an action packed two days filled with personal bests from many competitors, Gippsland records fell, and podiums were nabbed by three local Gippslanders.

In particular, a massive congratulations to Emmet Hobbs for his first sub 10 3*3 single and to Harry Forbes who demolished his own 2*2 Gippsland record and

achieved 15 personal records over the comp.

Local cubers Reef Metselaar, Tim Handley and Jarrah Commadeur competed for their very first time and were able to set personal records of their own.

Fifteen-year-old Harvey Welsford, who first brought Speed Cubing to Inverloch after setting up a Cubing Club in the Inverloch Library, was excited to have his best ever tournament on his home soil, smashing his 3*3 records, 2*2 and 4*4 records.

Fellow Cubing Club member Oliver Thomas was also pretty happy, taking out six personal bests across various cubes.

Co-organiser Monique Wilson, representing the Inverloch Tourism Association, was absolutely over the moon with the success and engagement of the event and is keen to bring another official Speed Cubing Event to Inverloch.

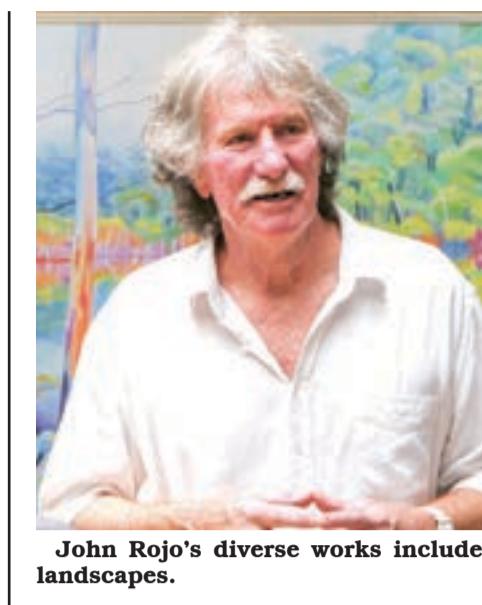
"We were given feedback such as it being one of the most friendly and relaxed events, everyone loved the venue, the ease of organising it and support from the local Information Centre and library, everyone loved the close vicinity of the shops to the Hub. The only request we had for the next event was that it was over school holidays so people could stay longer. We will work on that," she said.



Bass MLA Jordan Crugnale with Geelong's Phoenix Patterson, who holds the Oceanic record for 2*2*2 with the ability to solve a cube at an average of 1.14 seconds.



Inverloch and Wonthaggi locals Sam Sexton, and Jackson and Oliver Thomas competed in the Speed Cubing Australia Tournament over the weekend.



John Rojo's diverse works include landscapes.

John Rojo exhibition opens at Foster's Stockyard Gallery

CERAMICIST and painter John Rojo continued his long association with Foster's Stockyard Gallery when his 'A Life's Journey' exhibition opened there early in February.

He was part of the original show when the gallery moved into its purpose-built current home in 1991, on that occasion exhibiting his ceramics alongside the paintings of two other artists.

John, who lives in the Tarra Valley near Yarram, describes Stockyard Gallery as "still in really good nick", noting it is run by volunteers, and clearly considering it a great place to showcase his work.

He paints watercolours, and large oils on canvas, with landscapes and seascapes among the nature lover's chosen subjects.

Asked about a painting depicting a large hand that appears to extend into the gallery, John explained that while the work, now titled 'No', already existed, it assumed a greater significance for him after the outcome of the recent referendum.

"It's an Aboriginal man saying 'no' to people taking over their land and destroying their sacred sites," John said, expressing his disappointment at the referendum result.

Lately, John has enjoyed experimenting with an approach that brings 'movement' to his paintings, particularly the water in his seascapes.

"I use complementary colours to get the movement on the canvas, basically primary colours against secondary colours, so that makes the whole surface vibrate," John said.

He has a passion for woodfired ceramics, his pieces including a mix of traditional pot shapes with modern sculptures such as his 'reclining nude' in Lamborghini Yellow.

John's move to South Gippsland happened about 1981 when he took up a teaching position at Yarram Secondary College.

He originally trained and worked as a graphic designer in Melbourne before gaining a teaching degree, later completing a Postgraduate degree in Ceramics, then a Masters.

'A Life's Journey' exhibition runs until Monday February 26, with the Stockyard Gallery open Thursday to Monday from 11am until 3pm.



John Rojo blends the more traditional with modern ceramic pieces.

Valentine's Day

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14

Survey reveals the accents of love

WHEN it comes to accent attraction, some countries are worlds apart.

According to research by eharmony, online daters have revealed which inflections are most charming, smart or downright annoying.

While the survey results reinforce some celebrated stereotypes – a French accent is still the ‘language of love’ – there were surprises amongst the top placings.

French was deemed the most attractive foreign language with 39 per cent, with British English at 30 per cent and Italian at 29 per cent.

French (56 per cent) also takes gold for most romantic, with Italian (41 per cent) and Spanish (16 per cent) trailing behind.

British English was the clear winner across multiple measures, including most intelligent (44 per cent), most honest (32 per cent) and most sophisticated (42 per cent).

Most friendly international accent was awarded to Irish with 33 per cent, which was also number one for more humorous (40 per cent) followed by Scottish (30 per cent).

What about the Australian accent?

While many survey participants felt accents varied from state to state – with nearly half saying Queenslanders have their own vocalisation – the majority felt the Australian accent was perceived internationally as friendly and laid back (70 per cent).

The Aussie twang scored lower on the measures of being consider sophisticated (14 per cent) or exotic (22 per cent), with 44 per cent branding it as “bogan”.

Regardless, Chris Hemsworth’s Aussie drawl was the top celebrity pick with 44 per cent, followed by Sean Connery’s guttural Scottish (42 per cent) and Morgan Freeman’s dulcet tone in third (39 per cent).

Australia also took out the top celebrity pick with Margot Robbie deemed to have the most attractive female voice with 40 per cent, followed by Emma Watson with 38 per cent.

“When looking for a partner, people are heavily influenced – both consciously and subconsciously – by

first impressions in making initial assessments about levels of attraction and potential compatibility,” eharmony psychologist Sharon Draper said.

“Countless studies have theorised why people are attracted to certain accents – some contributing it to our social and cultural associations, while linguistic experts say some languages’ rhythmic intonation are easier on the ear.

“A word of friendly, but cautionary dating advice for anyone contemplating ‘putting on’ an accent to woo someone – this is a risky tactic which could backfire and is difficult to sustain long term and may bring about trust issues far too early in a relationship for it to truly flourish.”

Don't forget your four-legged Valentines this year

WITH many people already busy making and confirming plans for Cupid’s biggest day of the year, The Lost Dogs’ Home is urging everyone to honor and reward our furry friends who love us unconditionally 24/7, 365 days a year!

Let's face it, you probably spend more time with your pet than your partner anyway, their love is unconditional, and they'd never leave dirty dishes in the sink or ghost you on a dating app.

Here are some cool ways to spend the day with your pet:

- Go on a day trip to your pets’ favourite place
- Bake yummy treats for your pooch or kitty and let them lick the spoon!
- Let them pick out a new toy
- Arrange a playdate with their favourite fellow furries and of course;
- Lots of kisses and cuddles! Just as importantly though,

there will sadly be many pets spending Valentines’ Day in animal shelters around the country.

The Home’s Spokesperson Suzana Talevski said the animals would be receiving extra cuddles and treats on the international day of love.

“We will make sure they know how much they are loved and that their special someone isn’t too far away,” said Ms Talevski.

The Home has the following suggestions for helping pets in our shelters this Valentines Day:

- Adopt your true love (but make sure it’s forever!)
- Become a foster carer
- Donate blankets, treats and toys to your favourite shelter
- Make financial contribution and commitment to look after our most vulnerable animals via dogshome.com



My Valentine is special because he's my best friend, favourite travel partner and always makes me laugh. Together 10 years. – Alex Tzatzimakis



Hubby (Allan) and I celebrated 50 years of marriage last December. Three children, eight grandchildren and one great granddaughter. He's my best friend, soul mate and fishing partner. Don't know what I'd do without him. – Sue Ward



Just celebrated our 25th wedding anniversary with a beautiful trip to beautiful Cairns. – Tanya Gardner

LIFE Moments



NOAH Peter Stefani was born at Wonthaggi Hospital on February 2, weighing 3.33kg. Noah is the first child for Blake Stefani and Maddi Carew of Fish Creek.



BEAR Riley Dobson was born at Wonthaggi Hospital on January 30, weighing 4.39kg. He is the first child for Riley Dobson and Shaye Wilson of Cowes.



BEAU Nash Houston was born on January 19 at 10.51pm at Leongatha Hospital. Beau is a son for proud parents Alyce and Pete and new baby brother to Lacey (5) and angel Nate.

Send your birthday, anniversary or baby photos to news@sgst.com.au



Heart Support Australia launches peer support group for Wonthaggi's cardiac community

HEART Support Australia (HSA) is opening a Peer Support Group in Wonthaggi today (Tuesday, February 13), giving post-heart event support for cardiac patients in the area.

The HSA Peer Support Groups are unique communal support programs that offer comfort and guidance to those who have recently undergone a heart event and for those who have experienced heart conditions and rehabilitation.

HSA CEO Dr Christian Verdicio says, "Unfortunately, far too often when people are diagnosed with or undergo treatment for a heart condition, they don't have ongoing support and that can be incredibly isolating."

"Our support groups are designed to ensure our patients are staying on the path to a healthier life by making it known to them that they are not alone because they are interacting with their leader and group members who have gone through similar circumstances," he says.

In the recent Wonthaggi Census statistics, heart disease accounted for 8.9 per cent of all long-term health conditions in the region, which is more



John Carter will be leading a new Wonthaggi Peer Support Group for Heart Support Australia.

than double Victoria's average (3.7 per cent).

Leading the Wonthaggi Peer Support Group is John Carter whose pneumonia went undiagnosed despite seeing his GP for symptoms including a hacking cough and shortness of breath.

After being prescribed antibiotics, John returned to his doctor a week later when he noticed swelling and puffiness in his lower leg and ankles.

"I went back to my GP in August and I was immediately referred to emergency at

Wonthaggi Hospital with diagnosed heart failure," John says.

"After stabilising my condition, and with medication, my heart function had returned to normal capacity although I still had fibrillation issues and a faulty rhythm," he says.

John was fortunate to receive 24-hour hospital care and go straight to cardiac rehab where he "restored [his] old life".

"Without the support and encouragement from the staff in rehab I would not have been able to turn my life around

and strengthen my body and mind," John says.

"That's why I am leading the Wonthaggi support group to give back to the wonderful community that supported me but also to importantly give attendees a sense of 'look at me, I'm OK. Sure, I'm not 25 anymore, but I have a bunch of people that I can relate to and get on with life and all the good things it still has to offer,' he concludes.

The peer support program initiative derives from a new era of managing heart disease that empowers heart patients with education, improved self-esteem, and larger support networks that result in less of a strain on our health system with fewer hospital stays and trips to the GP.

The Wonthaggi Peer Support Group takes place on the second Tuesday of each month at the Wonthaggi Senior Citizens Centre.

Heart Support Australia encourages people to get involved with the community support session by getting in touch with group leader John Carter by calling 0408 556 061 or by emailing john.carter48@bigpond.com

• FAITH FACTOR

The two invitations

**By Karen Evans,
Wonthaggi Christian Life Centre**

THERE are two things that every person on the face of the earth have in common.

Every one of us was born and every one of us is going to die. There is nothing that you did to be born and there is nothing you can do to stop you from dying. We can live the best life possible, be as healthy as we can, be the nicest, wisest, most attractive, poorest, wealthiest person but we all have to come to terms with the fact that we will expire one day.

You will never see a removalist van following a hearse to the cemetery. Nothing that we have collected, bought or acquired during this life is coming with us when we die, and we have no idea when that will be.

James chapter 4 in the Bible talks about it like this; 'we can't predict or control the future. We truly have no idea what will happen tomorrow. In addition to that, our lives are temporary and fragile. We are a mist that is here for a moment and then gone'.

Naked we came into this world and naked we will leave and that part of our life goes on for all eternity. It never stops, no expiration date, no end.

Where's the instructions for that part of our life? Jesus Christ gives them to us now. He boldly tells us "I Am the Way, I Am the Truth and I Am the Life." He speaks this invitation for us to look to Him for the way to live our life. He alone is the one who offers the Truth and He can give us life everlasting.

There are two invitations being offered on how we will spend eternity; One is with Jesus Christ and the other is not. The invitations are for everyone and you must make your choice. If you don't choose His invite then you are left with the other by default.

Discover Tai Chi for health and harmony in 2024

IMPROVE heart and lung function and assist in the treatment of arthritis and many other conditions with this gentle exercise form that also improves balance, fitness, flexibility and helps calm the mind.

Tai chi is an ancient martial art which is a body, mind, and spirit practice. Tai chi involves gentle movements and can improve every system in the body. Many people find almost immediate improvement in their balance after commencing tai chi.

The Tai Chi for Health Institute trains instructors worldwide to be effective tai chi

teachers. Their purpose is to 'empower people to improve their health and wellbeing as they age'.

A passionate tai chi student for 20 years and teacher for 10 years, Heather Wright has been trained by and is a member of the Tai Chi for Health Institute.

Heather's classes are in Inverloch on Tuesday and Wednesday mornings and are suitable for all ages and abilities with everyone encouraged to work within their own limits.

Classes are light-hearted and fun.

Many participants find the

quietness they feel during class is carried through to their day-to-day life and many also comment on improved balance, less pain and stiffness, and helpful breathing techniques.

If you are interested in finding out more about the classes or for bookings, please contact Heather on 0412 463 344.

RIGHT: Wake up to a balanced start and join tai chi aficionado Heather Wright as she brings her wealth of knowledge to Inverloch on Tuesday and Wednesday mornings.



Bloom's chronic fatigue syndrome health struggle

SINGER Bloom revealed that after two decades of managing a debilitating chronic illness, a recent operation thrust her back to her teens when she was bedridden with myalgic encephalomyelitis/chronic fatigue syndrome.

At 16, the Perth based singer developed glandular fever and tonsilitis, which led to myalgic encephalomyelitis/chronic fatigue syndrome (ME/CFS), a post viral infection.

She missed a lot of school and did not complete her final exams, shelving her plans to study nursing.

Over time, Bloom, the stage name of Amanda Canzurlo, said she was able to stabilise but there have been struggles and flare ups, and constant pursuits of information and trial and error to manage her symptoms.

Canzurlo is an ambassador for Emerge Australia, the national patient organisation for people living with ME/CFS and Long COVID.

Research reveals overlaps between the post viral illnesses and similar symptoms, which include unrelenting fatigue, unrefreshing sleep, digestive issues, brain fog, dizziness, and noise, sound and visual sensitivities.

ME/CFS is often incorrectly referred to as chronic fatigue syndrome, but that is just one symptom. There is no cure and no clear treatment, but pacing and rest are regarded as keys to management.

Canzurlo donates money she raises from some of her concerts to the work of Emerge Australia, which has helped her navigate her illness and provides free nurse telehealth services.

She said going from 'a million miles an hour and loving life' to being bedridden was challenging.

Through trial and error, Canzurlo found changes to her diet can help. She stresses this is an individual thing for her.

While not gluten intolerant, she found too much bread, pasta and pizza does not sit well with her.

She uses pre and probiotics and vitamins to improve her gut health, and noted music has been her saviour.

"Music is healing for the singer and the listener. It has definitely saved me and I feel so fortunate that I am able to share my gift with everyone," she said.

Canzurlo collaborates with husband James Morley, a former band member of the iconic The Angels, and other musicians for her show, which

features her own compositions and covers of everyone from Amy Winehouse, Adele, Stevie Nicks, Linda Ronstadt and Carole King to Eva Cassidy.

Emerge Australia chief executive officer Anne Wilson said there are approximately 250,000 people in Australia with ME/CFS.

Seventy-five per cent are women and around a quarter are bed or house bound.

There are thought to be around 300,000 people living with Long COVID.

In the past few months, the culmination of work behind the scenes, Emerge Australia has launched the AusMe Registry.

People can donate blood samples, which will be used by researchers to better understand Long COVID and ME/CFS and develop treatments and hopefully a cure.

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New staff welcomed at Leongatha Secondary



Students Mitch and Peter collect herbs in the South Gippsland Specialist School garden. A02_3623

Kitchen Garden Foundation extends partnership with Saputo Dairy Australia

AS STUDENTS across the country return to school, Saputo Dairy Australia (SDA) has renewed its funding partnership with the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Foundation, to continue their mutual priority to build healthy, resilient Australians and communities.

South Gippsland Specialist School is one of more than 1000 schools and early childhood services across Australia who are involved in the Foundation's Kitchen Garden Program with Saputo Dairy Australia volunteers working alongside students to cook fresh, healthy and delicious meals.

The continuation of the partnership for a further two years means the Foundation can allocate 100 per cent of funds to continue the impactful work of its world-recognised Kitchen Garden Program, founded by Stephanie Alexander AO. The Program is led by the Foundation's expert training team, which delivers practical, fun and flexible professional development sessions that establish food literacy skills in students and the role of nutritious foods from garden to plate. This renewed partnership will go on to benefit children and young people, their schools and services, families and surrounding communities.

"Investing in the capacity of the Foundation enables us to reach more schools and early childhood services right across the country. Partnerships such as this, are vitally important for the longevity of the Kitchen Garden Program, and our growing community place-based projects. As we celebrate our 20th anniversary this year, we are proud to continue having Saputo Dairy Australia as part of our kitchen garden family," Dr Cathy Wilkinson, CEO of the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Foundation stated.

"Since 2019, our partnership with the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Foundation has helped to deliver practical food education to children around the country. Together, we are promoting healthy lifestyle habits through responsible food and nutrition choices and we are excited to join the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Foundation for another two years," Gerard Lourey, Saputo Dairy Australia Operations Director added.

The Foundation supports SDA's dairy advocacy by providing nutritional information about dairy as part of a balanced diet, while promoting significant dairy events and producing free educational resources to our engaged audience of school communities and families across Australia.

SDA has contributed almost \$1 million to the Foundation since 2019 with volunteers from the SDA team recently rolling up their sleeves and engaging in Kitchen Garden Programs at three schools across Tasmania and regional Victoria, with planning underway for further visits.



Leongatha Secondary College new staff from left, back, Dale McCahon, Robbie Carter, Xavier Bolge, Steph Ricardo, front, Tess Taylor, Kaylene Morter, Celeste Amenta, Samuel Shineberg and Andrew Corponi. Not pictured: Oscar Slabik

LEONGATHA Secondary College welcomed 10 new staff members for the 2024 school year.

Internship teacher Andrew Corponi is teaching science and humanities, while Kaylene Morter and Tess Taylor will teach science and maths.

Visual Arts teachers Celeste Amenta and Steph Ricardo are other arrivals, while Sam Shineberg will teach performing arts and humanities.

Xavier Bolge is a sport and recreation trainee and Oscar Slabik an IT trainee.

Former local policeman Dale McCahon is the Year 7 coordinator and a student engagement officer, while Robbie Carter has come aboard as a learning specialist.



Georgia and Reagan of Cowes Primary School enjoy their new water bottles from Westernport Water.



Noah, Louie and Ollie from Phillip Island Village School with their water bottles.

Prep Water Bottle Initiative makes a splash in 2024



All smiles for their new water bottles are Newhaven College's George, Seraphina and Julia.



San Remo Primary School preps Alirah, Vincent, Nalani, Kaleb and Audrey with their new water bottles.

AS THE school year kicks off, Westernport Water is thrilled to announce the continuation of its cherished Prep Water Bottle Initiative.

Building on the success of previous years, the initiative aims to make the first day of school special for prep students by providing them with a free reusable stainless steel water bottle.

This year, Westernport Water proudly distributed over 300 stainless steel water bottles to prep students from all local primary schools.

"Our partnership with local primary schools and investment in our community's youngest learners through the Prep Water Bottle Initiative is something that we hold dear," Westernport Water's Managing Director, Dona Tantrumudalige said.

"By incorporating reusable water bottles into students' daily routine, we not only support students' hydration, we aim to instill early lessons in sustainability and teach them about the importance of choosing tap water.

"The program's longevity is a testament to the enthusiasm we see from both students and teachers, and we're proud to contribute to their educational journey."

This thoughtful gesture has

seen over 2250 students receive a refillable water bottle, helping students to remain hydrated since the program's inception in 2017.

The Choose Tap campaign at the core of the Prep Water Bottle Initiative, advocates for the environmental, monetary, and health benefits of choosing tap water over sugary drinks. Research demonstrates that a mere two per cent drop in body water can lead to a 13 per cent decrease in concentration, underscoring the importance of keeping students adequately hydrated for optimal learning and overall health.

"Our preps from Newhaven Primary were very excited to receive a drink bottle from Westernport Water's 'Prep Drink Bottle Initiative'. The preps were thrilled with their new drink bottles, and we want to say thank you to Westernport Water for supporting our newest members of our beautiful school," Newhaven Primary School's prep teacher Bethanie Williams said.

"We are very thrilled to once again be part of this fabulous program from Westernport Water. The children are always excited to get their new water bottles. We cannot thank them enough" San Remo Primary School's Principal Karen Bowker added.

Learning, growing and new things at Chairo

ANOTHER school year marked by excellent education, enjoyment and relationship-building is eagerly anticipated at Chairo Christian School in Leongatha.

The Principal, Christine Hibma, said: "We are all looking forward to an exciting year of learning, growing and new things!"

Prep and kindergarten students commenced a day before the older students and they were pleased to greet their teachers and each other, see their classrooms and enjoy the playground.

Of course, there were the usual smiles, tears and hugs as parents dropped off their precious little ones for their first day!

When students in Years One

and above started the next day, the first Year 11 cohort at the campus for many years was amongst them.

This represented an exciting moment for Chairo Leongatha, with the campus now able to offer Christian education from kindergarten through to VCE, with Year 12 scheduled to commence in 2025.

New and continuing students, families and staff members were welcomed at an assembly in the courtyard, with the key message being about loving God and your neighbour with all your heart, soul, mind and strength.

RIGHT: Justin Jose, with his family, is ready in his new uniform for his first day of Prep at Chairo Leongatha.



A trio of scavenger hunters enjoy a fun introduction to the Korumburra Secondary College campus while learning more about QR Codes.

Year 7s embark on scavenger trail

NEWLY arrived Korumburra Secondary College Year 7 STEAM students enjoyed an entertaining introduction to the campus, participating in a QR Code Scavenger Hunt during the first week of term.

Laboratory technician Donna Muldoon said the activity was designed to encourage the kids to look at QR Codes and how they are used within the community and more broadly around the world.

"They're learning that a QR Code will send them to a website and that website is pertinent to whatever the QR Code is attached to," Donna said.

In this case, students began in the classroom with a clue taking them to a location at which they found a QR Code that provided their next hint, having to complete nine such stations.

The students took selfies at each destination to prove they had accomplished their mission.

New leaders for Leongatha Primary

LEONGATHA Primary School (LPS) held their School Captains and Leaders Presentation last Thursday, awarding students new roles and responsibilities within the schools.

The assembly was opened with students, teachers and parents singing the National Anthem.

This was followed by a message from Wil Dawson, North Melbourne AFL player who attended Leongatha Primary School and has worked with the students over the past year.

The incoming captains and leaders received sage advice at the assembly, which was, to make a positive change, show up, speak up and advocate for others, look up and around to make improvements, never give up and lift other people up.

The new grade six captains for LPS are Piper Holt, Ryan Perry, Siiri Roberts and Charlotte Willlis.

Johnston House Captains are Reggie Read and Billy Fleming, Herrald House Captains are Georgia Rump and Mia Bickel, Wightman House Captains are Milla McCarthy, Ollie Bolge and Brody Jarvis while Strzelecki House Captains are Jaya Dowel and Arky Cameron.

Performing Arts Captains are Hannah Matthews and Elina Reed, Visual Arts Captains are Hazel Rowe and Kaleb Willis, Languages Captains are Annabelle Fallu and Matthew Buckley.

Library Captains are Tiger Hendricks, Nathan Tresize and Hannah Bruce, ICT Captains are Archer Commadeur and Kade Johnson, Sustainability Captains are Harvey Nelson, Archie Wilson and Matthew Indian.

Well Done Awards were also presented at the assembly to a number of students and the age champions from the swimming carnival were commended for their efforts.

Newhaven College welcomes parents with social soiree



Running a smooth event, volunteers on the night, PFA member Kay Kondarios, PA to the Principal Katrina Lawrence, Middle School Receptionist Pip White, and PFA members Jenni Lewandowski and Angel Chambers.



Principal Tony Corr was delighted by the response to the evening festivities. Pictured here with Michael and Sophie Le Couteur.

Korumburra Primary School ready for a fantastic year

THE CHILDREN of Korumburra Primary School have arrived with enthusiasm during their first week of school for 2024!

Korumburra Primary School has 54 prep children attending this year; a successful transition program ensured the children were well prepared for school.

Highlights for the children on their first day included showing their families the classrooms, making new friends, and playing on the junior school playground.

It was a happy occasion for Principal, Nathan Pirouet,

and his staff to greet all their returning students for another fun filled year of learning.

Korumburra Primary School have an amazing group of new staff this year and welcomed them and their students' families with Suzy's Coffee Cart.

Students will enjoy a variety of Specialist classes this year, with Performing Arts, Italian, STEM and Visual Arts on offer.

Korumburra Primary School wish all our students and families much success this year!

RIGHT: New preps Ruby Cunningham and Tayha King.



KORUMBURRA SHOW

Stock Horses enter Korumburra Show

Korumburra Show introduced the Australian Stock Horse program for the first time on Saturday.

The program was well received by the public, amassing an incredible 25 entries on short notice.

"We originally asked the West Gippsland Australian Stock Horse (ASH) Branch for a demonstration, just to add a bit of that traditional agriculture show feel to year's event," Korumburra Agricultural and Pastoral (A&P) Society secretary Brooke Howard said.

"They came to us and said they wanted to run a program, and we received great feedback on the day. It was great to have horses back as a feature of the show and to see it being so well supported. The number of entries certainly exceeded expectations."

The entries included a good mix of locals, as well as those who travelled distances to take part.

Local judge Kim McMahon decided the competitions and, through the ASH association, provided stewards to oversee the event.

The event ran from 8.30am until 3.30pm on show day.

Brooke said the show society will be looking to maintain a relationship with the West Gippsland ASH Branch to bring the event back for upcoming shows.

"I'd like to hope we see it again. It was a great competition. Everything about the program was really positive," Brooke said.

The excitement continues with the Korumburra A&P Society Horse Show set to take place this Saturday, February 17.



Poowong North's Zoe Brunt and Alison Potter were showing Speckle Park cattle at the Korumburra Show.



Korumburra's Lorraine Kirk and Margaret Claney were admiring the exhibits at the Korumburra Show.



Churchill's Kevin Collins won Champion Bird in Show with an Australorp female and Lang Lang's Lyn Mackay won Reserve Champion Bird in Show with an OEG Duckwing female. They are pictured with judge Kath Macklin from Stratford (centre).



Lang Lang's Justin Fry won Champion Junior Led Stock Horse with Oakton Lodge Sudden Empress at the Korumburra Show.



Talia Ferris of Drouin and Ella Braumann of Wonthaggi were showing jerseys at the Korumburra Show. They were preparing to show their cattle in the Pair of Heifers class.



Lacey Oveerem and Otfordvalley Eclipse won Small Gelding Australian Stock Horse Under 15 Hands at the Korumburra Show.



Freddie and Alfie Richter with "the world's cutest sheep" at the Korumburra Show.



Georgia Custance and her horse Mercurious at the Korumburra Show.



Ruby Bromage from Flinders Christian College received first place in the ram lamb class at the Korumburra Show.



Leongatha's Olive O'Shea entered the flyball competition with her dog Cookie. Olive has been competing in flyball competitions for three years with Cookie and Cookie's mum Frankie. Olive entered Frankie in the Korumburra Show in 2023 and placed second.

KORUMBURRA SHOW



Wonthaggi thrill seekers Sophia Birkett and Anna Barnes on the Midnight Madness ride at the Korumburra Show.



Nyora's Ally and Jax Trease had a ball at the Korumburra Show on Saturday.

Impressive turn out at Korumburra Show

THE Korumburra Show was a hit for around 4000 people on Saturday.

In perfect conditions, people travelled to the Korumburra Showgrounds to take in the sights, fun and positive atmosphere.

This year's show was one of the biggest yet, with more attractions encouraging more traffic.

"We had a great support from the Showmen's Guild this year," Korumburra Agricultural and Pastoral (A&P) Society secretary Brooke Howard said.

"We also had great support from our market stallholders. There were 60 in total and the majority stayed from 9am to 8pm."

A few new features also attracted a crowd, including the remote-control car demonstration, the Black Snake Productions reptile exhibit, and the highly anticipated mullet competition.

"The mullet competition was fantastic. A lot of people turned out to see it and take part in it," Brooke said.

"It was a highlight, and we hope to bring it back next year."

The poultry, sheep and cattle displays were also well attended, with entry numbers above average.

For the first time, the show introduced an Australian Stock Horse program, which amassed 25 entries.

"This addition to the show was a little spur of the moment, but it was very well received, and we had some excellent feedback," Brooke said.

Brooke thanked Ben Fisher from the Korumburra Middle Hotel, who ran the keg toss.

"We had some excellent feedback from the keg toss. Someone managed to throw 10 metres," she said.

"It was a bit of fun and one of the great ways to involve local businesses."

Thanks were also extended to the Landcare Group that manned the gate, Shirley Arestia for managing the advertising leading up to the event, Burra Barber Rick Arestia for running the mullet competition, and the Lions Club for providing lunches to the judges, stewards and officials.



Pound Creek's Lachlan and Abbie Jones with their ribbons for poultry at the Korumburra Show.



Saskia Novak was jumping for joy at the Korumburra Show.



Anna and Mia Duncan with their horses Copper Rocket and Amac Cluey at the Korumburra Show.



Leongatha's Stephanie and Isla Kelly took a spin on the teacups at the Korumburra Show.



Leongatha's Luka Neeson attends the Korumburra Show every year to see the CFA.



Brie & Watercress Soup



By Meg Viney

SOMETHING a bit unusual and exotic today, again, can be hot or cold.

Ingredients

- 3 cups chicken stock (recipe last week)
- 1 red onion, chopped
- Pinch salt
- 400 gm brie or thereabouts
- 1 bunch watercress washed and shaken dry – roots removed
- 4 tabs cream
- White pepper to taste

Method

Saute onion in butter with salt, lid on, over a low heat for 10 minutes, until golden and aromatic.

Add stock and brie, broken into pieces – cover and cook 10 minutes.

Add most of the watercress (keep some for garnish). Cook another 10 minutes. Puree and taste for seasoning – may need a pinch of sugar – then add cream and puree again.

Serve cold with sour cream and watercress sprigs for garnish. This is also good hot.

Music delights at Archies Creek



Jodie Fowler, Robyn Putt, Bec Harfield and Jacqui Harfield came out to Archies Creek to see Frente on Sunday afternoon.



Venus Bay's Bec Brockett and Tim Best spent their afternoon enjoying the music at the Archies Creek Hotel on Sunday.



Georgia Fields was the supporting act at the Archies Creek Hotel on Sunday.

A BEAUTIFUL afternoon of music was enjoyed at Archies Creek Hotel on Sunday.

Folk pop group Frente enchanted a crowd of 200, supported by a Georgia Fields' stunning solo performance.

Frente was thrilled to be playing at Archies Creek.

Lead vocalist Angie Hart had performed at Archies Creek before and was excited to return to the venue with Frente for the first time.

The afternoon delivered a spectacular summer vibe with those in attendance taking in the festival atmosphere, wonderful music and gorgeous weather.

Delsinki and the Quiet Coachmen and special guest Maggie Alley and Band will perform at the Archies Creek Hotel this Saturday, February 17.

Doors will open at 2.30pm with the show set to kick off at 3pm.

Delinski is gaining momentum as an artist and the collaboration with the Quiet Coachmen showcases some of Melbourne's finest artists in a spectacular musical experience not to be missed.

The show will feature a set from Maggie Alley and her band, which is sure to captivate the crowd.

Be sure to book your tickets for an incredible afternoon of music in the stunning setting of the Archies Creek Hotel.

Head to caravanmusic.com.au/ for more information and updates on upcoming gigs.

The Friends of the Mirboo North Swimming Pool present

OPEN MIC

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Saturday February 17

POOL ENTRY

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- ♦ Enquiries: Mary Baker 0417 148 619
- ♦ All ages welcome
- ♦ Food trucks

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SUN 18 FEB MODELS
SAT 24 FEB CHECKERBOARD LOUNGE
SAT 24 FEB CLAIRE ANNE TAYLOR + JETHRO PICKETT
SUN 25 FEB LUKE 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
FRI 22 MAR MAHALIA BARNES & THE SOUL MATES
SUN 24 MAR STEVE POLTZ 'THE 22ND TIME'S A CHARM' TOUR
SAT 6 APR THE STETSON FAMILY + THE YEARLINGS
SUN 7 APR ED KUEPPER
SUN 21 APR KEVIN WELCH & THE WEEPING WILLOWS

SHOWS BEING ADDED DAILY SO BEST TO CHECK THE WEBSITE!!!

Caravan Hotel

89-91 ARCHIES CREEK ROAD / WWW.ARCHIESCREEKHOTEL.COM.AU

Boolarra Folk Festival's 21st birthday

THE multi-award-winning Boolarra Folk Festival is set to celebrate 21 years of toe-tapping entertainment on Saturday, March 2.

To celebrate this epic milestone they've gathered the finest world music, traditional folk, original, blues and bluegrass artists from Gippsland and beyond for a full day of free tunes under the majestic gums of Centenary Park, Boolarra.

The festivities will kick off on Friday, March 1 with a free Pre-Festival 21st Birthday Bash showcasing the extraordinary talent of local artists Steph Fischer-Ivancsy & The Bad Jackets, the Strzelecki Stringbusters, Paul Buchanan's Voodoo Preachers, and Smokin' Dog Johnson.

Saturday March 2 is the main event, with an absolutely epic nine hours of incredible artists from near and far including the likes of Ally Row, Mast Gully Fellers, the Hip Pockets, Kindred, the Half Cut Hicks, Voodoo Preachers, Shirazz, Meg Doherty, the Boneyard Blondes, Stephen McCulloch, Tim Scanlan & Mana Okubo, and Todd Cook & The Rufous Whistlers.

There's something for everyone with a vibrant market and incredible food to enjoy. So come on down, grab a spot under the gum trees in the gorgeous Railway Park, and enjoy what the Boolarra Folk Festival has to offer!

For more information on the Boolarra Folk Festival see boolarrafolkfestival.com.au

RIGHT: A free family fun day out don't miss all the entertainment, food and festivities at this year's Boolarra Folk Festival.



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.

Summer Series

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

Series 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 woodfired pizza to bao buns and snacks. We'll also have Burra Brewing Co and Gippsland Wine Company taking over the Pig & Whistle to offer alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages.

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

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WONTHAGGI BINGO

WEDNESDAY 1pm - 3pm
THURSDAY 8pm - 10pm

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DATES & SHOWTIMES:

Friday, February 16 at 7pm
Saturday, February 17 at 1pm & 7pm
Sunday, February 18 at 1pm

ADULTS \$35 EACH
CHILDREN \$25 EACH
(Children Ages 3-14). Ringside extra \$5ea
Ticket Office and Doors open one hour
before each show. Door Sales only,
no bookings.
90 MINUTE SHOW!

Jazz n' Champagne with Sarah Maclaine

PHILLIP Island Jazz Club are looking forward to the return of the ever-delightful Sarah Maclaine who is in demand for appearances at festivals and corporate events on Sunday, February 18.

Sarah is backed by a group led by her partner Todd Sidney, one of the finest keyboard players in the country. Todd will be joined by Ivan Rosa on double bass, Ron Anderson on sax and flute, and Lachlan Wallace on drums together they provide an excellent backing for Sarah.

Sarah is an effervescent young lady who can be relied upon to provide an outstanding performance whenever and wherever she performs.

Cost for the day will be \$20 a head for members and \$25 for guests. The entertainment commences at 2pm and concludes at 4.30pm at Phillip Island Bowling Club, 40 Dunsmore Road, Cowes.

For more information on bookings please contact Robin - 0432 814 407 or Jill - 0417 416 300 to arrange purchase of tickets. Tickets are selling fast, but we still have some available.



Shane and Jeanette Meredith of Melbourne are members of the Stony Creek Racing Club and strive to attend all meetings there. A10_0724



Rod Hocken, David Newton and Brenda Hocken of Bairs Otago Hotel in Leongatha enjoy Publicans Day at Stony Creek. A11_0724



Inverloch Esplanade Hotel's Dylan Clark and John and Ben Fisher of the The Korumburra Middle Hotel relax at the Publicans' Day Races in Stony Creek. A12_0724



Alice, Ruby, Ella, and Sophia at their Newhaven College 5/6 swimming carnival. Z03_0724



Jazzy Ramsbottom and Amber Checkley at Pride Prom on Saturday night.



Sophie Gleeson, Bella Patullo and Leah Gleeson attended Pride Prom on Saturday night.



Emlyn Blackman and Mak Krause had a great night out at Pride Prom, held at the Wonthaggi Town Hall.



Venus Bay's Janine Leach and Karly Fyfe checked out the Vespa display at the Mirboo North Italian Festa.



Kurt Holt and Isabella Schiavello enjoyed a bite to eat at the Mirboo North Italian Festa.

Snapped Out

Pictures of you and your friends at Publicans' Day Races at Stony Creek, Newhaven College Grade 5/6 swimming carnival at Wonthaggi YMCA, Pride Prom at the Wonthaggi Town Hall, Mirboo North Italian Festa, Frente at Archies Creek and Newhaven College Parent Welcome Drinks.



Erin Trewin, Abbey and Hayley Woollard and Kelsey Donohue of The Korumburra Middle Hotel enjoy some rare sunshine at Stony Creek. A13_0724

Sentinel-Times

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Nakita Dowie and Jess Metselaar enjoyed the gig at Archies Creek on Sunday afternoon.



Misty Johns and Simon Helps have three children who travel from Korumburra every day. Clair and Paul Rodgers from Botanic Ridge send their four children by bus on the new Newhaven College Tooradin bus route.



Head of Junior School Cath Huther with Director of Operations Brett Torstonson and Head of Middle School Ralph Arceo.



MILPARA COMMUNITY HOUSE

So much is going on at Milpara Community House this term! We have enjoyed seeing all the friendly faces returning to the house in our new space at the hub.

Highlights coming up in our program over the next few weeks include:

Backyard Chicken Keeping beginning Wednesday, February 14 at 12pm.

Easy Steps Computers for Beginners commencing Thursday, February 15, 9.30am-12.30pm.

Learn French starts Thursday, February 15, 6.30pm-8.30pm

Potluck Lunch is happening Monday, February 19, 12pm-1.30pm

Modern Qigong begins February 22, 9.30am-10.30am

Power Yoga kicks off on February 22, 6pm-7.15pm

Bookings are essential milparacommunityhouse.org.au/bookings-and-activity-page/ or for more information call us on 5655 2524.

We are also seeking expressions

interest for Toastmasters, sewing class and book club, check out website or call us for details.

We are open Monday to Friday from 9.30am-4.30pm.

Our Centrelink Agent is open Tuesdays 10am-2pm, and Wednesdays and Thursdays 10am-1pm.

And our Foodbank is open Mondays, Tuesdays, 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 look forward to seeing you at the Hub.



15 Little Commercial Street, Korumburra PH: (03) 5655 2524 www.milparacommunityhouse.org.au [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/milparacommunityhouse)

WONTHAGGI NEIGHBOURHOOD CENTRE

THE new Wednesday AA group is from 7-8pm every Wednesday evening. For more information contact Sean on 0425 707 480

We have a new 'LearnShare' Meditation group starting Monday, February 19. The class is held at Mitchell House on Mondays from 1-2pm. If you're looking for some quiet time, some space to let go of 'the noise' - or maybe the time to just relax, feel yourself breathe and gently start your week, then this is the group for you.

All are welcome so come along and meet Jenny, our meditation facilitator. Bring a floor mat or do the class

sitting in a chair - whichever you find most comfortable.

Community lunches at WNC have started up again 12.30pm every Wednesday during school terms. If you want to come along to the lunch on any Wednesdays just give us a call on 5672 3731 to book yourself in - and hey, why not bring a friend or two? If you are able, we do ask for a gold coin donation to help cover our costs.

We've also restocked our frozen meals; so if you're in need, just come in and ask.

New Wave Gippsland Bass Coast, is a self-advocacy group that is run by and for people with an intellectual disability and acquired brain injury.

They meet every second Thursday at Mitchell House and their first meeting for 2024 is 10am - 11am, Thursday February 15.

Feel free to contact peer worker Paul Drew for more information on 0439 425 238.

The first Wonthaggi Food Coop for 2024 was held February 10. These are conducted on the second Saturday of every month, so the next one is on March 9. If you're interested or want to find out more, contact WonthaggiCoop@gmail.com

There has been a change to the time of our Thursday Multicultural Women's Group - it will now be starting at 10.30am and finishing 12.30pm. If

you've been wondering about this group, come along and meet these amazing women, they're always involved in something interesting.

In fact, they are providing a wonderful noodle salad for the Wonthaggi Neighbourhood Centre 40th Birthday fun day on Saturday, February 17. So when you come along on the 17th you be able to taste for yourself just how talented the women of our Multicultural Group really are!



6 Murray St, Wonthaggi PH: (03) 5672 3731 www.wonthaggineighbourhoodcentre.com [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/wonthaggineighbourhoodcentre)

BASS COAST ADULT LEARNING

THE regular short courses are back in action for 2024. Last Friday was the first White Card course, and this week will see the start of the First Aid course.

BCAL is also delivering Hospitality courses at PICAL in Cowes. The Responsible Service of Alcohol course will be this Monday, February 19.

This is also the week when both the Certificate III in Horticulture and Certificate II in Salon Assistant (Hairdressing) courses begin. It's not too late to enrol in these courses but don't delay. Intakes must be finalised by the end of February.

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

generous. Last week the volunteers' take-home-and-share table included carrots, mixed lettuce leaves, bunches of basil, a sprinkle of coriander, loads of nectarines, tomatoes, cucumbers, giant zucchinis, beans and rhubarb.

And while it's great to grow so much fresh produce, it would be wonderful to have a few more volunteers to share the bounty.

The regulars who help week after week are precious garden friends. A special thank you to Marisa and Kevin for their tireless energy and expertise, which keep the garden ticking over nicely.

It's easy to get involved at the community garden. You'll find them at the BCAL campus every Thursday between 10am and noon. Drop in or contact the coordinator at tgordon@westnet.com.au for more info

■ U3A WONTAGGI
Members of U3A Wonthaggi are invited to a twilight session of Bocce, music, and a barbecue on Wednesday, March 13, starting at 5pm.

The venue is U3A Wonthaggi Garden & Bocce Court, 239 White Road, Wonthaggi. While the event is free, a \$10 donation would be appreciated.

You can RSVP via Eventbrite eventbrite.com.au/e/u3a-wonthaggi-welcome-to-2024-gathering-tickets-816008763177 or for more information contact Glenn at cantglenn42@gmail.com.

Visit u3awonthaggi.org.au to learn more.

■ WONTAGGI WOODCRAFTERS

The Woodies' monthly email newsletter went out to members recently. It's full of handy tips and anecdotes.

It also features pictures of what members have been working on lately, including a lovely carving a member made as a tribute to her father, a huge redgum burl table, and some beautiful, segmented turning.

One piece you might not expect is one of the member's home projects. He's building a yacht. Not a model, a full-sized yacht! There's no limit to what you can do with a little know-how.

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



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

Wonthaggi Men's Shed

THE "Fixit Cafe" has moved to the Wonthaggi Men's Shed and will operate from the Men's Shed premises located in the Railway Precinct, previously known as the "Harvest Centre". The "Fixit Cafe" will be known as the "WMS Fixit Cafe".

The first WMS Fixit Cafe will be held on Sunday, February 18 from 8am to 1pm, then the third Sunday of the Month except for December.

Tea, coffee and cake will be available. The repairs done by our volunteers are free. A donation to cover the refreshments would be welcome.

The Wonthaggi Neighbourhood Centre has offered their support by continuing to take bookings for the "Cafe". We thank them for their support which will allow this important community activity to continue.

WMS Fixit Cafe is only part of the news and recent developments at the Wonthaggi Men's Shed.

The WMS has recently been granted a five-year lease on the building and the area known as the Harvest Centre. The gardeners have joined the WMS as members and form a gardening project group. The granting of the lease from the Bass Coast Shire Council now allows the Wonthaggi Men's Shed to move forward and implement improvements to the building that have been planned for a number of years.

Work is well underway to double the size of the workshop within the existing building limits. The other current project is to replace the old kitchenette with a new kitchen and cover the plain concrete floor in the common room with vinyl planking. This work will result in a major improvement to the comfort for members and potential users of the building.

These improvements are a result of a Community Improvement Grant received from the Federal Government through the office of our local Federal MP, Russell Broadbent. We sincerely thank Russell for his support for this project and his general interest in the Wonthaggi Men's being a success in the local community.

The shed is open on Wednesday for gardening activities and Thursday for traditional Men's meetings. We look forward to being able to expand the opening times to other days and perhaps other projects. When the renovations are completed, we would welcome other community groups to use the facility. It will be an excellent venue for meetings of up to 20 people and small group activities, in an environment surrounded by gardens.

The Wonthaggi Men's Shed welcomes any community member to join us, whether it is for gardening, woodworking or just sitting down round the table for small talk and passing the time of day.

Please take the time to visit us on a Wednesday or Thursday to inspect our operations. You can pick up a membership form from the shed on those days or request one by emailing, wonthaggms@gmail.com

The shed premises and garden are located in the Wonthaggi Railway Precinct, alongside the large crane. This area is only accessed via a driveway located in the south east corner of the "Big W" car park, alongside the Dan Murphy's liquor store.

While we conduct many different activities these are an adjunct to our primary purpose which is to support "Men's mental Health" and reduce isolation. Along the way we contribute in a measurable way to the community through the project work done at the Wonthaggi Men's Shed.



Classic brick home in charming Loch Village

SET on a large 1003m² block this solid brick home is just a short stroll to the charming main street of Loch Village, where you will find local cafes and antique shops. The home is ready and waiting for its next owner to put their own stamp on it.

The house has three spacious bedrooms with built-in robes and plenty of natural light flowing into each room. The central bathroom includes a walk-in shower, bathtub and vanity. The main living area offers privacy from the rest of the house with large internal sliding doors and provides picturesque views of rolling green hills.

A functional kitchen includes an electric stove, ample storage, and flows seamlessly into the dining area. A split system reverse cycle in the living area provides for heating and cooling always ensuring a comfortable climate. The 3kW solar system feeds into the grid, making the property very energy efficient.

An addition to the home is a lovely paved entertaining area in the backyard providing a tranquil area to enjoy a morning cup of tea or to relax with a good book. The front and back yards have established gardens providing an idyllic setting. There is additional storage and car space provided by the double garage.

Conveniently located in the much sort after area of Loch Village, known for its cafes, award winning winery, distillery, markets, and annual food and wine festival. The home is just 10 minutes to Korumburra, 25 minutes to Leongatha, 30 minutes to Inverloch, and 45 minutes to Melbourne's South Eastern suburbs.

For further information or to inspect the property, please contact Katrina Griggs on 0428 571 083 or Don Olden on 0417 805 312.

For a Due Diligence Checklist go to: consumer.vic.gov.au/duediligencechecklist

3 | 1 | 2 1003m²

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Agent Elders

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Moyarra 7 acres

Tranquil Rural Living on 7 Acres

- 3-bedroom, 2-bathroom renovated home
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- 12x7.5m shed, LU w-shop & disused dairy

Web ID: 300P109297

\$1.04 Million



Korumburra 709m²

Modern Comfort, Rustic Charm

- 4-bed, 2-bath & 3 spacious living areas
- Well appointed kitchen with WI pantry
- Great outdoor undercover area

Web ID: 300P101334

\$720,000



Korumburra 767m²

Great Investment or Ideal Family Home

- 4-bedroom, 2-bathroom home
- Open plan & spacious living area
- Ducted gas heating & split system R/C

Web ID: 300P101126

\$500,000



Buffalo 90 Acres

Excellent Grazing/Lifestyle at Buffalo

- Cattle fattening/breeding, dairy turnout
- Laneway system & tracks to 15 paddocks
- Water supply via dams, spring & troughs

Web ID: 300P137238

\$895,000



DON OLDEN
Licensed Estate Agent
0417 805 312



KATRINA GRIGGS
Sales Consultant
0428 571 083



SHARON TURTON
Property Manager
0439 383 091



HELEN ARRESTIA
Sales Support
03 5662 3523



NATALIE RES
Sales Support
03 5662 3523

Elders Korumburra
11 Commercial Street
Ph 5658 1894

Elders Leongatha
37 Bair Street
Ph 5662 3523



Horses, cattle, lifestyle, this property is ideal!

THIS exceptionally neat 10-acre, (4ha) property is all set up for those seeking a home that can provide an opportunity to graze your own cattle, sheep or horses, with space to garden and the best sheds providing workshop and storage for all your vehicle requirements.

The sandstone brick home provides:

- Open plan kitchen, dining and living room
- The kitchen is galley style with dishwasher, electric oven, corner pantry and breakfast bar
- There are three bedrooms with the master having a walk-through robe to ensuite and the second and third bedrooms both with built in robes
- The family bathroom is complete with a separate shower, bath, vanity, and toilet
- The home is kept warm and cool with a wood heater, reverse cycle air conditioner, ceiling fans and external blinds
- Outside there is a two-car carport and undercover BBQ entertainment area

Externally this property offers:

- Exceptional fencing throughout, with pastured laneway paddocks making ease of livestock movement between the five paddocks, including undercover stock yard with head bail.
- Excellent water security, with 110,000L water storage for the house in addition to 22,500L shed catchment for the garden and two farm dams with a pump servicing all paddock troughs with stock water.
- Solar Power 6.5KW Inverter
- The shedding comprises a five bay (three bay open, two enclosed) 20m x 10m with power and an 11m x 6m concrete floor, powered workshop. In addition to smaller assorted woodshed and garden sheds
- A neat low maintenance garden with lovely tree shelter plantings across the property and excellent gravelled entrance and turning circle.

All of this ideally located on the edge of Buffalo, providing easy walking distance access directly on to the Great Southern Rail Trail, under 10 minutes' drive to the vibrant villages of Meenyan and Fish Creek and 20 minutes to both the major towns of Leongatha and Foster.

For further information and to arrange a personal inspection, please contact Irene Walker at SEJ Real Estate.



SEJ



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- Shedding, garden, great location

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KOONWARRA



- Prepare to fall in love!
- Contemporary Victorian Home
- 3 acres (approx.) paddock, garden
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- Magnificent quality home
- Situated on an acre
- Stunning rural farm views
- 5 bed, 2 bath, 3 living
- Great shedding & garden
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Renovators Delight
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Home on 1 acre
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Contact Irene for
further information





When sea change meets tree change

WELCOME to this character-filled home nestled in the serene suburb of Kilcunda. This solid built brick home boasts a spacious 1442m² allotment, surrounded by enchanting native gardens. Step inside and be captivated by the timber-lined cathedral ceilings with clerestory windows, creating a light-filled and inviting atmosphere.

The heart of this home lies in its large open plan living zones, perfect for entertaining or simply unwinding in style. The generous kitchen, complete with ample bench space and electric cooking, is a culinary haven waiting to be explored. Warmth radiates throughout, thanks to the wood heater and open fire, ensuring cosy evenings during the cooler months. For added comfort, a split system is also featured.

With three bedrooms, each adorned with built-in robes, and an ensuite and study accompanying the master bedroom, there is ample space for the whole family. A second central bathroom caters to the needs of all occupants. Furthermore, a double garage provides secure parking and storage options.

Outdoor living is an absolute delight here. The wrap-around verandah leads to a garden gazebo and outdoor area, perfect for enjoying the tranquil surroundings. Situated in a quiet court location, this property offers a peaceful retreat while still being conveniently located just 15 minutes from Wonthaggi and San Remo. Melbourne is also within easy reach, being a mere 90-minute drive away.

Don't miss the opportunity to make this charming residential house your own. Contact us today to arrange a private inspection and experience the allure of 6B Hill Street, Kilcunda.



6B Hill Street, **Kilcunda**

For Sale \$1,190,000

Agent Alex Scott & Staff

Mick Chambers 0418 349 783

Iconic Leongatha residence

NESTLED within the alluring country town of Leongatha and offered on the open market for the first time, this enchanting home invites you in with its irresistible charm, appealing ambience, and notable space. Well set back on an expansive corner allotment of approx. 3445 sqm, the gardens are filled with established trees, vibrant gardens that burst with seasonal colours, complemented by the melodies of birdlife. As you arrive at the property, dual drives greet you for easy access off either Horn or Jeffrey Streets and lead through to the secure single car garage with a loft space/children's cubby and adjoining parking space.

Once inside, you will be immediately impressed with a grand entrance showcasing an ornate sweeping staircase, which sets the scene for the entire home. Offering a flexible floorplan, to the left is a large light filled lounge area overlooking the front gardens, and to the right is a sizeable formal dining room with open fireplace and French doors out to the paved patio. Continuing through French doors to the rear sunroom, this space features floor to ceiling windows, gas log fire heater and the warmth of the afternoon sun. The kitchen is located in the heart of the home and includes an induction cooktop, double electric wall oven, dishwasher and beautiful granite bench tops. Completing this space is a glass conservatory/casual meals area that features two sliding doors out to paved areas and gardens. The downstairs floorplan finishes with a laundry, separate toilet and large bedroom including a full wall of built in

robes and ensuite.

Upstairs, each generously sized bedroom provides a peaceful retreat with dormer windows providing tranquil outlooks, main bedroom with large walk-in-robe, spacious family bathroom and loads of cupboard space. Well-presented inside and out, many features include timber floorboards, high ceilings, decorative cornice and ceiling roses, ample storage, two reverse cycle air conditioners and gas ducted heating.

The grounds are equally delightful, with brick paving leading you through the garden to a storage shed, past the full-sized disused tennis court then onto a garden shed, raised vegetable garden beds, chook run and many mature trees including fruit bearing avocado. The garden itself is a beautiful spectacle, offering exciting spots to explore and relax in. Located close to schools and within easy walking distance to the shops, this unique property offers a unique lifestyle opportunity.

Experience the tranquillity of the idyllic surroundings and the picturesque home that awaits.

To arrange your private inspection please contact the friendly sales team at Alex Scott & Staff.

4 2 1 3445m²

28 Horn Street, **Leongatha**

For Sale \$1,550,000

Agent Alex Scott & Staff

Andrew Newton 0402 940 320

Emily Clifford 0422 622 299

Tony Giles 0407 528 192

Dan Huther 0418 334 801

FOSTER

OPEN THURS. FEB 15, 4-4.30PM



3 Landy Road

- 3 bedroom 1 bathroom
- Lock up garage big yard
- Easy walk to CBD

\$459,000

Contact: Leongatha Office

RANCEBY



800 Korumburra-Warragul Road

- Rural 13 acres
- 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom homestead
- Garage / disused dairy

\$950,000

Contact: Korumburra Office

COWES



2 Talofa Avenue

- Unique home, 350mts from Cowes beach
- 680m² (approx.) allotment
- 4 bed, 2 bath, 2 car

\$1,050,000

Contact: Cowes Office

KILCUNDA

SOLD



Lot 19 Messmate Road

- Great flat block
- Uninterrupted views

SOLD FOR \$620,000

Contact: Wonthaggi Office

LEONGATHA

OPEN SAT. FEB 17, 11.30-12 NOON



19 Lee Parade

- 5 bedroom home
- 2 living, 3 bathroom, 2 car
- Huge under house storage

\$680,000

Contact: Leongatha Office

KORUMBURRA



18 William Street

- 4 bedroom/ 2 bathroom
- Outdoor entertaining
- Views

\$599,000

Contact: Korumburra Office

COWES



33 Homer Street

- Brick home with separate bungalow
- Short walk to beach
- 3 bed, 1 bath, 2 car

\$695,000

Contact: Cowes Office

WONTHAGGI

SOLD



10 Daryl Avenue

- 3 bedroom
- 2 bathroom
- Great position

SOLD FOR \$513,000

Contact: Wonthaggi Office

LEONGATHA



KORUMBURRA



28 Horn Street

- Iconic Leongatha Residence
- 4 bedroom, 2 bathroom, 3 living area
- Stunning residence on 3445m² allotment

\$1,550,000

Contact: Leongatha Office

COWES



WONTHAGGI

SOLD



27 Radovick Street

27 Radovick Street

- Centre of town
- 1,160m² block
- Shedding, rear access

\$725,000

Contact: Korumburra Office

17 Ventnor Road

- Open plan home with wraparound verandah
- Walking distance to main street
- 4 bed, 1 bath

\$745,000

Contact: Cowes Office

100 White Road

- Lovely corner block
- Plenty of character
- Separate bungalow

SOLD FOR \$410,000

Contact: Wonthaggi Office

WONTHAGGI



KORUMBURRA



80-82 McKenzie Street

- Great Opportunity here
- 2 homes, 2 titles
- Close to CBD

\$1,400,000

Contact: Leongatha Office

COWES



14 Isabella Boulevard

- 3 bed, 2 bath, near new brick home
- Open plan kitchen, meals & living
- Rear yard access

\$599,000

Contact: Korumburra Office

28 Lansell Drive

- Fully fenced with established gardens
- Carport & 4 bay garage
- 3 bed, 1 bath

\$630,000

Contact: Cowes Office

14 Carbine Street

- Large family home
- Corner block
- Great shedding

SOLD FOR \$727,500

Contact: Wonthaggi Office

LEONGATHA

5662 0922

41 Bair Street

Andrew Newton 0402 940 320

Emily Clifford 0422 622 299

Tony Giles 0407 528 192

Dan Huther 0418 334 801

KORUMBURRA

5655 1133

36 Bridge Street

Scott McKenzie 0427 552 898

COWES

5952 2633

113a Thompson Avenue

Greg Price 0419 337 441

Brian Silver 0407 347 509

Chase Waters 0423 272 819

Maree Malloy 0408 316 715

WONTHAGGI

5672 1911

Cnr Murray & Billson Streets

Cal Nation 0439 334 163

Mick Chambers 0418 349 783

Phil Hanley 0417 140 508



CROSSWORD

CRYPTIC CLUES

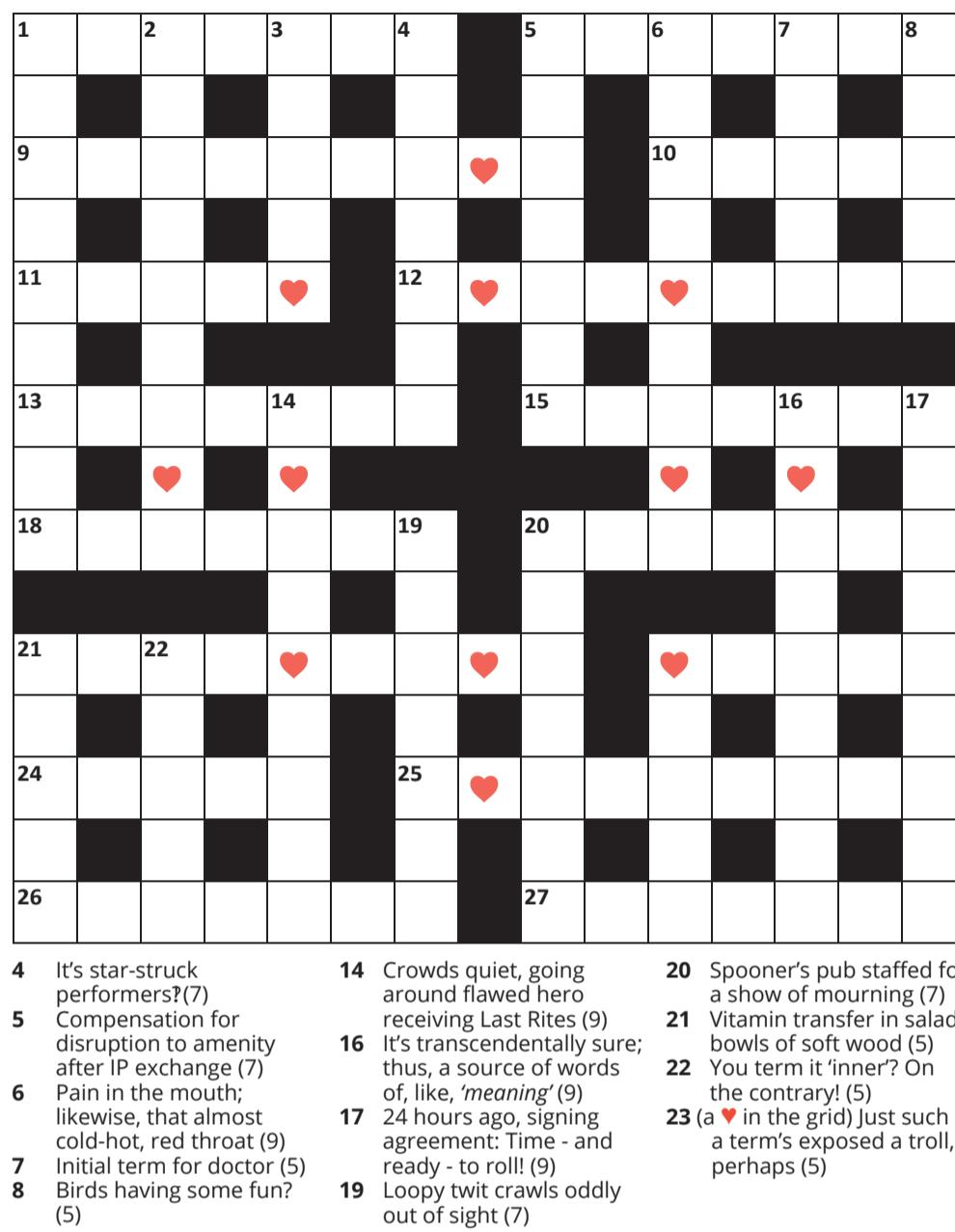
A week later than usual, for a grid to gift you Hearts for Valentine's Day. All the clues still clue all of their answers, including the Hearts!

ACROSS

- A joint declared lost fighting blood deficiency (7)
- Spooner's suited with cloak, for trap (7)
- Good to float, from value in easy restructuring (9)
- Aquatic mammal you cannot term 'reserved'? (5)
- 'First Response - Emergency' activation could halt strike (5)
- Guides: Quiet return to exercise and girl's heart gladsome (9)
- State Emergency Service after former copper, to make rationalisations (7)
- Thanks, to city welcoming Labor leader, go without saying (7)
- From Rome, three thousand rings, fifty in a rapidly wavering tone (7)
- Forever young - or become not as old! (7)
- A daily cycle: HIB myth or actually reinvigorating? (9)
- (a ❤ in the grid) Gas a vacant vehicle hoist (5)
- 'In-ball' - a term for 'down the line' (5)
- Creed that is blustered and babbled (9)
- Spray, fine for a sore, aggravated exposed mole (7)
- Expect you're right in a challenge, perhaps? (7)

DOWN

- Able to soak up torn babe's wobbly (9)
- Lava returning with a new red surge (9)
- Wander through the heart of Ledmore Woods, too? Jock's saying, 'Definitely!' (5)



No. 53 - by 'Johnno2' of Cape Paterson

STRAIGHT CLUES

ACROSS

- Blood deficiency (7)
- Trap (7)
- Able to operate safely on water (9)
- An aquatic mammal (5)
- Strike, get to (5)
- Guides, or tenders, of sheep (9)
- Rationalisations or reasons (7)
- Without saying (7)
- Rapidly wavering tone in music (7)
- Forever young (7)
- A daily bodily cycle (9)
- (a ❤ in the grid) Hoist, toss, throw (up) (5)
- Down the line, in the future (5)
- Babbled (9)
- Fine spray (7)
- (I) expect you're right (7)

DOWN

- Able to soak up (9)
- Surge, or landslide (9)
- Wander (around) (5)
- Performers, creators (7)
- Compensation, remuneration (7)
- Dental pain (9)
- Doctor, change (5)
- Birds; also, having some fun (5)
- Crowds, squeezes (9)
- Source of words of like meaning (9)
- Day 24 hours ago (9)
- Of sight (7)
- Strip worn to show mourning (7)
- Very light soft wood (5)
- Opposite of 'inner' (5)
- (a ❤ in the grid) Nasty online troll, perhaps (5)

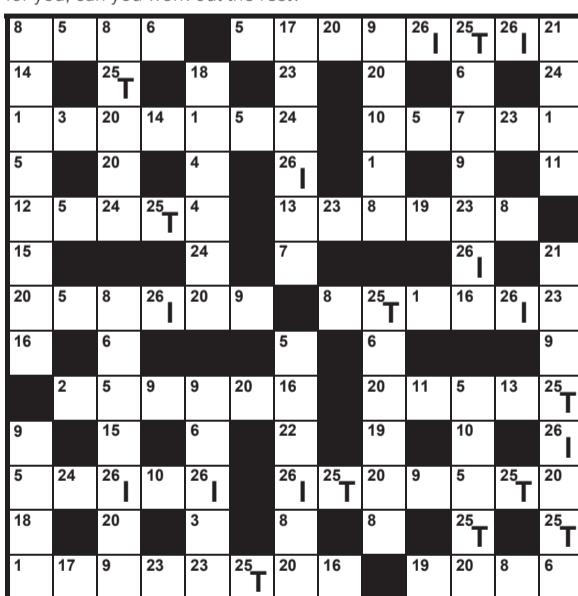
SOLUTION



0902 | PUZZLES AND PAGINATION © pagemasters.

CODEWORD

Each number corresponds to a letter of the alphabet. Two have been filled in for you, can you work out the rest?



No. 164

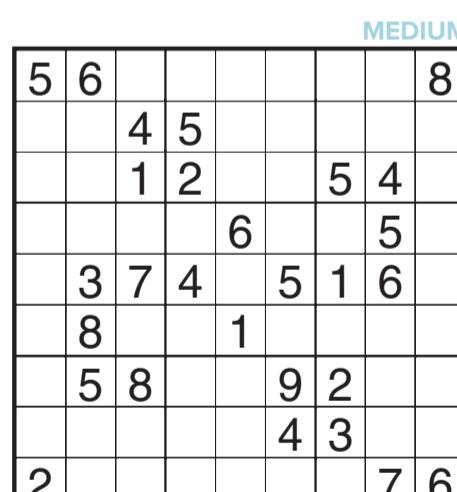
SUDOKU

No. 214

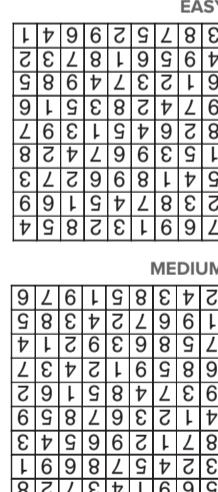
To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every number from 1 to 9 must appear in: each of the nine vertical columns, each of the nine horizontal rows and each of the nine 3 x 3 boxes. Remember, no number can occur more than once in any row, column or box.



EASY



MEDIUM



SOLUTIONS



QUICK QUIZ

- In which Californian city is the sitcom *The Big Bang Theory* set?
- Which sea does the Rhine river drain into?
- The term microfibre refers to synthetic fibres of what size?
- How many colours feature on the South African flag?
- What character does Ellen Pompeo (pictured) play on *Grey's Anatomy*?
- Dried plums are commonly sold as what fruit?
- Who said the famous quote, 'float like a butterfly, sting like a bee'?
- What is the hardest mineral on Earth?
- Pamela Isley is the real name of which enemy of Batman?
- What is somnambulism more commonly known as?



ANSWERS: 1. Los Angeles, California. 2. The North Sea. 3. The South African flag. 4. Microfibre. 5. Dried plums. 6. Plum. 7. Rhine. 8. Butterfly. 9. Batman. 10. Somnambulism.

WORD SEARCH

No. 124



Can you find all the words listed? The leftover letters will spell out a secret message.



MARKET REPORT

Brought to you by...

CLAAS Harvest Centre 

Solid result for stores

Report by the SGSA

AGENTS yarded just under 6000 head at last Fridays VLE Leongatha store sale in a very good offering of feeder cattle and annual drafts of weaners.

Prices held up quite well considering 5000 yarded at Pakenham the previous day to make it 11000 head over two days for the South and West Gippsland district.

A good field of buyers operated with feedlot orders securing a large number of the offering as well as local restockers keen to replace bullocks recently sold at improved prices.

Extra heavy steers eased 5 – 10 cents, 400kg to 520kg feeder steers held firm, weaner steers were solid, heifers eased just a little with a major buyer not in attendance.

Secondary, Xbred and dairy types were \$50 - \$100 cheaper and cows and calves held firm.

Also, congratulations to the OMK cricket club and SEJ for their annual pink stumps McGrath cattle auction held at the start of the sale. Well done to all the farmers who donated stock or ran a steer on their property and well done to the buyers for the strong bidding on the offering, another successful day for a worthy cause that has affected many.

Leongatha Store Sale on Friday, Feb. 9, 2024

Grown Steers

| | | | |
|-------------------------------|-------|------|--------|
| J & J Kilian 12 BB | 636kg | 3.31 | \$2110 |
| G & D Smith 15 Angus | 593kg | 2.88 | \$1710 |
| G Butcher 15 Angus | 591kg | 3.48 | \$2060 |
| W Bullock 10 Angus | 586kg | 3.43 | \$2010 |
| R & D Chisholm 12 Angus | 583kg | 3.39 | \$1980 |
| Cardinia Investments 20 Angus | 570kg | 3.08 | \$1760 |
| A O'Loughlin 10 Angus | 545kg | 3.39 | \$1850 |
| Kuch Grazing 61 Angus | 540kg | 3.57 | \$1930 |
| B & P Svenson 19 Angus | 513kg | 3.41 | \$1750 |
| Gibson Farms 20 Angus | 506kg | 3.59 | \$1820 |
| Allen Angus, 19 Angus | 503kg | 3.37 | \$1700 |
| S Morrison 9 Angus | 502kg | 3.42 | \$1720 |
| Gem-Brae Ag, 24 Angus | 492kg | 3.49 | \$1720 |
| G & D Smith, 15 Angus X | 480kg | 3.20 | \$1540 |
| Melaleuca Past 17 Angus | 467kg | 3.53 | \$1650 |
| P & P Walker 17 Angus | 463kg | 3.95 | \$1830 |
| Gem-Brae Ag, 20 Angus | 463kg | 3.62 | \$1680 |
| D & H Campbell 20 Ang/BB | 463kg | 3.50 | \$1625 |
| R & B Broadbent 20 Ang/BB | 463kg | 3.50 | \$1625 |
| O'Loughlin Farm 20 Angus | 462kg | 3.70 | \$1710 |
| Gem-Brae Ag, 23 Angus | 461kg | 3.60 | \$1660 |
| Faulkner Lees 26 Angus | 443kg | 3.63 | \$1610 |
| Gem-Brae Ag, 22 Angus | 426kg | 3.45 | \$1470 |
| Allen Angus, 16 Angus | 422kg | 3.55 | \$1500 |

Weaner Steers

| | | | |
|----------------------------|-------|------|--------|
| L & K Price 10 Angus | 431kg | 3.59 | \$1550 |
| S & D Curtis 25 Angus | 430kg | 3.74 | \$1610 |
| J & P Fleming 18 Angus | 419kg | 3.60 | \$1510 |
| AW & CM O'Mara 23 Angus | 416kg | 3.79 | \$1580 |
| JA Commins 22 Angus | 407kg | 3.88 | \$1580 |
| Gem-Brae Ag, 24 Angus | 400kg | 3.72 | \$1490 |
| A Filsell 20 Angus | 388kg | 3.89 | \$1510 |
| PBI18 Pty Ltd 16 Angus | 382kg | 3.61 | \$1380 |
| J & G Christenson 21 Angus | 381kg | 3.59 | \$1370 |
| MJ Jeffrey 27 Angus | 379kg | 4.11 | \$1560 |
| P & M Batters 21 Angus | 378kg | 4.07 | \$1540 |
| R Wight & Sons 17 Angus | 377kg | 3.87 | \$1460 |
| NP & JA Chandler 26 Angus | 374kg | 4.06 | \$1520 |
| R & C Farrell 20 Angus | 369kg | 3.79 | \$1400 |
| C & S Corrigan 15 Angus | 365kg | 3.83 | \$1400 |
| Gem-Brae Ag, 12 Angus | 362kg | 3.64 | \$1320 |
| J Comrie 18 Angus | 361kg | 3.51 | \$1270 |
| Savage Family 15 Angus | 360kg | 3.41 | \$1230 |
| S & L Stort 22 Angus | 357kg | 3.97 | \$1420 |
| Groves Est 15 Angus | 348kg | 3.69 | \$1390 |
| P & M Batters | 339kg | 4.12 | \$1400 |
| R Wight & Sons 27 Angus X | 333kg | 4.14 | \$1380 |
| B Cruachan 20 Angus | 309kg | 4.11 | \$1270 |
| J Dean 29 Angus | 301kg | 3.98 | \$1200 |
| R Wight & Sons 26 Angus | 286kg | 4.58 | \$1310 |
| J & M Savage 11 Hereford | 416kg | 3.34 | \$1390 |

Heifers

| | | | |
|------------------------------|-------|------|--------|
| Kuch Grazing 16 Angus | 472kg | 3.34 | \$1580 |
| Jeetho Farms 22 Angus | 460kg | 3.43 | \$1580 |
| P & P Walker 17 Angus | 449kg | 3.27 | \$1470 |
| S & D Curtis 18 Angus | 419kg | 2.81 | \$1180 |
| AF Sheridan & Ptnrs 16 Angus | 430kg | 3.13 | \$1350 |
| CW Littlejohn 24 Angus | 426kg | 3.16 | \$1350 |
| J & P Fleming 22 Angus | 387kg | 3.20 | \$1240 |
| AW & CM O'Mara 11 Angus | 383kg | 2.89 | \$1110 |
| L Missen 22 Angus | 380kg | 3.02 | \$1150 |
| Gem-Brae Ag 23 Angus | 360kg | 3.33 | \$1200 |
| B Henwood 15 Angus | 331kg | 3.44 | \$1140 |

Xbred & Dairy Steers

| | | | |
|--------------------------|-------|------|--------|
| I Webb 18 Friesian | 623kg | 2.45 | \$1530 |
| G & L Maslin 25 Friesian | 443kg | 2.48 | \$1100 |

Cows & Calves

| | | |
|--------------------------------|--|--------|
| T Bunn, 14x14 Angus Friesian x | | \$2225 |
| J Smith, 15x15 Angus BB | | \$1900 |
| E Cox, 7x7 Angus | | \$1525 |



Danni, Roger and Jimmy Kyle were ready for the Pink Stumps Cattle Sale on Friday. A20_0724

Pink Stumps Cattle Sale joy in Koonwarra

By Andrew Paloczi

WHILE Outtrim Moyarra Kongwak's Pink Stumps fundraising events are set to continue in future years, the tradition of holding an associated cattle sale ended on Friday, albeit with a bang as \$27,000 was raised for the McGrath Foundation.

The money will help provide Breast Care nurses for breast cancer patients and their families.

"The market spiked at the right time," Pink Stumps Cattle Sale organiser Amy White said.

Jimmy Kyle of SEJ auctioned 61 head of cattle for the cause, 40 of them having been purchased by that business in Koonwarra a year ago and the remainder donated.

About 25 local farmers agisted the animals for free, with the cattle reared on farms in Foster, Tarwin, Loch, Kongwak and elsewhere in the region.

"It's their way of giving back to the community; they throw the steer down the back paddock and it runs with the rest of them," Pink Stumps Cattle Sale organiser Amy said.

Auctioneer, Jimmy, raised a couple of the Murray Grey steers up for grabs, a pen of which averaged 563 kilos and fetched \$1780 a head.

Angus, Speckle Park and Friesian cattle also boosted the fundraising total, along with a

single Hereford steer that brought a healthy \$2160.

A couple of the impressive heavier Speckle Park beasts raised \$2040 each and one pen of eight Angus steers attracted \$2100 a head.

With OMK's Pink Stumps Day set for its 10th birthday next year, Amy is taking a step back from her role as organiser of the overall event.

It has been her contacts that have driven the cattle sale.

Other fundraising opportunities are likely to be explored to complement OMK's Pink Stumps cricket luncheon, with Andrea Curtis having assumed responsibility this year for organising that event.



Russell Follett, Ross McRobert, Jake and Zack Follett with Elders' Rohan McRae after Gem-Brae Ag steers achieved good prices in Koonwarra on Friday. A16_0724

Healthy cattle prices in Koonwarra

WITH Australia Day having taken one store sale out of the equation in January, it was a big day on Friday in Koonwarra, with approximately 5500 head of cattle available.

Elders' auctioneer and branch manager Rohan McRae said cattle currently available have had a good season under their belt, noting the market

has lifted approximately 50 to 60 percent since last November's low point.

"We've got a lot of feature annual draft cattle in here," Rohan said of Friday's sale.

Gem-Brae Ag provided over 330 of those cattle, with a mixture of steers and heifers.

Russell Follett of Gem-Brae Ag was pleased with

the current market.

"Prices are pretty good; they're a big improvement on pre-Christmas," he declared, an example being Angus steers in the 16 to 17 month old bracket selling for \$1760 a head.

Russell said that after a wet spring, it's been a very good season since Christmas.

Working collaboratively achieves success

THE Cape Liptrap Community Deer Control Group is 'punching above its weight' regarding collaborative deer control, according to Parks Victoria Chief Ranger, Gerard Delaney. Gerard and Ranger Benn Grant were guests at the group's most recent meeting where members observed that deer activity at Cape Liptrap has reduced significantly over the past few months.

Fewer deer are being seen, mobs have dropped in size from more than 30 to two or three individuals, and saplings are getting the opportunity to reach sustainable heights.

Further, thermal drone imaging carried out by Parks Victoria as part of a joint control exercise with the Group revealed fewer deer than expected. The pair attributed the group's success to its willingness to work collaboratively with recreational and professional shooters, landholders and Parks Victoria.

Their combined efforts have resulted in more than 500 feral deer being removed from the landscape.

Tarwin Landcare Group (TLG) president and group member, Jillian Staton, is excited about the potential for future collaborative projects, particularly as both Parks Victoria and commercial harvester, Leigh Francis, are able to use thermal drones.

"The size and power of our 'control toolbox' increases dramatically when we work in partnership with others," she said.

Despite the potential for using drones and other technologies and the perceived drop in deer numbers, Jillian encouraged all members to continue the work they have been doing.

"If we get complacent, deer numbers will end up back where we started."

Jillian also noted members' concerns about local rabbit populations which have exploded in response to favourable weather conditions and successful fox hunting.

TLG is holding a rabbit control workshop at 1pm on Sunday, February 18, at Tarwin Lower with pest contractor, Peter Wright.

Peter will discuss the importance of an integrated control plan that uses a variety of techniques and demonstrate how to locate and treat rabbit warrens. Resources from the Victorian Rabbit Taskforce will be available and there is potential for interested people to establish their own community control group. To register for the free rabbit workshop, contact tarwin@groups.sgnl.net.au.

For more information about deer control at Tarwin Lower, contact Jenny O'Sullivan at leapjos@gmail.com. For information about deer control in South Gippsland generally, contact Nick Stephens at nick.stephens@sgnl.net.au.

Partner with FutureFeed and reduce methane emissions

AN OPPORTUNITY for farmers to partner with FutureFeed to grow and manufacture Asparagopsis for feeding to ruminant animals to reduce methane emissions is open.

A decade ago, a team of scientists from CSIRO and James Cook University, supported by Meat and Livestock Australia (MLA) came together to investigate the methane reduction potential of native Australian seaweeds. It was hoped that ruminant animals such as cows might improve feed efficiency by consuming seaweed, due to conservation of energy otherwise lost as methane.

Asparagopsis was in the first cohort of seaweeds tested. The results in vitro (using lab equipment to



Gardens amaze in Bass Coast

SEVENTEEN edible gardens were open to the public around Bass Coast last weekend.

The travelling event gave people the opportunity to explore the local area, discover the fresh foods grown locally and discuss gardening tips.

One of the properties on the map belonged to Peter and Janni Soltys, located in the picturesque Albert Ruttle Estate in Inverloch.

This property was open throughout the whole weekend and welcomed more than 200 people.

Originally a cattle farm, the Albert Ruttle Estate was subdivided and sold off with a covenant on the land to protect the wetlands and the natural environment.

While this put limitations on farming ventures and developments, the residents of the Albert Ruttle Estate were welcome to do what they liked in terms of planting.

Peter Soltys described his garden as an "easy touch", having transformed his four-and-a-half-acre property into a beautiful, functional and low maintenance haven.

"When (Peter and Janni) arrived 12 or 13 years ago, the house was just being completed and the dam was in place, but otherwise this was all just a paddock – there were a few clumps of tea trees and a few gums. My father has done all of this himself," daughter Sofia Soltys said.

"It's very much been a natural evolution. He didn't necessarily sit down and plan it out. Every year something new happens – a new tree is put in or he develops a new area."

A few nut trees and gum trees out the front of the property have been the most recent additions to the extraordinary garden.

The edible aspect of the garden includes the orchard and the walled vegetable garden.

The orchard is set where the

sewerage system feeds out, so largely it takes care of itself.

"(Peter) does a bit of mulching and a little bit of watering during summer, but otherwise these trees are left to their own devices," Sofia said.

A little bit of everything is featured in the orchard, including limes, cumquats, different varieties of apples, lemons and pears, avocados, nuts and apricots.

Peter's penchant for gardening derived from his parents.

"My grandparents came from the Ukraine and lived in Hernes Oak, where they grew everything," Sofia said.

"The orchard started from a few citrus trees that were in pots in Parkville, where I grew up. They were the first to be brought down and planted, and then it just evolved."

The garden is built for practicality, with Peter using innovative techniques to ensure easy maintenance.

"Everything is built up because of the drainage. We get very wet during winter, so it channels it around the trees. It also gives it a softer topsoil to work the roots into in the beginning," Sofia said.

"The mower fits between everything, which cuts down a bit of hand mowing.

"He's also included various things to make the veggie garden manageable. The fencing protects from kangaroos and rabbits, but it also creates a microecosystem within."

"He has used builders' fencing instead of trellises stuck in the ground. The builders' fencing is light and easy to take down. That way, he can get a tiller in so he doesn't have to work it all by hand. He's a very practical man and he has ensured his garden isn't a chore."

The Soltys family thanked those who took the time to come out and visit the garden, and for the kind words of feedback they received.



Rhiannon and Elaine Craig explored the open Edible Garden in Inverloch on Sunday afternoon.



Inverloch's Peter Soltys uses builders' fencing in lieu of trellis fencing in his vegetable garden.

AI is helping farmers ID and manage weeds



A free WeedScan app is helping local farmers and land care groups identify, manage, report and share information about weeds they encounter. ob01_0624

A NEW app trained to identify more than 120,000 weeds in Australia is powered by CSIRO and is making it easier for people and groups to protect farms, the environment and communities.

Users can simply take a photo of a suspected weed, upload it to the WeedScan app, it will be assessed against verified images of weeds and in a matter of seconds suggestions of possible plant identifications, with degrees of confidence for each are created.

The free app also offers users, which could include scientists, farmers, community groups, agronomists, rangers, weeds and natural resource management officers, the ability to alert state and local land managers of new incursions.

Jane McKenzie Smith from South Gippsland Landcare said the app is a useful tool for farmers and landholders to formally verify weeds on their properties they may be unsure about.

"They can then figure out what is the best treatment or management method depending on what they find. They are obliged to manage some weeds from a regulatory point of view versus some they're not, so it's also helping them know when they're legally required to manage particular species."

The agricultural impact of

weeds can be enormously detrimental, including being poisonous to livestock, becoming invasive in disturbed crop soils and pastures, for example.

While the environmental impacts are just as damaging, with some weeds also being poisonous to people, choking up vital water systems,

competing with and overrunning natives, which has a flow on effect to our megafauna.

Australia wide there are 450 priority and other weeds and this technology will help to support cooperative weed action.

There is a platform within the WeedScan app for localised groups to be created where records and observations can be shared for improved weed control.

South Gippsland Landcare haven't yet got a profile within WeedScan but as it may prove useful, they will be discussing this with their groups and potentially looking to set up profiles for particular weeds that they want to target in the area.

The app is powered by the Centre for Invasive Species Solutions, CSIRO, the Atlas of Living Australia, the NSW Department of Primary Industries and the South Australian, Queensland and Victorian Governments and is funded by the Australian Government's National Landcare Program.

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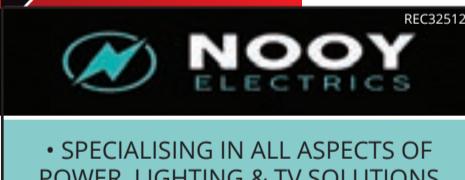
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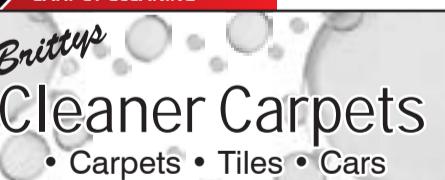
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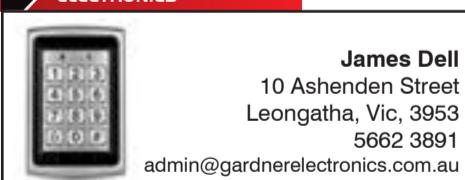
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DEATHS

ATKIN, Peter Charles:
11.03.1936 - 04.02.2024.

Peter passed away peacefully at Leongatha Hospital with his family by his side on Sunday, February 4, 2024, aged 87.

Loving husband of Helen and father to Sandra and father-in-law of Pieter.

Adored pa of Jarrod and Blake.

Brother to Jean (dec.), Robert and Eileen, and brother-in-law to Helen and Russell.

Forever in our hearts.

ATKIN, Peter Charles:

Loving son of Frederick Charles and Margaret Marion (Marj) (both dec.).

Loved brother of Jean and John Lucas (both dec.), Robert and Helen, and Eileen and Russell Harrison and their families.

Lovingly remembered.

COCKS, Barry:

Passed peacefully on February 3, within the walls of The Alfred Hospital at 11:50am.

He was surrounded with love and laughter.

A loving husband to Genine.

Father and entertainer to Jaide, Brodie, and Tassha.

Caring and welcoming father-in-law.

An adored poppy to Braxton and Oliver.

Extremely loved and missed, finally at peace.

Privately Cremated.

DEATHS

CROPP, Margaret Anne:
29.12.1931 - 03.02.2024.

Passed away peacefully at the Korumburra Hospital. Beloved daughter of Freddy and Sybil. Dearly loved sister of Ken (dec.), Roy (dec.), Barbara and John, Judith and Alan (dec.). Beloved aunt, great aunt and great, great aunt. ***Sadly missed.***

JONES, Douglas Sydney:
11.02.1948 - 12.02.2024.

Passed away peacefully at Armitage House, Wonthaggi Hospital aged 76 years.

Loved husband of Cheryl, devoted father to Darren and Tracie, and father-in-law to Grant.

Treasured grandpa to Noah and Abbey. Forever loved and remembered.

Funeral service details to be advised.

MILES (Haw), June Florence:

Dearly loved niece of Roy and Dorothy Matthies (dec.).

Cousin of Neil, Janice, Beryl, Alan, and families.

Our loving thoughts are with Ken, and family.

Resting Peacefully.

DEATHS

NICHOLAS (nee Vardy), Gwen:
04.11.1934 - 21.01.2024.

Passed away peacefully at Hillside Lodge Korumburra. Dearly loved wife of Trevor for 68 years. Mother of Ian. Mother-in-law of Maree. Granny to Jenny, Glenn (dec.), Lynne, and families. Sister to Norma, and Morry.

Thanks to the Doctors and all staff at Hillside Lodge for their loving care and support, much appreciated.

Resting peacefully

Private burial has been held as per Gwen's wishes.

SLADE (O'Garey), Leanne:

On Tuesday, February 6, Leanne gained her Angel wings surrounded by her loved ones at Peter Mac. Leanne was a loving mother to Harrison (dec.), and Sarah-Louise. Beloved daughter to Leo (dec.), and Betty (dec.).

Youngest sibling to Leon, Johnny (dec.), Kaye (dec.), Brian (dec.), and Janice.

Leanne was known for her kindness, generosity and witty sense of humour; touching many people over her 67 years.

We will be celebrating Leanne's life at 2pm Friday, February 16, 2024, at White Lady Funerals, Burwood, 339 Warrigal Road, Burwood, Vic 3125.

DEATHS**DEATHS**

SLADE (O'Garey), Leanne:
04.11.1934 - 21.01.2024.

We were country girls; you were my friend and bridesmaid. You were the most courageous person I knew.

We will meet again B2!

I miss you.
Love Julie.

STANDFIELD, Graeme Wesley:

Passed away peacefully at home on Sunday evening, February 11, 2024 aged 76 years.

Loved partner of Lynda Adamson.

Father of Anthony Standfield, and Carolynne Standfield (dec.).

Grandfather of Wesley Standfield, Georgia Standfield, Alan Dellamarta.

Brother of Peter Standfield, Dawn Hughes, and Sharon Davie.

A good friend to many.

Outstanding in his Field

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to the Prostate Cancer Foundation of Australia (PCFA), in memory of Graeme.

For Funeral details please visit: www.nielsenfunerals.com.au

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DEATHS

SMITH, Christine (Kirsty):
Late of Townsville and formerly of Mirboo North and Leongatha.

Kirsty passed away at home on Saturday February 3, 2024.

Wife of Rodney (dec.).

Loved by daughter Gillian, son-in-law Wes, and grandchildren Jamie, Riley, and Charlie.

Loving mother to Paul.

Rest in Peace.

FUNERALS

SMITH:
Family and friends are warmly invited to attend Kirsty's Funeral Service which will commence at 10am, Thursday morning, February 15, 2024 at the Lakes Chapel, Morleys Funeral Home, Cnr. Hugh Street and Martinez Avenue, Townsville.

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For those unable to attend, Kirsty's service will be live streamed at <https://www.morleys.net.au/live-streaming>

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Sentinel-Times



The team behind the Lunches of Loch event, Gabe from Loch Village Foodstore, Tamara from Loch & Key restaurant and Craig from Olive at Loch.

Lunches of Loch caters to all types of diners

LUNCHES of Loch, from February 16 to 18, is a new event during which the town will again showcase the best of Gippsland produce, with local eateries participating.

Evolving from successful Loch Long Lunch gatherings in 2022 and 2023, Lunches at Loch will offer everything from a great value casual meal to a four-course extravaganza or sumptuous high tea.

The Loch Village Food Store provides the casual experience, with the choice of a beef or vegan burger or a parmigiana and beverage for \$35 per head.

Loch & Key is hosting people for a four-course meal with matched wines, while Olive at Loch will welcome those keen to savour the high tea experience.

Tamara Cruddas of Loch & Key outlined the motivation behind holding the event instead of a long lunch.

"The idea came about that we would involve the eateries in town and make it

Lunches of Loch so that we'd meet all the different price points and people's ideas of a lunch," she said.

Loch & Key will highlight wines from Bass River Winery based in Glen Forbes, and Avani wine varieties from the 'Issan Vineyard' in Outram.

Tamara said there is a limited quantity of Pinot Noir and Chardonnay coming out of the 'Issan Vineyard', with both varieties to be featured during the lunch event.

"Bass River is going to showcase four or five different wines, from sparkling all the way through to a dessert wine; they have a unique product called an iced sauvignon blanc, which is an incredible take on a dessert wine without Botrytis," she said.

For seating times, menus, prices and to book, go to lochvillage.com/events

Places are limited and bookings are essential and must be made directly through the participating venues.

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PUBLIC NOTICES



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Magic Penny, nearest the post, edges out Science Degree (number 6) in Race 1, the San Remo Hotel Maiden Plate. A04_0724

Successful Publicans Day at Stony Creek despite sad beginning

PUBLICANS Day at Stony Creek Racecourse was a largely successful event but began in unfortunate fashion when Race 1 favourite Nobiallo had to be euthanised after breaking a fetlock.

Just Bolts, ridden by Tom Stockdale, passed the finishing post alone after a fall in which Stockdale and Nobiallo's rider Beau Mertens were fortunate to escape serious injury.

Mertens was sent to hospital, while Stockdale didn't ride again for the day.

Magic Penny went on to win the race but the attention of most attendees turned to the welfare of the horses and jockeys involved in the incident.

Flemington-based Melbourne Cup winning trainer Danny O'Brien's Irish Storm started favourite in Race 3, the Foster Exchange Hotel Maiden Plate but finished fourth, with Cranbourne-trained Gallagher the winner.

Weather conditions were pleasant, with temperatures in the low 20s, and the track was initially classified as a Good 4, becoming a Good 3.

The conditions presented a contrast to the previous two scheduled race meetings at Stony Creek, one of which was cancelled due to excessive rain in the lead up, the next being hit by powerful wind gusts.

Publicans and their staff socialised and dined in between races, all eight events on the program being sponsored by Bass Coast or South Gippsland Shire pubs.

"It was good having different pub communities together and it was a very well-run day and nice weather and it was good to get out and about with staff and locals," The Korumburra Middle Hotel owner Ben 'Fish' Fisher said.

He added that the food was great.

While many spectators were from the local area, Shane and Jeanette Meredith made the trip from Montmorency in Melbourne.

"We're members here and come all the time," Shane said, explaining his grandparents lived in Meeniyan and he used to enjoy school holiday time in the area.



Just Bolts approaches the finish without rider Tom Stockdale after the fall in Race 1. A05_0724



The Korumburra Middle Hotel staff take it easy at Stony Creek. A07_0724

Local publicans giving back at Stony Creek

THE STONY Creek Racing Club welcomed 200 publicans, staff and customers to the annual Publicans Race Day last week, providing them with a relaxed social outing and the chance to raise funds for a couple of worthy local initiatives through some shrewd betting.

The Day was supported by eleven local pubs, Bairs Hotel in Leongatha, Fish Creek Hotel, Foster Exchange Hotel, Korumburra Middle Hotel, The Invy Espy Hotel, Meeniyan Hotel, Mirboo North Hotel, San Remo Hotel, Toora Standard Hotel, Welshpool Hotel and Wonthaggi Hotel.

The highlight of the Publicans Lunch was the friendly punters competition, with pubs battling it out to raise money for local charities and community groups.

This year \$5000 was raised through some astute betting.

The Foster Exchange Hotel had the largest tally sheet and was declared winner of the competition, taking home a perpetual trophy and bragging rights and selecting the charities for funds to be donated to.

The \$5000 was distributed between two organisations detailed below.

Change for Sam: Personal Alert Alarms Project: The Change for Sam initiative was formed by a group of community members and family violence service providers in the wake of the tragic death of local Phillip Island resident Samantha (Sam) Fraser.

Monies raised go towards the Personal Alert Alarms project, providing free 24/7 monitored personal alarms to family violence victims and families, with the aim of preventing such deaths in future.

South Gippsland Community Health Foundation: Local projects benefiting the community. The South Gippsland Community Health Foundation exists to ensure that funds donated to South Gippsland communities stay in those communities for use on projects that advance the health and wellbeing of local people.

Stony Creek's final meeting for the season is the Ladbrokes Stony Creek Cup held on Sunday March 10 - the Labour Day long weekend. The first race is scheduled for 1.05pm, with an eight-race card featuring the \$85,000 Ladbrokes Cup expected to attract some of the state's best Country Cup performers.

Local sport

South Gippsland and Bass Coast

Sentinel-Times



www.sgst.com.au



Around the Bay

By Jims Bait and Tackle

THERE a lot of people starting to work out the weather in this part of the world, especially with the way fishing has been over the last few years, choosing to work all January and take time off in February, March or even April when the best fishing is.

The weather is normally more settled as it has been this year with December and January looking more like Spring than Summer.

The fishing has improved considerably also, both in the bay and offshore of course.

The bay is still a bit of a lottery, and the reports are very mixed but certainly better than a month ago, a lot to do with the weather as well.

With favourable conditions we are seeing plenty of the offshore species coming back as well, tuna being number one but some good kings amongst them and for those who want a feed of the best table fish we have here the flathead also very good.

As usual though not everyone is successful with probably 60 per cent of those fishing managing to come home with fish.

While 60 per cent doesn't seem very good it's better than the normal, so if you aren't catching anything, or anything to bring home, don't feel like you are doing things wrong, it's just not your day.

We get a lot of frustrated fishermen in the shop that are trying to re-invent the wheel because they aren't catching much, whereas they should be going the opposite way, back to basics.

Don't get too caught up in the social media round-about or the stories down at the pub, trust what you know, make minor changes, and remember what will work for one person or worked yesterday won't necessarily work for you or today.

Fishing really isn't that complicated, work out the fish bite time patterns, present your baits/lures correctly and in this area if you are bottom fishing, you must use enough lead to get and hold bottom.

Tuna reports have certainly improved with the better weather conditions and several have made their way to many freezers around the island and beyond.

We hear the same stories often from those catching tuna for the first time, "There is a lot of fish on a 20kg one" or "I didn't realise there was so much work in preparing the tuna for bottling."

Something to think about when you head out and there are three of four of you, one the boat, not sure what you are going to do with six or eight tuna, it doesn't last that long in the freezer and unless you are going to the trouble of smoking or bottling it there will be a lot of wastage.

Before you head out to chase tuna, work out what you are going to do with it and you will

probably find one 20kg fish will do two families easily, they will probably be here for the next couple of months so you could go and get another one.

Bluefin have shown through the tagging program that they do well when released, so learn the best way to handle your fish and you can still be catching and releasing, then take what you can actually eat.

We are starting to see a few birds showing up now, not that they are actually with the tuna yet and many reports of fish without birds are still coming in.

The tuna numbers have grown, and reports of schools everywhere are common, again it doesn't mean they are taking lures or anything, but the fish are at least there until the next day when they seem to all disappear.

Back in the bay this week has at least been fishable almost all week, unlike the weather of the last six weeks.

Fishing for the most part has been ok while nothing too special and not many are actually bagging out, many are finding a feed at least.

Those who are successful at the moment are really fishing tides and or change of light and not spending too much time on the water.

Evening, the best, and most of the better reports from that period just on dark. That goes for most of the species as well with the whiting bite certainly better on dusk over the last few weeks and the bigger pinkies coming out after the small ones have gone to bed.

In the evening the shallower areas have produced the fish, especially up around the top end of the corals and towards Coronet Bay.

Daytime the best results have come from the deeper water and in the shallows lots of very small undersize pinkies and whiting.

The schools of bigger salmon have disappeared and the salmon left are those we would normally see. Boys home channel has fished well for many species with the start of the run in the best.

We are busy working on the Easter Good Friday Fishing Comp and the response from sponsors has been overwhelming in the quality of product they are supplying.

Phillip Island helicopters are again supplying our major prize for the lucky entry draws and the category prizes are building in value with each email that comes in from sponsors.

We have added a category again for the longest Tuna or Kingfish and the prize this year is gold in colour.

Entries are now open and can be found on our socials or in store. There are kids show bags for the first 50 paid Junior (0-14) entries and all entries must be in by 2pm on Good Friday.

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 | February 13 |
|----------|-------------|
| ▲ 3.26am | 1.64m |
| ▼ 9.07am | 0.45m |
| ▲ 3.32pm | 1.56m |
| ▼ 9.21pm | 0.28m |

| WEDNESDAY | February 14 |
|-----------|-------------|
| ▲ 4.07am | 1.67m |
| ▼ 9.56am | 0.31m |
| ▲ 4.27pm | 1.62m |
| ▼ 10.09pm | 0.33m |

| THURSDAY | February 15 |
|-----------|-------------|
| ▲ 4.46am | 1.67m |
| ▼ 10.42am | 0.21m |
| ▲ 5.20pm | 1.65m |
| ▼ 10.54pm | 0.41m |

| FRIDAY | February 16 |
|-----------|-------------|
| ▲ 5.24am | 1.65m |
| ▼ 11.27am | 0.15m |
| ▲ 6.13pm | 1.63m |
| ▼ 11.38pm | 0.49m |

| SATURDAY | February 17 |
|-----------|-------------|
| ▲ 6.01am | 1.60m |
| ▼ 12.09pm | 0.14m |
| ▲ 7.05pm | 1.58m |
| ▼ 11.38pm | 0.49m |

| SUNDAY | February 18 |
|-----------|-------------|
| ▼ 12.19am | 0.58m |
| ▲ 6.40am | 1.53m |
| ▼ 12.52pm | 0.18m |
| ▲ 8.00pm | 1.51m |
| ▼ 1.01am | 0.67m |

| MONDAY | February 19 |
|----------|-------------|
| ▼ 7.21am | 1.45m |
| ▲ 1.34pm | 0.25m |
| ▼ 8.55pm | 1.44m |
| ▲ 1.01am | 0.67m |

SPORTS



Phoenix Stedman, Scarlett Rennie, Kodi Lewis, Ryan Hain, Kai Sturt, Maya Scott, and Angus Farman. Photo: Deb Leonard

PIBC Supergroms home competition

SATURDAY, February 10 saw the introduction of a new Phillip Island Boardriders Club (PIBC) Supergroms competition format event, with divisions for under 14s and younger.

Supergroms coordinator Deb Leonard said the event has been introduced to bridge the gap between the usual Supergroms events and the adult level competition.

"This is designed as a low key, relaxed, friendly competition for kids just starting out in competition surfing" says Deb.

"It gives them experience in a heat setting without the pressure of a serious competition."

"We put a huge emphasis on good sportsmanship and having a go – and it was heartwarming to see the kids cheering each other on and congratulating their mates on good a result."

Sixteen groms took part on Saturday, and for many it was their first-time surfing in a competition. Younger kids were allowed to have a parent helper in the water with them to give them more confidence. Shelley beach put on the perfect conditions for an entry level competition, and the groms loved taking part.

Deb said she would like to see more girls take part in events like this – "often girls at this age don't feel confident to compete, especially in a male dominated sport. This event will hopefully provide a setting where girls feel comfortable to come along and have a go."

Club secretary Emily Scott, whose daughter competed in the event notes "PIBC is such a supportive club for women. Girls should feel like they are safe and supported to come

and join in the fun!" The results of the competition were:

Under 10 Boys: 1st Hugo Joyner

Under 12 Boys: 1st Eddie Maier, 2nd Bode Bassad, 3rd Lennox Archibald

Under 14 Boys: 1st Ryan Hain, 2nd Angus Farman, 3rd Kai Sturt and Kodi Lewis

Under 14 girls: 1st Scarlett Rennie, 2nd Phoenix Stedman, 3rd Maya Scott

Special awards were also presented, with Otis Joyner and Maya Scott taking out best wipeouts, the Sportsmanship Award going to Max Anagnostou and Wilco Stubbs, and the Butler Award to dad, Troy Joyner pushing not one but two sons onto waves in a heat (with Deb explaining that they jokingly call a parent helper in the water a "Butler").

Big swell at Cat Bay for Longboard Comp



Nala Taylor (Winner Captain's Choice Award). Photo: Jo O'Reilly Stubbs.

Email us your
fishing photos
news@sgst.com.au



Woolamai Beach Surf Life Saving Club (WBSLSC) volunteers prep for the San Remo Channel Challenge. Photos: Snapshot Photography by Nici Cahill.

Biggest lineup ever in a Victorian Aquathon

From age 56

The race itself had a very exciting finish when the first two competitors, Callum McClusky and Chris Deegan, emulated their battle at Cape Paterson by striding down the bridge only a metre apart but Callum pulled away again to win by 4.5 seconds after having won at Cape Paterson by 3.2 seconds. They are two elite competitors and at the presentations Callum mentioned that his immediate goal is to try to qualify for the Australian Triathlon team at the Paris Olympics.

A Junior Male, Gab Incani, came in fourth with the first female home, Zoe Clarke from the V.I.S., in fifth position and the first junior female, Kiara Mooney (V.I.S) rounded out the top ten. Local Masters (O/40) competitor, Justin Tilley, again finished top ten in seventh place. Local female, Zoe Adams, did well to finish third in the open section behind two V.I.S. competitors and local junior, Lara Smyth, finished second in the open category. The local junior male's category saw Will Campbell and Reece McLeod separated by only nine seconds at the finish. Locals dominated the new O/60 category with Rob Fleisner winning the open and local categories and Carol Brewster

won the local category and finished second in the open section.

There were 230 local individual competitors in the field which was 40 per cent of the total and this shows that the Bass Coast community has really embraced these events and looks forward to them each summer. The relay section has also become an important component and with over 60 teams this year it means that another 120+ people are able to take part in the event. Tom McNish and Dylan Muir ran the fastest relay of the event while the best mixed team was Lachlan and Bethany Barrett, and the fastest female team was Rachel Costello and Kylie Wookey.

Once again, the organisers and the Woolamai Beach Surf Life Saving Club would like to thank the partner sponsors and the many people who contribute to the management and running of the event. It has become a big operation with lots of volunteers from not only the WBSLSC but also the S.E.S., Rotary, and other organisations and it has now become an event that benefits many sections of the community - an event that the whole Bass Coast Community should be proud of producing.



Brian Dallinger completing his 38th Channel Challenge.

Kool wins at Wonthaggi croquet singles championships

SIX members of the club competed in Section 1 of the annual singles championship held on Tuesday, February 6.

Always a fun, albeit very competitive, tournament and this year was no exception. Breaks between games made for an easy-going day, playing three games before a BBQ lunch and two games after.

Allan Mullaney once again manned the BBQ with Sue Cartwright and Brian Wheeler handling the administration.

Two of our most recent members, Michael Barber and Marjorie Prendergast were first time entrants in the competition but certainly not newcomers to the game. Michael finished runner-up with Marjorie finishing third only on a hoops count back.

The winner of the event was Gerry Kool winning all of his games. Sections 2 and 3 will be held on April 9, 2024.



Paul Andrews, Marjorie Prendergast, Neil Warburton, Tom Lacey, Gerry Kool and Michael Barber (seated).

ALAMBEE MIRBOO & DISTRICT TENNIS ASSOC.

MANY teams struggled for numbers this week, with a forfeit in each section. Hopefully this does not become an ongoing issue.

The experience of the Inverloch team helped them to a win over Leongatha this week in Section 1. Well done to Matt Pocklington for bringing three juniors up with him to play in this section so they can gain experience.

Outtrim were winners over Leongatha this round in Section 2. These two teams have always had good matches against one another. Well done to Anthony Polato for playing his first match for the season.

Good luck to those who are going up to Country Week this week. Next week, there is no play so those who made the trip up can have a rest. Everyone else - enjoy a week off with your loved ones.

Section 1 Results: Inverloch 7.47 d Leongatha 1.27, Westernport forfeited to Koonwarra, Korumburra BYE

Ladder: Westernport 81, Inverloch 75.5, Koonwarra 56.5, Korumburra 42, Leongatha 40

Section 2 Results: Outtrim 7.61 d Leongatha 2.34, Korumburra forfeited to Baromi

Ladder: Outtrim 88, Leongatha 74.5, Baromi 74, Korumburra 25.5

2023 Victorian Sport Awards nominations

ACKNOWLEDGING the full spectrum of Victorian sport across all levels during the 2023 calendar year, nominations are now open for the Victorian Sport Awards (VSAs), the most prestigious night for our state's sporting and active recreation community.

Presented by the State Government and Vicsport, the VSAs recognises and celebrates those who made an outstanding contribution to Victorian sport during 2023, by honouring the grassroots heroes who excelled at a community level, high-performance athletes who shone at a national and/or international level and everyone in between.

Across 18 awards, individual and team athletes, coaches, officials, volunteers, administrators, media personnel and the initiatives that ensure Victorians remain active will all be recognised.

Nominations can be submitted via the Vicsport website from now until Friday March 1.

Following the closure of nominations after March 1, four finalists for each of the 18 awards will be decided by esteemed judging panels and announced in April before the winners are revealed on Wednesday 12 June at Marvel Stadium.

All finalists, family, friends, sporting organisations and clubs are invited to attend the VSAs and celebrate the successes of sport in Victoria. Ticketing details announced soon.

Event details: Wednesday 12 June, 6pm – 10pm at Victory Room, Marvel Stadium, Docklands

Categories in the 2023 Victorian Sport Awards are as follows:

- Leasexpress Coach of the Year
- Gallagher Community Coach of the Year
- Sports Accounting Australia Official of the Year
- etrainu Community Official of the Year
- AFL SportsReady Young Team of the Year
- AED Authority Team of the Year
- My Sport Live Community Sporting Event of the Year
- Love the Game Community Sporting Club of the Year
- Sports Administrator of the Year – Eunice Gill Award
- Bunnings Trade Local Government Initiative of the Year
- VAILO Volunteer of the Year
- Sport and Active Recreation Initiative of the Year
- Involve Masters Athlete of the Year
- rebel Young Athlete of the Year
- Outstanding Media Coverage of Sport Award
- Polytan Peter Norman Inclusion Award
- Frank Wilkes Award
- Kitty McEwan Award
- Victorian State Government Outstanding Contribution to Victorian Sport

More information on the 2023 Victorian Sport Awards can be found at vicsport.com.au/2023-victorian-sport-awards



The South Gippsland Golf 4BBB Maree Anderson Women's Opening Day B Grade winners Marion Walker and Chris Hamilton, B Grade runners up Sue Hoskin and Faye Le Page, A Grade winners Kay Dumbleton and Fay Quilford, and A Grade runners up Helen Coghlan and Maureen Ellard.



Kylie Collins was Foster Golf Club's Summer Competition winner.

FOSTER

Ladies

THERE was wonderful weather and a great turnout for Foster Ladies Opening Day of Golf 2024.

Medal winner for February was Geraldine Sinclair – a first for Geraldine, with a resounding 90 28 62 net.

Geraldine also won the putting (30), B Grade and scratch B Grade – a big day out.

Elisa Nudelman also an impressive round 90 21 69 net and was the A Grade winner.

Scratch score went to Barb Warren.

NTP was Jenny Mountford 17th.

BDTL went to Jenny Alexander (40) 72 and Di Walker (26) 74 c/b and Barb Warren (15) 74 c/b.

The nine-hole comp winner was Judy Bacon (34) 21 points.

Congratulations to Kylie Collins who won the Foster Ladies Summer Competition.

Thank you to Alayne McKenzie for sponsoring the day and supplying the beautiful begonia raffle.

KORUMBURRA

TUESDAY February 6: Stabelford: 46 players.

A Grade: Ian Cash (12) 37 points.

B Grade: Don Hislop (27) 39 points.

NTPs: first Tim Fowles, seventh Dave Enbom, 10th Athol Worthy and 13th Nath Wardle.

Thursday, February 8: Stabelford: 22 players.

Winner: Tim Fowles (15) 37 C/B.

NTPs: first Peter Van Agtmaal, seventh Ross Besley, 10th Mick Belvedere and 13th Shayne Harland.

Saturday, February 10: Men's Club Championships round two

Daily Result: 71 players.

Sponsor: Rod Spokes.

A Grade: Clint Newcombe (11) 70 net.

B Grade: Scott Burgess (54) 57 net.

NTPs: first Peter Hislop, seventh Iain Riddell, 10th Blake Cosson and 13th Clint Newcombe.

Men's Club Championships round two:

Scratch:

A Grade: Steve Bromby 151, Mat Wrigley 152, Billie Wrigley, Jacob Wrigley 157 and Tim O'Neill 159.

B Grade: Shane Pouw 162, Donald Van Rooye 167, Clint Newcombe and Barry Kerr 169.

C Grade: Blayke Spokes 166, Brian Pope 177 and Peter Wallace 178.

D Grade: Chris Gallagher 185, Nick Moore 186, Dozer Skewes 195 and Jack Clink 196.

Men's Club Championships round two:

Nett:

A Grade: Jacob Wrigley 145, Tim O'Neill 147, Steve Rose 150 and Billie Wrigley 151.

B Grade: Shane Pouw 142, Tim Fowles 145, Barry Kerr, Donald Van Rooye and Ian Gibson 147.

C Grade: Blayke Spokes 130, Peter Wallace 142, Chris McConnell and Brian Pope 145.

D Grade: Chris Gallagher 143, Nick Moore 144, Marty De Leeuw 146 and Doc Dixon 147.

Men's Senior Club Championships (55+) round two:

Scratch: Steve Rose 166, Barry Kerr 169, Paul Hopkins 173 and Ian Gibson and Brian Pope 177.

Nett: Pete Wallace 142, Chris McConnell and Brian Pope 145 and Marty De Leeuw 146.

Junior Club Championships (Under 18) round two: Billie Wrigley 157, Jake Fowles 189 and Dozer Skewes 195.

Ladies

THE course was exceptional, the weather perfect and some terrific scores were recorded for the first split round of the championships.

The club extends much gratitude to Whistlewood Boutique in Korumburra for sponsoring the day.

Winners, runners-up and NTPs were thrilled to receive the wonderful trophies and generous vouchers, and this is a timely prompt to our members and the community to support our great local businesses.

Congratulations to Julie Cole (54) who had a fabulous round with 68 net to win her first Monthly Medal and therefore the Tiny Teapot award. Julie (54) also won C Grade.

Close behind was Maree Wittingslow (45) 69 net, on a c/b from Lyn Leppin.

There will be some reduced handicaps there – well done.

B Grade was won by Jenny Blackmore (27), 71 net and Julie Brannaghan (27) was runner-up, 73 net on a c/b from Trudy Olden.

Lynette McIvor (19) won A Grade, with 71 net and Sherrin Solly (21) was next best, 73 net.

BDTL went to Lyn Leppin (52), 69 net, Trudy Olden (27), 73 net and Julie Hillberg (24),

74 net.

Merrissa Cosson had the best Scratch Score with 86.

The nine-hole comp was won by Virginia Wagner (41) with a nice 20 points.

Welcome back to the nine-hole golfers and one of the beginners who joined in this round.

NTPs were Shelley Snooks first and Julie Brannaghan 10th.

Judy Webb and Maree Wittingslow were the lucky picks for the remaining Whistlewood vouchers.

Thursday's Twilight winners were Colette Pearl and Tim O'Neill, 21 points after a 5-way c/b.

Runners up were Robyn Fuchs and Greg Wilson.

NTPs were Tim on the seventh and Warren Burgess, the first.

Six members travelled to Phillip Island on Friday to enjoy playing in the South Gippsland Golf Inc Opening Day.

Lynette McIvor (18) had a great round again on Saturday, to finish 70 net, winning the RB Monthly Medal and the Luscious Café voucher.

Lynette also had the best Scratch Score, 88.

Diarne Maskell (32) was runner-up, on a c/b, 72 net with BDTL going to Chris Rickard (28), 72 net and Deb Wrigley 26), 74 net.

NTP winners were Shelley Snooks first (Kelly's Bakery voucher) and Lynette on the 13th.

MEENIYAN

Ladies

THE February Medal event was played with Dot Christie winning with 73 net.

Veronica Park was the runner up with 75 net.

Down the line balls went to Faye LePage 77 and Tanya Thorson with 79 net.

Dot also won the putting with 29.

Congratulations to Faye LePage and Sue Hoskin being the runners up in B Grade at the opening day of the district women's 4BBB at Phillip Island.

MIRBOO NORTH

THURSDAY, February 8: Stabelford.

A Grade: J. Hughes (17) 39 points c/b.

B Grade: M. Richter (22) 35 points.

DTL: D. Woodall 39, T. Bradshaw, 38 and J. Mc Farlane 37.

NTP: fourth J. Smeriglio, sixth M. Richter, 13th D. Woodall and 16th R. Thompson.

Birdies: 13th D. Woodall and 16th R. Thompson.

Saturday, February 10: Mixed Foursome (Opening Day) and Stableford overflow.

Winners: Ray and Maree Thompson (21) 71 net.

Runner up: Cayden and Chris Gun (24.5) 72.5 net.

Stableford overflow:

A Grade: S. McInnes (5) 40 points.

B Grade: S. Woodall (15) 44 points.

C Grade: W. Lewis (23) 37 points.

DTL: G. Renwick 37, S. Hill-Smith, N. Baker 36, R. Matthews and R. Clark 35 c/b.

NTP: fourth G. Renwick, sixth R. Matthews, 13th D. Jerram and 16th N. Baker.

Birdies: 16th N. Baker.

Summer Cup final: R. Clark defeated S. Mills 2up.

LEONGATHA

TUESDAY, February 6: 4BBB Par event.

This team event included 59 members/guests.

Overall winners:

1. Neale Gillin (14) and Colin Bear (11) with a score of +10 on a countback.

2. Ron Findlay (30) and Dean Kellett (9) with a score of +10.

NTP 14th: Craig Hutchinson. NTP 16th: Christopher Leaver at 1.40m.

Extra Balls Comp prizes went to Ian Miller, Antony Roberts, Bob Smith, Hans Hoefler, Christopher Leaver and Peter Stivic.

Thursday, February 8: Stabelford event.

Thursday was a Stableford round played in great conditions and an excellent field of 107 members/guests starting with a shotgun start at 9am.

A Grade winner: Jamie Grenville (13) with a score of 34 points on a countback. A Grade runner up: Peter Walsh (14) with a score of 34 points on a countback.

B Grade winner: Wayne Keen (16) with a score of 40 points. B Grade runner up: Lou Fautaga (17) with a score of 36 points on a countback.

C Grade winner: William Howson (24) with a score of 41 points. C Grade runner up: David Forbes (20) with a score of 39 points.

D Grade winner: Peter Dodgson (37) with a score of 36 points. D Grade runner up: Peter Horman (28) with a score of 35 points.

NTP fifth second shot: Michael O'Rafferty. NTP 14th: Steve Fisher. NTP 16th: Gary

McGrath. Saturday, February 10: Monthly Medal Stroke event.

The stroke event for the Monthly Medal had an excellent field of 101 members/guests.

Overall winner: Marcus Luscombe (9) with a net score of -4.

A Grade winner: Chad Clasby (10) with a net score of -3. A Grade runner up: Mark Wilson (11) with a net score of E on a countback.

B Grade winner: Andrew Henley (15) with a net score of E. B Grade runner up: Garry Rotteveel (18) with a score of +1 on a countback.

C Grade winner: Steve Fisher (20) with a net score of +1. C Grade runner up: Jeffrey Brewer (21) with a score of +3 on a countback.

D Grade winner: Ian Moorhouse (28) with a net score of E. D Grade runner up: Phil Strike (23) with a score of +1 on a countback.

Great score by Susan Bowler with an eagle at the fifth hole.

NTP fifth second shot: Susan Bowler at 0.0m. NTP 14th: Matthew Bowey at 3.60m.

Ladies

THIRTY-FIVE women competed in the Wednesday round of the February Monthly Medal and the first round of the Club Championships last week.

Neryl Hopcraft (32) is in a good position to win the Monthly Medal finishing with 69 net and winning the B Grade daily competition.

Colleen Touzel (21) won A Grade with 72 net.

Both these players hold a handy position in both the B Grade and C Grade Club Championships.

Janet Monk was the runner up in the A Grade daily competition with 75 net and Nicole Whiteside finished with 73 net to be placed second in B Grade.

Nicole is also currently leading in the D Grade Stableford Championship.

Balls down the line were awarded to Wendy Brown 74 net, Bronwyn Debenham 76 net, Lianne Adamson 78 net and Joanna Miles.

Nearest the pin on the 16th was Marianne Leaver and Jenny Fraser was the closest on the 14th.

Second shot on the fifth was won by Fay Quilford.

After play on Saturday, Rebecca Thomas is leading in the Club Championships, finishing with 81/9/72.

SOUTH GIPPSLAND GOLF INC

AN almost capacity field competed at the South Gippsland Golf 4BBB Maree Anderson Women's Opening Day held at Phillip Island Golf Club on Friday, February 9.

Scott and Sharon Anderson of Handley and Anderson Funerals Wonthaggi provided a delightful array of plants for the winners, as the business has done for the last 32 years.

Maree Anderson was remembered fondly by all present - she sadly passed away in June 2021.

Maree was a passionate golfer loving the sport in every way welcoming and encouraging new golfers, supporting district events including country teams, taking on office bearer positions, providing sponsorship and held endearing friendships with the golfing fraternity of South Gippsland and beyond.

She also held life memberships with SGGI and Wonthaggi Golf Club.

The winners of A Grade were Kay Dumbleton and Fay Quilford (Leongatha) with 45 points.

B Grade was won by the pairing from Wonthaggi, Chris Hamilton and Marion Walker with a score of 46 points.

In accepting their prize, Chris acknowledged how thrilled they were to win on 'Maree's day' as Maree had been so encouraging on when she came to the Wonthaggi club and helped in her golfing journey.

Runners up in A Grade were Helen Coghlan and Maureen Ellard (Phillip Island) just one shot behind 44 points and in B Grade with 45 point were the dynamic duo from Meenyan Golf Club, Sue Hoskin and Faye Le Page.

Down the line balls went to A Grade 43 point Dianna Holmberg/Jeanette Diss (Phillip Island), 42 point Barb Warren/Rachel Brown (Foster), Sheila Constantine/Tanya Thorson, 41 point Alice Schofield and Sheryl Smith, Cathy Jones/Jacqui Langsford (Phillip Island), 40 point Veronica Park/Dot Christie (Meenyan), B Grade 44 point Bronwyn Debenham/Cheryl Borg (Leongatha), 43 point Jane Sellenger/Annette Millership (Phillip Island), Lynne Dunne/Pauline Scoble (Phillip Island), 42pt Wendy Hopkins/Marlene Gibson (Phillip Island), Jillian Chandler/Lyn McCole (Phillip Island), Marg Frith/Mary Whelan (Phillip Island).

Nearest the pin on fifth was Layla Robertson (Wonthaggi), seventh Alice Schofield (Phillip Island), 10th Cathy Jones (Phillip Island) and 17th Kay Dumbleton (Leongatha).

The South Gippsland Golf Inc. committee extend thanks to Phillip Island Golf Club for hosting the 2024 Maree Anderson 4BBB Opening Day.

A lovely lunch was available from the Putters Café the course was in excellent condition and the contribution made by Women's President, Marilyn John and Captain Rhonda Boyd all made for an extremely pleasant day.

A reminder to players that the next district event, will be the SGGI Joyce Berry 4BBB at Meenyan Golf Club, on May 3.

WOORAYL

Ladies

IT was another perfect day for the February Monthly Medal sponsored by good supporter Invisage.

There was a lot of good golf played with some women breaking their handicap.

A few others may have had their heart broken but that's golf.

The winner of A Grade was Elly Berryman with 84-13-71.

The winner for B Grade and Monthly Medal winner was the very excited new captain Janet Thompson 101-32-69. Congratulations to both.

BDL went to Jenny Riseley 71 net, Kath Davis 72 net and Heather Sullivan 74 net.

Putting winner was Elly Berryman with 28 putts.

NTPs were eighth Janet Thompson, 11th Pauline Lancaster and 17th Elly Berryman.

WONTHAGGI

RESULTS: February 8, SR. 71.

Competition: Stableford 18-hole.

Winner: Rod Walker 37.

Runner up: Paul Cornelis 37. BDTL to 36 C/B.

Ball sweep: Jonathon Elliot 36, Terry Salmon 36, Gary Youlten 36, Peter Magmussen 36 and Peter Kane 36 C/B.

Results: February 8, SR. 36.

Competition: Stableford back nine-holes.

Winner: Bill Howard 22.

BDTL to 20.

Ball sweep: Ray Hender 20 and Bob Cornelis 20.

Results: February 10, SR 72.

Competition: second Round Championships Stroke.

Winner:

A: Alan McLean 70.
B: Ian Johnson 68.
C: Connor Ireland 67.

BDTL to 72 C/B.

Ball sweep: Gary Bates 68, Doug Putt 68, Blake Cornelis 69, Frank Huber 71, Dean Winning 72, Bailey Harvey 72, Alex Geyer 72, Stephen Judd 72, Ross Lovett 72 and Messy Chad 72 C/b.

Eagles: Glenn Hewlett 10th, Beau Van Agtmaal 11th and Kevin Jamieson first.

NTPs: Daniel Crellin second, Jim Jordan fourth, Dale Burgess eighth propin, Simon O/Halloran 13th and Doug Putt 17th money hole.

Ladies

WEDNESDAY saw 30 ladies enjoy their round of Stableford in perfect golfing conditions.

Everyone is enjoying this time of the year and the pristine course.

There were three grades, and some beaut scores are still being posted.

A Grade winner was Anne Tschiderer (20)38 points.

B Grade winner and the round of the day was Patsy Britt (33) 40 points.

C Grade winner was Kathy Geyer (40)36 points.

NTP on second was Marg Ryan, eighth Yvonne Everitt and 17th Catherine Bolding.

BDL went to I. Walsh 37, J. Beaumont 37, C. Sartori 35, M. Johnson 35, C. Hamilton 34, S. Lindsay 34 and M. Walker 34.

Equal opportunity at Leongatha Golf Club

THE LEONGATHA Golf Club celebrated a first last week - completely equal playing rights for all golfers (men and women) with both genders being able to choose if they play their first and second round of Club Championships on a

Wednesday or Saturday.

Historically women played on Wednesdays and men on Saturdays, at the clubs most prestigious event.

"We are proud to be leading the way to offer all golfers more opportunities to play in

prestigious events regardless of their work or family commitments," noted Kate Rowe General Manager, Leongatha Golf Club.

All golfers will play their final round on Sunday, February 18.



Patsy Britt, Anne Tschiderer and Kathy Geyer were the winners of the Stableford event at Wonthaggi Golf Club on Wednesday.



Korumburra's grade winners Julie Cole (also Monthly Medallist), Lynette McIvor and Jenny Blackmore were very happy with their lovely trophies provided by Whistlewood Boutique last Wednesday. Lynette also won the RB Medal on Saturday.



Geraldine Sinclair and Elisa Nudleman shared success at the Foster Ladies Opening Day of Golf 2024.



Woorayl Golf Club's A Grade winner was Elly Berryman, pictured with captain Janet Thompson who won B Grade and the Monthly Medal.



The corporate bowls winners at Inverloch Bowling Club were Victor Butler, Bruce Clark and Pat Boyd.



The very popular winners of the Korumburra Bowling Club's Monthly Triples Ben Peachey, Kevin Watson and Les Eastman.



The Wonthaggi Turkey Triples winners were Joy Phillips, Caroline Donohue and Robyn Dennis.

INVERLOCH

MIDWEEK Pennant:
Division 1: Inverloch 51 Wonthaggi 66

Division 2: Inverloch 35 Tarwin Lower 77.

Division 3: Inverloch (4) 20 Tarwin Lower 54; Inverloch (3) 26 Port Welshpool 49.

Saturday Pennant:

Division 1: Inverloch 59 Phillip Island 57.

Division 2: Inverloch 61 Phillip Island 59.

Division 3: Inverloch 33 Meenyan 68.

Division 4: Inverloch 47 Leongatha 60.

Thursday social bowls:

Runners up were Carol Thorn, Shirley Turton, Di Selby and Chris O'Donnell (skip) on two wins 33 points with 11 shots up. Winners for the day were George Scott, Daryl McStravick (skip) and Harry Dunn with two wins 33 points and 14 shots up.

Corporate bowls winners were VBs with one shot up.

The team consisted of Victor Butler, Bruce Clark and Pat Boyd.

Runners up were Bowling Stones.

KORUMBURRA

IT was another busy week at the club beginning with the monthly triples on Monday and 24 teams competing.

The winners on the day were Benny Peachey, Les Eastman and Kevin Watson.

Runners up were Laurie Gabel, Steve Snelling and Martin Hannaford.

Best last game went to Terry Dawes, Lindsay Meredith and Dave Hoffman.

The club's thanks go to AG Warehouse for its sponsorship.

Tuesday Pennant saw Korumburra hosting Foster with an excellent result.

Jenny McVeigh won 23 shots to 15, Judith Nicholl won 18 shots to 14, but unfortunately Joanna Lomagno lost 16 shots to 26.

Division 3 travelled to Fish Creek without success.

Cheryl Moore lost 23 shots to 10 and Erica Hayes lost 23 shots to 16 – bad luck to all.

The traders' event is progressing well on a Tuesday night with 24 teams last week.

It is starting to get very competitive as the tradies get used to bowling.

Friday night saw close to 80 people enjoying counter meals prepared by Keith March and his merry crew a good night was had by all.

Saturday pennant saw Division 1 host Toora and in a close fought match all teams got over the line.

Shane O'Loughlin won 24 shots to 18, Rob Cosson got up 21 shots to 20 and Peter Spark won 17 shots to 15 to cement Korumburra's place on the top of the ladder – well done.

Division 2 travelled to Leongatha with the only winning rink Robert Sund who got up 20 shots to 15.

Jim Garnham lost 17 shots to 20 and Ross Lomagno went down 13 shots to 24.

All pennant players and partners (Saturday and Midweek) are reminded there will be pizzas at the clubrooms Saturday night starting at 6pm.

LEONGATHA

ROUND 13 of the Midweek Pennant competition for the Division 1 side continued last Tuesday with a welcome to the Toora Division 1 side.

Leongatha won on two rinks but were defeated on the other rink with a margin of 15 shots which resulted in a win to Toora with an overall score of 55/54 shots.

Individual rink scores were as follows: Marj Pearson skip (Leongatha) was defeated by Beth Curran skip (Toora) 11/26 shots.

Susan Symmons skip (Leongatha) defeated Lynnette Hewson skip (Toora) 26/18 shots.

Carol Harry skip (Leongatha) defeated Wilhelmina Low skip (Toora) 18/11 shots.

Round 13 of the weekend competition was played in warm conditions with very strong winds that made bowling difficult. Leongatha in the Division 1 contest against Wonthaggi lost the battle across all three rinks.

The overall score was 47/54 shots.

Individual rink scores were as follows:

Anthony Collier skip (Leongatha) was defeated by Benjamin Mattock skip (Wonthaggi) 16/17 shots.

Paul Michael skip (Leongatha) defeated Frank Seaton skip (Wonthaggi) 24/15 shots.

John Hall skip (Leongatha) was defeated by Bryan Donohue skip (Wonthaggi) 7/22 shots.

Leongatha's Division 2 side was at home to Korumburra Bowls Club, where it recorded a comfortable overall final score of 59/50 shots and the individual rink scores were as follows:

Ron Symmons skip (Leongatha) defeated James Garnham skip (Korumburra) 20/17 shots.

Rod Jackson skip (Leongatha) was defeated by Robert Sund skip (Korumburra) 15/20 shots.

Vito Serafino skip (Leongatha) defeated Ross Lomagno skip (Korumburra) 24/13 shots.

Leongatha Bowls Club's Division 4 side celebrated success against a side from Inverloch.

which was the host club. Leongatha won on two rinks but the new skip who won his rink last Saturday discovered what it is like to lose a contest.

The overall score was 47/60.

Individual rink scores were as follows:

Jennifer Haydon skip (Inverloch) was defeated by Susan Wakefield skip (Leongatha) 8/25 shots.

Terry Orford skip (Inverloch) defeated Alan Moxey skip (Leongatha) 23/13 shots.

Ted Breasley skip (Inverloch) was defeated by John White skip (Leongatha) 16/22 shots.

Midweek Pennant has two rounds to complete the draw and the Division 1 side has a slim chance of playing in the finals. Saturday Pennant has one round to complete the season and the Division 2 side will be hoping that a berth in the finals may be possible with a stroke of luck.

Bankers is still being played on Saturday and new bowlers are most welcome.

To date, the club has recruited 18 new bowlers, which is a result of the Bankers program that is being run by the volunteers who have relinquished their time to oversee the project.

On Thursday, February 15, the Ladies Invitation Triples is on the program and late entries will be accepted.

South Gippsland Homes have sponsored a Triples event to the tune of \$650 prize money which will be held on Saturday, March 23.

Single entries only.

The event will be open to Bare Foot Bowlers, Try Bowls attendees and club members only.

MIDWEEK BOWLS

IT was another lovely summer day as 45 of the family of bowlers were welcomed to San Remo for an exciting day.

There were lots of happy bowlers, lots of laughter and quite a bit of friendly banter as usual.

It is so good to be able to have such fun with your friends every week.

A big thank you to the members who got up and helped Peter get everyone on the green, not forgetting Pauline and John who are always there.

A big thank you also to the members who helped Gwen in the kitchen.

It was great to see the men and women both helping out.

The group is so lucky to have these volunteers.

Thanks should also go to Hayden in the bar – what would the bowlers do without the bar volunteers?

This week's winners on 38 points were Phil Wright (S),

Chris Brooks (3), Derek Fenn (2) and Margaret McConville (L).

Runners up on 37 points were Vern Elliott (S), Nick Sheers (3), Frank D'Univille (2) and Tony Morris (L).

Best One Game on 21 points were Peter McWilliams / Lindsay Russell (co skips), Chris Coulson (3), Bev Elliott (2) and Claire Sheers (L).

Next week, the bowlers will be meeting at Koo Wee Rup where they will be playing the final game prior to the club house being replaced, so everyone will look forward to this historic visit with some sadness.

However, as always, the group asks that all bowlers be on site by 10am to allow the hard-working Peter time to arrange the teams.

Until then, the group wishes its members a safe week and also a successful week in pennant.

Good luck.

WONTHAGGI

IT was another busy week at the club.

Tuesday saw Division 1 travel to Inverloch on a fine sunny day, with a slight breeze.

Wonthaggi was able to play well in all three rinks to record a solid win.

The final scores Wonthaggi 66 Inverloch 51.

Division 2 travelled, in the other direction, to San Remo looking for a win to keep second spot on the ladder. One rink had a good win, another a narrow loss, while another didn't have a good day.

The final scores Wonthaggi 56 San Remo 57.

Wonthaggi was still able to stay in second place, even with a loss.

Tuesday night saw the final night of Bare Foot Bowls with a good turnout in perfect weather.

The winners of the shield were the Funny Farm consisting of Bret, Becky and Grant.

They now have their names on the shield, which started in 2005, as well as a voucher from the Wonthaggi Club.

Wednesday saw the Turkey Triples played in perfect weather with both greens full, which is a great result for the club.

There were two teams that were four game winners, with the winners being an all-girl team from Wonthaggi and Phillip Island. They were Joy Phillips and Caroline Donohue from Wonthaggi with Robyn Dennis from Phillip Island, with a score of four wins and 26 shots up.

The runners up were a team from Phillip Island being Mark Hone, Peter Forrest and Ewen Wilson with a score of four wins and 16 shots up.

Best game overall went to the Arthur Newsome team from Tarwin,

with a score of 19 shots up.

The naba award, which is a cap from the Wonthaggi Club, went to team from Tarwin.

Thursday, once again, was a success with a good number to enjoy the good weather.

Saturday saw Division 1 travel to Leongatha on a fine sunny day, with a breeze to keep the bowlers on their toes.

All rinks had a battle against a team that were intent on finishing the season off with a couple of wins.

The final scores Wonthaggi 54 Leongatha 47.

Division 2 played host to San Remo at home, looking for another win to keep their march to the finals on track.

All rinks played well to record a solid victory.

The final scores Wonthaggi 72 San Remo 51.

Division 3, looking to finish the season off with a good performance, played Tarwin at Wonthaggi.

All rinks had a tough battle against Tarwin who are top of the ladder.

The final scores Wonthaggi 42 Tarwin 67.

Division 4 travelled to Loch looking for a win to keep their finals hopes alive.

All rinks played well to record a solid victory.

The final scores Wonthaggi 60 Loch 54.

Ladder positions: Division 1 third, Division 2 fifth but on equal points to fourth, Division 3 eighth and Division 4 fifth.

Bowls this week: Tuesday Pennant, Wednesday social bowls at 1pm, Thursday social bowls at 10am, Friday coaching at 10am and Saturday Pennant, which is the last round before the finals.

Have a good week and good bowling.

WONTHAGGI INDOOR

IT was a great week of bowling with most of the members back after the break.

There was a total of 48 players – 23 on Tuesday and 25 on Friday – with everybody enjoying one another's company. Tuesday's winners with a plus 16 were Pat Smith, Mary Spooner and Brian Newman.

Runners up on plus 13 were Pat, Thelma Kavanagh and Pam Russell.

Friday's winners on plus 19 were Lia Smith, Judy Sweetnam and Helen Rook.

Runners up on plus five were Rhonda Rattenbury, Sylvia Mattock, Fred Demenech and John Rook.

All teams on both days won two games each.



Korumburra's Under 10 boys celebrate their grand final win.

Wildcats taste junior tournament success

KORUMBURRA Wildcats proved successful at last month's Eltham Dandenong Junior Basketball Tournament, winning boys and girls grand finals across multiple age groups.

The Wildcats girls and boys enjoyed success in the Under 14s action, with the Korumburra boys defeating one of Sandringham's sides 58-

45 in B3 competition, while the girls triumphed 54-36 over another Sandringham outfit in B1 action.

Zac Fowles led Korumburra's scoring for the Under 14 boys grand final, registering 30 points with Karlroy Daming another strong contributor with 17 points.

Ruby Ogilvy topped the scoring for the triumphant

Under 14 Wildcat girls with 20 points, while Abi Derham was named the game's MVP and contributed six points.

Korumburra won the Under 12 girls decider in B3 competition, beating a Sandringham side 32-24.

Mylah Angwin led the way for the Wildcats as MVP and registered six points, while Jorge Chila topped the winning side's

scoring with 10 points.

As with the Under 14s, Korumburra had two grand final triumphs at Under 10s level.

The boys took out the C3 grand final by nine points, while the girls claimed the C section 14-9 over Warragul.

Lenny Whelan was MVP for the Under 10 boys, while Evie Rodwell earned that honour for the girls.



Korumburra Wildcats celebrate their Under 14 grand final win.

Registrations open for Deb Rielly Run for the Kids

SUNDAY March 10 is the date set for the Deb Rielly Run for the Kids. This event which is the re-branded Keeping Kids on Track Fun Run has been created to remember Deb Rielly and acknowledge the enormous contribution she made to Bass Coast and the broader community.

Deb who passed away in 2019 created the Keeping Kids on Track event to help encourage people to get active and enjoy our amazing environment. She was also passionate about helping young people and particularly focused on creating opportunities and support for the disadvantaged. The Deb Rielly Run for the Kids will continue this legacy with some of the proceeds going towards supporting these endeavours.

The 2024 event will be a relatively low-key affair that encourages as many



Get involved and have fun on March 10 as you raise monies to support the causes close to Deb Rielly's heart.

people as possible to get involved, have fun and reinforce Deb's legacy. The intention is to re-establish the event this year and in 2025 introduce more competitive elements that will include more distances up to a half marathon. Deb was a very competitive and accomplished endurance athlete, and these elements will help perpetuate her passion.

Starting and finishing at the main car park on the Kilcunda Foreshore it will include 2km, 5km and 10km runs and a family friendly walk that take in the Bass Coast Rail Trail and George Bass Walk. Prizes will be awarded for different age categories. Participants are also encouraged to form teams with a cash prize going to the team with the most

members.

The event will be organised by the Dalyston Football Netball Club with support from other community groups. For further information contact the event coordinator Frank Angarane on 0418 529310 or ontheroad3995@gmail.com To register go to raceroster.com/events/2024/85147-deb-rielly-run-for-the-kids

International competitors attracted to drone racing

DRONE racing featured in Ruby recently, with a four-day event over the Australia Day weekend attracting a strong field of competitors, including a couple of pilots from New Zealand.

"I discovered it through watching videos online, then got into deeper and deeper," he said of the sport.

He explained that Spec Racing is the better event for spectators, with restrictions limiting the speed of drones, helping viewers keep track of their progress.

While this year's Ruby event was held in front of just a few spectators, Samuel intends to promote next year's racing and to improve the viewer experience with a grandstand set up including Televisions and by making the drones more distinguishable.

Competitors average between 80-100 kilometres per hour, with the drones having a maximum speed in excess of 200 kilometres per hour.

Samuel explained that a combination of "lots of practice" and specialist controllers is required to negotiate the course.

While the drones are quite durable, crashing into one of the course gates can result in a write off.

"The scene is a lot larger in the US, so when the pilots get good here, they tend to travel there to compete on a bigger stage," Samuel said.

Local Bridge results

SOUTH GIPPSLAND

FRIDAY February 9 at Inverloch, seven tables competing

Master Point winners
North/South Pairs
1st John Currier & Neville Chapman 60.42 per cent.

2nd John Sutton & Phillip Chapman 58.63 per cent.

3rd Alan Johnston & Clive Hope 55.36 per cent.

East/West Pairs
1st Kathy Dowd & Anne Somerville 58.63 per cent.

2nd Mary Brewis & Carol Sowden 53.87 per cent.

3rd Denise Allott & Anne Green 52.68 per cent.

Tuesday February 6 at Wonthaggi, six tables

1st John French & Deb Anglim 60.74 per cent.

2nd Greg Nicholson & Jean Barbour 60.74 per cent.

3rd Julie Perriam & Anne Gibson 54.81 per cent.

4th Hannah Martin & Maureen Stiles 52.59 per cent.

5th Anne Somerville & Kathy Dowd 48.89 per cent.

PHILLIP ISLAND

SEVEN and a half tables competed on Mon-

south east Melbourne, having been involved in the sport for about three years, and is increasingly running events and competing at a high level.

"I discovered it through watching videos online, then got into deeper and deeper," he said of the sport.

He explained that Spec Racing is the better event for spectators, with restrictions limiting the speed of drones, helping viewers keep track of their progress.

While this year's Ruby event was held in front of just a few spectators, Samuel intends to promote next year's racing and to improve the viewer experience with a grandstand set up including Televisions and by making the drones more distinguishable.

As well as Victoria, there are races in Queensland, Perth and New Zealand.

While the top drone pilots receive sponsorship that provides their aircraft and associated equipment, they still have to fund their own travel.

"The scene is a lot larger in the US, so when the pilots get good here, they tend to travel there to compete on a bigger stage," Samuel said.

Local Bridge results

SOUTH GIPPSLAND

day February 5.

Hannah Martin and Maureen Stiles were first for North/South with a percentage of 61.31 followed in second place by Richard Poole and Molly Downing with 54.51 per cent. In third place Ruth Harvey and Ann Green with 52.08 per cent.

On Wednesday 7 in first place were Leng Haggith and Richard Poole with a score of 62.50 per cent.

In second place Marnie Myall and Caroline Shaw with 54.86 per cent followed in third place by Jill Short and Shirley Stewart with 54.35 per cent.

The weekend saw a number of members competing in the Eastern Region Bridge Congress at Paynesville. Results will be posted next week.

There has been some great interest in our Tuesday Night Social Bridge. Whether you are new to bridge, wanting to refresh your game or just feel like playing socially please join us.

Where: Phillip Island Bridge Club. Rear of Newhaven Hall, 23 Cleeland Street, Newhaven

When: Tuesday Nights 6.30 for 7.00 pm

Table Fees: \$5 per head
To assist us with organising tables, or for more information please ring Jill Short on 0438248578.

The Rampaging Kookas find a way to win in Inv

OVER 60s

THE RAMPAGING Kookas made their way to picture perfect Inverloch Turf (thanks to super curator Shaun Hayes and Mitch Woods for the superb wicket, facilities and hospitality as usual).

The Ringwood Woodchoppers won the toss and chose to face a fired up Kookas bowling battalion.

Master blaster Pieter Loos and ol' Grayza Wighty took the new pill and kept it tighter than the South Gippy 2024 Budget?

Early pegs then began to tumble. Skipper Peter Maestro Miller was making more moves than Taylor Swift (who is that?) at tumurals Super Bowl!

And it worked! Best of a laser like bunch included Robbie flight merchant Francis 2/23, ol' Grayza Wighty 1/6, Geoff "do it for sunderland" Burnie 1/20 and with a newly installed hip, Mr Cricket Gary Adams bowling with serious heat and swerve, 1/20.

The Woodchoppers being Chain sawed down to 7/135!!

After a Glen Alvie like lunch and that's 10 out of 10, Mr Australia Millzy and wonderful Warrick Hayes began the chase like it was five minutes before the bank closed!

Millzy blazing a 35 not out off a lazy 40 balls and Wazza waltzing to a breezy 18 not out.

Ol' Grayza Wighty chipped in for 19 not out and Tony Tonkarama Lathan a sublime 28. But then a Tasmanian Tiger came round the Corner.

The Kookas proceeded to lose wickets faster than Trumpty racks up court cases!

Going from 1/13 to 7/118!!!??

Enter Andrew Smith using espionage to get a very smart nine and Geoff Burnie - well was Winston Churchill like on 9 not out.

Millzy returned to take the Kookas over the line 8/140 Phew!

Ol' Grayza Wighty was awarded the Man of the Match.

Well a mega game between two greats sets of young fellas had by all!!

We are closing in on the seasons end and the Kookas will be looking to continue fun, freedom and win most of the time, while always loving our cricket in what is a wonderful, mobile Mens Kooka Shed.

Funds for cricket clubs on offer

THE Nationals Member for Gippsland South, Danny O'Brien, is encouraging local cricket clubs to throw their hat in the ring for a share of the Australian Cricket Infrastructure Fund.

Mr O'Brien highlighted that the program, jointly funded by Cricket Victoria, Cricket Australia and the Australian Cricketers Association, is open to all cricket clubs, cricket associations, schools, local government and cricket facility managers.

"This fund provides grant opportunities across a number of project areas from minor expenditures to major upgrades," Mr O'Brien said.

"The minor category funds projects up to \$15,000, while the major category funds projects up to \$40,000."

"I strongly encourage our local clubs who are looking for ways to fund their wishlist projects to get their applications in and take advantage of Cricket Australia's current funding round."

"Local clubs can contact my office on 5144 1987 or email me at danny.obrien@parliament.vic.gov.au to arrange a letter of support for their application."

Applications are open now and close Sunday, 24 March 2024. For more information or to make an application visit cricketvictoria.com.au/clubs-support/grants.

Big day in Outtrim this Saturday



OMK Pink Stumps Day organiser Andrea Curtis with Amy White who has driven the event throughout most of its nine-year existence. A22_0724

OUTTRIM Recreation Reserve is set to host OMK's renowned Pink Stumps Day this Saturday February 17, celebrating nine years of the club raising funds for the McGrath Foundation.

While the 250-head luncheon is sold out, everyone is encouraged to support the event and enjoy a day of cricket action.

In the lead up to the day, OMK is running an online auction with over 90 lots, which continues until 8pm game eve on Friday night.

Check out the OMK Cricket Club Pink Stumps Day Facebook page to see what is up for grabs, with all items in the Album titled '2024 - OMK Cricket Club Pink Stumps Day Online Auction'.

Bids can be placed in the Facebook comments section for each item.

There are multiple raffles taking place, a general one offering around 20 prizes with

ticket sales continuing through until Saturday.

The main prize is a stay at Smiths Beach on Phillip Island.

To buy general raffle tickets online, visit the OMK Cricket Club Pink Stumps Day Facebook page and select 'OMK Cricket Club Pink Stumps Day' option in the 'Featured' section at the top of the page, then 'get tickets', then Add-ons.

General raffle tickets are \$5 for three or \$2 each.

There are two other raffles for which tickets are \$25 each, with each raffle limited to 200 tickets, one offering the chance to win a Thermomix and the other a Dyson Air Wrap.

Visit trybooking.com then click on 'explore events' and search for OMK to access ticket sales for these two specialist auctions.

Play in the OMK Pink Stumps Day cricket match commences at 1pm.

A win for United U14 against Kingston City

THERE is an old adage in football, "you play the way you train."

After coming off the back of a tough loss last week the United U14s hit the training track with enthusiasm and purpose during the week, concentrating on areas of their game that had let them down against Dandenong Thunder in Round One of the grading period.

The rewards for the hard work on the training track were evident from kick off versus Kingston FC in warm conditions at Latrobe City Stadium.

The team controlled play and started to work as a solid unit from the get go, with some impressive work down back

from Cooper Anderson, Indy Whiting and Taolin McNeil.

Whist controlling large passages of play for the majority of the first half, United did not hit the score board until just before the whistle blew for halftime, with Addison Greig putting one in the back of the net after a great build-up.

After a positive halftime chat from Coaches John McQuade and Al Noppert the team took the field full of confidence and vigor. With four minutes gone in the second half Clay McCann-Diston put one away to extend United's lead to 2-0.

The team's momentum was temporarily halted when Kingston FC capitalised on

an error between the United keeper and centre backs that resulted in an easy goal to the travelling team.

Kingston now had a bit of a sniff and came hard for a good five minutes, putting the pressure on across the park. A captain's goal was needed for United and young Patrick Hermans stepped up and delivered in the 48th minute, steadying the ship for the home team.

From there it was down breeze sailing for United with Oakleigh Noppert scoring in the 52nd minute and then Addison Greig putting away another in the 58 minute to give himself a brace for the day.

Special mention to the midfield engine room that worked tirelessly in hot conditions, remaining composed and distributing the ball to feet or creating chances for the majority of the match.

United closing out the game 5-1 winners on the day.

But now the attention turns to next weekend as they face off against Academy team Melbourne City, another big week on the training track beckons.

Other results vs Kingston City:

GUFC U15 lost 1-2
GUFC U16 lost 2-4
GUFC U18 lost 0-2

Underdog Knights threaten upset in Wodonga

By Bethany Milkins

FOR the first time in club history, Leongatha Knights FC entered the Australia Cup, a knockout competition played across the nation, beginning with preliminary stages in each state.

All clubs from across Victoria are eligible to enter the preliminary rounds.

A live draw televised on YouTube by Football Victoria resulted in the Knights taking on Wodonga outfit Twin City Wanderers to be hosted in Wodonga.

Despite the significant travel distance, the Knights, with the help of some generous anonymous donations from two incredible individuals, were able to organise and fund their trip to Wodonga to take on Twin City on Saturday February 10.

The game was hosted at the Latrobe University Campus in Wodonga.

Leongatha Knights started the match strongly with dominant possession and a high press.

In the ninth minute of play, new recruit Richard Benedict attacked from the right wing, successfully passing to striker Jethro Alison whose shot on goal was deflected by the opposition keeper right to the feet of Knights midfielder Ethan



Leongatha Knights defender Jack Bainbridge shuts down his Twin City opponent.

Bath who slammed it home in the top left corner of the goal to put the underdog Knights in the lead.

With soaring temperatures and limited substitutions, the Knights were put under pressure in a game they knew would challenge them this pre-season.

Following the first mandatory drinks break, the home team settled into play and began to speed up their game, opting for long balls to their forward line and a more physical approach to midfield play.

A quality ball played to their striker caught the Knights off guard and saw Twin City secure a goal, putting the teams even at 1-1 going into half time.

The beginning of the second half saw even play from both teams as the ball played from eighteen yard line to eighteen yard line.

Twin City picked up its attack, putting the Knights backline under constant pressure.

John Stephen and Ed Benedict put on a defending masterclass as they chased down through balls. Jack Bainbridge kept the opposition's strong winger under control, consistently denying him attacking space.

It was a counter attack by Jethro Alison who was fouled in the 90th minute that awarded Leongatha a potentially game winning penalty.

Captain Sven Gebele calmly secured the lead for the Knights in the dying minutes of the game by sending the penalty into the net.

However, in the last minute of additional time a foul was called for the opposition resulting in a penalty being converted and sending the game into 30 minutes of extra time.

A second yellow for one of the Twin City defenders saw the Wanderers reduced to 10 men on the pitch and Leongatha eyeing the advantage and pressing their attack.

However, a brave attack by the home side in the second half of extra time saw another penalty granted and converted by Twin City, putting it in the lead.

The Knights fought valiantly to the end and had several chances on goal.

However, they were unable to secure the goal needed to get them to penalties and finished the game just shy of the win.

A massive congratulations to the Leongatha Knights FC senior men's team on an extraordinary game that proved them competitors to watch.

A huge thank you to the supporters who made the trip and to legendary bus driver Colin for getting the team there and back.

Women's grand final rematch set to be nail-biter

REIGNING premiers the Inverloch Stingettes will go head-to-head against Koonwarra L/RSL in a grand final rematch that promises to be a thriller.

The grand final will be held at Leongatha's Scorpion Park on Sunday, February 18, at 10am.

Koonwarra L/RSL is going into the match determined to show how far the team has come since last year, having lost to Inverloch in the 2022/23 grand final.

"I imagine it will be as intense as last year. We ended up second on the ladder this year. We won all of our games, except against Inverloch," Koonwarra L/RSL team manager Mel Buckley said.

"Our team has definitely improved. Players from last year have certainly improved and

we've acquired new players this season who continue to show big improvements."

Mel said the team trained consistently all season, with a few additional trainings on the calendar in the lead up to finals.

Koonwarra L/RSL paved its way into the grand final after a nail-biting semifinal against Leongatha Town.

"The back end of the season has been pretty tough, and we are anticipating a thrilling grand final against a strong team," Mel said.

Mel said Koonwarra L/RSL had enjoyed some fantastic games throughout the season.

"Our team's philosophy is about having fun, but we have enjoyed the wins that have come our way," she said.

"We are pretty lucky this competition started. It has

been a wonderful experience and it's great to have so many people getting around it."

Over in Inverloch, the Stingettes have enjoyed an exciting season and are looking forward to the challenge of the grand final ahead.

"It's been a great season – it was a lot of fun," Inverloch's team manager Jackie Newmann said.

"We've seen great improvement and enjoyed having five new players on our side."

"We played (Koonwarra L/RSL) once during the season and it was close. We only won by 13 runs, so we are expecting the grand final is going to be an excellent match. They have some really skilled players, and so do we."

Inverloch has trained together throughout the season and launched its preseason

back in June with a few sessions at the indoor cricket centre in Korumburra.

Jackie said the standard of competition improved greatly this season.

"We had two new teams – Leongatha and Phillip Island – and it was amazing to see them both make the finals. Leongatha lost its semifinal against Koonwarra L/RSL by two runs, which goes to show the level of skill amongst the clubs," she said.

"It's also been great to see young girls getting involved and finding pathways to further enhance their skills. I encourage everyone to come down to the grand final on Sunday to support the girls. Leongatha is going to put on a good show with a barbecue, it's going to be a really great day."

Goannas toppled by Geelong

OVER 50s

THE Gippsland Goanna's Over-50 cricket team faced off against the highly credentialed Geelong Over 50's on Sunday at the Sale Oval.

The Geelong side called correctly and had little hesitation in nominating that they would bat first on what was a well-prepared hard and flat wicket.

Their openers pounced on anything that wasn't hitting middle stump giving several of the local bowlers a bit of tap along the way.

By the time the first retirement for the day occurred in the seventh over the visitors were already on 77, going at 11 an over and a score of more than 300 looked on the cards.

In the end, the Geelong side made its way to a respectable score of 218, the pick of the bowlers being Steven Rogers who finished with 2/9 from five overs.

Things started poorly for Gippsland as they fell below the required run rate early in the piece as the Dukes ball that was being used hooped around a little more than the conventional Kookaburra used by the Gippsland team.

Wickets fell in quick succession as Lind departed and was quickly followed by Geoffrey Kinnish who forgot that he was playing seniors cricket and took off for a suicidal single.

Rankin departed for 14, McDonald for 10, then Wells fell after a determined 23.

In the end, Gippsland fell well short being bowled out for a poor 93 in the 28th over, McDonald contributed 10, Malone five, Jones two and Rogers finished on seven not out to roll over and hand a finals appearance to the Geelong side.

Warrandyte had all the answers

OVER 70s

THE Gippsland Goannas Over-70 cricket team welcomed the Warrandyte Veterans to the lovely Yinnar cricket ground on Tuesday.

The weather was cool at the start and very pleasant throughout the day, while the wicket was playing beautifully!

Stand-in captain Dick Noble won the toss and the Goannas batted first.

Warren Dummett (17) and Garry Rose (4) opened the innings and batted safely till reaching 24 at the 11 over mark, when they were both retired.

Steve Lincoln and Anton Devent were next, with Devent bowled for four in the 15th over and Lincoln for 15 in the 20th over, when the score was 2/51.

Phill Higgins (eight retired), Wayne Tatton, one bowled, and Dick Noble, eight bowled, had taken the score to 4/71 after 24 overs.

Gordon Cowling joined Neil Meredith and this pair added a bit of respectability to the Goannas score card, taking the score to 124 when Merro was stumped for 39 (off 38 balls), trying to finish with a maximum.

Andrew Smith was next and he and Cowling added 28 in four overs, before Smith played around a straight one and was bowled for 15.

Ian Gibson made one, Barrie Nunn was two not out, and Cowling 40 not out (39 balls) as the innings came to a close at the end of 40 overs with the score on seven for 161.

Alan King (lbw Cowling) made a golden duck, John Ryan was bowled by Cowling for six in the fifth over to have Warrandyte 2/16.

The visitors with useful contributions from White 25, Baird 18, Charman 25, Pascoe 34, and Barnfield 26 kept them well on track.

When Denton was bowled in the 35th over the score was 5/155, with the winning runs coming from Noel Sharpe (12x) in the 37th over.

Cowling with 3/22 was the pick of the bowlers.

Next game for the Over-70 team is an away game against Yarra Valley on February 20.



Ian Southall attacks.

Goannas outplay Richmond Union in fine team effort

OVER 60s

THE GIPPSLAND Goannas Over-60 cricket team made the journey to Citizen's Park in Richmond on Sunday for the game against the Richmond Union CC Over-60 team.

As the Union team put in the stumps, cleared the fence around the pitch and put out the dog-off signs, Goannas captain Rino won the toss and decided to bat first.

The two Rays again opened the batting, with the Floyd partner hitting the second ball straight to the gully fieldsman.

The Goannas had decided to practice for the Echuca competition, where batters retire after 30 balls (or 40 runs, whichever comes first) and the bowlers only bowl six overs.

Mark Brown and Ray Smith both reached 30 balls, for 27 and 25 runs respectively, which brought Chris Devent and Ian

Gibson to the wicket.

The score had reached 70 after 10 overs, Devent was bowled for 13 from 15 balls and the score was 2/85 when the first drinks break was taken.

Gibbo and Murray Moore both retired, for 13 and 9 respectively, as Peter Anton increased the scoring rate with 21 from 22 balls.

The score was 3/131 in the 26th over.

Neil Meredith, 16 from 12, Ian Southall 19 retired, Gordon Cowling five from 9 and Rino Metlikovec, 28 not out from 18 balls, all helped take the score to 5/223 after the 40 overs.

32 Extras, including 22 byes, might well be the difference between the teams.

The weather was not too hot, and the breeze pleasant as Cowling and Anton opened the attack after the lunch break.

There was little help from the

pitch, which did at times play low, and the score was 1/15 in the fourth over as Anton bowled Scott Longley.

The first few batsmen were quite hard hitting as the score reached 49 after eight overs.

Moore and Southall were brought into the attack as Former District One batsman Jeff James, and Tony Balcombe (40 from 31 balls) hit anything loose before Southall bowled James for 39 from 45 balls.

These two bowled their six overs straight, and Southy bowled former NM footballer Alan Jarrott for nine as the score reached 3/107 after 20 overs.

Rowan Compagnoni also hit hard for 41 from 35 balls, as Meredith and Devent were the next two bowlers.

One of CD's overs went for 22 runs as the score reached 154 after 27 overs, and only 70 runs were needed from 13

overs, with an old ball, but on a wearing track.

Cowling replaced DeVent and had immediate success, bowling Rex Bennett for one, as Merro completed his six overs for 25 runs.

DeVent took a good catch at square leg to dismiss Kim Boehm for 23 from 30 in Cowling's next over, Ray Smith replaced him and Anton returned.

He induced a high mishit from Andy Hansen and Smith took a very good running catch, and then had Kevin Anderson lbw in the same over.

The finisher was brought into the attack and bowled one ball which hit Watsford's leg stump as Richmond were all out for 190 in the 37th over.

It seems that Geelong are unable to bring any teams to Gippsland next weekend, so the next games for the Goannas will not be for two weeks.



Inverloch's Christian Terlich sends a delivery to the Nyora batsman at the Inverloch Recreation Reserve.



Inverloch bowler Archie Terlich bowls to Nyora's Ben Pugh.

C GRADE

Nyora 4/145 d Inverloch 115

Nyora - 1st INNINGS: J Knox 15, L Brock 30, K Linford 44, B Pugh 23, A Linford 15, KWurzbacher 1*, D Blackney 0*
Bowling: A Hall 0/11, C O'Flynn 1/16, M Marston 1/23, W Chapman 1/19, A Terlich 0/24, C Terlich 0/27, J Mottram Carter 0/10, M Dugard 1/0

Phillip Island 7/208 d

Koonwarra L/RSL 101

Koonwarra L/RSL - 1st INNINGS: S Paterson 0, A Thorne 38, A Boxall 17, A Stanley 13, T Collins 0, K Thorne 11, A Piksons 0, S Chadwick 5, J Geary 0, R Collins 5, C Riseley 3*
Bowling: P Cleary 5/25, S Sirirathnage 1/17, J Johnston 0/23, P Francis 4/33

MDU 8/209 d Korumburra 144

Korumburra - 1st INNINGS: N Belvedere 28, R Belvedere 46, E Belvedere 19, C Gooch 30*, J Douglas 0, Z Brady 0, L Gallagher 4, G Edwards 0, J Townley 0, J Foster 0, H Jefferis 0
Bowling: D Feild 1/40, C Schwennesen 0/10, C Prosser 0/11, S Riley 4/44, R Prosser 4/16, H Cocksedge 0/9, L Webb 0/5, C Webb 0/5
MDU - 1st INNINGS: D Thomas 22, T Bright 26, D Feild 12, H Cocksedge 35, M Le Page 35, W Cocksedge 16*, C Prosser 3, R Prosser 10, L Webb 10
Bowling: J Douglas 0/47, N Belvedere 1/21, G Edwards 0/40, E Belvedere 2/11, H Jefferis 1/17, O Maskell 1/16, L Gallagher 1/26, J Foster 1/5, J Townley 1/17, R Belvedere 0/3

Town d-5/238 d Kilcunda-Bass 218

Kilcunda-Bass - 1st INNINGS: K McLean 50, P Miller 12, J Dickson 22, A Quilty 14, P Cornelis 33, J Huckett 36, A Joseph 6, E Magnussen 20, J Huckett 1, J Matser 0, C Reilly 0*
Bowling: C Dowling 3/41, T Strybosch 3/58, H Livingstone 0/28, P J Kalookkaran 1/24, Y Ratnaike 1/16, L May 1/16, M Carter 0/16, P Carter 1/9
Town - 1st INNINGS: N Hodges 33, T Cashin 103, A Aeschlimann 2, L May 51, M Carter 14, T Strybosch 21*, Y Ratnaike 0*
Bowling: A Joseph 1/80, P Cornelis 1/42, E Magnussen 0/25, J Dickson 1/22, A Quilty 0/18, C Reilly 0/27, J Matser 2/19

Glen Alvie - BYE



Keith Linford top scored with 44 runs for Nyora on Saturday.

Nyora outclasses Inverloch

C GRADE

NYORA sailed passed Inverloch's score and quickly won the day at the Inverloch Recreation Reserve on Saturday.

Nyora's opening partnership of Jordan Knox and Lincoln Brock continued where they left off last week and went on to make 15 and 30 runs respectively.

When Brock was dismissed at 1/50, Keith Linford entered and compiled a top score of 44 runs.

Ben Pugh contributed 23 runs and retired not out.

Amanda Linford finished it off with a final 15 runs.

Wickets were shared between four Inverloch bowlers – Callan O'Flynn, Matthew Marston, Wayne Chapman and Mia Dugard.

After 33.4 overs, Nyora had won the day with 4/145.

Phillip Island takes the win

PHILLIP Island proved to be too strong for Koonwarra L/RSL on Saturday.

Koonwarra L/RSL went into the weekend with its eye on Phillip Island's target – 7/208.

Opening bowler Adam Thorne put 38 runs on the scoreboard before he was dismissed LBW by Peter Francis.

This turned out to be the top score of the day, with Ashley Boxall, Alexander Stanley and captain Kevin Thorne later adding 17, 13 and 11 runs respectively.

Phillip Island bowler Peter Cleary had a day out, claiming 5/25.

Francis also gave the Cougars a hard time, taking 4/33.

The Cougars conceded defeat with a score of 10/101.

Town triumphant

LEONGATHA Town claimed victory over Kilcunda-Bass on Saturday.

Kilcunda-Bass won the toss and chose to bat on the first day of the two-day match, played the previous week.

Kevin McLean had Kilcunda-Bass off to a flying start with 50 runs.

Joel Huckett and Paul Cornelis contributed 36 and 33 runs respectively.

Town bowler Cameron Dowling and Travis Strybosch ensured the Sharks

were under pressure, each taking two wickets.

Kilcunda-Bass set Town's target at 10/218.

A whopping 103 run haul from Town's opening batsman Tim Cashin had Kilcunda-Bass under the pump on Saturday.

Opening batsman Nigel Hodges added 33 runs to the tally and Lochlan May contributed 51 runs, batting fourth in the order.

Kilcunda-Bass bowler James Matser had the best bowling figures, claiming 2/19.

Wickets were also taken by Ashley Joseph, Cornelis and Joel Dickson.

Town declared with a total of 5/238 after 35 overs.

MDU gives consistent performance

MDU proved to be too tough for Korumburra on Saturday.

Playing at the Dumbalk Recreation Reserve, Korumburra won the toss and elected to bat the previous week.

The opening partnership of Noah Belvedere and Robert Belvedere gave a strong start, accumulating 28 and 46 runs

respectively.

Clint Gooch later added 30 runs and was not out at the end of the innings.

However, MDU's bowling pressure kicked off from there, and six batsmen were dismissed for ducks.

MDU's Stephen Riley and Riley Prosser claimed the bowling honours, taking 4/44 and 4/16 respectively.

The other wicket was claimed by Daniel Field.

Korumburra finished its innings with 10/144.

MDU went into bat on Saturday.

It was a consistent innings, enough to overtake the Cobras' efforts.

Opening batsmen captain Dale Thomas and Tim Bright contributed 22 and 26 runs respectively.

Harper Cocksedge and Mark Le Page later stepped up to the wicket, each contributing 35 runs.

Evan Belvedere was Korumburra's top bowler, taking 2/11.

Other wickets were shared between six bowlers.

MDU won the match with a score of 8/209.

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Jobe Williams made 17 runs for Phillip Island in the B1 match.

Sharks bite Stingrays in top-of-table battle

B GRADE, DIVISION 1

PHILLIP Island was made to work hard to reach the 174-run target set by host Inverloch, completing the task with just three wickets remaining.

The Sharks began day two at Thompson Reserve on 0/19.

Inverloch's bowlers made early inroads when action resumed, dismissing Phillip Island openers Oliver Duggan (5 runs) and Sarith Angelo (21 runs).

Phillip Island skipper Kurt Lane backed up his opening day 3/27 bowling figures with a knock of 82, helping lay the platform for the Sharks' success.

Highlighting the extent of Lane's contribution with the willow, Angelo was the only other Phillip Island player to reach 20, Jobe Williams (17) and Tom Blackwell (16) delivering handy efforts.

Stingray John Richardson finished with an excellent 3/33 from 10 and a half overs.

Teammate John Bowring took a tidy 2/31 from 11 overs.

While a little expensive, with 2/41 from six overs, Cooper Newman accounted for Phillip Island skipper Lane and Henry Peppard.

Featured in Recognition Round during this clash, Inverloch's Dean Cashin wasn't called on to do too much, but acquitted himself well with a neat bowling contribution of 0/22 off eight overs.

Town's Bowman lacked batting support

WHILE Luke Bowman's score of 131 for Leongatha Town was just four runs less than Shane Dole's day one knock for Korumburra, nobody else stepped up with the bat for the Scorpions, the Cobras winning by 36 runs.

That highlighted the importance of number 10 batsman Mathew Olden's patient 34 on the opening day off 109 deliveries, helping Korumburra set Town a sterner target.

Apart from Bowman's stunning display, no other Scorpion managed a score greater than 13 runs, opener Archie Fixter and skipper Luke Ashton both falling on that total.

Scott Head proved the real

destroyer for Korumburra, claiming 6/72 from just under 21 overs and being damaging throughout Town's innings.

Head's scalps included the crucial Bowman, the game's top scorer Dole the man who snatched the catch.

On top of his batting efforts, Dole took 2/54 from 15 overs.

MDU outguns Imperials

MEENIYAN Dumbalk United began day two on 4/78, chasing Imperials' modest first innings total of 115, MDU building a 72-run lead before declaring seven down.

That advantage was built around two strong contributors, Mike Olden adding 32 to his opening day total before being dismissed for 82, with Tyrone Zukovskis later blasting 54 from 36 balls.

James Forrester led the Imperials bowling with 4/32 from 10 overs.

Imperials were again unconvincing second time around, managing 9/121 by the time stumps were drawn. Dallas McLennan (26 runs) and Clint Honeysett (23 runs) doing best.

Olden capped off a match to remember, headlining MDU's second innings bowling with 4/38 from 15 overs.

OMK grinds out win over Cougars

ADAM Trotto's brisk unbeaten 68 and a belligerent 65 from his skipper Robert Quaife helped guide OMK to a two-wicket win over Koonwarra Leongatha RSL which set a challenging target of 238 built around the opening day century of Sam Hughes.

Seven runs were still needed by OMK when Cougar Mitchell Scrimshaw removed Hayden James for a score of three, but Ben Maguire's unbeaten knock of eight, combining with Trotto, ensured victory for the Diggers.

Mitchell Scrimshaw was the leading wicket taker for the narrowly beaten Cougars, claiming 3/43 from his 12 overs.

Paris Buckley also gave Koonwarra L/RSL hope with his excellent 2/22 off 10 overs.

B GRADE, DIVISION 2

Kilcunda-Bass steadies to overtake OMK

A KNOCK of 59 from Steven Oates and an unbeaten 36 from Ray Gardiner helped Kilcunda-Bass surpass a modest Outtrim Moyarra Kongwak total despite the Sharks chase getting off to a shaky start.

OMK president Russ White struck three times to have Kilcunda-Bass at 3/29.

However, by the time Oates was dismissed the Kilcunda-Bass score had progressed to 122, the Sharks needing just seven more runs for victory.

OMK's bowlers still managed one more wicket, Robert Blackney sent on his way by Ryan Wyatt without scoring, but Kilcunda-Bass prevailed by five wickets.

OMK's day one innings was highlighted by Scott Handley's 40 and George Lomagno's 28 not out, with Darcy Clay's 4/42 off 18 overs a major factor in ensuring Kilcunda-Bass wouldn't have to chase too many on day two.

Glen Alvie's cruise to big win

GLEN Alvie's bowlers ensured the side's day one 255 run total was plenty, the chasing Foster batting lineup falling 117 runs short despite the Tigers being on their home pitch.

While six Foster players laid solid foundations by reaching double figures, none turned that effort into a big score, Jake Pilkington's determined 23 off 63 balls the Tigers' highest contribution.

Glen Alvie's Albert Russell had already dismissed Foster opener Brett Gay for 12 on day one and didn't prove easier to handle when action resumed, finishing with 4/39 from 16 overs.

He dismissed Foster's number three batsman Tim Garvey to begin the day two rot for the Tigers, also taking a catch off the bowling of Archie Moore to end the determined resistance of opener Brandon Busuttil on 15 runs from 87 balls.

Although there was much for

Glen Alvie to be pleased with, an extras tally of 32 indicates there is work to do.

That included 14 byes and 10 no balls.

McCausland century leads Island charge

PHILLIP Island already enjoyed a comfortable first innings lead entering day two and Daniel McCausland picked up where he left off, taking his score to 102 not out.

He progressed from his day one tally of 58, while his batting partner Tony Hornsby advanced from 56 before being dismissed for 76.

That Darren Scott wicket was the only damage the Korumburra bowlers inflicted on day two, with Phillip Island declaring three down with a 194-run first innings lead.

While no Korumburra player managed a large second innings score, four reached tallies in the twenties, a couple of those being unbeaten, as the Cobras made 6/140 by game's end.

Phillip Island skipper Tarryn Allan took an impressive 3/38 from 13 overs to lead his side's bowling figures in the second innings.

Checkley's starring role as Nerrena outguns Club

NERRENA'S imposing day one tally of 6/262, built around Scott Checkley's 142, proved well beyond Wonthaggi Club, the Redcaps prevailing by 73 runs.

That was despite David Britt's commendable 112 not out off 150 balls and his opening partner Luke Sibley's 40 for Club.

Justin Loris was the only other notable contributor for Wonthaggi, managing a score of 21.

The last three Wonthaggi batsmen to be removed fell for ducks, with a total of four of the lineup failing to trouble the scorers.

Checkley put man of the match status beyond doubt, backing up his batting heroics with 6-41 off 17 overs and being his side's only multiple wicket taker.

B GRADE

DIVISION 1

P-Island 7/174 d Inverloch 173

Phillip Island - 1st INNINGS:
O Duggan 5*, S Angelo 21*,
T Blackwell 16, K Lane 82, H Peppard 12,
A Finlayson 12*
J Williams 17, A Tolley 0, A Williams 4*.
Bowling: J Richardson 3/33, I Seuren
0/33, J Bowring 2/31, D Cashin 0/22,
C Newman 2/41, T Debono 0/9

Korumburra 247 d Town 211

Town - 1st INNINGS: A Fixter 13,
N Fixter 0, L Ashton 13, L Bowman 131,
N Hanly 8, C Bruce 8, F McLennan 4,
L Hickey 10, S Clark 6, D Goss 10*,
V Peiris 2
Bowling: M Olden 1/42, M Loader 0/5,
S Head 6/72, B Riddell 0/16, J Walsh 0/17,
S Dole 2/54, D Whelan 0/3

MDU 7/187 d

Imperials 115 & 9/121
MDU - 1st INNINGS: M Olden 82,
K Sinclair 9, W Prosser 5, J Bright 0,
G Cocksedge 0, C Hoober 22,
T Zukovskis 54, D Zuidema 7*
Bowling: I Bolge 0/38, K Gray 2/63,
C Bruce 0/19, J Forrester 4/32,
F Botha 0/7, M Reidy 1/22
Imperials - 2nd INNINGS: G Sauvarin 6,
C Bruce 7, J Forrester 0, F Botha 12,
C Reid 9, C Honeysett 23, D McLennan 26,
M Reidy 2, K Gray 18*, N McLennan 0,
I Bolge 2*
Bowling: Z Bright 2/45, M Olden 4/38,
K Brown 2/19, G Cocksedge 0/12,
C Hoober 1/2

OMK 8/240 d

Koonwarra L/RSL 7/237
OMK - 1st INNINGS: D Creed 22,
L Jones 16, J Hayes 3, N Wylie 35,
A Busana 1, A Trotto 68*, B Wyatt 9,
R Quaife 65, H James 3, B Maguire 8*
Bowling: L Read 1/45, P Buckley 2/22,
M Boswell 1/42, A Drury 1/42,
M Scrimshaw 3/43, A Hunt 0/11,
M Thomas 0/34

B GRADE

DIVISION 2

Glen Alvie 255 d Foster 138

Foster - 1st INNINGS: B Gay 12,
B Busuttil 15, T Garvey 11, A Pattle 17,
J Pilkington 23, Fill-in 18, S Webber 0,
W Roffey 4, N Samat 6, B Cripps 0*,
D Clearhan 0
Bowling: L McRae 1/12, A Russell 4/39,
D Hale 1/35, A Moore 1/21, N Thatcher
0/11, A Donohue 0/1

Phillip Island 3/275 d

Korumburra 9/81 & 6/140
Phillip Island - 1st INNINGS:
J Manning 21, T Asurumuni 56,
T Hornsby 76, D McCausland 102*,
D Ivey 11*
Bowling: D Scott 1/62, A Damon 0/21,
G Barrett 1/39, P Beadel 1/38, A Knight
0/26, S McKinnon 0/23, J Dunn 0/21,
C Turton 0/9, Fill-in 0/30

Korumburra - 2nd INNINGS:

P Beadel 7, C Turton 26, J Dunn 2,
D Scott 0, A Damon 22, G Barrett 18,
T Morrison 26*, Fill-in 29*
Bowling: J Tran 0/8, T Allan 3/38,
C Wilson 1/3, A Williams 0/46,
T Hornsby 0/4, D Womersley 1/10,
D McCausland 1/17, T Asurumuni 0/8

Kilcunda-Bass 5/132 d OMK 128

OMK - 1st INNINGS: R White 1,
J Greenwood 16, S Handley 40,
B Hayes 10, M Sawyers 3, B Furness 2,
G Lomagno 28*, P Harper 10, J Myors 4,
Michael Whiteside 0, Matt Whiteside 0
Bowling: R Duff 1/35, J Havetta 2/18,
D Clay 4/42, A McBride 2/22,
B Waldron 1/6

Kilcunda-Bass - 1st INNINGS:

B Joseph 16, B Walron 11, S Williams 0,
S Oates 59, R Gardiner 36*, R Blackney 0,
A Bedford 1*
Bowling: Michael Whiteside 0/14, R White
3/21, J Greenwood 0/4, S Handley 0/22,
M Sawyers 0/12, T Walker 0/13,
J Myors 1/8, B Furness 0/22, R Wyatt 1/4,
Matt Whiteside 0/6

Nerrena 6/262 d Club 9/189

Club - 1st INNINGS: L Sibley 40,
D Britt 112*, M Davey 0, J Loris 21,
C Prosser 8, C Fraser 2, L Ton 2, S Liddle 0,
J Shannon 0, M Sharp 0
Bowling: B Croatto 0/33, C Baudinette
1/54, S Checkley 6/41, R Checkley 1/31,
J Donohue 1/17, Fill-in 0/12

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LEONGATHA & DISTRICT CRICKET ASSOCIATION

A1: Jake Dennerley (Inverloch) 78 ; Mudassar Riaz (OMK) 6/56

A2: Lochlan McLean (Club) 132 ; Aaron Kaddatz (Nyora) 7/85

B1: Luke Bowman (Town) 131 ; Scott Head (Korumburra) 6/72

B2: David Britt (Club) 112* ; Scott Checkley (Nerrena) 6/41

C: Tim Cashin (Town) 103 ; Peter Cleary (Phillip Island) 5/25

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LADDERS

RD 12

| Team | Points | % | Team | Points | % | |
|----------------------------|--------|-------|--|--------|-------|--|
| A GRADE, Division 1 | | | | | | |
| Phillip Island | 102 | 1.903 | Nyora | 114 | 1.525 | |
| Town | 90 | 0.997 | Glen Alvie | 90 | 1.363 | |
| Club | 78 | 1.177 | Foster | 90 | 1.221 | |
| OMK | 66 | 0.957 | Koonwarra L/RSL | 84 | 1.263 | |
| Imperials | 66 | 0.890 | Kilcunda-Bass | 54 | 0.825 | |
| Korumburra | 66 | 0.668 | MDU | 54 | 0.783 | |
| Inverloch | 54 | 0.957 | Nerrena | 48 | 0.617 | |
| Nerrena | 54 | 0.839 | Club | 42 | 0.818 | |
| B GRADE, Division 1 | | | | | | |
| Phillip Island | 114 | 1.278 | OMK | 102 | 1.579 | |
| OMK | 102 | 1.574 | Nerrena | 102 | 1.480 | |
| Inverloch | 102 | 1.349 | Phillip Island | 90 | 1.283 | |
| Korumburra | 78 | 1.224 | Kilcunda-Bass | 78 | 1.400 | |
| MDU | 66 | 1.023 | Club | 66 | 1.123 | |
| Town | 54 | 0.804 | Foster | 54 | 0.689 | |
| Koonwarra L/RSL | 42 | 0.746 | Glen Alvie | 42 | 0.723 | |
| Imperials | 18 | 0.491 | Korumburra | 42 | 0.399 | |
| C GRADE | | | | | | |
| Nyora | 96 | 2.491 | Local cricket | | | |
| Town | 80 | 1.934 | South Gippsland and Bass Coast | | | |
| Phillip Island | 72 | 1.442 | Sentinel-Times | | | |
| Kilcunda-Bass | 60 | 0.918 | www.sgst.com.au | | | |
| Glen Alvie | 54 | 0.458 | | | | |
| MDU | 48 | 1.588 | | | | |
| Inverloch | 48 | 0.712 | | | | |
| Koonwarra L/RSL | 42 | 0.500 | | | | |
| Korumburra | 30 | 0.513 | | | | |

NEXT WEEKEND'S GAMES & UMPIRE APPOINTMENTS

RND 13 - SATURDAY
FEB 17 & 24

A GRADE, Division 1

| | | |
|--------------------------|-----------|-----------------|
| OMK v Korumburra | Outtrim | John Schelling |
| Club v Town | Won Turf | Ian Salmon |
| Imperials v Inverloch | Inv Turf | Graham Wightman |
| Nerrena v Phillip Island | Leon Turf | Ashleigh Stride |

A Grade, Division 2

| | | |
|-------------------------|-----------|-----------------|
| Club v Nerrena | McMahon | Ken Scrimshaw |
| Kilcunda-Bass v Foster | Bass 1 | Brad Phillips |
| MDU v Glen Alvie | Meeniyani | Les White |
| Nyora v Koonwarra L/RSL | Nyora | Warren Williams |

B GRADE, Division 1

| | | |
|------------------------|-------------|-----------------|
| Inverloch v Imperials | East Campus | Geoff Birnie |
| Korumburra v OMK | Kor Turf | Geoff Parkinson |
| Town v Koonwarra L/RSL | Scorpion 1 | No Umpire |
| P-Island v MDU | Newhaven | Neil Grahams |

B GRADE, Division 2

| | | |
|------------------------|------------|-----------|
| Phillip Island v Club | Rhyll | No Umpire |
| Glen Alvie v OMK | Glen Alvie | No Umpire |
| Foster v Kilcunda-Bass | Foster GC | No Umpire |
| Korumburra v Nerrena | Poowong | No Umpire |

C GRADE

| | | |
|----------------------------|--------------|----------------|
| Glen Alvie v Korumburra | Dalyston | Michael Heenan |
| Inverloch v Phillip Island | Inverloch | No Umpire |
| Town v Korumburra | Leongatha SC | No Umpire |
| Kilcunda-Bass v MDU | Bass 2 | No Umpire |
| Nyora - BYE | | |

Subject to Confirmation.

Any prospective umpires can contact
Jason O'Reilly 0439 688 575
or Geoff Wyatt 0413 081 136

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Town's Darcy Hume in action.

Town defend against outright win

A GRADE, DIVISION 1

KORUMBURRA won on first innings points but failed to secure an outright win against Leongatha Town on Saturday.

With a winning total of 9/156 secured on day one, Korumburra declared and sent Leongatha straight into bat its second innings.

Catches from Zachary Barrett dismissed the opening partnership of Darcy Hume and captain Jesse Giardina with only a few early runs on the board.

The dismissal of Hume allowed Amila Ratnaike to step up to the wicket and he scored 61 runs before he was caught and bowled by Thilakaratna Dilshan.

Ron Abeysinghe later top scored with 65 runs.

Levi Gooch gave a strong performance for the Cobras, taking 3/32.

Dilshan and Hemal Ratnayake were also multiple wicket takers.

Town declared at 8/224 after 54 overs.

The Cobras went into bat but fell short of the outright win by 70 runs.

It was a slow start to the innings with the openers Jacob Whiteside and Nedeesha Belpage both dismissed early with the score on six.

Dilshan went into bat and hit 32 runs before he was caught by Ratnaike.

Wickets were taken by Town bowlers Rhett Hume, Jack Hume and Abeysinghe.

Korumburra faced 18 overs and finished 4/56 at stumps.

Riaz overpowers Club

OMK bowler Mudassar Riaz tore through Wonthaggi Club's batting order, ensuring the Diggers' impressive score of 10/285 would not be reached. Riaz finished the innings having claimed 6/56.



Korumburra bowler Jacob Whiteside sends one down to Town captain Jesse Giardina.

For Club, Ryan Thomas top scored with 24 runs before he was caught by Cooper Quaife.

Alex Geyer and Fraser West were the only other batsmen to make an impact on the scoreboard, with 12 and 10 runs respectively.

OMK bowler Peter Dell also put the pressure on Club, taking 3/29.

Club lasted only 35.2 overs and were all out for 99.

Nerrena secure the victory

NERRENA stood firm and claimed the win over the Imperials on Saturday.

Opening the batting for the Red Caps, Hayden Funnell picked up from where he left off the previous week and added 22 runs to the scoreboard.

Captain Mitchell Clarke went on to top score with 66 runs and Tadgh Gannon contributed 37 runs.

Clarke was not out at the end of the innings.

Imps captain Jack Ginnane had the most bowling success, taking 2/22.

Other wickets were claimed by

Lachie Wright and Damon Ginnane. Nerrena was victorious with a final score of 4/159.

Sharks hold back the Stingrays

PHILLIP Island secured a comfortable win over Inverloch on Saturday.

Inverloch went into the weekend's match with its eye on the target of 9/209.

Inverloch's opening batsman Jack Butcher faced five balls and was dismissed for a duck.

The partnership of Wally Taberner and Andrew Donohue steadied the course for Inverloch and contributed 18 runs each.

Batting at number five, Jake Dennerley had Inverloch back in contention as he top scored with 78 runs.

A catch from Brodie Johnston dismissed him at 6/134.

Phillip Island bowler Shiran Ratnayake claimed the most wickets, taking 3/49.

Simon Kirton, Max Royal and Zac Brown took two wickets each.

Inverloch conceded to Phillip Island, ending its innings all out 164.



Glen Alvie's Stephen Kennedy was in perfect position to defend the delivery.

Nyora dominates in a high scoring clash

A GRADE, DIVISION 2

NYORA'S whopping 10/325 was too big of an ask for Wonthaggi Club.

Batting at first drop, Lochlan McLean gave it his all and ensured Club stayed competitive against a dominate Nyora side.

McLean made 132 runs before he was dismissed by Aaron Kaddatz.

Kaddatz proved to be the unstoppable force that helped secure the win for Nyora, taking an incredible 7/85.

Other wickets were taken by Aidan Simmons and Aaron Thompson.

Club's Jy Hull and captain Jason O'Reilly also made sound contributions to the scoreboard, hitting 44 and 42 runs respectively.

Club pulled up short with a final total of 9/293.

MDU stand its ground

MDU successfully defended its total of 10/181 against Kilcunda-Bass on Saturday.

Kilcunda-Bass suffered a slow start to the innings, with its first four batsmen dismissed before any could reach double figures.

Captain Jaydan Tregear stepped in to save the day, batting 54 before he was bowled by Steve Arnup.

Gregory Miller later contributed 31 runs before he was run out by Joel Sinclair.

Todd Smith also impacted the scoreboard with an additional 20 runs.

Arnup was MDU's star bowler, taking 3/26.

Mark Cantwell was the only other multiple wicket taker.

Kilcunda-Bass was unable to gain the momentum required and finished the day at 10/136.

Kennedy leads Cougars to win

FIVE wickets claimed by Jason Kennedy ensured Nerrena could not challenge Koonwarra L/RSL's score on Saturday.

Kennedy claimed 5/34, dismissing the top of Nerrena's batting order.

Nerrena's opening batsman James Kelly made 31 runs before he retired not out.

Joel Renden then added a further 30 runs before Shaun Sparks top scored with 44.

Twenty runs were also accumulated by William Croatto.



Club batsman Jai Williamson managed 48 runs in Saturday's match against Nyora.



Foster bowler Jake Best claimed 3/12 against Glen Alvie.

For Koonwarra L/RSL wickets also fell to Amad Mujtaba (2/10) and Nathan Trotto (1/21).

Cougars Captain James Rushton played his role well out on the field, taking three catches.

Nerrena ended its innings with a final score of 9/165.

Glen Alvie up to the challenge

GLEN Alvie breezed past Foster's tally at the Wonthaggi Recreation Reserve on Saturday.

Foster had set the challenge at 10/127 the previous week.

Glen Alvie's opening partnership of Matthew Donohue and Scott Peatling set Glen Alvie on the path

to victory.

Donohue made 64 runs before he was dismissed by a catch from Tex Dyson, and Peatling added 58 runs before he was caught by Harvey Griggs.

Vice captain Nathan Findlay was the only other batsman to crack double figures with 16 runs.

However, it was enough to secure the win for Glen Alvie.

Foster bowler Jake Best fought back against the Glen Alvie side, taking 3/12.

Wickets were also taken by Jack Weston (2/49), captain Josh Toner (1/19) and Griggs (1/11).

Glen Alvie won the game with a score of 7/166.

A GRADE

Korumburra 9/156 & 4/56

d Town 60 & d 8/224

Town - 2nd INNINGS

| | |
|------------------------------------|-------|
| Darcy Hume c: Z Barrett b: L Gooch |5 |
| Jesse Giardina c: Z Barrett | |
| b: J Whiteside | 14 |
| Amila Ratnaike c&b: T Dilshan | 61 |
| Josh Williams c: N Belpage | |
| b: T Dilshan | 4 |
| Ron Abeysinghe c: N Belpage | |
| b: H Ratnayake | 65 |
| DLMP Gallage c: ? b: L Gooch | 25 |
| P Jayasinghe c: T Dilshan | |
| b: H Ratnayake | 11 |
| Jack Hume b: L Gooch | 14 |
| PG Rajapakshage not out | 3* |
| Rhett Hume not out | 0* |
| Extras (4w, 3nb, 3lb, 2b) | 12 |
| Total 8 / 224 (54 Overs) | |

| | |
|--|--|
| Bowling: J Whiteside 9-2-43-1 (2nb), | |
| L Gooch 6-0-32-3, T Dilshan 18-4-42-2, | |
| N Belpage 7-0-30-0 (1w), H McNeil 3-0- | |
| 17-0, H Ratnayake 11-0-55-2 (3w, 1nb) | |
| Korumburra - 2nd INNINGS | |

| | |
|------------------------------------|----|
| Jacob Whiteside run out | 0 |
| Nadeesha Belpage c: J Giardina | |
| b: R Hume | 6 |
| Thilakaratna Dilshan c: A Ratnaike | |
| b: R Abeysinghe | 32 |
| Noah Christensen c&b: J Hume | 7 |
| Zachary Barrett not out | 4* |
| Hemal Ratnayake not out | 5* |
| Extras (1w, 1nb) | 2 |
| Total 4 / 56 (18 Overs) | |

| | |
|--|--|
| Bowling: PG Rajapakshage 6-2-11-0, | |
| R Hume 3-0-17-1, Jack Hume 2.3-1-9-1 | |
| (1w, 1nb), R Abeysinghe 4-1-17-1, | |
| DLMP Gallage 0.3-0-2-0, E Smith 1-1-0- | |
| 0, P Jayasinghe 1-1-0-0 | |

| | |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| Total 10 / 99 (35.2 Overs) | |
|-----------------------------------|--|

| | |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| Bowling: M Riaz 18-3-56-6 (2nb), | |
| Z Lamers 2-0-14-1 (2nb), P Dell 15.2- | |

| | |
|--------|--|
| 7-29-3 | |
|--------|--|

Phillip Island 9/209 d Inverloch 164

Inverloch - 1st INNINGS

| | |
|--|-----|
| Jack Butcher c: L Cleeland b: S Kirton | 0 |
| Walter Taberner c: K Beaumont | |
| b: M Royal | 18 |
| Andrew Donohue b: S Rathnayake | 18 |
| David Newman c: E Richards | |
| b: M Royal | 2 |
| Jake Dennerley c: B Johnston | |
| b: Z Brown | 78 |
| Jacob Strickland b: S Rathnayake | 5 |
| Jack Donohue c: B Johnston | |
| b: Z Brown | 13 |
| Callum Asbury b: S Rathnayake | 6 |
| Lewis Rankin run out: K Beaumont, | |
| L Cleeland | 1 |
| Jesse Dugard not out | 12* |
| Harry Butcher c&b: S Kirton | 10 |
| Extras (1w) | 1 |

| | |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| Total 4 / 164 (68.2 Overs) | |
|-----------------------------------|--|

| | |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| Bowling: S Kirton 12.2-3-22-2 (1w), | |
| T Niven 10-3-27-0, M Royal 10-2-25-2, | |

| | |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| H Womersley 4-3-1-0, S Rathnayake | |
| 23-9-49-3, Z Brown 9-1-40-2 | |

| | |
|---|--|
| 5 | |
|---|--|

A GRADE

MDU 181 d K-Bass 136

Kilcunda-Bass - 1st INNINGS

| | |
|-------------------------------------|----|
| Ben Rookes run out: T Sinclair | 9 |
| Aaron Conron b/w: S Bright | 0 |
| Ryley Duff c: ? b: Mark Cantwell | 5 |
| Matthew Grayson c: M McGrath | |
| b: A Richardson | 6 |
| Jaydan Tregear b: S Arnup | 54 |
| Todd Smith c: ? b: M Cantwell | 20 |
| Gregory Miller run out: J Sinclair | 31 |
| Jackson Baker c: ? b: S Arnup | 0 |
| Todd Stacey not out | 2* |
| Harrison Berry run out: T Sinclair, | |
| J Sinclair | 0 |
| Chris Peckett c: M McGrath | |
| b: S Arnup | 0 |
| Extras (2w, 1nb, 3lb, 3b) | 9 |
| Total 10 / 136 (58.4 Overs) | |

| | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| Bowling: S Bright 17-9-15-1, | |
| M Cantwell 6-5-27-2 (1w), | |
| A Richardson 6-2-16-1, Jake Palmer | |
| 5-11-0, M McGrath 3-0-14-0 (1nb), | |
| S Arnup 7.4-1-26-3 (1w), M Hooper | |

| | |
|----------|--|
| 5-0-21-0 | |
|----------|--|

Koonwarra L/RSL 235 d Nerrena 9/165

Nerrena - 1st INNINGS

| | |
| --- | --- |
| Dave Trotman c: J Rushton | |

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Biggest lineup ever in a Victorian Aquathon

AFTER nearly forty years of taking the San Remo Channel Challenge Aquathon from its humble beginnings as an event with 57 competitors in 1986, the organisers from the Woolamai Beach SLSC and the Bass Coast Shire have finally realised their goal of having 700+ competitors enter the 2024 event thirty-eight years later and we saw the biggest lineup of participants ever in a Victorian Aquathon lined up on the San Remo foreshore last Saturday.

How proud would those two veterans – Lyall Williams and Dennis Harris – the inaugural founders of the iconic Channel Challenge, have been if they were still here to see the record number of nearly 750 competitors lined up on the beach to tackle the swim across to Newhaven followed by the run back over the bridge to finish at the San Remo Hotel, which is still owned by Lyall's family.

The almost perfect conditions attracted competitors from as

far afield as Albury and Canada, plus a team of elite triathletes from the Victorian Institute of Sport, and the 38th staging of the event saw entries exceed the previous record by more than a hundred, similar to what happened at Cape Paterson for the first leg of the Bass Coast Series three weeks ago. After six years of disruptions from weather and the COVID epidemic the organisers were blessed with an ideal date, time of day and most importantly a sunny sky and mild breeze. We now hope to see the Cowes Classic and Little Penguin Dash events also up in numbers on March 2.

Entries poured in over the last three days and many prospective entrants had to be turned away when they failed to register online by the cutoff time on Friday evening. It is now believed the Channel Challenge could become a capped event with a limit of somewhere in the 700 – 800 range and entries will be taken on a 'First In, First Served'

basis and that will make the job far easier for the organising committee.

Discussions will take place based on the aspects of water safety management, the limited space at the start, congestion on the track and stairs to the transition area and a decision will be based on what number can be managed properly while also maintaining 100% safety conditions for the competitors.

The race briefing was well conducted by race referee, Graeme Burgan, with the assistance of John Dickie as guest starter, and there was a huge cheer when the announcement of the new category for the O/60 competitors was announced. Graeme and the official timing guru, Geoff Nield, picked the change of tide perfectly and sent off the four waves at one- and two-minute intervals, with the biggest wave being the 230 female competitors in their pink caps.

Continued page 45



Bass Coast Deputy Mayor Cr Rochelle Halstead with winner Callum McClusky. Photos: Snapshot Photography by Nici Cahill.

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