



THE ANGST in the Loch community following another fatal accident at the intersection of South Gippsland Highway with Loch-Poowong Road on Wednesday is palpable, a petition calling for safety improvements there attracting over 300 signatures in the space of a day.

South Gippsland Shire Councillor Nathan Hersey and Member for Gippsland South Danny O'Brien are continuing their fight for action, both having written to the Minister for Roads and Road Safety Melissa Horne after a previous fatality at the intersection late last year.

Both received a response indicating there would be vegetation clearing at the location in mid-February and that a safety review of the intersection would be conducted by the Department of Transport and Planning.

However, no date was provided for that assessment to take place.

"I would now encourage the Department (of Transport and Planning) to expedite that assessment in light of another tragic accident, to see what more could be done to improve safety at this intersection," Mr O'Brien said, with some vegetation clearing the only action so far.

Cr Hersey was moved by a message received from the daughter of the man who lost his life in Wednesday's accident.

"Hopefully they'll listen to your concerns now," the lady said, expressing her sadness that action wasn't taken previously to improve the safety of the intersection.

Cr Hersey is determined to ensure the impact of the fatalities on the community of Loch and surrounds is clear to those in Spring Street.

"A lot of people are touched by these two fatalities in a way that maybe doesn't resonate in an office situation but it does in communities, so I need to try and get that message across," he said.

He stressed that many locals witnessed Wednesday's incident and its tragic aftermath, including first responders and other residents.

Cr Hersey said locals are frustrated by a lack of sufficient action after last year's fatality at the intersection, despite having shared their concerns with him and Mr O'Brien, both of whom raised the need for safety improvements with the Victorian Government.

"I've had a phone call from a local resident who said, 'I'm about ready to go down there with a chainsaw and cut those trees down myself', so I'd say it's a level of frustration that response is coming so rapidly," he said.

Issues with the line of sight at the

intersection are one of the concerns Cr Hersey has raised previously, particularly for those turning out of Loch-Poowong Road onto the South Gippsland Highway.

"Cars are on you before you realise what's happened," he said.

He identified the bend in the road and trees as a couple of factors that make it impossible to see rapidly approaching highway traffic in time, with the highway speed limit being 100km/h.

"My view is that a slowing of traffic at the intersection when vehicles are approaching from the side roads is the very least that can happen, as well as immediately fixing the damaged guardrail, the guide ropes and also fixing up the line markings at the intersection as well as the trees," Cr Hersey said.

He stressed that while not all drivers would slow down when the side road triggered speed limit reduction is displayed, it would still act as a valuable warning for highway drivers approaching the intersection.

"It does get your attention and you do have to look, ok something's happening here, which can be the difference between life and death," Cr Hersey said.

Caylie Holtz initiated the petition calling for action at the intersection.

Continued page 3



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**PRICE FREEZE**

# Local volunteer efforts clean up well before government help

WHILE a lead contractor was appointed by the government last week to coordinate cleanup efforts in Mirboo North in the aftermath of the storms, locals had already been on the job for nearly a week.

Mirboo North local, Jess Healey works as an Ambulance Community Officer and was one of the first responders to a number of incidents.

In the hours and days after, she noticed many locals cutting trees to clear roads and properties, helping others, and she noticed there were also lots of people needing help.

It was before emergency crews and other vital services had arrived and she realised efforts were random and a coordinated approach was needed.

As an ex-navy and army reserves officer, Jess was, during the fires in East Gippsland four years ago, part of the Veterans Assistance Team which helped coordinate fencing and trees.

Jess realised that she needed to do the same thing for the Mirboo North community.

"We need to organise this," she said to a friend.

Liaising with the CFA to work out what tasks volunteers could safely tackle and with the ok from the President of the RSL,



Local volunteers, Katrina Groombridge, Bernadine Brullo, and Kim Dunstan were coordinating volunteer assessment crews and response teams for the ever growing list of jobs coming from people needing help in Mirboo North. ob18\_0924

to use their hall, Jess set it up.

Two areas were created, one for those to register their name, address and the help they required and another for those to register how they could help.

Systems were quickly streamlined by volunteers and a cohesive effort led to a coordinated and centralised clean-up effort.

"Those wanting to help were turning up with chainsaws, trailers and generators, and wanting to help in any way they could," Jess explained.

The first weekend saw many volunteers come through the

doors and volunteer assessment crews used a traffic light system to categorise jobs, which were then allocated to appropriate response teams.

Jobs were initially listed on a small whiteboard, but as the work kept coming in, the white board became insufficient and needed to be replaced by three large whiteboards for the growing number of tasks.

Bernadine Brullo had been coordinating the teams for days and said that while the dangerous jobs have been delegated to the CFA, SES and road crews,

volunteers were helping those who needed non-urgent work completed.

As temperatures soared into the mid thirties last Thursday, crews were stopping work at midday, but Jess and Bernadine were both expecting to see an influx of volunteers again on the weekend to help out.

To ensure all was going well, among other things, Jess had also been driving around, checking on the volunteer response teams and handing out food and water, which had been donated.

## Urgent action for Loch intersection

### From page 1

"Our community is devastated by another road fatality at the Loch/Poowong intersection on South Gippsland Highway and we are calling out for changes to be made to prevent further incidents," the petition states.

It stresses that tree trimming is not enough, the government needs to do more to better prevent further collisions and fatalities at "this very dangerous intersection".

"Many in the community have proposed implementing a reduction of the speed limit and installation of a roundabout at this junction," it is stated.

Council CEO Kerryn Ellis also called for action after Wednesday's accident.

"I've contacted Beth Liley from the Department of Transport and Planning to seek their support and to ask them to communicate with our community," Ms Ellis said.

"Beth Liley has advised they are taking this very seriously and will keep council in the loop."

Cr Hersey welcomed that response but doesn't understand why more wasn't done after the previous fatality at the intersection, beyond cutting back trees to some extent.

"This is impacting people's lives; they've lost someone who was important to them and who they loved, and I think it's worth fighting for," he said of the importance of continuing to campaign for safety improvements.

## Wednesday shaping up to be catastrophic

PEOPLE are being advised to be prepared and leave early when the Fire Danger Rating is Extreme or Catastrophic, as forecast for this Wednesday, as parts of western and central Victoria are facing an increased fire risk. On Wednesday, six districts are currently sitting at Extreme (Mallee, Wimmera, South West, Northern Country, North Central and Central) and one or more may tip into Catastrophic. Those ratings will be confirmed today (Tuesday) at 4pm.

If you are still on your property, or in an area of high fire danger please be aware emergency services may not be able to help you if you decide not to take action when warned.

Wednesday is looking to be another day of increased fire danger, now is the time to assess your situation and review your Bushfire Plan. Consider having multiple travel routes included in your Bushfire Plan as highways and main roads can close suddenly if they are deemed too dangerous to travel on.

Continue to monitor conditions and stay informed. Never rely on a single source of information. Visit: [emergency.vic.gov.au](http://emergency.vic.gov.au), download the VicEmergency app and tune into your local emergency broadcaster.

## Personal devastation behind rise in car thefts

WE'RE all aware of the rise and rise in the number of car thefts.

Often, it's the result of aggravated burglaries where young joyriders or hardened criminals enter people's houses at night or in the day (they don't care which) to steal keys. Sometimes it's trusting people leaving their cars open, on the nature strip, or in the garage, even with the keys still inside.

But we don't always hear of the distress it causes the victims.

Janine Luke of Wonthaggi is one of them.

On January 28-29 this year, her pride and joy, and last remaining link with her late husband Peter, their 2016 Holden VF Commodore series two SS was stolen from their back shed.

"They just pushed it out into the lane, started it there and drove off," Ms Luke said this week.

"Someone apparently saw it in Leongatha and also at BP in

Inverloch but that's the last I heard of it. The police haven't been able to do much," she said.

Mrs Luke explained that the thieves jemmied open the roller door to get at the car, but also gained access to an adjoining living room where they found the keys in her handbag and also grabbed a money box filled with coins, estimated at \$1000 in saved change.

"There is nothing more I would want than getting the word out and getting my baby back.

"I'm beyond devastated and it's my husband's second year anniversary of his passing tomorrow. I just want my car back."

If you have any information about Mrs Luke's stolen SS Commodore, please call police or Crimestoppers on 1300 333 000.

The vehicle holds significant sentimental value after Janine's late husband bought the car for her when he became ill, and she is devastated by the loss.



A distraught Janine Luke of Wonthaggi has made an impassioned plea to anyone with information about her stolen SS Commodore to make contact with police or call Crimestoppers on 1800 333 000.

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## 6 Day Weather Forecast

### SOUTH GIPPSLAND



**TUE | Feb 27**

Sunny.

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

**12° 29°**



**WED | Feb 28**

Partly cloudy.

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

**17° 34°**



**THUR | Feb 29**

Cloudy.

Wind AM: W 20-30km/h  
Wind PM: SW 15-25km/h

**16° 23°**



**FRI | Mar 1**

Cloudy.

Wind AM: Light  
Wind PM: Light

**14° 23°**



**SAT | Mar 2**

Possible shower.

Wind AM: W 15-20km/h  
Wind PM: S-SW 25-35km/h

**14° 20°**



**SUN | Mar 3**

Partly cloudy.

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

**10° 20°**



Cartoon by Glenn 'Grobb' Robinson.

## IN BRIEF

### New CEO at the helm

Greg Box indicated he was pleased with the first Council meeting of the year and his first as CEO. "Apart from the open and smooth running of the meeting, it was great to be able to reconfigure the chamber so that more people could be accommodated. The online experience has improved as well."

### South Gippsland Shire Council welcomes storm advocacy response

SOUTH Gippsland Shire Council says its advocacy on behalf of the community for greater support in responding to the impacts of the recent major storm event has been listened to, resulting in a positive response.

"The main thing that we've been pushing for, which is starting today (Monday) is support with the cleanup for the community and that's being delivered through Emergency Recovery Victoria," Council CEO Kerryn Ellis said.

"That's for both green waste as well as housing rubbish," she said, adding that the general waste component applies only to the worst hit town of Mirboo North.

### Building debris picked up

THE South Gippsland Shire Council is advising Mirboo North residents about green waste and building debris pickup days.

The first of the free green waste pickups happened

yesterday (Monday, February 26) and the building debris collection follows today (Tuesday, February 27). Simply place your storm debris on your nature strip for kerbside pick-up by contractors in the area. More dates to follow.

### Storm delays boundary review

THE Victorian Electoral Commission (VEC) has taken the sensible step of delaying its ward boundary review submission timeline, at the South Gippsland Shire, following the horrendous storm of Tuesday, February 13.

The timeline for public submissions has been extended a week, to close at 5pm on Wednesday, March 13.

People who make a submission can ask to speak in support of it at an online public hearing at the new time of 2pm on Wednesday, March 20.

People interested in making a submission can map their proposed ward boundaries online using the public submission tool available on the VEC website at: vec.vic.gov.au/south-gippsland

### New audit committee chair

IN ANSWER to a question, at last week's council meeting, from Fred Morris, the Bass Coast Shire Council has revealed that its newly appointed Chairperson to the Audit and Risk Committee is Goran Mitrevski.

Mitrevski is an audit, risk management and process improvement executive with more than 20 years' expertise in leading and managing auditing projects and overseeing risk and control assessments of

significant business processes. A list of committee members is on the council website.

### What happened to the 'Playspace Strategy'?

NO CLEAR reasons have been provided for why the Bass Coast Shire Council has failed to undertake "high priority" upgrades to identified shire parks.

Phillip Island resident, Deb Leonard, queried council's commitment to the projects in a question to council last week.

"The Playspace Strategy 2017 identifies these playspaces as high priority for upgrading within 1-4 years, but still no works have been done (on the following):

Inverloch Hub, Rodney Court, Rainbow Park, McKenzie Views Estate, Outrigger Estate, Erehwon Point, Wonthaggi Recreation Reserve, Grantville Memorial Park, South Dudley Park and Strongts Reserve.

"Why has Council not allocated funding to these upgrades in any budgets since 2017?"

Response: "An audit is completed every two years which determines play space upgrade and or renewal requirements and can alter the priority in which they are delivered. All of the play spaces listed in this question are included in Council's Long Term Financial Plan."

### Launch at your own risk

A QUESTION to the Bass Coast Shire Council about the condition of the Rhyll Boat Ramp, following the well-publicised sinking of a Hilux ute, has been given short shrift by

the council.

Louise Lyell asked council why the boat ramp wasn't pressure cleaned to remove algae at the lowest tide possible. This may have avoided the car and trailer submersion and near loss of life.

But council argued that users are responsible for their own actions. "Council monitors and inspects the condition of the ramp on a regular basis. Several factors such as tide heights, algal growth levels, weather conditions and access are all considered before cleaning takes place. With so many dynamic factors outside of Council's control in this environment, we encourage all users to assess the conditions before using this facility or any other within the municipality."

### No efficiency targets, says shire

YOU'D think, with restrictions on revenue raising as a result of the State Government's 'Fair Go Rates system' and costs rising above CPI that efficiency measures would be a priority at your local shire. Not so at Bass Coast.

Mal Pinkerton had a question about council's operational efficiency improvement targets and found out they don't have any.

"What are the council's operational efficiency improvements targets for 2024? Please provide a list."

Response: "Council does not have formal efficiency targets. Council is required to keep growth contained within the rate cap and notes that in recent years the rate cap has been well below CPI, imposing a significant efficiency factor."

# No chains, no respect: What we know about the missing regalia

THE mayor's chains of office, worth up to \$100,000, are officially missing, likely stolen.

For the first time since the Borough of Wonthaggi's most important piece of cultural heritage was last seen, around the time of the Wonthaggi Centenary Celebrations in 2010, the Bass Coast Shire Council has finally admitted they have been lost.

But it did so in what present-day councillor Rochelle Halstead described as "incredibly disrespectful" circumstances.

Prior to last Wednesday's council meeting, four-time mayor, and the second-last person to wear the chains, John Duscher OAM JP, asked to address the council to shed some light on the mystery of the missing mayoral chains.

But despite having the power to allow members of the public to address the council, under Section 67 of their Governance Rules (2022), Mr Duscher was denied the opportunity to speak.

Instead, the man who may know most, apart from the person who stole the valuable piece of ceremonial jewellery, was reduced to asking a short question at Public Question Time and not allowed to read out or submit an informative preamble to the question.

Mr Duscher's question was as follows: "What plans does the Bass Coast Shire Council have to replace the Mayoral Chains of the former Borough of Wonthaggi Council that have gone "missing" or have been "stolen"?

Response (read by new CEO Greg Box on behalf of the council): "There is currently no budget allocation for the replacement of the Mayoral Chains. Councillors will receive a briefing on the matter."

Following the response, Cr Halstead registered her disappointment at the way the council had treated Mr Duscher.

"I'd like to say that I'm of the understanding that Mr Duscher requested to address this council directly with this question and given that he was a former councillor of Bass Coast for 26 years, four of which were as a mayor of this shire, I find, you know, beyond belief actually and incredibly disrespectful that he was not allowed to address Council. However, it's a decision that's been made," said Cr Halstead.

Mr Duscher was sitting in the public gallery at the time.

"However, I do think that things need to be raised. The chains of office are an important part of the city's history and as custodians of this historically and financially significant property, Council should be taking action," continued Cr Halstead.

"Mr Duscher has advised he has for several years made inquiries with no progress. A letter from Mr Duscher was addressed to the mayor and councillors in March 2022, a letter that I personally, as a councillor never saw.

"And I'd like to know why and how often letters are addressed to both the mayor and councillors, and not provided to councillors for their information or input?"

The criticism was a thinly-veiled swipe at the former mayor Cr Michael Whelan who was in the chair at the time, and also the former CEO Ali Wastie, known for running a tight ship

where public correspondence was concerned.

But successive council regimes, since 2010, through four groups of elected councillors and three former CEOs: Alan Bawden, Paul Buckley and Ali Wastie have failed to keep the heritage of the council safe, to properly investigate the matter of the missing chain, and to keep the public informed.

Cr Halstead said she had personally made inquiries into the whereabouts of the mayor's chain, and also the ceremonial robes, which according to Mr Duscher were thrown out during a chaotic clean-up at the Borough of Wonthaggi in December 1994, following the forced amalgamation of the shires of Bass and Phillip Island with the Borough of Wonthaggi into the Bass Coast Shire.

In an interview with the Sentinel-Times this week, Mr Duscher, who was awarded an OAM in the Australia Day Honours List of 2019 for an incredible record of service to the community of Wonthaggi, said he was angry at the way he had been fobbed off by successive councils, since being made aware the mayoral chains were missing in February 2017, and disgusted at the lack of respect council had shown for keeping safe the heritage of the shire.

"There is no doubt that the council is embarrassed about this and so it should be. To allow an item of such important cultural heritage to go missing or to be stolen is unbelievable and unacceptable.

"It might not seem much to the council, but the community is owed an apology for the way this has been handled."

He has also insisted that if the chains can't be found, and he doubts they will be at this late stage, they should be replaced, although he believes the council has missed a chance to make an insurance claim because of the secrecy and the delay.

"I'm sick of being fobbed off and I won't be fobbed off again," he said, threatening to take all he knows to the Victorian Ombudsman unless council takes the matter seriously.

As well as providing a copy of the preamble council would not allow him to read, Mr Duscher has also provided the Sentinel-Times with copies of the emails he sent council and the replies he has received.

Having written to Cr Clare Le Serve in February 2017, and received a verbal report that the chains could not be found, he wrote again on September 3, 2018, to the mayor Cr Pam Rothfield and subsequently received a reply from a council officer on September 20.

"The Executive Office did undertake an investigation of their location and found that they were missing and advised Cr Le Serve," said the officer.

"Upon receipt of your most recent request I have undertaken a further investigation which has included a complete clean out of Council's strong room, contact with past councillors including Neville Goodwin, Mary O'Connor and Veronica Dowman but none of whom know the whereabouts of the Mayoral Chains.

"Our records show that the last public acknowledgement of the chains was an article in the

South Gippsland Sentinel-Times dated November 10, 2009.

"I also contacted Danny Luna who advised that he had undertaken an investigation before he retired from Bass Coast Shire Council and could not ascertain their whereabouts with the possibility they had been stolen. It is very disappointing that both the robes and chains are missing from the Borough of Wonthaggi and given the uncertainty surrounding them, we will be referring this matter to the local police."

It isn't known whether the matter was ever referred to police. There certainly hasn't been a formal response on the public record.

A long-serving staff member at the shire, recently retired, said that at no stage were there any rumours circulating about the chains whereabouts, in fact, he said, few if any would have been aware of their existence.

Mr Duscher isn't sure whether his latest plea will be acted upon, but he has urged the council to replace the chains, which carried individually engraved, gold medallions of all past mayors and dates of service.

Former Borough of Wonthaggi mayor (1974-77), Alan Brown said the chains were manufactured by Blashki and Sons in Rowville, still in business today, so it's feasible that they could be replaced but not cheaply.

## What he meant to say about the lost chains

IF A former councillor can't be allowed an exemption under Section 67 of the Bass Coast Shire Council's governance rules (2022), then who can?

That was the situation John Duscher OAM found himself in at last Wednesday's council meeting when his request to address council on the subject of the lost or stolen mayoral regalia, chains and robes, was denied.

He was reduced to a 29-word question as follows: "What plans does the Bass Coast Shire Council have to replace the Mayoral Chains of the former Borough of Wonthaggi that have gone missing or have been stolen?"

A report will be presented to the council at a later date.

But here is the "preamble" Mr Duscher wished to add:

"I was alerted to the possible missing Mayoral Chains around February 2017 and requested through Cr Clare Le Serve an investigation into the matter which she instigated in February 2017, now seven years ago.

"There was no response as far as I am concerned. I further contacted the Council by letter September 3, 2018 and pointed out that I had received no official response and that in my recollection, the missing item was last seen at the end of a Bass Coast Council meeting prior to the celebration of Wonthaggi's Centenary, brought out to show the then Councillors what the Mayoral Chains looked like.

"I was made aware that the Mayoral Robes had been lost at the time of the big clean out following the amalgamation of the Councils, somehow thrown out. Investigation at that time was not able to locate them. I personally worked with the staff to try to locate the missing robes but no avail.

The response to my letter of September 3, 2018 indicated that the matter would be referred to the police for investigation. No further response was received from Council.

"I wrote to Cr Tessari on December 2, 2019. Enquired about the matter again.

"Wrote to Mayor and Councillors again in March 2022 and had a response from Manager Governance & Property, not from Mayor or any Councillor. Again, no allocation in budget for replacement, although recognition of the historical value and importance of the item was mentioned. No mention however of whether the Councillors even knew about the issue or had a briefing on the matter prior to budget discussions.

Recently I spoke to two current Councillors on Australia Day 2024 who indicated that the only knowledge they had on the matter was a rumour they had heard which indicated just how uninterested the administration of the Council was in addressing the matter.

"If the Councillors were not briefed then how would they consider an allocation at budget time to replace the missing Mayoral Chains?

"The matter has now dragged on into its seventh year without any indication that it is any nearer to being rectified and finalised. It is not unreasonable to suggest that the Council do something now about the issue as it has dragged on without resolution for some seven years or does the matter have to be referred to the Ombudsman?

"It is a long, sorry story and there is no evidence really that the Council has taken any action to resolve the issue, that they are remotely interested in addressing the issue or that the Councillors have been informed or consulted.

"It is a disgrace that I have been fobbed off so many times. It may interest you to know that the Council did not even know of the existence of the second safe covered in when extensions were done, until I reminded them of it.

"It was subsequently found and opened but the chains were not located. The Council has shown no respect for the importance of the item to the town's history, which is a disgrace, disrespectful and shameful. I am angry and disgusted. It is certainly time for action.

"I served some 26 years as a Councillor with the Borough of Wonthaggi and Bass Coast Shire, with four terms as Mayor and cannot believe the matter has not been attended to properly. It has been allowed to drag on, placed in the too-hard basket, when it should have been claimed on the Council's insurance immediately.

"There is no doubt the Council is embarrassed and so it should be. To allow the item to go missing or be "stolen" is unbelievable and unacceptable. The Council are the custodians, responsible for the safe keeping of important historical items such as this and they have let the community down badly. The Chains must be replaced.

Regards, John Duscher OAM, former mayor and councillor.

Mr Duscher has also included copies of the correspondence he has had with council.



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Federal Member for Monash



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## Mayor's Message



Cr Clare  
Le Serve

DEAR Bass Coast community.  
What a week... I'm sure many of you have felt this to be an absolute blur.

Many were without power for over a week however I'd really like to emphasise the incredible support from you, community members as well as agencies and organisations, local businesses and council staff who have all come together to support each other in this clean up and recovery process.

As we rebuild the region, I want to offer some practical next steps for everyone.

Council have a dedicated web page as well as printed information in our visitor and customer service offices for practical support, financial, legal and wellbeing.

Please continue to check in on your neighbours, friends and family. Not everyone will bounce back as quickly as others.

During a disaster like this, there are varied business and personal impacts – loss of stock (food, medicines, milk, produce, plants), loss of trade, loss of communications with suppliers, customers, staff and of course your families and friends, as well as property damage and clean up which for some may take months. I'd like to acknowledge all the farmers in the region who will be impacted for extended periods with fences being fixed, cows unable to be milked, and of course for everyone – your mental health and wellbeing.

We have had the Superbikes here this weekend which brought a large amount of visitors to our region. We are still open for business and fun! Let everyone know!

This weekend we have some exciting Council sponsored events to look forward to including the Little Penguin Dash and the Cowes Classic amongst many other markets and events. I hope to see you around the region.

### Support

- State Government is offering financial aid to those without power for longer than seven days. This is a weekly payment.
- Emergency Relief payments are available. We will continue to find out any other support available and will keep you updated.

Our Shop Eat Love Local campaign will be activated on a larger scale and we are speaking with tourism organisations to help promote this further to ensure that tourists as well as locals realise the importance of supporting local. Throughout the recovery process we encourage everyone to use local services and providers.

### Wellbeing

We know many people are humble and out in the communities helping each other. But please don't forget to look after yourself. To assist, the Partners in Wellbeing Program is available for small businesses [partnersinwellbeing.org.au/small-business-support](http://partnersinwellbeing.org.au/small-business-support).

# Aims to bury operational costs



**They say 10,000 people have attended events at Berninneit but we don't know how much it is costing the shire to operate the new entertainment facility, and we may never know.**

Union Community Arts Centre.

Interested local resident, Mario Boffa, who has put several questions to council, seeking transparency over the cost of the Cowes' arts centre addressed the issue of operational costs at Berninneit at last week's council meeting.

On the topic of Berninneit, he asked would council please provide the operational cost of Berninneit in Cowes that includes labour, utilities, energy, equipment hire, room hire, food, drinks and entertainment for the period October 28, 2023 to January 31, 2024?

And even then, the costs associated with Berninneit are set to be lumped in with the cost of running the Wonthaggi

The new CEO Greg Box indicated why those figures might never be available: "Through the mayor, Council operates two cultural venues and does not record expenses in the way requested. Costs of both venues will be included in council's 2023-24 Annual Report."

### Centre not 'Passivhaus' yet

There is also some doubt about the appropriateness of the council claiming 'Passivhaus' status for the Berninneit project, as revealed in

council's answer to two questions at Wednesday's council meeting, one local resident asking for a copy of the Passivhaus certificate and another asking for details of the Passivhaus testing.

It seems that neither the results of the testing nor the Passivhaus certificate are available at this time.

Here's new CEO Greg Box's response to the questions about the building's Passivhaus status: "Through the mayor, final Passivhaus certification is a detailed process and involves significant testing and assessment. Final test results are approved in Germany, and it is anticipated that these results will be available in May."

In its statement on the occasion of the centre's first 100 days of operation, the council said this about its design standards: "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."

It might be prudent to hold off on such claims until the chickens have hatched.

## Cr Rooks and Cr Halstead took a stand for Ventnor amenity

COUNCILLOR David Rooks and Deputy Mayor Cr Rochelle Halstead took a stand for the Ventnor community at the February meeting, putting forward a Notice of Refusal on the planning application of 30 Grossard Point Road, Ventnor.

The planning application was for two double storey dwellings on a single 831 sqm lot on the corner of Grossard Point Road and Bowcombe Crescent. The community raised 45 objections on the plan, which therefore put the application on council's agenda.

Neighbouring residents Simone Mealyca and Damian Calderwood attended the February council meeting last Wednesday in hope to see the matter rejected, speaking to the Sentinel-Times before the meeting. Simone and Damian raised concern that the proposed plan is discreet and looks as though it will eventually become a tenant block or an Air BnB.

"There are five bedrooms and two studies in one townhouse, and five bedrooms and one study in the next – that is

potentially 13 bedrooms, with nine toilets, and only four car spaces."

"It just doesn't seem right," said Simone.

The neighbouring properties are all concerned that the development would become an overpopulated rental property.

"If this was approved and it turned out to be a property with numerous tenants, it would be an accident waiting to happen," said Damian.

"There just isn't the space for parking in the area."

In assessing the application, council's planning department took into consideration the 45 objections, as well as considering the Bass Coast planning scheme, whilst putting forward minor planning amendments and landscaping; however, Cr Rooks immediately requested to forward an alternative recommendation stating that the look and feel does not sit with neighbourhood character.

On the basis that council were voting on the Bass Coast Housing Strategy and Neighbourhood Character Study Consultation

– now open for feedback on engagebasscoast – Cr Rooks declared that in that draft strategy it recognises Ventnor for minimal change - minimal change means that subdivision and multi-dwellings should be discouraged.

"I hope that should a VCAT

appeal happen that the tribunal recognise that the people of Ventnor don't want to see multi-dwellings on one property," said Cr Rooks.

Cr Halstead supported Cr Rooks alternative stating that the matters raised by objectors in this application are a regular occurrence in Bass Coast. "It's all about amenity, heights, setbacks, vegetation, and shared vision by neighbours who wish to protect the place in which they have invested for themselves and their families," she said.

"No matter how hard communities try, it just never seems to make it into legislation or regulations, and if it does there are always those loopholes that encourage further development and greater population."

"As we look for the policies, for the tools to provide the outcomes our community loudly requests of us, we are still no closer to delivering them," Cr Halstead raised.

"We battle to save our townships from becoming an extension of metropolitan Melbourne!"

"This community has expressed itself loud and clear. They do not want to see this proposal progress and it's time we listen."

Simone and Damian were thrilled with the councillors' actions on this matter, sharing that "Cr Rooks really took charge to give us a voice, and it was fabulous to see," said Simone.

"Cr Rooks and Cr Halstead were prepared to listen – hear the voice of their community, and without their support this may have well just gone through!"

"It's great to see our elected councillors take a stand for their community and really listen to our concerns," said Simone.

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# Here's how they want your town to grow

ONE of the buzz words in the Bass Coast Housing Strategy 2024 is "infill development".

With zoned greenfield land in the shire "becoming exhausted" and the State Government pushing hard to tighten town boundaries across Bass Coast, the council is looking to infill development within our towns to meet an expected increase in population of 5610 people by 2036.

The projected population growth could result in demand for an additional 10,000 dwellings in the shire by 2036, at almost 850 extra houses-a-year; it's a big ask given we've averaged 653 new houses here between 2017 and 2022.

But you've got to have a plan, right, and Bass Coast is on the way to developing a comprehensive strategy for residential growth with the publication of a suite of interrelated documents last week, including:

- Bass Coast Draft Neighbourhood Character Study
- Bass Coast Draft Housing Strategy
- Bass Coast Residential Canopy Cover Improvement Strategy.

These reports were released for public consultation at last Wednesday's council meeting, between February 22 and March 24, with a couple of information sessions coming up:

\* Friday, March 8 from 2pm – 4pm at Wonthaggi Apex Park

\* Saturday, March 9 9am – 1pm at the Corinella Community Market (Harold Hughes Reserve).

Speaking about the development of these "overdue" plan, Cr



**To date, most of the housing growth in Bass Coast has been heavily weighted towards greenfield housing at conventional densities but the Bass Coast Shire Council is pinning its hopes for accommodating future growth on more medium density housing and infill development.**

Rochelle Halstead praised shire staff for completing such complex work against the backdrop of a delayed government process on the Distinctive Areas and Landscapes review and the production of Wonthaggi's North-East Development Strategy.

"I would like to strongly encourage residents with an interest in protecting their neighbourhoods to take the time to engage as these will be the tools we as

councillors can reach for in an attempt to protect and enhance the built form in Bass Coast," said Cr Halstead.

She also recommended those who are unfamiliar with the process to make contact with community groups including the Small Town Coastal Alliance and others who may be able to assist them.

Council's own Engage Bass Coast website also carries

copies of the draft reports.

Cr Halstead also praised council staff for having the foresight to produce its 'Bass Coast Residential Canopy Cover Improvement Strategy' with a policy promoting higher density living likely to come into conflict with the leafy-green character many residents favour.

"To date, residential development activity in Bass Coast has been heavily weighted

towards greenfield housing at conventional densities in the General Residential Zone (approximately 500-800sqm lots), however, many established areas are starting to experience infill development by way of 2-5 lot subdivisions. Although infill and medium density housing currently makes up a small proportion of the development activity in Bass Coast (less than six per cent), proposed apartment developments are emerging in certain locations such as Cowes and San Remo."

As a council, Bass Coast aims to facilitate more of that medium intensity housing so that it can accommodate growth while restricting sprawl.

However, while the council plans to facilitate urban consolidation in Wonthaggi, Cowes, San Remo/Newhaven, Inverloch and Grantville, by reviewing town activity centre plans and providing desirable infrastructure it is going to direct growth away from the smaller settlements including the Adams Estate, Archies Creek, Bass, Harmers Haven, Jam Jerrup, Pioneer Bay, Rennison Road, Newhaven, The Gurdies, Smiths Beach, Sunderland Bay, Sunset Strip, Surf Beach, Tenby Point, Ventnor, Wattle Bank (horse may have bolted there), Wimbledon Heights and Woolamai.

These are some of the most important residential plans developed by the Bass Coast Shire Council, and while they are big reports, those with an interest in town planning and neighbourhood amenity should take an interest and make a submission by the closing date of March 24.

58% of people with Type 2 diabetes have sleep apnoea<sup>2</sup>



**TerryWhite Chemmart**

**TERRYWHITE CHEMMART KORUMBURRA**

**P: 5655 1555**



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**CareClinic by TerryWhite Chemmart**

1. Banerji et al., Estimation of the global prevalence and burden of obstructive sleep apnoea: a literature-based analysis, UC San Diego, 2019. 2. Reinick HE, Redline S, Shahar E, et al. Diabetes and sleep disturbances: findings from the Sleep Heart Health Study. Diabetes Care 2003;26:702-709 [PubMed: 12610325]



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# Still no signs of safety improvements at our beaches

NOTHING has happened since four people drowned at Forrest Caves on Wednesday, January 24.

Officially, at least, no new signs have been erected.

The 'Warning' sign with a swimming symbol crossed out in red, is still half buried in the sand at entrance to 'Anzacs' beach near Cape Woolamai.

But the carpark at Forrest Caves still fills with cars daily, as it did on the weekend.

And why not. The location is promoted as a tourist attraction: Come and see the 'Low tide sea cave' says the large sign at the entrance to the Forrest Caves carpark, with logos promoting surfing, fishing, walking, nature sights and toilets... but no warning about the risk of drowning.

So, no new signs since four people drowned at Forrest Caves on January 24, and earlier drownings at Surf Beach and also Kilcunda, on the same day, Friday, January 12.

That's if you don't count the two privately erected signs.

One is a memorial sign for the four victims of the January 24 tragedy: "RS" Reema Sondhi, 42, "KB" Kirti Bedi, 20, and siblings "SA" Suhani Anand, 20, and "JSA" Jagjeet Singh Anand, 23, all farewelled at a joint Hindi funeral service in Dandenong on Thursday, February 1.

The other is a privately designed sign, warning people to swim at their own risk, and if



Tragically, one of two new 'signs' at Forrest Caves is this one honouring the lives of the four victims of a mass drowning at the beach on January 24 this year.

they must, how to identify the rips, with commentary in several languages.

The initiative was welcomed on social media at the weekend.

## Council quizzed

At last week's Bass Coast Shire Council meeting, council was quizzed during question time about what it had done to boost beach safety since January 1, this year.

"Will council please inform how many beach aquatic safety warning signs has council ordered during the period after January 1, 2024, also would council please describe in detail all actions undertaken by council as a land manager of the Bass Coast to help to warn people and hopefully reduce or stop drownings along our beaches?"

The shire CEO answered on

behalf of the council:

"There are currently over 250 safety signs on the council managed land. No further signs have been ordered since January 1, 2024. Council works in partnership with numerous state agencies including Phillip Island Nature Parks, Lifesaving Victoria and Victoria Police to improve water safety along our coastline through safety campaigns, financial support Lifesaving Victoria and maintenance of foreshores on council managed land."

A number of people are continuing to apply pressure for a complete overhaul of the beach warning signs at Bass Coast beaches.

Public affairs activist, Graham Jolly, said that one of the key recommendations of the 'Bass Coast Shire Coastal Risk Assessment Report'



Officially there are no new warning signs at Forrest Caves but this privately designed one, erected at the weekend, provides a clear message about spotting rips.

which was finally released publicly after almost five years, was that the land manager needed "to commit to a systematic monitoring and review process".

## More near misses

Two emergency incidents at Phillip Island last Thursday again highlighted the dangers that exist on the water.

The Police Airwing was called to an incident at Kitty Miller Bay after a group of paddleboarders got into difficulty and also to Smiths Beach where a family group was swept out.

Both incidents ended without accident or injury.

Community votes with their questions

IN MAY 2022, former Bass Coast Shire Council Mayor, Cr Michael Whelan, headed up a push to make Question Time at monthly council meetings optional.

Cr Whelan said at the time it made no difference whether the questions were dealt with at the meeting or simply received and answers published later.

He was howled down for it and just as well.

At last Wednesday's council meeting, community engagement with Question Time was at an all-time high with no fewer than 26 public questions on the agenda, all of them answered.

One of the questions was from former mayor John Duscher, wanting to know if council intended replacing the lost or stolen mayoral chains. If that question had simply been received and answered in the minutes later, under Cr Whelan's scenario, Cr Rochelle Halstead would not have had the opportunity to add some edifying remarks following council's own response to the effect that it was "incredibly disrespectful" of the council not to hear directly from Mr Duscher at the meeting.

Questions last week addressed topics as varied as council's commitment to celebrating Australia Day and Christmas, permit conditions for the sand industry at Grantville, and why council was continuing to entertain options for the failed Sunderland Bay Surf Beach special charge scheme.

"Is Council still liaising on any level with representatives of the 13 per cent that wanted the special charge scheme (SCS) in Sunderland Bay/Surf Beach to proceed, and if so for what purpose?" asked Susie Wickes.

"A final outcome letter of the proposed declaration was sent to property owners on December 15, 2023, to abandon the project, which concludes Council's formal engagement on this matter. Council has received multiple petitions and is liaising with the head petitioners."

On the same subject, Ross Bencraft, wanted to know if council could confirm the widely suggested figure that 60 per cent of the property owners in the Surf Beach Sunderland Bay estates were not permanent residents.

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## South Gippsland Shire Council News

### Renew Webinars

Join us for a number of exciting FREE webinars about sustainable living! Learn practical tips and tricks to reduce your carbon footprint and create a greener future for our region.

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

Discover innovative ways to conserve energy, recycle effectively, and make eco-friendly choices in your daily life.

The team from Renew will share valuable insights equipping you with the tools to harness a sustainable lifestyle.

Don't miss out on these invaluable energy saving tips and sustainable living tricks, to help create a greener environment for South Gippsland and our neighbouring Shires.

For more information and to register your attendance, please visit: [www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/renew](http://www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/renew)

### Electric Vehicle Charging Stations



South Gippsland Shire Council has installed six electric vehicle (EV) fast chargers across the municipality.

They are located in Leongatha, Korumburra, Foster, Mirboo North, Meenyan and Yanakie.

These chargers offer public EV charging for visitors and locals alike, and will facilitate increased visitation to the region by providing crucial charging opportunities for the rapidly-growing EV market.

For more information, please visit: [www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/ev\\_chargers](http://www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/ev_chargers)

### COUNCIL MEETINGS

Wednesday 20 March 2.00pm  
(Council Chambers, Leongatha)

Dates are also listed on Council's website at: [www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/meeting-dates](http://www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/meeting-dates)

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

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

Please contact the Governance Team for questions about Council Meetings

### EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

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### 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.

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 for this or any other training session we have coming up, please visit:

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

### IMPOUNDED VEHICLE

Council impounded the following vehicle on 16 February 2024 from Swanson Street, Korumburra in accordance with Schedule 11 of the *Local Government Act 1989*:

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# South Gippsland Shire Council storm recovery advocacy trip to Melbourne

FOLLOWING the recent unprecedented storm impact on South Gippsland Shire, especially Mirboo North, mayor Clare Williams and CEO Kerryn Ellis visited Melbourne on Tuesday to advocate to a range of key government representatives for additional storm assistance for the shire.

The pair were seeking further support for waste collection services for impacted residents, clean up assistance, and relief hubs to help the South Gippsland region prepare and respond to future emergency events.

Relief hubs are seen as vital to enable communities to access vital needs during a crisis, including information, charging for devices and satellite internet, with council identifying the need for multiple relief hubs in South Gippsland.

South Gippsland Shire Council has also stressed to the Victorian Government the need to simplify the methodology and data inputs required in Victoria to prove council's eligibility for Disaster Recovery Funding.

The need for funding for damaged community infrastructure not covered under Disaster Recovery Funding was also noted, such as rail trails and Mirboo North's Bath Road Reserve and Baromi Park.

The mayor and CEO also attended question time, during which Premier Jacinta Allan reflected on her Friday visit to Mirboo North.

"The Premier mentioned Clare and me by name and spoke at length about Mirboo North as part of her responses in question time," Ms Ellis said, the council CEO seeing that as a positive message that the government's focus is on Mirboo North and South Gippsland more broadly.

Mayor Williams and Ms Ellis met with Minister Melissa Horne (Local Government and Roads and Road Safety), Minister Gabrielle Williams (Government Services and



**Upper House Member for Eastern Victoria Tom McIntosh, South Gippsland Shire Council CEO Kerryn Ellis, Minister for Small Business Natalie Suleyman and Mayor Clare Williams.**

Public and Active Transport), Minister Jaclyn Symes (Emergency Services), Minister Gayle Tierney (Regional Development), Minister Harriet Shing (Water and Housing) and Minister Natalie Suleyman (Small Business).

"The overarching theme was that we were in town talking to the government about support for storm recovery in the whole shire, but Mirboo North in particular," Ms Ellis said.

"Our biggest ask was support with management of waste."

Ms Ellis elaborated on what was discussed with the various ministers.

Minister Horne heard requests for support with waste removal for the community, and reimbursement of costs to council incurred in receiving waste free of charge.

"We haven't charged the community but there's a significant cost to council," Ms Ellis said.

"We also asked for a recovery package of support for council and the community."

Minister Williams heard about telecommunications concerns.

"We spoke to her about

the fact that when the power goes down, mobile connectivity goes down as well and for a lot of people it's actually worse not to have mobile connection than power."

Ms Ellis said it was stressed that community was without access to triple zero for a period of time, presenting risks.

With the State Government having on Monday announced an independent review into power connection, the mayor and CEO called for that review to include telecommunications, a suggestion Minister Williams agreed with.

A couple of key issues were raised with Minister Symes.

"We spoke to her about the cleanup package and support for waste removal, which she said they are well advanced on organising and should be announcing in the next day or two, and we also spoke to her about getting funding to have some recovery officers employed by council to support the recovery over the next 12 or 18 months," Ms Ellis said.

The need for support for businesses impacted by the storm event was raised with Minister Tierney, particularly

small businesses and farms and agribusinesses.

That entailed a request for welfare support as well as funding support for business.

Minister Suleyman was receptive to a request to supply a mobile business support unit that can visit impacted towns in times of crisis.

Ms Ellis is hopeful that request will be met within the next week.

Minister Shing heard about concerns regarding water supply resilience.

"We spoke to her about support for making sure that water infrastructure is secured and quickly restored in times of emergency because there was a period of time last week Mirboo North didn't have water either," CEO Ellis said.

The mayor and CEO acknowledged Tom McIntosh, Upper House Member for Eastern Victoria, for his assistance during their Melbourne advocacy visit and his ongoing support for the South Gippsland region.

"We would also like to thank all the Ministers for taking the time to meet with us today. The genuine concern expressed for our region and communities is appreciated," the pair stated.

## Mayor's Message



**Cr Clare Williams**

HELLO South Gippsland.

How resilient you all are – taking everything in your stride and supporting each other to keep going. The definition of community is being highlighted in all pockets of our region, and I could not be prouder to be Mayor.

While the clean up continues, it may be taking a greater toll on you, your neighbours or loved ones. I encourage you all to keep an eye on each other's mental health, and reach out for support if you need it. Some of the supports available include the Emergency Recovery Hotline (1800 560 760), Latrobe Regional Health Mental Health triage (1300 363 322), Lifeline (13 11 14), Beyond Blue (1300 224 636) and Latrobe Mental Health and Wellbeing (walk in at 23 Hazelwood Road Morwell or call 1800 571 142). Gippsland Southern Health Service will also be at the Relief Point in Mirboo North between 1.00pm and 4.00pm Monday to Wednesday, 12.00pm to 3.00pm Thursday and 1.00pm to 4.00pm on Friday. It is not weak to ask for support and you are not alone.

There is also a number of financial support options that may be available to you. These include Emergency Relief Payments, Prolonged Power Outage Payments, Major Event Day Payments, Gippsland Emergency Relief Fund and free Financial Counselling.

All of these details can be found by visiting: [www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/stormeventsupdate](http://www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/stormeventsupdate)

## Storm Advocacy

This week, Chief Executive Officer Kerryn Ellis and myself went to the Victorian Parliament to advocate for additional storm assistance for our region.

We met with a range of key government representatives, seeking support for additional waste services for impacted residents, clean-up assistance and relief hubs to help our region prepare and respond to future emergency events. Those we met with include: Minister Melissa Horne MP (Local Government and Roads and Road Safety), Minister Gabrielle Williams MP (Government Services and Public and Active Transport), Minister Jaclyn Symes MP (Emergency Services), Minister Gayle Tierney MP (Regional Development), Minister Harriet Shing MP (Water and Housing) and Minister Natalie Suleyman MP (Small Business). Thank you to all those we met with for taking the time to meet with us and for showing genuine concern for our region and community.

Thank you also to Tom McIntosh MP (Member for Eastern Victoria) for helping us meet with these representatives and your ongoing support of South Gippsland.

I would also like to thank our other local members Danny O'Brien MP and Melina Bath MP for being present in our community. Both have also advocated strongly for the support we need.

## Catch Up with a Councillor

Deputy Mayor Nathan Hersey and myself along with other Strzelecki Ward Councillors will be visiting towns in the ward on Sunday, March 3.

We will be at Moo's at Meenyan between 9am and 10am, The Tiny Teapot Korumburra from 10.30am to 11.30am and Poowong Hotel from 12 noon to 1pm.

Come along and say 'hi'!

## VEC Boundary Review

The Victorian Electoral Commission are seeking feedback from residents on proposed changes to our ward boundaries.

Due to the storm event, they have extended the closing date to Wednesday March 13, 2024 at 5pm. To review the changes and provide your feedback, please visit: [www.vec.vic.gov.au/south-gippsland](http://www.vec.vic.gov.au/south-gippsland)

## Storm tops council agenda in South Gippsland

BEFORE launching into the brief agenda for Wednesday's South Gippsland Shire Council meeting, mayor Clare Williams and CEO Kerryn Ellis spoke about the previous week's storm event and its aftermath.

"I stand before you in awe of the incredible power of our community," Cr Williams said.

"As we navigate through the aftermath of a devastating storm that has torn our community apart, we are reminded of the resilience and determination that bind us together."

She praised the tireless effort of all who have helped since the storm.

While appreciative of State level assistance provided, the mayor stressed advocacy is continuing to ensure South Gippsland Shire community members receive what is required.

"The help already received has to be increased and continue as we embark on a journey of rebuilding and healing," Cr Williams said.

Having expressed her dismay at the storm's impact, CEO Ellis said council teams have been on the ground assisting South Gippsland Shire communities since the night of the storm.

She noted that as well as the outdoors team involved in the storm cleanup, council staff have remained busy supporting community in the Emergency Response Centre at the Mirboo North Community Foundation.

The CEO outlined the extent of the task facing council's outdoors team.

"Our outdoors team has cleared about 140 roads so far and we've got about 180 roads still to clear, and there are in excess of 1200 kilometres of

road that require full inspection to determine whether they're safe or need further work," Ms Ellis said.

"We received 1150 calls over the past week and an additional 477 relating to trees and road hazards and we're working through responding to those as best we can.

"We've registered 111 requests for emergency support and provided over 1000 hot meals."

Council has also delivered emergency food relief packs.

Over 60 percent of South Gippsland Shire Council staff have been involved in the emergency response in various ways, creating challenges in providing normal council services.

"The recovery will be long, but I am confident our community is resilient, and we will get there," CEO Ellis declared.



**South Gippsland Shire Council CEO Kerryn Ellis speaks about the ramifications of the recent storm as well as what has happened since, alongside mayor Clare Williams who also spoke on the subject.**  
A66\_0924

## Korumburra Senior Citizens question title

WITH South Gippsland Shire Council's intended sale of the former Korumburra Senior Citizens Club building, council was called on to answer a couple of questions on the ownership of the site during its February meeting on Wednesday.

The questions were posed by Gus Blaauw of South Gippsland Action Group, following public speculation in relation to the ownership of the land at 14 Radovick Street, Korumburra.

Mr Blaauw queried why the land transfer from the president, councillors and ratepayers of the Shire of Korumburra to South Gippsland Shire Council occurred, dating that transfer as taking place on August 15, 2016.

South Gippsland Shire Council CEO Kerryn Ellis responded.

"As per State Government legislation, South Gippsland Shire Council automatically became successor in title to all properties owned by the former shires when council amalgamations occurred in 1994," Ms Ellis said.

"In 2016, State Government offered a program to all local governments to transfer paper titles to electronic certificates of title."

Ms Ellis said it was suggested at the time that presented the opportunity to transfer all titles from amalgamation entities into their successor in title entity, in this case South Gippsland Shire Council.

Mr Blaauw also questioned who authorised the transfer of the land at 14 Radovick Street, Korumburra to South Gippsland Shire Council, again referring to that occurring in August 2016, with Ms Ellis replying, "the Chief Executive Officer".

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# Newhaven College Open Day



VCE course selection guidance and careers centre.

## Building for the Future

Newhaven College is committed to further developing the College facilities, ensuring that they have an environment where creativity, academic, emotional, spiritual, physical and life skills are nurtured.

College facilities include three sub-schools, Year 9 Environmental Centre, Performing Arts Wing, library, arts, Science & Technology Specialist Wing, Trades Skills Centre, Food Technology Centre, double court gymnasium, football oval, soccer field, hockey pitch, 12 tennis courts, two multi-purpose courts, netball courts, cricket nets, open-air amphitheatre and extensive wildlife wetlands and gardens.

Our College leaders and staff look forward to welcoming you during our Open Day. If you are unable to attend and would like to arrange a private tour, please contact our Registrar Belinda Manning on 5956 7505 or [belinda.manning@newhavencol.vic.edu.au](mailto:belinda.manning@newhavencol.vic.edu.au).

## Alumni Reunions

Newhaven College will also be running Alumni events on the same day for students who graduated in 1984, 1994, 2004, 2014 and 2019. This creates an opportunity to reconnect with old classmates and tour the College grounds. Past students from these years are invited to book their intention of attendance at [trybooking.com/CPLJO](http://trybooking.com/CPLJO).



**NEWHAVEN COLLEGE**

# Open Day

Saturday 16 March  
10am - 2pm

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Phillip Island

[newhavencol.vic.edu.au](http://newhavencol.vic.edu.au)



# Wellbeing centre underway for St Paul's

A NEW Wellbeing Centre, dedicated to enhancing the wellbeing of the school community, is being constructed at St Paul's Anglican Grammar School's Warragul Secondary School.

The Wellbeing Centre will provide several purpose-designed consultation offices that will cater for an increased number of counsellors and psychologists, allowing more students to access support when needed.

A shared multi-purpose reflective space for students and staff will offer a calm and quiet area, allowing and encouraging students to spend time thinking things through. The centre also includes an adjacent but separate room for those who would benefit from time away from others, or who are accessing external services.

With a design inspired by the natural environment and built to emulate the flow of a river, the space will be furnished with muted tones, soft textures and curved walls that will soften the area and engender a sense of calm.

The building is set to be completed by the middle of this year.



ABOVE: Architect's impression. RIGHT: The St Paul's Warragul Secondary School's Wellbeing Centre in progress.

## Leongatha's Primary School Captains announced

The school captains selected for the Leongatha Primary School in a special assembly last week were Siiri Roberts, Piper Holt, Charlotte Willis and Ryan Perry.



## Setting women up for financial success

LOCAL group Women for Change have kicked off this year's fundraising campaign for International Women's Day (March 8) to raise funds to deliver a program in local secondary schools that sets women up for financial success.

Aligning with the Bass Coast Community Foundation, Women for Change chair Nina Barry-Macaulay said the group's fundraising focus aligns with the theme of this year's International Women's Day which is 'Count Her In: Invest in Women. Accelerate Progress'.

"We know that, as well as the gender pay gap and the missing out on superannuation and career opportunities when taking on primary care giving roles, for many women there is a need also to increase education around managing money," she said.

"This year, we're fundraising to support places for local girls to participate in the Centsible Teen Talk program, to be rolled out through local secondary schools."

The program is designed to help teenagers aged 15-19 become more aware of financial literacy and learn the basics of financial management so they are more equipped to make smart financial decisions throughout their lives.

"Women for Change would love to fund 100 local girls through this program in 2024 – which means we need to raise \$5000 from willing donors," she said.

If you are interested in supporting the Centsible Teen Talk this International Women's Day - you can donate to Women For Change via the Foundation's website at [bccf.org.au](http://bccf.org.au).

## Leap into learning in Drouin



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## More than just a dispensary

### • Part 1

IN THE whirlwind of daily life, it's easy to overlook the wealth of offerings available at your local TerryWhite pharmacy. Beyond the routine task of picking up prescriptions, our stores are veritable havens of well-being, offering a diverse array of services to enrich your health journey. Here are some hidden gems of services you may not be aware of, available at your local TerryWhite Chemmart stores.

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Are sleepless nights and disruptive snoring keeping you from getting the rest you deserve? Delve into the world of sleep apnoea services at our TerryWhite Korumburra branch. From informative consultations to specialised overnight sleep studies, our expert team is dedicated to helping you achieve the rejuvenating sleep you crave. Bid farewell to restless nights with just a simple visit or phone call to our pharmacy.

### 2. Arm Yourself Against Illness with Vaccinations:

As the seasons shift, so do the threats of illness. But fear not! Your local TerryWhite pharmacy is your first line of defence against viruses and

infections. Take advantage of our complimentary shingles vaccine for individuals aged 65 and above, shielding yourself from the agony of this debilitating condition. And with flu season looming, secure your spot for an early flu shot starting as early as mid-March. Stay ahead of illness and safeguard your well-being with our expert vaccination services.

### 3. Check Your Skin Health on the Spot:

In today's fast-paced world, prioritising your health can seem like a daunting task. But what if you could gain peace of mind about concerning skin spots in less than 48 hours? At our TerryWhite Leongatha branch, our Spotcheck service offers precisely that. Join the countless locals who have benefited from timely identification of potential skin issues. Say goodbye to uncertainty and hello to reassurance by visiting our store today.

From blood pressure checks to specialised sleep apnoea services, our offerings are tailored to fit seamlessly into your busy lifestyle. Don't wait any longer to prioritise your health. Take the first step towards a healthier, happier you by unlocking the hidden treasures of TerryWhite Pharmacies today. Your journey to wellness begins now.



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# A one in two million chance

A ONE in two million event happened twenty years ago on February 29, when Wonthaggi local Cloe Booth was born.

Cloe was a leap day baby. Otherwise known as a leaper, leapling or leapster.

The probability of being born on a leap day is 0.00068 per cent or a one in 1461 chance, with only about five million people sharing the rare date as a birthday.

Yet, more amazing than this, is that Cloe's Mum, Helen Booth, was also born on a leap day.

The odds of both mother and daughter both being born on a leap day are one in two million!

This year, Leap Day will fall on Thursday, February 29 and Cloe and Helen will, for the first time in four years, have the opportunity to celebrate on their actual birth dates.

And they are both hitting big milestones.

Cloe will be celebrating her 20th birthday and Helen will be celebrating her 60th birthday, or some would say they are celebrating their fifth and 15th birthdays.

They will celebrate the rare occasion together with friends and family at The Wooli Tavern.



Mother and daughter, Cloe and Helen Booth (with Isabella Poppy) share birthdays on February 29, the rare leap day and a one in two million chance.

around the sun.

Earth completes its orbit around the sun in 365.25 days, but is rounded down to 365 for practical purposes, resulting in an error of almost 0.25 days, or almost six hours, per year.

An extra day in February is added to account for four extra 0.25 days and only 0.7 per cent of the world's population are born on the special day of February 29.

## GPs will be more expensive under new health tax

GP APPOINTMENTS will be harder to find and more expensive under a new health tax being enforced by the State Government.

General medical practices pay payroll tax on their employees, but it has never applied to GPs, because most work as independent practitioners under independent agreements.

However, a ruling in 2023 deemed independent practitioners as employees for payroll tax purposes.

An RACGP survey found only three per cent of practices would be able to absorb the costs of the extra tax, 78 per cent would have to raise fees and more than half said they would have to increase out-of-pocket fees by more than \$20.

Lissa Bain, Practice Manager at Korumburra Medical Centre said the payroll tax becomes a financial issue for the business owners to manage, which creates additional stress for the owners as well as

potentially for the patients.

"Payroll tax could increase the likelihood that bulk-billing can no longer be offered by the medical centre, resulting in raised fees," she explained.

While a report from HotDoc indicated 16.5 per cent of practices surveyed said they would be forced to close their doors because of the new payroll tax.

The Nationals Member for Gippsland South, Danny O'Brien said GP appointments will be harder to find and more expensive because of the tax.

"I've met with a number of local GPs and practice managers across Gippsland South and they are gravely concerned that clinics will close or GPs leave the sector and that the tax will drive up costs for patients," Mr O'Brien said.

"Our local doctors are understandably concerned that this will

lead to people putting off medical appointments and result in what might have otherwise been easily treatable illnesses or infections to go unchecked.

"Our health system is already under significant strain and there is a real threat that increased GP fees will cause further pressure on our already under-resourced emergency rooms and urgent care centres."

The tax has prompted the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (RACGP), Primary Care Business Council (PCBC), and Australian GP Alliance (AGPA) to write to the Victorian Premier requesting an urgent meeting and urging the Premier to take control of the issue.

According to RACGP President Dr Nicole Higgins, the tax is an issue which the State Government created and which will undermine the Federal Government investment in Medicare.

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Catholic Bishop of Sale, Greg Bennet (centre) launched the annual Caritas Project Compassion appeal in the Diocese of Sale alongside the Director of Catholic Education in the Diocese of Sale, Mr Paul Velten, Caritas Australia Communications Manager Ms Nicole Dobrohotoff and students, including Dinisty Francis of Mary MacKillop Catholic Regional College Leongatha.

## Catholic schools and parishes support Project Compassion

Catholic Bishop of Sale, Greg Bennet joined students, teachers, and guests from school and parish communities to mark the beginning of Lent and to officially launch this year's Project Compassion appeal in the Diocese of Sale.

Each year during the season of Lent, Project Compassion brings together thousands of Australian schools and parishes to stand in solidarity with the world's most vulnerable communities to help end poverty, promote justice and uphold dignity.

The theme of Project

Compassion 2024 is For All Future Generations, and reinforces the message that what we do today can have an impact for all future generations.

Over the six weeks of Lent, parishes and Catholic schools are encouraged to donate and host fundraisers in the name of Project Compassion. Funds raised will support Caritas' work in assisting vulnerable and needy communities both in Australia and overseas.

Student leaders from six Catholic Secondary Colleges and four Catholic primary schools in the Diocese of Sale

joined the launch. Each received a Caritas candle to take back to their schools, presented by Bishop Greg Bennet and Caritas Australia's Ms Nicole Dobrohotoff.

Following the launch, Bishop Greg joined students, staff and guests for the traditional Shrove Tuesday pancakes. Students in schools across the Diocese also got into the spirit of Project Compassion holding pancake stalls in their schools to fundraise and mark Shrove Tuesday, the day before Ash Wednesday when the period of Lent begins.

The Lenten season is observed as a period of reflection and self-discipline, commemorating the sacrifice of Jesus Christ in preparation for the celebration of Easter.

Those wanting to support Project Compassion can download resources or join a Mission in Action Webinar to learn more about Caritas Australia's development programs at caritas.org.au/project-compassion

To donate, look out for Project Compassion donation boxes in schools and parishes, visit the Caritas website, or call 1800 024 413 toll free.



Myli team member Danielle with seeds from the Seed Library.

### Seed libraries at Myli

ARE you thinking about starting your own garden at home or adding more to your existing garden? Look no further than your local library by joining Myli's free seed library initiative.

At Myli, our seed library is open to all members. Not a member yet? Don't worry, signing up is simple and free! Once you're part of the Myli family, you'll unlock benefits including access to books, online resources, and of course, our seed library.

How does it all work? It's as easy as Borrow, Grow, and Save.

Borrow – Explore our diverse selection and choose up to three different types of seeds per season, all completely free of charge! Whether you're just starting out or have a green thumb, our seed library welcomes gardeners of all levels.

Grow – Once you've selected your seeds, nurture them at home in pots or directly in your garden soil. Watch in awe as they thrive and reward you with a bounty of fresh produce!

Save – Feeling generous? Pay it forward by saving seeds from your plants and donating them to the library. We provide packaging and guidance to assist you. If you have leftover seeds from half-empty packets at home, consider donating them back to our collection.

Our free seed collection is available at Inverloch Library, Wonthaggi Library, Leongatha Library, Drouin Library, Pakenham Library and Emerald Library. Each season, we introduce new varieties, including seeds generously donated by members of our community. Expect a diverse array of seeds to choose from, all adapted to our local climate for greater gardening success.

Whether you're a seasoned gardener or just starting out, there's something for everyone in our expanding seed collection. Myli provides free resources, programs, and a welcoming community for you to learn, grow, and connect with fellow gardening enthusiasts. Visit myli.org.au or call 1800 44 6954 today to start your journey into the world of gardening, belonging, and discovery – all for free!

## Celebrate International Women's Day with the SBWN

JOIN the Southern Business Women's Network (SBWN) for a spectacular celebration of International Women's Day (IWD) 2024! This year's theme "Count Her In - Invest in Women, Accelerate Progress" spotlights the need for greater investment in women's economic empowerment globally.

This year's guest speaker is Melanie Dale from Let's Get Layered – in case you missed her on Channel 7's Morning Show. The event will be held at the Inverloch RACV on Thursday, March 7.

Embracing the mantra "If you're not living on the edge, you're taking up too much room", Melanie Dale injects colour, energy, and drama into her daily life. Throughout her childhood years in country Victoria, Melanie always found solace in

discarded pre-loved items, collecting and transforming them to regularly reinvent herself.

Known as 'Lets Get Layered' on social media, with over 60,000 followers on Instagram and 136,000 on TikTok, Melanie's username serves as a double entendre, symbolising both her unique styling choices and her mental health journey. Through this online artistic outlet, she unpacks the reasons behind her identity, allowing her inner child to flourish.

This IWD, we encourage you to have fun and dress to express yourself! It's time to get that outfit from the back of your closet, because this is the occasion you can wear it.

If you have never been to one of our events before, make this your first one – we are sure you will enjoy it so much you will

want to come again.

So, come join the SBWN as we leave convention behind and celebrate our worth as women deserving of investment and fun on this International Women's Day! Tickets are available at sbwn.com.au and range from \$50 for members and up \$700 for a table of 10.

Enjoy your welcome cocktail on arrival. Mix and mingle while enjoying canapes. Then we will take our seats for a delicious two course meal and enjoy listening to our speaker – and have a little fun along the way.

We welcome members, guests and anyone interested in our events. Purchase your ticket, or become a member and enjoy the benefits of being a part of the Southern Business Women's Network (a network for women, not just those in business).



Let's Get Layered's Melanie Dale will be the guest speaker at this year's International Women's Day event at RACV Inverloch.

## International Women's Day 2024

Thursday, March 7

6.30pm – 10pm, RACV Inverloch

Guest Speaker – Melanie Dale from 'let's Get layered'

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## 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 Gippsland South MLA Danny O'Brien, who took the matter to State Parliament recently, 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," he 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 an 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, whether there are 300 of them or 10 of them.

"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," he said.

"All property owners should seek to prepare for the worst with their own resources and insurance in the first instance, but there are some events that can't be managed or insured against."

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

# Four new doctors at Korumburra Medical Centre

THE KORUMBURRA Medical Centre (KMC) is proud to welcome four new doctors to their dedicated team of medical and nursing professionals.

Dr Slesha Amatya (GPT3) has been with the clinic for six months, following a six month rotation at the Leongatha Medical Clinic (LMC). Her interests include child and youth health, mental health, women's health and chronic disease management.

Dr Patrick Halton (GPT3) began at KMC in August last year and has a special interest in chronic disease management, men's health, preventative health and procedural medicine.

Both Dr Amatya and Dr Halton studied at ANU in Canberra and then worked in Tasmania, where they both discovered a love for regional health and subsequently came to South Gippsland.

Dr Rachael Sim (GPT4) studied at Monash University in Malaysia and came to Australia in 2018 where she decided to become a GP. Dr Sim will complete her registrar training this August and has been with the clinic for one year. Dr Sim is interested in children's and women's health, skin and palliative care.

Dr Kautilya Jaiswal (GPT2) studied at Deakin University in Geelong and worked in the



**Korumburra Medical Centre welcomes four new doctors to the practice, Dr Slesha Amatya, Dr Patrick Halton, Dr Rachael Sim and Dr Kautilya Jaiswal.** ob02\_0924

emergency unit and intensive care at Monash Hospital. Dr Jaiswal is interested in men's health, anaesthetics and palliative care. He has previously worked at LMC and will be with KMC for another six to twelve months.

The new doctors said they enjoy the supportive and inclusive team at KMC and the great relationships they have with colleagues, from their

managers and supervisors to the nursing and administration staff.

Adding that working in regional health gives them the opportunity to form close relationships with their patients and their families, and build a holistic understanding of their lives to forge great health outcomes.

Korumburra Medical Centre now has eleven doctors

and same day appointments are often available. A duty doctor is onsite for urgent medical appointments and also supports the Korumburra Hospital in emergencies.

KMC also offers skin clinic, women's clinic, life health and smoking cessation programs, immunisations, chronic disease management and asthma education.

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#### Dr. Patrick Halton

MBBS

#### Dr. Rachael Sim

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#### Dr. Slesha Amatya

MBBS

#### Dr. Kautilya Jaiswal

MBBS

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Specifically for women's health, 30 minute appointments provided by a specialist trained nurse.

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# Life support customers receive no support

RECENT power outages from storm damage ranged from sheer annoyance for some, to life threatening for others – particularly those relying on vital medical equipment.

AusNet recognises that power outages may represent dire situations for some of their customers and claims to provide enhanced customer support and protection systems for their registered life support customers.

This includes sending SMS alerts and updates before (where possible) and during a power or gas outage.

Mr. Clarke's parents are both elderly and frail and live just outside of Korumburra.

Mr. Clarke's Mum suffers from Parkinson's PSP, a condition that results in a progressive lack of coordination, stiffness, slow movements, cognitive dysfunction, and walking difficulties that can result in falls.

She requires essential medical equipment to undergo normal activities of daily living, including a falls alarm bracelet, an electric armchair and an electric bed, among other small items.

"Why do I lodge life support for mum and dad? Because mum has limited life



**A Korumburra man with elderly and unwell parents is concerned about the lack of provision for life support customers from AusNet, following the recent storms and extended power outages.**

*Photo: Danie Franco on Unsplash.*

with Parkinsons PSP and all medical reports have been given to AusNet, but in a storm we don't hear from AusNet and the life support system fails the elderly and sick," said Mr. Clarke.

Mr. Clarke told the Sentinel Times that of the six days his parents were without power, they did not receive a single text message, phone call or visit from AusNet in that time.

They initially activated their emergency plan in anticipation that the power would be restored on Friday February 16 as stated on the AusNet Outage Tracker, which was later revised to

Wednesday, February 21, yet they still received no notification from AusNet.

Mr. Clarke believes AusNet were prioritising the number of houses getting power back on rather than prioritising their life support customers.

He organised a generator for his parents which was enough to power some electrical items but not all, and wonders where the responsibility lies - for those who require power for essential medical equipment but who may not have someone around to help.

"Maybe they need to have some initiative for affordable generators, or maybe they

need to start funding some, but they just put on their policy that they cannot guarantee support," Mr. Clarke explained.

He is dismayed that no action was taken, especially given that the extended power outage is not the first time, nor is it a one-off incident.

"Why is this the third time for greater than five consecutive days we have lost power in the last two and a half years, as in my fifty year history we have lost a day due to storms, but the third time for greater than five consecutive days in under three years is now a joke."

The lack of responsibility from AusNet and the government, saw Mr. Clarke contact David Smales from AusNet, Members of Parliament, Russell Broadbent, Danny O'Brien, Jacinta Allan and Madeleine King in a bid to seek answers and a solution.

"Obviously the system has been run into the ground with privatisation, and profits go overseas and not back into infrastructure and maintenance, as the government get hit with bills to fix a privatised system," Mr. Clarke said.

"They've dropped the ball."

## Getting on with the job of disaster cleanup

A LEAD contractor has been appointed for the Federal and Victorian Government's coordinated cleanup in the aftermath of last week's devastating fires and storms.

Cleanup activities for impacted households and communities will be jointly funded through the Commonwealth-State Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements.

The Government has appointed Hansen Yuncken to work with local sub-contractors to get communities back on their feet, including Mirboo North.

A Community Recovery Officer will also be deployed to the South Gippsland Shire to help identify the recovery needs of individuals and families.

The severe weather event caused widespread damage right across Victoria leaving many homes uninhabitable including 16 in Mirboo North.

Demolition of damaged houses, asbestos and other hazard removal will be included as part of the cleanup, as well as hazardous tree removal.

The Victorian Government will also establish a centralised green waste facility for the cleanup and is continuing to

work with the Commonwealth Government to finalise its location.

This program builds on the support being provided by the Federal and Victorian Governments, which includes:

Personal hardship payments of \$640 per adult and \$320 per child up to a maximum of \$2240 per eligible family to help cover the costs of essentials like food, clothing, medication and accommodation.

Emergency re-establishment grants of up to \$49,300 for people who are uninsured and their primary place of residence has been destroyed or is uninhabitable.

Prolonged Power Outages Payments of up to \$1920 per week for households and up to \$2927 per week for up to three weeks for affected small businesses.

The Emergency Recovery Hotline has been activated to process calls from anyone affected by storms.

To access recovery support, affected residents can call the Hotline on 1800 560 760.

This includes mental health support, case management, business support and can connect people with the additional and existing services.



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Mirboo North locals.  
**What was your storm experience and what needs to happen now?**



**Aaron Taylor**

"We moved on Monday so we were still moving in. It went from peaceful to utter chaos within five seconds. The double doors blew in and splintered. Everything on the deck slid and slammed into the side. A tree landed on the deck about three feet from my face. Then two minutes later it was over. Uni starts soon so trying to get my community and home as sorted as possible and in a more reasonable state before then, so I can focus more on study."



**Barry Martland**

"We only had three trees down and tree branches. A tree went right through the caravan roof. The shed was damaged but the house was ok. There was hail damage to the caravan. Everyone's been marvellous so far."



**Yvonne Lindsay**

"The impact to our property was minimal and then we heard about the trail of destruction and went and delivered generators to friends. I wanted to help out and volunteer. There needs to be more shire support, insurance support, it needs to be a bit more productive because it's been chucked in the too hard basket. Assistance and fuel for machines."



**Yvonne Bradley**

"When the storm hit I was in the kitchen watching it come through. It was so scary with the hail and noise and everything. I walked outside and there were powerlines down across the driveway, power poles across the lawn, trees across the driveway. There was damage to the verandah and solar panels. It could've been a lot worse. There's just going to be so much cleaning up. People with trees over their homes really need help first. Hopefully they can save all the logs so in 12 months' time they can use them for firewood rather than being wasted. And just as long as people ask for help and have a chat about it."

# Mirboo North in ruins as deadly storm leaves trail of destruction and despair

UTTER devastation was the only way to describe the scene left in Mirboo North after the town bore the brunt of February 13's wild Victorian weather.

Described by some as a scene straight out of a natural disaster movie, residents had no warning of what they would truly face. They knew a storm was coming but the tornado like experience was unexpected and it was all over in a matter of a few minutes.

Huge eucalypt and manna gums laid broken or uplifted, debris strewn across roads, paths and buildings, powerlines dangled like string cheese, it's surreal and absolutely devastating.

Residents impacted estimate the width of the supercell was no more than 500 metres wide, it's path clearly visible in Mirboo North where one side of town appears unaffected and the other chaos, initial calculations deemed approximately 20 homes uninhabitable, it has since been lowered to 16.

Some watched on from their home offices, others elsewhere in their homes, for one couple their front row seats were inside their car, which became trapped on Thorpdale Road as huge gums were brought down in front and behind their car – absolute fear and terror setting in, no-one quite knew when it might just land on the roof; and they were not alone as gums landed on the back of another ute throwing it and twisting it in the air.

As luck would have it they survived, even with a tree landing on the roof, but it's certainly not a moment easily forgotten.

Down the road, Pam Pincini cleared her roof in pieces from her neighbour's property with daughter, Jodie, son, Jason, a local teacher and various other family members on Wednesday, February 14.

Fortunately for Pam, she was enjoying a night in Waratah Bay when disaster struck.

"The roof is gone," Pam stated in disbelief.



**Pam Pincini clears her roof from her neighbour's yard with the help of her children and grandchildren and knight in shining armour, secondary college teacher Ronan O'Sullivan.**

c17\_0824

"(The storm) blew through my windows and lifted the roof and moved it to my neighbour's yard.

"The rain came, the install batts soaked up the rain, and then it went into the plaster and the roof started leaking inside – everything is wet inside; carpets are saturated.

"The ceiling is just going to fall in, the lights that were there, you can see the sky – I have my own sky lights."

"I had to go and get it and bring it back here," she said, pointing to the tin skewed and warped lying on the front nature strips.

Pam's once beautiful view across the reserve down to the swimming pool is now flattened with tops of old gums covering the ground; the gums that once blocked houses on Wanke Road and Laura Rise now visible through the remaining trees.

"I'm alive, the house can be repaired," Pam continued.

"Everybody has been fantastic."

A couple from Inverloch came

to see if they could assist and according to Pam spent six hours with her fellow neighbours assisting and carrying trees and debris, a near impossible task for those less mobile.

For Pam, her knight in shining armour was a local schoolteacher, Ronan O'Sullivan, who helped cut the roof into pieces with an angle grinder that could be carried through the yard.

"People have been absolutely marvellous."

"I'm lucky we didn't have (large) trees (on the property)."

Where to from here Pam is unsure, but she has contacted her insurance.

For daughter Jodie the experience was harrowing.

"It was traumatic," Jodie said, recalling the moments after the impact as she walked up the road.

"Walking – there were cars trapped under the trees. Our neighbours were trapped in their car... another lady, Julie, was trapped by herself and she didn't know what to do – whether to crawl into the (footwell),

but two minutes and it was over.

"The hailstones were like golf balls. It looked like snow... The wind was unbelievable."

"It was like a freight train hit," Jodie explained pointing out where the main width of destruction occurred.

"There was no orientation."

On Thorpdale Road you could never see town, now you can.

On the corner of Berrys Creek Road and Grand Ridge the huge Strzelecki gum was brought down, and as locals explained people have fought many battles over 20 years to save it, and in two minutes it was on the ground.

Nearby a shed lay flattened struck by another falling gum.

Down the road questions have been raised with a planning application for a subdivision previously held up due to two gums, one home to an eagle, now part of the casualties with residents fearful the planning application will be permitted, and the rest of the gums flattened.

## Mirboo North Secondary College ravaged by storm



so large it covered the length of the basketball courts, and its trunk was as high as the soccer goals.

As of last Thursday, the school remained without power and three large generators were in use to keep the school running.

While most staff were onsite everyday after the storm, as well as a couple of students, it was

outstanding. They're tired, they're not getting enough sleep. Some of them still haven't got power. Those that have, some of them aren't sleeping in their normal beds because the roofs collapsed on their house or whatever, and there's a lot of anxiety around what happens next and how secure they are."

Mr Ryan mentioned the staff have also been impacted but were doing an outstanding job given the circumstances.

"Fifteen staff have been directly impacted, either their home or their car, and in some cases both. And some were trapped under trees in their vehicles and a number of staff are without roofs or have partial roof damage. So, they're feeling it a lot at home as well as working full days."

The schools wellbeing team are working with the students and families and will continue supporting them for as long as needed.

"The kids have been



**Kristy Nicholls, Wendy Hutchins, Rhondda Milner and John Ertz were working at the Emergency Relief Centre set up at the Mirboo North Community Hub offering practical and emotional support to locals impacted by the storm.** ob19\_0924

## Mental health support for locals

A VOLUNTEER working for the Victorian Council of Churches Emergencies Ministry at Mirboo North last week, admitted that locals will likely need counselling after the storm events.

The VCCEM have been working alongside Australian Red Cross Volunteers (ARC) and South Gippsland Shire Council staff at the Emergency Relief Centre set up at the Mirboo North Community Hub.

While the council is taking a functional role in providing help for affected residents and offering information, food and connection to other services, the VCCEM and ARC are there to lend an ear.

The volunteers, who are trained in responding to disasters, check-in and follow up with how people are going and provide mental and

emotional support to those who may need it.

A spokesperson for VCCEM, who had been working in Mirboo North with locals last week, said now that the danger and most stressful time is over, people are more likely to start collapsing in a heap.

"They're dropping their bundle now. They're relaxing and finding they're mentally tired.

"They will need counselling."

While other volunteers who had been working at the RSL Hall for many days, admitted to having an emotional morning last Thursday, where tears were shed and a big group hug was needed.

The volunteers said it was important for people to reach out and talk about events, especially those that wouldn't normally do so.

"There needs to be more

services that come in after any sort of emergency event. Mental health support. Older farmers, males especially, are not used to talking (about these type of things)," said volunteer, Barb Gordon.

The VCCEM spokesperson has advised people to reach out to them for an informal chat and support and to seek out professional services if they feel it's needed.

The Gippsland Southern Health Service will be providing counselling support at the Mirboo North Relief point from February 26, on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 1pm to 4pm and Thursdays from 12pm to 3pm.

Further mental health support services can be found through SGSC website at: [southgippsland.vic.gov.au/downloads/file/4736/mental\\_health\\_support](http://southgippsland.vic.gov.au/downloads/file/4736/mental_health_support).

## An ominous face in the clouds

WENDY Sellings was on her veranda in Baths Road taking photos of the storm clouds when she noticed the last one was in the formation of a face - like a Storm God, she said. Uneasy, she went inside.

"About three minutes later, all I remember was the hail hitting my kitchen window. It was the loudest thing I've ever heard. It was not normal," explained Wendy. "I'm a bit of a panicker, so I went straight under the kitchen table."

Wendy's partner was with her, watching the storm, but once the hail started hitting the windows she said to him, "I'm out of here", and took cover in the bath, away from the windows.

"It just happened so fast and it was so scary and loud, and I'm a bit sensitive to sound."

One of the small kitchen windows smashed and hail pelted onto the floor.

Once the worst of it was over Wendy and her partner checked the front door, which was glass, and found it intact but blocked.

A large gum tree branch had snapped off and fallen from the nature strip, across the fence and front yard hitting the roof above Wendy's bedroom.

Fortunately, no major structural damage occurred to the house, but roof tiles had come off and some of the spouting.

"We were sort of dazed and we went for a little walk to see what happened and we just couldn't believe the destruction. I've never seen



anything like it," explained Wendy.

"I didn't log a call to the SES because I thought after I'd seen what had happened down the other streets, I thought I'll just wait, but they came and told me to log a call and they came back and tarped the roof."

Wendy was without power for the week and as it came back on, began to feel better after an anxious few days.

"I've started to feel much stronger; my nerves were shattered and because I'm more sensitive I didn't have a generator, but there were generators all around me and the noise was just driving me crazy. It was making all my insides shake. I think I've got it back under control now, hopefully."

Food and other services had been offered, and she was grateful there was a lot of help around for the community, from locals and other organisations.

"I think they've done an amazing job. We had two guys wander into our yard offering to help cut the tree. We didn't know them, and one had lost his house, but he said that he needed to help people."



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# Cooked breakfast helps community heal

VINCENZA and Doug Alexander of Mirboo North business Escargot and Dine with a Difference have been cooking a free breakfast for the community each morning at the RSL Hall.

Eggs, tomatoes and bacon have been sizzling away on the barbecue with bread rolls and home-made zucchini relish to put it all together and top it off.

"We wanted to help out and this is our thing," said Vincenza.

The pair will be cooking breakfast each day for as long as they are needed and when they can't be there, they will organise someone to be in their place.

Vincenza and Doug have experienced damage to their own property, including a 120 kilogram fountain being knocked

over, and have been without power unable to run their own business.

Instead, they are selflessly donating their time, energy and the bacon to the community, with the eggs, tomatoes and bread rolls donated by other locals and businesses.

"People have to eat and it's a good meeting place for people to come, chat and connect. There's been a few tears. It's healing," explained Vincenza.

They enjoy feeding the community and also cooked a free paella dinner for the community in the park on the first Sunday after the storm and did so again last Sunday.

"The way the community has come together has been amazing. Everyone has been donating what they can and it's been really good," said Vincenza.



Vincenza and Doug Alexander of Mirboo North have been cooking up a free breakfast each morning for the community. ob12\_0924

## Mirboo North Primary School overcomes the storm chaos

FOR MIRBOO North Primary School Principal Matthew Snell, it wasn't until the day after the storm hit that the widespread impact and severity of it became apparent.

The first and most difficult situation the school community faced was the lack of means to communicate with staff, parents and students.

While Telstra reception came in and out a couple of times and messages were sent out, Mr Snell knew they were unlikely to reach everyone.

The Department of Education quickly organised generators to the site to ensure the school could still cater to students – despite power outages, communication difficulties, and damage to their buildings, the school remained open to supervise students for those families in need.

"Our site itself was very fortunate that we had some local contractors that prioritised work at the primary school. They come around and pushed up and moved a number of trees before we got back," Mr Snell said.

"At the moment there's some repairs that will be taking place, but we've been able to tarp up an area and we're also replacing windows and things like that."

The arboretum at the back of the school oval, has about 40 large gum trees across seven acres with 15 to 20 of these with hanging branches that need to be made safe



Mirboo North Primary School Principal Matthew Snell with school captains Callum Campbell and Alexis Gosling, were back at school with nearly all other students and staff by Monday following the storm. ob13\_0924

before its opened back up to the students.

Despite having 12 staff members impacted in varying degrees by the storm, by last Monday morning the primary school had nearly everybody back on site, and the children were excited to share their stories with teachers and classmates.

"Out of close to 300 children, we had 30 away on the

Monday. We had 20 away on the Tuesday. It was terrific to have everyone back," Mr Snell said.

The teachers, the school welfare team and the Department's Support Service Network have all been looking after the welfare needs of impacted children and their families and offering support the best they can.

Mr Snell said he is grateful

for all who helped get students back to school, including parents, VicRoads, the Council and bus drivers.

"There's large amounts of damage and we thank everybody for their efforts. There's a lot of volunteers out there from our parent community and broader communities that have been conscious of our kids, and trying to get them to school," he said.

## John cheers up the canine victims with treats

IT'S NOT only humans that need a bit of help and attention following the trying times after the storms, it turns out animals do as well, as John Ertz from South Gippsland Shire Council discovered.

John was working at the Mirboo North Community Centre in the days following the storms when some locals came in with their dog.

The local told John that their dog hadn't eaten for a couple of days because he was stressed and upset following the storm event.

John went and bought a

packet of smackos and sat outside with the pair.

"I just began patting him and I broke off a smacko and he just started eating it" said John.

The dog's owner was surprised and delighted that her furry friend was eating once again and John gave her the bag of smackos to continue feeding to her dog.

Every other dog that then came to the centre received a special treat from the dog's happy owner.

"You don't realise that even the animals are going through

it," said John.

Staff at the Community Centre ended up buying two more bags of smackos and another of dog treats to cheer up other dogs that might've been distressed.

The Centre also received bags of dog food which people are welcome to take home to their pets.

**RIGHT:** John Ertz, working at the Mirboo North Community Centre discovered that dogs also needed a bit of care in the days following the storm.



Mirboo North locals.

**What was your storm experience and what needs to happen now?**



**Barb Gordon**

"There was a calm before the storm. It felt ominous. It was weird. We were inside and stones from the driveway came up and hit the windows, hail stones were like golf balls. It's like a cyclone. I've been in typhoons and earthquakes before but this was scarier, because it came in so fast and left just as quickly. There needs to be more services that come in after any sort of emergency event. Mental health support. Older farmers, males especially are not used to talking (about these type of things)."



**Jill Briscoe**

"It was swirling, coming in the front door. It was noisy and raining and there were great big hailstones. All the trees and fences came down in places. We lost a hay shed, one roof and the cattle yards. I thought there would've been a bit more rural support. There's been nothing for beef or fencing."



**Alan Foster**

"When it came through it got windy and blew down half a tree. I think you've just got to let things take their course. People should relax, and let things take its course and don't let it get to them."



**Lisa Murray**

"I was teaching music at Giles Street and all of a sudden it came through. You couldn't hear anything; it was so loud. There was hail and water coming in over the sliding door and coming in diagonally through the doors. I couldn't get home to Mardon Road. My son had to come and pick me up on his motorbike. Trees had imploded along the ridge. Council needs to step up big time. Nobody from council came by and nobody from VicRoads came by. Apart from representatives at the community hub there's been nothing. It's really, really disappointing."

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## OH WHAT A FEELING

# FOSTER SHOW



Amy Foster and Levi clear a jump. A06\_0924

## Horses a hit at Foster Show

LOCAL councillor Scott Rae was among those delighted to see the return of horses to the Foster Show on Saturday after ground works sidelined them last year.

There was an extensive program throughout the day, including competition for led and ridden horses, with show jumping getting the adrenaline flowing.

Foster's Amy Foster, a member of Bennison Adult Riders Club near Port Franklin, was aboard seven-year-old Levi the Red Rocket, having owned him for four years.

"Once he's out here he's got his game face on," Amy said after Levi completed the show jumping course.

She noted he can be hot-headed and displayed some attitude during the warm-up.

Brooke Paterson of Outtrim was another rider going over the jumps, in charge of Imoan Joshua, known simply as Josh.

"He gets very excited," she said of his approach to the sport.

Highland Pony Beinn Kaldy Bheithir, or Bheithir for short, excelled in the Highland Pony section under the watchful guidance of Yinnar South's Kayla Young who was aptly wearing a kilt.

Bheithir claimed a first place in class 305 Led Highland Pony Male, and Champion Highland Pony status.



Kara Oxley with puppy Daisy and the family's Partridge Brahma rooster. A10\_0924

## Interesting stories at the poultry shed

TOORAS Louisa Vale had a special connection to the Indian Runner ducks she was showing at the Foster Show, with their bloodline extending back exactly 100 years, introduced by her great-great-grandfather in 1924.

"They're egg-laying birds, not for meat," Louisa said, adding that the eggs are popular with Italians, being amazing for making pasta.

"They've got a much stronger flavour than chook eggs so you wouldn't have one on toast," Louisa explained.

Poultry Steward Kara Oxley was accompanied by gorgeous nine-week-old dachshund Daisy when the Sentinel-Times was introduced to one

of the family's impressive roosters, a Partridge Brahma who goes by a nickname not publishable in a family paper.

"The kids help feed him, but they've got their own breeds (to show)," Kara said, with showing poultry clearly a family passion.

As a steward, she's involved in meetings and grant applications and spoke about her role on Show Day.

"I help people put their birds in the right spots and help the judge when it's judging time," Kara said.

Some new cages were introduced for this year's Foster Show, enhancing the already popular poultry display.



Chelsea enjoys meeting people and seeing new places as she takes charge of the Laughing Ducks sideshow game. A20\_0924



Emiliqua East runs a whipcracking clinic. A25\_0924



Louisa Vale with Indian Runners. A09\_0924



Jean, Cliff, Gian and Lillian Charana of Toora enjoy the Foster Show. A22\_0924



Keira and Dallas Cruickshank of Port Franklin enjoy being in with the animals. A19\_0924



Diny Slamet of Mount Best with her stole 'Bubbly Blossoms'. A16\_0924



Marilyn Heggie of Binginwarri achieved success with her crochet. A15\_0924

# FOSTER SHOW

## Foster Show an action packed day



Brian Walters and Millie get ready for sheep dog trials. A17\_0924



Alana and Liam Sage with their winning pumpkin and trophy.



Nyora's Paul Latham at the Atlantic Seeds pumpkin competition area with Alana and Liam Sage's 85.9 kilo whopper. A12\_0924



Andrew Noble works on a goat. A14\_0924



Lloyd clears a jump under the guidance of Yarram's Yvonne McNeal. A11\_0924



Kayla Young with Highland Pony Bheithir. A08\_0924



Runner-up Thelma Brown of Toora with third-placed Shelley Panton of Foster and winner of Best Outfit Casey Parker from Bunyip. A23\_0924

By Andrew Paloczi

THERE was plenty to keep everyone entertained at the Foster Show on Saturday, with pleasant weather adding to the occasion and around 3000 adults and 1000 kids coming through the gates.

Theresa Cicero laid claim to one of the more unusual honours for the day, triumphing in the newly introduced Spouse Shout competition, having made herself heard.

Sheaf tossing offered opportunities from novice level up, with Paul Sagasser's 9.5m throw seeing him on top among the novices, while Andrew Peterkin's winning effort in the Victorian Championships, held during the Show, was 12.5m.

Members of the 'Best Yarn Society' based in Mount Best, demonstrated their adeptness with various craft forms, Diny Slamet's embroidered cushion winning a rosette and qualifying her to enter the Royal Melbourne Show.

Friends and fellow Society members Di Walker and Cathy Satchell-Wright also contributed impressive exhibits.

They were inspired as students of Gwen Young whose woven item of clothing from the late 1980s was on display at this year's Foster Show.

Heinz Haselroither of Woorarra West belongs to the Corner Inlet Men's Shed and proudly pointed out a stunning wooden bowl he created and for which he won first prize.

The ever-popular Andrew Noble demonstrated a different kind of woodworking technique outside, using his chainsaws and other tools to complete the creation of a goat before moving onto a black cockatoo.

Bunyip's Casey Parker impressed in the fashion stakes, winning the 'Best Outfit'.

"I like sewing," she said, having created her winning look.

When it came to green thumbs, it was tough to go past the exploits of youngsters Alana and Liam Sage who won the Best Pumpkin Exhibit with their 85.9 kilo monster.

Crowds were again wowed by the exploits of superhero canines clearing seemingly impossible heights in the dog high jump, joint winners Adam and Winga reaching 271cm in the large dog section.

Piper and Biscuit were the pride of the smaller dog brigade.

As far as human activities were concerned, dancing was a hit, with Irish, Scottish and rock 'n roll dancing all winners.

"That was something new this year and it had a constant crowd of people around it," Foster and District Agricultural Society secretary Den Gilheany said.

She was pleased with the comments she heard from showgoers.

"It was generally positive feedback and people said there was so much new stuff and lots of additions to the show that added to it this year," Den said.

She noted that some veteran Foster Show attendees praised the vibrancy of the 2024 version.

"We're keeping a lot of the traditional stuff but adding some new things for people to go and look at each year."

It doesn't get much more traditional than woodchopping, a display of strength and skill that never fails to involve the audience.

The only disappointment was that all too soon the Foster Show was over for another year.

## A look back at the Stony Creek Cup champions

The Stony Creek Cup, a prestigious horse racing event, has seen a parade of champions over the years. The Open Handicap race, spanning 2100 metres and boasting a prize of \$85,000, has been the stage for many memorable performances.

In 2023, the Cup was won by Flambeur, a gelding from the USA, trained by Matthew Smith and ridden by Craig Newitt with \$2.70 odds. The previous year, in 2022, at \$3.80 odds French horse Vardani took the title under the guidance of trainer Archie Alexander and jockey Josh Richards.

The year 2021 saw Skelm, trained by Terry Kelly and ridden by Jason Benbow, emerge victorious from \$8 odds. This win was preceded by gelding Don't Doubt Dory's triumph in 2020, a horse trained by Julien Welsh and ridden by Carleen Hefel. A horse, Stony Creek Racing Club CEO Adam Olszanski is keen to see return again this year after finding his winning form at Caulfield last month.

Prince Ziggy, trained by Jamie Edwards and ridden by Craig Robertson, was the champion in 2019 at \$2.70 odds. The year before, in 2018, Gallic Chieftain was on pace, trained by Darren Weir and ridden by Daniel Stackhouse, claiming the title from \$2.40 odds.

The list of champions is long and distinguished, with each year bringing a new victor to the forefront. From Youl Dash for Cash in 2017 to Tariama in 2002, each horse, trainer, and jockey has etched their names in the annals of the Stony Creek Cup.

Here's to the champions - past, present, and March 10's winner who will etch their name in the history books.

## Vibrant look at Influence Clothing



Influence Clothing owner Judy Stone displays a hot pink garment, with bright colours proving popular this racing season, accompanied by regular customer Iris Pettitt. A05\_0924

WITH her business, Influence Clothing, the main sponsor of Fashions on the Field and given her passion for horse racing, Judy Stone is delighted to help ladies find the right outfit for the Stony Creek Cup.

Everything from casual through to high-end fashion is available in the store, so it doesn't matter whether you have your sights set on winning Fashions on the Field or are just looking forward to a relaxing day out.

Judy has revealed the hottest trends you need to know right now.

"Everybody wants colour at the moment and beautiful florals," she said.

"They can go from flowing to fitted and it's about the accessories you put with it."

Those accessories include bags, fascinators and shoes, with hot pink, orange and green among the popular vibrant colours.

Anyone wanting to tone things down a little will also be catered for.

Influence Clothing

offers friendly advice on what items go together.

There's a great selection of jackets, with suitable options to team with your chosen frock.

Judy said matching patterned pants suits are also popular, with bright and floral designs again in demand.

While not in for racewear, loyal customer and friend of Judy's, Iris Pettitt, praised the high quality of the brands stocked at Influence Clothing.

As for Stony Creek racing, Judy commended the efforts of racing club CEO Adam Olszanski and his commitment to ensure patrons have a terrific day at the track, noting the function marquees as an example of a positive initiative.

With the local racing season heading for its finale, Judy looked ahead to what to expect on the fashion front.

"Autumn this year we're going to see more reds and a bit more orange; of course, navy is always popular, but black has died off a bit," she said.

## Fashion winners

**Racewear** ■ Fascinators  
■ Hats ■ Bags ■ Shoes  
■ Jewellery and more

**Influence Clothing**  
evening & casual clothing

ANZ Arcade, 32-34 Bair Street, Leongatha  
(IGA Carpark) **5662 5111**



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Wishing the  
Stony Creek  
Racing Club a  
successful day!

## A day of thrills, frills, and family fun

THE Ladbrokes Stony Creek Cup race day is fast approaching (March 10), and CEO Adam Olszanski promises a day filled with excitement, entertainment, and community spirit.

"It's very family-focused," says Olszanski, highlighting the range of activities planned for the day. From pony rides, sports activities and face painting to all the action on field, there's something for everyone.

Former jockey Chris Symons will be on track with his Funky Farm, an educational environmental show featuring a menagerie of Australian wildlife.

"There'll be plenty of opportunities to get up close with those animals," Olszanski assures.

Music lovers can look forward to live performances by the Hurricane Duo, and fashion enthusiasts can participate in the Fashions on the Field event, sponsored by Influence Clothing.

"Judy Stone's Influence Clothing, a boutique in Leongatha, have been big supporters of Fashions on the Field for many years, and will occupy some gaps between races."

The President's Luncheon will bring together racing officials, local politicians, and club committee members to celebrate the day.

"It's a great way of bringing the local community together," Olszanski remarked.

The course is shaping up nicely, despite the lack of rain.

"It's looking very green! We've got the sprinklers going all daylight hours to ensure that we've got a perfect racing surface – a surface that has a little bit of give for the horses," says Olszanski.

"Fertiliser went on last week, which will bring it up to optimum status."

The upcoming race will be the last one using the current irrigation infrastructure, with a new pop-up system in place for next season.

Olszanski is optimistic about the weather on the day of the race. "The weather we've had the last few weeks is indicating that it'll be a beautiful day," he says.

The season has had its ups and downs, with the first meeting exceeding all expectations with almost a cup-sized attendance. However, the second meeting

had to be cancelled due to heavy rain. Despite this setback, the season has been successful, with even the quieter meetings drawing a good crowd.

"We still had 800 people on track for Publican's Day, a few weeks ago, with the function raising \$5000 for charity."

As for the horses to watch, Olszanski mentioned Don't Doubt Dory, a previous cup winner who has recently found his old winning form at Caulfield.

"I'm just hoping that now that he's found some of his old winning form that his owners and trainer consider running on March 18 in the Stony Creek Cup again," he says.

For those attending the races for the first time, Olszanski advises dressing for the weather and arriving early to grab a good spot, although there is plenty of lawn for all.

There is also still availability for those preferring to pre-book a table, marquee or prime frontage on the lawn.

A variety of food trucks and the canteen run by the Stony Creek Football Club, which offers a wide range of food at affordable prices, will be on hand for those who prefer to forgo the home made or picnic lunches.

The race day is supported by many local community clubs, including the Stony Creek Football Netball Club, the Meeniyan Pony Club, Foster Football Netball Club, South Gippsland Writers, and the Port Welshpool Coast Guard.

"The people who come to the races are not just supporting the Stony Creek Racing Club, they're indirectly supporting many of the local clubs," says Olszanski.

"Lots of volunteers come and support our meeting or assist us in running our meeting and in turn we share our success of the day with those clubs."

With the gates opening at 11.30am and the first race kicking off at 1.05pm, the Ladbrokes Stony Creek Cup promises to be a day of thrilling races, family fun, and community spirit.

"The Stony Creek Cup will bring the curtain down on our five race meetings over the last three months," Adam concluded.

Don't miss out on this exciting event!



**Favourite Flambeur took to the lead in the 2100m Ladbrokes Stony Creek Cup for an easy win down the straight during last year's event.**



**2023's Fashions on the Field Best Dressed, Milly Smith from Dromana and Best Millinery, Karlie Owen of Cranbourne South stand with sponsor Influence Clothing's Judy Stone. C42\_1123**



**It was all smiles from last years Ladbrokes Stony Creek Cup owners and jockey as Flambeur took home the race with an impressive lead. C46\_1123**

There is plenty for all to see and do

### On the track

- 11.30am Gates Open
- 1.05pm Racing kicks off with the 1100m Maiden Plate.
- 4.40pm Ladbrokes Stony Creek Cup
- 5.15pm Race 8 (last race of the day)

### Off the track

- Funky Farm Wildlife Shows - 1.15pm, 2.25pm and 3.40pm
- Influence Clothing Fashions on the Field, 1.15pm Most Fashionable Junior, 1.45pm Most Fashionable Suit, 3pm Most Fashionable Dress and Best Millinery

And it wouldn't be possible with the incredible support from Stony Creek's sponsors.

Ladbrokes, Brandt Leongatha, Meeniyan Hotel, Fish Creek Hotel, Leongatha Rural Supplies, Family of the late Dr Michael Bourke OAM.

The event is also supported by Danny O'Brien MP.

### Forget the car

Leave the car at home and get to the Ladbrokes Stony Creek Cup by bus!

Thanks to the TAC, Stony Creek Racing Club will get you to and from the track safely.

Bookings essential. Seats are limited.

Book online for these routes: [bus.stonycreek.com.au](http://bus.stonycreek.com.au)

- Route 1 – Venus Bay, Tarwin Lower, Buffalo.
- Route 2 – Walkerville, Sandy Point, Waratah Bay, Fish Creek
- Route 3 – Yarram, Port Albert, Port Welshpool, Toora, Foster

Contact Harley's Buslines 0407 343 930

- Route 4 – Wonthaggi, Inverloch, Leongatha, Koonwarra

Meeniyan Courtesy Bus (Free and no bookings required). Departs Meeniyan Hotel at 12.35pm

**IT'S OUR COUNTRY RACING**

## Stony Creek Cup

**Sunday 10 March - Labour Day long weekend**

**Food trucks - live music by Hurricane Duo**

**Funky Farm wildlife shows - face painting - pony rides**

**Influence Clothing Fashions on the Field**

**Reserved tables & umbrellas and Trackside Marquee on sale**



## Plan ahead to stay safe in Gippsland's great outdoors

AMBULANCE Victoria (AV) paramedics are urging people who plan to explore Gippsland's great outdoors to be prepared and stay safe in the coming months.

As residents and visitors enjoy the region's remote bushland, and participate in camping, 4WDing, hiking or mountain bike riding, local paramedics say there are preventative steps people can take to ensure their adventure can be enjoyed safely and without emergency help.

AV Acting Gippsland Operations Community Engagement Liaison Coordinator Jess Shepherd welcomed the season of outdoor adventures but said before heading to remote areas, planning a trip should be a top priority before hitting the road.

"It's great to get out into Gippsland's great outdoors but ask yourself if you're prepared for if something goes wrong," Mrs. Shepherd said.

"We know emergencies can happen anywhere, anytime, so it is always best to be prepared – to survive the great outdoors, you need to plan."

"A great place to start is to learn first aid, be prepared for weather conditions to change, tell someone where you're going and when you plan to return, and make sure you have an AV membership just in case you need us."

AV Gippsland Regional Director Ross Salathiel echoed the warning and said it was easy to become lost or disorientated in remote bushland and unpredictable weather conditions.

"Our advice is if you're heading outside, make sure you're equipped to do so," he said.

"That means checking the weather and dressing appropriately, checking the Fire Danger Rating and taking water, food, matches, a torch and sunscreen with you."

"Keep in mind that when out in the elements any activity has the potential risk of hypothermia or heatstroke, particularly if you're bushwalking or mountaineering, so use the 'buddy system' and check each other for warning signs."

"You may not be able to recognise your own symptoms of hypothermia due to mental confusion."

Mr. Salathiel said an emergency could catch you off-guard in a remote or unfamiliar place that may be difficult to describe when calling Triple Zero (000), such as a beach, unfamiliar road or bush track.

"If you're travelling to rural and remote regions of Victoria you may also consider carrying a Personal Location Beacon (PLB), known as an emergency beacon," he said.

"When activated, a PLB sends an emergency signal via satellite to emergency services."

"We also encourage anyone traveling to a remote location to download the 'EmergencyPlus' app, which is free to download and uses smart phones' in-built GPS functionality to help a caller provide the Triple Zero Victoria (000) with location details."

"Open the app and you'll be able to tell the call-taker your location coordinates, as well as three words which can be used to pinpoint your exact location."

"The 'what3words' function works offline, so it can be used in remote areas with poor data connections and can confirm an exact location quickly and accurately using just three words."

Download the VicEmergency app to be notified of incidents such as fire, flood, storm, earthquake, tsunami, weather warnings, shark sightings, beach closures and more.

To become an Ambulance Victoria member call 1800 648 484 or visit [ambulance.vic.gov.au/membership](http://ambulance.vic.gov.au/membership)

# Film night with a purpose on Phillip Island

By Andrew Paloczi

A SPECIAL film screening of 'Sapa' in Newhaven on Saturday night raised funds for a Sri Lankan man of that name and his family, a group of young Australians returning the kindness he showed them during their visits to his homeland.

Saturday's gathering at the Phillip Island Board Riders Club promoted socially conscious travel and was sponsored by the State Government's FReeZA program supporting the running of safe youth-friendly events that are alcohol, drug and smoke free.

A group of young Victorians met Sapa in 2018 after arriving in Sri Lanka, with the film in his honour made during a return visit there last year.

Sapa was the tuk tuk driver for those on the original journey, transporting the then teenage Aussies throughout their trip and welcoming them into his family home to eat.

One of the group, Leyton Bowen, spoke about the inspiration for the film and fundraising efforts for Sapa who lost his tuk tuk as a result of the pandemic.

"Sapa didn't have much but still gave us as much as he could; it taught us a valuable lesson when we were 18 and we wanted to give back," Leyton said.

A driving force behind the film, Bryden Banks, said the second trip was made possible through a fundraiser that won support from local businesses that contributed to a raffle.

"The intention was to buy him a tuk tuk and we put a film together from that trip to share that story," Bryden said.

"We're lucky to have a lot of creative friends from the music and arts scene who have come together to put on this event."

Another member of the group, Monique Scalzo, spoke of what socially conscious travel is.

"It's travelling with a purpose rather than just to the next tourist site," she said,



Young friends behind the Sapa film screening and associated fundraising efforts combine with YMCA representatives. Back row: Bryden Banks, Melissa Malinetescu, Ben Hughes and Liam Orr (YMCA), front, Issacc Milanovic (YMCA), Leyton Bowen, Jerrie Liberati (YMCA) and Monique Scalzo. A51\_0924

explaining the Aussies realised they have a privileged background and wanted to do something of value.

YMCA was involved in the Sapa film screening event, holding the FReeZA funds and allocating a staff member to assist, but wasn't in charge of organising the evening.

Jerrie Liberati represented YMCA, being responsible for coordinating the FReeZA program on the Bass Coast, explaining that she worked with the group of young friends who were in charge of the event.

FReeZA is based around music, art and culture, with all its events curated by young people.

"That's why we've collaborated with these guys, because they had this cool idea to do a film screening," Jerrie said.

The diverse evening included a welcome to country and smoking ceremony conducted by Steve Parker and live music from 'Soulatutions' and 'The Fillmores'.



Steve Parker conducts a smoking ceremony prior to the Sapa film screening. A52\_0924

## Pleas for cats and kittens to be desexed as thousands euthanised

IN JUNE 2022, the Victorian Government introduced mandatory annual reporting of euthanasia rates for cats and dogs in shelters and pounds.

The first data set collected was in 2023 and will be used to inform policy planning and program development to improve welfare outcomes for dogs and cats in shelters and pounds.

Reports on animals euthanised have been released recently and the numbers are staggering.

In 2023, 6535 felines and 1193 dogs were euthanised in Victorian shelters and pounds, including 54 cats and seven dogs across the Bass Coast and South Gippsland, according to Animal Welfare Victoria.

The reasons why felines were euthanised include behaviour, disease and injury, unweaned or orphaned, and wild or uncontrollable, or other – such as a lack of space; and dogs were euthanised predominantly because of behaviour.

Paula has been a volunteer for thirteen years at South Gippsland Animal Aid (SGAA) – an animal rescue centre.

They saw over 550 cats and



Victorian shelters and pounds euthanised a total of 6535 cats and 1193 dogs, with 54 cats and seven dogs from the Bass Coast and South Gippsland among those euthanised. A53\_0924

kittens through their doors last year, and many more get dumped, become wild and continue to breed, amplifying the issue.

"There are only so many homes out there. Rescues are at capacity. Adoptions are slow.

The flow of kittens and cats into pounds and shelters continues. Every litter born adds to the problem and the euthanasia rates in pounds and shelters," explained Paula.

Overcrowded pounds and shelters also offer animals to organisations like SGAA, who have about 13 volunteers who care for animals until they are adopted, to try and help reduce numbers.

SGAA have funding for two programs that locals and families can benefit from.

The first is for health care card holders and pensioners to get their cat or kitten desexed for only \$75.

Through this program 93 cats have been desexed so far and 65 of these were females.

Seventeen females have also been desexed through their Last Litter Program, where people can have their mother cat desexed for free if they give all their kittens to SGAA.

The National Desexing Network also offers reduced desexing fees for people on low incomes.

SGAA are always looking for more carers and people can also support the organisation by donating to the Paws Galore Op Shop in Wonthaggi.

For more information get in touch through their Facebook page: SthGippyAnimalAid.



## Prioritising ear and hearing care

HEARING is an invaluable sense that profoundly impacts our daily lives. It connects us to the world around us, facilitating communication, enhancing social interactions, and contributing to our overall well-being. However, amidst the cacophony of modern life, the prevalence of hearing loss is on the rise, posing significant challenges to individuals and societies worldwide.

The trajectory of hearing loss is concerning, fuelled by a convergence of factors including shifting population demographics, heightened exposure to recreational noise, and the persistence of untreated ear conditions such as otitis media. These trends forecast a future where hearing impairment could become even more pervasive, affecting individuals of all ages and backgrounds.

Yet, amidst these challenges lies hope and opportunity. It's estimated that a substantial portion of hearing loss cases, particularly among children, can be prevented through concerted public health efforts. This underscores the critical importance of proactive strategies aimed at raising awareness, promoting early intervention, and integrating high-quality ear and hearing care services into national healthcare systems.

Enter World Hearing Day – a pivotal moment on the global



**Audiologists Grant Hill and Braden Betley raise awareness on the importance of hearing, providing hearing assessment and rehabilitation.** Z02\_0923

health calendar dedicated to galvanising action on ear and hearing care. This annual observance serves as a beacon, illuminating the path towards improved public health outcomes and greater societal inclusion for individuals with hearing impairments.

The objectives of World Hearing Day are multifaceted yet interconnected. It seeks to promote public health actions, foster intersectoral partnerships, raise awareness, and encourage behaviour change towards healthy ear and hearing care practices. Through collaborative efforts across borders and disciplines, World Hearing Day endeavours to elevate the

profile of ear and hearing care, amplifying its significance on the global stage.

Crucially, World Hearing Day serves as a catalyst for change, igniting conversations, inspiring advocacy, and mobilising resources towards a shared vision of accessible, equitable, and comprehensive ear and hearing care for all. It's a reminder of our collective responsibility to safeguard one of our most precious senses and ensure that individuals with hearing loss can live full, empowered lives.

As we commemorate World Hearing Day, let us reaffirm our commitment to prioritising ear and hearing care, not just today, but every day. Let us

harness the power of knowledge, innovation, and compassion to break down barriers, dispel stigma, and create a world where every voice is heard, and every ear is cared for.

On this occasion, let us seize the opportunity to raise awareness, advocate for change, and reaffirm our unwavering dedication to the health and well-being of all individuals, regardless of their hearing abilities. Together, let us make every day a World Hearing Day.

If you or a loved one would like more information, please see Grant or Braden at About Bass Coast Hearing for high-quality, ear and hearing care service.

## Why March 3?

PEOPLE often wonder why World Hearing Day (WHD) is on March 3 – the short answer is because 3.3 resembles the shape of two ears.

But how do we hear? Our ears work with our brain using a delicate system to transport sound waves through the outer, middle, and inner ear and process and transform sound signals into the things we hear. Sound waves travel down our ear canal where they are vibrated through the ear drum. The sound is then conducted by the smallest bones in the body 'the hammer, anvil and stirrup' into the cochlea in the inner ear where tiny hairs perfectly tuned to specific pitches transform the sound into signals that are sent along the hearing nerve to our brain. Our brain then helps us process and understand these signals as the things we hear.

Hearing loss is the second most common health condition in Australia, after arthritis. It affects people of all ages, from newborns to older adults. Some of the common risk factors for hearing loss in Australia include exposure to loud noise, ear infections, chronic diseases, smoking, trauma to the ears, ageing, genetic factors, and certain medications.

To mark WDH WHO encourages everyone to take action to protect their ears and hearing health, by following these simple steps:

Check your hearing regularly and seek help if you notice any changes or difficulties.

Protect your ears from loud sounds by using earplugs, headphones, or other devices.

Keep your ears clean and dry, and avoid inserting objects or substances into them.

Follow the advice of your health care provider if you have any ear or hearing problems, and use hearing aids or other devices if prescribed.

Support people with hearing loss by being patient, respectful, and inclusive.

## Changing mindsets around hearing

LET'S make ear and hearing care a reality for all on March 3 – World Hearing Day.

Did you know there are four million Australians living with hearing loss? And this figure is predicted to increase to almost nine million by 2050 as the population ages.

Globally that figure is over 1.5 billion people, a number that could reach 2.5 billion by 2050.

"As a baby born with profound hearing loss, I was fortunate to receive early intervention and two hearing aids to learn to listen and speak," Paige Stringer, Founder, Global Foundation for Children with Hearing Loss stated.

For others like Kasper Bergmann, Vice President of the World Federation of the Deaf sign language is crucial.

"Every deaf person, anywhere, should have early access to sign language to reach their fullest potential, which I was fortunate to be able to."

This World Hearing Day speak up to friends and family, to those in government and the wider community because globally unaddressed hearing loss poses an annual cost of nearly US\$1 trillion.

So, pop down the cotton buds and take care of your ears and remember to forget the myths:

Ears are self-cleaning, they do not need to be cleaned.

Like a tooth ache if you have ear pain you should see a health professional, like ABC Hearing, do not treat it with a home remedy.

Discharge from ears is an urgent problem and not a small inconvenience.

And remember, cotton buds are not good for the ears.

In changing your mindset around hearing loss consider it can happen at any age and is preventable, with tinnitus a warning sign of hearing loss. And, if needed, hearing aids enhance your quality of life, if you wouldn't wear uncomfortable, old shoes, why put up with half conversations.



**Dr. Jen Richardson, leading authority in educational audiology, helped Mattel develop a Barbie who represented those with hearing loss – and is delighted her young patients now have a Barbie representing them. "As an educational audiologist with over 18 years of experience working in hearing loss advocacy, it's inspiring to see those who experience hearing loss reflected in a doll. I'm beyond thrilled for my young patients to see and play with a doll who looks like them."**

### How to be hearing loss friendly:

- Find good lighting and face the person so they can easily watch you speak.
- Speak clearly and slowly – don't shout!!
- Do not exaggerate lip movements when speaking.
- Speak one at a time.
- Reduce background noise or move to a quieter setting.
- Avoid saying "I'll tell you later".
- Include them in all activities.

**YOUR LOCAL, PERMANENT AND INDEPENDENT HEARING CLINIC IN, AROUND AND ABOUT THE BASS COAST.**



**For appointments with Braden and Grant:**

**5672 5598**

**Open: Monday to Friday 9.30am - 4.30pm**  
**Shop 5, Plaza Walk Arcade, 23 Murray Street, Wonthaggi (opposite the new Bass Coast Library)**

**Visiting Inverloch, Cowes and Frankston**

### ABOUT US:

- Opened in Wonthaggi 2007
- **Independent, local** and not aligned to any manufacturer so you can be assured of the best advice and a complete choice of devices with the latest hearing technology and comprehensive service
- Our clinicians are not paid a commission or incentive on sales
- Accredited to provide the Australian Government Hearing Services Program
- Braden and Grant are WorkSafe accredited
- Free assessments for eligible DVA and Pension card holders\*

\* Conditions apply to clients under the Commonwealth Hearing Services Program

## Sentinel-Times

### COMMENT

#### No hope if even the councillors are kept in the dark

THE lack of transparency from the Bass Coast Shire Council goes deep.

We saw evidence of it again at last Wednesday's council meeting when it was revealed that emails addressed to the 'Mayor and Councillors' about the whereabouts of the missing mayoral chains were not passed on to councillors.

And despite knowing as far back as 2017 that the ceremonial regalia of the Mayor of the Borough of Wonthaggi had gone missing, likely stolen, there was no official confirmation of it until last week, and only then at the prompting of former mayor and long-serving councillor John Duscher.

So tightly-wound about, what, the reputation of the council (?) is Bass Coast that the former mayor, a Medal of the Order of Australia recipient no less, wasn't allowed to address council with his concerns about an item of such important cultural heritage, despite their being a section of the governance rules which specifically allows it.

But, as regrettable as it is that the community is kept in the dark about just about everything relating to Bass Coast, it's even worse that our elected representatives are kept out of the loop as well.

They couldn't tell you, for example, about the operational performance of the new Cowes Cultural Centre, almost four months since it got up and running, despite its likely impact on an already tight budget.

But you'd have to blame the councillors themselves, in large part, for not getting together and insisting they have the information they need, in the form they need it to perform their role.

It was one of the key aims of the new Local Government Act of 2020 that Council information must be clear, capable of being understood, and accessible to all.

Bass Coast isn't on its own. Lack of transparency and accountability is a disease that's endemic in the public service (an oxymoron if there ever was one) and while you'd like to think it might make a difference, to change the deckchairs at the next council election in October 2024, it probably won't.

All that we can hope to see from the new CEO at Bass Coast, Greg Box, and the councillors in the final days of the present regime are some signs of hope.

#### Lack of significance for a world stage

I REALLY wonder if the BC Council etc. understand what 'World Superbikes' actually means... not a single banner, flag or bunting promoting the event over here in San Remo.

We have some posters (flyers) in the local business' windows, but nothing for passing traffic to understand the significance of this event!

It is Round One of a 'WORLD' Championship, which means tourism, accommodation, trade for the local businesses, some returns financially after recent storm events.

It's a pretty pathetic effort to be honest.

**Anthony B, San Remo**

## Vox Pop

### Have you made a change to your career this year?



**Bonny Huitema**

Cape Paterson

"Yes, I have previously worked in the beauty industry, and I am now in my second year of university studying a Bachelor of Nursing to become a registered nurse."



**Maddy Rose**

Wonthaggi

"I have been trying to get employment since October last year. I am after a level entry position in Wonthaggi, but there doesn't seem to be many employment opportunities in town."



**Dannielle Cockerall**

Wonthaggi

"Yes, I'm employed as an Air BnB cleaner and a support worker, but I am interested in moving into mental health and disability support."



**Adrian Dryden**

Wonthaggi

"Yes, I was working in construction, and I've made the move to study a Certificate III in Horticulture at Bass Coast Adult Learning (BCAL) full time."

#### Weather and our security

THE extreme weather event on Tuesday, February 13, underlines the climate emergency we are living in.

We – and our governments – need to support the communities of Mirboo North and other areas where people lost lives, livelihoods and property.

This weather event will not be the last, in our destabilised climate.

They remind us how crucial our established emergency services are.

The previous week Bass Coast Climate Action Network met the Mayor, Cr. Clarele Serve. We discussed the urgent need for stand-alone solar powered battery systems in community centres in all Bass Coast towns so community members can charge phones, run communications and support each other.

Get such small extensions to preparedness going now in our power-dependent world, not in the midst of an event!

**Ken Blackman, Inverloch**

#### Future emergency management plans

I AM writing to thank all the emergency responders and the many volunteers who jumped in straight away to help Mirboo North and district recover from the extreme weather event that impacted us all so heavily on Tuesday, February 13. It was very well done to organise on Thursday 15th a public meeting in the Mirboo North Hall to inform residents about the range of government agencies and emergency, community support and utility service responses to this natural disaster.

Without being critical, unfortunately, the organisers struggled with the great number of people attending. Almost the same size crowd as managed to fit into the Hall, was standing around outside it. Many, like my husband who were disabled, or late comers, were left unattended for over an hour, and were unable to hear or see what was being said inside. Consequently, to inform the outside community, a second event was hastily convened outside the hall, immediately after the main meeting concluded. But there were many including small business operators and their staff in the wider district, who did not hear what was said at the disaster response meeting. Many were unable to attend in any case as their businesses were providing essential services. Consequently, I have requested that Council clarify if the proceedings were recorded in any way and can be provided to the wider Shire community.

Everyone should look closely at the shire's municipal emergency management plan documents [southgippsland.vic.gov.au/downloads/download/435]

emergency management] which focus mainly on bushfires and other fire events, consider animal welfare, and include how communications should take place.

We have a wonderfully supportive community that pulls together in emergencies. Our resilience is strong but it needs to be sustained and supported over time. We can only cope with so much at any one time. Consequently, I have asked Council to take several steps to enable wide-spread learning from Mirboo North and district's natural disaster. Yesterday, I suggested several steps for South Gippsland councillors to help sustain our community resilience. I asked that Council, at an appropriate time:

1. Establish a community-based panel to hear ideas about and guide community recovery. Such a panel should include Gunnai-Kurnai elders and have capacity to invite various experts and individuals to input in the formulation of a practical community recovery plan;

2. Ask members of the Mirboo North and wider district community impacted to address a special meeting of Council on their experiences as part of a process of learning from our latest natural disaster. This would enable Council to update and improve community preparedness, response and recovery initiatives within the framework of the Shire's emergency management plans;

3. Closely review the experiences of:
  - i) schools, kindergarten/childcare and the swimming pool;
  - ii) the bank, and petrol station, Foodworks, and food outlets;
  - iii) age and disability care providers; and
  - iv) hardware store and electrical equipment, small tools sales and repairs; and

4. Explore the potential to have a portable stage and livestream events such as the Mirboo North's community briefing and improve capability to do so in future at various venues across the Shire.

Many more ideas will be needed as we recover from this natural disaster; and, given that the frequency and intensity of natural disasters is increasing all our communities need to factor in preparedness and modify our natural disaster emergency response and recovery plans accordingly.

**Rosemary Cousin, Allambee South**

#### Questions raising brows

I CONGRATULATE Cr Halstead, in raising a point during question time in Wednesdays council meeting, Wednesday

21, regarding a question from the former councillor and mayor, Mr Duscher regarding the missing mayoral chains worth \$50,000.

Cr Halstead's comments are of a concern regarding transparency between council officers the mayor and councillors.

As per Cr Halstead's comments, "I would like to know why and how often letters addressed to both the mayor and councillors, are not provided to councillors for their information or input."

The criticism was a veiled swipe at the former mayor Cr Michael Whelan, who was in the chair at the time, and the former CEO Ali Wastie, known for running a very tight ship where public correspondence was concerned.

I would like to make Cr Halstead aware of a freedom of information (FOI) request that I instigated in regard to questions raised by Bass Coast residents during April to September 2023, and not read out by the then mayor M Whelan. The number was one hundred and twenty-eight.

I congratulate Cr Halstead in her effort to step outside the square and raise her concerns during question time regarding answer given by council officers.

Other councillors should take note and if they are not prepared to challenge council officers' replies on question during question time, they should consider their position within Council. October is around the corner so think hard as your time may end in come October.

**John Trigt, Surf Beach**

#### What about our Arts Centre?

IN REFERENCE to your editorial on February 20 with regards to Cowes Cultural Centre:

I am a resident of Inverloch. My friends and I have regularly enjoyed meeting for a movie at the Wonthaggi Arts Centre for many years.

Since Cowes opened, movies at Wonthaggi have become sporadic to say the least. Now, the last movie screening on Tuesdays (the only day movies are shown in Wonthaggi) is at 5.30pm? This means people who work cannot attend.

Cowes is currently screening movies four days a week including weekends and evenings but none on weekends or evenings at Wonthaggi. Why this disparity?

The arts centre has always been a community service for all ratepayers and visitors. Why is the community of Wonthaggi and surrounds being less valued and served than those on the Island?

They don't advertise here in the Sentinel-Times anymore. Do they expect everyone whether local or visitor to know to go online for screenings? What about the seniors in the community who don't use the internet?

Something has seriously gone wrong since the advent of their new shiny toy in Cowes. I surmise that the Cowes centre is all that matters now, thus the Wonthaggi centre is left in the dark for movies on weekends and evenings.

**Concerned Ratepayer**

## ~ NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE & ADULT LEARNING NEWS ~



### WONTHAGGI NEIGHBOURHOOD CENTRE

WOW! What a wonderful time we had at our 40th birthday on Saturday 17. If you were able to come along you would have seen the vast array of talent from our Mitchell House community as well as lots of support from our local and state government representatives.

A big thank you to the singers, uke-players, drummers, and pipers who entertained us all. Also to our Master of Ceremonies Councillor Brett Tessari, our speakers Mayor Clare Le Serve and State MP for Bass Jordan Crugnale, plus Mitchell House founding members Fay Quilford and Sue Macaulay for providing the story and context of our history and growth up

until now. And as ever – thank you Kendra Mitchell and family. Please also allow me to thank the many, many volunteers, family and friends of WNC who also gave their time and energy to ensuring a great day was had by all. And the door is always open for T-Rex to come back and visit anytime!

L2P has had a busy couple of months with eight young learner drivers celebrating having received their P Plates over the past few weeks. There are 17 learner drivers currently on the waitlist, so we are looking for more volunteer mentor drivers. If you have two hours a week to spare and an interest

in road safety and supporting young people to learn to drive please get in touch with Melanie on 0467 590 679.

The Bass Coast Refugee Sponsorship Group recently held an event at Mitchell House to celebrate the Al Habra family's first three months in Australia. The event was attended by the family as well as the sponsorship group and others who have generously given a kind-hearted welcome and donations to refugee support in Bass Coast.

International Women's Day 2024 will be celebrated at Mitchell House on Thursday evening, March 7. This year's theme is Count her in. Invest

in women, Accelerate progress. The specifics are still being ironed out but do save the date and we will let you know the exact details as soon as we can.

And finally, we are looking for more front desk volunteers. We have morning or afternoon shifts available most days of the week so if you can donate some time, please call us on 5672 3731 or contact us via the website [wonthaggineighbourhoodcentre.com](http://wonthaggineighbourhoodcentre.com).

We would love to hear from you.



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

### BASS COAST ADULT LEARNING

BCAL is again partnering with the Phillip Island Community and Learning Centre (PICAL) to deliver hospitality short courses in Cowes.

The Safe Food Handling and Responsible Service of Alcohol courses will both be running next week on Monday, March 4. This saves Islanders having to travel to do the courses. It comes after BCAL delivered the Responsible Service of Alcohol course for Manna Gum Community House in Foster this week.

BCAL's trainer Frank has a wealth of experience in both training and running restaurants. He has a great personality and participants always come away from his sessions

having had a really good time. Back at BCAL home base in Wonthaggi, the next RSA and Safe Food Handling courses will be on Monday, March 18.

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

#### ■ WONTHAGGI COMMUNITY GARDEN

The garden's end-of-season clear out is not far away. And as volunteers pull up spent zucchini and tomato plants their thoughts turn to cool season harvests.

A consensus has emerged among the regular Thursday morning crew that basics, used and enjoyed by everyone,

should be the priority plants in shared plots.

These include potatoes, carrots, onions and garlic. Vegetables like these are in the ground for longer, are low maintenance once established and fairly resilient.

And importantly, they are the foundation ingredients of so many tasty dishes. Other veggies such as beans, peas, greens, lettuce and herbs will go in too, as the season gets underway.

To find out more about the garden contact [tgordon@westnet.com.au](mailto:tgordon@westnet.com.au) or drop by in person on Thursdays between 10 and noon to see what's happening. All are welcome to tour the garden and/or join as a member or volunteer.

#### ■ U3A WONTHAGGI

Members and friends of U3A Wonthaggi are invited to a twilight session of bocce, music, and a BBQ on Wednesday, March 13, starting at 5pm. The venue is U3A Wonthaggi Garden & Bocce Court, 239 White Rd, Wonthaggi.

While the event is free, a \$10 donation would be appreciated.

You can RSVP via [eventbrite.com.au/e/u3a-wonthaggi-welcome-to-2024-gathering-tickets-816008763177](https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/u3a-wonthaggi-welcome-to-2024-gathering-tickets-816008763177) or for more information contact Glenn at [cantglenn42@gmail.com](mailto:cantglenn42@gmail.com).



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

### YES YOUTH HUB

THE YES Youth Hub is a community project managed by the YMCA Bass Coast on behalf of Bass Coast Shire Council and young people. It provides a safe, welcoming and inclusive space for young people aged 12 to 25 living, working, and playing in the Bass Coast. We are located at 76 Watt Street, Wonthaggi and our Drop-In is open on Monday to Wednesday between 2.30pm – 5.30pm (Thursday's are coming soon).

With school returning, now is a great time to introduce any young people you know to the YES Youth Hub. So please come on down and check out the space during Drop-In.

Well the 2024 Bass Coast Youth Pride Prom which was held on Saturday, February 10 was a huge success and filled

with laughter, love and plenty of dancing. The gloriously free event for young people aged 12 - 25 years, was dreamed up by a group of passionate young people, who wanted a safe, inclusive event for LGBTQIA+ youth to be able to be themselves, feel accepted, have fun, and celebrate together with their allies. This event wouldn't have been possible without the help of our funding partners, Midsumma, The Y and the Office for Youth (Engage!).

The YES Youth Hub would also like to thank our community partners that donated time and their creative energy to make the evening so safe and magical.

Our community partners were Victoria Police, Bass Coast Shire Council, headspace, FRee-ZA and Bass Coast YMCA. The

night was also filled with amazing entertainment by Dragged To, Big Day Little Booth and Ocean Soul Sparkles. Lastly, we would like thank Tim Anders, Erin Johnson and Harper Farrell for being there until the very end of the night and helping us stragglers with a mammoth clean up.

This week the YES Youth Hub was back in full flight. We provided some tasty afternoon tea thanks to some generous donations from Bass Coast Housing Matters and the Salvation Army. We also had a number of races on Mario Kart while bands were heard practicing throughout the week in our music studio. On Monday evenings our staff are funded to provide a community meal for young people. This week we were treated to

Mexican Chicken and Rice dish. If you find yourself in need of a feed next Monday and are aged between 12 – 25 years old, I highly recommend popping down to the YES Youth Hub between 4.30pm – 5.30pm. If you miss out, you can find portions in the Youth Pantry freezer.

Also, if you haven't heard we run a Young Mum's Hub on Tuesday morning between 11am and 1pm. The invite is open to any young mothers to pop down and join our gorgeous group.

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



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

## World Day of Prayer

INTERNATIONAL World Day of Prayer will be held on Friday, March 1 2024.

The combined churches of Korumburra are meeting at the Baptist Church, Mine Road, Korumburra at 7.30pm.

The focus is Palestinian Christians, and the theme is 'I beg you ... bear with one another in Love'.

The programme will include music and singing, stories from the women of Palestine, as well as a speaker and a short film from the Bible Society Australia.

All are welcome to come along and hear the stories written by Palestinian women and join in prayer and fellowship. Supper will conclude the evening. Any queries contact Linda 5956 7901.

### • FAITH FACTOR

## Lessons from Detection Dogs

By Karen Thorp, Assistant Pastor, Grace Chapel

DID you see the story on TV about the working dogs at Phillip Island? It was a story featured on Better Homes and Gardens recently.

Dr Harry spoke to handler Craig about the dogs he calls detection dogs, their names are Flash and Milly. Craig said the dogs use their keen sense of smell to find any foxes and feral cats that make their way onto the island.

Foxes and cats are the two animals that prey on the native birds and penguins. With the help of these dogs, the world's largest colony of Fairy Penguins isn't just surviving, they are thriving said Dr Harry. So let me tell you how that is relevant to us.

God wants His people to thrive, not just survive so He provides us a way to be prepared with the training to give us a keen sense to detect the enemy just like these dogs.

Those who understand the Bible containing the will of God are prepared for dealing with the enemy as well.

The dedication of the detection dogs to work shows us their absolute willingness to obey, and when they work hard they are rewarded. When we work hard and obey God we are rewarded too.

You may ask; what does that mean? It means working with the best of our ability, remaining disciplined and diligent, not cutting corners and not complaining but committing the work we do to God as it says in Proverbs 16:3.

We also need to be aware that we must stay within God's will according to the wisdom in the scriptures and by that it means that our obedience to God is a protection against the evil one as in Proverbs 3:5-6 'Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.'

Therefore we know that by dedicating our lives to God we receive protection from God so that we will not just survive, but thrive.



Olivia O'Connor enjoys the moment after her sculpture 'Eagle Hill' was declared the winning entry.

## Olivia O'Connor's eagles soar to artistic success

SOUTH Gippsland's Olivia O'Connor won the inaugural Neerim Bower Sculpture Prize for the 'Small Sculpture Award' category this month, her winning piece 'Eagle Hill' made from blackwood, oak and stainless steel.

She was delighted with the honour, saying it already felt special being selected as a finalist.

Olivia has enjoyed attending the Neerim Bower Sculpture Prize event over the years and didn't hesitate to enter this year when the small sculpture section was introduced.

"I'm a woodcarver by trade and do sculptural work for enjoyment," Olivia said, elaborating that a major focus of her trade involves creating and restoring rocking horses, something she has done for over a decade.

As for her sculptural works, Olivia is captivated by the majestic nature of eagles.

"I'm inspired by things I see in and around South Gippsland," she said, noting she uses a lot of local timbers, the blackwood featured in 'Eagle Hill' an example of that philosophy.

"I carved the two little eagles after seeing them soaring above and being mesmerised," Olivia said.

She described the process involved in creating pieces such as her prize-winning sculpture.

"I cut the silhouette shape out on a band saw and from there I hand carve them; in all my carving work I like the tool marks left behind as I think they give a lot more life to a piece than sanding it perfectly smooth," Olivia said.

She added that when creating birds, tool marks make perfect feathers.

As well as her winning piece, Olivia entered her sculpture of larger eagles that previously featured in one of South Gippsland Shire Council's art cubes, with both works selling during the Neerim event.

Olivia currently has an exhibition at Fish Creek's Little Oberon café, running until the end of February.

## She purged sea spurge by the sea shore

VENTNOR Coastcare president Judy Glover and a dozen enthusiastic volunteers recently participated in a coastal working bee at Grossard's Point, Ventnor to clean the shore.

All in attendance were armed with secateurs, spades, forks, and some lethal looking gardeners' knives and spent a good two hours of hard labour to clear a seemingly small but very tenacious infestation of the seaside scourge sea spurge (Euphorbia paralias).

"The sticky, and poisonous, milk-filled succulent quickly clogged cutters as sacks of seed-filled flower heads were bagged before the tough vinous root matter could be tackled."

There's plenty more to do, Judy hastened to add. And we are always welcoming new members!

Judy advised that their next working bees are to be held on the Friday, March 15 and Saturday, March 16. Anyone interested in finding out more about these working bees or what Ventnor Coast Care does, email: ventnorcoastcare@gmail.com.

# Inverloch Probus acquires new laptops

AT THEIR February monthly meeting, the Probus Club of Inverloch members were delighted to hear that their club had moved into the digital age.

Probus Clubs provide retirees with the opportunity to connect socially via meetings and offer a large range of interesting activities which cater to the very diverse interests of members.

At the meeting, three new laptops were made available initially to office bearers and then to the wider membership.

This allows club details and documents to be stored on these dedicated computers instead of the current method of using equipment belonging to generous members.

The laptops will allow us to smooth the administration role of current and incoming office bearers. We can hand over forms, documents and information, all in one package and all in one



Pam Dixon accessing information from the internet on the new Probus owned laptops.

spot," said Inverloch Probus Treasurer John Dale.

"The PCs will provide a common platform for administrative members to work from and create consistency between the Treasurer, Secretary and newsletter writers for example."

It is also intended that the

devices will be made available to all members to primarily use as learning tools providing 'how to use technology' knowledge as well as private usage.

The Probus Club of Inverloch thanks the Bass Coast Shire Council for their generous grant towards the cost of the laptops, under their Community Grants scheme.

The Club meets on the first Thursday of each month and visitors are warmly welcomed. If you would like further information then contact can be made by sending an email to Inverlochprobus@gmail.com.

## New president for South Gippsland Legacy Group



Legatee Alex Moon (left) is installed as president of South Gippsland Legacy by fellow Legatee Tom Loughridge.

FOSTER identity Alex Moon has been installed as president of South Gippsland Legacy.

Wild weather resulted in the cancellation of the group's 74th annual change-over luncheon where the installation would normally have occurred.

Instead, Legatee Alex assumed his new role during the group's monthly meeting in Wonthaggi last week.

Legatee Tom Loughridge of Loch, undertook the formalities.

There is a special connection between the two men as Legatee Tom is the person who drew Legatee Alex into Legacy.

Tom has been a Legatee for 39 years and is now on the

reserve list.

Alex joined 18 years ago. Both are previous group presidents - Tom in 1991 and Alex in 2013-14.

And Alex's father Lance, was president in 1977.

In his first official task as president this time around, Legatee Alex presented a certificate to retiring group president Legatee Phil Head.

He acknowledged the hectic two years Legatee Phil had had at the helm, coinciding with the wider Legacy movement's Centenary in 2023.

Legacy is an organisation providing support and companionship to widows and families of war veterans and those who have served their country.



John Kerville, Jenny Kerville, Judy Love, and Andrew Zuidema took out the "4's" championship at the Gippy Rock festival.

## Rock 'n' Roll

THE local rock and roll group shone at the Gippy Rock festival in Sale last weekend taking out the "4's" championship. This was a first-time event for groups in Regional Gippsland to show off their talent. Teams from Leongatha, Bairnsdale and Lakes Entrance entered the competition.

Gippy Rocks is a three-day rock and roll festival run by the Gippsland dance groups. Three live bands played over Friday night, Saturday night and Sunday. Victorian Regional dance championships for all ages from 7 to 70's was highly competitive with participants from all areas of Victoria attending.

J & J Gatha Rock is a not-for-profit group who dance for fun, friendship, and fitness every Thursday night (during school term) at the Dakers Centre, Leongatha at 7.30pm.

# Gippsland features in global offshore wind film

GIPPSLAND'S offshore wind industry hit the big screen Tuesday night (February 20), with the Gippsland premiere of global documentary film 'Planet Wind' at the Regent Theatre in Yarram.

Locals from across Gippsland got a first look at the documentary, which follows the human stories behind the development and growth of offshore wind around the world.

The film produced by Star of the South's co-founder, Andy Evans, features Gippsland – and Australia – as a new market where offshore wind can help solve energy and climate challenges while creating new local jobs and business opportunities.

As Australia's most advanced offshore wind project, Star of the South has been investigating offshore wind in Gippsland for more than five years, helping put Bass Strait's world-class winds on the global stage.

Gippsland local and Star of



**Andy Evans (Star of the South co-founder and Planet Wind Film producer), Erin Coldham (Chief Development Officer Star of the South) and Tony Wolfe (Gippsland local featured in the film) at last week's Gippsland premiere.**

the South Community Advisory Group member Tony Wolfe features in the documentary, sharing his story of working in the energy industry in Gippsland.

"It was an honour to share my story. I want Gippslanders to continue the region's long and

proud history of energy generation long into the future – but with clean energy", he said.

Star of the South Chief Development Officer, Erin Coldham, said it's exciting to see how Australia continues to learn from colleagues building offshore

wind farms around the world.

"We've always believed in Gippsland's potential to lead offshore wind in Australia, with its strong winds, skilled workforce and existing grid, so it's great to see the region featured on the big screen.

"It felt fitting to host this screening at the Regent Theatre, which features in the documentary, along with other recognisable Yarram locations."

Film creator Andy Evans co-founded Star of the South in 2012 and said Gippsland has always been the standout offshore wind home for Australia.

"Gippsland is now known globally as the heart of offshore wind not only in Australia, but the Southern Hemisphere. Not only is the world aware of the region, they want to visit and set up shop to be a part of the exciting future that is developing", he said.

You can watch the trailer to Planet Wind at [planetwindfilm.com](http://planetwindfilm.com)



**Founding Life FM Gippsland CEO Deb Bye.**

**Life FM Gippsland celebrating 20 years of life-changing radio**

LIFE FM Gippsland will mark 20 years of life-changing radio with a 20th Birthday Celebration to be held on Saturday, March 23, from 6pm at the Traralgon Golf Club, Princes Highway, Traralgon.

The evening will include a delicious dinner, incredible music, laughter and 20 years of memories.

Life FM Gippsland, a Christian community radio station, first went to air in the early hours of October 29, 2003, on the 103.9 FM frequency, on which it still broadcasts.

Two decades later, 103.9 Life FM Gippsland is still going strong, broadcasting positive, uplifting music and messages of hope across the region, as well as locally produced programs.

Station manager David Braithwaite said there was a lot to celebrate.

"While Life FM first went to air in 2003, efforts to get us on the air go back to 1999 with the work and vision of inaugural CEO Deb Bye and a group of dedicated volunteers, who had a desire to give the Christian community a place in Gippsland radio," David said.

"We want to celebrate those who made Life FM what it is today: a vibrant community radio station broadcasting a positive message, and to introduce the new generation of presenters, producers and volunteers who will take the vision of Life FM into the future.

"Anyone who was played a part in Life FM's success, including valued listeners and sponsors, are invited to attend our 20th birthday event, which promises to be an unforgettable evening."

The night will include music from recognised local artists Chico Johnson, Natalie Ambrose and David Eime, as well as presentations from former Life FM personalities Deb Bye and Randell Green, whose voices would be familiar to long-time listeners of Life FM.

"You'll hear stories about how Life FM came to be and of our journey over the past two decades," David said.

"You'll also have the opportunity to mingle with the current Life FM team and other like-minded individuals who share your passion for great music and the life-changing message of Jesus."

Tickets to Life FM's 20th Birthday Celebration cost \$25 each and are available from [eventbrite.com.au](http://eventbrite.com.au) (search for Life FM's 20th Birthday Celebration).

For more information phone 5143 0355 during business hours or email [gippsland@lifefm.com.au](mailto:gippsland@lifefm.com.au).

For catering purposes, please RSVP by March 2. The event is supported by Latrobe City Council.

## South Gippsland District Scouts water day

DESPITE the week that included storms and power outages, around twenty Scouts of various ages gathered with their families recently to celebrate Founder's Day, in honour of Lord Robert Baden Powell's birthday.

On the beach at Walkerville South, the older Scouts created a raft from barrels, timber, and ropes, while the Joeys and Cubs participated in a variety of fun activities, including sack races, egg and spoon challenges, mini golf, frisbee and skipping rope relays.

The children enjoyed the activities, then quickly moved their focus to start designing and building elaborate sand sculptures. After a morning tea break, the older Scouts were ready to take their raft to the water to determine if it was seaworthy.

Their success saw them paddling their handmade raft out to the safety boat and back again, an excellent achievement. They learned that teamwork makes it easier to paddle the raft, especially once their arms get tired and they are seeking the shortest distance back to shore!

The Joeys and Cubs then had turns at paddling the raft, before it was dismantled, to be rebuilt next time. After lunch, the youth enjoyed beach walks, rock pooling, swimming with their families, and more sand play.

With a mild cloudy morning and a warm sunny afternoon, a great time was had by all.

Thanks to Maree Pascoe for organising a fun day, Emma MacGregor for arranging a safety boat, and to Sam and Lisa Shannon for packing and transporting all the raft equipment.



**Josephine, Ben, Solomon, and Martha completing a raft.**

## Toora celebrates its pear-fect harvest with a juicy party

**By Andrew Paloczi**

PEOPLE strolled in the Toora Heritage Pear Orchard, picking from a wide range of varieties of the fruit, with pleasant sunny conditions adding to the joy of the town's Pear Party on Sunday.

The orchard was established in 1996 on South Gippsland Shire Council land and features 60 types of pears and 100 trees.

Friends of the Toora Heritage Pear Orchard lease the site from council, tend to the trees and run the Pear Party.

Tony Adams is now president of the organisation, having taken over the responsibility from Meryl Agars who long held the post.

The current president chatted about a few of the varieties of pear on offer.

He stood beside a Black Achan pear tree, describing the virtues of its fruit.

"It's one of the best cooking pears available and is great for desserts," Tony said.

Furthermore, the Black Achan fruits well every year and is

resistant to diseases such as pear scale.

A couple of American varieties, Lawrence and Howell also won Tony's praise, in this instance as great eating pears straight off the tree.

Some types are good to eat only after time in the refrigerator, mimicking winter conditions, while Perry pears are suited to cider.

Gurneys Cider of Foster was on hand at the Pear Party selling its 'Pear Party Perry' cider, with 50 percent of the pears used in its production sourced from the Toora Heritage Pear Orchard.

While patrons can sit back and enjoy a lazy day in the sun, there's plenty of organisation required to bring the Pear Party to fruition.

That includes organising market stalls and live music, along with raffles, sponsorship and advertising and a grafting workshop.



**Joel, Trish and Sidney enjoy the Toora Pear Party, with Sidney investigating the fruit of the day. A41\_0924**

### IKPS presents the 2024 Great Fete

THE Inverloch-Kongwak Primary School (IKPS) has announced The Great Fete is returning on March 16, from 10-2pm at the Inverloch Primary School grounds.

After an overwhelming positive response to the inaugural event last year, the school is excited to invite both the school community and broader community to this major fundraising event.

The event is once again different and a bit smaller from the school's well-known Easter Fair of years past. The event will not be held at Easter and will be sure to impress with local entertainment featured on The Great Stage, as well as food trucks and a fun-filled array of games and stalls running in partnership with several local community groups, businesses, and volunteers.

The IKPS Great Fete Committee is a small group of committed school parents and community volunteers who work tirelessly to better the school environment. This year funds raised will support exciting strategic plans for enhanced outdoor learning spaces.

The group is thrilled to announce receipt of a \$5000 Community Grant - Festivals, Celebrations & Events Category from the Bass Coast Shire Council (BCSC).

"The support and involvement of the Council is vital to ensuring success. The Great Fete is a way to continue to rebuild connections between the school and community and celebrate and acknowledge the various community groups that make where we live and learn so great," says Mel Carlisle, Great Fete Committee Coordinator.

"Our goal is to create big memories and connections for the kids and community to remember for years to come," said Mel.

With the new year, the IKPS community also welcomes new Principal, Ben Soumilas, more commonly known as 'Soum'. Soum is a long-time local, and the school community welcomes Soum with open arms and looks forward to his experience, passion, and dedication to further deepen the connection between the school and the wider community.

"I couldn't be more excited to see how The Great Fete brings us all together. A huge part of our mission at IKPS is to provide an engaging and inclusive environment for not only our students but our staff and parents and carers too."

"I love the idea that we can all gather to enjoy some entertainment, good food and great company in a place where everyone should feel like they belong. School events like The Great Fete help strengthen the partnership between home and school and I look forward to seeing as many people there to support the event as possible."

The event is approaching quickly and volunteers, sponsors, in-kind and cash donations are needed.

To get involved, email [ikpsfete@gmail.com](mailto:ikpsfete@gmail.com) or call the Inverloch Primary School 5674 1253.

For event information and updates, go to [Facebook @inverlochikpsfete](https://facebook.com/inverlochikpsfete).

### Band Apart on show this weekend

RON Andersons Group 'Band Apart' will be playing for the Inverloch Jazz Club at the Inverloch RSL on March 3 from 2pm - 4.30pm.

The apparently strange name of this band reflects a deliberate choice of players from different physical and musical environments around Melbourne. Band members separated from each other.

Drummer Larry Keane will be featured singing a range of popular songs, while Ron Anderson will lead the group playing sax, flute and piano with well-known jazz guitarist Vince Hopkins and local bassist David Galea, guaranteeing an accessible popular swinging foot tapping afternoon.

The cost for visitors will be \$18. Enquiries Marg. 0438 420 770



## Ballroom blitzes into Gippsland

GET ready to experience the ultimate dance extravaganza with Ballroom Blitz, the latest sensation from the visionary producers of "Celtic Illusion." Choreographed by the remarkable Aric Yegudkin, three-time Dancing with the Stars champion, this show is a breathtaking fusion of elegance, energy and mind-blowing ballroom dance.

Ballroom Blitz sees traditional ballroom dance meet cutting-edge choreography, producing a mesmerising display of skill and passion. Be awestruck as Aric Yegudkin's artistry takes centre stage, creating a spectacle where rhythm meets romance, passion ignites the dance floor, and you are transported into a world

where every step tells a story, and every move ignites the senses.

Featuring breathtaking costumes, lighting and stage design fused with heart-pounding music performed by our live band, this show will set the stage on fire as the dancers create moments of pure enchantment, a testament to the incredible world of dance.

Ballroom Blitz will leave you spellbound, reminding you that the possibilities are limitless when it comes to dance. This is ballroom dance unleashed!

Ballroom Blitz in Gippsland:  
March 19 - West Gippsland Arts Centre, Warragul  
March 22 - Gippsland Performing Arts Centre, Traralgon

## High and wide praise for Archies Creek

THEY must be doing something right, a lot right at the Archies Creek Hotel after earning the high praise of renowned Irish folk singer-songwriter Luka Bloom who called by last Sunday as part of his Australian tour which next heads to Canberra and Brisbane.

When publishing a great photo of his band and the Archies Creek crew on his social media pages, going out to thousands of fans worldwide, he described the Archies Creek gig as his best Sunday afternoon ever, and that's

saying something surely, coming from the home of pub music.

Initially reluctant to get up and leave Melbourne after a big Saturday night, Bloom was ecstatic with the welcome he received from the switched on Archies Creek team, and 300 appreciative music fans.

"The thought of a 3.30pm show did not fill me with joyful anticipation but then we arrived at this incredibly unique venue, The Archies Creek Hotel, and had the best Sunday afternoon EVER!! The sound was great; the

audience was awesome, in the afternoon sun, I could see everyone.

"These are the people who are the heartbeat of every successful musical gathering anywhere," he said of the team at Archies Creek, insisting they join him for a photo out the front.

And it's on again this Sunday, March 3 with the fantastic 9-piece, contemporary soul, blues, calypso and rock'n'roll band 'Jazzparty' back again at Archies Creek for a Sunday afternoon show, with special guest Tracey Miller.

Vocalist Loretta Miller and band leader saxophone player Darcy McNulty are no strangers to Archies Creek having spent the COVID lockdown in the area with family members and along the way developing a love for Bass Coast and the Archies Creek valley in particular.

There are plenty of tickets left for what will be another great Sunday afternoon, with kids under 12 free.

Get your tickets at Caravanmusic: <https://www.caravanmusic.com.au/events/jazz-party-3>

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

Come and join in the laughs at South Coast FM Bingo

★ RAFFLES ★ DOOR PRIZES ★ LUCKY NUMBER JACKPOT

**Send us your photos**

If you're having a 21st, club function, wedding, or other social event, take some photos, name the people in the snaps and email to [news@sgst.com.au](mailto:news@sgst.com.au)

**Sentinel-Times**

*It won't cost a cent to see them in print!*

## Spectacular music line up for Gippsland

THERE is no better place to be this summer than in South Gippsland with musical delights for all tastes. Archies Creek Hotel and Hall have come to life every weekend – often on multiple occasions over the weekend, and the weekend past was no different with the ever-talented Irish troubadour Luka Bloom entertaining crowds on Sunday afternoon.

The electro-acoustic guitar playing was in form and his inspiring lyrics and sumptuous melodies enthralled audiences.

And that was just Sunday past, the weeks ahead will see some soul-stirring names come to town with Caravan Music launching Jonnie Goes To Church's long awaiting self-titled album this coming Saturday at 3pm, followed by Jazzparty on Sunday at 3pm.

Jonnie Goes To Church is the product of Celia Church and Jon von Goes. Celia's a singer from New Zealand, Jon's a broadcaster from Melbourne. Celia writes the melodies and sings like an AM radio angel, Jon writes the words and sings like an FM radio broadcaster, and on Saturday they'll launch their long-awaited record with a full band for the first time ever.

Jazzparty will return to Gippsland on Sunday for a festive vibe in the beer garden.

Bringing their unstoppable infectious live show to celebrate their hard-hitting



**There is a fantastic line-up of gigs over the coming fortnight at Archie's Creek and Riverview Hotel including Jonnie Goes To Church's album launch this Saturday.**

contemporary soul, blues, calypso and rock'n'roll, Jazzparty are not only a band, but a live experience like no other. It's one not to be missed!

On Thursday, March 7, old-time American mountain music lovers are in for a treat as The Whitetop Mountaineers (USA) arrive.

From the Blue Ridge Mountains of Virginia, the Whitetop Mountaineers, Martha Spencer and Jackson Cunningham, are skilled multi-instrumentalists on guitar, fiddle, banjo and mandolin, performing authentic old-time American mountain music. They are also strong vocal performers, whose close harmonies are indicative of the old-time and bluegrass traditions from which they draw their

repertoire. They've toured Australia for ten of the past fifteen years, where they've stunned and delighted audiences at festivals and venues across the country with their performance of American mountain music, song and dance. In addition to being a talented musician and singer, Martha is also an exceptional dancer and teacher of the art of Appalachian dance, while Jackson is a highly skilled luthier, with his beautiful hand-crafted fiddles and guitars in high demand.

On the other side of town, Riverview Hotel are lighting up the dance floor as Kingswood and the Pierce Brothers hit the stage in the weeks ahead.

First up are Kingswood. Melbourne's own rock sensation,

Kingswood, is set to electrify the Riverview Hotel on March 8. Known for their dynamic performances and genre-blending sound, Kingswood's upcoming gig promises an unforgettable night of music and camaraderie.

Kingswood, a band that has consistently pushed the boundaries of rock, has a reputation for delivering high-energy performances that leave audiences spellbound. Their eclectic mix of classic rock, indie, and blues has earned them a loyal following, and their upcoming show at the Riverview Hotel is expected to be no different. Fans can expect to hear a mix of new material and classic hits at The Ides of March '24, all delivered with the passion and intensity that Kingswood is known for.

Then on April 13, Gippsland's much-loved duo, The Pierce Brothers return. After sold-out shows abroad, Jack and Patrick are marking 10 years since their acclaimed EP The Night Tree threw them into the global spotlight, by taking their new album on the road with over 31 shows around Australia.

It's hard to describe a Pierce Brothers show, other than, you'll never forget it for all the right reasons.

For all the gigs at Archie's head to [caravanmusic.com.au](http://caravanmusic.com.au).

For Kingswood and The Pierce Brothers at Riverview head to [linktr.ee/riverviewhotel](http://linktr.ee/riverviewhotel).



### Cucumber Soup



**By Meg Viney**

A COOLING soup for a hot day.

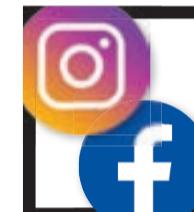
#### Ingredients

- 5 - 6 Lebanese cucumbers
- 1 cup Greek yoghurt
- 2 cups chicken stock
- Optional - mint jelly or fresh mint leaves chopped

#### Method

Puree all ingredients and chill.

Serve with the mint, for those who want to try it.



**Connect with us**

@sentineltimes

# The ARCHIES CREEK HOTEL

AND THE CARAVAN MUSIC CLUB PRESENT

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 + GUEST CHARLIE OWEN
THU 21 MAR	DON WALKER & BAND
FRI 22 MAR	MAHALIA BARNES & THE SOUL MATES
SAT 23 MAR	CW STONEKING
SUN 24 MAR	STEVE POLTZ 'THE 22ND TIME'S A CHARM' TOUR
SAT 6 APR	THE STETSON FAMILY + THE YEARLINGS
SAT 6 APR	ARVO DALLAS FRASCA SINGLE LAUNCH / EVENING
SUN 7 APR	ED KUEPPER
SUN 21 APR	KEVIN WELCH & THE WEEPING WILLOWS
FRI 26 APR	CHARM OF FINCHES

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

Caravan Hotel

89-91 ARCHIES CREEK ROAD / [WWW.ARCHIESCREEKHOTEL.COM.AU](http://WWW.ARCHIESCREEKHOTEL.COM.AU)

**RIVERVIEW HOTEL, TARWIN LOWER PRESENTS**

# KINGSWOOD.

**FRIDAY, MARCH 8**

**TICKETS ON SALE NOW!**

[KINGSWOODBAND.COM](http://KINGSWOODBAND.COM)

**TICKETS ON SALE @ [WWW.OZTIX.COM.AU](http://WWW.OZTIX.COM.AU)**



Ride for Relief organiser Yuki Davidson and volunteer committee member Steven Van Ruyven take a lunch break in Inverloch alongside 21 other riders plus support. C05\_0924



Gordon Cunningham and Errol Baxter were glad to be on day four of the six-day cycle challenge albeit having fun Thursday's gruelling temperatures were brutal. C06\_0924



Bade Stapleton of Cairns joined Bayswater North cyclists Zoe Grange and David Anselmi on the Ride for Relief six-day tour. C07\_0924



Laughs were plenty during lunch for rider Damian Flatz, videographer/photographer Ethan Berends, rider Denis Mahoney and lead car support crew member Nicole Wood. C08\_0924



Jenny Cunningham and Noelle Bonnin of Manna Gum Community House offer tasty wares at the Foster Show. A31\_0924



Di Walker and Cathy Satchell-Wright entered their work in the Foster Show, with Cathy contributing a hand-woven scarf and Di a crafted Flanders Poppy. A32\_0924



Lisbet and Heinz Haselroither of Woorarra West enjoy the Foster Show in which Heinz entered his woodwork. A33\_0924



George Harron and his aunt Alison Fatchen explore the Foster Show. A34\_0924



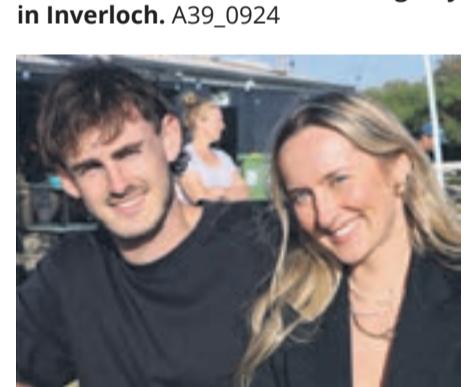
Jacob, Elma and Allen Dalagan of Foster enjoy their home town agricultural show. A35\_0924

# Snapped Out

Pictures of you and your friends at The Foster Show, Ride for Relief Cycle Challenge, All Abilities Surfing, Toora Pear Party and the Sapa Film Screening.



John and Karen Hughes and Denise Scalzo await the screening of Sapa. A49\_0924



Carer Jayne Wilson with surfer Will Smith at the all abilities surfing day in Inverloch. A39\_0924



Angus Clavarino and Alicia Scalzo look forward to the screening of the film Sapa at the Phillip Island Boardriders Club. A47\_0924



Courtney and Lil Banks look forward to the film Sapa. A50\_0924



Stewart and granddaughter Gaia enjoy the Toora Pear Party. A44\_0924



Zoe and Melanie relax at the Toora Pear Party. A45\_0924



Robyn and Glenda of the Toora Lions raise funds for the Childhood Cancer Research Foundation, helping with the barbecue at the Toora Pear Party. A46\_0924



## A vintage gem with potential

BUILT in the late 1950's, this unique brick veneer home on an 854m<sup>2</sup> block has plenty of room and scope, with excellent foundations in place, for a buyer who is happy to spread some cosmetic joy to make this their home! Features of the home include:

- Big windows make for a bright open living and dining room.
- A wood heater and reverse cycle air conditioner keep the home warm and cool.
- Classic 1950's kitchen with electric hotplates and wall oven, breakfast bar, with good storage.
- Three good-sized bedrooms all with built-in robes.
- Family bathroom with, shower, bath, vanity, and toilet.
- The second shower and toilet for the home are within the spacious laundry.
- Single carport with undercover front entrance.
- Undercover rear porch area.
- Side access for a vehicle to the rear yard.
- Great workshop/garage in the back-yard (8.3m x 5.7m)
- Additional smaller garden shedding, and aviary/hen house.

Conveniently located a short walk to the Great Southern Rail Trail, Ellen Lyndon Park, shopping precinct, schools, hospital and all Leongatha has to offer, 20 Blackmore Avenue is an affordable opportunity to own your own home, in beautiful Leongatha.

For further information and to arrange a personal inspection please call Irene Walker at SEJ Real Estate.

3 | 2 | 2

854m<sup>2</sup>

20 Blackmore Avenue, **Leongatha**

**For Sale** \$435,000

**Agent** SEJ Real Estate

Irene Walker 0429 045 632



YOUR LOCAL REAL ESTATE  
& LIVESTOCK SPECIALISTS

### BUFFALO



- Exceptional lifestyle - 10 acres
- All set up for cattle & horses
- Sandstone home with open plan
- 3 bed, 2 bath, 2 carport
- Exc. Shedding to suit all!
- Walk to the great southern rail trail

**\$1,170,000**

### KOONWARRA



- Prepare to fall in love!
- Contemporary Victorian Home
- 3 ac (approx.) paddock & garden
- Panoramic views & peaceful
- Open plan living, spacious & bright
- 4 QS BRs, 2 bath & family rooms

**\$1,850,000 - \$1,920,000**

### NERRENA



- Magnificent quality home
- Situated on an acre
- Stunning rural farm views
- 5 bed, 2 bath, 3 living
- Great shedding & garden
- Easy 10 min. drive to Leongatha

**\$920,000**

### DUMBALK NORTH



- 4 bed, 2 bath, 3 car B/V home
- Set on 1 acre, with views
- Low maintenance property
- Lovely outdoor entertaining
- Great shed to tinker in!
- 23 min. to Leongatha

**\$830,000**





## 'Canavans Run' – Superb cattle & breeding property

ELDERS Real Estate is proud to offer 'Canavans Run' an exceptional 636-acre property in six titles. Ideally suited to cattle or sheep, fattening/breeding, 'Canavans Run' combines productivity at a more viable commercial investment. A fantastic opportunity for astute investors to secure a larger scale high rainfall property in the renowned South Gippsland region.

A country style home consists of three-bedrooms, two-bathrooms and has been beautifully renovated to its former glory with views from every room. The spacious kitchen features a 'Esse' wood fire stove, dishwasher, large island bench and ample storage with a walk-in pantry. A central bathroom features a 'claw foot' bath, large walk-in shower, vanity and toilet, and combines stunning features of brick and pressed metal.

The property has exceptional shedding which includes a large three bay 18m x 18m machinery shed with connected power and incorporates the shearing complex in one bay, 9m x 7m lock-up garage with power and 10m x 10m hay shed. For horse enthusiasts there are two stables plus tack room and a sand-based horse arena.

There are 17 paddocks in total, all well fenced. An excellent water supply on the property consists of dams, permanent springs and creeks, plus reliable 40-inch annual rainfall. Other features include a private quarry which can provide excellent quality gravel and rock that can be used on tracks, stockyards, etc. An additional home site can be found, which offers stunning panoramic views.

'Canavans Run' is on the market for the first time in 40 years and presents a rare opportunity to purchase an outstanding property in beautiful South Gippsland.

For further information or to inspect the property, please contact Don Olden on 0417 805 312 or Katrina Griggs on 0428 571 083.

3 | 1 | 4 636 acres

25 Brownhill Road, Mt Eccles

**For Sale** \$4.7 Million

**Agent** Elders

Don Olden 0417 805 312

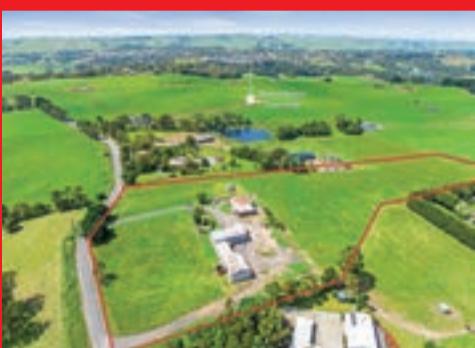
Katrina Griggs 0428 571 083



Real Estate

Over 40 years' experience

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



### Leongatha 4.2 acres

**'Hidden Haven' on Outskirts of Town**  

- 4-bed, 2-bath character filled home
- 1-bed bungalow plus shedding
- Horse stables, arena & 4 paddocks

Web ID: 300P110968 **\$1.1-\$1.15 Million**

### Boolarra 8.8 acres

**Create Your Dream Lifestyle**  

- Attractive undulating 8.8 acre block
- Ready to build your dream home (STCA)
- Well suited for horses, cattle or sheep

Web ID: 300P105909 **\$495,000**

### Meenyan 2686m<sup>2</sup>

**Family Home on Spacious Block**  

- 4-bedroom, 2-bathroom home
- Open plan & spacious living area
- Walking distance to cafes & shops

Web ID: 300P6352 **\$680K - \$720K**

### Korumburra 10 acres

**Mortgagee in Possession**  

- 4-bed, 2-bath home on undulating land
- 18x9m LU, 6x14.5m shed, 13.7x9m shed
- Scenic outlook overlooking Korumburra

Web ID: 300P134425 **\$875,000**



**Elders Korumburra**  
**11 Commercial Street**  
**Ph 5658 1894**

**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 Leongatha**  
**37 Bair Street**  
**Ph 5662 3523**



## Contemporary living with quality and style

WELCOME to 11 Burrows Way, Leongatha! This energy efficient, architecturally designed home is the epitome of modern living, offering a spacious and comfortable family home, with superb, elevated views. You will notice from the moment you step into this home the stunning fittings and fixtures and the high-end finishes that not a cent has been spared!

Features of the home include three bedrooms and two bathrooms. This property is not only perfect for families, but many of the features would also appeal to retirees. The master bedroom boasts a spacious ensuite and walk-in robe, providing a private sanctuary within the home, and capturing an amazing southern vista that lies before you. The remaining two bedrooms are generous, with one bedroom featuring a built-in bed, allowing the room to be multi-functional for an additional use.

The open plan living and dining area is flooded with natural light, creating a warm and inviting atmosphere. The kitchen is a chef's dream, equipped with

quality and modern appliances and ample storage space. The massive breakfast bar is perfect for gathering the family or an entertainer's dream!

The ground floor has been cleverly designed to use the area for functionality and not an inch has been wasted. It lends itself to a studio or additional study space, additional storage for modern living and an oversized garage with a great workshop.

The deliberate design of this house has also included extra-ordinary features that are not always visible to the eye, from commercial double glazing to additional insulation. Internal plumbing and wiring for future additions to the home and a 6.6 kw solar system to minimise your energy bills.

Step outside and discover the expansive backyard, perfect for entertaining or simply enjoying the outdoors. The south facing deck provides a peaceful retreat, allowing you to soak in the beautiful views of the rolling hills and the gorgeous,

manicured gardens below.

Situated in a desirable location, this property offers the best of both worlds – a peaceful neighbourhood and easy access to all that Leongatha has to offer. This home needs to be inspected to truly appreciate the attention to detail that the Vendors have contributed to this gorgeous property.

Don't miss out on the opportunity to make this house your dream home – contact Kellie on 0438 647 449 today to arrange your private inspection and experience the beauty of 11 Burrows Way, Leongatha for yourself.

3 | 2 | 2 780m<sup>2</sup>

11 Burrows Way, **Leongatha**

**For Sale** \$1,100,000

**Agent** Nutrien Harcourts

Kellie Thomas 0438 647 449

kellie.thomas@nh.com.au

47 Bair Street, Leongatha  
(03) 5662 2292

Scan the QR code to visit our website



**Nutrien Harcourts** Leongatha



**LEONGATHA**

Comfort & Convenience!

- Neat, rendered family home close to the CBD.
- Well-appointed kitchen with plenty of storage.
- Fenced backyard with low maintenance gardens.

\$510,000



**POUND CREEK**

Off Grid Luxury Living!

- Gorgeous family home on approx. 40 acres.
- Modern kitchen with walk in butlers pantry.
- Great amenities inc. fencing, shedding & water,

\$1,850,000 - \$1,950,000



**LEONGATHA**

'Hillview House'

- Well appointed kitchen with quality appliances.
- Master suite boasting an ensuite & walk in robe.
- North Facing alfresco, double carport & gardens.

\$779,000



**LEONGATHA**

Spectacular Family Home

- Modern turnkey home on 2,094m<sup>2</sup>.
- Master bedroom with walk in robe and ensuite.
- 3 bay shed & great sized backyard for the kids.

\$1,150,000 - \$1,190,000



**LEONGATHA**

Architecturally Designed!

- Well appointed kitchen with quality appliances.
- Master bedroom with gorgeous ensuite & BIR.
- Manicured gardens, large block, great location.

\$925,000



**BARRY REDMOND**

Director / Estate Agent  
0477 622 292



**MATT REDMOND**

Licensed Estate Agent  
0418 357 341



**LOCH**

Perfection on 2.47 Acres!

- Quality built, fully appointed family home.
- Master with WIR, & well appointed ensuite.
- Lock up 21m x 7m shed with concrete and power.

\$1,400,000

We get results!



Marketing Manager & Office Admin

HM10640-V17



## Quiet court location

This split level hardiplank home is perfect for those seeking space and tranquillity. Featuring three bedrooms, including a master bedroom with a walk-in robe and ensuite, this property offers comfortable living for the whole family. The large open plan living area boasts stunning rural views, creating a peaceful and relaxing atmosphere.

Entertain friends and family on the expansive deck area, where you can enjoy the fresh air and take in the picturesque surroundings. The property is equipped with two split systems, ensuring year-round comfort. The modern kitchen features electric cooking and a dishwasher, making meal preparation a breeze. The new laundry provides ample storage space, keeping your home tidy and organised.

With a partially set up man cave under the house, there is plenty of potential for a studio or additional recreational space. The double garage with rear access offers convenience and ample room for your vehicles. The beautifully landscaped gardens and yard add to the charm of this property, creating a serene and inviting outdoor space.

Situated at the end of a quiet court, this home offers privacy and a peaceful lifestyle. It is conveniently located near schools and sporting facilities, providing easy access to amenities and recreational activities. Don't miss out on this opportunity to own a spacious and well-appointed home in a sought-after location.

Contact us now to arrange an inspection of this fantastic property.

3 | 2 | 2 | 729m<sup>2</sup>

12 Willow Court, **Wonthaggi**  
**For Sale** \$699,000  
**Agent** Alex Scott & Staff  
 Wonthaggi 5672 1911



## Heavy carrying cattle country

EXCELLENT grazing/turnout property of approximately 152 acres located at Kongwak centrally situated between Wonthaggi, Korumburra and Inverloch in beautiful South Gippsland.

Ideal turnout block for cattle fattening or breeding, this excellent property will also suit any other agriculture or horticulture interests. There is a balanced mix of undulating to hill country with easy access off Wolonga Estate Road.

Features of this property include:

- Stockyards and disused herringbone dairy
- All year water supply and water licence to Foster Creek
- Extremely well fenced to 15 paddocks
- Treed plantations and fully fenced along the creek bed
- Four dams plus troughs, 40-inch annual rainfall
- Various machinery and hay sheds
- Secure 24m x 13m lock up machinery complex with concrete floor, power and lean-to suitable for large vehicles
- Solid laneway entry to all paddocks
- Comfortably carrying 100+ head

This is a perfect turnout block or smaller grazing property. Not being sold with a permit to build but could be obtained subject to council approval.

Inspection is strictly via the selling agents. To arrange an inspection or for further information, please contact Scott McKenzie.



### Grazing 152 acres approx.

Lot 2, 54 Wolonga Estate Road,  
**Kongwak**  
**For Sale** \$1,824,000  
**Agent** Alex Scott & Staff  
 Scott McKenzie 0427 552 898



**LEONGATHA**



**7 Olympic Court**

- Super neat 3 bedroom home
- Upgraded throughout
- Near flat court close to CBD

**\$525,000**

Contact: Leongatha Office

**RANCEBY**



**800 Korumburra-Warragul Road**

- Rural 13 acres
- 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom homestead
- Garage / disused dairy

**\$950,000**

Contact: Korumburra Office

**CORINELLA**



**21 Smythe Street**

- 3 bedroom + study, 2 bath and shed
- 1026m<sup>2</sup> (approx.) corner allotment
- Fully fenced with room for boat, caravan etc

**\$660,000**

Contact: Grantville Office

**WONTHAGGI**



**2/5 Baillieu Street**

- 2 bedroom, 1 bathroom
- Close to town
- Neat as a pin

**\$375,000**

Contact: Wonthaggi Office

**LEONGATHA**



**33 Worthy Street**

- 4 bedroom, beautiful home
- Lock-up shed + carport
- 6237m<sup>2</sup> land in quiet location

**\$940,000**

Contact: Leongatha Office

**KORUMBURRA**



**18 William Street**

- 4 bedroom/ 2 bathroom
- Outdoor entertaining
- Views

**\$599,000**

Contact: Korumburra Office

**CORINELLA**



**34 Smythe Street**

- Tastefully renovated
- 958m<sup>2</sup> allotment (approx)
- 3 bed, 2 bath, outdoor entertaining area

**\$799,000**

Contact: Grantville Office

**WONTHAGGI**



**2/26-28 Graham Street**

- 2 bedroom, 1 bathroom
- Like new
- Close to town

**\$480,000**

Contact: Wonthaggi Office

**LEONGATHA**



**67 Parr Street**

- 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom, 2 living
- Elevated rural views
- Garage + room for rear yard access

**\$615,000**

Contact: Leongatha Office

**KORUMBURRA**



**27 Radovick Street**

- Centre of town
- 1,160m<sup>2</sup> block
- Shedding, rear access

**\$725,000**

Contact: Korumburra Office

**GRANTVILLE**



**35 Portview Avenue**

- 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom, double garage
- Open plan living
- Fully fenced

**\$595,000**

Contact: Grantville Office

**WONTHAGGI**



**3/11 Turner Street**

- 2 bedrooms, 1 bathroom
- Quiet location
- Great size living

**\$450,000**

Contact: Wonthaggi Office

**LEONGATHA**



**25 Roughead Street**

- 2 bedroom Cottage
- Long block with rear access
- Great location close to CBD

**\$480,000**

Contact: Leongatha Office

**KORUMBURRA**



**14 Isabella Boulevard**

- 3 bed, 2 bath, near new brick home
- Open plan kitchen, meals & living
- Rear yard access

**\$599,000**

Contact: Korumburra Office

**GRANTVILLE**



**25 Brazier Street**

- Immaculate 4 bedroom, 2 bathroom
- Fully landscaped
- Walk to shops etc

**\$620,000 - \$640,000**

Contact: Grantville Office

**WONTHAGGI**



**6/9-11 Longwall Court**

- 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom
- Freshly painted
- Quiet court location

**\$495,000**

Contact: Wonthaggi Office

**LEONGATHA**

**5662 0922**

41 Bair Street

Andrew Newton 0402 940 320

Emily Clifford 0422 622 299

Tony Giles 0407 528 192

Dan Huther 0418 334 801

**KORUMBURRA**

**5655 1133**

36 Bridge Street

Scott McKenzie 0427 552 898

**GRANTVILLE**

**5678 8433**

1505 Bass Highway

Hayley Stephenson 0427 799 554

**WONTHAGGI**

**5672 1911**

Cnr Murray & Billson Streets

Cal Nation 0439 334 163

Mick Chambers 0418 349 783

Phil Hanley 0417 140 508





# Growing connections at dairy beef field day

OVER 120 Victorian farmers from the Gippsland and Murray Dairy regions gathered in Woodleigh on Wednesday, February 21 for the Growing Beef from Dairy Field Day. With dairy beef consumption increasing internationally and emerging in Australia, this field day was an opportunity to bring together producers, advisors, researchers, and supply chain members to discuss possibilities for the industry.

Held on one of the Growing Beef from Dairy Pilot Producer Demonstration Sites, the event – co-organised by GippsDairy, Meat and Livestock Australia (MLA), and AgSTAR Projects – featured a line-up of industry experts who ran sessions on dairy beef markets, genetics and breeding, and animal nutrition.

Event hosts Will and Sarah Jelbart provided insights into their operation and how they have integrated dairy beef into their business.

The field day and Pilot Producer Demonstration Sites

are part of a broader Growing Beef from Dairy project funded by Dairy Australia and MLA, and developed by the AgSTAR Projects team of extension professionals.

The Growing Beef from Dairy project aims to increase the adoption of economically sustainable dairy beef production as an alternative to early life slaughter of surplus calves through the adoption of best practice breeding and feeding for identified markets.

Gippsland farmers Trevor Saunders and Anthea Day were also on the panel of speakers for the Genetics session. Trevor and Anthea shared how they have been able to include dairy beef in their operation by using sexed semen on their heifers. Their aim is to eliminate bobby calves on their Shady Creek and Yarragon farms.

Attendees were able to sample the results of quality dairy beef rearing with beef processor, Greenham, providing dairy beef steaks for lunch.



GippsDairy Extension Advisor Kristen Davis showcasing Greenham's dairy beef steaks.

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## A hard grind

By Matt Dalgleish | episode3

THE US cattle herd are entering their fifth year of liquidation and US cattle prices saw historic peaks in 2023 as herd numbers and US domestic beef production declined. The reduced beef supply has seen beef prices increase for domestic US beef and a staple beef ingredient is the humble US beef burger mince.

There are various ratios of lean to fatty beef mince that can be traded on the wholesale market and often a way to measure these mince types is to assess the chemical lean ratio or CL of the beef mince. Australia imports large quantities beef mince to the USA and one price benchmark that can be measured is the price differential between imported beef in the US that comes from Australia and New Zealand versus the domestic beef mince produced in the USA. For this analysis we have focused on the 90CL domestic US beef mince versus the 90CL imported beef mince item that is sourced from Australia and NZ.

During 2023 the US domestic 90CL price increased toward 300USc/lb while the price for the imported 90CL from Australia/NZ eased marginally from around 260USc/lb in April 2023 toward 230USc/lb by the end of the year. Competitive cattle pricing in Australia during the later half of 2023 allowed the imported CL from the Oceania region to remain price competitive while the domestic US beef mince was peaking. So far in 2024 US domestic 90CL is marching higher again sitting at an average of 300USc/lb in February 2024 versus the imported 90CL February average of 245USc/lb.

## Local farming news

South Gippsland and Bass Coast

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SUCCESS THROUGH SERVICE



## Project targets feral pigs in Gippsland

LANDHOLDERS and the local community are being urged to report sightings of feral pigs as part of a project aimed at reducing their population across Eastern Victoria.

The Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (DEECA) and Parks Victoria have combined pig sightings with camera trapping, GPS tracking and thermal drone imagery to target the pest species across the Gippsland and Hume regions.

Over the past two years, hundreds of feral pigs have been detected on camera traps, with many eliminated through baiting, shooting, and trapping techniques.

Ongoing monitoring and baiting of feeders aims to significantly reduce the population of feral pigs within two years and eradicate smaller sub-populations.

DEECA Statewide Invasive Species Program Manager David Miralles said the Landscape Feral Pig Project, which is funded by the Victorian Government as part of the Protecting Biodiversity Program, is already producing positive results.

"Feral pigs can be difficult to control due to their nomadic nature, often travelling up to seven kilometres per night," he said.

"They are also intelligent and highly adaptive, dispersing and travelling to new areas if disturbed or forced by environmental conditions such as fire or flooding."

Feral pigs are omnivorous and will eat almost anything they can lay their snouts on, including native wildlife species and their eggs. Pigs also trample native plants and cause havoc around waterways with their rooting and wallowing behaviour, destroying habitat for rare native species.

Evidence of feral pig damage and sightings reported by landholders and the local community helps identify the best locations for more extensive monitoring and control sites.

Diggings, scats, tracks, wallows, tree rubbings, and fence damage all give good indications of recent feral pig activity.

To report damage or sightings, phone DEECA on 136 186 or email [feral.pigs@delwp.vic.gov.au](mailto:feral.pigs@delwp.vic.gov.au) or Parks Victoria on 13 1963 or [feralpigs@parks.vic.gov.au](mailto:feralpigs@parks.vic.gov.au).

## Getting on top of the bunny problem

TARWIN Landcare Group (TLG) held a workshop recently to help residents worried about the growing numbers of rabbits, particularly around Venus Bay and Tarwin Lower.

Thirty people attended the event, describing their concern about damage to native habitats, private gardens, paddocks and pasture. Many were also surprised to learn about rabbits' ability to spread parasites like liver fluke and tapeworm to sheep and dogs, Johne's disease to cattle and E. coli to humans.

Before going into detail about available control methods, licenced pest controller, Peter Wright, urged participants to have a clear vision of why they wanted to manage rabbits and what they wanted to achieve.

"If you just want to protect your veggie garden, your best options might be a combination of fencing and trapping," he said.

"But if you want to stop your paddocks being degraded, you'll need to consider ripping or fumigating all the warrens in the area and carrying out a baiting program."



To maximise the number of rabbits that eat the poison, Peter outlined the steps for planning and executing a baiting program.

Peter stressed that the most effective pest and weed control programs involve a combination of techniques and an understanding of the best times and locations to use them. The control methods that are currently available include baiting, warren ripping and fumigation, trapping, shooting, ferreting and the release of Rabbit Haemorrhagic Disease (RHD) (formerly known as calicivirus).

The Glovebox Guide for Managing Rabbits prepared by the Centre for Invasive Spe-

cies has an excellent summary of the techniques, when to use them, their benefits and the precautions that should be taken. The Guide is available from the South Gippsland Landcare Network ([sgln.net.au](http://sgln.net.au)).

Peter explained how to plan and carry out a poisoning program to ensure as many rabbits as possible take the bait. Vital steps include identifying where rabbits are living and breeding, free feeding with unpoisoned carrots or oats to gauge amounts needed and

camera monitoring to see if non-target animals are at risk.

There was a lot of interest amongst participants living in Venus Bay to establish a control group similar to the successful Cape Liptrap Community Deer Control Group. Peter offered to review any management plan prepared by the group. Peter can be contacted at 0428 329 594. Contact [tarwin@group.sgln.net.au](mailto:tarwin@group.sgln.net.au) for more information about joining TLG or about getting involved in a rabbit control group at Venus Bay.

## FLOCK CYCLE

LAST week the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) released their quarterly livestock slaughter data for the final quarter of 2023 and this allows us to measure how the sheep turnoff ratio (STR) is performing and what it can tell us about the phase of the flock cycle we are presently undergoing.

Historically an STR of 14% is the pivot point between flock rebuild and flock liquidation, sheep turnoff higher than 14% means there are not enough breeders being retained to grow the flock and we see flock numbers liquidated. In contrast, an STR under 14% means there is enough breeding stock being retained on farm to grow the flock.

As at the end of 2023 the STR sits at 13.1%, up from 12.6% as per the September 2023 quarter result. The STR continues to grind towards flock

liquidation territory, but we are not quite there yet. An STR of 13.1% suggests marginal flock growth for 2024, but we need to remain under 14% throughout the season for this prospect to remain viable.

The scatter plot of annual average STR to annual flock change shows an STR of 13.1% would point to flock growth of around 1% in 2024. Meat and Livestock Australia (MLA) are yet to release their flock projections update for 2024 but their earlier release last year pegged the flock growing by just 0.6% in 2024 to 79.2 million head. On current STR calculations this seems to be a reasonable expectation.

### Winner, winner, chicken dinner

Data released from the Australian Bureau of Statistics this

week included the quarterly dollar value of livestock slaughtered...

As the value of the livestock slaughtered can range from \$4 to \$5 for chickens up to \$1,500 to \$2,500 for cattle we have created an index for each livestock category so we can easily compare price trends over time. Starting all animal price indexes at 100 in Q4, 2019 we can see how average prices have fared over the last five years. The cattle index had the strongest increase peaking at 170 in the first quarter of 2022. However, by the end of 2023 the cattle index has pretty much returned to where it started with the index sitting at 102 as of Q4, 2023.

The sheep & lamb index peaked much earlier, at 123 in the middle of 2020, a second time at 121 during Q3 2021 and finally at 120 in Q1 2022.

Since the middle of 2022 the sheep & lamb index has been in a steady decline dropping to a low of just 60 at the end of 2023. Meanwhile the pig index has been much more stable throughout the entire five year period, fluctuating between a peak of 104 in Q1 2020 to a low of 87 in Q3 2020. Much of the last four years has seen the pig index sit in the mid 90s, building gradually to sit at 102 in Q4 2023.

The chicken index has been the best performer across the entire five year period gaining steadily from 100 at the end of 2019 to sit at 132 as at the end of 2023. The cattle index outperformed the chicken index for much of the five year cycle, but recent price declines in cattle prices throughout 2023 saw chickens wrestle the winners trophy away from cattle in the last half of 2023.

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**CASE IH**

## MARKET REPORT

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### Prices ease for stores

Report by SGSAA

AGENTS yarded 4500 head at Fridays VLE Leongatha store sale 1000 head less than originally drawn for with very hot conditions and an easing market contribution to a reduction in numbers.

With the conditions finally starting to dry off after a fantastic season, prices eased a little on the better end with secondary types affected the most with the exception of some annual drafts that were fully firm with repeat buyers operating on these lines.

There were less feedlot and commission buyers at the sale with Charlton, JBS and Campbell Ross not in attendance. On a positive note, was the strong support by G & K O'Connor buyer Wayne Ried who purchased many cattle for his company's feedlot requirements and some northern NSW orders as well. Regular buyer Anthony Hullock purchased many cattle with his regular orders along with a few other domestic and export processors buying cattle for slaughter or to feed with most grazier orders being from the local Gippsland area.

#### Leongatha Store Sale on Friday, Feb. 23, 2024

##### Grown Steers

R & D Chisholm 10 Angus	615kg	\$3.07	\$1890
Prolong P/L 13 Angus/BB	611kg	\$2.83	\$1730
Western Park 14 Angus	569kg	\$3.16	\$1800
Crutchfield 16 Angus	551kg	\$3.17	\$1750
Johnston 21 Angus	540kg	\$3.01	\$1630
Whittaker & Staton 18 Angus	505kg	\$3.40	\$1720
Merlewood Ang 16 Angus	504kg	\$3.21	\$1620
G Jones 13 Angus	504kg	\$3.13	\$1580
Riario Farms 10 Angus	499kg	\$3.00	\$1500
Chatfield 16 Hereford	487kg	\$3.29	\$1600
Whittaker & Staton 19 Angus	465kg	\$3.22	\$1500
Standfield 12 Angus	463kg	\$3.36	\$1560
Walker Family 20 Angus	459kg	\$3.42	\$1570
DR & JL Osment 14 Angus	459kg	\$3.20	\$1470
KW Battersby 17 Angus	455kg	\$3.25	\$1480
Stuart 20 Angus	450kg	\$3.62	\$1630
Leveque 17 Angus	448kg	\$3.23	\$1450
Stuart 20 Angus	440kg	\$3.36	\$1480
M & J Knoll 15 Angus	426kg	\$3.02	\$1290
Fine Line Merinos 21 Angus	417kg	\$3.28	\$1370
Leebrooke Angus 22 Angus	411kg	\$3.72	\$1530

##### Weaners Steers

M & T Wynne 17 Angus	398kg	\$3.29	\$1310
T Georgiou 11 Hereford	397kg	\$3.50	\$1390
DJ & LJ Young 17 Angus	391kg	\$3.58	\$1400
JW & MJ Davies 22 Angus	388kg	\$3.32	\$1290
K D Opray 17 Angus	381kg	\$3.52	\$1340
J Sharp 12 Angus	377kg	\$3.39	\$1280
Standfield 23 Angus	375kg	\$3.68	\$1380
Stuart Investments 24 Hereford	373kg	\$3.75	\$1400
Db Farms 18 Angus	367kg	\$3.60	\$1320
D & K Belcher 17 Hereford	361kg	\$4.32	\$1560
G & L Simmons 16 Hereford	361kg	\$3.60	\$1300
Deep Creek Farm 14 Hereford	360kg	\$3.52	\$1270
Wine Valley Investments 11 Ang	358kg	\$3.21	\$1150
J & M Bongers 16 Angus	350kg	\$3.60	\$1260
M Breen 18 Angus	342kg	\$3.72	\$1270
P&N,D&M Moore 44 Angus	338kg	\$3.62	\$1225
D & K Belcher 13 Hereford	332kg	\$4.16	\$1380
RJ & EF Foat 17 Hereford	319kg	\$3.70	\$1180
J Gathercole 10 Angus	310kg	\$3.93	\$1220

##### Heifers

E Garth & A Orchard 15 Angus	454kg	\$2.81	\$1280
Sm Thomson 15 Angus	444kg	\$2.64	\$1170
G & B Morrison 18 Angus	406kg	\$2.44	\$990
Brookville Angus 28 Angus	398kg	\$2.61	\$1040
SM Thomson 10 Angus	397kg	\$2.52	\$1000
Deep Creek Farm 11 Hereford	390kg	\$2.25	\$880
S Briggs 15 Angus	383kg	\$2.81	\$1080
Standfield 22 Angus	375kg	\$2.85	\$1070
G & H Foat 18 Angus	369kg	\$2.71	\$1000
G & H Foat 23 Hereford	361kg	\$1.94	\$700
T Georgiou 16 Hereford	359kg	\$2.72	\$980
Whittaker & Staton 11 Angus	357kg	\$2.46	\$880
A Filsell & E Smith 15 Angus	354kg	\$2.79	\$990
Sabeli Park 14 Angus	349kg	\$2.80	\$980
Brookville Angus 25 Angus	337kg	\$2.82	\$950
Deep Creek Farm 13	331kg	\$2.71	\$900
J Gathercole 14 Angus/BB	318kg	\$2.20	\$700
T Bland 11 Charo	310kg	\$2.70	\$840
G & H Foat 23 Hereford	310kg	\$1.80	\$560

##### Xbred & Dairy Steers

K Wegner 10 Hereford/FF X	576kg	\$2.52	\$1450
Ben Brady 15 Friesian	615kg	\$2.35	\$1450
M Wright 10 Friesian	573kg	\$2.36	\$1320
C Carpenter 19 Friesian	521kg	\$2.18	\$1140
I & R Hengstberger 20 Friesian	532kg	\$2.29	\$1220
I & R Hengstberger 17 Red Fries	505kg	\$2.41	\$1220
H Pruy 15 Friesian	495kg	\$2.10	\$1040
Jeetho Farms 17 Friesian	470kg	\$2.17	\$1020
Cousins & Moore 10 Friesian	404kg	\$1.36	\$550

##### Cows & Calves

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## Conference to focus on the future of cattle breeding

A CONFERENCE in Geelong on March 18-19 will showcase new research and ideas that will shape the future of cattle breeding in Australia.

The GA 2024 Today, Tomorrow and Beyond conference hosted by Genetics Australia will feature local and international speakers, farmers and dairy and beef industry leaders.

It will be the first in-person industry-wide conference hosted by Genetics Australia (GA) after an earlier conference planned for 2020 was moved online due to the pandemic.

GA CEO Anthony Shelly said the conference aimed to inspire the current and next generation of farmers to use genetics and other cutting-edge technologies to advance their operations.

"We wanted a platform to bring together people in the dairy and beef industries to learn how new research and ideas can improve their businesses and

help create more sustainable and profitable farming systems," Mr Shelly said.

The program will cover beef industry insights and strategies, the advantages and disadvantages of the MOET and IVP IVF systems, reduced emission feeding strategies, using semen donors and sexed semen to maximise joining outcomes, unlocking international opportunities with the World Angus Evaluation, the return on investment from 40 years of genetic improvement, the next genetic frontiers, the role of genetic improvement in creating greater integration between dairy and beef industries, the importance of estrus intensity and how IVF can be used for herd development.

Findings from Australian research into breeding healthier cows will be presented by project specialist at DataGene and PhD Candidate at LaTrobe University, Michelle Axford.

Agriculture Victoria

Breeding for Sustainability and Resilience research director Professor Jennye Price will lead a panel discussion on breeding for sustainability and resilience.

There will also be farmer panels on robotic milking, making measurable differences, and sustainable farming practices.

Mr Shelly said the conference

would be a good opportunity for farmers and industry representatives to get a glimpse into the future.

"Farming is evolving at a fast pace and keeping up-to-date with new and emerging technologies is essential for achieving the best outcomes," he said.

It is intended to hold the conference biennially.

The conference will be at GMHBA Stadium 370 Moorabool Street South Geelong. People can visit <https://genaust.com.au/ga-2024-conference/> for ticketing information.

The full program can be found at [genaust.com.au/wp-content/uploads/GA-2024-Program\\_Final.pdf](https://genaust.com.au/wp-content/uploads/GA-2024-Program_Final.pdf)

## Lardner Park Calf Market Report

Monday, February 19, 2024

Jersey & Jersey x	\$17 to \$50
Friesian Bulls	\$28 to \$59
Friesian Heifers	\$220
Beef Bulls	\$68 to \$280
Beef Heifers	\$55 to \$120

Number of Calves: 82

Number purchased to rear: 20

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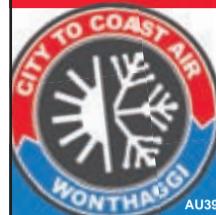
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LB0384

**BIRTHS****LAWSON:**

With our hearts filled with love, we proudly introduce our first granddaughter Maycee Lee Lawson. Born on Monday, February 19, 2024 at 4.14pm.

Congratulations to her amazing parents Jared and Shaelee. Maycee is a little sister for brother Isaac and a little ray of sunshine for our family.

Love from Nana Lis and Papa Dan.

**DEATHS****EMMERSON, Rodney James:**

21.10.1938 - 18.02.2024.

Passed away peacefully at Woorayl Lodge Leongatha.

Dearly loved brother of Glenice and Joan, brother-in-law of Geoff.

Fond uncle of Ashleigh, Rohan and Rachel, Paul and Olga (dec.).

Great uncle of Zoe, Colby and Tahlin.

**Forever in our Hearts.**

Special thanks to Doctors and Staff at Woorayl Lodge for all their caring attention.

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**DEATHS****FERGUSON, David Lawrence:**

Aged 72.  
Loved son of Don and Pat (both dec.).  
Loved brother of Margaret and Len Barrett.  
Uncle of Tracey, Glen, Jodie and families.  
**Rest peacefully.**

**LOVIE (nee Michael), Shirley:**  
Passed away peacefully at Woorayl Lodge on Monday, February 19 surrounded by loving family, aged 92 years.  
Loving wife of Leslie (dec.). Wonderful mother and mother-in-law of Noelle and Wayne, Vicki (dec.). Steve and Debbie, Kim and Lockie.  
Grandmother of 9, Great Grandmother of 18.  
**Forever in Our Hearts.**

**LOVIE, Shirley Jean:**  
Loving caring, beautiful mum of Noelle, cherished mother-in-law to Wayne.  
Very special nan to Craig, Tom, Matt, Claire, adored Nannie Shirl to Dion, Sienna, Stella, Ruby, and Imogen.  
So many fond memories  
**Forever in our hearts.**

**DEATHS****LOVIE, Shirley Jean:**

Loved mother of Steve and Deb. Caring nan of Jared and Raelea, Nathan and Alicia and great nan to Tannah and Jaxon.  
Time to rest your weary body.  
**Sleep peacefully.**

**LOVIE, Shirl:**  
Adored mum and mother-in-law to Kim, and Lockie.  
Precious nan to Andrew and Cass, Rob and Trina, Pete and Alyce, Daniel and Bianca.  
Treasured Nannie Shirl to Leila, Bella, Arlie, Tyson, Chance, Taj, Ada, Lacey, Beau and Angel Nate.  
*There is a very special love that no-one else can see, the reason it's so special, it's just for you and me.*  
**Time to Rest.**

**LOVIE, Shirley Jean:**

Beautiful sister, mother of Barry.  
Loved sister-in-law of Lois.

Loved auntie to Donna, Clinton, Lori, and Annie.  
**Simply the best.**

**LOVIE (nee Michael) Shirley Jean:**

05.11.1931 - 19.02.2024.  
Shirl passed away peacefully at Woorayl Lodge.

Dearly loved sister of Geoff, sister-in-law of Joan. Auntie to Ashleigh, Rohan and Rachel, Paul and Olga (dec.). Great Auntie to Zoe, Colby and Tahlin.

**Forever in our hearts.**

**DEATHS****PEEL, David John:**

Passed away on February 22, 2024, aged 77 years.  
Beloved husband of Irene.  
Adored father of Jodie, Rebecca, and Mathew.

Father-in-law to Ross. Friend to Farid and Janelle.  
Loved grandad to Riley, Callum, and Alice.  
**Finally at Peace.**

**TUCKETT, Lyn:**

09.08.1937 - 22.02.2024.  
Beloved wife of Rob (dec.).

Dearly loved mother and mother-in-law of Marilyn and Paul, Tracey and Michael, Colin and Susette, Andrea and Marty.

Granny Peachy to 12 grandchildren and 11 great grandchildren.  
Will be sadly missed. Reunited with her husband Rob.

**TUCKETT, Lynette (Lyn):**

A laugh, A smile, A giggle or two, That's the way we will Remember you.

Loving mum of Marilyn and Paul Plunket.

Wonderful granny to Russell and Bec, Kylie and Adam, Adrian and Kim, Amanda and Brad, Melanie, Danielle, Heath and Karen.

Caring great granny to Jacobs, Aaron and Tara, Jake, Emma and Ollie, Harry, Aubrey, Kaylah, Harper, Xavian and Saoirse, Ashlin and Ryan, Taylah.

Loved by many. Will be sadly missed.

**WYHOON, Dana:**

Dearly missed by your work family at T&G Mechanical Repairs.

Condolences to Terry, Ryan, Tom, the Wyhoon and Rowe families.

Loved always and forever.

Kelly, Clint, Jordan and Josh.

**DEATHS****TUCKETT, Hilda Lynette (Lyn):**

22.02.2024.  
Much loved daughter of Bob and Hilda Peach (dec.) and sister of Bill (dec.).  
Pauline (dec.), and Barbara.

Dearly loved sister and aunty of Barb and Peter, Paul, Vicki, Steele and Bede, Rory and Paul and Nat, Rose and Glenda.

Farewell our beautiful blue eyed girl.

**Love you always.**

**TUCKETT, Lyn (Peachie):**

Your life game has been full of countless sets, some more challenging than others. Throughout your sets you Aced it as a mother and grandmother to your team.

Now your match has ended you are at peace but you will be sadly missed.

Love Colin, Susie, Jaimee, and Chelsea.

**TUCKETT, Lyn:**

Lifelong friend and years long tennis partner.

Rest in peace Lyn, you will never be forgotten.

My deepest sympathy to your family.

Jill Forrester.

**WYHOON, Dana Elizabeth:**

Passed away at Korumburra Hospital, aged 48. Dearly loved wife of Terry. Loved and loving mum to Ryan. Special daughter to Tom and Dianne (dec.). Sister to David and Bryan.

Loved by many. Will be sadly missed.

**WYHOON, Dana:**

Dearly missed by your work family at T&G Mechanical Repairs.

Condolences to Terry,

Ryan, Tom, the Wyhoon and Rowe families.

Loved always and forever.

Kelly, Clint, Jordan and Josh.

**DEATHS**

**WYHOON, Dana:**

The best boss you could ever ask for and an even better friend. I miss our office chats, I miss our phone calls, I miss you.

Love Kelly, Gary and Dorling family.

**WYHOON, Dana:**

You were a great friend and will be deeply missed. You were loved by us all and will be cherished in our memories forever.

Love Clint, Kirri, Ebony and Ryder.

**WYHOON, Dana:**

19.02.2024. Thanks for the small goodies on race weekend.

When your heart is empty, filling it with happy memories can help.

Love to Terry, Ryan, and Tom.

-- Daryl and Dawn.

**WYHOON, Dana:**

Thank you for being a great friend to all of us.

We will miss you deeply.

See you later mate.

Love Brian and Linda, Hudson, Reegan and Reid.

**FUNERALS**

**LOVIE:**

A Memorial Service to celebrate the life of Mrs. Shirley Lovie will be held at St Peter's Anglican Church, Cnr Bruce and McCartin St Leongatha on Thursday, February 29, 2024 commencing at 2pm

This Service will be Live Streamed, to view please visit [www.handleyfuneralservices.com.au](http://www.handleyfuneralservices.com.au)

A Service for Burial will precede the above Service at the Leongatha Lawn Cemetery, commencing at 1pm

**Handley**  
Phone: (03) 5662 2717

**PEEL:**

The Funeral Service for Mr. David John Peel will be held at Handley and Anderson Chapel, 3085 Loch-Wonthaggi Road, Wonthaggi on Monday March 4, 2024 commencing at 11am.

A Private Cremation will follow.

David's service will be live streamed. Please go to [www.handleyandersonfunerals.com.au](http://www.handleyandersonfunerals.com.au) for details.

**Handley & Anderson**  
Wonthaggi 5672 1074

**TUCKETT:**

A Celebration of Life for Mrs Lynette Hilda Tuckett will be held at the Leongatha RSL, Corner Smith Street and Michael Place, Leongatha on Monday, March 4, 2024, commencing 1pm.

Private Cremation.

**Handley**  
Phone: (03) 5662 2717

**WYHOON:**

A Graveside Funeral Service for Mrs Dana Elizabeth Wyhoon will be held at the Korumburra Lawn Cemetery **TODAY, TUESDAY** February 27, 2024, commencing 2pm.

This Service will be live streamed, to view please visit [www.handleyfuneralservices.com.au](http://www.handleyfuneralservices.com.au)

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# Sentinel-Times Classifieds

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### Leongatha Storage Unit Silent Auction

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**Items Include:**

- Computer Monitors
- Stereo System
- TV's
- Kitchen Appliances
- Cameras
- Telescope
- XBOX ONE
- Coffee Machine
- Hixley Trumpet
- DJ Deck & Music Items
- and Various Other Items

Contact Alex Scott & Staff Leongatha on 5662 0922 for further details & pictures.

## PUBLIC NOTICES



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## MEETINGS

### AGM

COMBINED PROBUS CLUB OF COAL CREEK KORUMBURRA

Tuesday March 19

at the Korumburra Golf Club, Warragul Road,

Korumburra

commencing at 10am.

Visitors most welcome.

Helen Taylor Secretary.

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The ideal candidate will have excellent organisational skills and the confidence to work unsupervised.

#### Duties include:

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Experience essential.

Please email cover letter and resume to [jim@sgst.com.au](mailto:jim@sgst.com.au)

Only suitable applicants will be contacted, and an appointment will be made as soon as the right person is found.

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Wonthaggi Electronics is a local business with a growing customer base. We offer professional television wall mounting, TV antenna installation including Starlink installations. We are looking for a technician with an 'I can do attitude' and an ability to work independently and be reliable.

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- TV wall mounting
- Starlink installation

Applications by email to [accounts@wonthaggielectronics.com.au](mailto:accounts@wonthaggielectronics.com.au)

## DEADLINES

Classified single column

Mondays 12.30pm

Classified double column

Fridays 4.30pm

Please note that double column advertisements requiring a proof must be received at least two hours prior to deadline and proofs will not be provided for single column advertisements.

## TO ADVERTISE

Phone:  
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Email:  
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In person:  
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36 McCartin St, Leongatha

Mail:  
47 McBride Ave, Wonthaggi

Office Hours:  
9am-5pm Monday to Friday

Payments accepted:



## Advertising conditions:

Full name and address of advertiser must be supplied even though not necessarily included in advertisement.

The publishers reserve the right to omit and alter any advertisement. Please check your ad is correct the first day it appears. While every care is taken to ensure your ad is correct, errors can occur. We regret that we cannot be responsible for any errors beyond the first day if you fail to bring it to our attention.

All advertisements must be prepaid unless client has an existing credit facility. Accounts are due and payable on the due date as shown on the account.

## The Motor Car Traders Regulations:

States that from July 1, 1998 all advertisements for used vehicles including motorcycles must include the cash price of vehicle and registration number or engine number if not registered.

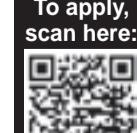
## Sentinel-Times



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Rose Lodge is committed to providing equal opportunities to all employees in the community and is committed to building a diverse and inclusive workforce. Rose Lodge welcomes applications from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island peoples, people from culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) backgrounds, people of any age or gender, people identifying as LGBTIQ+ and people with disability.

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## ADVERTISERS PLEASE NOTE:

Much hardship and difficulty is caused to jobseekers by misleading advertisements placed in the employment columns.

Our Positions Vacant / Situations Vacant columns are reserved for advertisements which carry a specific and genuine offer of employment.

Ads for 'Business Opportunities', 'Commission Only/Sales,' training courses and employment services should be submitted under those headings.

Placing misleading job ads is an offence against the ACL and all advertisements are subject to the publisher's approval. For further advice contact the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission on 1300 302 502 or Consumer Affairs Victoria.

## Water Quality and Treatment Manager

South Gippsland Water (SGW) are currently seeking a suitably skilled and qualified person to join SGW in the role of Water Quality and Treatment Manager. The key requirements of the role are:

- Demonstrated effectiveness managing multiple teams across multiple sites.
- Advanced skills in applying water quality treatment and management principles, systems and practices to manage the provision of safe drinking water.
- Proven ability to apply innovation and lead change.
- Ability to manage planning and project functions including strategies, business cases, management reviews and budget management.
- Highly developed communication skills across a range of audiences and formats.
- Permanent Full Time or Part Time - Negotiable
- Starting Location Wonthaggi, Leongatha or Foster/hybrid working arrangements available
- Flexible Working Arrangements Available
- Senior Executive Officer \$130,000 - \$140,000 cash salary plus leave loading and statutory superannuation

At SGW diversity is celebrated and respected as important for our wellbeing and success. We strive for a workplace that is equitable and inclusive. We welcome diversity in applicants.

Please go to <https://www.sgwater.com.au/careers/> for more details about SGW, the role and how to apply.

Applications Close Monday March 4, 2024 at 9am



1300 851 636 | [www.sgwater.com.au](http://www.sgwater.com.au)

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Health Care Worker

ANUM

After House Co-Ordinator

Enrolled Nurse

Registered Nurse

Registered Nurse Midwife

### CASUAL

Registered Nurse Midwife

Registered Nurse

Our valued staff members enjoy a range of benefits, such as relocation support, career development opportunities, and an Employee Assistance Program.

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RIVERVIEW HOTEL

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We are hiring a full time chef, kitchen hand, bar and wait staff.  
Please email resumes to [info@riverviewhotel.au](mailto:info@riverviewhotel.au)

JEN2311



## Student Support

Leongatha Secondary College is seeking a motivated and enthusiastic employee to join our Student Support (SSP) team. Our SSP staff are employed to provide support to students and teachers, specifically to support students with disabilities in general education classes.

No formal qualifications are mandatory for this position, although a certificate in Education Support would be an advantage. This family leave position has been advertised at 0.88FTE time fraction, working 5 days per week. 33.74hrs/week.

This student support position is to commence 25/03/2024.

All applications (including covering letter and response to selection criteria) are to be uploaded to the Departments Recruitment Online Platform where you will find full details on this Job Vacancy ID 1403562.

Any queries phone Gabe Windsor on 0437 090 195.

Applications close March 10, 2024.

## PUBLIC NOTICES

### PROPOSED ROAD DISCONTINUANCE

Black Avenue, Venus Bay



Figure 1

Council at its ordinary meeting held 21 February 2024 proposed to commence statutory procedures to discontinue:

• Crown Allotment 62A (Part), Road 1 (Part) LP56450 Unused Road, Parish of Tarwin, shown in Figure 1, with an area of 739m<sup>2</sup>.

And sell the land to the abutting owner of 16 – 20 Black Avenue, Venus Bay for not less than a valuation received within six months prior to the sale, pursuant to s.206, s.207A, s.223 and Schedule 10 clause 3 of the Local Government Act 1989.

A person may make a submission to this proposal. Submissions are to be received no later than 5pm Thursday 28 March 2024 and addressed to the CEO, 9 Smith Street Leongatha VIC 3953. Any person making a submission is entitled to be heard in support of the submission. If a person or a representative wishes to be heard in support of the submission, they must state this in their submission.

Copies of the submitter's name and address may be disclosed at any public Council meeting at which the proposal will be considered.

If no submissions are received, the proposal will be implemented.



## Pump track: when and where, they say

THE Cape Woolamai Pump Track was again on the Bass Coast Shire Council's (BCSC) agenda at the recent February meeting, with a public question coming from John Trigt for a timeline, a status update and whether it will be considered in this year's budget.

BCSC new CEO Greg Box addressed the question stating 'Council has convened a community reference group to deliver the Mountain Bike, BMX, Pump Strategy. This Strategy will inform the delivery of new infrastructure across the Shire and is anticipated to be completed by mid-2024.'

However, resident and advocate Deb Leonard shared that the original petition was signed by over 700 people asking for a pump track in Cape Woolamai, and that was the catalyst for the MTB/BMX/pump track strategy and creation of a Community Reference Group.

"Unfortunately, none of the people involved in the petition, me included, were chosen to be part of that Reference Group."

"From speaking to people in the group, it now sounds like Cape Woolamai may not be chosen as a location for any new pump/BMX/MTB facilities at all," she said.

"If this is true, it is outrageous given the community support behind this, and shows the Council is not listening to the needs of residents, especially young people, and families."

## Still no movement on the playspace strategy

DURING the recent February council meeting last Wednesday, resident Deb Leonard addressed the issue of the Playspace strategy 2017 – asking council why there has been no funding allocated to these upgrades in any budgets since 2017.

In a response read out by the new CEO Greg Box, it stated 'an audit is completed every two years which determines play space upgrade/renewal requirements and can alter the priority in which they are delivered. All the play spaces listed in this question are included in Council's Long Term Financial Plan.'

Deb further discussed this issue with the Sentinel Times and shared that 'It's disappointing that the Council spends a lot of time and ratepayers' money on preparing strategies, but then ignores the recommendations and timelines contained in them.'

"I didn't even list all the play spaces that hadn't been upgraded, due to the 50-word limit to council questions. My next question to Council will be what is the timeline for completing all the play space upgrades set out in the strategy," said Deb.

In the February question, Deb raised concern for the parks with high priority for upgrading within 1-4 years, including Inverloch Hub, Rodney Court, Rainbow Park, McKenzie Views Estate, Outrigger Estate, and Erehwon Point. As well as Wonthaggi Recreation Reserve, Grantville Memorial Park, South Dudley Park, and Strong's Reserve.

"So many play spaces across the Shire are in dire need of updating, especially to make them more accessible and appropriate for people with both visible and invisible disabilities."

"Council has had seven years to allocate funding for these upgrades, several deemed as high priority, but we are yet to see action on many. Meanwhile, some play spaces listed as far lower in priority have been allocated significant funding and upgraded," said Deb.

"To my knowledge, there has been no community consultation or publicity from Council regarding the audit process and alterations to the priority of play space upgrades."



The Leongatha SES holds training on Wednesday nights at 7pm and is open for new members.

## Volunteers needed in the Leongatha SES

THE Leongatha SES is seeking new members.

The unit currently has 25 active members, but the figure has been slowly decreasing compared to previous years.

Particularly since COVID, the unit has found it difficult to engage new volunteers.

Active recruitment has been vital, and the unit has engaged in various volunteer drives to spark interest, often attending local events to showcase its diverse capabilities.

Recently, the unit was invited to the Tarwin Lower Auto Festival with the Inverloch SES, giving road crash rescue demonstrations and detailing Inverloch's boat capabilities.

"The volunteer drives are a great way to get our presence seen in the community, particularly in sharing resources in flood and storm preparedness, and the types of jobs we respond to. It's always awesome to see a new member join us too," Deputy Controller – Community Engagement Kristen Muir said.

"SES has an extremely diverse set of capabilities but we find much of the public isn't aware of us. It can definitely be a bit

trickier getting people to understand exactly what we can offer them."

The SES intends to continue its presence at community events but is looking to extend its reach by collaborating with local clubs, emergency services and high schools.

A social media campaign has also been launched to attract new members, and the SES is continuing to try new things and expand its reach with Facebook.

"The biggest thing is showing people the variety you can explore in the SES – we have opportunities to gain first aid, chainsaw, truck licences, boat licences and other qualifications, as well as a variety of capabilities from search and rescue, safe working

at heights, marine rescue, road crash, four-wheel drive, crew leadership, urban search and rescue, alpine search and rescue, and more," Kristen said.

"In our area, apart from trees down, we do get rescues, particularly at Wilsons Promontory. We get flooding jobs and assisting surrounding units. It depends on what kinds of capabilities you have – you could be called into another area for 4wd searches, working at height and

deployments, to other parts of the state or even interstate when they've had an influx of jobs.

"Apart from qualifications and capabilities, the SES is a great place to meet new people and learn new skills. It's a great way to push yourself in anything that interests you and to build leadership skills.

"Our focus is active members, but we certainly don't shy away from anyone who is interested (in small admin opportunities) and there is paperwork to be filled out for those who enjoy doing that."

For those interested in joining the Leongatha SES, training nights are every Wednesday from 7pm.

No experience is required, and members can start from as young as 15 years old.

"The SES is a fantastic place to explore who you are and try new things without needing any previous experience to start – we teach it all to you," Kristen said.

New members can turn up to a Wednesday night training, contact the unit via Facebook or send an email at [leongatha@ses.vic.gov.au](mailto:leongatha@ses.vic.gov.au).



The Leongatha SES is appealing for new volunteers.

## PUBLIC NOTICES



### Alumni Reunions

Classes of  
1984, 1994, 2004,  
2014 & 2019

are invited to return to Newhaven College to celebrate their 5, 10, 20, 30 & 40 year reunions

Saturday 16 March

To book your ticket visit  
[www.trybooking.com/CPLJO](http://www.trybooking.com/CPLJO)



### NOTICE OF AN APPLICATION FOR A PLANNING PERMIT

Will this planning application affect you?

The land affected by the application is located at:  
**4 Ovata Place, INVERLOCH**

The application is for a permit to:

- Vary a restrictive covenant to allow for increased area of the building envelope.

#### APPLICATION DETAILS

Application Number: PDPLANPER-2024/001380

Address: **4 Ovata Place, INVERLOCH**

Applicant: **C/- ABAN Planning**

For further reference contact: **Kerri-Anne**

Phone number: 1300 BCOAST (226 278)

#### How can I find out more?

You may look at the application and any documents that support the application free of charge by scanning the QR code below or by visiting the link to view more details: [www.basscoast.vic.gov.au/planningads](http://www.basscoast.vic.gov.au/planningads).

You may also call 1300 BCOAST (226 278) or via the National Relay Service (for people with speech/hearing difficulties) on 13 36 77 to arrange a time to look at the application & any documents that support the application at the office of the responsible authority, Bass Coast Shire Council (76 McBride Avenue, Wonthaggi). This can be done during office hours & is free of charge.

#### How can I make a submission?

Any person who may be affected by the granting of the permit may object or make other submissions to the responsible authority. If you object, the responsible authority will tell you its decision. This application has not been decided and you can still make a submission before a decision has been made.

An objection must:

- be made to the responsible authority in writing by emailing [basscoast@basscoast.vic.gov.au](mailto:basscoast@basscoast.vic.gov.au) or posting it to: **Bass Coast Shire Council, P.O. Box 118, Wonthaggi VIC 3995**;
- include the reasons for the objection and;
- state how the objector would be affected.

The responsible authority must make a copy of every objection available for any person to inspect free of charge until the end of the period during which an application may be made for review of a decision on the application.

The responsible authority will not decide on the application before: **Wed, March 6, 2024**

Find out more:  
Scan the QR code using your mobile phone



LB1294

## Advertise your job vacancy

in the Sentinel-Times and get a FREE listing in our online and searchable directory at [www.sgst.com.au](http://www.sgst.com.au)

Email your job adverts to: [ads@sgst.com.au](mailto:ads@sgst.com.au)

DEADLINE: Fridays 4.30pm

**Sentinel-Times**

# Around the bay

By Jim's Bait & Tackle

BLINK and you are going to miss the next month.

With Anzac Day midweek this year, it's the last of the long weekends for a while.

Easter is early with Good Friday at the end of March, which means only a couple of weeks between Labour Day and Easter. The Easter fishing competition is on again and entries are now available, with the children's showbags gone already.

The sponsors have been extremely generous, and there is a huge prize pool of some quality gear.

There will be a longest tuna or kingfish section with the winner to take away a Shimano Tiagra 30 and the category prizes value is getting very close to \$500 each with more items still coming in.

There will be around 30 random prize draws over the weekend, which anybody can win, with Phillip Island Helicopters coming on board with a flight as the major prize.

A raffle to win a hamper with more than \$200 in fishing gear will be drawn on Good Friday.

The competition runs from 7am Good Friday morning until 12pm Monday, and you can fish whenever you want within those times.

You can fish from a boat, jetty or beach within the designated areas, and fish are weighed each day at the shop during normal business hours.

There are categories for heaviest Snapper, Gummy, Flathead, Squid, Whiting for both adults and juniors (0-14 as of the February 29).

Juniors must enter with an adult.

There is a longest tuna and kingfish category.

Photos can be sent in of fish with a brag mat or tape measure if releasing the fish – the photo will need to be seen on the phone in person at the shop over the weekend to validate the catch – or fish can be measured at the shop if you are keeping it.

Many sponsors have asked for photos, and these are better taken on the water so please send them in over the weekend. There will be other random prizes given out over the weekend and every hour there will be a random lucky entry prize draw from all of those who have entered.

You don't even need to catch a fish to win.

Entries must be in before 2pm Good Friday and you must be back to the shop by 12pm Monday to count (no exceptions). You can get entries in person from the shop, on Facebook or via email.

You can enter in store, or entries can be taken over the phone.

There will be full lists of sponsors in the lead up and over the weekend and those involved are asked to support them because it's their generosity that has provided a prize pool of more than \$20,000, and also means that again a donation of 100 per cent of the entries and raffle money can be made to the Royal Children's Hospital Good Friday Appeal.

Fishing has been a little quiet for the last few weeks.

The tuna has been inconsistent enough and at times extremely frustrating, but all round it's been a very strange season. Calamari have just been bad all season and really hasn't improved much.

There have been patches through the season where it looked like they were just a bit late, then something changed and they were on in numbers, then the next day gone again.

There have been better reports from the Newhaven jetty over the last couple of weeks and very mixed sizes of calamari also. The best has been halfway up the jetty on either side using a variety of jig colours.

Green was probably the standout, in the 3.5 size.

There are reports from other areas and boast as well, just nowhere has been consistent.

Whiting was very similar to the calamari in the inconsistency but at least the numbers and size started off much better – it just all went quiet during January.

Dozens of undersize whiting were seen through late January and into February, and a real mixture in sizes have been spotted, but not big numbers of the bigger fish.

Whiting reports have come from all the areas you would expect to see them, and it's been more about timing than anything else.

From the reports, Dickies Bay is better in the early morning, then once the sun gets up, smaller or no fish.

Cleeland Bight is better in the late evening and very slow during the day, then deeper areas off Rhyll have been better on the hotter brighter days or during the day on a tide change.

Tuna offshore, nothing much has changed over the last few years, and they are either on or off which sounds obvious but that's just how they are and doesn't reflect on what you are doing.

Lots of people compare themselves to someone that was successful, but they don't compare things exactly and there is often days or even hours difference in when their mate went and when they went fishing.

Head out with a variety of choices, deep divers, shallow divers, skirts of different sizes, top water lures and even live bait rigs.

A variety of colours helps, then it's just a matter of deciding how you are going to chase them.

Look for birds, look for activity on the surface, blind trawl looking for action on the sounder or go to where your mate found them yesterday.

All methods are the right way if it suits you but then when you find them put more than five minutes in trying to catch them because the school of fish you go looking for because these won't take anything probably won't either.

If your plan is to spend a few hours out chasing tuna it might as well be the school you have found, they will get hungry at some stage.

## SPORTS



Raymond Bergin celebrates as he rides a wave. A36\_0924

## All abilities in Inverloch

PLEASANT mild conditions greeted participants at Saturday's all-abilities surfing event run by Disabled Surfers Association Bass Coast at Inverloch's Surf Beach.

Wonthaggi's Raymond Bergin summed up the joy of the occasion, raising his arms in triumph as he rode a wave, to the delight of the team of volunteers in the water with him.

"I love surfing and getting a good wave," he declared after emerging from the water beaming.

Koonwarra's William Smith

was another looking forward to his turn in the surf, having first volunteered to help with the barbecue.

While he has some mobility challenges on land, Will feels freedom in the water.

He's been part of the event every year since it came to the Bass Coast region in 2016.

President of DSA Bass Coast, Stuart Yates, brought the organisation that has about 20 branches in Australia and one in New Zealand to the area, having experienced the joy it brings elsewhere.

"I volunteered at Ocean Grove and I really enjoyed the spirit of it, the inclusive nature of it, and it's a lot of fun," he said.

"I'm a surfer so I understand the magic of it, and you see our surfers' faces lit up and for some it's their first time, so as volunteers we're privileged to be part of that experience."

Saturday was the third of this season's four all-abilities surf days, the final one scheduled for Smiths Beach on Phillip Island on March 24.

## SGB swimmers stand with Olympic hopefuls

THERE was great excitement for the nine South Gippsland Bass swimmers competing at the 2024 Victorian Open Long Course Championships at MSAC over the weekend.

A total 680 swimmers from around the world came to the event over the three days.

The South Gippsland Bass (SGB) team consisted of Tomei Dal Pozzo, Molly Dettbarn, Mostyn Lumsden, Rahni Matheson, Sophie McKenzie, Cooper Quaife, Miah Roberts, Zachary Sherar and William Simmons.

Also competing were former SGB swimmers Bowen Gough and Josh Seignior.



South Gippsland Bass swimmer Molly meets her idol Emma McKeown.

hope to be Olympians next time around, and further great practice for competing at major events.

Head coach Dylan was pleased with their efforts.

"They didn't let the event overwhelm them, they dealt with the pressure and their results put them in good stead for the National Championships in six weeks' time. It's been a good weekend," he said.

### Finalists:

Sophie McKenzie: 50m Breaststroke B Final eighth.

Rahni Matheson: 100m Breaststroke B final third.

Bowen Gough: 200m Butterfly first, 50m Butterfly eighth, 100m Butterfly fourth.

Josh Seignior: 50m Breaststroke 10th, 100m Freestyle, B final 10th, 100m Breaststroke B final seventh.

## 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 27
3.11am	3.38am
1.48m	1.51m
9.06am	9.38am
0.54m	0.46m
3.15pm	3.53pm
1.39m	1.45m
9.09pm	9.44pm
0.45m	0.48m

WEDNESDAY	February 28
3.11am	3.38am
1.48m	1.51m
9.06am	9.38am
0.54m	0.46m
3.15pm	3.53pm
1.39m	1.45m
9.09pm	9.44pm
0.45m	0.48m

THURSDAY	February 29
3.11am	4.05am
1.48m	1.52m
9.06am	10.09am
0.54m	0.40m
3.15pm	4.29pm
1.39m	1.50m
9.09pm	10.15pm
0.45m	0.51m

FRIDAY	March 1
3.11am	4.32am
1.48m	1.52m
9.06am	10.38am
0.54m	0.35m
3.15pm	5.02pm
1.39m	1.53m
9.09pm	10.48pm
0.45m	0.55m

SATURDAY	March 2
3.11am	5.00am
1.48m	1.51m
9.06am	11.08am
0.54m	0.32m
3.15pm	5.38pm
1.39m	1.53m
9.09pm	11.21pm
0.45m	0.59m

SUNDAY	March 3
3.11am	5.30am
1.48m	1.48m
9.06am	11.37am
0.54m	0.31m
3.15pm	6.16pm
1.39m	1.52m
9.09pm	11.55pm
0.45m	0.65m

MONDAY	March 4
3.11am	6.01am
1.48m	1.45m
9.06am	12.07pm
0.54m	0.30m
3.15pm	6.59pm
1.39m	1.48m
9.09pm	
0.45m	



news@sgst.com.au

# Longboard titles at Surfies Point

AS THE sun rose on the final day of the 2024 Victorian Longboard Titles, the anticipation reached its peak as only the most skilled surfers remained in competition. With a location change to Surfies Point, prompted by the swell backing off, competitors attacked the punchy left beach break.

The new location proved to be a fitting arena for the finals as the pressure mounted with a wildcard spot into the 2024 WSL Bells Beach Longboard Classic for the Open Men and Women on the line. While the swell may have moderated slightly, it remained more than ample to provide surfers with many opportunities to display their mastery of the waves.

The Open Women Final started off with a flurry of waves with all surfers finding their way onto multiple rides. After the dust settled from the first exchange those who found themselves on the larger quality rides were rewarded. Bea Conroy (Point Lonsdale) was one of them, scoring the highest of the exchange, a 7.67. This gave her the lead early with Molly Powell (Anglesea) not far behind with a 6.27-point ride.

Both scores came from larger right handers that allowed for a critical nose ride and a final hit. Yesterday's stand out, Asha Reeves (Carlton North), stayed busy on the inside trying to bridge the gap. However, she couldn't find her way onto one that provided enough wall for her to rip into.

Conroy sealed the deal by picking up a left at the end of the heat and executing an extended nose ride to an amazing drop knee cutback. With this ride Conroy scored a combined heat total of 13.34 points to take out the final and put her in a good position for the wild card 2024 WSL Bells Beach Longboard Classic.

Coming in second was Molly Powell on an 11.54 combined heat total with Eglantine Balland (Carrum) and Asha Reeves placing third and fourth.

On the other side of the competition in the men's final



**Over 50 Women. 3rd - Sian Adnam (Cape Woolamai). 5.00** Photo: Noah Clifford / Surfing Victoria

it was all smiles before paddling out with good energy in the air. Ben Considine (Torquay), the in-form surfer of the event, started strong with a 6-point ride for a huge carve and a tidy nose ride on the inside.

Matthew Shay (Torquay) opted to sit deep and was rewarded after getting a cupped-out left with critical hang 5's and some nice drop knee carves to score a 6.27-point ride and the early lead.

The Dunton brothers waited patiently, not getting a wave until over the halfway mark of the final. Finally, Sam Dunton (Mornington Peninsula) couldn't wait any more as he paddled onto a larger set wave before he headed straight to the nose of his board and finished with a forehand re-entry. This got Dunton a mid-range score and a chance to snatch the lead.

Staying busy Considine took off out the back and laid into multiple left hand carves as well as another hang-five scoring a 6.90 point ride and giving him the lead going into the final moments of the final.

Not long after Sam Dunton found another steep right-hander, cross-stepping his way up the nose before teeing off on a couple of slashing

turns. Before the judges had time to write a score down the rest of the field found their way onto waves in a last attempt to overtake the current final leader, Considine.

Well after the hooter sounded the scores came trickling through with Dunton's coming in as the highest one yet, a 7.77-point ride. With the other surfers not able to improve on their situation Sam Dunton took the win on a 13.60 combined heat total.

Placing in second was Considine on a combined heat total of 12.90 with Tasman Dunton and Matthew Shay coming third and fourth.

## Finals Results:

### Open Men

1st - Sam Dunton (Mornington Peninsula), 13.60, 2nd - Ben Considine (Barwon Heads), 12.90, 3rd - Tasman Dunton (Mornington Peninsula), 12.66, 4th - Matthew Shay (Torquay), 11.57

### Open Women

1st - Bea Conroy (Point Lonsdale), 13.34, 2nd - Molly Powell (Anglesea), 11.54, 3rd - Eglantine Balland (Carrum), 10.83, 4th - Asha Reeves (Carlton North), 8.93

### Over 40 Men

1st - Tim Edwards (Point Lonsdale), 13.96, 2nd - Tom Bel-

lisai (Mornington), 11.67, 3rd - Liam McCafferty (McCrae), 8.50, 4th - Robert Emslie (Peregian Springs), 6.67

### Over 40 Women

1st - Eglantine Balland (Carrum), 10.90, 2nd - Melanie Renton (Ocean Grove), 8.46, 3rd - Jacque Chambers (Surf Beach), 8.24, 4th - Natalie Van Der Heyden (Cape Woolamai), 6.57

### Over 50 Men

1st - Greg Brown (Torquay), 17.44, 2nd - Liam McCafferty (McCrae), 11.56, 3rd - Tim Edwards (Point Lonsdale), 10.37, 4th - Tom Bellisai (Mornington), 8.10

### Over 50 Women

1st - Carolyn Lalor (Apollo Bay), 8.10, 2nd - Allie Moysey (Mornington), 7.67, 3rd - Sian Adnam (Cape Woolamai), 5.00, 4th - Penelope Andrews (Barwon Heads), 2.33

### Over 60 Men

1st - Greg Brown (Torquay), 17.63, 2nd - Brian Kuit (Torquay), 13.66, 3rd - John Lane (Torquay), 9.33, 4th - Brian Thompson (Torquay), 7.24

### Over 70 Men

1st - Wayne Yates (Armadale), 10.50, 2nd - Robert Smith (Jan Juc), 6.73

### Under 18 Mixed

1st - Sonia Seuren (Inverloch), 12.10, 2nd - Josiah Skarratt (Somers), 6.97

## #NoTXTNoWrecks campaign to continue

SURFING Victoria is proud to continue the highly successful #NoTXTNoWrecks campaign in Victoria thanks to the VicRoads Community Road Safety Grants Program funding.

The campaign, initially created in 2015 by Surfing Western Australia, has been a strong catalyst for change in the surfing community in Western Australia and saw similar results in Victoria last year.

"We received so much positive feedback last year as a result of the campaign" said Surfing Victoria CEO Adam Robertson.

"Surfers do a lot of driving searching for waves, and we know drivers are 10 times more at risk of crashing if they are texting, browsing or emailing on their mobile phone, so this campaign is incredibly important."

Living on Phillip Island Sage Goldsbury understands that surfers are constantly searching for waves and travelling to competitions.

"I've spent countless hours on the road travelling to competitions and searching for waves around home, usually on narrow and unsealed roads" said Goldsbury.

"Using your phone whilst driving can lead to a serious crash. When driving to the beach, put your phone away."

The campaign will be rolled out across Surfing Victoria social channels as well as at events across the state.

Follow along via Instagram, Facebook and Tiktok

More information on the campaign can be found at [surfingvic.com/notxtnowrecks](http://surfingvic.com/notxtnowrecks)

## Local bridge results

### SOUTH GIPPSLAND

#### RESULTS:

February 20 at RSL: six tables competing. Master point winners:

#### North South pairs:

First: Alan Johnston and John Sutton with an excellent 64.81 per cent. Second: John French and Debbie Anglim 58.52. Third: Ruth Harvey and Sue Edwards 56.30

#### East/West pairs:

First: Hannah Martin and Maureen Stiles 55.56 Second: Ken McKenzie and Marie Sands 55.19. Third: Julie Perriam and Anne Gibson 48.89.

#### February 23 at Inverloch: seven tables.

#### North/ South pairs:

First: Alan Johnston and Ken McKenzie 57.14. Second: Ruth Harvey and Anne Green 52.68. Third: Marie Sands and Bronwyn Sund 49.70.

### PHILLIP ISLAND

#### RESULTS:

Six and a half tables competed on Monday, February 19.

Molly Dowling and Richard Poole were first for North/South with a percentage of 58.21 per cent, followed in second by Greg Nicholson and Shirley Stewart with 55.71 per cent.

In third place, Diane Coleman and Leng Haggith with 51.43 per cent.

First for East/West were Ann Green and Ruth Harvey on 55.42 per cent, second Hannah Martin and Maureen Stiles on 51.67 per cent, and third Lorrie Read and Neville Chapman on 50.83 per cent.

On Wednesday, February 21, there were four and a half tables.

Congratulations to John Farr and Bronwyn Sund in first place on 63.97 per cent.

In second place was Molly Dowling and Judy O'Connell on 61.81 percent, followed in third place by Marnie Myall and Caroline Shaw on 56.94 per cent.

Whether you are new to Bridge, wanting to refresh your game or just feel like playing socially, Tuesday nights are tailored for you at the Phillip Island Bridge Club at the rear of the Newhaven Hall at 23 Cleeland Street, Newhaven.

For more information, call Jill on 0438 248 578.

## Wonthaggi Croquet club enjoys a successful tournament



Wonthaggi Croquet Club showcased its clubrooms with the external doubles competitors.

AFTER having hosted members from clubs throughout Victoria in the extremely successful external doubles tournament on the weekend of February 17/18, last Tuesday, February 20, had Wonthaggi's own members compete in the internal Hi-Lo doubles event.

Five pairs took part in a fun but competitive day with a lunchtime barbecue breaking up the day's play.

Sue Baker and Peter Donovan triumphed on the day with Philip Bool and Michael Barber finishing runners-up.

Stephen Wilbourne teamed up with Neil Warburton to play in his first club tournament.

It was a successful day with the next event being the Memorial Shield to be held on February 27.



**Karen Cusack (in the middle) with members of the Victorian Police Golf Club at Meeniyian.**

## FOSTER

### Ladies

A HOT day for the first round of the ladies singles knockout.

Those going through to the next round are Barb Warren, Elisa Nudleman, Anne Heywood, Kylie Collins, Geraldine Sinclair and Jenny Alexander.

There are two games yet to be played in this first round.

Winners for the day were Alayne McKenzie with (43) 43 pts and Frances McGleed (38) 20 pts for the nine-hole comp.

NTP sixth Jenny Mountford and 17th Barb Warren.

Next Wednesday, February 28, Ladies Stableford.

## KORUMBURRA

**RESULTS:** Tuesday, February 20.

Stableford: 36 players.

A Grade: Rob Gallagher (10) 42 pts.

B Grade: Steve Osboldstone (23) 35 pts.

NTPs: first Chris Corr, seventh John Kerr, 10th John Wilson and 13th Chris McConnell.

Thursday, 11th 13th Steve Duffield.

Saturday, February 24: Two-Man Ambrose Guest Day: Sponsor: Elders.

Member/Guest: Chris Gallagher and Todd Mooney 61 net.

Member/Member: Marty De Leeuw and Malcolm Garnham 63.75 net.

NTPs: first Athol Worthy, seventh Troy Patterson, 10th Craig Kerr and 13th Tim O'Neill.

### Ladies

THE third and final of the split rounds of Korumburra's Women's Club Championships was played on Saturday and Wednesday.

The club thanked the grounds staff and volunteers who worked so hard to ensure the course was at its best and in exceptional condition.

Having both the Women's and Men's Championships held over the last three weeks added to the great atmosphere around the club and all those who won in the various sections were applauded.

Well done to everyone who competed in the Women's Championships, and it is terrific that all who started also completed the three rounds and it was wonderful to see very close results.

Congratulations to Merrissa Cosson who played an amazing round to be the 2024 Women's Club Champion.

Merrissa finished with 259 and runner-up was Kerri Besley, 280.

The A Grade Net Aggregate winner was Merrissa, 226, after a tight finish with runner up, Heather Grist, 227.

The B Grade Champion was Julie Hillberg, 299 and runner up was Jenny Blackmore, 301.

Jenny won the B Grade Net Aggregate, 220 and Julie Brannagan was just one shot behind, 221.

C Grade's Champion was Viv Enbom, 333 with Dianne Maskell runner up, 343.

Lyn Leppin was the Net Aggregate winner, 221 and Lorraine Knox was a close runner up, 222.

The Senior Champion was Jenny Blackmore.

Jenny also won the Norrie Little Memorial Trophy with the best net score over all grades.

The daily competition was sponsored by club member Beryl Brown and the club thanks Beryl for this ongoing support and the lovely trophies she provided.

A Grade was won by Merrissa Cosson (11) 70 net and Kerri Besley (17) was runner up 74 net.

Julie Hillberg (24) won B Grade 71 net and Chris Rickard (28) was runner up 74 net.

Julie Cole (54) won C Grade 70 net and Viv Enbom (35) was next best 77 net.

Merrissa had the best Scratch Score with a very nice 81.

BDL winners were Jenny Blackmore (26), 75 net, Julie Brannagan (26), 77 net and Heather Grist (22), 79 net on a c/b.

The nine-hole comp was won by Juliet Hislop with 14 pts.

NTPs went to Trudy Olden first and 13th, Jenny Blackmore seventh and Chris Rickard 10th.

Dianne and Terry Maskell won twilight golf on Thursday with 21 pts. Gail Beer and Simon Perks were runners up, 20 pts.

NTP winners were Johanna van den Heiligenberg on the first and seventh, and David Enbom on the first.

It was fantastic to have the Korumburra team Heather Grist, Kerri Besley and Shelley Snooks win the Gena Roughead Bowl at Woorayl last Friday.

It was such a close win after a c/b with Woorayl 1, both teams finishing with 103 pts.

Well done to Shelley, who was also the A Grade winner with 37 pts.

This is just the second time a Korumburra team has won this event since its inception in 1977, so it's very special.

Inscribed on the trophy, the Korumburra team, G. Masterson, S. Johnson and J. Dixon won in 1992.

Saturday's results will be in next week's report.

## LEONGATHA

**TUESDAY, February 20:** Stableford.

Another glorious day on course saw some excellent results for the 60 members/guests who played Tuesday's Stableford round.

A Grade winner: Josh De Groot (12) with a score of 41 pts. Runner up: Dean Kellett (9) with a score of 39 pts.

B Grade winner: David Forbes

(20) with a score of 38 pts. Runner up: Peter Read (17) with a score of 37 pts on a countback.

C Grade winner: Michael Wrigley (25) with a score of 40 pts. Runner up: Sean Munley (31) with a score of 39 pts.

NTP fifth second shot: Dean Kellett at 1.90m. NTP 14th: Dave Brownnett at 2.95m. NTP 16th: Michael Street at .49m.

Extra Balls Comp prizes went to Ron Robinson, Ian Trease, Russell Williams and Chad Clasby.

Thursday, February 22: Stableford.

This was a popular Stableford round played off the yellow tees, with 80 members/guests starting with a 8.30am shotgun start to get ahead of the forecast warmer day.

A Grade winner: Rod MacKenzie (9) with a score of 38 pts. Runner up: Barry Attwood (11) with a score of 36 pts.

B Grade winner: Peter Brownlie (15) with a score of 38 pts. Runner up: Bruce Christison (14) with a score of 37 pts.

C Grade winner: David Vorwerg (19) with a score of 40 pts. Runner up: Alan Briggs (19) with a score of 39 pts on a countback.

D Grade winner: Simon Kaiserman (28) with a score of 40 pts. Runner up: Steven Smith (19) with a score of 38 pts.

NTP fifth second shot: Gary McGrath at 1.67m. NTP 14th: Lyndon Thompson at 1.55m. NTP 16th: Craig Hutchinson at .25m.

Extra Balls Comp prizes went to Malcolm Legge, Lyndon Thompson and Russell Pentland.

Saturday, February 24: 4BBB Stroke All Gippsland Championship Event.

This Saturday was a round with a difference with All Gippsland 4BBB Stroke and Gross events involving a great field of 132 members/guests playing in excellent golfing conditions.

Overall winners:

1. Trevor Rickard (13) and Ken Lay (18) with a net score of 57.

2. Jack Jacobsen (4) and Brett McKnight (7) both from the Meeniyian Golf Club with a net score of 59.

3. David Barrack (25) and Daniel Yeap (16) with a net score of 60 on a countback.

The 4BBB Stroke Gross results saw the following top three winners:

1. Jack Jacobsen (4) and Brett McKnight (7) with a net score of 66 on a countback.

2. Paul Andrijczak (1) from the Yallourn GC and Dale Reynolds (2) from the Morwell Golf Club with a net score of 66.

3. Michael Thomas (3) and Christopher Buckland (+1) from the Foster GC with a net score of 67.

### Ladies

AFTER two weeks of stroke during the recent Champion-



**Korumburra's Golf Club's Women Champions were Viv Enbom (C Grade), Lyn Leppin (C Grade Net Aggregate), Jenny Blackmore (B Grade Net Aggregate), Seniors Champion and Norrie Little Memorial Trophy, Merrissa Cosson (Club Champion, A Grade and A Net Aggregate) and Julie Hillberg (B Grade).**

ships, it was a relief for everyone to play a nice and easy 4BBB, despite the fairly warm conditions.

Thank you again this year to the Burra Brewing Company for its sponsorship of this event.

The last group in, and the pair that had experienced the hottest conditions, were Nola Kim and Lianne Adamson with 49 pts, well ahead of the field.

A gobbler by Nola on the fourth helped, earning five pts.

Else Gedye and Nan Meagher were next in line with 46 pts and in third position were Karen de Groot and Kay Dumbleton on 45 pts on a count back from several others.

Nearest the pin on the 16th was Chris Lay and Jo Miles was the closest on the 14th.

Second shot on the fifth was won by Maxine Eabry.

Maria Maher had the best score (17) in the nine-hole competition with Marie Sands in second place on 14 pts.

## MEENIYAN

THE Meeniyian Golf Club played its third annual Jim Cusack Memorial Golf Day with Victorian Police Golf Club well represented, along with many of Jim's family members, on Sunday, February 18.

The day was sponsored by Jim and Gwen's daughter Karen.

Meeniyian Golf Club thanks Karen very much for her ongoing sponsorship.

The day's weather was perfect and the course looking a treat, thanks to the many volunteers who work on the course all the time and especially after the storms.

The challenge for the day was everyone had to use Jim's long heavy putter on the 18th hole.

A Grade men: Winner: Mat Vanboven 37 pts. Runner up: Brad Wright 36 pts.

B Grade men: Winner: Leon Zuidema 44 pts. Runner up: Sib Burggraaff 39 pts.

A Grade women: Winner: Dot Christie 32 pts. Runner up: Irene Holm 31 pts.

B Grade women: Winner: Louise Vuillermin 33 pts. Runner up: Sue Hoskin 31 pts.

The team's winners where the best three out of four scores were counted went to Ash Zuidema, Leon Zidema, Luke Gilliam and Matt Gilliam with 106 pts.

The best 10 scores for the Victorian Police players totalled 313 pts and for Meeniyian it totalled 342 pts.

## PHILLIP ISLAND

**TUESDAY 20th February**

**Men's Stroke Stableford 18-Hole**

A Grade winners: A-1 Jeff Bennett (12) 42 pts A-2 Paul Ledwith (12) 38 Pts

B Grade winners: B-1 Neil Williams (16) 41 Pts B-2 John Sa-

vas (20) 40 Pts

C Grade winners: C-1 Christian Zderski (28) 39 Pts C-2 Paul Waylen (32) 38 pts c/b

BDL to 34 pts c/b

NTP: fifth Peter Cartwright, seventh Vinco Anticevic, 10th John Savas, 17th Jeff Bennett

Men's Nine-Hole Stableford

Winners: Vic Mitchell (26) 21 pts c/b pts, Graham Robinson (29) 21pts

BDL to 16 pts c/b

Wednesday 21st February

Women's Monthly Medal Stroke

A Grade Winner: Pam Rothfield (21) nett 71

B Grade Winner: Robyn Dockier (31) nett 70

C Grade Winner: Maureen El-lard (39) nett 70

Medal Winner was Maureen El-lard

BDL to Nett 65

NTP fifth Vicki Amato, seventh Sue Brown, 10th Helen Coghlan, 17th Vicki Ramage

Women's Nine-Hole Stableford

Winner was Gwen Mather (45) 22 pts from Julia Mascitelli (42) 19 pts.

Thursday 22nd February 18-Hole Stableford

A Grade winner: A-1 Rob Davison (9) 37 Pts A-2 Daniel Pearce (4) 36 pts c/b

B Grade winners: B-1 Shane Harding (17) 39 Pts B-2 Steve Sloss (14) 36 Pts c/b

C Grade winners: C-1 Michael Janson (35) 38 Pts C-2 Cecil Andrews (24) 37 Pts

BDL to 34 Pts C/B

NTP: fifth James Hewitt, seventh Rob Davison, 10th James Hewitt, 17th John Maglica

Open Nine-Hole Stableford

Overall winner: Basil Moloney (13) 19 pts, John Rodakis (38) 17 pts c/b to David Gladman

BDL to 15 pts

Saturday 24th February Men's 18-Hole Stableford

Overall winner: Josh Ryan (28) 42 Pts

A Grade winners: A-1 Owen Jolly (11) 40 A-2 Reece Jamie-son (9) 39 pts c/b

B Grade winners: B-1 Simon Furniss (18) 40 pts B-2 Syd Hadley (17) 38 pts c/b

C Grade winners: C-1 Josh Ryan (28) 42 pts C-2 Neil But-ter (25) 40 pts

BDL to 34 pts C/B

NTP: fifth Scott Fullarton, seventh Chris Ross, 10th Rowan Wales, 17th Daryl Vernon

Women's 18-Hole Stableford

A Grade Winner: A-1 Tracey Cooksey (36) 39 pts A-2 Debra Orr (16) 36pts c/b

BDL:

**From page 52**

Sunday 25th February Four Person Mixed Ambrose (Memorial Day for David and Denise Mitchell)

Winners were Jeanette Diss, Diana Holmberg, Harry and Max Bentley with 55.5 pts from Jo and Max Disher, Mary Smith and Mario Amato

Mens NTP: fifth Craig O'Neill, seventh Max Bentley, 10th Greg Hyndman, 17th Paul Coleman

Ladies NTP: fifth Marilyn Jamieson, seventh Lesley Meadowcroft, 10th Barb Haydon, 17th Helen Coglan

**WOORAYL****Ladies**

GOLF was missed due to storm damage last week. Thanks to the members who have the course looking beautiful again.

The first round of the Tony McLeod Memorial Stableford Aggregate Board Event was kindly sponsored by Renee McLennan from MTA Travel.

Sixteen players competed in warm conditions.

A Grade's winner was a very surprised Pauline Lancaster with 34 pts.

B Grade's winner was Bev Bridge, who continued her winning streak with 32 pts.

BDL went to Heather Sullivan with 33 pts, Elly Berryman with 32 pts and Anne Grist with 32 pts on a count back from Sharyn Rayson.

NTPs were eighth Jenny Risedley, 11th Jean Hayes and 17th Bev Bridge.

The club was delighted to welcome Jodie Smith, who recently joined the beginner's group taken by Elly Berryman and Michael Grist.

**WONTHAGGI**

RESULTS: February 22, SR. 71. Competition: Stableford 18-hole.

Winner: Chris Wilkinson 40.

Runner up: Peter Magnusson 37.

BDLT to 35 C/B.

Ball sweep: Colin Banks 37, Roger Kilpatrick 36, Chris Wilkinson 36, Phillip Dynes 35, Bruce Betts 35 and Gary Youton 35 C/B.

Results: February 22, SR. 36.

Competition: Stableford back nine-holes.

Winner: Bill Howard 19.

BDLT to 18.

Ball sweep: Graham Ryan 18 and Norm Burne 18.

Results: February 24, Stableford 18-hole.

Winner: A: Brad Andrews 38. B: Gerard Mitchell 39. C: Alan Wright 40.

BDLT to 36 C/B.

Ball sweep: Neil Waters 39, Kevin Bayley 38, Frank Loughran 38, Steven Brann 37, Daniel Crellin 37, Kevin Jamieson 37, Geoff Huther 37, Michael Scott 37, Peter Brewster 37 and Steven Laing 36 C/B.

Eagle: Sam Dennis seventh.

NTP: Ian Johnson second, Daniel Van Agtmaal fourth, Bailey Harvey propin eighth, Neil Waters 13th and Daniel Crellin 17th money hole.

**Ladies**

WEDNESDAY was the second round of stroke in the 2024 Ladies Club Championships.

One of the members has picked a brilliant time to have a purple patch of form.

After winning last week's Monthly Medal, Donna Brosnan backed it up with another great score of 107(37)70 net to be the C Grade winner.

A Grade was won by Jan Beaumont 94(20)74 net, and B Grade and the round of the day winner was Andrea Grenville 100(31)69 net.

NTP eighth and birdie was Heather Wintle, and NTP 17th was Simone Lindsay.

BDL went to Dot Garry 71, Simone Lindsay 72, Marion Walker 73, Anne Poulton 74, Lisa Brusamarello 75, Robyn Wilkinson 75 and Marg Johnson 75.



Alayne McKenzie and Frances McGlead were the winners at Foster Golf Club.



Nola Kim and Lianne Adamson were the winners of the Burra Brewing Company 4BBB.



Winners at Wonthaggi Golf Club were Geraldine Prentice, Donna Brosnan and Jan Beaumont. Absent: Yvonne Everitt and Andrea Grenville.



Woorayl Golf Club's A Grade winner Pauline Lancaster in the Tony McLeod Memorial Stableford Aggregate Board Event with sponsor Renee McLennan.



Italian rider Nicolo Bulega notched up an outstanding debut win on Saturday in race one. Photos: Peter Cleeland

## Island produces World Superbike magic

**From page 64**

Matters were further complicated when six times World Champion Jonathan Rea had a serious accident on the approach to turn 12. All spectators and everyone concerned with the event wish Jonathan well in his recovery.

At the restart Alvaro Bautista on his Championship winning Ducati took the lead and he was closely shadowed by his former teammate Michael Rubin Rinaldi who was also on a Ducati.

However, as the race due to a close Alex Lowes on his Kawasaki passed Rinaldi as did Andrea Locatelli riding a Yamaha and both riders closed in on Bautista. On a thrilling final lap Locatelli went under Lowes at turn

four but came off in a dramatic high side as he ran wide.

Lowes, unperturbed, produced the move of the weekend scooting around Bautista between the hayshed turn and turn 10 and held on to win by a wheel from the fast-finishing Bautista.

Privateer Ducati rider, Danilo Petrucci produced a stunning ride coming from seventh to finish in third place.

Alex Lowes came away with 50 points to lead the title race, with Nicolo Bulega on 41 points and Andrea Locatelli on 29 points. Three different manufacturers leading the title race indicated what open and competitive racing the fans had witnessed at the brilliant Island circuit.



Michael Van der Mark put the Beamer down at turn four in the Superpole shootout.



In World Supersports Yari Montella from Italy on the Ducati won both races in convincing style.



Max Stauffer was confident going into the weekend after winning the go-kart race on Thursday, but it wasn't to be on the real thing with Max placing 10th, ninth and seventh to Josh Waters triple firsts. C100\_0924

## Stauffer dominates Superbike opener

"One down, three to go," Max Stauffer triumphantly announced on Thursday after taking the win in the 2024 Phillip Island Superbike Go-Kart Challenge.

Friendly rivalry was on the cards as Australian and World Superbike riders had some fun on the miniature version of the larger track ahead of the first round of the 2024 season at Phillip Island, kicking off tomorrow with the free practice sessions and Australian Supersport Race1. The hotly contested race was won by Aussie Superbike rider Max Stauffer, who beat Scottish World Supersport rider John McPhee and fellow Aussie Olly Simpson (Australian Supersport) to the chequered flag.

Stauffer showed his speed and skill on the kart, setting the fastest lap and jumping ahead of the pack early after starting in third on the grid. He said he was happy with his performance and confident for the main event.

"The first race is the most important and with one win down there is only three more now to go. I'm pretty stocked, it was a good race, nice and consistent, kept me on my toes," he said.

"I'm keen to get stuck into the first practice session and see where we end up."

"It's hard to know where you are at, at Phillip Island – everyone has tested at different times. We're not going to know where we sit until after practice."

McPhee, who is also reasonably new to the World Supersport grid after switching from Moto3 in between 2022/23, gave Stauffer a good challenge but had to settle for second place.



Alex Lowe is at the top of the ladder after the first round of the World Championship after taking home the win in Sunday's second race.



Troy Corser was spotted at the track over the weekend.



Rosa Scarlato, Pino's Trattoria, is a fixture at the World Superbikes each year!



It was a third place podium for Danilo Petrucci on Sunday in race 2.



World Superbike rider Toprak Razgatlioglu meets fans.



Photos: Nici Cahill – Snapshot Photography.



Swiss rider Dominique Aegerter delights fans during the Pit Lane walk over the weekend.





A lap record for Razgatlioglu may have been short lived, but the Turkish rider is looking forward to the year ahead.

## Razgatlioglu breaks Island lap record but success is short lived



TURKISH rider and 2021 World Superbike Champion Toprak Razgatlioglu set a new lap record at Phillip Island, clocking 1:29.576 in the official World Superbike test last week ahead of the first weekend of the season. However, it wasn't to be Razgatlioglu's race with less than perfect tyres impacting the weekend and a technical problem on turn nine retiring the rider in Sunday's main race.

Not to mention his lap record broken by WSBK rookie Nicolo Bulega on Saturday.

But it's onwards and upwards for the skilled rider and former champion, who ended Jonathan Rea's six-year reign.

The Sentinel-Times caught up with Razgatlioglu on Thursday ahead of the big weekend.

The BMW rider, who switched from Yamaha this season, said he was surprised by his strong performance and confident heading into first race of the year.

"I'm very happy because I'm coming here always scared. Last year I didn't make a good race here, I was always riding to the limit. I was more scared with the BMW because it's the first year and I'm still learning the bike. We are not 100 per cent ready, but in the end we started very strong and we did a really good lap time – but it is just a test," he said.

Razgatlioglu, who finished second in the 2022 and 2023 championship behind Álvaro Bautista, said he had high expectations for the season and hoped to challenge for the title with BMW, a brand that has never won the World Superbike crown.

"This is a big challenge for me because nobody believes in this brand. I've been with Yamaha for three years, but I believe in this bike, I believe in this project. I'm trying my best every weekend. This is my dream, to be world champion with BMW. I have my targets for this year, the first race the podium. I hope also the win, but it's not possible to win immediately. We are not really 100 per cent ready,

but we are also strong. This is good. Everyone is scared or thinking about me because nobody expected this," he said.

Razgatlioglu also praised his team, which includes some of his former Yamaha crew members, and said he felt like part of a family.

"I brought my team manager, my crew chief and also the mechanics. I asked for them because we are like a family. We have been together for years and I know them, they know me. This is very good. And also, I feel very good here, everyone is very warm."

"We make a very good result together and we are getting better. They just started two or three months ago, but I'm very happy and also surprised by the test results. I feel deep motivation and I see everyone working hard," he said.

Razgatlioglu admitted that Phillip Island was not his favourite track and that he had to adapt his riding style to suit the BMW.

"This track is quite difficult for me and for my style. It's not the slow corners, just long corners. My style is completely different. But I've tried to adapt to this track and change. It looks like now it's good."

"My style is a little bit aggressive. I'm not able to show my style here, but I'm always a fighter," he said.

Razgatlioglu said he was feeling a little bit excited and nervous for his first race with BMW and that he didn't know what to expect.

"Always I'm feeling a little bit excited, this is normal because it's my first race with BMW and we don't know what will happen in the race. But the feeling is good, I'm ready to fight," he said.

Razgatlioglu qualified fifth in Saturday's Superpole before crossing the line in fifth with a fastest lap time of 1:29.294 after a pit lane penalty of 1.225. Sunday started better for the Turkish rider starting the grid in third position before retiring.



Philipp Oettl sets his sights on the first race on Saturday.

What are you most looking forward to in the year ahead?



**Oliver (Oli) Bayliss**

*World Supersport*

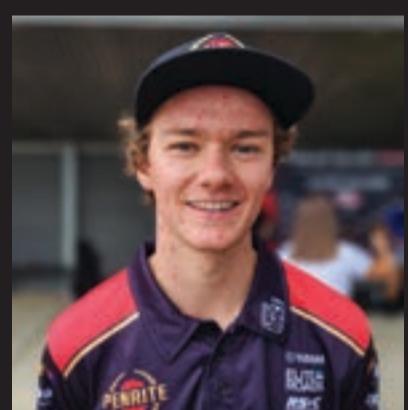
"Racing in front of the Phillip Island crowd."



**Max Stauffer**

*Australian Superbike*

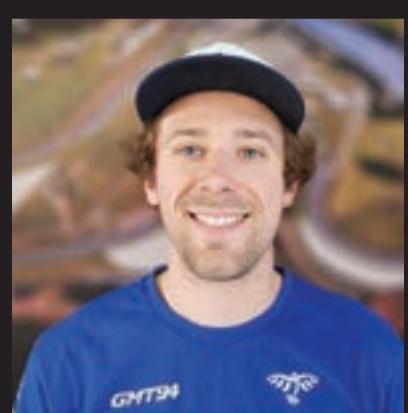
"Seeing how the team can adjust and where we stand, and getting stuck in."



**Josh Waters**

*Australian Superbike*

"To be the best I can be in the Australian championships. We race all year and it's great to start the race at Phillip Island – a lot believe it's the best track in the world."



**Philipp Oettl**

*World Superbike*

"Phillip Island is always something really special – the first race is the most important."

## Yarram Championship Dog Show set for action

THE YARRAM & District Canine Club is holding its annual Championship Dog Show at the Yarram Recreation Reserve on the Saturday and Sunday of the Labour Day Public Holiday Long Weekend, March 9 and 10.

With three shows over the two days, the Yarram Show Weekend has become the largest dog speciality event in Gippsland with over 120 breeds represented and high-class international judges adjudicating.

The events will be fully catered with EFTPOS facilities as well as specialty stalls for all your dog needs.

Members of the public are most welcome to come and meet the dogs and to have their questions answered regarding the various breeds.

For further information please call Anthony on 0408 378 327 or visit the club's Facebook page.

## ALLAMBEE MIRBOO AND DISTRICT TENNIS ASSOC.

### SECTION 1:

Inverloch 8.51 defeated Westernport 0.27; Leongatha 5.42 defeated Korumburra 3.27; Koonwarra bye.

Ladder: Inverloch 85.5, Westernport 81, Koonwarra 61.5, Leongatha 47, Korumburra 45

### Section 2:

Baromi 6.62 defeated Leongatha 3.39; Outtrim 5.58 defeated Korumburra 4.43.

Ladder: Outtrim 95, Baromi 82, Leongatha 77.5, Korumburra 29.5

Saturday was a beautiful day for tennis – perhaps one of the best all year for those who like things on the milder side.

Inverloch was the big winner at Westernport, not dropping a set for the day.

However, the scores don't always tell the true story.

With a tiebreaker and a 7/5, Inverloch didn't have everything go its way.

Leongatha's Section 1 side was the winner against Korumburra.

Belinda Whiteside and Matt Pocklington played with the younger ones and gave them some great experience.

Matt won all sets he played in.

Baromi won against Leongatha in Section 2.

Leongatha has had great matches all season, in particular with Baromi.

Outtrim v Korumburra was a close one.

The Outtrim men won two sets, only losing a tiebreaker.

Korumburra ladies evened the score, but Outtrim held on to win the day.

End of the season is almost here with only one round left.

The presentation night will be held on Saturday, March 23, after the grand final.

Each team is asked to please donate a prize for the raffle on the night.

If you have any questions, please reach out to one of the Korumburra players as they are organising it this season.

## RIVERSIDE TENNIS ASSOCIATION

### ROUND 13 results:

Section 1/2 Doubles: Drouin Maroon 5 – 41 defeated Warragul 4 – 35; Neerim District 5 – 38 defeated Moe 4 – 30; Trafalgar 2 – 32 defeated by Hallora 7 – 50; Drouin Gold 9 – 54 defeated Poowong 0 – 0 (Forfeit).

Ladder: Drouin Maroon 112, Moe 105.5, Neerim District 86, Hallora 78, Warragul 72, Poowong 55.5, Drouin Gold 55, Trafalgar 52

Section 1 Singles: Moe Red 1 – 3 – 29 defeated by Moe White 3 – 7 – 42; Trafalgar 1 – 2 – 28 defeated by Drouin 3 – 6 – 43; Moe Blue had the bye.

Ladder: Moe White 50.5, Moe Blue 40, Moe Red 39.5, Drouin 29, Trafalgar 15

### Section 2 Singles:

Drouin Maroon 6 – 48 defeated Warragul 0 – 8; Pax Hill 1 – 27 defeated by Drouin Gold 5 – 46; Trafalgar 6 – 48 defeated Moe 0 – 11.

Ladder: Trafalgar 76, Pax Hill 71, Drouin Maroon 51, Moe 44, Drouin Gold 40, Warragul 12



A signed Western Bulldogs guernsey will also be up for grabs.



Fish Creek Football Netball Club Secretary Brenda Jordan with a Collingwood football jumper signed by the entire 2023 premiership team, presented to the club during a visit by Collingwood last December. The jumper is one of several lots going to auction at the 'Rising from the Ashes' Sports Gala Night, to be held next Saturday, March 2 in the Leongatha Memorial Hall.



One of the auction items expected to attract interest at Fish Creek's 'Rising from the Ashes' Sports Gala Night next Saturday is this cricket bat signed Ricky Ponting held by Jordan Shaw.

# Hurry, handful of tickets left for Fish Creek fundraiser

The Fish Creek Football Netball Club 'Rebuild & Recovery Sub-Committee' has been delighted with the public response to their 'Rising from the Ashes' Sports Gala Night, to be held next Saturday, March 2.

They've sold out all 20 tables of 12 which at \$2400-a-pop, represents a \$48,000 boost to the recovery appeal.

However, if you haven't been able to secure a seat at the table, all's not lost.

"We still have over 100 Balcony Seats available at the bargain price of \$120 per person," said a member of the organising committee Jason Harding.

"The ticket price will include drinks, canapes and supper as well as what promises to be a great show with our amazing guests and over 20 fabulous auction prizes.

"Depending on demand we may offer two bus services, one from Sandy Point stopping at Fish Creek then Meenigan and onto Leongatha and the other potentially from Inverloch to Leongatha. The

services will only be offered if there is a sufficient demand so please go to the try booking site and register."

At the Try Booking site you can get tickets and also register for a bus pickup at: [trybooking.com/events/landing/1178628](http://trybooking.com/events/landing/1178628)

"Some of the auction items are listed below. We will have a live auction for six of the main items and we will run a silent auction for the other items," said Jason.

### Up for grabs

Auction items on offer include:

1. Framed Collingwood Jumper signed by the 2023 Premiership team. Value \$2000. Donor Collingwood Football Club (Live)

2. Fully catered suite at Marvel Stadium for a 2024 AFL Match for 12 people (x2). Value \$5500. Donor Rodney Woodford (Live).

3. Cricket Bat signed by former Australian Cricket Captain Ricky Ponting. Donor Dynamic Sports & Entertainment Group (Live).

4. Four tickets to Adelaide Crows v Carlton at Marvel Stadium, Round 4 on April 13, 2024. Includes access to change rooms. Donor Wayne Weidemann (Live).

5. Framed commemorative print 'Last Man Standing' signed by Steven Bradbury, Australia's first Winter Olympics Gold Medallist. Donor Steven Bradbury (Live).

6. Round of golf at the Cathedral Golf Club for three people includes lunch, drinks and a welcome gift pack. Value \$2000. Donor Ryan Underwood, Unwood Projects (Live).

Silent auction items include:

• \$100 Food Voucher at the Poowong Hotel.

• \$2000 All-weather blinds voucher. Donor Mich Johnson.

• Australian Opals Jersey signed by the 2008 Olympic Silver Medallists. Donor Belinda Snell.

• Framed 150-Year Centenary, signed St Kilda Football Jumper. Donor Jono Stephens.

• Gold Coast Suns 2024 Signed Football Jumper. Donor Ross Abbey.

Donor Sam Flanders, Gold Coast Football Club.

• Melbourne Vixens 2023 signed Netball. Donor Melbourne Vixens.

• One-night accommodation at a Marriott Hotel Property in Melbourne, breakfasts included. Value \$300. Donor Marriott Hotels.

• Port Adelaide 2024 signed Football Jumper. Donor Wayne Weidemann.

• Richmond 2024 signed Football Jumper. Donor Richmond Football Club.

• Round of golf at the Heritage Golf Club for four people includes carts. Donor Chris West, Fleet Plant Hire Solutions.

• Two nights accommodation at Edgewater Terraces, Metung for up to six guests plus a \$200 voucher at Metung Hot Springs. Value \$7010. Donor Steve & Megan Vuillermin.

• Western Bulldogs 2023 signed Football. Donor Ross Abbey.

• Western Bulldogs 2024 signed Football Jumper. Donor Ross Abbey.

## Cowes Classic and Little Penguin Dash still open for registrations!



Cowes Classic biathlon winner Tristan Price (19.11 minutes) and Levi Maxwell (runner up 19.45 minutes) at the finish line last year. Photos: Courtesy of Phillip Island and San Remo Advertiser.

THIS week is the third and final leg of the Bass Coast Series with the Cowes Classic and Little Penguin Dash still open for registrations.

The Little Penguin Dash will kick off this Saturday, March 2 at 10.30am. A junior event open for ages inviting ages 7-14 and separated into two categories. Ages 7-10 will compete in a 200m swim and an 800m run, and ages 11-14 years will compete in a 400m swim and a 1.2km run.

The Cowes Classic will then follow on the same day - Saturday, March 2 and kick off at 2pm where participants will compete in the 500m tide assisted swim around the pier, followed by a 4km run - taking off from the transition zone, up around Thompson Avenue, turning left down Chapel Street towards Silverleaves, and

looping back along the Cowes foreshore to finish in front of the North Pier Hotel.

Marshall at the start 15 minutes before each race time.

This event has broken registration records for both the Cape Paterson Aquathon and San Remo Channel Challenge and organisers want to see if they can make it the biggest year yet for the Cowes Classic and LPD!

The annual event is a major fundraiser for Phillip Island Football and Netball Club and the Woolamai Beach SLSC. Results presented at the North Pier hotel after the race.

Visit Little Penguin Dash — Bass Coast Series and Cowes Classic — Bass Coast Series to register. Registrations are online only — strictly no walk-ins.

# Preparations well advanced for historic motor racing event

FINAL preparations are in place for the largest historic motorsport event in the Southern Hemisphere, the annual VHRR Phillip Island Classic – 'Festival of Motorsport' at the Phillip Island Grand Prix Circuit, March 8 to 10.

With more than 400 entries from every state in Australia, a strong contingent of competitors from New Zealand plus international drivers, the event now attracting record numbers of spectators will once again provide thrilling and spectacular motor racing.

With eleven categories of race cars from the late 1920's up to the late 1980's including McLaren CAN-AM cars from the heyday of the world leading era of the McLaren team plus some of the best Formula 5000's, international competition will be at its best over the three day event.

Of particular interest will be Roger William's M8E-F McLaren CAN-AM car with 8.3 litre Chev aluminium engine, the M10B Formula 5000 of Toby Annabel, in which the legendary Bruce McLaren had significant personal input with the vehicle racing and hill climbs in the UK, the McLaren M10B-400-18S raced by Frank Karl with this F5000 racing in South Africa and UK. There will also be the McLaren CAN-AM sports car of Alistair Hey and the M10A-300.09 with the high rear wing of Tony Roberts once driven by American driver and broadcaster Sam Posey.

Formula 5000 Grand Prix cars



The recently arrived and priceless 1964 Ferrari 250LM Chassis 5909, to be driven by Peter Harburg, will take to the track on March 8 to 10.

from New Zealand that have raced in the USA and UK will compete on the Sunday against the top Australian cars and drivers for the Trans-Tasman Trophy.

One of the strongest fields of C & A touring cars ever assembled will include three back-to-back Bathurst cars with champion drivers Jonathon Webb, Greg Murphy and Steve Richards racing for honours. Taking the competition up to them will be father and son Andrew and George Miedecke in Sierra and Mercedes cars, Tony and Kyle Alford in the Nissans, Paul Stubber in the ex-Allan Moffatt RX7, Chris Stillwell in a Ford Sierra and Peter Xiberras, owner

of the Premier Super Car Team in the ex-Bob Jane Commodore.

In the Group N Touring Cars there will be eight XU1's, 13 Mustangs, five Camaro's plus a Ford Falcon Super Sprint car in what can be seen as some of the fastest and most competitive assembled at Phillip Island.

The ever-competitive field of Formula Ford grid will see Irish challenger James Hagen challenging Malcolm Oastler, John and Tim Blanchard from the Blanchard Racing Team, Richard Davidson and Johnathon Miles amongst many others challenging for the honours.

Of particular interest and

racing at the event will be the priceless 1964 Ferrari 250LM Chassis 5909 which will be driven by Peter Harburg. One of only 32 cars ever made, the Ferrari 250LM was delivered new to the North American Racing Team on May 1964 just in time for the 1000km of Nurburgring where it was driven by Umberto Maglioli and Jochen Rindt and also driven over the years by legendary British drivers David Piper and John Surtees. The car was successfully raced around the world in the 1960's and has been superbly restored winning numerous concourse awards and has recently arrived in Australia for display and historic racing.

On display at the event will be the 1946 Maybach which won the 1954 New Zealand Grand Prix driven by Australian legend and winner of both the Australian and New Zealand Grand Prix, Stan Jones. This was the first successful race car developed and built in Australia to win a Grand Prix event.

Patron for the 2024 VHRR Phillip Island Classic – 'Festival of Motorsport' is Spencer Martin, highly regarded as one of Australia's most competitive open wheeler racers of the 1960's. Racing for Bob Jane Racing, Spencer won two Australian Drivers' Championships back-to-back in 1966 and 1967. In later years he successfully raced in historic events around the world racing Ferrari Testarossa, Maserati and an ex- Stirling Moss C-type Jaguar with wins in Nurburgring, Laguna Seca, Silverstone and Magny-Cours. Spencer also raced Dave McKay's Ferrari 250LM in Australian in the period and will lead the Q & R entrants on the warmup lap.

On display at the Phillip Island Grand Prix Circuit will be up to 1100 vehicles from the car clubs covering the widest range of vehicle marques available and providing something of interest for everyone. The event will also acknowledge a year of celebrations marking the 125th Anniversary of the Renault brand.

The VHRR Phillip Island Classic – 'Festival of Motorsport' is a family friendly motorsport event attracting patrons from all over Australia, New Zealand and internationally.

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Pic Courtesy Chris Carter



David Smith (S), Max Summers (3) and Arch Connell (L) were the South West Gippsland Midweek Bowls Group winners.



The South West Gippsland Midweek Bowls Group runners up were Michael Dady (S), Luke Monckton (3), Max Williams (2), Shirl Corcoran (L).



With a score of 22, Peter Gratton (S), Laurie Bell (3), Peter McWilliams (2) and John Georgiou (L) were South West Gippsland Midweek Bowls Group's best one game winners.



Wonthaggi Bowls Club's Wednesday winners were Bob Powell and Michael Raman.



Wonthaggi Senior Indoor Bowls winners were Marg Hender, Bill Featherson, John Rook and Linda Newman on Friday.

## INVERLOCH

WEEKEND Pennant:

Division 2: Inverloch 49 Wonthaggi 70.

Midweek Pennant:

Division 1: Inverloch 42 Leongatha 65.

Division 2: Inverloch 56 Wonthaggi 65.

Division 3: Inverloch (4) 38 Loch 51; Inverloch (3) 40 Tarwin Lower 29.

Thursday's social bowls was cancelled due to hot weather conditions.

Monthly Triples results:

Winners were Denise Silver, Cas Donahue and Craig Fisher (skip) with four wins and 69 points.

Runners up were Arthur Newsome, John Hutt and Kevin Jones with four wins, 67 points and 26 shots up.

Best first game went to Bernadette Garden, Jane Allen Dale and Frank Garden (skip).

Best second, third and fourth game went to the team of Stan Node, Alan Gordon and Johnny Mig.

## KORUMBURRA

THE last round of midweek pennant has come and gone.

In Division 1, Korumburra travelled to Phillip Island and, in a tight contest, went down overall by two shots.

Jenny McVeigh got up 23 shots to 17 and Judith Nicholl had a 22 all draw.

Unfortunately, Jo Lomagno went down 14 shots to 22.

With that result, Korumburra dropped to fourth place on the ladder and must face Foster next week.

In Division 3, Korumburra hosted Mirboo North with mixed results.

Cheryl Moore won 20 shots to 17, but unfortunately Erica Hayes went down 31 shots to five – not a good way to finish the year.

In Saturday Pennant, the top two teams played off at Mirboo North and, in a magnificent game fitting to be a final, Korumburra went down by three shots overall.

Ross Besley had 20 shots to 18-win, Charlie Edgerton won 19 shots to 18, and unfortunately Shane O'Loughlin went down 15 shots to 21 in a very exciting and close affair.

Well done to all, especially as Peter Spark and Rob Cosson were unavailable for the game.

## MIDWEEK BOWLS

WHAT a day.

Twenty-two of the family of bowlers braved the elements to play even when the predictions were for the temperature to reach 36°, and the weather bureau was spot on.

However, the day was a lot of fun as usual with lots of laughter on the green, much of this caused by the wind blowing across the green, and, as usual a reasonable amount of friendly banter.

A few wrong bias bowls helped put some extra cash into the Royal Children's Hospital tin this week – it's always good to see the players helping out.

Although the temperature was quite high there were very few complaints about it, but second game was shortened by a couple of ends just to be safe.

As usual, the group would like to thank Peter for all his hard work as well as John who assisted.



Inverloch Bowling Club's Monthly Triples winners were Cas Donahue, Craig Fisher (skip) and Denise Fisher.

Peter was very much appreciated behind the bar and Bev was a great asset looking after the kitchen as well as helping people cool down on the green.

Also, thank you to David for putting out the mats, jacks etc before as well as after the games.

The winners on a score of 34 were David Smith (S), Max Summers (3) and Arch Connell (L).

Runners up on a score of 31 were Michael Dady (S), Luke Monckton (3), Max Williams (2) and Shirl Corcoran (L).

Best one game on 22 were Peter Gratton (S), Laurie Bell (3), Peter McWilliams (2) and John Georgiou (L).

It is always a real pleasure to play with such great people every week and each and every one of them was thanked.

Next week, the group will be playing at Corinella, which is always a fun day.

It is asked that everyone be on site by 10am to help Peter arrange the teams, and if anyone can help with the teams it would be much appreciated.

Meanwhile to all those in the finals for pennant – the group wish you the best of luck and look forward to your success.

To the rest, stay safe.

## WONTHAGGI

IT was another good week at the club.

Tuesday saw Division 1 and Division 2 playing at home on a fine sunny day.

Division 1 played host to Foster in a good warm up for the finals.

All three rinks played well to record a solid victory to gain a home final.

The final scores Wonthaggi 65 Foster 39.

Division 2 played host to Inverloch, once again another team in the top four, and looking for a win.

All rinks played well with two having good wins and the other a narrow loss.

After a battle, Wonthaggi were able to come away with a good win.

The final scores Wonthaggi 65 Inverloch 56.

Next week is semi-final day with both Wonthaggi teams finishing on top of the ladder, which means both teams will play at home.

Wednesday saw a smaller field playing with another local club having triples on the same day as well as it was a very hot afternoon.

It was decided that the bowlers play one game of 15 ends.

The numbers were such that they were able to play pairs.

The winners on the day were Michael Raman and Bob Powell with a score of one win and nine shots up.

No Thursday bowls because it was just too hot.

Saturday saw Division 1 play host to Phillip Island at Wonthaggi for the first semi-final on a fine sunny day with a slight breeze. All rinks played well with one winning their match, with the other two just going down. The final scores Wonthaggi 53 Phillip Island 55.

Not the result Wonthaggi was after, but that is the way it is.

Division 2 played host to Inverloch, also at Wonthaggi.

Two rinks played well to set up a very good win, with the other having a battle all day.

It was a very good result, with Division 2 still alive to continue its march into the finals on track.

The final scores Wonthaggi 70 Inverloch 49.

Next week will be chance to support Division 2 playing in the preliminary final at Loch next Saturday at 1pm.

Saturday night's Pennant break up was a success with 40 people, some wonderful food and great company.

Bowls this week: Tuesday Midweek Pennant with Division 1 and Division 2 both playing the second semi-final at Wonthaggi at 10am. Wednesday social bowls at 1pm. Thursday social bowls at 10am. Friday coaching at 10am. Saturday Pennant Division 2 playing at Loch at 1pm.

Have a good week and good bowling.

## WONTHAGGI INDOOR

THIS week was another enjoyable week of bowling with a total of 49 members competing – 29 on Tuesday and 20 on Friday.

Tuesday's winners with an amazing plus 26 were Pat Smith, Teresa Ireland, Glenda Binch and Brian Newman.

After a count back, the runners up were unable to be separated.

Both teams had a plus six and won one game each.

They were Helen Rook, John Stewart and Philip Fowler, and Phylis Peterson, Pam Russell and Fred Demenech.

Friday saw another good win with the winners on plus 11 and winning two games.

They were Marg Hender, Linda Newman, John Rook and Bill Featherson.

Runners up on plus six with a win and a draw were Helen Rook, Sylvia Mattock and John Postlethwaite.

## Rampaging Kookas get the job done

### OVER 60s

THE Kookas continued their Road Trip Odyssey.

This time, bus driver Waza Hayes steered the bunch to Endeavour Hills.

The Endeavour Hillbillys won the toss and luckily put the Kookas in.

Things started well until Waza, for once, went early.

Peter "Perfect" Little joined ol' Grayza Wighty, who quickly exited for 13.

Peter "Also Perfect" Petrou was smokin' them, but a blinding catch saw him gone for a brisk 14.

This precipitated a wee collapse and the Kookas lurches to 7/74.

Once again, Geoff Churchill Burnie steadied the ship with a gutsy 13.

All this time, Peter Little had been purring, finally caressing a fine 41no.

Enter Brendan "Never Say Die" Thomas 26no and President Lincoln White 36no who came to the rescue with a backs to the wall 57 run partnership.

Finally, the Kookas posted a fine 8/157.

After consuming the fine play lunches, the Kookas were ready to rumble.

Adams and Burnie kept it tight and by the 20 over mark it was game on with the Hillbillys 2/75.

Enter Peter "The Ultimate Teammate" Falls, who exploded with two wickets in two balls.

The Ol' Hillbillys, without Jed and Granny, never fully recovered and were finally held to 5/132.

It was a fine 25 run victory to the Kookas.

Man of the match was Neil Super Calves Whitey.

Next week, it's the last match against the Bombers.

Can the Kookas leap to the top of the league as they did last year?

Same bat and ball time next week to reveal all.

Huge congratulations to the Over 50's who won the flag.

Well done, young fellas.

## Phillip Island Tenpin Bowling

PHANTOM Wk 1: 1st place on 3pts Strike It Lucky, 2nd place on 3pts Shadow Strike and 3rd place on 2.5pts Elizabeth.

2s Company Wk2: 1st place on 6pts Pinpushers, 2nd place on 4pts Jail and 3rd place on 3pts Tinabe.

ABL Wk1: 1st place on 17pts Kool Kats, 2nd place on 14pts Buccaneers and 3rd place on 13pts Fairlanes.

Business Early: 1st place on 5pts Happy Hour, 2nd place on 4pts Balls Deep, 3rd place on 4pts Heros of Steel and 4th place on 3pts Wooly Rollers.

Business Late: 1st place on 5pts City Lights, 2nd place on 5pts JDs, 3rd place on 4pts S&R Clarke Auto and 4th place on 3pts Team Rich.

Top scores for the week across each league are:

Men - Matt Edwards 219, Steve A Clarke 207 and Scott Lynch 203.

Woman - Valma Peterson 174, Barbara Burns 165, and Carylin L & Penny Wolswinkel 158.

Probus: Once a month we host a bowling tournament with Probus, Cowes vs Corinella.

This week Cowes took out the win knocking over a total pinfall of 762 pins, just 3 more pins than Corinella who finished on 759 pins.

Top scores for the day both Men and Woman were Tom from Cowes on 208 and Thelma from Corinella on 192.



## Tumultuous weather hits Ride for Relief

FROM one extreme to the next, the weather brought all sorts for the 23 riders and their support crew who tackled Peninsula Hot Spring's Ride for Relief last week. Thursday's scorching was gruelling, especially as riders tackled a steep 7.4-kilometre incline in the peak sun. However, by Friday, the heavens had opened, and the winds blew for a complete contrast.

"It's been very windy today," event co-organiser and Peninsula Hot Springs Community Relations Director, Yuki Davidson explained.

"Yesterday was brutal," volunteer committee member Steven Van Ruyven added noting day three's 122.7-kilometre route and 1321 metre elevation in the sun was less than desirable.

However, the laughter was plentiful as riders and support crew stopped in Inverloch for lunch before passing along the Bunurong Coastal Drive into Wonthaggi - a brief stop at Wonthaggi Mitsubishi a saving grace when the sky opened and 2mm of rain (that was certainly much more) descended.

The event, sponsored by Mitsubishi Motors, Edit Life Media, Peninsula Hot Springs, Bicycle Network and Searoad Ferries amongst others was started in 2018 in honour of Peninsula Hot Springs co-founder Richard Davidson, promoting mental wellness by partnering with a local not-for-profit mental health organisation, Mentis Assist.

The event is designed to boost support for the one in two adult Australians who will experience a mental health disorder in their lifetime.

The six-day cycle started on Monday and concluded on Sunday where riders were joined by the one-day riders, and in its first year the 10-kilometre walkers.

As Yuki explained the walk category was added so the event could expand and become more inclusive.

"With the event growing more significant each year, more people have expressed interest in participating," said Yuki.



"Adding a walk option means that people who enjoy walking more than cycling can join."

The six-day route covered 715.8kilometres from Metung to Peninsula Hot Springs.

Local car dealership Wonthaggi Mitsubishi provided two of the support vehicles for the event, with Warren Stewart noting he was proud to be a part of such an event.

"It's fantastic to be a part of Ride for Relief and do our part to support the community."

Rider and local Mornington Peninsula bike shop owner Dan was on hand to assist with all bicycle breaks and constructed everyone's bicycles on the first day after they were unboxed from transit.

"We've had a couple of crashes and have had to play catch up after stopping to fix bikes," Dan explained.

The cyclists started their journey on Monday, February 19 with spectacular scenery and the camaraderie added bonuses.

"The intention behind Ride for Relief is to help build a connected, caring and loving community in which we can live in happiness and harmony together," said Charles Davidson, co-founder of Peninsula Hot Springs.

"We created the Ride for Relief event to raise funds and awareness for mental health and to emphasise the importance of caring for our physical wellbeing and connection to others."

"It was hard, but it's why we do it. If it was easy, it wouldn't be worth it," said Errol, one of the riders. "When we get to the top of the hill, we look back and we see how far we've come. It's incredible."

"It was brutal, but it was also rewarding," added Yuki. "We saw the big power station at the top of the hill, and it was like a symbol of our resilience."

After a night spent on Phillip Island, the riders said they were looking forward to relaxing at the hot springs on Saturday evening.



A magnificent 8/31 by OMK A Grade bowler, including a hattrick has put OMK in the box seat to contest the finals again this year.

## That's some sort of trick by Mudassar!

OMK bowler Mudassar Riaz and his A Grade Division One teammates have thrown open the make-up of the final four in Leongatha and District Cricket, with one match to play, following a stunning result at Korumburra over the weekend.

Looking for an outright result to boost their chances of climbing back into the top four, Mudassar has led the Diggers home with 8/31 off 15.4 overs, including a hattrick of wickets, making it 10 wickets from the match for him after 2/21 off 11.1 in the first dig.

It now sees OMK sitting 4th facing Town at Scorpion Park next Saturday, and their rivals Imperials with an even harder task, against ladder leaders Phillip Island at Newhaven to decide which four will contest the finals.

## United face off against Glen Eira

GIPPSLAND United U14s faced off against another quality opponent in Glen Eira in the fourth round of the grading period.

After last week's spirited performance against Melbourne City, the team started the match with all guns blazing.

Some solid work out of the backline from Anderson saw the ball fall to the feet of McCann-Diston who put in a blistering run down the left side of the pitch.

The young forward cut into the box and drew a foul which resulted in a penalty spot kick that he converted to put Gippy 1-0 up.

Glen Eira would equalise two minutes later after some strong play.

Not to be outdone, United would go 2-1 up via a cracking strike from McCann-Diston and their fancied opposition were shell-shocked as the two goals were the first Glen Eira had conceded in the grading period.

But if you poke the bear, they will bite and that is what occurred in the 17th and 18th minutes with Glen Eira putting away two quick goals.

The score would remain at 3-2 until the halftime whistle.

Gippy came out in the second half with nothing to lose and everything to gain, and pushed for an equaliser.

Solid work in the middle from Yanez, Hermans, Abbisogni and support from McNeil, Robson and Halkett-Dobson down back kept the opposition at bay for the first 15 minutes of the second half.

However, with several chances created by United not being converted, it would prove costly.

Glen Eira would put a further two goals past United's keeper to run out 5-2 winners at the final whistle.

With two solid and improving performances against quality opposition the United 14s will go into next week's game against Oakleigh Cannons, seeking their second win of the grading period.

Goannas game cancelled

## OVER 60s/70s

UNFORTUNATELY, a Melbourne team could not travel to Traralgon to take on the Gippsland Goannas Over-60 cricket team.

The Goannas were drawn to host the Glen Waverley Over-60 team, but were notified earlier in the week that they would not be able to come to the Duncan Cameron Reserve for the fixtured game.

This leaves the Over-60 team with an away game to Maribyrnong/Barkly St on Sunday next, while the last fixture for the Over-70 team is an away game against the Yarra Valley Over-70's on Tuesday, March 5.

The annual Echuca tournament will take place in the third week of March and the Goannas will play in the 2nd Division after their disappointing performance last year.

## C GRADE

## Inverloch 5/125 d Phillip Island 124

Inverloch - 1st INNINGS: W Stewart 0, J Smith 6, W Chapman 15, J Rowe 56, S Hayes 15, M Woods 14\*, J Mottram Carter 5\*. Bowling: P Cleary 1/31, M Cleary 2/30, P Francis 0/14, D Mani 1/20, J Allan 1/5, S McMillan 0/9, B Marshall 0/5

## Koonwarra L/RSL 5/133 d Glen Alvie 129

Koonwarra L/RSL - 1st INNINGS: S Paterson 0, A Stanley 9\*, T Collins 11, K Thorne 12, A Thorne 50\*, A Boxall 0, G Mathies 38, A Piksons 0\*. Bowling: D Hynes 1/21, W Bridle 0/21, N Pugh 0/5, L Scholz 1/22, O Luff 0/13, V Kumar Gopal 2/19, Fill-in 1/10, C Stewart 0/17

## Town 7/242 d Korumburra 119

Town 1st INNINGS: T Tootell 4, C Dowling 39, R Edwards 26, Y Ratnaike 21, T Strybosch 87, P Carter 21, T Cashin 8\*, A Aeschlimann 1, H Livingstone 5\*. Bowling: H Jefferis 2/37, E Belvedere 0/35, P Churchill 3/51, R Gallagher 0/20, G Barrett 1/36, Fill-in 1/16, Fill-in 0/17, D Kimmer 0/15. Korumburra - 1st INNINGS: P Churchill 39, E Belvedere 7, J Foster 3, Fill-in 5, J Townley 0, L Gallagher 0, Glen Barrett 31, Fill-in 8, R Gallagher 5, P Edwards 15, D Kimmer 0\*. Bowling: T Strybosch 1/23, C Dowling 4/31, PJ Kallookkaran 2/20, H Livingstone 1/30, Y Ratnaike 1/8, P Carter 1/5

## Kilcunda-Bass d MDU

Kilcunda-Bass won by forfeit.

## Nyora - BYE

## NEXT WEEKEND'S GAMES &amp; UMPIRE APPOINTMENTS

## LDCA JUNIORS

## UNDER 17's - 10am Start

## Imperials v Town

LEONGATHA TURF  
Ash Stride / Ian Salmon

## Phillip Island v Inverloch

WONTHAGGI TURF  
Les White / Neil Graham

## UNDER 15's - 10am Start

## Phillip Island v Korumburra

NEWHAVEN  
Geoff Parkinson / Geoff Wyatt

## Glen Alvie v Nerrena/MDU

GLEN ALVIE  
Michael Ryan / Michael Heenan

## WONTHAGGI &amp; DISTRICT NETBALL ASSOCIATION

## AGM

MONDAY, MARCH 25  
AT 5PM

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Come help us build the future  
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# Stingrays rattle the Sharks



Inverloch's Jack Rowe watches the ball closely during his valuable knock of 56 that helped the Stingrays to victory over Phillip Island in C Grade. A55\_0924



Phillip Island bowler and skipper Mick Cleary sends one down against Inverloch in C Grade, finishing with 2/30. A54\_0924

## C GRADE

INVERLOCH secured a win against third-placed Phillip Island on Saturday.

Phillip Island went into the match with the challenge of defending 10/124.

Inverloch looked to be on shaky ground early after captain and opening batsman Warren Stewart was dismissed for a duck.

Coming in at number four, Jack Rowe turned the day around with 56 runs on the board before he was caught by Dean Mani.

For Phillip Island, captain Michael Cleary was the most successful bowler, taking 2/30.

Other wickets were shared between Peter Cleary, Mani and Jackson Allan.

After 37 overs, Inverloch passed Phillip Island's tally, recording a score of 5/125.

## Cougars overpower Glen Alvie

GLEN Alvie was unable to stop Koonwarra L/RSL from securing a win on Saturday.

Glen Alvie had finished off its innings the previous week with a score of 10/129.

Koonwarra L/RSL looked to be having a quiet innings until Adam Thorne stepped up to the crease.

Thorne hit 50 runs and was not out at stumps.

A further 38 runs was added by Glenn Mathies.

Vijai Kumar Gopal was Glen Alvie's best bowler, taking 2/19.

Wicket taking was also

shared between three other bowlers.

Forty-four overs were played before Koonwarra L/RSL recorded its win.

The Cougars finished the innings with 5/133.

## Town triumph

LEONGATHA Town had a convincing win over Korumburra.

Playing at Leongatha's Scorpion Park over two days, Town won the toss and chose to bat first.

Travis Strybosch dominated with a top score of 87 runs.

Cameron Dowling contributed 39 runs.

Korumburra bowler Peter Churchill kept Town under pressure, taking 3/51.

Two wickets were claimed by Hudson Jefferis.

Town set the challenge at 7/242.

Churchill opened the batting well for Korumburra, adding an early 39 runs to the scoreboard.

However, this ended up being the Cobras' top score, with captain Glen Barrett later contributing 31 runs and Paul Edwards hitting 15 runs.

Dowling continued his fine form, taking 4/31 and dismissing the top of Korumburra's batting order.

Two wickets were also taken by Poly Joseph Kallookkaran.

Korumburra was bowled out after 29.1 overs with a score of 10/119.

## MDU forfeited its match against Kilcunda-Bass.

## Junior cricketers gear up for competitive finals

WITH the home and away season completed, Leongatha and District Cricket Association is now set for a great junior finals series, starting Sunday, March 3, at 10am.

## UNDER 17

Imperials v Town at Leongatha Rec.

Phillip Island v Inverloch at Wonthaggi Turf.

The all-Leongatha game is an intriguing battle.

One win each against each other during the season, the Imps have been the pacesetters all season with Aydan Williams leading a formidable bowling attack, including U17 leading wicket taker Archie Casey.

The Imps have proven hard to post a decent score against, whilst their batting is led by Clayton Quaife and Zavier Lamers at the top with plenty of allrounders, they bat deep.

Town should be on a high after its thrilling win against Nerrena/KL/RSL to qualify for the finals.

Rhett Hume leads the attack, and with Fletcher McLennan and Lou Read, they also have plenty of firepower with the ball. Ethan Smith and Archie Fixter will be important at the top of the batting order for Town.

The Island and Inverloch have been the dominant junior sides in recent seasons



playing some great finals.

This will be no different, left arm new ball pair George McCausland and Tim Niven are formidable and Invy will need a big innings from U17

leading run scorer Riley Harris to negate them. Jesse Dugard has had a great season with bat and ball for Invy and looms as a key player.

Young Cooper Newman's leg spin will also be a handful on a Wonthaggi pitch that suits spin.

## UNDER 15

Phillip Island v Korumburra at Newhaven

Glen Alvie v Nerrena/MDU

at Glen Alvie

Phillip Island set the pace in the U15s all season whilst Korumburra have come from the clouds to make fourth spot.

Both teams have plenty of talent.

Phillip Island with all rounders Jobe and Archie Williams lead the way.

The Burra have big Levi Gooch, and he will play a big role with bat and ball.

Tyler Dole was a late starter due to injury but his form in recent weeks has been very good, making runs and getting wickets. This has the making of a great game of cricket.

Nerrena/MDU will be looking for a big reversal from their recent clash with Glen Alvie.

Eamon Berryman has been in great form all season with the bat whilst Cole Munday and Fin Stechway have been consistent wicket takers.

Glen Alvie is a formidable team with Jack Brown and Harvey Smith leading the way with the bat.

Archie Luke is the leading wicket taker this season and shows lots of promise with ball in hand.

Lauren Sinclair has had a great season consistently taking wickets for the Alvie.

Good luck to all the teams competing.



Leongatha Town's Levi Hickey is bowled by Paris Buckley of Koonwarra Leongatha RSL to the delight of keeper Brad Anderson during Saturday's B1 action. A56\_0924

## Seuren claims eight wickets

### B GRADE, DIVISION 1

INVERLOCH secured an outright win over the Imperials on Saturday.

The Imps made 7/78 the previous week, with Inverloch breezing over the score with 1/81 at stumps.

Inverloch continued its innings, which saw opening batsman and captain Brett Debono reach 90 runs.

Four bowlers from the Imperials claimed two wickets each.

Inverloch recorded a winning score of 8/173 before declaring and sending the Imps back into bat.

Things went from bad to worse for the Imps, with six ducks recorded, largely at the hands of Isaac Seuren.

Seuren was merciless, taking an incredible 8/11.

Opening batsman Campbell Reid made 14 runs, which was to be the top score of the innings.

Flynn Materia contributed eight runs and Aydan Williams made six.

Other wickets were taken by John Richardson and Ty Debono.

The Imperials handed Inverloch the outright win with a second innings score of 10/30.

### Sharks claim the win

PHILLIP Island defeated MDU by four wickets on Saturday.

MDU made 10/99 in its first innings, with Phillip Island hoping to achieve an outright win after making 3/195 the previous week.

Phillip Island continued its innings before declaring at 6/215.

Captain Kurt Lane top scored with 137 runs.

MDU bowler Zak Bright pressured the Phillip Island batsmen, taking 4/27.

MDU's batsmen rallied in the second innings, denying the Sharks their outright win.

Captain Craig Hoober kept his team on track with 53 runs.

Scott Brown contributed 23

runs to the tally.

Aidan Williams was Phillip Island's best bowler, taking 2/25.

The wicket taking was shared between six other bowlers.

MDU's final result was 8/196.

### OMK run away with a victory

DESPITE a strong innings from Korumburra, OMK walked away with a convincing win on Saturday.

The Cobras made 10/197 the previous week, but the OMK batsmen were quick to pass the total.

Ben Maguire led the charge with 60 runs on the board and was not out at the end of the innings.

Joel Cuman contributed 32 runs.

For Korumburra, Matthew Loader was the top bowler, claiming 2/39.

The only other wicket was taken by Peter Edwards.

OMK celebrated a win with 3/176 after 37 overs.

### Town wins in nailbiter

LEONGATHA Town and Koonwarra L/RSL competed in a two-day thriller, which ultimately resulted in a win for Town.

The Cougars won the toss during the previous week and had chosen to bat first.

Opening batsman Michael Thomas hit 63 runs before he was bowled out by Lachlan Gill.

Gill was a standout player for Town, taking 5/62.

Two more wickets were claimed by Ethan Smith.

Cougars captain Brad Anderson later added 31 runs and was not out.

Koonwarra L/RSL challenged Town with a respectable score of 10/208.

Town went into bat on Saturday, and a slow start to the innings had the Cougars feeling comfortable.

Bowlers Louis Read and Blake Smith were quick to dismiss the top of the batting order.

Read took 2/38 and Smith took 3/19, with Paris Buckley claiming 2/21 later in the innings.

Middle order batsman Colin Bruce turned the game around for Town.

Bruce scored 85 before he was bowled by William Cashin.

Samuel Clark and Viraj Peiris added 39 and 30 runs to round out the innings and were both not out.

Town rallied and won the day with 9/211.

### B GRADE, DIVISION 2

### Sharks unstoppable

A HANDY 152 runs from Andrew Tolley saw Phillip Island breeze over Wonthaggi Club's total on Saturday.

Club had posted a competitive 9/249, but Phillip Island's dominant performance proved too much to defend.

Club bowler Luke McGuirk had his team off to a good start when he bowled opening batsman John Manning out for a duck after facing two balls.

However, this sent Tolley to the crease.

Tharidu Asurumuni made 15 before his wicket fell to McGuirk at 2/21, which sent in David Womersley.

The partnership of Tolley and Womersley was too much for Club, with Womersley making 72 runs.

Neither batsman was out at the end of the innings.

Phillip Island's final score was 2/250.

### OMK shows its strength

OMK flexed its muscle against Glen Alvie on Saturday.

During the previous week, OMK made the respectable score of 7/275.

Glen Alvie went in determined to stay competitive, but a lacklustre start to the innings resulted in an impressive win for the away side.

Darcy Hale top scored for Glen Alvie with 20 runs late in the innings.

Archie Donohue contributed 16 runs and was not out.

OMK bowler Scott Handley put the pressure on Glen Alvie, taking 4/15 and quickly working through the top of the order.

Thomas Walker took 2/21.

Glen Alvie finished its innings with a score of 9/92.

### Foster under pressure

AN embattled Foster side was defeated by Kilcunda-Bass on Saturday.

Kilcunda-Bass made 10/167 the previous week and Foster went in with eyes on the target.

However, Kilcunda-Bass' fielding side had other plans.

A fill-in opened the batting for Foster and made 20 runs.

This was ultimately the top score for Foster, with the only other notable score being 13 runs from Ben East.

Five Foster batsmen were dismissed for ducks.

Alister McBride decimated the bottom half of the batting order, taking 6/13 and forcing Foster to finish up early.

Rohan Duff and Darcy Clay were also multiple wicket takers.

After 33.2 overs, Foster handed Kilcunda-Bass the win with a score of 10/58.

### Red Caps outplay Cobras

NERRENA was victorious against Korumburra over the weekend.

Korumburra was bowled out for 130 the previous week and Nerrena was already advancing with a score of 1/93 before day two.

Nerrena continued its innings with S. Helms top scoring with 51 runs.

Brian Gannon made 39 runs and Michael Croatto contributed 27.

Korumburra Paul Dickson gave it his all in an attempt to stop Nerrena's attack, taking 5/47.

Darren Scott claimed 2/82.

Nerrena won with a score of 9/209.

Korumburra went into bat again and made 4/47.

Scott continued his run and top scored with 21 runs.

Nerrena's top bowler, Archie Gannon claimed 2/8.

### B GRADE

### DIVISION 1

#### Inverloch d-8/173

#### d Imperials 7/78 & 30

Inverloch - 1st INNINGS: R Harris 2, B Debono 90, I Seuren 18, G Eddy 8, J Richardson 11, A Mankhong 13, T Debono 5, C Newman 10, N Dobbie 5\*, C O'Flynn 0\* Bowling: M Reidy 2/62, J Forrester 2/35, J Ballagh 0/17, F Botha 0/12, I Bolge 2/35, Aydan Williams 2/8

Imperials - 2nd INNINGS: C Reid 14, C Bruce 0, A Williams 6, C Honeysett 0, R McLennan 0, K Gray 0, D McLennan 0, F Materia 8, M Reidy 1, I Bolge 0\*, J Forrester 0 Bowling: J Richardson 1/12, I Seuren 8/11, T Debono 1/7

#### OMK 3/176 d Korumburra 173

OMK - 1st INNINGS: A Busana 25, R Quaife 21, J Cuman 32, B Maguire 60\*, D Creed 19\* Bowling: M Loader 2/39, S Dole 0/33, J Douglas 0/26, P Edwards 1/18, N Christensen 0/26, T Dole 0/19, A Damon 0/9

#### Town 9/211 d Koon L/RSL 208

Koonwarra L/RSL - 1st INNINGS: A Hunt 3, M Thomas 63, W Cashin 12, M Scrimshaw 7, L Read 20, N Grimes 18, P Buckley 13, B Anderson 31\*, B Smith 3, A Drury 11, M Boswell 2 Bowling: L Hickey 1/21, L Gill 5/62, S Clark 0/35, E Smith 2/50, L Ashton 0/10, V Peiris 0/15 Town - 1st INNINGS: E Smith 2, N Fixter 1, L Ashton 6, L Bowman 0, N Hanly 12, C Bruce 85, L Hickey 1, Fill-in 2, M Carter 0, S Clark 39\*, V Peiris 30\* Bowling: L Read 2/38, B Smith 2/19, A Drury 0/17, P Buckley 2/21, R King 1/16, J Geary 1/30, A Hunt 0/13, W Cashin 1/41

#### Phillip Island d-6/215

#### d MDU 99 & 8/196

Phillip Island - 1st INNINGS: M Arceo 11, H Womersley 4, T Blackwell 29, K Lane 137, O Duggan 9, H Peppard 2, J Williams 7\* Bowling: M Olden 1/58, Z Bright 4/27, C Hooper 0/41, S Browne 0/47, T Zukovskis 1/34, W Prosser 0/3 MDU - 2nd INNINGS: G Webster 8, T Zukovskis 20, M Olden 20, W Prosser 15, C Hooper 53, S Browne 23, J Bright 7, Z Bright 8, A Dyke 11\*, A Richardson 14\* Bowling: T Niven 1/18, M Arceo 0/4, H Arceo 1/32, H Womersley 0/24, J Williams 1/22, A Williams 2/25, K Lane 1/44, H Peppard 1/14, O Duggan 0/6, T Blackwell 1/6

### B GRADE

### DIVISION 2

#### Kilcunda-Bass 167 d Foster 10/58

Foster - 1st INNINGS: Fill-in 20, J Pilkington 0, B Busuttil 0, T Garvey 2, G Collis 2, B East 13, R East 0, J Guganovic 0, Fill-in 8\*, G Singh 0, B Cripps 5 Bowling: R Duff 2/4, A McBride 6/13, D Clay 2/13, B Waldron 0/4, J Mahood 0/16

#### Phillip Island 2/250 d Club 9/249

Phillip Island - 1st INNINGS: J Manning 0, T Asurumuni 15, A Tolley 152\*, D Womersley 72\* Bowling: L McGuirk 2/50, J Sheerin 0/30, C Fraser 0/36, L Ton 0/49, M Sharp 0/29, B Ton 0/23, J Caddy 0/19, B Caddy 0/8

#### OMK 7/275 d Glen Alvie 9/92

Glen Alvie - 1st INNINGS: S Smith 2, A Moore 10, N Thatcher 8, J Brown 0, A Russell 6, H Smith 10, D Hale 20, A Donohue 16\*, L McRae 1, C Andersen 3, J Tizian 0\* Bowling: M Whiteside 0/11, R White 1/11, S Handley 4/15, M Sawyers 1/16, T Walker 2/21, J Greenwood 1/13, M Whiteside 0/2

#### Nerrena 9/209 d

#### Korumburra 10/130 & 4/47

Korumburra - 1st INNINGS: C Gooch 13, J Dunn 2, D Scott 23, T Sorrell 5, N Belvedere 33, T Morrison 31, R Butler 2, G Edwards 0\*, O Maskell 0, Fill-in 0, H Scott 10 Bowling: B Croatto 0/8, C Dougherty 3/16, P Johnston 0/27, A Gannon 1/31, S Checkley 4/13, R Checkley 0/26, C Baudinette 1/0, E Berryman 1/5 Nerrena - 1st INNINGS: B Gannon 39, E Berryman 1, Fill-in 51\*, R Checkley 6, B Croatto 19, C Dougherty 6, C Baudinette 4, P Johnston 3, A Gannon 23, M Croatto 27\*, S Checkley 19 Bowling: T Sorrell 1/24, D Scott 2/82, Fill-in 0/38, N Belvedere 0/7, P Dixon 5/47, S McKinnon 1/7

#### Korumburra - 2nd INNINGS: C Gooch 5, J Dunn 2, G Edwards 6, D Scott 21\*, N Belvedere 0, P Dixon 6\*

Bowling: J Donohue 0/4, A Gannon 2/8, B Croatto 0/1, R Checkley 0/2, C Dougherty 0/8, S Checkley 1/10, E Berryman 0/2, P Johnston 1/10

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## LEONGATHA & DISTRICT CRICKET ASSOCIATION

A1: Jesse Giardina (Town) 67 ; Mudassar Riaz (OMK) 8/31

A2: Jake Best (Foster) 123 ; Aaron Kaddatz (Nyora) 5/54

B1: Kurt Lane (Phillip Island) 137 ; Isaac Seuren (Inverloch) 8/11

B2: Andrew Tolley (Phillip Island) 152\* ; Alister McBride (K-Bass) 6/13

C: Jack Rowe (Inverloch) 56 ; Cameron Dowling (Town) 4/31

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## LADDERS

RD 13

Team	Points	%	Team	Points	%	
<b>A GRADE, Division 1</b>						
Phillip Island	114	2.249	Nyora	114.0	1.415	
Club	90	1.171	Foster	102.0	1.408	
Town	90	0.983	Koon L/RSL	102.0	1.263	
OMK	86	1.058	Glen Alvie	90.0	1.195	
Imperials	78	0.969	MDU	66.0	0.885	
Korumburra	66	0.630	Kilcunda-Bass	54.0	0.747	
Inverloch	54	0.900	Nerrena	54.0	0.665	
Nerrena	54	0.688	Club	42.0	0.806	
<b>B GRADE, Division 1</b>						
Phillip Island	126.0	1.337	OMK	114.0	1.701	
Inverloch	122.0	1.433	Nerrena	114.0	1.526	
OMK	114.0	1.644	Phillip Island	102.0	1.392	
Korumburra	78.0	1.097	Kilcunda-Bass	90.0	1.457	
MDU	66.0	0.925	Club	66.0	1.006	
Town	66.0	0.856	Foster	54.0	0.675	
Koonwarra L/RSL	42.0	0.761	Glen Alvie	42.0	0.638	
Imperials	18.0	0.479	Korumburra	42.0	0.429	
<b>C GRADE</b>						
Nyora	96.0	2.491	<b>Local cricket</b>			
Town	92.0	2.055	South Gippsland and Bass Coast			
Phillip Island	84.0	1.406	Sentinel-Times			
Kilcunda-Bass	72.0	0.917	<a href="http://www.sgst.com.au">www.sgst.com.au</a>			
Inverloch	60.0	0.901				
Koonwarra L/RSL	54.0	0.603				
Glen Alvie	54.0	0.462				
MDU	48.0	1.518				
Korumburra	30.0	0.473				

## NEXT WEEKEND'S GAMES & UMPIRE APPOINTMENTS

RND 14 - SATURDAY  
MARCH 2 & 9

### A GRADE, Division 1

Town v OMK	Scorpion 1	Ash Stride
P-Island v Imperials	Newhaven	Ian Salmon
Korumburra v Club	Korumburra Turf	John Schelling
Inverloch v Nerrena	Inverloch Turf	Ken Scrimshaw

### A Grade, Division 2

Koon L/RSL v Club	Leongatha Turf	Warren Williams
Foster v MDU	FGC	Graham Wightman
Glen Alvie v K-Bass	Wonthaggi Turf	Brad Phillips
Nerrena v Nyora	Nerrena	Les White

### B GRADE, Division 1

Imperials v P-Island	East Campus	Geoff Birnie
Koon L/RSL v K'burra	Koonwarra	Neil Graham
OMK v Town	Outtrim	No Umpire
MDU v Inverloch	Meeniyana	Geoff Parkinson

### B GRADE, Division 2

Club v Korumburra	McMahon	No Umpire
K-Bass v Glen Alvie	Bass 1	No Umpire
OMK v Foster	Digger Park	No Umpire
Nerrena v Phillip Island	LG Veledrome	Michael Ryan

### C GRADE

Town v Meeniana	Scorpion 2	Michael Heenan
Inverloch v Koon L/RSL	Inverloch	No Umpire
P-Island v Glen Alvie	Rhyll	No Umpire
Nyora v Kilcunda-Bass	Nyora	No Umpire
Korumburra - BYE		

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Inverloch's Andrew Donohue is bowled for a duck by Tim Sauvarin during Imperials' comprehensive A1 victory. A63\_0924

## OMK outclass the Cobras

### A GRADE, DIVISION 1

OMK successfully secured an outright win against Korumburra on Saturday.

During the previous week, Korumburra battled to defend 9/84, and OMK managed to reach 8/104 by stumps.

OMK continued its innings on Saturday, resulting in 10/147.

Peter Dell top scored with 48 runs to round out the first innings.

Ethan Lamers had previously hit 38 runs.

Korumburra's top bowlers were Nedeesha Belpage and Tom Crocker, claiming three wickets each.

Korumburra was sent back into bat.

However, OMK bowler Mudassar Riaz was on a mission, taking a mesmerising 8/31.

Wickets were also shared between Dell and captain Jacob Lamers.

Opening batsman Crocker was dismissed for a duck at 1/10.

Jacob Richards also opened the batting and made 20 runs.

A further 20 runs were later added by Belpage.

Hemal Ratnayake top scored with 37.

Korumburra was bowled out at 10/110.

OMK opened its second innings.

Opening batsmen Jake Cochrane and Ethan Lamers made 28 and 20 runs respectively.

Cochrane was dismissed by Korumburra's only wicket taker for the innings Scott Head.

OMK had reached 1/51 at stumps.



Tim Sauvarin bowls for Imperials during his stunning display of 7/27 off 19 overs in a big A1 win over Inverloch. A65\_0924

The Sharks had recorded two tons the previous week and went into Saturday's match ready to defend its comfortable total of 4/355.

Nerrena was quickly rattled when it lost skipper Mitchell Clarke for a duck, caught by Lachlan Cleland.

Caine Salmon stepped up to the crease towards the bottom of the batting order and top scored with 28 runs.

Nineteen runs to Tadgh Gannon and 17 runs to Loc Roberts were the other notable performances.

Max Royal was Phillip Island's top bowler for the day, taking 3/15.

Simon Kirton and Zac Brown were also multiple wicket takers.

Nerrena was bowled out at 10/111.

### Sauvarin responds

IMPERIALS bowler Timothy

Sauvarin responded to Inverloch's Lewis Rankin's 7/48 effort by claiming seven wickets of his own on Saturday.

Sauvarin claimed an impressive 7/27, which held Inverloch to 10/96 and secured a win for the Imperials.

Inverloch's opening partnership of Jack Butcher and Walter Taberner had the Stingrays off to a solid start, making 34 and 25 runs respectively.

However, they were the only batsmen who reached double figures, as Sauvarin's reign began.

Lachie Wright, captain Jack Ginnane and Klayton McGrath also claimed wickets for the Imps.

The Imperials went home with the points, having made 10/196.

### Club hold on to victory

IN a hard-fought match, Wonthaggi Club turned it on and overpowered Leongatha Town.

Club batted the previous week and was geared up to defend 10/232.

Club gained momentum early when Town opening batsman Jack Hume was dismissed LBW by Fraser West.

Town captain Jesse Giardina also opened the batting and steered the ship back in the right direction, making 67 runs before West dismissed him as well.

West removed the top of Town's batting order, claiming 3/49.

Pandukabhaya Jayasinghe later added 35 runs, and Rob Eddy and Pamuditha Geemal Rajapakshage contributed 25 runs each.

Captain Joel Brann was Club's star bowler, taking 3/35.

Multiple wickets were also claimed by James Sheerin.

Ultimately, Town fell short when it was bowled out 10/205.



Paul Le Page helps guide MDU to victory with his unbeaten 119 against Glen Alvie in A2 competition.

A60\_0924

## Foster easily outpoint Kilcunda-Bass

### A GRADE, DIVISION 2

WITH a whopping 123 runs added to the scoreboard by opening batsman Jake Best, Foster enjoyed a convincing win over Kilcunda-Bass on Saturday.

Foster made a statement when bowler Jake Staley claimed six wickets to dismantle the home team the previous week and came into Saturday's innings ready to finish the job.

Best opened the batting with Josh Toner, who also put in a solid innings with 70 runs.

Mitchell Jones later added 24 runs and was not out at stumps.

Captain Ryley Duff and Chris Peckett were Kilcunda-Bass' top bowlers, taking 2/32 and 2/33 respectively.

Other wickets were claimed by Ben Rookes and Todd Smith.

Foster went home winners with a score of 6/251.

### Glen Alvie no match for Le Page

AN impressive 119-run haul from MDU's Paul Le Page made short work of the contest against

Glen Alvie.

Glen Alvie scored 193 the previous week, and MDU went into Saturday's innings hungry for the win.

Batting at first drop, Le Page put on a great performance and was not out at stumps.

Mitch McGrath and Steve Arnup also contributed well to the final tally, adding 26 and 25 runs respectively.

Both were sidelined at the hands of Glen Alvie captain Stephen Kennedy.

Kennedy claimed 2/32, with the only other wicket claimed by vice captain Nathan Findlay.

After playing 55.2 overs, MDU was victorious with a score of 3/195.

### Cougars stand victorious

CREAM of the crop Nyora was unable to hold back Koonwarra L/RSL on Saturday.

Nyora was tasked with defending 10/184.

It was looking like it was going to be a battle for the Cougars, with Nyora bowler Aaron Kaddatz taking out the top of the order.

Kaddatz claimed 5/54 for the day. Callum Buckland turned the

game around for the Cougars, making 50 runs before he was sidelined by a catch from Aaron Thompson.

Kayden Scrimshaw top scored with 61 runs and was not out at stumps.

For Nyora, wickets also fell to Mitch Rowe, captain Henry Dolphin and Aidan Simmons.

Koonwarra L/RSL won the day with a score of 8/184.

### Nerrena claim the win

NERRENA was too strong for Wonthaggi Club, as it successfully defended its score of 10/219.

Club's opening partnership of David Britt and Sean Roche had the home side off to a nice start with 35 and 31 runs respectively.

Some skilful bowling from Nerrena's Zack Trease kept Club under the pump.

Trease claimed 3/30 with William Croatto also bowling well, taking 2/31.

An additional 27 and 35 runs were later added by Heath Dobbie and Mitchell Davey, but the result would see Club fall short.

Club finished up round 13 with a final score was 9/184.



Matt Dakin delivers for Glen Alvie, going wicketless but conceding only 26 runs off his 10 overs in his side's A2 loss to MDU. A62\_0924

### A GRADE

#### OMK 147 & 1/51 d Korumburra 9/84 & 110

##### OMK – 1st INNINGS

Jake Cochrane b: N Belpage	0
Ethan Lamers b: T Crocker	38
Koby Brann c: M Allen b: H McNeil	9
Mudassar Riaz b: N Belpage	7
Clayton Quaife c&b: T Crocker	13
Jacob Lamers c: T Crocker	
b: H Ratnayake	1
Noel Creed lbw: T Crocker	3
Paul Fermanis c: N Belpage	
b: B Riddell	13
Zavier Lamers run out: Z Barrett	10
Peter Dell c&b: N Belpage	48
Nicholas Auddin not out	1*
Extras (1w, 1lb, 2b)	4
<b>Total 10 / 147 (28.5 Overs)</b>	

Bowling: N Belpage 8.5-0-40-3, H McNeil 5-0-43-1, T Crocker 9-3-39-3, H Ratnayake 4-0-13-1 (1w), B Riddell 2-0-9-1

##### Korumburra – 2nd INNINGS

Tom Crocker c: J Cochrane b: M Riaz	0
Jason Richards b: J Lamers	20
Zachary Barrett c: M Riaz b: P Dell	5
Hemal Ratnayake c: J Cochrane	
b: M Riaz	37
Jacob Whiteside b: M Riaz	0
Nadeesha Belpage c: J Cochrane	
b: M Riaz	20
Matthew Allen c: ? b: M Riaz	1
Harry McNeil not out	19*
Daniel Whelan b: M Riaz	0
Scott Head b: M Riaz	0
Bryce Riddell c: ? b: M Riaz	0
Extras (1w, 2nb, 1lb, 4b)	8
<b>Total 10 / 110 (42.4 Overs)</b>	

Bowling: M Riaz 15.4-7-31-8 (1nb), P Dell 11-4-16-1, J Cochrane 7-1-18-0 (1nb), E Lamers 3-0-12-0 (1w), J Lamers 6-2-28-1

##### OMK – 2nd INNINGS

Jake Cochrane c: N Belpage	
b: S Head	28
Ethan Lamers not out	20*
Koby Brann not out	1*
Extras (1nb, 1lb)	2
<b>Total 1 / 51 (5.2 Overs)</b>	

Bowling: J Whiteside 1-0-5-0, N Belpage 2-0-17-0, H McNeil 1-0-14-0, T Crocker 1-0-8-0, Scott Head 0.2-0-6-1 (1nb)

### Imperials 196 d Inverloch 96

Inverloch – 1st INNINGS	
Jack Butcher c: DW Arachchige	
b: L Wright	34
Walter Taberner c: M Lafferty	
b: T Sauvarin	25
Andrew Donohue b: T Sauvarin	0
David Newman lbw: J Ginnane	6

**Total 8 / 180 (60 Overs)**

Bowling: F West 16-4-49-3, J Brann 17-5-32-1 (1nb), R Thomas 7-2-26-1 (1w, 3nb), J Sheerin 14-4-50-1, M McCall 5-2-13-1, A Geyer 1-0-2-0

### Club 232 d Town 8/180

#### Town – 1st INNINGS

Jack Hume lbw: F West	0
Jesse Giardina b: F West	67
Amila Ratnaike c: M McCall b: F West	11
Josh Williams c: L McLean b: R Thomas	8
Ron Abeysinghe c: J Sheerin	
b: M McCall	19
DLMP Gallage c: R Thomas	
b: J Sheerin	1
Pandukabhaya Jayasinghe c: H West b: J Brann	35
Rob Eddy not out	25*
PG Rajapakshage not out	0*
Extras (1w, 4nb, 1lb, 4b)	10

**Total 8 / 180 (60 Overs)**

Bowling: F West 16-4-49-3, J Brann 17-5-32-1 (1nb), R Thomas 7-2-26-1 (1w, 3nb), J Sheerin 14-4-50-1, M McCall 5-2-13-1, A Geyer 1-0-2-0

### A GRADE

#### Koonwarra L/RSL 8/184

##### d Nyora 182

Koonwarra L/RSL – 1st INNINGS	
Matt Cooke c: L Row b: H Dolphin	6
James Rushton b: A Kaddatz	18
Isuru Darshana lbw: A Kaddatz	4
Azhar Mahmood c: J Henry	
b: A Kaddatz	13
Callum Buckland c: A Thompson	
b: M Row	50
Kayden Scrimshaw not out	61*
Jason Kennedy b: A Kaddatz	0
Harry Scrimshaw b: A Kaddatz	0
Joshua Thomas c: M Row	
b: A Simmons	12
Nick Arnup not out	2*
Extras (1w, 4lb, 13b)	18
<b>Total 8 / 184 (72.1 Overs)</b>	

Bowling: A Kaddatz 24-7-54-5, M Rowe 9-0-36-1, H Dolphin 16-5-40-1, A Simmons 7-1-15-1, A Thompson 9-3-9, L Row 7-1-13-0 (1w)

##### Foster 6/251 d Kilcunda-Bass 132

Foster – 1st INNINGS	
Jake Best c: J Tregeair b: R Duff	123
Josh Toner c: B Peckett	70
Tex Dyson c: M Grayson b: C Peckett	6
Jack Gay c: ? b: B Rookes	6
Mitchell Jones not out	24*
Lance Moon b: R Duff	0
Fill-in c: R Duff b: T Smith	4
Extras (1w, 8nb, 1lb, 8b)	18
<b>Total 6 / 251 (70.5 Overs)</b>	

Bowling: J Baker 8-0-34-0, H Berry 9-2-33-0, R Duff 10-1-32-2, M Grayson 8-0-33-0 (4nb), C Peckett 15-5-33-2, B Rookes 17-2-71-1 (4nb), T Smith 4-1-6-1 (1w)

**Total 9 / 184 (69.4 Overs)**

Bowling: J Checkley 20-2-59-1 (1nb), M Croatto 9-2-22-1 (2w, 1nb), W Croatto 15-5-31-2 (2w, 2nb), Z Trease 15-4-30-3 (1w, 1nb), T Harris 10.5-3-34-1

### DIVISION 1

Jake Dennerley lbw: T Sauvarin	1
Jacob Strickland lbw: T Sauvarin	0
Jack Donohue b: T Sauvarin	0
Callum Asbury &b: T Sauvarin	4
Lewis Rankin c: Lucas Anderson	
b: T Sauvarin	4
Jesse Dugard not out	3*
Harry Butcher c: Nick Eddy	
b: K McGrath	6
Extras (4w, 5nb, 4lb)	13
<b>Total 10 / 96 (52</b>	



Andrea Iannone made a stunning comeback from a four-year absence on the highly competitive Ducati. Photo: Peter Cleeland.

## Island produces World Superbike magic

More than 48,000 dedicated motorcycle racing fans attended the Grand Ridge Brewery sponsored round one of the World Superbike Championship over the weekend at Phillip Island. The meeting was an outstanding success producing multiple winners and highly competitive action.

### Bulega Obliterates Challengers in World Supers

A stunning debut by Nicolo Bulega has turned the World Superbike Championship community on its head. The reigning 2023 World Supersports Champion stepped up to the Superbike class in 2024 at the opening round on Phillip Island and recorded a brilliant three second win in his first outing with team Aruba Ducati.

The Saturday leg of the weekend program was held in stunning weather conditions on a newly laid track surface which saw lap record times tumble in most classes. The World Supersport and Superbike races of 18 and 20 laps respectively headed a jam-packed card which kept

By Peter Cleeland

spectators enthralled from start to finish.

### World Supersports Saturday, Race 1 (18 Laps)

Italian rider Yari Montella on a Ducati Panigale careered away with an outstanding victory through establishing a significant lead which grew to seven seconds at the fall of the chequered flag.

Stefano Manzi, riding an R6 Yamaha and Marcel Schroetter piloting an MV Augusta F3 600RR fought out a close battle for the minor placings which went right to the line.

Australian Ollie Bayliss excited the home crowd with a career best fifth placing after reaching as high a fourth in this race. Bayliss showed a willingness to up the pace and he displayed courage and determination in this barnstorming ride. Tom Toparis also did Australia proud on his Yamaha R6 finishing in the top ten.

### World Superbikes Saturday, Race 1 (20 laps)

Perfect racing conditions, light

winds and low 20's on the temperature front made for an ideal spectacle as the lights went out to commence the first race of the new championship season.

Reigning champ Alvaro Bautista made a blinder of a start advancing from ninth on the grid to second on the road by turn one on the opening lap. However, Alvaro's claims for a victory went south on lap four when he bit the dust at turn 10 effectively ending his chances of a podium.

New riders Andrea Iannone and Nicolo Bulega, both on Ducati's, were mixing it at the front of the pack with Alex Lowes, Kawasaki, and Toprak Razgatlioglu BMW. With a mandatory tyre change where all riders had to be in the pits for 1.02 minutes Bulega seized the advantage and opened a three second lead over the squabbling pack.

Yamaha rider Andrea Locatelli turned up the wick to advance from fifth to second, but Bulega had shot through winning by 2.280 seconds on the Duke. Andrea Iannone on the eye catching all yellow Duke took third place in his first ride for four years

completing an all-Italian Dias. Australian Remy Gardner was an early casualty as he was bulldozed off the track by Axel Basani as the pair duelled for the inside running at turn 10.

From Saturday's outing the titans of World Superbikes, namely Alvaro Bautista, Jonathan Rea and Toprak Razgatlioglu have a good deal of work to do to match it with the new talent on the block.

With Toprak the best performed of three champions coming in fifth some 5.7 seconds in arrears, Alvaro chewing on kitty litter recovering to fifteenth and Jonathan Rea having all sorts of dramas on his new Yamaha, circumstances suggested the old order is under threat.

### World Superbikes Superpole Sprint Race 2 (9 Laps)

Saturday's events had been thrilling but the program for Sunday was next level!

Drama and controversy unfolded when the World Supersport race two was firstly delayed due to an oil spill on the inside of turn two and then reduced from 18 to 9 laps.

Italian rider Yari Montella, Ducati, backed up in the shortened version to record a controlled win and establish himself as a serious title contender.

Marcel Schroetter on the MV Augusta racked up second place and Adrian Huertas claimed third for Ducati.

### World Superbikes Race 3 (11 Laps)

Starting well after 5pm this race was reduced from 18 to 11 laps due to Toprak Razgatlioglu blowing up his BMW and leaving a potential oil slick on the track.

Continued page 53

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