

Sentinel-Times

COVERING SOUTH GIPPSLAND AND BASS COAST

PRICE \$2.00



Gone fishin'

Peter Smith, Russell Trait, Alen Garrett, Mayor Rochelle Halstead and Grant McDonald on Newhaven Yacht Squadron's Bendigo Community Bank grant funded vessel which took to the bay on Friday as participants from Yooralla and Interchange Gippsland headed out as part of Sailability. C27_1325



**20-PAGE
FOOTBALL
NETBALL
PREVIEW
INSIDE**

Modern and Low Maintenance



**34A Portview Ave,
Grantville**

3 bed, 2 bath,
double garage.
Make it your own.
\$595,000

1505 Bass Highway, Grantville
5678 8433
www.alexscoott.com.au

JA2233-A/20

Flu vaccinations

Bookings AVAILABLE!

**Call us or Scan the QR code
to book online***

www.terrywhitechemmart.com.au/flu



*Flu vaccinations can be provided to patients aged over 5 years. Service fees apply. Some people are eligible for free flu vaccinations, speak to your GP or Pharmacist for more information.

FINAL DRINKS

Closing time on Rhyll Brewery & Distillery project

IT'S 'last drinks' for the proposed Rhyll Brewery and Distillery, to be located at 11 Beach Road, Rhyll, even before the first barley has been malted.

That's the word from project entrepreneur Justin Jamieson who has reluctantly bowed to rising building costs and the tough hospitality environment having already overcome the seemingly impossible planning challenges put in his way.

And the \$1.2 million grant he was to have received from the State Government's Regional Tourism Investment Fund?

Mr Jamieson said this week that he hasn't accessed a cent of those funds.

"We never received a cent. There were milestones to meet along the way and whilst we met a couple, we never claimed it. I gather it stays with the government," he said this week.

The microbrewery and distillery was to have had a 120-seat bar and restaurant (scaled back to 90), and according to the government fanfare of June 2022, when the then Minister for Tourism, Sport and Major Events Martin Pakula, came to

Phillip Island to announce the funding, provide 55 jobs during construction and 20 ongoing jobs in hospitality and liquor production.

"Sadly, it looks like the Rhyll Brewery and Distillery will not go ahead," Mr Jamieson told the Sentinel-Times this week.

"A combination of escalating build costs, the dire situation in hospitality, especially in regional areas and a partner that lost interest has meant the risk is just too high."

Continued page 3



TerryWhite Chemmart

INVERLOCH Ph: 5674 1652

LEONGATHA Ph: 5662 2183

KORUMBURRA Ph: 5655 1555

MICHAEL'S

Leongatha & Korumburra Only



SAVE **4¢**
On Fuel **4¢**
OFF Per Litre



\$3.50
kg

Australian
GREEN GRAPES



\$1.50
kg

Australian
JAP PUMPKIN



\$12.99
kg

DON KABANA



\$22
kg

AUSTRALIAN LAMB
LOIN CHOPS



\$5.99
ea

ASHGROVE CHEESE
140G VARIETIES

\$4.28 per 100g



\$5.99
kg

INGHAM'S CHICKEN
THIGH CUTLETS
(BONE IN)

\$62
ea

Victoria Bitter Cans
375ml x 30 Pack block



\$2.99
pack

Michael's Bakery

ICED DONUTS 6 PACK
Equate to 50¢ per donut



Sushi&Co.
Taste the Freshness

Leongatha store only!



\$12
per serve

SALMON ONION DRAGON ROLL

\$8
per serve

TERIYAKI CHICKEN SANDWICH



Pepperjack 750ml
Varieties



\$18
ea

Victoria Bitter Cans
375ml x 30 Pack block

Specials available from Wed 2nd to Tues 8th April 2025. While Stocks Last.
We reserve the right to correct printing errors. Images are for illustration purposes only.
Michael's IGA Liquor supports the responsible service and consumption of alcohol.

Find us on Facebook

PRICE FREEZE

Bass Coast, please don't rip up any more of our roads

By Bruce Wardley

RESIDENTS of Scenic Drive in Cowes are appalled at plans to rip up the bitumen in their street and replace it with a gravel road.

Bass Coast Shire has written to Scenic Drive residents explaining the bitumen dust suppressant seal their road was treated with in 2005 and 2007 has deteriorated beyond intervention levels and needs to be removed.

Local resident Lara Rooney said tearing up the bitumen will only make things worse.

"Houses in the street are already covered in dust," said Ms Rooney.

Fellow resident Rachael Ferguson has a young daughter at home.

"Already when I walk the pram I have to pull it over corrugations in the road."

Ms Ferguson fears if the bitumen is ripped and replaced with a dirt road she won't be able to get the pram out at all.

"What about access and inclusion?" asked Ms Ferguson.

Ms Ferguson claims she was told council doesn't have to consider access and inclusion.

Scenic Drive is currently scheduled for a major upgrade in 2065.

Requesting an alternative to ripping up the street costing between \$20,000 and \$30,000 for each property would need the support of more than half of those living in the street.

Residents say Scenic Drive is very busy in summer and on public holidays.

"Council has never suggested coming and talking to us."

Lesley Truffle said she emailed the three Island Ward councillors but hasn't heard back.

"We'd be losing so much," said Ms Truffle.

"Scenic Drive is not just a road it's a through-road for a lot of people because of the smoother surface."

"There are many mobile scooters and prams on the road including three-wheeled sports buggy prams."

According to residents many of the vehicles using the road are large passenger vehicles and in winter the whole street turns to mud and potholes.

"The potholes need repairing every three months," said Ms Ferguson. "A gravel road would be lucky to be graded more than once a year."

Ripping up the bitumen and returning six local roads to



Shane Dougherty of Reid Street is proposing an alternative solution to ripping up roads.
B26_1325

gravel has been estimated to cost \$150,000 according to residents.

"Thirty local roads have already been returned to gravel," said Ms Ferguson.

As far as the residents are aware Council has never changed its mind on gravel roads.

"Other people must have been affected. Everyone I know with a gravel road is unhappy," said Ms Truffle.

Another Phillip Island resident Shane Dougherty questioned Bass Coast Shire Council directly about plans to rip up Reid Street in Rhyll. "How can Council assist with postponing short-term rehabilitation works in Reid Street to enable residents time to form an upgrade petition in accordance with Council policy?"

Council's answer to Mr Dougherty was that council officers would support community members looking to improve their amenity through a road and drainage upgrade.

Postponing the proposed works would be considered on a case-by-case basis depending on the level of support and timing for any upgrade project.

Mr Dougherty is yet to hear from a Council Officer as promised to discuss the potential for an Urban Roads and Drainage Scheme or current maintenance arrangements.

"It is disingenuous for the council to portray the sealing of Reid Street as a simple temporary dust suppression treatment," said Mr Dougherty.

From discussions with another

local resident having experience with VicRoads Mr Dougherty believes Primerseal is the proper pavement sealing technology for a long-lasting solution provided it is properly maintained.

"You only have to look at the southern strip of Beach Road in Rhyll as an example of how a similar road can be successfully maintained," said Mr Dougherty.

"Proper maintenance should involve resealing every 10 to 15 years to prevent cracks developing that will allow water ingress and failure of the underlying pavement. In this case, it is almost 20 years since the Primerseal was applied and there has been no resealing or even regular crack sealing. No wonder our road is failing."

"Council has clearly not observed basic maintenance principles and is now trying to pass that off by implying that Primerseal was a temporary dust suppression measure."

Mr Dougherty said it could be argued that the council's lack of maintenance has caused the seal failure and Council should bear most of the rehabilitation cost.

Reid Street is a collector road according to Mr Dougherty not simply a local access road for abutting residents which would also indicate that a greater share of the cost of repairing the road should be borne by Council.

The southwestern end of Reid Street, McIlwraith Road was upgraded by council some years back with kerb and channel drainage and an asphalt seal

without contributions from abutting landowners.

"All we are currently seeking for Reid Street is replacement of the Primerseal where needed, rather than just pothole filling, which is not working."

Bass Coast Council's response has been to explain its role as the responsible road authority under the Road Management Act 2004 (RMA) for all roads in the municipality that are registered on Council's public road register. This includes the responsibility to inspect, maintain, and repair roads in line with the requirements and standards set out in Council's Road Management Plan (RMP).

According to Council the dust suppression trial initiated in 2005-2007 was to explore whether primer seals could improve the service life of unsealed roads and reduce maintenance costs, but was discontinued in 2010.

In 2013 Council adopted a management plan that determined these primer seals would be removed once they reached the end of their lifespan, and the roads would revert to being maintained as unsealed roads under the RMP. A number of roads have now reached this stage and will have the primer seals removed in Cowes and Wonthaggi.

Council does not consider this process to be changing the original condition of these roads as the affected roads were included in a discontinued trial and a management plan that had been in place for their long-term maintenance.

Closing time on Rhyll Brewery & Distillery project

From page 1

"It has been a rollercoaster five years from the initial idea to purchasing the land and the incredible news of receiving the RTIF grant.

"We got past objectors and Melbourne Water with their flood overlays to pretty much be shovel ready but just couldn't fathom the increase in building.

"It's funny, I remember a journalist calling me (not from SGST) and laughing at me saying there was no chance in hell of us getting through council in Rhyll. Well, we did.

"We still own the land and the permit has been extended for another couple of years so we're looking at other plans and what we could potentially do.

"Amazing following the vitriol on social media. I even had people angrily message me saying "stop spending the grant money on travelling". Do people really think the government just hands over a wad of cash and says have fun?

"On a positive note for Rhyll it looks like the Wooli Tavern team will be taking over the Foreshore Tavern which is exciting. Ironically, given the objections to our 90-person venue and the restrictions around noise we had, the Foreshore seats 300 people and will be able to have live music.

"I'm really looking forward to having a beer there. Let's hope they are pouring Ocean Reach and Green Gully beers.

"Thanks for the support we received from many along the way."

The allocation of the \$1.2 million grant, on June 17, 2022, came several months ahead of the November 2022 state election and was both hailed and damned locally as a great initiative on the one hand and disturbing the peace of the quiet seaside settlement on the other.

Mayor at the time, Michael Whelan said it was great news for jobs, the local economy and the area's growing reputation for food and drink.

Bass MP Jordan Crugnale said it was a great investment, great for our local economy and great for our locals and visitors alike.

But all's not lost.

At the March meeting of the Bass Coast Shire Council, the council confirmed the issuing or amendment of a planning permit for 23 Harvey Drive in the Cowes industrial estate for the "use and development of land for Industry (micro-brewery), restaurant, manufacturing sales; the sale and consumption of liquor (producers license); the display of internally illuminated signs and a reduction of car parking requirements in the Industrial 3 Zone".

Wonthaggi Removals
& Storage

Moving?



For a free estimate contact us
Phone: 5672 3773
www.wonthaggiremovals.com.au

**NEW LOTS
NOW SELLING**

**Lot Sizes from 350m² to 792m²
Pricing from \$229,000 to \$299,000**

Build your dream home and experience Bass Coast living.

Register your interest now!
1300 WONTAGGI (966 842)
parklandswonthaggi.com.au

Parklands
WONTAGGI



parklea.

**IS YOUR BIN CONTENT RECYCLED
OR DUMPED IN LANDFILL?**

Our walk-in and
skip bins are hand
sorted to guarantee
recyclables don't
end up in landfill

Call the commercial and residential waste specialists today!



Locally owned & operated

accounts@wheelawaste.com
www.wheelawaste.com.au

5672 2056

Sentinel-Times

COVERING SOUTH GIPPSLAND AND BASS COAST

South Eastern Newspapers ABN 30 005 353 168

CONTENTS

Entertainment	27
Real Estate	49
Puzzles	55
Farming	52-54
Trades & Services	56-57
Classifieds	58-60

FEATURES

2025 Football-Netball Preview	29-48
Farm World	50-51
Footy Tipping	68-69

CONTACT

WONTHAGGI	47 McBride, Avenue, Wonthaggi, VIC, 3995
OFFICE:	Monday-Friday 9am-5pm
HOURS:	(03) 5672 1888
PHONE:	
LEONGATHA	36 McCartin Street, Leongatha, VIC, 3953
OFFICE:	
EMAIL:	EDITORIAL & LETTERS news@sgst.com.au ADVERTISING ads@sgst.com.au ACCOUNTS accounts@sgst.com.au
MANAGING DIRECTOR:	Michael Giles michael@sgst.com.au
OPERATIONS MANAGER:	Jim Akers jim@sgst.com.au
ADVERTISING MANAGER:	Holly McMaster holly@sgst.com.au
EDITOR:	Chloe Kent
JOURNALISTS:	Andrew Paloczi Bruce Wardley Courtney O'Brien Nicole May Tayla Kershaw

ADVERTISING DEADLINES

DISPLAY:	Advertising closes at 3pm on Fridays
CLASSIFIEDS:	Advertising closes at 12 noon on Mondays

The South Gippsland Sentinel-Times is published on Tuesdays.

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

ONLINE

 sgsentineltimes
 @sentineltimes



www.sgst.com.au

Produced and published by Michael Giles, of 47 McBride Avenue, Wonthaggi for South Eastern Newspapers Pty. Ltd. A.B.N. 30 005 353 168. Printed by Express Print, 5 Jones Road, Morwell. Registered by Australia Post Publication No. VAC 336188/00002.

AC0757-V13

KOONWARRA



Farmers MARKET

THIS SATURDAY  
Contact David 0411 413 716

Local news

South Gippsland and Bass Coast

Sentinel-Times



www.sgst.com.au

6 Day Weather Forecast

SOUTH GIPPSLAND



TUE | Apr 1

Partly cloudy.

Wind AM: SE 15-25km/h

Wind PM: E 15-20km/h

12° **22°**



WED | Apr 2

Mostly sunny.

Wind AM: Light

Wind PM: Light

11° **23°**



THUR | Apr 3

Shower or two.

Wind AM: W 15-25km/h

Wind PM: SW 20-30km/h

11° **21°**



FRI | Apr 4

Shower or two.

Wind AM: SW 15-20km/h

Wind PM: SW 15-20km/h

11° **21°**



SAT | Apr 5

Showers.

Wind AM: NW 15-25km/h

Wind PM: W 20-30km/h

10° **21°**



SUN | Apr 6

Shower or two.

Wind AM: W 20-25km/h

Wind PM: W 25-35km/h

11° **22°**

IN BRIEF

Wait and see on prospective beef tariffs

STOCK agents continue to take the possibility of tariffs being imposed on Australian exports to the USA in their stride with little certainty about what Donald Trump will do, with a wait-and-see approach being taken locally and elsewhere in Australia.

The Sentinel-Times has spoken to a couple of local agents who expressed the view there is no point in making assumptions as to what will happen.

Given the shortage of grinding beef in the USA and America's need to import to meet demand, it is not clear what impact tariffs would have, particularly if applied to all beef imports entering America.

While Stone X analyst Ripley Atkinson recently expressed the view the USA will apply tariffs to Australian red meat, including beef, he noted markets weren't yet pricing in the implications of that happening, but indicated that may change soon.

There could be greater certainty soon, with President Trump expected to issue another round of tariffs on April 2.

However, with the USA exporting more to Australia than the other way around, there has been media speculation that the land down under may be spared when that new round is announced.

Creepy and Kooky tickets on sale

TICKETS are now on sale for the Wonthaggi Theatrical Group's production of The Adams Family.

The show is in full rehearsal now ahead of its coming season between May 23 and June 8.

And as well as getting the first shot at the best seats, WTG is also offering a new VIP ticket which includes a program, lanyard and photo experience with the cast!

Book in quick as there are limited VIP packages available.

Go to the Bass Coast Shire Council events page for more information and tickets at basscoast.vic.gov.au/the-adams-family-wonthaggi

Invy Jazz welcomes Salisbury and Howard

THE Inverloch Jazz club are holding their next afternoon of entertainment on April 6 from 2pm until 4.30pm at the Inverloch RSL, presenting Jennifer Salisbury and Mark Howard.

Jennifer and Mark wowed audiences at last year's Inverloch Jazz Festival and are very popular at jazz clubs and pubs in Melbourne. Jennifer is a sensational vocalist with a stunning stage presence, and Mark's accompaniment is nothing short of spectacular.

Their performance at last year's jazz festival was a homage to Cole Porter. One can only imagine that this will be the style of music that the audience can expect to hear, as well as popular standards performed in a range of styles from Latin to the tunes of today.

Mark is also a renowned composer and arranger on the Melbourne scene and this event is promised to be a great afternoon of entertainment.

Cash entry. \$18 for visitors and \$15 for RSL members. For more information call Marg on 0438 420 770.

Learn about the Boer War at Anzac lunch

THE Boer War will be the focus of Leongatha Historical Society's annual Anzac lunch at 12pm on Wednesday, April 9 at Leongatha RSL.

After lunch, Russell Dawe and Lyn Skillern will talk about the conflict that occurred in South Africa between 1899 and 1902.

Russell will speak of his relation George Williams of Leongatha who served in the Boer War and Lyn will detail the war in general and the men from

South Gippsland who served.

One of those men, Lindsay Inglis of Koonwarra was a Private in the 1st Victorian Mounted Infantry, which was part of the First Victorian Contingent to go to South Africa in 1899, Federation not yet having occurred.

Lindsay became a prisoner of war on 12 February 1900 when he was captured at Hobirkirks Farm, with Lyn keen to learn more about him.

Anyone interested in attending is requested to contact Lyn on 0400 249 048 or by emailing leongathahistory@gmail.com.

More bush stone curlew birds to be released on Phillip Island

A LANDMARK program reintroducing the critically endangered bush stone-curlew to Phillip Island will be expanded after conservationists noted record high survival rates in a trial release of the bird.

Phillip Island Nature Parks released 12 bush stone-curlews from captivity at Mount Rothwell in August last year fitting them with tiny GPS-tracking backpacks and identification bands so researchers could monitor their survival, habitat use, movement patterns and body condition.

The project team is set to release 24 more birds in April in the hope the species will establish a sustainable population base.

Labor will reopen the Leongatha South bypass

LABOR has pledged \$2.4 million to reopen the Leongatha South bypass with a new intersection for Simons Lane and the Bass Highway at a safer location further north towards Leongatha incorporating dedicated turn lanes, road pavement improvements and lighting.

Tully Fletcher Federal Labor Candidate for Monash said the Leongatha South bypass

at Simons Lane is an important link between the Bass and South Gippsland Highways and upgrading this bypass has been an important local priority for years.

"This investment will help South Gippsland Shire manage and plan for better heavy vehicle and highway traffic movement through and around Leongatha."

Dementia Training Australia launches world-first standardised framework

DEMENTIA Training Australia (DTA) has introduced Australia's first free National Dementia Education and Training Standards Framework aimed at improving outcomes for people living with dementia.

This framework was developed in response to the Royal Commission into Aged Care, ensuring that aged-care services, healthcare workers, and first responders have access to high-quality, consistent training, no matter their location, economic position or stage of career.

With the new Aged Care Act to take effect on July 1, 2025, aged care workers found negligent in their duties may face significant fines and penalties. With an expectation for improved care, now more than ever, those working with patients living with dementia must urgently assess their training levels and upskill where needed.

The new Standards Framework offers a clear, structured approach that assists anyone supporting a person living with dementia in evaluating their existing knowledge, identifying gaps, and enhancing their skills. By setting a consistent national standard, this initiative ensures that every person working with individuals living with dementia possesses the expertise required to deliver high-quality, informed care.

ADVERTISEMENT

MARY ALDRED

A new voice for Monash



Authorised by G Blackwood, Liberal Party, 14 Chesterfield Ave, Warragul VIC 3820.

TOORA PORTABLE TOILET HIRE

Servicing Yarram, Toora, Foster and surrounding areas.

NEED YOUR SEPTIC TANK EMPTIED?

WE DO THAT TOO!

PHONE CAMERON

0419 955 568

or visit our website tooratoilethire.au

Melina BATH MP

THE NATIONALS MEMBER FOR EASTERN VICTORIA REGION



2/181 Franklin St, Traralgon VIC 3844

melina.bath@parliament.vic.gov.au

5174 7066

MelinaBathMLC

ADVERTISEMENT

MARY ALDRED



A new voice for Monash

LIBERAL

Authorised by G Blackwood, Liberal Party, 14 Chesterfield Ave, Warragul VIC 3820.

Isle of Wight project moving towards reality will boost tourism and accommodation

By Andrew Paloczi

THE Isle of Wight development in Cowes is hoped to open in time for Christmas 2027 and is intended to be a hospitality venue for locals and visitors and to help address the shortage of holiday and worker accommodation on Phillip Island.

Head of development at Moda, the developer responsible for the project, Tim Richardson told the Sentinel-Times what needs to happen to bring the Isle of Wight to life.

"We have to tender the project to a builder and get all our remaining permits in place to commence construction," he said.

While stating the timeframe for starting construction isn't yet certain, it is hoped that will happen in the second half of this year.

Tim spoke about the Isle of Wight project at Tuesday's Destination Phillip Island event at the Penguin Parade Theatre in Summerland in front of a large audience including local tourism operators, Bass Coast Shire Mayor Rochelle Halstead and CEO Greg Box.

Tim highlighted the importance of more accommodation on Phillip Island, stressing many overseas visitors currently taking day trips from Melbourne to see the penguins would stay longer if possible, therefore spending more money and boosting the



Head of development at Moda Tim Richardson speaks about the planned Isle of Wight development. A13_1325

local economy.

However, he noted the Isle of Wight will also have a strong community focus, being a place locals enjoy.

"It has to support the local community and respond to their needs," he said.

"The Isle of Wight will be one of the largest privately funded projects in regional Victorian history," Tim declared, noting the importance of community and council support for such a major undertaking.

He spoke of Bass Coast Shire Council having created a site-specific overlay.

"Any development comes with a huge amount of stakeholder risk and the fact that council had taken the initiative to create a blueprint for the site gave us a great deal of

confidence," Tim said.

He reflected on the work that has been done with council and those at Destination Phillip Island, as well as discussions with Phillip Island Nature Parks and hotel advisers, and how the Isle of Wight will be a boost to the region.

That has created the confidence to make the project more ambitious than originally planned, while still ensuring the basics are right and locals will feel welcome.

He described the envisaged venue as "a contemporary reimaging" of the old Isle of Wight Hotel.

The design is intended to tie in with council's Cowes Streetscape Masterplan upgrade connecting the township to the foreshore.

Tim labelled the planned facility as "extroverted" and befitting the recipe for a modern hotel, also describing its links to the past.

"We've recreated the pavilion fronting the Cenotaph and the triangle site," he said, showing a photo of the old hotel for comparison.

"You'll see the way the original hotel was created fronting onto the jetty and the Cenotaph," Tim said, noting its "civic role".

Outlining the planned project, he talked about features such as the pub, bistro, beer garden, hotel with regional providore and conference and events facilities.

He also spoke of the multi-level carpark, explaining it will be hidden by the landscape, with worker accommodation on top of it.

"At peak, we'll probably have between 200 and 250 full-time equivalent staff working at the Isle of Wight, so it will be one of the largest employers on the island," Tim said.

The desire is to create accommodation for other workers in town as well as Isle of Wight staff.

"Hopefully we're successful with a grant application to State Government to expand that offering to also provide accommodation to other major employers on the island," Tim said.

The Sentinel-Times will provide updates as the Isle of Wight project advances.

Road safety review for notorious intersection at Wattle Bank

IN A win for Wattle Bank residents, a road safety review has been secured for the notorious Lynnes Road and Inverloch-Kongwak Road intersection.

The announcement comes after community outcry and political pressure following numerous traffic incidents and collisions at the site.

The Nationals' Member for Gippsland South and Shadow Minister for Roads and Road Safety Danny O'Brien and The Nationals' Melina Bath MP congratulated residents for their steadfast commitment to improving regional road safety in the Bass Coast.

"This busy intersection has been an ongoing concern, and locals have pleaded with the state government to implement much-needed improvements.

"Safety concerns include roadside vegetation obscuring driver vision, deteriorating surface, intermittently flashing speed signs and faded lines," said Mr O'Brien.

"Residents need the state government to turn this review into tangible action that improves road safety for all motorists."

In response to Ms Bath's questioning in state parliament, the Minister for Roads and Road Safety has confirmed that roadside vegetation removal is expected to be completed by the end of March and a speed limit reduction to 70km/h will be introduced.

Ms Bath said driver risk at intersections like Lynnes Road and Inverloch-Kongwak Road is exacerbated at peak times and during holiday periods when tourists travel on unfamiliar roads.

"Given the recent road crashes and the proximity of a new housing estate, the State Government must ensure the vegetation works are completed in time for the busy Easter school holiday period," said Ms Bath.

"A safety review conducted in 2022 by Bass Coast Council already stated the intersection had recorded enough crashes to make it eligible for black spot funding."

SHORT TERM HOLIDAY RENTAL
NOT ALL HOME & LANDLORDS POLICIES ALLOW SHORT TERM HOLIDAY RENTAL
but we do...

BJS Insurance Brokers (Gippsland) Pty Ltd
ABN: 51 091 705 770 AFS License No: 238365
2 / 88-98 Watt St, Wonthaggi, 3995
Phone: 03 5671 3600
W: www.holidayrentalsinsurance.com.au
E: holidayrentals@bjsib.com.au

BJS
INSURANCE BROKERS

IT'S ON!

Election Day
3 May

Deb Leonard **Vote 1**
INDEPENDENT

Find out more

We can make real change

Authorised by Deb Leonard, 40B&C Bair St, Leongatha 3953

Mayor's Message



Cr Rochelle Halstead

ENSURING Bass Coast's voice is heard at all levels of government is key to securing the funding, policies, and support our community needs to thrive. Collaboration is a key strategy among local governments as expectations of the sector grow. Influence on decisions is often possible through a united sector voice.

I'm honoured to have been appointed as the Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) Director for the Gippsland Region. In this role, I will advocate for the key issues affecting Bass Coast and our neighbouring councils.

There has been a growing concern that State and Federal governments are increasingly shifting their costs onto councils, which is placing an unfair financial burden on ratepayers. This has been largely occurring in the service delivery area, which means the costs incurred are not one-off as they would be with a capital project, but rather they are ongoing, and they increase over time due to inflationary costs.

An immediate concern for the sector is the transition from the Fire Services Property Levy to the Emergency Services and Volunteers Fund (ESVF).

At the upcoming MAV State Council meeting in May, Bass Coast has submitted a motion calling on the State Government to take responsibility for the administration and collection of the ESVF. Councils across Victoria are rallying behind this motion.

In addition to MAV, I also serve as Deputy Chair of One Gippsland – a group of regional leaders from local government, education, and industry. Through this role, I've advocated for Bass Coast and our region's priorities in Canberra and Melbourne.

Deputy Mayor, Cr Brett Tessari is also representing Bass Coast at a regional level as a Board Member for Peri Urban Victoria, seeking policy and funding outcomes for councils like ours on the fringe of metropolitan and rural areas.

Council is working at the local level and in partnership across the sector to ensure Bass Coast issues such as coastal management, infrastructure, and the services needed to support growth are heard, influencing decisions and attracting necessary investment. By working together at a regional and state level, we can ensure Bass Coast remains a strong and thriving community. We are part of something bigger, and by advocating for our community and its needs, we can achieve lasting outcomes for our Shire.



Bass Coast Shire Mayor Rochelle Halstead, pictured with Destination Phillip Island's Kim Storey, expressed concern about the State Government's merger proposals for DPI. A19_1325

Hopes for One Bass Coast model

By Andrew Paloczi

THE future of Destination Phillip Island (DPI) was in the spotlight at the organisation's event last Tuesday in Sumnerland, following the State Government's previously reported merger proposals and Bass Coast Shire Council's suggested 'One Bass Coast' alternative.

"DPI is behind the One Bass Coast model and appreciative of council's support for it," Chair Catherine Basterfield said.

She told her audience of local business and tourism operators that DPI is keen to get an idea of what everyone wants, no matter what the next tourism board model looks like, noting there'll be a survey in the coming weeks to help achieve that objective.

Bass Coast Shire councillors supported the proposal for a One Bass Coast approach at their March council meeting, that being preferred to State Government merger options.

Those options, issued through the Department of Jobs, Skills Industry and Regions (DJSIR) were for Destination Phillip Island along with the rest of Bass Coast Shire to merge with Destination Gippsland or Mornington Peninsula, or for DPI to join



Chair of Destination Phillip Island Catherine Basterfield hopes to see Bass Coast Shire Council's One Bass Coast approach adopted. A18_1325

Mornington Peninsula on its own.

If it proves viable and receives State Government support, the One Bass Coast option would see DPI join the rest of Bass Coast rather than merge with tourism boards from outside the shire.

With the council vote unanimous on March 19, council resolved to write to the Minister for Tourism, Sport and Major Events outlining its preference for a One Bass Coast approach.

"I fully endorse this option,"

Cr Ron Bauer said ahead of the vote, expressing the view it is the right approach to provide the best value for money, and labelling Phillip Island as "the jewel in the crown".

"If the Island is the jewel in the crown, the mainland is the crown," Cr Brett Tessari responded, before praising the One Bass Coast recommendation.

Cr Meg Edwards stressed the upcoming tourism board changes are about governance rather than branding, expressing

a preference for the One Bass Coast model over other proposed approaches.

Cr Tim O'Brien expressed the view the State Government's merger options are unsuitable, suggesting the proposed link to the Mornington Peninsula is "not a good fit".

"We're quite different; it's much more of a rural and regional feel down here," he said, noting council's option is the one he feels should be vigorously pursued.

Mayor Rochelle Halstead stressed that Phillip Island is the second most visited destination by tourists in Victoria, arguing there is a strong case for treating it as a stand-alone destination.

"I think we're strong enough as a region, Bass Coast and Phillip Island, in our visitation to hold up our own destination," she said, adding that wouldn't prevent establishing partnerships with other parts of Gippsland and the Mornington Peninsula.

Cr Halstead expressed concern the State Government's merger proposals seem to be largely based on geographical grounds rather than determined by economic benefits, therefore backing the recommendation to support the One Bass Coast model.

Danny O'BRIEN MP
State Member for Gippsland South

**SHOP LOCAL
AND SUPPORT
LOCAL JOBS**

Working for Gippsland South



(03) 5144 1987

danny.obrien@parliament.vic.gov.au

54B Cunningham St, Sale VIC 3850

dannyobrienmp.com.au

NATIONALS for Regional Victoria

The Country Women's Association of Victoria Inc.

2025 CWA BASS GROUP 70th Creative Arts Exhibition



**Saturday & Sunday,
April 12 and 13, 2025**

Public Hall, Smith Street, Loch
Member's exhibits & demonstrations.
Open: Sat 10am-4pm, Sun 9.30am-3.30pm
Admission: \$5 adults, children with adults free
Demonstrations, trading table, Devonshire teas



**Making a real
difference in the
lives of people
across Bass Coast.**

If you can give, please
give where you live.
www.bccf.org.au

Urgent Inverloch erosion response needed: When, what and how much?

EASTERN Victoria MLC Melina Bath has continued to put pressure on the State Government to clarify details of its coastal erosion rescue package for Silverleaves and Inverloch ahead of expected king tides through April, including at Easter.

The Sentinel-Times has put Ms Bath's criticisms to local MP Jordan Crugnale.

In a statement issued last Thursday, March 27, Ms Bath claimed a share of \$10 million in funding, also expected to address urgent restoration work at Black Rock, Inverloch, Loch Sport, Tooradin, Silverleaves and Warrnambool, wasn't enough, while the announcement lacked the required detail.

"The Allan Labor Government's recent \$10 million funding announcement for coastal erosion mitigation falls critically short of addressing the urgent challenges facing six vulnerable Victorian coastal communities. The proposed funding is inadequate and represents nothing more than a superficial response to the severe erosion threatening Silverleaves, Inverloch, Loch Sport, Tooradin, Warrnambool, and Black Rock," claimed Ms Bath last week.

"Labor's paltry offering does not address the adaptation and protection measures required to protect homes and public infrastructure. Critically, Labor has failed to provide a breakdown of how the \$10 million will be distributed across the six locations adding to community anxiety.

"The Silverleaves community must be prioritised, short-term geotextile revetment should have been installed prior to Christmas but Labor ignored department recommendations. Residents deserve a comprehensive, detailed plan that demonstrates a genuine commitment to coastal protection. The current funding announcement fails to meet this fundamental standard of responsible governance."

Ms Crugnale said the works at Silverleaves were being prioritised to start last Friday and are expected to be completed before the Easter high tides.

"This was always the preferred timing, expectation and advocacy of the local community along with Council," said Ms Crugnale.

"Further information on



Constant pounding by the sea has reduced the effectiveness of the geotextile bag wall in front of the Inverloch Surf Lifesaving Club, while eroding the dunes at each end of the wall. The concern is that if king tides through April combine with storm surges, it could spell catastrophe for the surf club.



Inverloch SLSC member Maya Arnold at State Parliament last year with Melina Bath MP and Glenn Arnold, Inverloch SLSC President.

specific funding amounts will be announced in due course.

"This is because it is a package amount across many project areas and each of the project costings will be re-evaluated and finalised as designs and tenders where required are completed."

According to Ms Crugnale, DEECA is working with the Bass Coast Shire Council as the land managers, to undertake emergency works at Silverleaves on Phillip Island to construct a rock bag revetment. BCSC have appointed a contractor to deliver the works.

From last Friday, they started getting the machinery and materials onsite and also initiated offsite preconstruction works.

The contractor is expected to commence onsite work in the

week beginning the April 7. On-site works are expected to take seven-10 days, depending on weather conditions, with the aim to be completed by Easter.

Ms Crugnale said the rock bag revetment is a temporary management strategy to reduce the immediate erosion and inundation risk whilst an appropriate longer term adaptation strategy is developed with the community.

"DEECA will be putting out a statement outlining the project and assure the community of the works due to take place, including when they expect to see contractors onsite."

It is still not clear how much of the \$10 million in funding will be directed to urgent works at Inverloch, what those works will involve and when the

emergency protection works, especially at the Inverloch Surf Lifesaving Club and Cape Paterson Road will go ahead.

Inverloch Tourism Association President, Glenn Morris, a member of Inverloch Coastal Advisory Network, said the local community was none the wiser on the questions of when, what and how much.

"We are in the dark on how much funding is allocated for Inverloch specifically which in itself is frustrating. Our intel is that funds will be allocated for immediate protection works at the Surf Club. This is critical but it also suggests that no State Government funding is being put towards the Dune Construction works slated to commence in Spring this year.

"Moreover, no State Government funding has also been allocated to protect Cape Paterson-Inverloch Road. This is of great concern to the Inverloch community.

Mr Morris said the 2022 grant of \$3.3 million from the Federal Government's Coastal and Estuarine Risk Mitigation Program needed to be matched by the state government so that the required movement of 200,000 cubic metres of sand for dune reconstruction works could commence immediately.

"The fact is that since around 2010, we have witnessed Inverloch Beach lose an estimated 250,000 cubic metres of sand to erosion. The problem is real. It seems crazy not to replace at least what we have lost!" he said.

Rewilding the Island

THE community is invited to celebrate the extraordinary progress in reintroducing and safeguarding threatened species and restoring biodiversity on Phillip Island (Milawul).

Thanks to the collective efforts of community groups and Phillip Island Nature Parks (PINP), among others, Phillip Island is making great strides in restoring the natural environment. If you are interested in conservation, ecosystem management and local wildlife, this social event is not to be missed!

The event will be held at Phillip Island Winery on Thursday, May 15 from 6pm to 10pm.

Guests will enjoy dinner, presentations, and plenty of opportunities to socialise.

Presentations will include Dr Duncan Sutherland, Senior Scientist at Phillip Island Nature Parks, on the reintroduction of Eastern barred bandicoots and bush stone-curlews on Phillip Island, and Anne Davie (OAM) on sustainable farming using a variety of methods, including planting over 20,000 trees on family farm Bimbadeen, in partnership with Phillip Island Landcare.

After 25 years of eradication efforts, Phillip Island was declared fox-free in 2017. Combined with years of conservation and regeneration of the landscape, this milestone paved the way for the reintroduction of threatened species.

Since being released in 2017, the Endangered Eastern barred bandicoot continues to thrive, safe from the threat of fox predation. The Phillip Island Nature Parks citizen science 'EBB Sightings Portal' provides a platform for our community to report wild bandicoot sightings and help researchers understand the spread of the species across the island.

In a monumental effort for conservation, last year saw the reintroduction of Critically Endangered bush stone-curlews to the island with the long-term goal to improve the viability of the species in south-eastern Australia. The birds are being monitored by researchers who plan to release more birds over a three-year period.

Limited places – tickets are \$66 per person (includes shared-plates dinner) and can be booked at trybookings.com/events/landing/1368072.

Drinks are available to purchase at bar prices. Take-home bottles of wine with labels illustrating reintroduced species will also be available for purchase on the night to raise funds for Phillip Island Landcare Group and the Penguin Foundation.

Ticket sales and donations will go towards Phillip Island Landcare Group and the Penguin Foundation for continued conservation to increase biodiversity on Phillip Island.

RUSSELL BROADBENT MP



TRUE
YOUR INDEPENDENT
MEMBER FOR MONASH

Authorised by Russell Broadbent MP, Independent Federal Member for Monash,
46c Albert St Warragul VIC 3820

Effortless one touch action



No twisting,
no pulling, no pain.

One-Touch Automatic Jar Opener

Opens jars easily and hassle free.



Phone 5977 5110

We are a D.V.A. approved supplier

62-64 McBride Ave, Wonthaggi

Time to upgrade your tractor?



Let's discuss asset finance



Lynda 0429 121 082

Disclaimer: Your full financial situation will need to be reviewed prior to acceptance of any offer or product. LS Finance Broking Pty Ltd, Credit Representative (495763) is authorised under Australian Credit Licence 389328.



You bring the dream,
we'll bring the how to.



Contact Gavin 0433 902 969

www.gippslandgarages.com

FREE QUOTES Site visits subject to T&C's.

Gippsland Garages & Sheds
Your local, qualified project specialist.
Permits, construction.
1st class service.

Intimidation, suggestive jokes, exclusion...

**Gendered violence comes in many forms.
All are OHS issues. All are unacceptable.**

🔍 **WorkSafe Gendered Violence**



Reducing workplace harm.



Residents call for solutions as squatters persist in Wonthaggi

AN ABANDONED building near Loch Street, currently inhabited by squatters, is one of several properties in Wonthaggi exacerbating a seemingly growing issue.

Nearby residents have expressed growing concerns about the impact on safety and the declining condition of these buildings, which continue to contribute to the community's challenges.

A nearby resident, who wishes to remain anonymous, said the property has been abandoned for as long as they have lived in the area. Over the past 18 months, the situation has escalated, with fires breaking out both inside and outside the house, requiring interventions from the fire brigade.

"Living near a property like that isn't the most pleasant experience," the resident said.

"People come and go at all hours, pushing shopping trolleys up and down the street. There's a lot of banging, screaming, and arguing – enough to keep you up at night on more than a few occasions. We've had to call the police multiple times, which has led to the odd arrest, but long-term solutions are difficult to achieve."

While the resident has not feared for their personal safety, they worry about the impact on their family.

"With little ones, you don't want to be raising them in that environment. Many of the people coming to the house struggle with drug addiction or mental health issues."

Police conduct regular patrols of the area, and while arrests have been made, the squatters continue to return.

"The police are doing what they can, but there's only so much they're allowed to do," the resident said.

"The owner of the property doesn't live locally and is trying to have the place demolished, but there are legal restrictions when people are squatting in a building."

The property's landlord is currently liaising with the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (VCAT), seeking legal eviction of the inhabitants.



An abandoned building near Loch Street, now inhabited by squatters, has raised safety concerns among Wonthaggi residents.

Residents believe the squatters have significantly affected the neighbourhood's safety and property values.

"If the house catches fire properly, we don't know if it's going to take anything else with it. People with young families don't want dangerous individuals coming through on stolen bicycles or cars."

The resident has attempted to direct squatters toward local support services, including the Salvation Army and Orange Door, but noted that many of the individuals involved are not ready or willing to seek help. "Until they hit rock bottom, they don't want to access those services. We don't know where these people are at – it's a tricky situation. We need some community-based services to help them get clean and sort their lives out."

A potential solution, some locals have suggested, could be the former Wonthaggi Secondary College site.

According to the Engage Bass Coast website, the Department of Education

currently manages the campus, and Bass Coast Shire Council is conducting pre-feasibility studies to assess the site's suitability for future use. These studies will evaluate the building's structural integrity, heritage value, and safety risks, as well as the costs involved in repurposing the property.

"Given what the town needs, I'm surprised something hasn't been done more proactively," the resident said.

"There are great services like Orange Door, Anglicare, and Latrobe Community Health Service, but there's no physical location where people can go. These are all service providers, not hands-on facilities."

Data from the Crime Statistics Agency shows that drug offences in Bass Coast have risen by 30.6 per cent from 2023 to 2024, increasing from 121 to 158 recorded incidents. When compared to 2022, when 85 offences were recorded, the figures have surged by 85.9 per cent over two years.

While some community members may oppose a rehabilitation facility, the resident believes it could provide vital support.

"There will always be people against it, but it's not like it would be a prison – it could be a place that offers some kind of respite."

However, they acknowledged that significant obstacles stand in the way of such a project.

"Public opinion is huge, but funding is also a challenge. Council would need to (take ownership of) the facility from the Department of Education and then develop the site."

Despite the ongoing issues, they praised local police efforts.

"They're doing what they can, but the laws don't make it easy for them."

As concerns grow, residents are hoping for long-term solutions sooner rather than later.

The properties are part of a handful of sites in Wonthaggi that has local residents concerned.

Bail changes can't come soon enough as crime rises in Gippsland

IMPROVEMENTS to bail laws passed by the State Parliament last week can't come soon enough as crime rates soar across Gippsland according to the Nationals Member for Gippsland South, Danny O'Brien who expressed concern that the changes don't go far enough to address the crime epidemic facing Gippsland.

"The State Government weakened our bail laws and has been brought kicking and screaming to changing them again, but they have still not gone as far as the laws were previously," Mr O'Brien said.

"Sadly, the changes sent a signal to many criminals, especially youth, that there would be no consequences for their actions and we have seen a youth crime wave as a result.

"Right here in Gippsland South there is a young boy who police tell me has been charged and bailed around 50 times.

"No-one wants to be locking up kids. But when you have got kids, whether they are 14 or 17½, who are repeatedly causing trouble in the community and committing crimes – serious crimes like carjackings and aggravated burglary, coming into a house with a machete or a knife or a baseball bat and stealing people's vehicles, going on joy rides and the like – that has to have some consequences.

"These changes simply do not go far enough to stop the crime wave that the State Government started when it weakened our bail laws to begin with."

Mr O'Brien highlighted that crime data released late last week showed the number of criminal incidents reported in the three local government areas that make up Gippsland South was continuing to rise.

"Wellington Shire rose 17.5 per cent in 2024 while there was a 6.3 per cent increase in South Gippsland and 11.6 per cent in Latrobe.

"We are particularly seeing a huge increase in the number of youth offenders and it doesn't take a genius to recognise the correlation with these numbers and our weakened bail laws."

Repeat offender arrested by resident during aggravated burglary

EARLY Saturday morning (March 29, 2025), at about 12.15am, police from the Korumburra Police Station and the Wonthaggi Police Station responded to an aggravated burglary in Hassett Street, Leongatha.

It is alleged that a 14-year-old male from South Gippsland gained entry to a residential dwelling and stole items, at which time they were located by one of the occupants who arrested the 14-year-old, and called police.

The 14-year-old was then arrested by police and charged with aggravated burglary, commit indictable offence whilst on bail, theft, possess dangerous article, and going equipped to steal.

The 14-year-old has been bailed to appear at the Korumburra Children's Court on April 28, 2025.

more love
CELEBRATION

\$50,000 + \$10,000

TO SPEND ON BONUS LUXURIES
ON DESIGNER & SIGNATURE HOMES
FOR JUST \$10,000*

\$10,000

EXTRA VALUE.
BUT HURRY, THIS BONUS OFFER
IS ONLY FOR A LIMITED TIME*



SCAN TO
FIND OUT
MORE

Love where you live

m
metricon

*Limited time offer. T&Cs and exclusions apply. Eligible Studio M upgrades only. VIC CDB-U 52967. NSW 174699C.



**South Gippsland
Shire Council**

South Gippsland Shire Council News

Leongatha Memorial Hall

Council is seeking community feedback to inform the Leongatha Memorial Hall Precinct Project.

The project will consider the feasibility of updating the Heritage-listed Hall to improve access and functionality and consider the potential for a broad range of community uses.

Community members who want to be more closely involved in the process can apply to join the Leongatha Memorial Hall Project Reference Group (PRG).

The voluntary group will give advice and recommendations to Council and support the development of a Feasibility Study, Business Case and

Functional Design for the Precinct.

Members will bring their local knowledge and individual skills to the group, meeting several times a year, beginning in May 2025.

To submit your feedback or for more information on the PRG, visit <https://yoursay.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/>

Submissions close Sunday 13 April.

You can also join us on Thursday 10 April for an activity-based, interactive workshop in the Hall.

See details at

<https://www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/leongathamemorialhallproject>

Building Resilience Three-Part Masterclass



South Gippsland Shire Council and Small Business Mentoring Service invite you to join our FREE three-part Masterclass on building business resilience.

This exclusive workshop series will equip you with the tools and strategies to build a resilient and adaptable business.

For more information or to register, visit www.sbms.org.au/events

COUNCIL MEETINGS

The next Council meeting will be held on Wednesday 16 April 2025 at 2.00pm.

Details will be available on Council's website: www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/councilmeetings

To watch the meeting live or when it suits you, visit:

www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/live

IMPOUNDED VEHICLE

In accordance with Schedule 11 of the *Local Government Act 1989*, Council impounded a Silver 2005 Holden Sedan on 19 March 2025 from Princes Street, Korumburra.

Registration Number: UWM317

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

For enquiries, please contact our Community

Safety Officer's on 5662 9200 during office hours (8.30am to 5.00pm Monday to Friday).

IMPOUNDED VEHICLE - NOTICE OF SALE

Council impounded a silver 2007 Holden Captiva Station Wagon on 29 January 2025 in accordance with Schedule 11 of the *Local Government Act 1989*:

Impounded from: Commercial Street, Korumburra

Registration Number: UYV307

VIN Number: KL3CD26GJ7B099669

As this vehicle has not been collected and relevant fees paid within 14 days of impoundment, the vehicle will now be offered for sale to the public.

Offers marked "Abandoned Vehicle" and addressed to the Coordinator Community Safety are invited for the purchase and removal from Council.

Offers close at 2.00pm on 1 April 2025 and are to be either posted to South Gippsland Shire Council, Private Bag 4, Leongatha VIC 3953 or emailed to council@southgippsland.vic.gov.au on or before

the said time and date.

The vehicle can be viewed by appointment with the Community Safety team on 5662 9200.

The highest offer will not necessarily be accepted.

REQUEST FOR TENDERS

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

RFT/439 Swimming Pools Maintenance

Tenders close 2.00pm AEDT on Tuesday 10 April 2025.

Documentation is available from Council's e-Tendering Portal

www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/tenders

CONTACT US

9 Smith Street, Leongatha
15 Little Commercial Street, Korumburra
03 5662 9200

www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au

Energy conversations in Leongatha

By Andrew Paloczi

COMMUNITY members chatted to representatives of offshore wind energy proponents and VicGrid in Leongatha on Thursday during a combined consultation drop-in session at the Memorial Hall.

Proponents are at various stages of progress towards their hoped-for projects.

The Sentinel-Times caught up with representatives of the Blue Mackerel project after reporting on a recent visit to the ship Fugro Mariner, the vessel having since undertaken its expedition to drill for core samples.

After analysis at a specialist laboratory in Perth, Western Australia, the results will enable engineers to establish the right type of foundations for offshore wind energy infrastructure.

However, there is still much research to be conducted before it is determined whether the Blue Mackerel project, run by Japanese company JERA Nex through its wholly owned subsidiary Parkwind, is approved for construction.

Community and stakeholder relations manager for the project, Linda French, said all aspects of the environment need to be considered, taking account of waves, currents, wildlife and other factors, with subsequent engineering design needing to mitigate any potential negative impacts.

Communications officer Holly Gillan said early community enquiries at Thursday's event centred on job opportunities,



Blue Mackerel's community and stakeholder relations manager Linda French and communications officer Holly Gillan were happy to chat about the project at Thursday's combined energy session in Leongatha. A22_1325

noting the kinds of questions asked can vary between non-coastal areas such as Leongatha and locations nearer the sea.

Cr Brad Snell was keen to chat to those manning the various stands, learning more about local community benefits and opportunities.

Additionally, as a mechanical fitter, he said he has "an inherent interest in things that move", clearly intrigued by the workings of offshore wind energy generating equipment.

A contingent of University of Melbourne students, members of the renewable energy club,

came to town to hear about future wind energy opportunities to which they can apply the skills they are learning.

Second year electrical engineering student Bianca MacDonald said while she is not yet certain what area of the field to head into, she's leaning towards transmission.

"We visited a wind farm this morning and it got me more excited learning about renewable energy and offshore projects," she said.

In Leongatha, she chatted to the VicGrid representative about the type of opportunities an electrical engineer would

have with their team, learning that would encompass offsite design work and helping manage the project from behind the scenes.

"So, I think for me, if I end up working for VicGrid, I would be one of the engineers that creates what we're going to do," Bianca said, pleased to have a clearer picture of how she might contribute in future.

Masters student in Environmental Engineering, Csiyi He, was excited to learn about projects in planning, noting an information gap exists between the academic setting and the wider world.

Star of the South progress with wind energy project on track

By Andrew Paloczi

CHATTING to proponents of offshore wind energy sites offers an insight into the extensive work and lengthy time period involved in striving to bring projects to fruition.

Southerly Ten was one of the proponents represented at Thursday's combined offshore energy session in Leongatha, being in charge of the Star of the South Project.

The Sentinel-Times was keen to hear how that project is progressing, and learn about another newer wind energy project Southerly Ten has in the works.

Chief development officer for Southerly Ten, Erin Coldham, said research efforts have backed the organisation's initial motivation for pursuing offshore wind energy opportunities in Bass Strait.

The closing of Hazelwood and the associated reduction in coal-fired power generation combined with the fact offshore wind energy was taking off globally sparked the idea



Southerly Ten's Erin Coldham (chief development officer) and Paul Johnson (senior manager regional engagement) are ready to discuss offshore wind projects. A25_1325

of establishing the Star of the South.

"We could see that there were really strong offshore winds in Bass Strait off Gippsland, relatively shallow water depths and close

proximity to plug into the grid in Latrobe Valley and lots of workers who'd worked in offshore oil and gas," Erin said.

"We investigated the wind conditions and seabed and ticked off that our theory was

correct and this was a good place for offshore wind, so now we're using a lot of the data we've collected over the years."

That data is broad-ranging, including scientific information as well as public feedback obtained through consultation that has revealed what Gippslanders want to see from offshore wind energy projects.

Erin explained Southerly Ten is now crunching all the data and will be taking steps over the next year or so to obtain necessary approvals from the Victorian Government.

"We're working to try to get to construction by the end of the decade," she said, adding that is important in helping ensure the region continues to generate power.

Southerly Ten's other project, Kut-Wut Brataualung is in the early stages, having received a licence last year that will allow for investigations into its viability, in contrast to Star of the South which is Australia's most advanced offshore wind energy project.

Korumburra streetscape consultation spanned more than a decade

AMIDST all the ongoing complaints about the Korumburra streetscape upgrades, the South Gippsland Shire Council (SGSC) have stated that the project has been based on extensive community consultation spanning more than a decade.

The Korumburra Streetscape Project and associated upgrades to Commercial Street and parts of Bridge Street, Mine Road and Radovick Street have been

undertaken to revitalise the town centre, improve pedestrian and driver movement, and enhance visual appeal.

The works began in 2024 and are expected to be completed this year at an estimated total cost of \$7 million.

SGSC state that key consultation pieces associated with the project occurred initially with the Korumburra Town Centre Framework Plan, set out

in 2013.

This was reportedly followed by consultation around the Korumburra Town Centre Streetscape Master Plan in 2016 and most recently, ongoing consultation has, according to SGSC, been undertaken with affected stakeholders since the Streetscape Project was funded in 2020.

Key upgrades have included replacing brick paved footpaths

with concrete footpaths, changing Commercial Street to a single lane of traffic in each direction, the addition of a manoeuvring lane to improve safety while parallel parking and the replacement of water mains by South Gippsland Water.

Locals have criticised many elements of these upgrades stating that they lack functionality, suitability and safety for locals and tourists alike.

Mayor's Message



Cr John Schelling

HELLO South Gippsland. I hope you enjoyed hearing from Councillor Rae last week. I'm hoping to share this message around with other Councillors now-and-then so all have an opportunity to talk to you.

There's no rest for our volunteers, with tennis and cricket finishing up in the last two weeks and rolling straight into footy and netball season. Our volunteers are often shared among multiple groups, especially those who help out with sport. Without these valuable people in our community, our people – young and young at heart – wouldn't have the opportunities we do now.

Leongatha Memorial Hall Engagement

Council is currently seeking feedback to inform the Leongatha Memorial Hall Precinct project.

This is an exciting opportunity for residents across South Gippsland to share their thoughts about what they want to see from this community asset. The project will consider the feasibility of updating the Hall to improve access and functionality, and consider the potential for a broad range of community uses.

Currently, Memorial Hall serves a wide range of groups, so it is important that all these uses are considered.

To provide your feedback, you can come along to one of the Community Workshops that will be held on Thursday 10 April. There will be two 90-minute workshops with the first commencing at 2.00pm and the second at 7.00pm. You can also complete the online survey or apply to be part of the Project Reference Group at: <https://yoursay.southgippsland.vic.gov.au>

Feedback closes on Sunday 13 April 2025.

Municipal Association of Victoria Convention

I attended the Municipal Association of Victoria's (MAV) Convention of Councillors two weekends ago. At the Convention some key issues were talked about including funding pressures, evolving technologies, our role as Councillors and housing.

It was a great event that I hope newer Councillors take advantage of in the future to learn more about what representing your community really means. I got a lot out of the event and hope other attendees did too.

Lost Pets and Adoptions

Council has recently launched a new Facebook page where you can find all things animals related. From lost animals and adoptions to information about responsible pet ownership. To follow the page, please visit: www.facebook.com/sgscpets

Events

It was terrific to see the music pumping from two of our small halls over the weekend. The Festival of Small Halls came to Tarwin Lower and Mirboo North last weekend, with a great turnout at both locations. Live music is certainly a favourite in South Gippsland, and it is great to see them getting supported.

If you are organising an event open to the public, make sure to add it to the Visit South Gippsland website for free by visiting: <https://visitsouthgippsland.com.au>

2025 Federal Budget

- A Step Forward or a Stumble?

By David Caporale,
Chief Investment Officer of RELIcapital

The recently announced 2025 Federal Budget has left many Australians questioning whether the government has struck the right balance between economic responsibility and voter-friendly policies. While tax cuts and cost-of-living relief are welcome, the return to budget deficits and long-term spending commitments raise concerns about fiscal sustainability.

The Good: Relief for Households

The headline measure of this budget is the tax cuts set to roll out from 2026-27. Cutting the 16% tax rate to 14% may seem generous, but when broken down, the average taxpayer will receive about \$5.15 per week in relief starting next year. While any relief is helpful, it falls short of making a meaningful impact on household budgets.

Other notable wins for everyday Australians include extended electricity rebates, increased Medicare funding to boost bulk billing, and additional support for disaster relief. The government has also earmarked funds for infrastructure improvements, aiming to create jobs and enhance long-term economic growth.

The Bad: A Return to Deficit Spending

After two years of budget surpluses, Australia is now set to return to deficits, with a \$27.6 billion shortfall this year and a projected \$42.1 billion next year. While some of this spending is directed toward cost-of-living relief, economists warn that sustained government expenditure at these levels could push inflation higher and make the Reserve Bank's job more difficult.

Furthermore, public debt is expected to surpass \$1 trillion in 2025-26, with debt levels projected to reach 37% of GDP by 2028-29. This raises concerns about how Australia will handle future economic shocks without a financial buffer.

The Ugly: Structural Budget Issues and Productivity Concerns

One of the biggest critiques of this budget is its lack of long-term vision. While

cost-of-living measures may provide short-term relief, the budget does little to address Australia's underlying economic challenges, including weak productivity growth and an over-reliance on bracket creep to generate revenue.

The government has also leaned into protectionist policies, with subsidies for local manufacturing and a \$20 million "Buy Australian" campaign. While supporting domestic industries is politically popular, history has shown that protectionism often leads to inefficiencies and higher costs for consumers. Economists argue that boosting productivity through tax and industrial reform would be a far more effective strategy for long-term growth.

What Does This Mean for You?

For individuals, the budget offers some financial relief but does not significantly alter economic prospects. If you're a homeowner or looking to enter the market, the expanded Help to Buy scheme may provide some assistance, but it remains capped at 40,000 places over four years—meaning competition will be fierce.

For businesses, particularly in the retail and construction sectors, the spending measures may provide a short-term boost. However, higher public spending could keep inflation elevated, leading to interest rates staying higher for longer, which would impact borrowing costs.

The Verdict: A Missed Opportunity?

The 2025 Federal Budget is, at best, a mixed bag. While it provides immediate cost-of-living relief and maintains economic growth projections, it locks in long-term deficits without addressing structural challenges. With global uncertainties, including potential trade wars looming, the lack of a robust economic strategy leaves Australia vulnerable.

In the end, this budget feels more like a political play than a roadmap for economic stability. The real question is whether voters will buy into short-term relief or demand a more sustainable vision for the future.

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



Julie Appleyard, director of JL Bas & Bookkeeping Solutions, helps keep small businesses on track with financial and office management services.

Streamline your finances with JL Bas & Bookkeeping Solutions

EVERY business is built on a financial foundation; however, managing accurate and timely accounting records can be overwhelming and time-consuming. That is where JL Bas & Bookkeeping Solutions in Leongatha can help ease the pressure of those administrative tasks and keep small businesses on track financially.

Director of JL Bas & Bookkeeping, Julie Appleyard has grassroots experience in local accounting. Julie has worked for 37 years in a variety of South Gippsland business sectors, providing bookkeeping and office management services.

Julie is accredited in both Xero and MYOB. She also has industry experience in other business software.

"With a love for everything

bookkeeping, I completed my BAS Agent Registration in 2024 and have established my own bookkeeping business to assist other business owners with their financial tasks so they can focus on what they know best," said Julie.

"I also have extensive experience within the farming sector, having farmed alongside my husband as well as operating an agricultural services business together."

Skilled in managing financial challenges, Julie strives to educate her clients and help them make informed decisions. Offering a vast range of services, including:

- Accounts receivable and accounts payable
- Bank reconciliations
- Payroll
- Subcontractor payments
- Superannuation guarantee

To enhance your financial well-being or get your business back on track, email info@jlbbs.com.au or call 0429 425 252.

Bass Group CWA celebrates 70 years

THE Country Women's Association of Victoria's Bass Group are excited to be holding their annual exhibition on April 12 and 13. This year's event is extra special as they are celebrating their 70th birthday.

Founded in 1922 the CWA has long been a pillar of support for women around Victoria providing opportunities for social engagement, skill development and advocacy on issues affecting society. Members range from juniors to those who have been in the association for over 50 years. New

members are always welcome. You don't need to be a cook or crafter to be part of CWA and they are not just about scones. Many women enjoy the company and support of other women while being in an organisation that support vulnerable women and children.

The CWA Exhibition is a highly anticipated event that takes place annually, drawing visitors from far and wide. It serves as a platform for members of the association to display skills and creativity in various domains, from traditional crafts to

contemporary arts, cooking, photography and horticulture. The current group President, Susan Hawker says attendees will also be able to enjoy a famous CWA scone at the Devonshire tea and tradng table.

The Bass Group Exhibition will be held in Loch in Smith Street. The exhibition is open on Saturday, April 12 from 10am till 4pm and Sunday, April 13 from 9.30am till 3.30pm. There is a small entry fee of \$5 per adult (cash preferred) and children with an adult are free.

BOOKKEEPING A PROBLEM? Let me show you the Solution!

Specialising in all aspects of bookkeeping including:

- Accounts receivable/payable
- Payroll • PAYG • Payroll Tax
- Superannuation
- Bank Reconciliations
- BAS/IAS preparation and lodgements
- Financial Reporting



BAS Agent
26280606



Xero
Advisor



THE INSTITUTE OF
CERTIFIED BOOKKEEPERS
544585 MICB

Julie Appleyard 0429 425 252 | info@jlbbs.com.au | Leongatha

* Rate current 1 April 2025. There is a risk that investors may achieve lower than expected returns. RELI Capital investments are not bank deposits, and investors risk losing some or all of their money. Generally there is no right of early withdrawal prior to maturity of the investment term and there is a risk that redemption at maturity may be delayed. Before deciding to invest consider RELI Capital's Product Disclosure Statement and Target Market Determination by visiting relicapital.com.au or our office.



Assistant State Secretary of the Health and Community Services Union (HACSU) **Rebecca Sprekos** with local Health and Community Service workers demanding a deal for better wages and conditions. B06_1325

Mental health workers stop work in Wonthaggi for better pay and conditions

MENTAL health workers from Bass Coast and Southwest Healthcare walked off the job for two hours last Thursday in a statewide push for better wages and conditions.

At the same time the National Health Services Union (HSU) was congratulating the Federal Labor Government for making record investments to strengthen Medicare and lift care-worker wages the Victorian Branch of the Health and Community Services Union (HACSU) said there had been no meaningful movement from the Victorian Hospitals Industry Association or the Victorian State Government to prevent an escalation of industrial action over an enterprise bargaining agreement (EBA) for mental health workers.

Protesting outside Community Mental Health Services in Murray Street Wonthaggi HACSU members from in-patient units, continuing care units, aged in-patient units, community teams,

emergency mental health teams, CATT teams and the hospital outreach post-suicide engagement team called for better wages and a new structure for mental health services.

"We're seeking a fair deal for mental health workers in Victoria," said HACSU Assistant State Secretary Rebecca Sprekos.

The Health and Community Services Union has asked for a fair and reasonable deal for the public mental health workforce which includes mental health nurses, occupational therapists, social workers, health professionals, lived experience workers and administrative staff.

"Money is great, but far more is needed to ensure all mental health workplaces are safe, offer a best practice and standardised response to occupational violence and aggression, and enable mental health workers to provide the treatment, care and support that consumers and their families want when they need

it most," said HACSU State Secretary Paul Healey.

Mr Healey said union members have been negotiating a new enterprise agreement for nine months seeking urgent measures to embed staffing profiles across the state and bring an end to acute and persistent wage inequality, unworkable conditions, dangerous under-staffing and interventions to reduce the severe escalation of occupational violence and aggression.

"The government has failed to provide an offer that meets the needs of the sector and the claims of the workforce," said Ms Sprekos.

With the national suicide rate already double the road toll, a burgeoning youth mental health crisis, inadequate levels of housing, underinvestment in drug and alcohol services and an undercurrent of anxiety due to the cost-of-living crisis HACSU says it is more important than ever to support mental health workers.

"HACSU members are

strong, determined and united in their belief that consumers must have access to the right interventions at the right time and will not be deterred by offers that attempt to divide the union membership," said Mr Healey.

Rebecca Sprekos said HACSU members had ensured safety would be maintained at all times during the Wonthaggi stop-work protest.

"There would be no impact on consumer treatment, care, support or safety," said Ms Sprekos.

Mental health workers have threatened further industrial action to force the State Government and Victorian Hospitals Industry Association to understand that union members will not allow the occupational and psychological health and safety of consumers, families and carers to be put at risk, or lost in a broken mental health system.

HACSU is a trade union comprising over 12,000 members across Victoria.

Supporting the community that supports us

PHILLIP Island Nature Parks will open its Community Giving Program next month in a show of support for local not-for-profit groups, sporting clubs and schools across Bass Coast.

Applications for the first round of community giving are open from April 1 until May 31, while a second round will commence on October 1 and close on November 30.

Each year, the Nature Parks commits funds and in-kind support as a way of 'giving back' to the Phillip Island (Milawul) community.

Community Impact Manager Kate Adams said Phillip Island Nature Parks greatly value the community as a key stakeholder and partner in its important conservation work.

"The Nature Parks has been a long-term supporter of local organisations, charities, and events across Bass Coast. Our Community Giving Program is about giving back and supporting the very people who support us in our dedicated conservation efforts," Ms Adams said.

"We encourage applications for donations, in-kind support and sponsorship of initiatives that align with our values and work to preserve this special region of Victoria for generations to come."

"In particular, we are keen to help community efforts that align with our ethos at the Nature Parks to educate and raise awareness about nature, conservation and sustainability, as well as respect for the history and culture of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities."

Other priority areas include projects that celebrate or promote diversity and inclusion in our community, art, history and culture, and sport and recreation, Ms Adams said.

For more information or to apply to the program, visit penguins.org.au/about/our-community/community-giving-program/ or email community@penguins.org.au to contact the Nature Parks Community Team.

Local water boards seek directors

The State Government is seeking a wide range of community members to continue the safe, secure, affordable provision of water, to oversee our state's critical water sector.

Minister for Water Gayle Tierney opened expressions of interest for members of the community to join the boards of Victoria's 18 water authorities, nine catchment management authorities (CMAs), and the Birrarung Council, among them are South Gippsland and Westernport Water.

Both local water authorities have vacancies for board members.

There will be around 120 board positions available across the state, overseeing the delivery of critical water services and regional catchments and waterways.

Applications close 11.59pm on Tuesday, April 8, 2025.

Phillip Island NATURE PARKS

COMMUNITY GIVING PROGRAM

The 2025 Community Giving Program is open to local groups, schools, and nonprofits seeking funding for small projects and events in Bass Coast.

We support initiatives that drive social change, promote conservation, and champion sustainability.



For further information and to apply, please scan the QR code or email community@penguins.org.au

Where do they go? - Shredded Paper

Picture this: It's the night before Valentines Day and you've spent all night thinking of the perfect words to tell someone you love them. Your best work has taken a while, so you've gone through quite a few drafts. To forget about the "I love you berry much" note with a picture of a strawberry, you decide to break out the shredder. But what do you do with that shredded paper?

Unlike full sheets of paper, shredded paper can't go in your Recycle (yellow-lidded) Bin in South Gippsland. This is because the pieces are too small to be sorted correctly and can tangle up the machine.

The next time you feel the need to shred the paper, pop it in your home compost or your Rubbish (red-lidded) Bin.

To find out more about what can go in your Recycle (yellow-lidded) Bin, please visit:

www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/recycling or scan the QR code.



Top Tip



Shredded Paper should go in your **Rubbish (red-lidded) Bin** in South Gippsland.



Small acts make a big impact.

These items cannot be put in your mixed recycling bin: glass crockery and window glass, shredded paper, tissues and paper towels, recycling in plastic bags and soft plastics.

These items can make it harder to sort the recyclable material and turn them into new things.

Find out more: www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/recycling





Leongatha School upgrade stalled

STUDENTS and families in Leongatha continue to wait on the state government as a promised upgrade to Leongatha Secondary College remains unfunded.

In October 2022, the Labor Member for Eastern Victoria Region visited the school and pledged \$11.7 million for upgrades if re-elected. However, nearly three years later, the project remains in the "planning" phase, according to the Nationals Member for Gippsland South, Danny O'Brien, who expressed disappointment over the delay.

"Leongatha Secondary College is one of 29 Victorian schools that have not received any funding for its upgrade project despite receiving a 2022 election commitment from Labor," Mr O'Brien said.

"Not only is there no money on the table, but there isn't even a commencement date scheduled.

"I know the school is still hoping to move forward with this project.

"The State Government must ensure it keeps its promise and provides funds in this year's budget as a matter of priority."

Concerns over the project's future grow as Victoria's net debt is projected to reach \$187.3 billion by mid-2028, raising doubts about the Government's ability to deliver on a project that was originally promised to commence in 2024.

Mr O'Brien said it is all but certain the State Government has broken its promise to the Leongatha community to deliver an upgraded local school by November 2026.

"I am aware the College has been given funding through the 2024-25 round of the Capital Works Fund to refurbish the school's student toilets and change rooms.

"This appears to be a small peace offering from a State Government that cannot deliver on its original \$11.7 million promise."

School saving bonus available for winter uniforms

WHILE most families have drawn on their School Saving Bonus in part or in full, around 30 per cent of bonuses remain untouched.

Premier Jacinta Allan and Deputy Premier Ben Carroll are encouraging families to use their \$400 School Saving Bonus to purchase winter school uniforms before the cold weather sets in.

The next few months are the last chance to use the \$400 School Saving Bonus to purchase uniforms or textbooks, either through approved suppliers or at second-hand uniform and textbook shops run by schools.

Any money unspent by June 30 will automatically transfer to a family's school account, with parents able to use these remaining funds on school activities like camps, sports or excursions.

Non-government school families who have a healthcare or concession card are also eligible to receive the bonus. These schools decide how to allocate the bonus to best accommodate their families and students.

For more information about the School Saving Bonus, visit vic.gov.au/school-saving-bonus.

Martin Carlson Foundation fuels Korumburra Secondary's H2GP

KORUMBURRA Secondary College students will be developing hydrogen-powered remote-controlled cars to compete in the international Hydrogen Grand Prix (H2GP) challenge, made possible with a grant from the Martin Carlson Foundation.

Applying their STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) knowledge in a real-world setting, the students will design, build, refine and optimise hydrogen fuel cells for maximum efficiency and speed.

Year 7 and 8 students will gain firsthand experience of renewable energy, hydrogen fuel cell technology, engineering, vehicle aerodynamics and mechanical systems throughout the challenge.

The Martin Carlson Foundation (MCF) is a Korumburra based organisation with a mission to support young minds in their pursuit of innovation, particularly in emerging technological fields and prepare them for future careers in STEM, with a view to bring that knowledge back into rural communities.

By funding this year's entry costs, MCF will enable two teams of students to participate in the project.

"We're fortunate to have the opportunity to work with the school because the students really wanted to engage in this project. It



Year 7 and 8 students from Korumburra Secondary College will be competing in the Hydrogen Grand Prix, thanks to a generous grant from the Korumburra-based Martin Carlson Foundation.

ob02_1325

upskills and it creates that knowledge base. It gets young people thinking about their futures," said Darren Polglaise from MCF.

"It really awards and recognises good achievement within the student base within the school, and we're happy to encourage that."

Acting Principal of KSC Naomi Coleman said, "We're really excited that Martin Carlson Foundation is partnering with the students to give them the opportunity to attend the H2GP because without their support we wouldn't be able to send two teams of students and we would've even struggled to send one."

With additional guidance from Gippsland Tech School, students

will also explore the complexities of sustainable energy solutions and fine-tune their vehicles for optimal performance.

Emily, as the team leader of one group, is both nervous and excited to be guiding other students and brings her experience from participating in last year's challenge.

"I think it'll be a little bit easier for some of the people that went last year, because we won't be as nervous and won't be as shocked, (as we) know what happens," said Emily.

"That will be kind of nice that we can go in head first and just give it a shot."

While Matt, team leader of the

other group said he is excited to be working as a team and finding out what limits they can push the cars to, by working through issues and problem solving using STEM based skills.

Mr Polglaise from MCF also mentioned that collaboration with the staff and students at KSC has been exceptionally positive, making them feel appreciated for what they do and they are keen to continue working together with the school.

The students will put their hard work to the test when they take their cars to compete in the H2GP Challenge on Tuesday, July 22 at Fairhills Secondary School in Knoxfield.

Celebrating reading success at Newhaven College



Newhaven College encourages outstanding reading habits by awarding students who have excelled in reading. Pictured here with Head of Junior School Cath Huther and Principal Tony Corr are outstanding readers, Jude Brown (Year 1), Kiela Dennis (Year 3), Ruby Pirouet (Year 4) and Vincent Manias (Year 2).

At the beginning of the year, Nathaniel Swain joined the entire Newhaven College educational staff for a professional learning day focused on aligning literacy from Prep to Year 12, emphasising the Science of Learning. Nathaniel, from La Trobe University, has been involved in developing structured literacy resources and professional development aligned with the Science of Reading. His work focuses on explicit instruction, cognitive load theory, and effective literacy interventions to support teachers and students.

The Science of Reading program at Newhaven College is built on the latest research to ensure that all students receive the highest-quality literacy instruction. This

evidence-based approach focuses on teaching essential reading skills and offers effective strategies for helping children learn to read. It also provides guidance on how to support students who may struggle with reading along the way.

Knowing that it is a huge benefit to build and establish strong foundations in Prep, the College also ensures a flow through to the rest of our Junior School. A significant flow-on effect from this program has been the strengthening of home-school partnerships, with families actively supporting their children's reading

development through tailored take-home reading folders.

Cath Huther is impressed with students' progress so far.

"We are proud to announce that last week we awarded reading certificates to students who have displayed consistent reading habits at home throughout Term One. These certificates are awarded on a termly basis, and our goal is to increase this percentage each term, ultimately aiming for 100 per cent of our students receiving reading awards. Our families are embracing this partnership, and we are thrilled to see nightly reading habits flourishing at home,

knowing they will make a big difference in students' reading development.

"Our ultimate aim is simple: to ensure that every child at Newhaven College learns to read and reads well, while also developing a love of literature and a lifelong passion for learning," she said.

To learn more about Newhaven College's Prep program, everyone is encouraged to attend the upcoming Prep Information Morning on Tuesday, April 29. For more information, visit the Newhaven College website: 'Book A Tour', or contact admissions@newhaven-col.vic.edu.au



We're
Hiring!

Your local care team!



Finalist Victorian Championing Health

We provide holistic home care that goes beyond just the basics.

From local carers to friendly GPs, gardeners and allied health professionals, we work together to keep you healthy, happy and connected.

1300 888 256

mshomecare.com.au



Best of Business
Awards





Richard Broome presented JM Anderson with her award on Monday, March 24.

J.M. Anderson honoured at the Victorian Community History Awards

ON MONDAY, March 24, the Public Record Office Victoria and the Royal Historical Society of Victoria were pleased to present the 2024 Victorian Community History Award winners at a ceremony at the Langham in Southbank.

Inverloch local Judy Vrandenburg received the Collaborative Community History Award for her book Wallace Avenue Community Park Inverloch: A Short History (which she published under the name JM Anderson). The judges honoured the work of Judy stating that the Wallace Avenue Park Inverloch was almost lost to development.

'This small book, full of colourful photos and illustrations, details an exciting success story of a passionate community who sought to save it. It describes how many volunteers provided or sought out information that helped compile the history of the park and thus contribute to the book.'

Amongst them was one man who preserved hand-typed Council minutes with the Inverloch Historical Society, and another was a lady who kept a scrapbook, both of which proved invaluable.

The book was a collaborative effort with many direct contributors in addition to the author's work. Many supplied photographs. Inverloch Primary School provided Cretaceous period fauna and flora artworks in honour of the Koolasuchus cleelandi sculpture, a feature of the park.

In addition, the author lists the large number of those who helped in the process of saving the park, from MPs, councillors and community groups such as Rotary and Lions to those volunteers who organised fundraising sausage sizzles or shook collection tins. It is an inspiring story of collaborative community action which enriches the history of the area and its local community.'

Judy was surprised and honoured to win the award for the short history piece, which originated with the Bass Coast prize for non-fiction competition during the pandemic and recognised in 2021 for community activism.

"This award has been most humbling and the biggest honour," said Judy.

"Initially, I sat down and wrote the story but of course writing it down was just the beginning. This book and the award are a credit to the Inverloch community, and this park is so precious to the town."

"There was a lot of people I needed to thank with this book, including the Bass Coast Shire Council, the Inverloch community – this book stands in honour of volunteers everywhere – they are the silent heroes, and I'd also like to thank the South Gippsland Sentinel-Times for their outstanding reporting and recording of history because it played an integral part in the preservation of the park."

The Wallace Avenue Community Park is home to Koolasuchus Cleelandi - a local prehistoric amphibian discovered by Mike Cleeland and Lesley Kool, an eight-metre-long sculpture by Phil Stray of Crafted Landscape.

The award-winning book, Wallace Avenue Community Park Inverloch: A Short History is available at PaperPlay Inverloch, and the Bunurong Environment Centre, Inverloch.

Rose Lodge Fete brings community connection and important funds

THIS year's Rose Lodge Fete funds will be directed towards providing more shelter for residents in the courtyard, Saturday's event a huge success with an excellent turnout.

CEO Shane Jenkins was delighted people were there waiting for the fete to open, estimating hundreds had come through since, and there was still plenty of time left at that stage.

He was busy helping with preparation of the popular Devonshire Teas, having heeded the message to be generous with the cream.

Shane stressed that while the money raised is important, there is more to the fete.

"It's also about bringing community in," he said, adding the event strengthens the connection with community and showcases Rose Lodge.

Local businesses and community members played their part, generously donating \$900 worth of prizes for the raffle.

Carolyn Thompson, Rose Lodge's lifestyle manager, who along with her lifestyle team organises the fete, noted it has become an annual tradition, running for about 20 years.

"We raise money for the residents' wellbeing," she said, giving the example of having bought massage chairs with previous fete-derived funding.

"The residents do all the gardening and craft items," Carolyn said.

That undoubtedly makes for a great fete each year and



Rose Lodge volunteer Jill Watson, lifestyle manager Carolyn Thompson and CEO Shane Jenkins enjoy helping out at Saturday's fete. A30_1325

keeps residents active and engaged.

One of those residents, Daphne Nelson, had 48 of her beanies for sale and was relishing being part of the day.

"I know I'm giving enjoyment to everyone else and it keeps me occupied," she said.

"Being in business all my life, I'm used to having people around."

Daphne noted there are lots of clever people at the Lodge,

their creativity on show for fete attendees.

She praised the staff and volunteers, explaining that while she didn't initially want to come to the Lodge, she couldn't be in a better place.

Staff and volunteers enthusiastically threw themselves into a variety of roles to ensure the fete's success, including baking, running the café and the sausage sizzle, selling raffle tickets and manning the white

elephant stalls for which they donated items.

Volunteer Jill Watson was described as "an absolute legend", having devoted three days to baking cakes and slices for the fete, while the Rose Lodge chefs were praised for their scones.

As usual, this scribe didn't miss the opportunity for Devonshire Tea and would have stuck around for longer if not for cricket duties.

Korumburra WWII pilot honoured at the Australian War Memorial



Flying Officer Daniel Grungo RAAF, Sam Whiteside (Don's nephew), Adam Whiteside (Don's great nephew), Donna Matthews (Don's niece), Donna Wylie (Don's great niece) and Wing Commander Karri Roberts RAAF at the Australian War Memorial.



Pilot Officer Samuel Donald Whiteside from Korumburra died during WWII in a night raid over Berlin in 1944.

PILOT Officer Samuel Donald Whiteside known as Donald or Don to family and friends from Korumburra has been honoured as part of the Last Post ceremony at the Australian War Memorial.

Sheltering in the portico of the Australian War Memorial 15 members of Pilot Officer Whiteside's family gathered to place wreaths and lay floral tributes.

Donna Matthews (nee Whiteside) and Sam Whiteside the daughter and son of Donald Whiteside's younger brother Duncan were the first to lay wreaths at the Pool of Reflection and were made honorary members of 460 Squadron.

Part of air operations targeting Berlin in 1943 and 1944, Pilot Officer Whiteside was initially posted as missing presumed dead on January 27, 1944.

It was not until 1951 that the dairy farming family of the late Samuel and Margaret Whiteside of Korumburra South were notified that the RAAF had determined Whiteside, and his crew had been shot down by a German night fighter south-west of Berlin.

Educated in Korumburra then Sale the young Whiteside had a reputation as a handy schoolboy batsman and handball champion, shooter and footballer for Jumbunna.

Awarded the Aircrew Europe Star Pilot Officer Whiteside also earned the Defence Medal, War Medal 1939-45 and Australia Service Medal 1939-45.

Donald Whiteside enlisted on September 12, 1941.

Within three months of enlisting Whiteside was promoted to Leading Aircraftman and transferred to the Air Observer School at Mt Gambier.

Promoted from Aircrew Observer to Air Observer, Sergeant then Flight Sergeant and finally Warrant Officer Donald Whiteside graduated as a Navigator twelve months later.

After attending Bomb and Gunnery School in Sale and Air Navigation School in Nhill, Whiteside left for England in July 1942 to be stationed at RAAF Station Bournemouth, the Advanced Flying Unit at Dumfries and Operational Training at Lichfield.

Pilot Officer Whiteside joined 460 Squadron in September 1943 based at RAF Binbrook in Lincolnshire as part of the Empire Air Training Scheme and is proudly remembered by the Korumburra community at the Cenotaph in Coleman Park.

The record of 460 Squadron is as impressive as it was tragic, of the 39 trainees pictured with Samuel Whiteside in 460 Squadron only half are known to have survived the war.

460 Squadron held the record for most missions flown and the greatest tonnage of bombs dropped for Bomber Command however these records exacted a grim price.

Crewmen such as Pilot Officer Samuel Donald Whiteside faced a three per cent chance of dying on any one raid, and they had to do this at least 30 times.

A total of 181 aircraft and more than 1018 crew including 589 Australians were lost from 460 Squadron principally to enemy night fighters and anti-aircraft fire or 'flak'.

The most effective form of attack on a Lancaster was carried out by twin engine night fighters fitted with upward firing automatic

20mm cannons. The enemy fighter would approach from below and position itself under the Lancaster where it could not be seen from any of the defensive positions.

A furious burst of cannon fire into the belly of the aircraft would generally have fatal consequences for the Lancaster and it was one of these attacks during a night raid over Germany in 1944 that Samuel Donald Whiteside lost his life aged 33 years.

Pilot Officer Whiteside was buried alongside his crew with 3595 others at the Commonwealth War Cemetery in Berlin.

The Last Post Ceremony honouring the service of Pilot Officer Samuel Whiteside can be viewed on the Australian War Memorial's YouTube page [youtube.com/watch?v=Zn3D6cWHtrU](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Zn3D6cWHtrU).

Read the full story and history at sgst.com.au

MITSUBISHI WONTAGGI & LEONGATHA



CLOSING DOWN SALE



**Unbelievable deals on brand new
and demo Mitsubishi Models.**

ALL STOCK MUST GO!

HUGE SAVINGS - DON'T MISS OUT

Wonthaggi Mitsubishi

346 Bass Highway, Wonthaggi VIC 3995
T (03) 5672 1122 LMCT 8179
www.wonthaggimitsubishi.com.au

Leongatha Mitsubishi

1 Hughes Street, Leongatha VIC 3953
T (03) 5662 4088 LMCT 8179
www.leongathamitsubishi.com.au

AUSTRALIA'S FIRST



WHEN ALL SCHEDULED SERVICES ARE COMPLETED
AT A MITSUBISHI DEALERSHIP



New Chair of Leongatha Rotary Club's Old Fire Station shop, Bruce Grainger, alongside Lynn Fisher as she wraps up her final day in the role. A17_1325

Rotary celebrates Lynn's contributions

LYNN Fisher's service to Leongatha Rotary Club was acknowledged with members turning out for an afternoon tea in her honour following her final shift at the club's Old Fire Station used furniture and bookstore of which she has been Chair.

While Lynn is stepping away from Rotary to concentrate on other things, she will still be a big part of the club's annual Art & Photography Show, continuing to volunteer alongside Bob Hickman to hang the works.

Lynn reflected on her time in the Old Fire Station and why it was rewarding.

"I enjoy creating a nice space and you meet lovely people when they come into the shop," she said, describing her main role as making the store look pretty.

Bruce Grainger has taken over Lynn's role as Chair.

While he said he won't have the same flair as Lynn in terms of presentation, Bruce declared he'll be cracking the whip and making sure everybody turns up for their shifts.

Perhaps slightly embarrassed by the fuss, Lynn was nonetheless appreciative of the recognition.

"It's lovely but I didn't expect it," she said.

• FAITH FACTOR

In a Moment of Time by Hope MacDonald

By Ps Janice Muir of Grace Chapel, Archies Creek

A YOUNG mother was standing at the kitchen sink washing dishes one spring morning.

Their little garden was aflame with fresh jewel-like flowers and the smell of warm clover filled the air. In a moment in time the long dreary winter was forgotten.

As she looked out the window into the backyard, she noticed that the garden gate had been left open. Her little three-year-old daughter Lisa had toddled through the gate and was sitting casually on the railroad tracks, playing with the gravel. The mother's heart stopped when she saw a train coming around the bend and heard its whistle blaring persistently. As she raced from the house screaming her daughter's name she suddenly saw a striking figure clothed in pure white, lifting Lisa off the tracks.

While the train roared past this glorious being stood by the track with an arm around the child.

Together, they watched the train go by. When the mother reached her daughter's side, Lisa was standing alone.

When I was two years of age growing up in Leongatha in 1962, I pulled enough pickets off the back fence to allow me to escape the backyard and I was off and running.

Like the previous story, I ended up playing in the middle of the railway line.

The position on the railway line was behind where BP/Subway is today.

Lou Canobie of Canobies Engineering sensed for some unknown reason that he should take a walk behind the workshop and to his surprise there I was happily playing with the large stones between the tracks. I believe God kept me from disaster on the railway track but I don't think I escaped Dad's ruler of correction when I eventually got home.

If you are ever prompted to check on something unusual don't ignore it because you just never know.

Two stroke recovery centres set to launch in Bass Coast

IN A recent conversation with Julian Williams, Chair of the Stroke Association of Victoria, he shared exciting updates regarding a new initiative aimed at providing much-needed support to stroke survivors in the Bass Coast region.

The not-for-profit association is working toward opening a dedicated Stroke Recovery Centre to offer ongoing care and peer support to stroke survivors.

"We're looking to fill a gap in the services available after hospital rehabilitation ends," said Julian.

"Many stroke survivors are left without the necessary support structures, which is where our centre will step in. Our goal is to provide long-term care and ensure no one is left isolated, especially in regional areas like Bass Coast, which has one of the highest rates of stroke survivors."

The centres' activities will include peer support groups, cooking classes, cognitive rehabilitation exercises, and regular guest speakers.

"Many stroke survivors face practical challenges, like learning to cook again, especially when their spouse or loved one is unable to," Julian explained.

"The cooking classes help rebuild confidence and independence in the kitchen."

As Julian explained, the



Peter Liddle, President Wonthaggi Power Football Netball Club, Julian Williams, Chair Stroke Association of Victoria, and Brendan Knight, Secretary Wonthaggi Power Football Netball Club work together in opening a Bass Coast Stroke Recovery Centre in Wonthaggi.

biggest need is not just physical rehabilitation, but emotional and mental health support as well.

"After the acute phase of recovery, stroke survivors often find themselves isolated and struggling with their new reality," he said.

"That's where the peer support network becomes invaluable – knowing you're not alone can make a huge difference."

To make this project a reality, the association had been in discussions with the Bass Coast Shire Council, exploring potential venues to host the centre, and Julian was pleased to announce that

during talks with Wonthaggi Power, the committee last week agreed to grant the Stroke Association of Victoria use of the facilities for their Wonthaggi recovery centre.

"Our goal is to create a social, community-driven environment, away from the clinical feel of a hospital."

As the project moves forward, Julian mentioned the need for local volunteers to help run the centre.

"We rely heavily on volunteers to manage and coordinate activities. Whether it is running sessions, providing assistance, or just helping with general support, every bit of help counts."

The Stroke Association of Victoria is also seeking long-term funding and support.

"Like many not-for-profits, we've had to adapt to a more challenging financial landscape, but we're back on track and determined to make this happen," he said.

"In the long run, we hope to secure more funding to expand our services, but for now, we're focusing on building a solid foundation with the help of the Bass Coast community."

The initiative is gaining momentum, and the first meeting for stroke survivors and carers in Bass Coast is set for April 16 at the Phillip Island Community and Learning Centre (PICAL) in Cowes, with subsequent meetings planned for each Wednesday.

"We're starting small, but we hope to grow from there," said Julian.

"I'm so pleased to have support from both PICAL and Wonthaggi Power to get the Stroke Recovery Centres up and running. They have both been very accommodating, and I thank them."

For more information or to get involved, residents can reach out to the Stroke Association of Victoria online by visiting strokeassociation.com.au, or to volunteer or learn more about upcoming events email info@strokeassociation.com.au.

Mosaic birthday magic inspired by Mary Grace

IT WAS a special occasion at Fish Creek Memorial Hall on Tuesday, a large number of people celebrating the 99th birthday of popular and creative local Mary Grace Whyte and the unveiling of stunning mosaic works she created with her daughter Isabel.

The mosaics run alongside the pathway next to the hall that is used by those attending the town's kindergarten, the mosaic display certain to delight passing children.

Youngsters such as Georgie and Charlie Wilde were already enthusiastically exploring the display shortly after the unveiling.

Rather than one large design, there are numerous individual tiles, each with its own mosaic delights.

Vibrant birds and other animals as well as the letters of the alphabet enlivened what would otherwise have been a dull low garden wall.

The names of Mary Grace and Isabel are featured on an ingenious Scrabble-inspired tile.

While Isabel designed the mosaics, Mary Grace threw herself into the project performing tasks such as making required cuts from base glass and gluing pieces to the tiles.

"She's got so much energy and I thought I would like to keep her busy," Isabel said of her mum.

Samara Cunningham relished the chance to reflect on the significance of the day, giving a brief speech at the relaxed unveiling ceremony,



Mary Grace Whyte celebrates her 99th birthday with family. A01_1325

saying it was wonderful to celebrate the mosaic and Mary Grace's milestone.

"This mosaic embodies everything that's positive in our world right now; it has heart, creativity, connection and a vision for what art can bring to small communities," Samara said.

Mary Grace was described as "a force of nature", Samara noting her artistic passion and unstoppable energy for creative pursuits, adding Isabel exhibits the same traits.

"She was out here on those hot days and rainy days," Samara said of Isabel's dedication.

"It gives me great pleasure

to officially open our new Fish Creek mosaic," Samara declared.

During the celebrations for Mary Grace, 'Happy Birthday' was played on the hall's recently arrived Yamaha Grand Piano, attendees later singing the song again.

It was a joyous afternoon with a generous spread of food, this hungry scribe drawn to the scrumptious apple strudel.

No doubt everyone looks forward to an epic event when Mary Grace brings up her century and who knows what creative flair she and her daughter will show in the meantime.



A Scrabble-inspired piece of mosaic work pays tribute to its creators.



Nature features prominently in Fish Creek's recently unveiled mosaic works.

Wonthaggi Toyota

WE BUY
CARS!



OVER 20 FRESH VEHICLES NOW IN STOCK



READY
TO TOW

2020 Ford Ranger XLT PX Mk III
39,990 DRIVE AWAY

160,302kms, 6 speed sports auto 4x4 double cab SN: W102037



LIKE
NEW

2025 GWM Haval H6 Lux
34,990 DRIVE AWAY

347kms, 7 speed sports auto SUV SN: W102030



FINANCE
AVAILABLE

2015 Mazda BT-50 GT UR
26,990 DRIVE AWAY

168,201kms, 6 speed sports auto 4x4 dual cab SN: W102044



HYBRID

2021 Toyota RAV4 Cruiser
43,990 DRIVE AWAY

99,437kms, 6 speed CVT auto SUV SN: W102027



V8

2009 Holden SS V VE
24,990 DRIVE AWAY

179,865kms, 6 speed manual ute SN: W102041



7 SEATER

2014 Jeep Grand
Cherokee Laredo
15,990 DRIVE AWAY

175,767kms, 8 speed sports auto 4x4 SUV SN: W102029



TOOL
BOXES

2018 Toyota Hilux Workmate
25,990 DRIVE AWAY

83,070kms, 6 speed sports auto cab chassis SN: W101995



CHEAP
UTE

2011 Great Wall V240
8,990 DRIVE AWAY

122,135kms, 5 speed manual cab chassis SN: W101948

Leongatha Toyota

USED VEHICLE SPECIALS



FINANCE
AVAILABLE

2022 Volkswagen
Touareg 170TDI CR
68,990 DRIVE AWAY

33,302kms, CVT auto 4x4 SUV SN: L101315



FINANCE
AVAILABLE

2015 Volvo V60 T6 R-Design
28,990 DRIVE AWAY

59,333kms, 6 speed CVT auto AWD wagon SN: L101316



FINANCE
AVAILABLE

2018 Toyota
Landcruiser Prado GXL
50,990 DRIVE AWAY

131,020kms, 6 speed CVT auto 4x4 SUV SN: L101294



HYBRID

2019 Toyota Camry Ascent
29,990 DRIVE AWAY

62,570kms, 6 speed CVT auto sedan SN: L101194



FINANCE
AVAILABLE

2020 Ford Ranger XLT PX MkIII
44,990 DRIVE AWAY

62,673kms, 10 speed CVT auto 4x4 double cab SN: L101273



HYBRID

2018 Toyota Corolla
Ascent Sport Hybrid
18,990 DRIVE AWAY

229,014kms, CVT auto hatch SN: L101307



FINANCE
AVAILABLE

2017 Holden Trax LT TJ
13,990 DRIVE AWAY

98,395kms, 6 speed CVT auto SUV SN: L101314



PRICE
DROP

2024 Toyota Yaris GR-Four
54,990 DRIVE AWAY

2,501kms, 6 speed CVT manual hatch DBA 110

Wonthaggi Toyota

346 Bass Highway,
Wonthaggi VIC 3995
T (03) 5672 1722
LMCT 8179
wonthaggitoyota.com.au

Leongatha Toyota

7-13 Hughes Street,
Leongatha VIC 3953
T (03) 5662 2302
LMCT 8179
leongathatoyota.com.au



OH WHAT A FEELING

* Disclaimer: If the price does not contain the notation that it is "Driveaway*", the price may not include additional costs, such as stamp duty and other government charges.

THE election has been called for May 3 and these are the candidates that have declared their intention to contest the seat of Monash and the Federal Senate.

Russell Broadbent
Independent



PEOPLE are fed up with 'the government' telling them what to say, think or do.

Whether it's Labor or Liberal, an ever-increasing number of people are feeling let down and have lost trust in the major parties.

Every day I engage with people from across Monash who can't comprehend how they work so hard, yet still struggle to make ends meet.

I am here to give a voice to the fed up and disillusioned and to hold government account – especially where they're spending hard-earned taxpayer dollars.

I'm running as an Independent and funding my own grassroots campaign – that is, I am not accepting any donations.

As a true independent, not beholden to any party, group or individual, I can achieve more for the people of Monash.

Glenn Arnold
National's Senate



AS A proud Bass Coast local, father of two, and active community advocate, I'm standing for The Nationals in the Senate because regional Australia deserves better.

With nearly 30 years of experience helping businesses tackle workforce and growth challenges, I've seen firsthand how regional areas are too often left behind when it comes to funding, services, and infrastructure. That needs to change.

As President of the Inverloch Surf Lifesaving Club, I continue to fight for action from all levels of government to address coastal erosion. This issue highlights how out-of-touch decision-makers can be with regional realities.

The government needs to further support tourism, small businesses, and local economies, which are the heartbeat of our communities. Living outside a metro city shouldn't mean settling for less. I'll be a strong voice in Canberra to ensure our regions get the investment and recognition they deserve.

It's time to back regional Victoria with practical solutions and long-term vision.

The 2025 Federal Election

THE Prime Minister Anthony Albanese has finally called the next Federal election for Saturday, May 3, 2025. And the local electorate of Monash shapes as one of the most important contests in the nation to decide if the Liberals or Labor can win enough seats to govern in their own right, or if one of the local independent candidates, Russell Broadbent or Deb Leonard, will be on the crossbenches, able to have a say in a minority government.

Already nine candidates have announced their intention to stand:

- Mary Aldred Liberals
- Russell Broadbent Independent
- Robert Durkacz Independent
- Tully Fletcher Labor
- Deb Leonard Independent
- Terence Steele Greens
- Kuljeet Kuar Robinson Pauline Hanson's One Nation
- Geoff Dethlefs Family First
- Alex Wehbe Trumpet of Patriots

And there may be more by the time nominations close at 12 noon on Thursday, April 10.

Key dates ahead of 'election day' on Saturday, May 3 include:

- Voting rolls close at 8pm next Monday, April 7
- Candidate nominations close at 12

noon on Thursday, April 10

- Early voting starts on Tuesday, April 22
- Election day Saturday, May 3.

History of Monash

Monash was created following a redistribution of electoral boundaries for McMillan. Broadbent previously served as the Liberal Member for McMillan from 1996 to 1998 and again from 2004 to 2019 before winning Monash as the Liberal incumbent.

McMillan was last held for the Country/National Party from 1972 to 1975 by Arthur Hewson a Korumburra-born Warragul dairy farmer who won the seat despite receiving only 16.6 per cent of the primary vote. Hewson's low primary vote was at the time an Australian record for an elected representative. Reportedly using Liberal blue how-to-vote cards rather than Country Party green Hewson snatched McMillan from the Liberals.

McMillan became one of the most marginal seats in the country changing hands five times between the Liberals and Labor before Russell Broadbent locked down McMillan and then Monash for the Liberal Party in 2004.

Mary Aldred
Liberal Party



OUR communities are feeling the cost-of-living pinch. Everything is so much more expensive now than it was three years ago when Labor and Anthony Albanese came to government. As I'm meeting people across the electorate of Monash, they're telling me that they can't afford three more years of Labor.

As a member of the Dutton Liberal team, I'm determined to deliver what matters to our community. Investment in roads infrastructure, that repairs crumbling roads and gets traffic moving again through bottlenecks across our communities. Reliable and affordable energy that helps lower our cost of living. Affordable homes that supports families. Safer communities, with tougher knife and tighter bail laws.

As founding CEO of the Committee for Gippsland, and chair of the Gippsland United Basketball League, I've worked with local families to secure a better deal and stand up for our region.

Together, we can get Australia back on track. A vote for anyone else at this election risks three more years of Labor.

Deb Leonard
Independent



THE major parties are no longer representing everyday people in our community. Our regional and rural electorate has been ignored for decades when it comes to funding for roads, health services and infrastructure.

I'm running as an independent for Monash because we deserve better representation. As a lawyer, small business owner and working mum, I have spent my life entrenched in our local community, and I've seen where we're missing out.

Policies should be formed by the people of the community, not career politicians. I've been listening to people all across the electorate about the issues that are important to them, and that feedback has directly shaped my policies.

I am focused on meaningful action to address rising grocery prices and household bills, to ensuring everyone can afford a home, and to greater investment in our region.

As an independent I can work with both sides of politics to get common sense solutions that suit our community.

Terence Steele, Kuljeet Kuar Robinson and Geoff Dethlefs were contacted for their candidate statement.

Tully Fletcher
Labor Party



HI, I'M Tully. I grew up here and I live here with my partner Dani and our two kids, Daph and Ted.

After 20 years of failed federal representation by Liberals and independents, the time for talk and empty promises is over. We need a new federal MP who'll get things done.

As part of the team in a re-elected Albanese Labor Government, I'll ensure everyone in Monash can see a bulk-billed GP, access cheaper medicines, afford housing, and drive on safe roads.

We'll finish the NBN, end mobile blackspots, deliver the three-day childcare guarantee, and continue Labor's responsible economic plan to support household budgets, get inflation and interest rates down, and protect jobs and wages.

And I'll work hard to deliver the investment in services and infrastructure we've been needing and missing as our communities have grown and grown.

With your support, I'll get things done for Monash.

Robert Durkacz
Independent



I AM a single-issue candidate for the western alliance. The American people have become dangerously erratic and without necessarily wishing to, they are vandalising their own democracy and the western alliance with it.

Our political leaders should reach out to the American people to have more respect for themselves. They should have done so in 2020 when Trump falsely claimed that their electoral process was corrupted. Since none of the candidates will take up this issue, I feel I must run. It is easy to find people in the street who understand the historical importance of the moment. I give them a way to use their vote accordingly.

At the same time, I hope to promote discussion forums that the candidates and voters can take part in. This is not a council election. It is not about dog parks. If we can have proper forums, we can move past silly election advertising and look at the real problems.

Community urges focus on real outcomes, not bureaucracy

By Nicole May

AS THE federal election approaches on May 3, feedback from regional areas reveals growing frustration with the cost of living, including energy, grocery and fuel prices, and to speak one-on-one with constituents Monash candidates were at Lardner Park for Farm World.

Member for Monash, Russell Broadbent confirmed he wasn't at the event as he had other commitments; however, Nationals Senate Candidate for Victoria Glenn Arnold was onsite, as well as Federal Liberal Candidate for Monash, Mary Aldred, Independent Candidate, Deb Leonard and Labor Candidate, Tully Fletcher, plus State Member for Gippsland Danny O'Brien and Member for Eastern Victoria Region, Melina Bath.

The consensus, according to Ms Bath was that the people feel as though both the Federal and State governments are neglecting rural and regional communities.

"This reinforces the Nationals' stance of the need to grow a stronger regional economy and access our fair share of infrastructure and services," Ms Bath said.

Senate candidate Mr Arnold highlighted that there was a solid vibe from people during the day that they are sick of government waste.

"Overwhelmingly, people want value for money," he said. "People in Regional Victoria pay the same taxes as those in the metro areas, but funding is not fairly allocated. The Nationals believe governments should be focused on outcomes and the responsible spending of taxpayer money."

State Member for Gippsland South, Danny O'Brien, confirmed that energy policy was a



The Nationals Federal Senate Candidate for Victoria Glenn Arnold and state Member for Eastern Victoria Region, Melina Bath took a moment out to visit Happy at Farm World.

topic of interest, more broadly, renewables (mostly against) and nuclear (mixed).

Mary Aldred, Liberal Candidate noted that Farm World was just terrific.

"I've been coming to Farmworld since I was 21, and it's still the best way to engage with such a large number of people from across our region all in the one place. The number one issue raised with me across the three days was the cost of living. There was one woman who shared her story that sums it up best. She said, 'Mary, I work as a cleaner on industrial sites. I don't earn a lot, but I work hard, and I've even taken a second, part-time job just to make ends meet. I've saved my money and done the right thing, and I just can't seem to get ahead.'

Grocery and fuel prices are hurting my family the most.'

"It was an important opportunity to be able to talk to people about the Coalition's new policy that we will halve the fuel excise for 12 months – I had people coming up to me each day saying how that was really going to help give them some immediate relief on the cost of living."

With the cost-of-living the main discussion, as constituents try and get by, even with full time jobs, Independent Candidate, Deb Leonard said bringing down the costs of groceries, power bills and housing was a major focus.

"I had a great time at Farm World and had many people stopping for a chat and to ask questions.

"The other big issues brought

up were consistent with the policies I have already formed on community feedback, including roads, and access to health services," Ms Leonard said.

"Everyone was impressed to see that I have a dedicated Farming and Agriculture policy."

The major issues voters raised with Labor Candidate, Tully Fletcher at Farm World were their concern of representation, and nuclear energy.

"Farmers in particular are worried about the impact on property values and water supply," said Mr Fletcher.

The call for responsible government spending remains high, and the desire for the government to focus on real outcomes seems to be the centre of the 2025 election.

Leonard pledges strategy to support farmers and agriculture

INDEPENDENT candidate for Monash, Deb Leonard announced on Friday, March 28 her plan to support farmers and those in the agricultural industries.

"As your MP, I will support our farmers and associated agricultural industries, both locally and nationally," said Ms Leonard, who is recognising the region as one of Australia's most comprehensive food bowls.

Ms Leonard has unveiled her plan focusing on four key areas: strengthening farmers' rights and bargaining power, boosting agricultural education and addressing workforce shortages, delivering better infrastructure for agricultural communities, and supporting sustainable and resilient farming.

Ms Leonard has pledged to protect farmers' right to farm including reducing red tape, ensure the farming community has a voice at all levels of government, and break up the market powers that squeeze farmers, as well as support farmland management.

Infrastructure improvements and enhanced agricultural education are other cornerstone



Neroli Raff, Ras Lawson, and Heather Buntine support independent candidate, Deb Leonard in her campaign. The quartet received a good reception from farmers taking an interest in Ms Leonard's new farming and agriculture policy. ob15_1325

of Leonard's strategy released on Friday, with Ms Leonard calling for a reinstatement of agriculture-based courses at Gippsland TAFEs, increased housing in agricultural regions to attract and retain workers, and federal funding to improve rural roads and bridges.

Sustainability and energy

efficiency are also high on Leonard's agenda.

A supporter of science-based climate action, she has also stated she will work with farmers to develop evidence-based sustainability programs that support both economic and environmental outcomes' and 'advocate for grants to improve

energy efficiency and reliability across all agricultural sectors'.

"I am committed to being a strong voice for Monash's farming and agricultural communities in Canberra," said Ms Leonard.

"Together, we can ensure a thriving, sustainable future for this vital industry."

One Gippsland pitches for prosperity

ONE Gippsland is calling on the political parties to put Gippsland front and centre as they make their pitch to the nation during the federal election campaign, which kicked off last week.

One Gippsland Chair Cr Nathan Hersey said with the election now called, a clear plan for Gippsland that maps the path to prosperity, not just transition, was required from our political leaders.

"One Gippsland has been actively engaging with all major parties over the past 18 months to ensure the priorities and interests of Gippsland are well-known, understood and supported," Cr Hersey said.

"We have made the case that investing in education, roads, ports, better digital and telecommunications and tourism will allow Gippsland to thrive, an outcome that is crucial for our region which is at the heart of a transition towards renewable and new energy sources."

According to Cr Hersey, "Gippsland is an energy powerhouse" the region abundant with natural resources that "can power the nation for years to come".

"Our election priorities focus on what Gippsland needs to ensure the energy transition is smooth and brings on-going benefits to our communities, while also ensuring our region remains an attractive place to live, work and visit," Cr Hersey said.

"Essentially, this election we are saying to all political parties and their candidates: 'ask not what Gippsland can do for you, but what can you do for Gippsland' because this region is already doing the heavy lifting when it comes to nation building," Cr Hersey concluded.

One Gippsland is calling for the next Government to make the following investments for South Gippsland and Bass Coast.

Renewables and new energy

- the Gippsland Offshore Wind Community Benefit Fund;
- Gippsland Offshore Wind Enabling Local Government Infrastructure Fund;
- strategic and infrastructure planning support; and
- Gippsland energy price reductions.

Skills and education

- the Gippsland Renewable Energy Precinct Project (planning) - \$2.28 million;

Freight

- San Remo Road Infrastructure Improvements - \$28 million; and
- Leongatha Heavy Vehicle Alternate Route (stage two planning and design) - \$2 million

Digital connectivity and disaster resilience

- Prioritise Gippsland in future regional telecommunication rollouts;
- Introduce Universal Service Obligations
- Recognise telecommunications as an essential service
- Mandate emergency roaming and 72 hours of back-up power for telecomms;
- Adopt betterment funding to repair infrastructure to better withstand extreme events.

Tourism

- the Nanjet Gunaikurnai Cultural Tourism Project - \$55 million; and
- the Bass Coast Dinosaur Trail - \$18 million.

Other Gippsland investments outside Bass Coast and South Gippsland have also been called upon.

Sentinel-Times

COMMENT

Who you put last could make the difference

SPEAKING at a country newspaper conference in Adelaide last month, the former Member for Blair in Queensland, Cameron Thompson, highlighted a unique aspect of the Australian electoral system that we as voters would do well to remember.

Although many people find it annoying, frustrating and even hard to understand at times, the preferential voting system used for Australian federal elections offers the opportunity to not only select the person we want to win, by putting them first but also the person we don't want to win, by putting them last.

While you may not be successful in having your "first preference" for the local seat of Monash elected to office, one thing is for certain, the person you put last on your ballot paper will never get access to your vote in a preferential count.

And in this election, just as it was for Mr Cameron when he won the new seat of Blair for the first time in 1998, against a concerted challenge from Pauline Hanson, Labor and the Nationals; the count here in Monash looks like going deep into preferences.

In fact, with credible challenges by two well-known independents, Russell Broadbent and Deb Leonard, the candidate you put second last could be just as important as who you give your number 1 vote to when early voting centres open on Tuesday, April 22.

So, who is going to win it? That's up to the voters but polling suggests that any one of four candidates could win it here; the Liberals' Mary Aldred, Labor's Tully Fletcher, independent Deb Leonard or former Liberal now independent Russell Broadbent.

And the preferences of Greens' voters and the other small party and independent candidates will be important.

You'd expect both the ALP candidate and the Liberals to attract 25 per cent of the first preference vote each and it will be up to either Deb Leonard or Russell Broadbent to gather enough of the preferences through the count to get past one of them if they want to win the day.

But you can't have a say unless you're enrolled to vote and the voting rolls close at 8pm next Monday, April 7.

Empathy needed, not condemnation

WE NEED empathy not condemnation for homeless people.

The realisation that one is homeless creates despair. Twelve people in Bass Coast, many over 80 years old, have received an eviction notice.

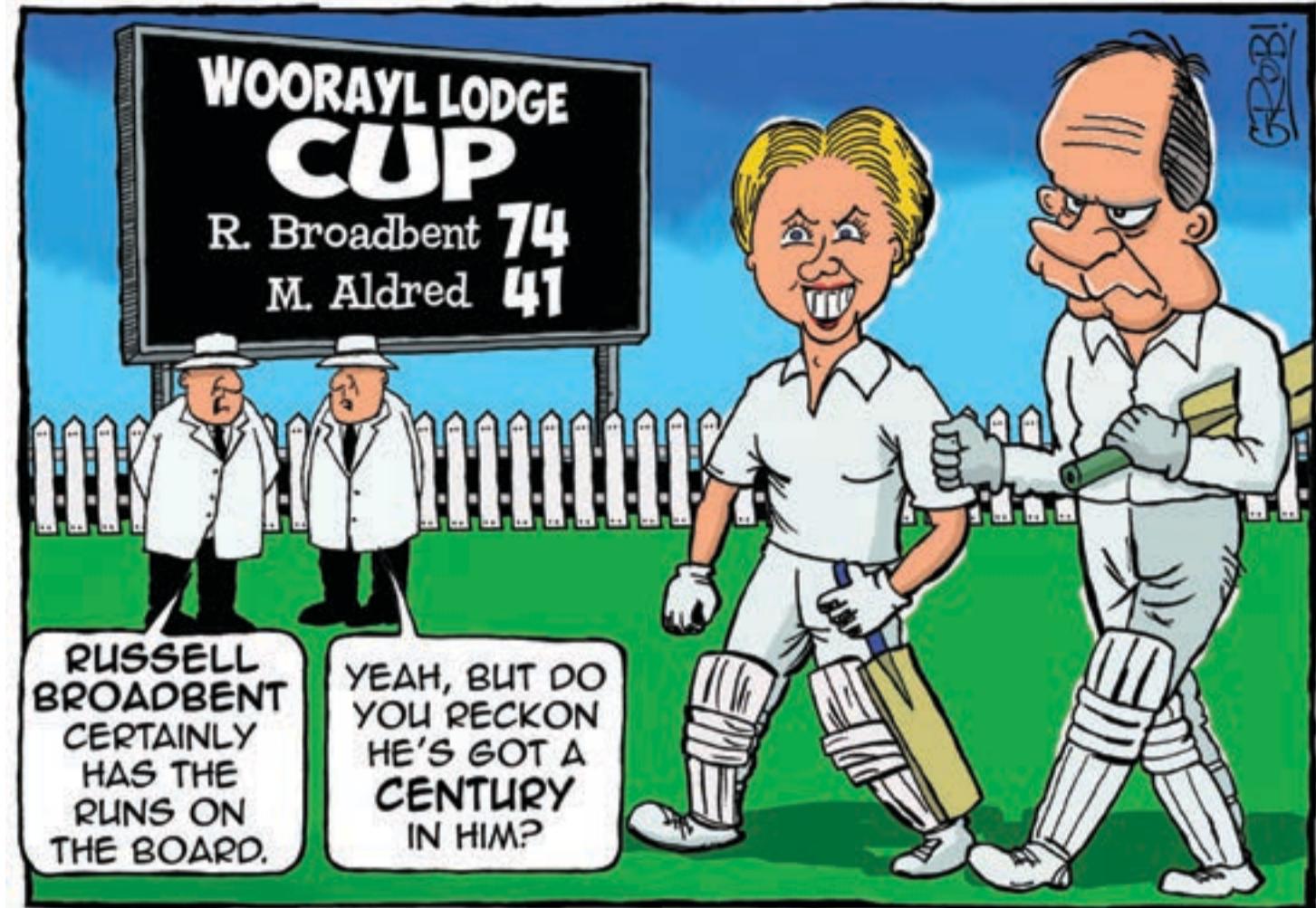
The women and children sleeping in car parks have found the food and drinks supplied by local people sustain them physically and mentally.

The food filling the supermarket trolley and the outlet at Mitchell House keeps people alive.

It is important we understand why people are living, as they have called it in Australia's two depressions, "rough".

Cost of rental is high and is increasing primarily because of the investment properties industry, available affordable housing is not affordable and on top of this wages are not keeping up with the cost of living.

For Regional Victoria, when housing costs in addition to rent (gas, electricity, etc.) are taken into account, affordable housing procured through Victorian Housing programs means no one can afford such housing.



Cartoon by Glenn 'Grobb' Robinson.

years ago.

This is not a promise contingent on either party winning – it is a Federal Budget Commitment.

This demonstrates three things:

1. Independents can get things done.
2. There is significant federal funding available for roads.
3. Monash continues to be ignored by the major parties.

If elected, securing federal funding to fix our roads, including building a freight bypass around Leongatha, is one of my key priorities.

And I'm confident I will get it done.

Deb Leonard, Independent Candidate for Monash

Authorised by Deb Leonard, 40B & C Bair Street, Leongatha, 3953

Concerns over response

Re: Julie Spithills Letter "Check her out for yourself", March 18.

I REQUESTED policy information from Deb Leonard two week's ago in regard to males/transgender in female sports and change rooms.

I did mention it to one of the volunteers and she advised that they were a party of inclusion. Further pressed response was that they would support males identifying as females to enter women's sports and change rooms.

The official response was to justify their rationale for inclusiveness.

I personally find it reprehensible that this is their policy.

Women have fought for years to get equality and this policy destroys this.

So, I have checked and certainly know who I will not be voting for.

Paul Bell, Leongatha

Your true independent for election 2025

SAVE the date – Monash is heading to the polls on May 3.

While the nation may be watching the seat of Monash, I'll be focused on local issues in my electorate.

Monash needs a representative with experience, tenacity and strength to represent this great region.

As an experienced independent, not beholden to any group or individual, I can achieve more for the people of Monash.

I've been humbled by the encouragement I've received right across the electorate and incredibly grateful for the army of volunteers who have offered to support my campaign.

Among my priorities in Gippsland is to kick-start the construction of stage one of

Woorayl Lodge. The design comprises an 80-bed, state-of-the-art facility that would allow residents to age in the one place. I want to ensure people can receive quality care locally, rather than moving location, which only places further strain on the resident and their support network.

I'm also calling for funding to fit-out the new Korumburra Women's Shed. The new women's shed, which includes a new kitchen, will get all my support to ensure they receive the facilities they deserve.

As your independent representative, I'll bring all my experience and knowledge to the table in Canberra to work in the best interests of the people of Monash.

I can't be bought and neither can our electorate.

Russell Broadbent, Independent Candidate for Monash,

Authorised by Russell Broadbent MP, 46C Albert Street, Warragul, VIC 3820

Not the same as the rest

COME May the electors of Monash will be tasked with choosing the candidate they want to serve them for the next three years. As I write this letter, I can already hear some people claiming that candidates are all the same.

Deb Leonard is a candidate who definitely is not the same as all the rest.

Deb has been meeting the people of Monash in public places around the electorate in both small and large spaces.

Deb and her team of over two hundred volunteers have knocked on thousands of elector's doors around Monash, listening to elector's concerns and answering their questions.

Deb has recently released her policy agenda, including infrastructure improvements, action on Climate Change and transparency in Government.

If you are looking for "More for Monash" then Vote 1 Deb Leonard.

Stephen Gough, Corinella

Where's our funding for Monash?

TUESDAY'S budget saw \$250m for the upgrade of Mona Vale Road in Sydney's federal electorate of Mackellar, a project on which independent MP Sophie Scamps has been advocating for since elected three

Great start to duck season

CONGRATULATIONS to all the law-abiding recreational hunters on the start to the 2025 duck season.

It was wonderful to see large numbers of recreational vehicles and boats pulled in at local businesses to fuel up and stock up over the weekend before heading out for what was no doubt a great day enjoying a traditional pastime.

Indeed, Gippsland is a big beneficiary of the many recreational hunters who visit our region throughout duck season and boost the Victorian economy by an estimated \$356 million each year*.

While I understand the practice of duck hunting remains controversial in some circles, the reality is that despite ongoing misinformation campaigns, most hunters do the right thing and ensure waterfowl numbers and habitats are preserved so that the legal recreational sport can continue to be enjoyed for generations to come.

Although not a hunter, I am proud to call myself a member of Field and Game Australia's Sale branch – which is the biggest in the country – because I know that Field and Game members remain actively involved and committed to habitat restoration and protection.

I am grateful that common sense has prevailed and the 2025 duck season is off to a fantastic start.

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

*Economic contribution of recreational hunting in Victoria, Department of Jobs, Skills, Industry and Regions, June 2020.

Standing with the Pope on war crimes

I RECENTLY attended the fifty-year reunion of my high school year. I met several classmates who had served in the Army.

I was the beneficiary of a thorough Catholic secondary education. As a result, I brought a Catholic informed ethical perspective to my twenty-year military career.

I welcomed moves in the mid nineteen eighties to incorporate International Humanitarian Law into the Australian Army's war fighting doctrine regarding it as essential to our potential war fighting success.

This belief was confirmed in my view by the success of our East Timor operation.

War is not separable from ethics.

Without strong ethical underpinnings, military service is little more than gangsterism.

On matters related to war crimes my position is firmly with the Pope.

Kevin Walsh RFD, Major RAINF (Ret'd), Cape Paterson

Are local councils poisoning us all?

FOSTER Farmers Market is a lovely community market nestled in a picturesque public park in the grounds of the Foster Memorial Hall near Wilsons Promontory. This monthly market attracts many local families and visitors from across Gippsland, metro Melbourne and overseas. On Saturday, March 15 this year many people complained to me about the pink staining and die-back of grass across this park, which indicated the recent application of a herbicide. Those complaining included elderly patrons, several people with dogs, and most significantly, both a heavily pregnant woman and parents of an infant who had been playfully rolling on the pink stained slopes and picked up a piece of fruit he had dropped on the ground.

In answer to my enquiry to the South Gippsland Shire, council officers confirmed they had sprayed an herbicide, Dicamba, on this parkland within the last fortnight; and that Dicamba is widely sprayed in parklands and playgrounds across South Gippsland. It is also used in many other local government areas.

The official safety data sheet for Dicamba states it is moderately persistent in soil with a half-life of in soil of seven-28 days. This means significant amounts of Dicamba, or its breakdown products, can still be measured for months after its application. The safety data sheet also warns Dicamba:

- is highly mobile in soil and may contaminate groundwater; and has long-lasting effects on aquatic life. Users must ensure the chemical does not get into drains or waterways; and

- can cause skin irritation, serious eye irritation; and if ingested: May cause loss of appetite, vomiting, incontinence, muscle weakness, slowed heart rate, shortness of breath, cyanosis and central nervous system effects.

Council officers advised me that the Shire does not place warning or information signs in any of the areas sprayed to warn of herbicides applications, as they believe the chemical effects only last for a few days. Nor are warnings given to nearby neighbours given the high potential for spray drift.

Local governments across Australia and the world are stopping their use of toxic chemicals, especially as there are effective, non-toxic herbicides and other people and environment-safe methods available. It is time to demand our local councils avoid spraying toxic chemicals. Before use of any toxic chemicals, public agencies and private land holders should first and foremost consider public health and safety precautions: what safe, non-toxic, effective alternatives are available before using any toxic pesticide.

Local councils and government agencies who have a duty of care to maintain public areas must use safer and more effective alternatives; and, before spraying any toxic chemical, must consider the timing and

Vox Pop

What policy areas are important to you for the upcoming Federal election and why?



Marty Reidy

Leongatha

"Energy and immigration; having a consistent baseload supply, where we get cheap energy utilising our resources to the best of our ability is crucial; we are letting too many people into the country and haven't planned for that and lack the necessary infrastructure."



Fenna Schroder

Meeniyan

"Supporting families, religious freedom and mental health services. You should have the freedom to stick up for your religious beliefs; we need to look at the mental health system and provide greater support for those with mental illness and their families."



Simon Ford

Leongatha

"Cost of living is the main one because when you're on a fixed income you can buy less now than before. Roads are the next most important issue as they patch them up rather than doing a proper job."



Ross Wise

Wonthaggi

"Health, because there are not enough doctors in country areas and better facilities are needed in hospitals to save travelling to Melbourne."

extent of parkland and playground use; wind and other weather conditions; waterways and site-drainage; and significant flora and fauna in the vicinity. It is also essential if toxic chemicals are to be used that all councils ensure adequate public warnings are provided in advance, and that public health warning signs are publicly displayed in all areas that have been sprayed.

Public awareness is important. So too is public action, so I urge you to advise your local council quickly of any spray incidents you are concerned about and place your property on their local no-spray register.

Rosemary Cousin, Allambee South

Korumburra's new commercial bypass

LAST week's edition of the Sentinel-Times ran an article regarding the deluge of critical comments on the ongoing streetscape works (I can't bring myself to call them upgrades) on Commercial Street, Korumburra.

That article prompted me to drive up and down the street and I have concluded that said works and changed traffic control signs amounts to the area being intended as a CBD bypass.

Upon entering the Commercial Street and Bridge Road intersection at the top of the hill one can see a large advertising billboard that encourages traffic to drive on in an easterly direction for only 14 kilometres to Leongatha where there is a McDonalds. There tourists will find a long bay parking area with a public convenience, a free-flowing CBD with two roundabouts and a variety of supermarkets and service stations etc. all readily accessible.

I hope that Korumburra's new CBD bypass will not further diminish the town's availability of a variety of retail business types and their viability.

As regrettably Korumburra is now a diminutive commercial satellite to Leongatha and maybe we shall just have to live with that.

However, I think it is worth asking that every local resident looks to patronise our existing businesses, and anyone brave enough to have a go in our CBD, keeps trying to find your way to the shops we do have.

The one thing that remains ours alone is the fact that Korumburra is the first major rural town on the South Gippsland Highway, but even that may not help to capture the passing trade lost to the new CBD bypass and the McDonalds advertising.

Dennis Conn, Whitelaw

No help from local MP

WHY is it that within our Bass Coast community there is not a single 'civic leader' who is willing to seek out the truth behind the stolen Mayoral items?

Could it be the rarefied company of being a publicly elected representative of the community?

Mayors, Deputy Mayors, councillors past and present. Not one of them it seems is willing to pursue the matter.

And now our own Jordan Crugnale, the State Member for Bass no less, also refuses to assist in getting to the bottom of the theft.

I wrote to Ms Crugnale asking her to call for Bass Coast Shire Council to provide a fully detailed report and request to Victoria Police to commence a criminal investigation into the theft.

In response to my letter Jordan claims it would be inappropriate for her to push for council to make a proper report to police.

And she cites council's 2024 claim that police had insufficient evidence to investigate. But she overlooks the fact that Council offered no evidence to allow a police investigation. No description. No estimated values.

And the big unanswered question for Ms Crugnale is why she failed to report the matter to police, the insurers, and the community when she was on Council.

Kevin Griffin, Wonthaggi

San Remo deserves better

Re: Sentinel-Times March 18, page six "What really needs to happen to San Remo".

YOU point out our Council's 131-page draft plan and the community session on March 26 at Silverwater.

My wife and I attended thinking an open meeting presentation of the 131-page draft plan.

What a farce.

Be it eight tables, write your question for each theme. Paper and pen supplied.

What a disappointment on this tomorrow's San Remo by our Council.

In my opinion, San Remo needs our Council to approach The Department of Transport and Planning (old Vic Roads) and request Phillip Island Road be extended to four lanes for the eight kilometres to the San Remo Bridge.

No cost to Council only presentation.

Also, they need to convince DTP to install at least one set of traffic lights at Back Beach Road urgently. Sure, we need Bergin and Potters Hill but DTP and their money isn't just for San Remo.

One suggestion for our Council to assist San Remo is for Shetland Heights Road, be it as narrow as it is, parking be banned but Council provide parking on the nature strips similar to Potters Hill.

Michael Quinn, San Remo

Global issues more important, he says

THANK you, Sentinel-Times for your editorial of March 25 "Think local, vote local at this election". I will be a candidate in the election and you have expressed exactly what I am standing against.

Federal elections are not about local issues. We have councils for that. They are about national issues and sometimes even about international issues, and this is one such time.

For those with eyes to see the deterioration in US governance is a world-wide problem. The Trump administration is vandalising democracy at home and destroying the western alliance. Our peace and prosperity has depended on the western alliance since the second world war.

Our government may well know this but thinks to keep quiet and maybe avoid some tariff penalties.

Our election candidates show no awareness. I am beginning to think that local media, who should be integral to any lower house electoral campaign are oblivious. But people in the street are aware, I know from canvassing.

Russell Broadbent, who you are advocating for, convinced me to run. I have approached him directly several times to at least say something; indeed, he is in a very good position to lead discussion.

I have had no response at all and I can only conclude that he has no understanding of the importance of what is going on. Since he will not raise it, as I promised him, I will stand against him.

Russell has been an MP for many years. He has had time to reflect on what is important to the national interest. But rather than recognise where our national interest is at stake, he says he will try to get money for a local nursing home.

This would be pork-barrelling and that has gone out of style. The only way that he might get funds out of the federal government, should he be re-elected, is by selling his vote on something else.

The nursing home may be due for refurbishment. It may be over-due. There is a right way to go about this and it is more to do with the council. Russell Broadbent might have made a good councillor but he does not have the vision of a federal MP.

Sentinel-Times, this is not the time to bury our heads in the sand. Our leaders should express solidarity with Ukraine, Canada, Denmark and Greenland and get the message to the American people that Australians think they are making a big mistake.

Robert Durkacz, Cape Woolamai

Festival at the Creek

IT'S all happening out at Archies Creek on Saturday, April 5 with an exciting mini-festival put together by a couple of young movers and shakers, Fergus Lawson and Nova Jenner.

Organised by the Archies Creek Arts group and titled 'Bathing In The Creek' they're impressing on revellers not to take the name literally.

Fergus and Nova have their fingers on the pulse and have attracted a talented range of artists.

On Saturday April 5, performers including Sunshine, Velvet Bloom, Quality Used Cars, Queenie, Doe Street, Names and Bookrunner will play in the great outdoors at the Archies Creek Pub.

Queenie in particular, knocked everyone over at Brian's Big BBQ last December.

A good thing about the times in which we live is that if you haven't heard of any of these acts, you can look them up on YouTube or just come along and be suitably impressed by something new! It's always great to catch a new act on its way up.

As an added bonus, there will be free entry for the under 12s. There's a great backyard for the kids to run around in.

Tickets available at Trybooking on <https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1363578>.



Chocolate Zucchini Cake

By Meg Viney

Ingredients

- 2 cups grated zucchini in the chocolate zucchini cake
- 2 ½ cups S.R. flour
- ½ cup cocoa
- 2 ½ teaspoon baking powder
- 1 ½ teaspoon baking soda
- 1 teaspoon salt
- ½ teaspoon ground cardamom
- ¾ cup (180 gm) soft butter
- 1 ½ cups sugar
- 3 eggs
- 2 teaspoon vanilla
- 2 teaspoon grated orange peel (even a spoon of marmalade would suffice)
- ½ cup milk
- 1 cup chopped walnuts (could be omitted for nut allergies)

Chocolate glaze

- ½ cup icing sugar
- 1 tablespoon milk
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 60 gm dark chocolate

Method

Preheat oven to 180.

Combine all dry ingredients.

Beat butter and sugar until fluffy. Beat in eggs, one at a time. Stir in vanilla, orange and zucchini. Add milk.

Stir in, alternatively, dry and wet ingredients. Lastly the walnuts.

If you have a bundt tin, grease that well, otherwise a 25 cm cake tin.

Pour into the tin and bake for about 50 minutes, until a skewer comes out clean. Invert onto a cake plate.

For the glaze, warm all ingredients over a low heat and drizzle over the cake.

100 years on the walls: the story behind Wonthaggi Union's movie posters

THE golden age of film is returning to the Union Theatre, Wonthaggi with an exhibition showcasing vintage posters from the theatre's 100-year history.

Running from Friday, March 21 to Monday, June 30, 'Illuminating the Past: 100 Years of the Union Theatre Posters at Wonthaggi Union' offers visitors a nostalgic journey through decades of cinema and live performance advertising.

The exhibition was inspired during research for the 'It's On at The Union' centenary program when event organisers stumbled upon a treasure trove of promotional materials at the Wonthaggi and District Historical Society (WADHS).

David Burrows, Venue Manager at the Wonthaggi Union Community Arts Centre, said the discovery sparked the idea to share these historical artefacts with the community.

"We found an incredible collection of old posters while going through ephemera, articles and photographs at WADHS. These posters offer a unique insight into the cultural history of the theatre," Mr Burrows said.

The selection process focused on posters that reflected the venue's history and cultural evolution over the decades. While some highlight major film screenings, others promote jubilees and live performances. Mr Burrows noted that in today's world of highly sophisticated marketing, these older posters offer a simpler, more nostalgic aesthetic.

"The average person today is highly literate in reading marketing materials. There's



Rebeka Axon, Duty Manager at the Wonthaggi Union Theatre with some of the posters on display from the 'Illuminating the Past' exhibition. WO1_1325

a sentimental pleasure in seeing the styles from bygone days when posters were less about high-end design and more about straightforward communication," he said.

Among the highlights is the 'Back to Wonthaggi Jubilee - Celebrity Concert' poster, which Mr Burrows finds particularly fascinating.

"It has so little information - it just wouldn't fly today. No address, no details about the TV stars, no explanation of what the event was actually about. It's more like a business card than a promotional poster, but that's what makes it such a fantastic cultural artefact," he said.

Curating the exhibition was a careful process, balancing the historical significance of the posters with the practicalities of display. The lightbox orientation influenced how posters were selected, and digitisation was necessary to

ensure the materials could be effectively exhibited.

Burrows credited the Wonthaggi and District Historical Society for their enthusiasm and assistance in sourcing the posters.

"The WADHS is a wonderful resource for our community. Their members were incredibly supportive, offering access to their collection and sharing their deep knowledge," he said.

Irene Williams, Secretary of WADHS, explained that the posters were originally collected by the Chambers and Quilford families and have been well preserved over the years.

"We're fortunate to have a climate-controlled storage facility to ensure these historical pieces remain in good condition. Everything is carefully catalogued and handled with care when displayed," Williams said.

Williams also highlighted how the use of posters has changed over time.

"Back then, posters were plastered on billboards all around town. People didn't call it 'the movies' - we always said we were going to 'the pictures'," she said.

Beyond the exhibition, the Union Theatre has a packed calendar of events in the coming months. Highlights include 'Josephine Wants to Dance' on Wednesday, April 9, 'Mark Seymour and the Undertow' on Friday, May 9, and the 'Victorian State Ballet's Beauty and the Beast' on Friday, September 5.

Film lovers can also look forward to an Autumn School Holiday Cinema program featuring major releases such as Minecraft: The Movie, Alto Knights, and Mickey 17.

For more information on upcoming events, visit basscoastculturalvenues.com.

Berninnett Art Gallery hosts Are We There Yet? exhibition

ARE We There Yet? has arrived at the Berninnett Art Gallery.

The much anticipated exhibition of original water-colour paintings and drawings from popular children's book author and illustrator Alison Lester is now on display at the Berninnett Art Gallery in Cowes.

On loan from the Gippsland Art Gallery, the Are We There Yet? collection provides an enthralling insight into Alison Lester's genius as she developed the early ideas, storyline and illustrations for her long-time favourite children's book.

This warm heartfelt story of Alison Lester's fictional family of five including three children travelling around Australia takes in many of the country's most iconic landmarks including the Phillip Island penguins.

"It was one of my favourite books growing up," admitted Berninnett Art Gallery Curator Jasmin McNeill.

Are We There Yet? went on to become one of Australia's bestselling children's books and winner of the 2005 Picture Book of the Year.



Ellen Taylor Gallery Technician and Jasmin McNeill Art Gallery Curator preparing the Are We There Yet? exhibition at the Berninnett Art Gallery. B05_1325

books and career as one of Australia's most beloved and bestselling writers for children.

"Alison Lester will also be available to sign books," said Ms McNeill.

The eleven illustrations for Are We There Yet? capture the spirit and adventure of Grace and her family's journey around the bush, outback and coastal areas of Australia

in vivid watercolour.

A significant touring collection from the Gippsland Art Gallery the Are We There Yet? artworks and sketchbooks provide a unique insight into the process of writing and illustrating an award winning children's book.

"Children and their parents love this book," said Ms McNeill.

Another of Alison Lester's well-loved books Imagine was later adapted for stage and tells the story of two children using their imaginations while they play.

The Are We There Yet? exhibition is designed as a companion exhibition to the Magic Beach film screened at Bass Coast cultural venues over the summer and the live performance of Imagine this winter.

Imagine Live by Jolyon James will be presented at the Berninnett Theatre on July 10, tickets are available at basscoastculturalvenues.com.

For more information on the Are We There Yet exhibition @ Berninnett Art Gallery go to basscoast.vic.gov.au/alison-lester-exhibition-berninnett.

FAMDA back in business

FOSTER'S theatre company, FAMDA, was recently forced to cancel its planned April production of 'Noises Off'.

It was suddenly left with a lot of disappointed people, a functioning set, and a bunch of hall bookings with nothing to fill them.

All was not lost, however, as local playwright, Chris Dickins came to the rescue by offering FAMDA the opportunity to stage his play, 'Confluence', which he had written during COVID and then staged very successfully in Fish Creek venues in 2021.

FAMDA was delighted by this offer and is pleased to announce that it will present three performances of 'Confluence' using some previously booked dates.

'Confluence' is a two-hander play which could be described as an Australian version of A.R. Gurney's celebrated play, 'Love Letters'.

The play's characters are a former champion swimmer, played by Christine Skicko, and a poetic teacher fascinated by flowing rivers, with Dickins himself in that role.

It tells the story of two lives through a sixty-year exchange of personal letters, beginning in the 1950s when they are young pen pals, then moving through their lives until their old age in the 21st Century.

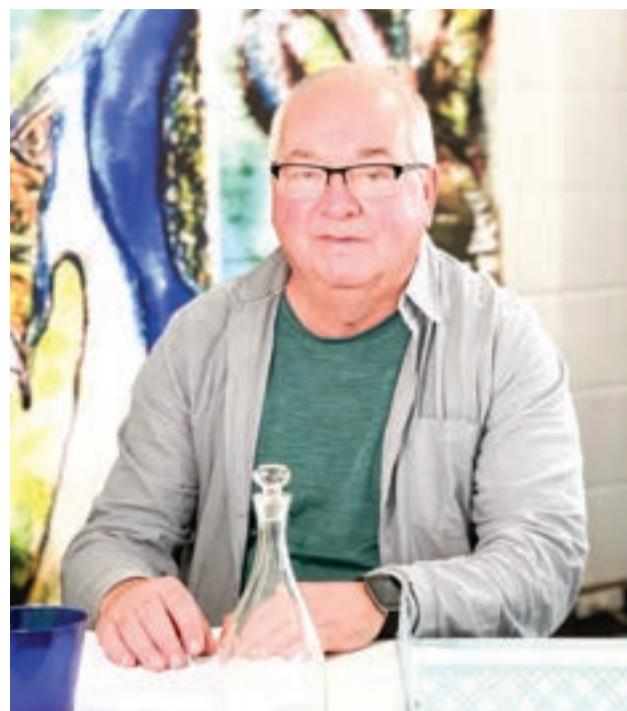
Christine Skicko has worked with almost every theatre company in Gippsland. Recent performances include 'Into the Woods' and 'The Producers' with Leongatha Lyric and winning a Victorian Drama League Best Actress Award as Geraldine Grainger in FAMDA's 'The Vicar of Dibley'.

Dickins' professional career began in the 1970s, acting and writing plays which have been performed in theatres across Australia and even overseas. Just last year his collection of monologues for young actors, titled 'One', was published in London.

Audiences loved 'Confluence' in 2021, praising its poetic symbolism and describing it as 'moving', 'beautifully written' and performed with 'flair and authority'.

FAMDA gives you three chances to experience 'Confluence' on stage at the Foster War Memorial Arts Centre with performances at 7.30pm on Saturday, April 5 plus Sunday twilight shows at 5pm on April 6 and 13.

Book via trybooking .com/CZYVC or at Main Street Revelations, Foster.



Veteran playwright and actor Chris Dickins brings poetic storytelling to life in 'Confluence'.



Award-winning actress Christine Skicko shines as a former champion swimmer in 'Confluence'.



Rebecca O'Connor will perform at the Riverview Hotel, Tarwin Lower on April 5.

Rebecca O'Connor delivers a breathtaking tribute to Tina Turner

REBECCA O'Connor will perform 'Simply the Best: The Ultimate Tina Turner Experience' live at the Riverview Hotel in Tarwin Lower on April 5.

With a powerhouse voice and a stage presence that commands every audience, Rebecca's show has been personally endorsed by Tina Turner herself.

But there's more to this story. The man behind the production is none other than Dennis Dunstan, former manager of Fleetwood Mac and personal manager of Mick Fleetwood.

After decades of working with rock legends, Dennis saw something exceptional in Rebecca O'Connor – a performer who doesn't imitate Tina but channels her essence in a way that leaves audiences breathless and shares her story through her music.

"Rebecca is keeping Tina's music alive," said Dennis.

Dennis Dunstan has spent over a decade elevating Rebecca O'Connor's career, bringing her from early-stage success to sold-out international tours across Ireland, Africa, Barbados and Europe.

Now, in 2025, he's bringing her back to Australia for another unforgettable run and this time, stopping in the regional town of Tarwin Lower.

"I think you have to go back and service the regional areas and stay true to how you started."

"This will be a rock n' roll power show in an up-close and personal environment."

Rebecca will be accompanied by two dancers and a band of rock musicians, including Dennis as the drummer. The crowd are getting the same show as every major theatre.

Be prepared to dance as Rebecca O'Connor delivers her flawless rendition of the Queen of Rock 'n' Roll, Tina Turner's greatest hits, such iconic hits Nutbush City Limits, Proud Mary, River Deep, Private Dancer, When the Heartache Is Over, Better Be Good To Me, and of course her anthem, Simply the Best plus many more songs in two sets.

With her wild hair, sparkling mini dresses, red lipstick, and stiletto heels, Rebecca delivers a breathtaking tribute to the Queen of Rock 'n' Roll. This unforgettable performance will leave you amazed.

Dennis confirmed that in meeting Rebecca over a decade ago, he spoke with Tina Turner directly and she said, 'Keep my music alive.'

Tickets are on sale for the 7.30pm show on Saturday, April 5.



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY - RADIO

South Coast FM, your local Radio Station, is looking for new volunteers to help us grow our station and support our local community.

If you're between 18 and 40 and have an interest in music and culture, and want to help out around the station, then we want to hear from you.

Email radio@southcoastfm.au to tell us all about yourself and we'll be in touch.

We look forward to hearing from you!

REBECCA O'CONNOR AS

TINA

Simply the Best!

RIVerview HOTEL
TARWIN LOWER



SATURDAY, APRIL 5

TICKETS ON SALE NOW

www.oztix.com.au

SCAN ME

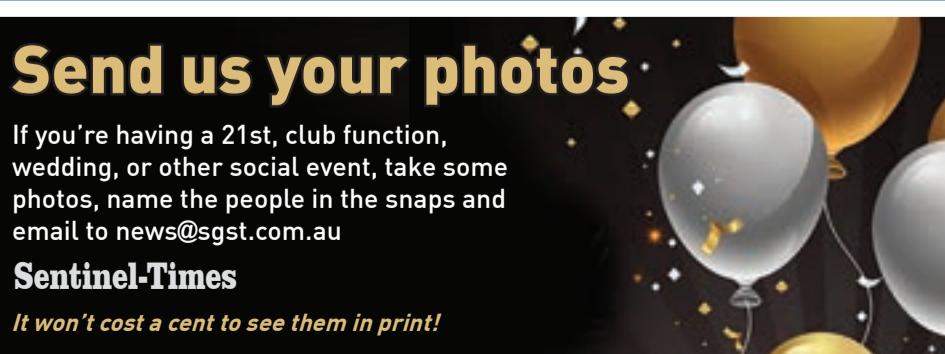


Send us your photos

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

Sentinel-Times

It won't cost a cent to see them in print!





Emily Dove and Wolfgang Platzer of the San Remo Fisherman's Co-op at Tuesday's Destination Phillip Island event. A14_1325



Rose Lodge op shop volunteers Terri Burns and Janice Coldebella run a stall at the Lodge's annual Fete. A33_1325



Lynn Duscher, Sue Pupetti (lifestyle team) and John Duscher (Board chair) enjoy the Rose Lodge Fete. A34_1325



Jenny Butera and Deb Watchorn sell raffle tickets to raise funds for Rose Lodge. A35_1325



San Remo gym owner and representative of Sydney Melbourne Touring Paul Cooper and Jeremy Westaway and Julian Tekin of Phillip Island Tenpin Bowling & Entertainment Centre look to the start of the Destination Phillip Island event in Summerland. A15_1325



Emmy-Lou Mills, Charles Tuchtan and Melissa Cleaver of Phillip Island RSL attend Tuesday's Destination Phillip Island event. A16_1325



Isabel Whyte and Tracey Rayner celebrate Fish Creek's new mosaic works and the 99th birthday of Mary Grace Whyte. A06_1325



Luna and Caitlyn Pilkington of Sandy Point attend Mary Grace Whyte's 99th birthday celebration. A07_1325



Dave Chun and Isabel Pilkington enjoy Tuesday afternoon in Fish Creek. A08_1325

Snapped Out

Pictures of you and your friends at Wonthaggi North Primary School Athletics Day, Destination Phillip Island conference, Mosaic unveiling and 99th birthday and the Rose Lodge annual Fete.



Proud Rose Lodge workers Graeme and Donna Watson and Tony and Shaz Burns volunteer at the annual Fete. A36_1325



Mia Huddlestone, Kristyn Dowsett, Zoe Keltie and Brooke Milnes at the WNPS athletics day. B18_1325



Teachers Becky Parsons (Gr 3/4) and Melissa Carbone (Gr 5/6) at the annual WNPS school athletics day. B19_1325



Shaun Grant enjoying the WNPS school athletics day. B22_1325



Ange and baby Angelina the Wonthaggi North PS school athletics day. B23_1325



Hossan and Iman Alhambra watching the Wonthaggi North PS athletics day. B24_1325



Marg Watson and Kate Smiley enjoy the mosaic and birthday celebration in Fish Creek. A09_1325



Firoez and Ayrish cheered on during the WNPS school athletics day. L01_1325

PREVIEW

DON'T
MISS ALL
THE 2025
ACTION!

INSIDE:

How your club is
shaping for the exciting
season ahead, league
fixtures and more...



**ALEX SCOTT
AND STAFF**

Est. 1886

**WISHING ALL TEAMS
A SUCCESSFUL SEASON**
in the Alex Scott & Staff West Gippsland
Football Netball competition

SPONSORING LOCAL SPORT Since 1886 ALEXSCOTT.COM.AU



Riley Collier, Hunter Stretton, Hudson Hill and Ernie Eddy took part in the 2024 Auskick program in Leongatha.

Future footy stars to learn in Leongatha

THE next generation of footballers are raring to go with a new season of Auskick on the way.

Leongatha's Auskick is set to start on Friday, May 2, running until June 20.

The program caters to aspiring footballers from kinder right through to Grade 3+.

A mixed-age all-girls group is also included, which ran successfully last year.

The Leongatha Auskick committee is once again anticipating high participation rates, with 135 footballers taking part in the program this year.

The committee is on the lookout for parent volunteers.

"Our biggest challenge is that we often have around 40 kids in the

kinder and Prep groups, so finding coaches to run skill sessions for them can be difficult," coordinator Dee Christensen said.

"Parents are welcome to grab a vest and volunteer on the night."

Coaches can register via the Play HQ website and require a Working with Children Check.

Registrations are also open for the children and will remain open right through the season via Play HQ.

Auskick is an exciting opportunity to learn the game, develop new skills and meet new friends.

There is also a potential opportunity for children to participate in halftime games at local and AFL matches.

Other local AUSKICK programs:

■ Bass	.....	April 23 (11 sessions)
■ Dalyston	.....	May 8 (nine sessions)
■ Fish Creek	.....	May 1 (eight sessions)
■ Foster	.....	July 5 (eight sessions)
■ Inverloch	.....	May 2 (eight sessions)
■ Korumburra-Bena	.....	May 16 (eight sessions)
■ Leongatha	.....	May 2 (eight sessions)
■ Meeniyana	.....	April 21 (eight sessions)
■ Mirboo North	.....	May 2 (eight sessions)
■ Nyora	.....	May 1 (eight sessions)
■ Phillip Island	.....	May 2 (eight sessions)
■ Poowong-Loch	.....	April 30 (eight sessions)
■ Stony Creek	.....	May 1 (eight sessions)
■ Tarwin	.....	May 1 (eight sessions)

Proudly supporting Gippsland Football

Best of luck to all teams!

SEJ
LIVESTOCK & REAL ESTATE
A RUTHERFORD INNOVATIONS PARTNER

LOCALLY OWNED LIVESTOCK
AND REAL ESTATE AGENTS
COVERING ALL AREAS
LEONGATHA 5662 4033
FOSTER 5682 2800

EDNEY'S
LEONGATHA

NISSAN **HYUNDAI**

BEST OF LUCK FOR THE 2025 SEASON

Kick a winning goal with a deal from Edney's

1 Roughead St, Leongatha 5662 2327
Darryl McGannon 0409 151 463 LMCT 1500

GIPPSLAND LEAGUE

LEONGATHA FOOTBALL NETBALL CLUB



Leongatha Netball coaches Taylah Brown (15 & Under), Alicia Marshman (13 & Under), Dean Cashin (A Grade assistant), Lyndell Bruce (A and B Grade), with C Grade coaches Elicia Garnham and Lauren Redpath at the front.

Positive outlook for Leongatha netball



Madeline Caddy trains for the Parrots.

ready to spend more time on court at that level.

Defender Gemma Meadley is also in the Victorian 17 & Under State team, with midcourter Lara Gill and goalie Audrey McGannon the other members of the young trio.

A and B Grade coach Lyndell Bruce reflected on their ability to handle the pressure last season when a shortage of A Grade players created opportunities for the young brigade.

"Those three played a lot of games for us and every time we gave them an opportunity on court, they were able to have an impact, so that tells us they're ready to step up and make that transition for 2025 into the senior competition," Bruce said.

She noted they are proving eager on the training track and displaying a willingness to learn and play their part in the club's structures and systems as

well as developing their individual games.

On the negative side, Kate Brown is out of action after suffering an ACL injury in another sport following last netball season.

Midcourter Emma Allmann has been sidelined by a change in her work situation.

There have been personnel changes for the Parrots across all grades.

"Everything's looking positive, everyone's training well and we're keen to get into the season," Bruce declared, excited to see how Leongatha performs in its Round 1 matches against Traralgon.

Dean Cashin will be the A Grade assistant coach.

Lauren Redpath and Elicia Garnham are co-coaches in C Grade.

Kasey Thorson is coaching 17 & Under, Taylah Brown will coach 15 & Under while Alicia Marshman is in charge of 13 & Under.

**Brett, Kerryn
and the staff at
Nagel's Pharmacy
wish all local football
and netball teams
a successful season**

Amcal
Nagel's Pharmacy
10-14 Bair St, Leongatha 5662 2297

**LEONGATHA
RSL**
Wishing all local
Football/Netball
teams a successful
season.

Cnr. Smith St & Michael Place,
LEONGATHA 5662 2747



GIPPSLAND LEAGUE

LEONGATHA FOOTBALL NETBALL CLUB

Parrots focused on further finals action

HAVING finished runner-up to an impressive Traralgon, Leongatha is confident of again being in the mix at the pointy end of the season but is taking nothing for granted in a highly competitive league.

Leongatha's football operations manager Trevor Walder said the aim is to make finals, with the club hoping for a better run with injuries than last year.

While the side has to overcome the loss of star forward Cam Olden, the Parrots are well used to playing without him due to his VFL commitments with Richmond, Olden having managed just five Senior games for Leongatha last season, albeit including the Grand Final.

He has shifted to Pines Football Netball Club in the Mornington Peninsula League.

Along with some solid recruiting, Aaron Heppell returns to action after travelling overseas last season, bringing his presence in the middle and ability to go forward and goal.

He can expect some good service from ruck recruit Jacob Warne who has arrived from Oakleigh District in Melbourne, the athletic big man and Western Australian having previously represented South Fremantle in the WAFL.

Another former WAFL player, Ben Harding has arrived from Old Melburnians in the VAFA and is likely to showcase his run as an outside midfielder.

Parrot onballers may have a commanding target with former Gippsland Power talent Patrick Ireland landing at Leongatha after a 100-goal season for Buln Buln.

However, Ireland's availability is subject to his commitments with VFL club Casey.

Mitch De Kleuver from Poowong has swapped his Magpie feathers for the Parrots' brighter arrangement, the big-bodied and mobile key position player earmarked for centre-half forward action but capable of filling a defensive post.

While rumour had it that recent Footscray VFL ruckman Connor Watson would be lining up for Leongatha this year,



Finn Donohue, Xavier Lamers, Blake McRae and Aydan Williams are looking forward to the 2025 season after playing together in the Leongatha Thirds last year.



Beau Grabham-Andrews, Tyler Richards, Sam Bradley and Hayden Lindsay will all be hoping to cement a place in Leongatha's Senior side this year.

coach McMicking explained it is a different player of the same name.

Watson has arrived at the Parrots' nest from Parkside in the Western Football Netball League, McMicking seeing him as a forward able to fill other positions.

Forward Jack Ginnane has shifted to Inverloch, another to swap feathers, having played 18 Senior games last year, his presence sure to be missed on and off the field at the Parrots' nest.

Two-time Senior Premiership player Matt Borschman has headed to Korumbur-Bena where he'll be coached by former Parrots teammate Josh Hopkins.

Borschman's tenacity on ball is noteworthy, albeit his last

couple of seasons have been a mixture of Senior and Reserves action.

On the coaching front, Trent McMicking remains in charge of the Seniors after three Grand Final appearances in as many years and a couple of flags.

With highly successful Reserves coach Rhett Kelly moving on to MDU as Senior coach after the Parrots added another premiership at Reserves level, Jake Cochrane has come on board, arriving from Poowong and is seen as ideal to continue developing the younger Reserves players.

Those younger players will have the opportunity to prove themselves with Leongatha's depth in the Reserves to be tested by the departure of

some experienced players, Kelly having taken three good mates with him to MDU in ruckman Josh Schelling, forward Nick Nagel and utility Trent McRae.

New Parrots' development coach Cochrane is expected to take the field after recovering from injury.

The Parrots have been searching for an Under 18s coach.

"It's a very important role because that's where you ground the players into the Senior type of football that we play," Walder said, the Under 18s having been training alongside the Senior group.

The Parrots are always keen to offer young players who earn the opportunity a shot at Senior action.



PARROTS at a glance:

- 2024 Football Finish: Runners Up
- 2025 Senior Football Coach: Trent McMicking
- Key Recruits: Ben Harding, Jacob Warne, Mitch De Kleuver, Patrick Ireland
- Key Departures: Jack Ginnane, Matt Borschman, Cam Olden
- 2024 A Grade Netball Finish: 7th
- 2025 Senior Netball Coach: Lyndell Bruce

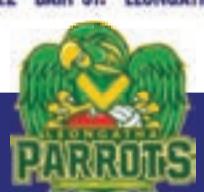


Noah Fixter gets set to pounce at Parrots' training.

SINCE 1891

McCARTINS

N22 BAIR ST. LEONGATHA



GOOD LUCK PARROTS
IN THE 2025
FOOTBALL/NETBALL
SEASON



Preferred repairer for all major insurance companies

- 24-hour towing & salvage
- "Car-O-Liner" measuring bench
- Low-bake oven and lifetime warranty

Good luck to the Parrots Netball & Football teams in 2025

11 Curtis Close, Leongatha
5662 3346

ME0340



**BRING IT HOME
AGAIN IN 2025**

Nutrien Harcourts Leongatha

We help you buy and sell residential, lifestyle, dairy, grazing and rural property in South Gippsland and surrounds.

47 Bair Street, Leongatha Vic 3953

03 5662 2292 leongatha.nutrienharcourts.com.au

ME0341

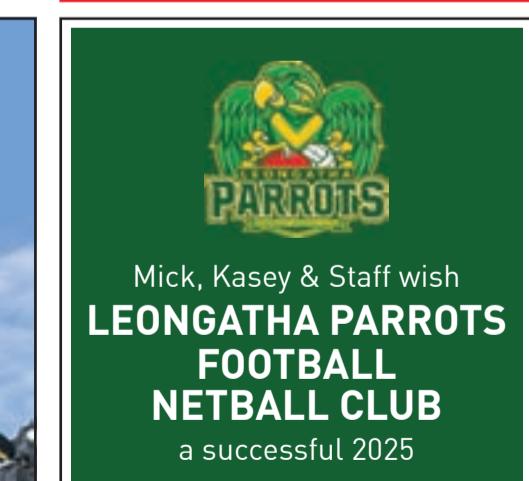
**Good luck to all the
footballers and
netballers for 2025.**

Go Parrots!



**BROWNS
STOCKFEED**
PTY LTD

Quality • Range • Advice
86 Yarragon Road, Leongatha 5662 3199
brownsstockfeed.com.au



15 Bair Street, Leongatha 03 5662 5800

www.raywhiteleongatha.com.au

ME0331



GIPPSLAND LEAGUE

2025 FIXTURE

ROUND 1

Saturday, April 5

Bairnsdale v Moe
Morwell v Drouin
Wonthaggi v Warragul
Traralgon v Leongatha

Sunday, April 6

Sale v Maffra

ROUND 2 Mental Health Rnd

Saturday, April 12

Maffra v Wonthaggi
Leongatha v Sale
Warragul v Morwell
Drouin v Bairnsdale
Moe v Traralgon

EASTER - April 19

ROUND 3

Friday, April 25

Traralgon v Morwell
Saturday, April 26

Wonthaggi v Drouin
Bairnsdale v Leongatha
Moe v Maffra
Sale v Warragul

ROUND 4

Saturday, May 3

Warragul v Bairnsdale
Drouin v Sale
Leongatha v Moe
Morwell v Wonthaggi
Maffra v Traralgon

ROUND 5

Saturday, May 10

Sale v Wonthaggi
Traralgon v Warragul
Bairnsdale v Maffra
Moe v Drouin
Morwell v Leongatha

ROUND 6

Saturday, May 17

Warragul v Leongatha
Moe v Sale
Wonthaggi v Bairnsdale
Maffra v Morwell
Drouin v Traralgon

ROUND 7

Saturday, May 24

Traralgon v Wonthaggi
Warragul v Maffra
Saturday, May 31

Morwell v Moe
Sale v Bairnsdale
Leongatha v Drouin

ROUND 8 MND - Kings B'Day

Saturday, June 7

Drouin v Maffra
Moe v Warragul
Sale v Morwell
Bairnsdale v Traralgon
Leongatha v Wonthaggi

ROUND 9

Saturday, June 14

Maffra v Leongatha
Morwell v Bairnsdale
Traralgon v Sale
Wonthaggi v Moe

Sunday, June 15

Warragul v Drouin

FINALS

Qualifying Final: Sat Aug 30

2nd Semi Final: Sat Sept 6

Prelim Final: Sat Sept 13

ROUND 10 Orange Round

Saturday, June 21

Moe v Bairnsdale
Drouin v Morwell
Warragul v Wonthaggi
Leongatha v Traralgon
Maffra v Sale

ROUND 11

Saturday, June 28

Wonthaggi v Maffra
Sale v Leongatha
Morwell v Warragul
Bairnsdale v Drouin
Traralgon v Moe

ROUND 12 Indigenous Rnd

Saturday, July 5

Drouin v Wonthaggi
Leongatha v Bairnsdale
Maffra v Moe
Warragul v Sale
Sunday, June 6

Morwell v Traralgon

BYE WEEKEND - July 12

ROUND 13

Saturday, July 19

Bairnsdale v Warragul
Sale v Drouin
Moe v Leongatha
Wonthaggi v Morwell
Traralgon v Maffra

ROUND 14

Saturday, July 26

Wonthaggi v Sale
Warragul v Traralgon
Maffra v Bairnsdale
Drouin v Moe
Leongatha v Morwell

ROUND 15

Saturday, August 2

Leongatha v Warragul
Sale v Moe
Bairnsdale v Wonthaggi
Morwell v Maffra
Traralgon v Drouin

ROUND 16

Saturday, August 9

Wonthaggi v Traralgon
Bairnsdale v Sale
Maffra v Warragul
Moe v Morwell
Drouin v Leongatha

ROUND 17

Saturday, August 16

Maffra v Drouin
Warragul v Moe
Morwell v Sale
Traralgon v Bairnsdale
Wonthaggi v Leongatha

ROUND 18

Saturday, August 23

Leongatha v Maffra
Bairnsdale v Morwell
Sale v Traralgon
Moe v Wonthaggi
Drouin v Warragul

GIPPSLAND LEAGUE

WONTHAGGI POWER FOOTBALL NETBALL CLUB



Jarryd Blair is in his fifth year as coach of Wonthaggi Power, ready to get the season started in the club's 20th year following the amalgamation of Wonthaggi Rovers and Wonthaggi Blues but still without tasting ultimate success in the competitive Gippsland League.

The fire still burns in Power's 20th year



After a long, hot preparation for the 2025 season, Wonthaggi Power is keen to get things started against Warragul in the first round on Saturday, April 5 at Wonthaggi.

between Wonthaggi Power and the Longford Tigers, likely more of the former with Wonthaggi also expected to be a contender this year after making a late and promising run to the finals last year.

Wonthaggi Power Operations Manager Brendan Knight recently confirmed Chugg's intentions.

"Isaac will be playing most of the games with us this season but also going down and helping out his old club in Tassie as well," said Brendan.

"He's been a great addition to the club, on and off the field, including helping to lead one of our youth mental health sessions recently."

The club looks very settled on and off the field, naming the following coaches; Jarryd Blair Seniors, Riley Lindsay Reserves, Matt Pugh Under 18s and Glenn Jobe Under 16s, and re-electing a consistent board under the leadership of Peter Liddle.

A highlight of the season ahead, according to Liddle, will be the return of a full complement of under-age football teams with both Under 18s and Under 16s attracting good numbers and ready for a good showing.

A key piece of the puzzle of success for Wonthaggi again this year will be its best and fairest player in his debut year last year, Isaac Chugg.

During the off-season, his old club in Tasmania, Longford, in the Northern Tasmanian Football Association (NTFA), announced that their favourite son would be returning in 2025 to help them return to the top after finishing third last year.

Turns out Chugg will split his time

The club's year ahead was further boosted recently by the announcement that \$250,000 had been allocated from the State Government's 'Country Football and Netball Program' for additional ground drainage and renovation works.

As much as the Bass Coast Shire Council has done a great job improving the surface of the oval in recent years, a number of areas of poor drainage remain which will be addressed at the end of this season.

Wonthaggi Power has completed a series of training activities and practice matches in recent weeks and rounded out preparations with a match against Noble Park at Phillip Island (Newhaven College) on Saturday, March 29, before opening their season against Warragul at home and Maffra away ahead of a welcome Easter break before the season gets into full swing.

Keenly anticipated every year, the local derby matches against Leongatha will come up on June 7 at Leongatha and a potentially pivotal meeting on August 16 at Wonthaggi, the second-last round of the season.



GIPPSLAND LEAGUE

WONTHAGGI POWER FOOTBALL NETBALL CLUB



Wonthaggi Power has been getting good numbers to training and after a series of practice matches, they are ready to go for the season opener against 2024 runners-up Warragul on Saturday, April 5.

Powering up for a new netball season at Wonthaggi

IT'S A big year for the Wonthaggi Power netballers celebrating their 20th year in the major Gippsland League with a number of events planned, including a club-wide reunion and celebration in Round 6, for the home match against Bairnsdale.

So, anyone who played netball or were associated with netball at the Blues, the Rovers or in the past 20 years at Wonthaggi Power are invited to save the date and come along and enjoy the fun and reminiscing.

But for four months or more, the preparations for the new season, starting on Saturday, April 5 against Warragul at Wonthaggi, have been in full swing with tryouts, training events hosted by Zac Mabilia and Zali Anderson, club events, practice matches and regular practice to boost fitness and skills.

The club has lost a few and gained a few at the top level with former Gold Coast and Richmond AFLW player and talented netball mid-court player Shannon Danckert in the Power colours this year. She will be joined by Chloe Cengia back at the club to lead a developing group of players in a very competitive Gippsland competition.

The coaches for the season are as follows:

- A Grade Ellie Bates (coach), Bec Wright (assistant coach)
- B Grade Chloe Marshall, Tommi Cook
- C Grade Leanne Brown, Kealey Lindsay
- Under 17s Fiona Cengia, Chelsea Bowman, Jess Tiziani
- Under 15s Jo Duscher, Charlie Berry
- Under 13s Mel Beveridge, Zoe Lowe

Speaking about the year

ahead, netball operations manager Rebecca Farrell said Power had completed its preparations with an all-club practice match against Nar Nar Goon on March 22, would skip Saturday, March 29 and open the season against Warragul at home on Saturday, April 5.

"Numbers have been good, although it has been a bit of a struggle in some of the younger grades. People think there's a lot of travel involved but it's not that bad and the facilities and competition are very good. We'd welcome any uncommitted juniors who would like to play."

Rebecca believes the league should look at starting netball at Under 11s so Gippsland clubs are not disadvantaged with recruitment and adding a D Grade competition would also be an advantage.



Returning Wonthaggi Power player Chloe Cengia in action at practice recently.

Helping you find the right home loan solution



Proudly supporting the Wonthaggi Power FNC

Donovan Lending Services
0418 997 475
www.donovanlending.com.au

Service, advice & the best price



WONTHAGGI POWER FOOTBALL NETBALL CLUB
We're proud to support Wonthaggi Power FNC

Tyrepower
GET THE POWER OF AUSTRALIA'S BIGGEST INDEPENDENT
78 Watt Street, Wonthaggi | 5672 5760
www.tyrepowerwonthaggi.com.au

POWER at a glance:

- **2024 Football Finish:** 4th - Semi Finalists
- **2025 Senior Football Coach:** Jarryd Blair
- **Key Inclusions:** Ryan Sparkes, Kyle Reid, Brodie Mabilia, Tom Davey, Jarvis Harvey, Jai Williams
- **Key Departures:** Toma Huther, Brayden Duve, Flynn Anderson
- **2024 Netball Finish:** 6th
- **2025 Senior Netball Coach:** Ellie Bates



Proud supporter of Wonthaggi Power FNC

BEST OF LUCK FOR THE 2025 SEASON

145 Graham Street, Wonthaggi
5672 1137

Proudly supporting



Handley & Anderson
FUNERAL DIRECTORS

Caring and personal 24 hour Service
Main office Wonthaggi
3085 Loch-Wonthaggi Road, Wonthaggi
(P.O Box 35)

Scott & Sharon Anderson
5672 1074

Cowes office (by appointment)
15 Warley Avenue, Cowes 5952 5171
www.handleyandersonfunerals.com.au
A.F.D.A.

Proudly supporting the Wonthaggi Power FNC

WONTHAGGI
Mensland
EST 1969

ILLA MAY

NEW SEASON ARRIVALS
SUMMER CLEARANCE

Plaza Arcade, 140 Graham Street, Wonthaggi



WEST GIPPSLAND COMPETITION

INVERLOCH - KONGWAK FOOTBALL NETBALL CLUB

IK are fit and focused on the season ahead

AS THE 2025 season approaches, the Inverloch-Kongwak Football Netball Club (IKFNC) are focused and feeling motivated – ready to make their mark. They've spent a solid four weeks preparing prior to Christmas and returned to training on January 20 with renewed energy and determination.

During the off-season preparations, the team's fitness and unity have been standout features. With strong attendance during training sessions and great bonding among players, the atmosphere has been positive, setting the tone for what's to come.

IKFNC President Peter Butcher said the focus has been placed on getting everyone fit and ready to implement new strategies on the field.

"My focus for the team this season is to be competitive and for everyone to enjoy themselves," said Peter.

"We need to remain a competitive side in the West Gippsland Football Netball Competition (WGFNC) and provide opportunities for players to develop as people and footballers."

The goal this season is to play smarter, faster, and more cohesively in every match, ensuring the players continue to grow as a competitive unit.

With no major injuries to report, the team are looking to be in a strong starting position – allowing them to hit the ground running and avoid any setbacks early on.

Peter said everyone is looking for continual improvement.

"In order to keep motivated, we ensure we find enjoyment in the little things and set mini goals along the way. It's important that every player is given the opportunity to be the best version of themselves within the team environment."

These individual goals are aligned with the collective aim to grow, improve, and remain competitive.

"We are a driven and supportive group," said Peter. "Let's get to the finals and

see how far we can go from there!"

At the end of the season, the goal is simple: to look back and be proud of the effort and commitment put in, knowing that they did everything possible to succeed.

Looking beyond the 2025 season, the club is also working on securing funding for new clubrooms.

Young guns keep Inverloch-Kongwak competitive

Inverloch-Kongwak's (IK) A-grade team will look a little different this year, with a few of their triple premiership players moving on to different challenges. However, this has enabled a few of the young guns from last year's under-17 premiership team to move up into the A and B grade squad, and coaching and playing coordinator Liza Burrows said she's sure they will take a pivotal role in keeping the club as competitive as they can.

As a result of the change, during pre-season, Liza said the team has been developing their juniors who have just come up into the senior ranks.

"We have had a large turnaround in all grades, so it's been exciting to welcome a host of new players to the club," she said.

"I'm most excited to see the impact of our young guns in the higher grades."

Enjoyment is certainly a key aspect of IK's team culture and Liza said that she aims to create an environment that players love coming to.

"This season I hope we remain competitive across all grades, whilst maintaining an environment where all players feel valued and just enjoy the sport that we love! Both our senior and junior coaching groups at IK work as a team towards achieving these goals."

Liza is the coaching and playing coordinator this season.

"I'm also coaching C grade and Under 15s and running around as a player!" Together the volunteers and players look forward to a competitive 2025.



Inverloch-Kongwak vice captain, Tate Short with captain and assistant coaches Toby Mahoney and Lewis Rankin.



Inverloch-Kongwak Rem Dal-Pozzo, Callan O'Flynn and Jordan Bertacco in his first season with the seniors.



SEA EAGLES at a glance:

- **2024 Football Finish:** 4th, Semi Finalists
- **2025 Senior Football Coach:** Leigh Cole
- **Key Recruits:** Jack Ginnane
- **Key Departures:** Tom Hams, Will Hams, Luke Johnson, Tom Wyatt, Marcus Toussaint
- **2024 A Grade Netball Finish:** Premiers
- **2025 Senior Netball Coach:** Jaz Walker



New to Inverloch-Kongwak this season are Jayden Sullivan from Devon Meadows and Joe Nowell from Beaumaris.



IK netballers welcome new faces this year as they aim for their fourth consecutive premiership.



WINTER STOCK NOW ARRIVING

Go Sea Eagles!

Join us on Facebook and Instagram for updated stock and sales

Proudly supporting the Inverloch-Kongwak FNC

Visit us at 1 Williams Street, INVERLOCH
Phone: 5674 2540



INVERLOCH'S FAVOURITE MEETING PLACE

Supporting the Inverloch-Kongwak SEA EAGLES Football Netball Club

BISTRO | THIRSTY CAMEL | LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

1 A'Beckett Street, Inverloch 5674 1432 www.invyespy.com.au



Proudly supporting the Sea Eagles



5 A'BECKETT STREET, INVERLOCH
Phone: 5674 1722



WEST GIPPSLAND COMPETITION

PHILLIP ISLAND FOOTBALL NETBALL CLUB



Members of the Phillip Island Football Netball Club football coaches panel include, from the left, Scott Huther (line coach), Hayden Bruce (U18s), Jack Taylor Under (U18s), Brad Thompson (Reserves), Cam Pedersen (Seniors), James Nicolaci (Reserves), Luke Davies (line), Damian Holmes (line), and Dean Blake (development coach).

Phillip Island is looking to the future

WHEN you perform as well as Phillip Island did as a club in the 2024 season, you don't need to do a lot more in the offseason to remain competitive and in the hunt for success again in 2025.

The Island Bulldogs came away with a premiership in the Under 18s, runners-up in the Fourths, and narrow runners-up in the Reserves as well.

The Seniors were leading at three-quarter time in the grand final and while they didn't go on and take the title, they've retained all of the players that got them there, and can expect some organic growth coming out of the Under 18s and Reserves.

Which is why they've concentrated on resigning their stars and bringing through the young talent.

"We've had a number of our players picked in Gippsland Power this year which is great, and there's quite a bit of talent coming through, including young players who already took their chance in the Seniors last year," said club president Chris Ross.

The club has re-signed the likes of Daniel Pearce, Mark Griffin, Jaymie Youle, Jack



Members of the Phillip Island FNC's netball coaches panel include A Grade Hollie Castagna, B Grade Abbey McCaughan, C Grade Emma Hallas and D Grade Meg Oudshoorn.

Taylor, Hayden Bruce and Charlie Bruce and they've also been able to incorporate a lot of the club's high-end talent in the coaching panel as well, led by Senior head coach Cam Pedersen.

Among those to make the final cut in the Gippsland Power Coates Talent League Under 18 Boys were Yianni Caffieri, Finn O'Brien and Zac Walker.

Yianni had a busy year of representative footy last year but also managed 15

Phillip Island Senior games including the grand final. Finn O'Brien played six Power games last year and five Senior games for the Island and Zac Walker 16 Senior games for the Island including the grand final. The future is in good hands.

Members of the Phillip Island FNC football coaches panel include, Senior head coach Cam Pedersen, line coaches Damien Holmes, Brendan Kimber, Daniel Larson, and Scott Huther,

Reserves Brad Thompson, James Nicolaci, Luke Davies, Under 18s Jack Taylor and Hayden Bruce, Under 16s Tarryn Allan and Dean Blake (development coach).

Members of the netball coaching panel include A Grade Hollie Castagna, B Grade Abbey McCaughan, C Grade Emma Hallas, D Grade Meg Oudshoorn, Under 17s Maya Huther, assistant Cath Huther, Under 15s Maxine McNamara, Under 13s co-coaches Aisha Hibbert and Piper O'Brien and Under 11s Jaclyn Clarke.

Phillip Island rounded out its preparations with practice matches against Mt Evelyn and Mornington, before scheduling a weekend off on Saturday and Sunday, March 29 and 30 ready to open the season against Nar Nar Goon at Cowes, the grand final replay.

Looking forward, Phillip Island hosts Warragul Industrials on Easter Saturday and Killy-Bass during the Anzac Day round.

The club will kick off the season in front of life members, sponsors and supporters at the traditional jumper presentation on Thursday night, April 3.



BULLDOGS at a glance:

- 2024 Football Finish: Runners Up
- 2025 Senior Football Coach: Cameron Pedersen
- Key Recruits: Nil
- Key Departures: Marcus Wright, Aaron Harris and Travis Woodfield have retired
- 2024 A Grade Netball Finish: 11th
- 2025 Senior Netball Coach: Hollie Castagna



Cam Pedersen is coaching Phillip Island again in 2025 hoping to go one better than they did last year on the back of some burgeoning local talent.



After some blistering training and practice match conditions, Phillip Island is primed for another big year in 2025.



BASS HIGHWAY WASTE
Ph 03 5678 8994

FOR ALL YOUR WASTE REMOVAL NEEDS

Domestic, Commercial & Industrial

Mini Skips
2m and 3m

Walk-in Skips
6m, 7m, 9m, 11m, 13m and 30m

Septic tanks emptied

Call our friendly staff today
5678 8994

Proud supporters of PHILLIP ISLAND FNC



GO BULLDOGS!
Best of luck to all players



Island Secure Storage
4 Industrial Way, Cowes
Phone: 0400 214 446 5952 1432
Email: storage@islandsteel.com.au
www.islandstorage.com.au

Community Bank
• San Remo, Cowes & Grantville Branches

Proud to be a major supporter of the Phillip Island Football Netball Club

Bank with the Bendigo and your club wins.

For more information contact the team at Cowes on 5952 3383 to find out more.

 **Bendigo Bank**

Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited ABN 11 068 049 178, AFSL/Australian Credit Licence 237879 A1389139, OUT_1597679, 21/10/2020



HM12415



WEST GIPPSLAND COMPETITION

KILCUNDA BASS FOOTBALL NETBALL CLUB



PANTHERS at a glance:

- **2024 Football Finish:**
6th, Elimination Finalists
- **2025 Senior Football Coach:**
Lee Rowe
- **Key Recruits:**
Brody Connelly (South Belgrave), Ned Bradley (Forest Hill)
- **Key Departures:** Jake Weightman
- **2024 A Grade Netball Finish:**
4th, Elimination Finalists
- **2025 Senior Netball Coach:**
Leanne Smith and Caity Stephens (assist.)



Assistant coach Paul Carbis with Senior coach Lee Rowe.

S&P Heavy Mechanical

Proud sponsors of



HM12424

GOOD LUCK
FOR SEASON 2025

Factory 3/6-10 Grantville Drive, Grantville

5678 8472

Community Bank
• San Remo, Cowes & Grantville Branches

Proud to be a major
supporter of the
Kilcunda-Bass
Football Netball Club

Bank with the Bendigo and your club wins.

For more information contact the team at
Grantville on 5678 8773 to find out more.

Bendigo Bank

Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited ABN 11 068 049 178, AFSL/Australian Credit Licence 237879 A1389139, OUT_1597679, 21/10/2020



Kilcunda Bass senior players, Nathan Foote, Travis Tuck, Brad Aldwell and Trent Cartmel with coach Lee Rowe.

Panthers are building for a strong season

THE Kilcunda Bass Football Netball Club (KBFNC) is entering the 2025 season with optimism and determination, having kicked off training with a solid start. As they prepare for the year, the focus is on improving fitness, refining the game plan, and ensuring the club is in the best position to compete at all levels.

The club has a strong core of experienced players, with many having spent years in the game. This season, the club welcomed Paul Carbis as an assistant coach. Paul, who coached Pakenham last season, brings valuable VFL experience to the team, and his presence is already being felt at training.

KBFNC president Shea Eden said the club is thrilled to have Paul Carbis on board.

"His experience in the VFL and last year's coaching success at Pakenham will be a huge asset to us as we look to improve our game and continue to build self-belief in the team."

The club made the elimination finals last year, a solid achievement that has given the players a taste of finals football. This year, they aim to build on that success and push deeper into the finals.

The club also recognises the challenge of player numbers in recent years, particularly with the second consecutive season without an under-18s list.



Former Hawthorn midfielder Travis Tuck is playing another season for Kilcunda Bass.

However, the under-16s team is thriving, with strong numbers, and the club is looking to build a pathway for future talent.

"Our under-16s is in a strong position, which is great for the future," said Shea.

"However, we're feeling the effects of not having an under-18s team. It's tough, but we're working hard to find solutions and ensure we have the numbers coming through the ranks."

This issue of player numbers isn't just confined to Kilcunda Bass but is something being felt across AFL Gippsland. Many clubs in the region are grappling with a decline in players, and President Shea stressed the need for change to ensure sustainability.

"There's no doubt that many clubs in the region are struggling with numbers," said Shea.

"I've seen it in my time here,

and it's a growing concern. If we want to remain competitive, something has to change, and that's why we're excited about the potential of a two-division structure for the West Gippsland League."

The league is working towards implementing two divisions, which would help smaller clubs like Kilcunda Bass remain competitive against larger clubs with more resources. This change is supported by all 11 clubs in the league, and Kilcunda Bass is optimistic that it will provide a better structure for future success.

"For clubs like ours, a two-division league will make a big difference," Shea explained.

"It's not about competing with the big clubs all the time but having a structure that helps everyone grow. We're fully behind this change and hope to see this change."

The club is also excited about upcoming developments off the field, including a new netball pavilion funded through the federal government and local council. This will benefit both the football and netball sides, as well as cricket.

"This is a really exciting project for us," said Shea, who is entering his fifth year in the role.

"The new pavilion will help elevate our netball program, and it's a much-needed development that will support all of our teams."



**BASS HIGHWAY
WASTE**
Ph 03 5678 8994

FOR ALL YOUR WASTE REMOVAL NEEDS

Domestic, Commercial & Industrial

✓ Mini Skips

2m and 3m

✓ Walk-in Skips

6m, 7m, 9m, 11m, 13m and 30m

✓ Septic tanks emptied

Call our friendly staff today

5678 8994

Proud supporters of
KILCUNDA BASS FNC

**Service, advice
& the best price**



We're proud
to support
Kilcunda Bass
FNC

Tyrepower

GET THE POWER OF AUSTRALIA'S
BIGGEST INDEPENDENT

78 Watt Street, Wonthaggi | 5672 5760
www.tyrepowerwonthaggi.com.au

HM12405



WEST GIPPSLAND COMPETITION

DALYSTON FOOTBALL NETBALL CLUB



Dalyston A Grade netball coach Gemma Thomas with senior football coach Mitch Hallahan, club president David Bell, reserves coach Mitch Davey and U16 Jack Howell. B03_0325

The Magpies are ready for flight in 2025

DALYSTON is looking forward to the 2025 season with optimism and a continual push to improve their family first culture and the players' belief in a positive season ahead.

With the return of Michael Marotta, Jake Barry and Mick Harris after season-ending injuries early last season and the recruitment of Brady O'Toole and Brad Tilley from Devon Meadows and key defender, strong on baller and a lively forward Jacob Morris from Lyndhurst these three players will make a big difference in bolstering the side.

Dalyston also has a couple of MPFL players awaiting clearances, along with a list of promising juniors we think are on the right track and keen

to push for senior selection.

"We've endured a tough period," said President Dave Bell.

"We were disappointed with our last couple of seasons, but we are striving like every other club to make the finals our goal for 2025.

"We respect the strength of the top sides like Nar Nar Goon and Phillip Island amongst others, but our best will be competitive with them."

Dalyston has U10, U12, U14, U16, U18 juniors, U14 and youth girls football but the club is trying to grow even further.

Dalyston's U14 girls side are the reigning premiers from last year.

Auskick is seen as the primary link between junior competition and the senior club.

Netball coach Gemma Thomas, although proud of their performance in making the A grade grand final last season with such a young squad, also realises that more work needs to be done to improve.

"There will be no easy games, last season every A grade side in the WG competition was capable of winning on the day," said Gemma.

"We will continue to grow and develop our young players and give them the opportunity to play the best netball available."

After finetuning their skills in practice matches against MDU and Ellinbank in the pre-season, the club is looking towards attracting a packed crowd to their round one home game when they host

Koo Wee Rup.

On the day Dalyston will be celebrating the ten-year reunion for their 2015 Senior and U18 football teams with a special Past Players event.

Post match will be a 2015 season review including interviews with the coaches, key players and then club President Paul Dunlop.

A highlight will be the launch of Blake Carew's 280-page book that details Dalyston's triumph after near capitulation of the club in 2004. Titled DFNC Premiers and Champions – the story of the 2015 Premiership the tell all tale will be hot off the press ready for purchase.

Full details for this event can be viewed on the Dalyston Facebook page.



Dalyston senior playing coach and former AFL mid-fielder Mitch Hallahan was key to attracting a strong seniors list with five new recruits.



Dalyston senior players training hard for season '25.

MAGPIES at a glance:

- 2024 Football Finish: 9th
- 2025 Senior Football Coach: Mitch Hallahan
- Key Recruits: Brady O'Toole, Brad Tilley, Jacob Morris
- Key Departures: Curtis Murfett
- 2024 A Grade Netball Finish: Runners Up
- 2025 Senior Netball Coach: Gemma Thomas

Dalyston
TIMBER TREAT
'Specialists in Treated Timber'

Looking forward to seeing the Magpies rise in 2025

5678 7387
4212 Bass Highway, Dalyston



Proud sponsors of the Dalyston Football Netball Club.

Best of luck for the 2025 season.

5-7 Korumburra Rd, Wonthaggi

5672 5522



Proud to be one of the major sponsors of



DALYSTON
FOOTBALL NETBALL CLUB

We wish all football and netball teams a successful year.

GO PIES!

Homes • Commercial • Land • Business • Rental
FREE MARKET APPRAISAL SERVICE

WONTHAGGI OFFICE Cnr Murray & Billson Streets **5672 1911**

JA19478-V3

Community Bank
• San Remo, Cowes & Grantville Branches

Proud to be a major supporter of the Mighty Magpies

Bank with the Bendigo and your club wins.

For more information contact the team at San Remo on 5678 5833 to find out more.

Bendigo Bank

Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited ABN 11 068 049 178, AFSL/Australian Credit Licence 237879 A1389139, OUT_1597679, 21/10/2020



JA22048

HM12408

HM12418



WEST GIPPSLAND COMPETITION

KORUMBURA BENA FOOTBALL NETBALL CLUB



Pre-season training has been focussing on kicking goals, driving the ball forward and preparing the team to play out the full four quarters.



The leadership group for Korumbura-Bena seniors this season is Zac Walker, Kye Benson, Joel Cuman, Kodie Walker and Bryon Walker.



GIANTS at a glance:

- 2024 Senior Football Finish: 11th
- 2025 Senior Football Coach: Josh Hopkins
- Key Recruits: Jordan Ceppi, Matt Borschmann, Kyle Brown, Jye Celebrine, Aidan Simmons, Bryce Rawson
- Key Departures: Tyson Findlay, Isaac Fox
- 2024 A Grade Netball Finish: 8th
- 2025 Senior Netball Coach: Gemma Dixon



Good luck for the 2025 season Giants

allaway
tile - slate - stone

5655 1095

Sth Gippsland Highway, Korumbura

The
middle
Korumbura Hotel

Good Luck to the Korumbura-Bena football netball club in 2025.
From the team at the middle pub.

Bar & Bistro | Functions | Beer Garden | Takeaway & Delivery
Online Ordering | Live Sports

81 Commercial St, Korumbura | 5655 1024

www.korumburahotel.com.au



ME0351

Kelly's
BAKERY
CAFE & BAKERY



The Team at Kelly's Bakery would like to wish all our local Football and Netball teams the very best for the upcrumbing season!

16-22 Commercial Street, Korumbura
Ph: 03 5655 2061



WEST GIPPSLAND COMPETITION

2025 FIXTURE

ROUND 1

Saturday, April 5
Phillip Island v Nar Nar Goon
Tooradin-Dal v Cora Lynn
Kor-Bena v Kilcunda Bass
Warragul Ind v Garfield
Dalyston v Koo Wee Rup
Inverloch-K - BYE

ROUND 2

Saturday, April 12
Nar Nar Goon v Dalyston
Garfield v Phillip Island
Inverloch-K v Kor-Bena
Tooradin-Dal v Koo Wee Rup
Kilcunda Bass v Warragul Ind
Cora Lynn - BYE

EASTER SAT (Round 4)

Saturday, April 19
Phillip Island v Warragul Ind
Inverloch-K v Kilcunda Bass

ROUND 3 (Anzac Round)

Friday, April 25
Warragul Ind v Tooradin-Dal
Saturday, April 26
Koo Wee Rup v Nar Nar Goon
Phillip Island v Kilcunda Bass
Cora Lynn v Inverloch-K
Kor-Bena v Dalyston
Garfield - BYE

ROUND 4

Saturday, May 3
Nar Nar Goon v Tooradin-Dal
Dalyston v Cora Lynn
Koo Wee Rup v Garfield
Kor-Bena - BYE

ROUND 5

Saturday, May 10
Garfield v Nar Nar Goon
Cora Lynn v Koo Wee Rup
Tooradin-Dal v Inverloch-K
Kilcunda Bass v Dalyston
Warragul Ind v Kor-Bena
Phillip Island - BYE

ROUND 6

Saturday, May 17
Inverloch-K v Nar Nar Goon
Tooradin-Dal v Phillip Island
Kilcunda Bass v Cora Lynn
Kor-Bena v Koo Wee Rup
Dalyston v Garfield
Warragul Ind - BYE

ROUND 7

Saturday, May 24
Nar Nar Goon v Warragul Ind
Inverloch-K v Phillip Island
Cora Lynn v Kor-Bena
Koo Wee Rup v Tooradin-Dal
Garfield v Kilcunda Bass
Dalyston - BYE

ROUND 8

Saturday, May 31
Phillip Island v Dalyston
Cora Lynn v Garfield
Warragul Ind v Inverloch-K
Tooradin-Dal v Kor-Bena
Kilcunda Bass v Koo Wee Rup
Nar Nar Goon - BYE

ROUND 9

Saturday, June 7
Kor-Bena v Nar Nar Goon
Phillip Island v Koo Wee Rup
Warragul Ind v Cora Lynn
Inverloch-K v Dalyston
Garfield v Tooradin-Dal
Kilcunda Bass - BYE

ROUND 10

Saturday, June 14
Nar Nar Goon v Phillip Island
Koo Wee Rup v Inverloch-K
Kilcunda Bass v Tooradin-Dal
Dalyston v Warragul Ind
Kor-Bena v Garfield
Cora Lynn - BYE

ROUND 11

Saturday, June 21
Nar Nar Goon v Kilcunda-Bass
Phillip Island v Cora Lynn
Garfield v Inverloch-K
Koo Wee Rup v Warragul Ind
Dalyston v Kor-Bena
Tooradin-Dal - BYE

ROUND 12

Saturday, June 28
Cora Lynn v Nar Nar Goon
Warragul Ind v Phillip Island
Tooradin-Dal v Dalyston
Kilcunda Bass v Kor-Bena
Garfield v Koo Wee Rup
Inverloch-K - BYE

ROUND 13

Saturday, July 5
Nar Nar Goon v Garfield
Kor-Bena v Phillip Island
Inverloch-K v Cora Lynn
Tooradin-Dal v Warragul Ind
Dalyston v Kilcunda Bass
Koo Wee Rup - BYE

ROUND 14

Saturday, July 12
Dalyston v Nar Nar Goon
Phillip Island v Tooradin-Dal
Koo Wee Rup v Cora Lynn
Kilcunda Bass v Inverloch-K
Kor-Bena v Warragul Ind
Garfield - BYE

ROUND 15

Saturday, July 19
Warragul Ind v Nar Nar Goon
Cora Lynn v Kilcunda Bass
Inverloch-K v Tooradin-Dal
Koo Wee Rup v Kor-Bena
Garfield v Dalyston
Phillip Island - BYE

ROUND 16

Saturday, July 26
Kilcunda-Bass v Phillip Island
Cora Lynn v Dalyston
Kor-Bena v Inverloch-K
Garfield v Warragul Ind
Nar Nar Goon, Tooradin-Dal & Koo Wee Rup - BYE

ROUND 17

Saturday, August 2
Nar Nar Goon v Inverloch-K
Dalyston v Phillip Island
Kor-Bena v Cora Lynn
Tooradin-Dal v Garfield
Koo Wee Rup v Kilcunda Bass
Warragul Ind - BYE

ROUND 18

Saturday, August 9
Nar Nar Goon v Kor-Bena
Phillip Island v Garfield
Cora Lynn v Tooradin-Dal
Inverloch-K v Koo Wee Rup
Warragul Ind v Kilcunda Bass
Dalyston - BYE

ROUND 19

Saturday, August 16
Tooradin-Dal v Nar Nar Goon
Cora Lynn v Phillip Island
Inverloch-K v Warragul Ind
Koo Wee Rup v Dalyston
Garfield v Kor-Bena
Kilcunda Bass - BYE

ROUND 20

Saturday, August 23
Nar Nar Goon v Cora Lynn
Phillip Island v Inverloch-K
Dalyston v Tooradin-Dal
Kilcunda Bass v Garfield
Warragul Ind v Koo Wee Rup
Kor-Bena - BYE

FINALS

Elimination Final: Sat Aug 30
Elimination Final: Sun Aug 31
2nd Semi Final: Sat Sept 6
1st Semi Final: Sun Sept 7
Preliminary Final: Sat Sept 13
Grand Final: Sat Sept 20



SOUTH GIPPSLAND UMPIRES ASSOCIATION



The South Gippsland Umpires Association is ready to kick start the 2025 footy season.

Umpires ready to tackle the new season

AS THE footballers gear up for the 2025 season, so too are the local umpires.

Training is in full swing for the South Gippsland Umpires Association (SGUA), with more than 35 people turning up each week.

The association has done a lot of recruiting through the off season and have picked up several new boundary umpires.

Many of these boundary umpires range between the ages of 12 and 16, with both boys and girls taking on the task.

On top of this, the association has gained four new field umpires and there are

plenty of goal umpires raring to go.

"We've had a few umpires come over to us from other associations. There is a lot of interest in SGUA because we umpire the West Gippsland competition, and people want to be umpiring the better footy. We're all looking forward to the start of the season," SGUA president Kane Pepperell said.

As well as the West Gippsland competition, SGUA umpire games for Leongatha and Wonthaggi, which also deliver great contests.

Josh Chenoweth has

returned as the field coach, but some new faces have joined the coaching panel.

Gemma Cook and Tim Kemp have teamed up as boundary coaches, Gary Scholz is coaching the goal umpires, and Rod Gillett has taken over as umpire director.

Pepperell is the new president of the association, with Kurt Caddy as vice president.

The association trains once a week at the Korumburra Recreation Reserve.

Once the season kicks off, training will be held on Wednesday nights from 6pm to 7.30pm, followed

by dinners and the reading of appointments.

Those wishing to join the association are encouraged to get in contact via Facebook or email southgippslandumpires@gmail.com.

"We've been attracting a lot of junior footy players lately, which has been great. It's giving them a bit of extra fitness," Pepperell said.

Joining the SGUA also provides pathways to umpire at a higher level, with one member leaving the association recently to umpire in the Victorian Football League (VFL).

LEONGATHA & DISTRICT NETBALL ASSOCIATION



Finalists from Leongatha and District Netball Association's (LDNA) Spring Twilight Competition.

Milestone year for LDNA will be one to remember

WITH a 60th celebration on the calendar, it is going to be a huge year for the Leongatha and District Netball Association.

The winter season is set to be launched on May 3, finishing at the end of August with finals to follow.

Leongatha and District Netball Association (LDNA) will be offering NetSetGo, U11s, U13s, U15s, and U18s, as well as A, B and C Grade, and netball for all.

"It's all played on a Saturday and all in the one location (at the Leongatha Recreation Reserve)," LDNA president Emma Smith said.

The teams involved in the competition include Mt Eccles, Leongatha Town, St Laurence's, Mirboo North, MDU, Inverloch-Kongwak and Bass Coast Thunder, with discussions underway for teams from Tarwin, Toora, Stony Creek,

Korumburra, Fish Creek and Leongatha.

"We have seen a bit of growth over the years. We are up by about 60 players," Emma said.

"We'd really love to see more Senior players. We have been seeing a lot of mums getting back into it, which is fantastic. There is an excellent club culture at LDNA and everyone is welcome to join."

The Saturday competition is looking to be mixed-modified, allowing boys to compete until they are 18 years old.

Emma said this decision would be excellent for participation.

"I believe we are the only association in Victoria to be doing this, and it will be great for families," Emma said.

The 60th anniversary will be celebrated on May 17-18.

The celebration will include local games, memorabilia displays and a barbecue lunch on the Sunday.

For the main event, there will be a formal dinner and a book launch on the Saturday night.

LDNA will also be having a Pink Sports Day on June 21, where players, umpires and coaches are encouraged to wear a splash of pink.

Half the proceeds from this event will go towards breast cancer awareness, with the other half to be donated to the local oncology department.

On top of this, LDNA is looking forward to its U11 round-robin, in the hopes of attracting new players.

Players travel from as far as Phillip Island and across Gippsland to compete in the competition.

Around 50 players took part in the fun event

last year.

LDNA is currently in the process of looking for grant funding to go towards a bigger pavilion in the future.

LDNA would also like to upgrade the car park, particularly for the coffee van that is there each week.

As always, LDNA would welcome more umpires.

The association offers a free course and everyone is welcome to take part.

"The course is held by our experienced badged umpires. We will be advertising when that will be taking place," Emma said.

"We are also on the lookout for an umpire coach."

More players are also encouraged to join LDNA.

"It's a great opportunity to play with your peers and have fun each week," Emma said.

For more information, head to the LDNA Facebook page.



MID GIPPSLAND LEAGUE

STONY CREEK FOOTBALL NETBALL CLUB



Cam Stone, Jai Bright, Hayden Bull and Cody Loughridge will provide strong leadership for Stony Creek.

Strength through struggle at Stony Creek

STONY Creek has been preparing well, knowing that fitness is the key to their success in competing at a higher level in order to make finals.

2025 Senior football coach Troy Shepherdson said their main strength has been the ability to keep showing up, putting the work in – week in, week out, and having a positive vibe around the club.

"The main area we are focusing on for improvement is staying with the process for longer and trying to minimise lapses, and sharpening up-skill errors," said Troy.

"There have been minor niggles with players at this stage in training, but it's important just to rest and recover. At this point of the year, the players need to let their bodies mend rather than trying to push through."

Troy explained that the goal for the club this year is to push to finals.

"We've been close in so many games over the last few years, so we need to turn those close losses into wins," he said.

The club have seen a key departure in Aiden Simmons, but welcome Ethan Busse from Neerim South and through this change, the players remain motivated.

"For the motivation to stay high through the year, we've found the key is to make sure we

enjoy what we are doing and what we're trying to achieve. Whilst also mixing up training sessions to change the environment," said Troy.

When discussed at the beginning of training, most players goals were to win more games of football, but Troy said, "it's important in understanding what needs to be done to achieve this goal, and team chemistry is almost the most important part, because you can have great players, but if the energy and vibe isn't there as a collective group it just doesn't work, which is a real strength of our club, all the lads get along well."

"Probably the biggest area we needed to improve on was being in many close games over the last few years and falling short so often, we needed to understand and train to be better in those moments and trust the work we have done in the pre-season to better us in tough games and in those tough moments."

Stony Creek is motivated to keep moving forward as a club.

Troy said they're looking to win more games, whilst keeping a good healthy club environment; where not only players but supporters want to be.

"At the end of this season, we'd like to achieve playing in a final series or at least be right on the verge."



Stony Creek sharpens up its skills ahead of the season.

LIONS at a glance:

- 2024 Senior Football Finish: 9th
- 2025 Senior Football Coach: Troy Shepherdson
- Key Recruits: Ethan Busse (Neerim South)
- Key Departures: Aiden Simmons
- 2024 A Grade Netball Finish: 10th
- 2025 A Grade Netball Coach: Brad Hutchinson and Kayla Byrnes

THE
MEENIYAN
HOTEL 1890

Proud sponsors of the Stony Creek FNC

Open 7 days for lunch and dinner
117 Whitelaw Street, Meeniyian
5664 7203
www.meeniyanhotel.com.au

ME0343

IGA
LOCAL GROCER
+ LIQUOR
MEENIYAN

Proudly supporting the Stony Creek FNC

100-102 Whitelaw Street, Meeniyian
Phone 5664 0053

ME0339

MID GIPPSLAND LEAGUE

2025 FIXTURE

ROUND 1

Saturday, April 5
Fish Creek v Yinnar
Hill End v Mirboo North
Morwell East v Thorpdale
Newborough v MDU
Stony Creek v Boolarra
Toora v Tarwin
Foster - BYE

ROUND 10

Saturday, June 21
Boolarra v Tarwin
Hill End v Yinnar
Mirboo North v MDU
Stony Creek v Foster
Thorpdale v Fish Creek
Toora v Newborough
Morwell East - BYE

ROUND 2

Saturday, April 12
Boolarra v Mirboo North
Foster v Newborough
MDU v Thorpdale
Morwell East v Hill End
Tarwin v Stony Creek
Yinnar v Toora
Fish Creek - BYE

ROUND 11

Saturday, June 28
MDU v Morwell East
Fish Creek v Hill End
Foster v Mirboo North
Newborough v Stony Creek
Toora v Thorpdale
Yinnar v Boolarra
Tarwin - BYE

EASTER - April 19

ROUND 3

Saturday, April 26
Hill End v MDU
Mirboo North v Tarwin
Stony Creek v Yinnar
Thorpdale v Foster
Toora v Fish Creek
Newborough - BYE
Sunday, April 27
Boolarra v Morwell East

ROUND 12

Saturday, July 5
Tarwin v Yinnar
Boolarra v Fish Creek
Hill End v Toora
Mirboo North v Newborough
Morwell East v Foster
Stony Creek v Thorpdale
MDU - BYE

ROUND 13

Saturday, July 12
Foster v MDU
Fish Creek v Tarwin
Newborough v Morwell East
Stony Creek v Hill End
Thorpdale v Mirboo North
Toora v Boolarra
Yinnar - BYE

ROUND 14

Saturday, July 19
Boolarra v Stony Creek
MDU v Newborough
Tarwin v Toora
Thorpdale v Morwell East
Yinnar v Fish Creek
Hill End, Foster and
Mirboo North - BYES

ROUND 15

Saturday, July 26
MDU v Yinnar
Mirboo North v Hill End
Morwell East v Boolarra
Tarwin v Thorpdale
Toora v Foster
Fish Creek, Newborough
and Stony Creek - BYES

ROUND 16

Saturday, August 2
Boolarra v Toora
Foster v Morwell East
Hill End v Tarwin
Newborough v Fish Creek
Stony Creek v Mirboo North
MDU, Thorpdale and
Yinnar - BYES

ROUND 17

Saturday, August 9
Fish Creek v MDU
Hill End v Stony Creek
Mirboo North v Foster
Thorpdale v Toora
Yinnar v Newborough
Boolarra, Morwell East and
Tarwin - BYES

ROUND 18

Saturday, August 16
Foster v Fish Creek
MDU v Tarwin
Mirboo North v Boolarra
Morwell East v Stony Creek
Newborough v Hill End
Thorpdale v Yinnar
Toora - BYE

Kings B'Day - RND 7

Saturday, June 7
MDU v Fish Creek

ROUND 9

Saturday, June 14
Fish Creek v Newborough
Foster v Toora
MDU v Stony Creek
Morwell East v Mirboo North
Tarwin v Hill End
Yinnar v Thorpdale
Boolarra - BYE

FINALS

Elim. Final: Sat Aug 23
Elim. Final: Sun Aug 24
2nd Semi Final: Sat Aug 30
1st Semi Final: Sun Aug 31
Preliminary Final: Sat Sept 6
Grand Final: Sat Sept 13



MID GIPPSLAND LEAGUE

MDU FOOTBALL NETBALL CLUB



MDU aims to build on their 2024 A-grade premiership for another successful year.

Infrastructure plans and success on the field at MDU

AS THE MDU Football Club looks ahead to the 2025 season, the preparation has been intense, with a significant focus on improving consistency, team dynamics, and individual development.

Under the leadership of Senior football coach Rhett Kelly, the team is entering the new season with fresh energy, thanks in part to the recruitment of key players like Josh Schelling, Nick Nagel, Trent McRae, and Tyson Findlay. While some seasoned players, including Darren Sheen and Nathan Allen, have moved on, the new additions are expected to bring fresh talent to the club.

MDU President Jason Harris explained that a major focus has been getting consistent numbers at training, ensuring that all players are engaged and ready to perform at their best.

"The team's eagerness to learn and develop has been a standout strength during pre-season," said Jason.

The willingness to improve and take on board new



Reserves coach Brenton Arnup, Senior coach Rhett Kelly and Senior assistant coach Nick Nagel look forward to MDU's season.

strategies has been a highlight for the coaching staff.

Leadership and commitment to training are key focal points this year; seen as essential for the team's progress going into the 2025 season, and there are no injuries to report, which is a positive sign as the team heads into their first match.

The focus for the season is on continuing the club's upward

trajectory in both performance and community development.

"To continue on with our club's growing improvement with performance, and further development of our growing junior teams which will now include an under 18 youth girls team for the first time," said Jason.

"We also want to continue to have a very welcoming

environment for families and players to enjoy and prosper, this would be a short-term goal."

Long-term, the coaching staff aims to build a team that can challenge consistently for top positions and continue to foster young talent.

Jason explained that strong team chemistry is key. "Having a strong connection with each other on and off the field helps with all the highs and lows that football throws at you," he said.

Each player has their own individual goals, but the collective aim is for everyone to align with the team's broader objective: achieving consistent success on the field.

"We want to play a consistent, good brand of footy and netball that will allow us to be in a position to win every game," Jason said.

The club is working on several key infrastructure projects, including resurfacing the netball courts and building a new netball grandstand.

"A future plan for an under-cover football grandstand is also in the works."

DEMONS at a glance:

- 2024 Football Finish: 6th, Elimination Finalists
- 2025 Senior Football Coach: Rhett Kelly
- Key Recruits: Josh Schelling, Nick Nagel, Trent McRae, Tyson Findlay
- Key Departures: Darren Sheen Nathan Allen
- 2024 A Grade Netball Finish: Premiers
- 2025 Senior Netball Coach: Jasmin Friend



MDU players prepare for their 2025 campaign.

MONTEREY HEREFORDS



BULLS FOR SALE

Polled & Horned

Wishing
MDU FNC
& successful
2025 season

GARY ANTHONY 0418 397 529

JBN CARTAGE Pty Ltd



Proud sponsors
of the MDU
Football
Netball Club

BULK FERTILISERS
AGRICULTURAL LIMES
GRAINS
SOIL TESTING
ON FARM CONSULTING

40 Stevens Road, Buffalo
0408 512 037
email: jbnkartage@bigpond.com


Mick, Kasey & Staff wish
**MDU FOOTBALL
NETBALL CLUB**
a successful 2025

 **RayWhite**
LEONGATHA
15 Bair Street, Leongatha 03 5662 5800
www.raywhiteleongatha.com.au

**THE
MEENIYAN
HOTEL**
ESTD 1890

Proud sponsors
of the MDU FNC

Open 7 days for lunch and dinner
117 Whitelaw Street, Meeniyang
5664 7203
www.meeniyanhotel.com.au


Your one stop shop for all your AG needs

**PROUDLY
SUPPORTING
THE MDU FNC**

All the best for the 2025 season

• Fuel • On farm delivery • Agronomy

Farmers Road, Dumbalk 3956
Phone 5664 4202

ME0347

ME0335

ME0344



MID GIPPSLAND LEAGUE

FOSTER FOOTBALL NETBALL CLUB



Eddie Smith, Mitch Allott, Josh Toner and Mitch Green are looking forward to the Tigers' season kicking off.

Refreshed Tigers raring to go

FOSTER has made an impactful start to the new season with a few players returning to the Senior lineup.

Mitchell Green will return to the field after an ACL injury and Troy Van Dyke is returning from Chelsea Heights to assist in the Tigers' 2025 campaign.

Leongatha's Flynn Materia is set to don the yellow and black this season, promising to add a bit more power to the forward line.

Cal Van Dyke has retired from the side, while Daniel Hawking has stepped away from the Senior competition, but may play in the Reserves on occasion.

Senior football will once again be overseen by Sam Davies, with Dale Smith coaching the Reserves.

Smith has taken the lead role after acting as assistant for a couple of years.

The Reserves are looking strong in the lead-up to the season but would welcome more player commitments.

The netballers have also made an excellent start to the preseason and are hopeful for entry into the finals series.

Ebony Best will be the head Senior netball coach, overseeing A Grade and B Grade.

C Grade will be coached by Narelle Buttigieg with the D Grade coach still yet to be announced.

The juniors will also be well looked after by an enthusiastic coaching panel with Dee Brown coaching U17s, Jade Storr coaching U15s, and Nick Eddy and Brad Angwin coaching U13s.

The numbers are looking good in all grades, but there are spots still open in the U17s, which will give U15 players the opportunity to experience the competition at a higher level.

Foster's A Grade netballers finished the competition in fifth position last season.

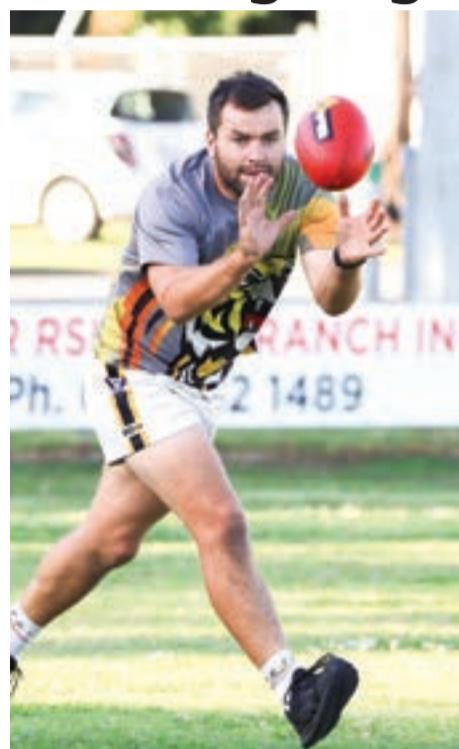
The club is hoping to see all teams go deep into the finals.

Foster is slated to have the bye in round one and will start its season on April 12 when it goes head-to-head with Newborough at home.



TIGERS at a glance:

- **2024 Football Finish:** 3rd, Preliminary finalists
- **2025 Senior Football Coach:** Sam Davies
- **Key Recruits:** Mitchell Green, Troy Van Dyke and Flynn Materia
- **Key Departures:** Cal Van Dyke and Daniel Hawking
- **2024 A Grade Netball Finish:** 5th, Elimination finalists
- **2025 Senior Netball Coach:** Ebony Best



Josh Toner watches the ball closely during Foster's training.



Foster's Senior coach Sam Davies watches training.



Foster tunes up for the season.

TOORA FOOTBALL NETBALL CLUB



The Magpies hit the training track.

Magpies ready to thrive in 2025

TOORA is gearing up for a competitive season, aiming to be in contention by the time the finals series comes around.

Preseason was launched before Christmas and the club has since progressed into full swing with strong numbers.

Jack Weston has stepped down from coaching the Seniors after two seasons.

Jay Accardi will be filling the role this season, with Weston still committed to playing.

The Seniors secured two wins in 2024 but maintained a competitive scoreline in the fairly even Mid Gippsland Football Netball League.

The team is aiming to put a few more wins on the board to be right in the mix at the pointy end of the season.

Club president Linden Dyson will be coaching the Reserves.

Over on the netball court, A Grade is looking healthy coming into the new year.

Under the experienced eye of coaches Carla Jenkins and Mat Griffin, the team will be one to watch.

The A Grade side just missed finals in 2024.

With a lot of new faces joining the side, it took the girls a little while to warm up.

By the second half of the season, the girls gelled together and recorded more wins.

With most of the team returning in 2025 – with

The netballers have also



Toora players and new coach Jay Accardi enjoy a visit from the Sentinel-Times at training.

the exception of Britt Roffey, who will be missed – Toora is looking to play cohesively and put on strong performances from the first whistle.

B Grade will be coached by Sarah Stone and Gemma Boyd, C Grade will be led by Michelle Walker and Nicole Stone, and Kelly Garland and Ebony Deering will coach D Grade.

In the juniors, Tara Hollier will coach both U17s and U13s, with mother and daughter duo Summer Walsh and Jade Latham coaching U15s.

Ella Hollier will be helping her mum coach the U13s, demonstrating Toora's strong family values and drive to support the junior players.

The mother-and-daughter coaching combinations will help the young coaches gain the confidence to take up coaching roles in the Seniors in the future.

The netballers have also

been working hard at training, with Ebony taking them through a four-week boot camp.

At the end of boot camp, the coaches took over the regular training schedule.

Through the season, the club will be looking forward to its goods and services auction.

It enjoyed the Toora Triathlon on February 18 and was planning a practice match against Poowong leading into the season.

Toora continues to pride itself on its community-based values.

"Toora is one of the smaller clubs in the league and offers a real community feel," Dyson said.

"We will be striving to make everyone feel welcome while still doing our best in the competition. There's a great family vibe around our club."

Toora is set to play Tarwin at home in round one.



Under 15 players Tess Hollier and Evie Stone stand either side of senior Magpie Tayah Jenkins.

MAGPIES at a glance:

- **2024 Senior Football Finish:** 11th
- **2025 Senior Football Coach:** Jay Accardi
- **Key Recruits:** Mick Bezzani, Gus Gordon and Lachlan Marr
- **Key Departures:** Nil
- **2024 A Grade Netball Finish:** 7th
- **2025 Senior Netball Coaches:** Carla Jenkins and Mat Griffin





MID GIPPSLAND LEAGUE

MIRBOO NORTH FOOTBALL NETBALL CLUB



Mirboo North Reserves co-coach Alex Windsor, Senior coach Damien Turner and Under 18s coach Jasan Hysen.

Mirboo North Tigers rebuild on track

IT LOOKS like the 2025 season for the Mirboo North Football Netball Club (MNFNC) is shaping up to be a period of growth and development, with a focus on improvement.

With a great start to pre-season, Senior football coach Damien Turner said he has seen good numbers in training and great support from the under 18s. There has been a focus on decision-making, fitness, and skill. The team is also focused on making good decisions under fatigue, handling close contests, and refining their foot skills.

"We're injury-free, so far," said Damien.

"We're in a rebuild. So, we have great talent and a squad full of locals."

With key recruits like Jesse Chila (Moe), Brandon Watson (Thorpdale), and Peter Taylor returning to the fold, the squad should have a nice balance of fresh talent and experienced players. The focus is on developing young talent by getting senior game time for them and helping them gain



Mirboo North vice-captain Riley Oddy and captain Hudson Kerr.

the experience necessary for the future. The overall objective for the season is improvement, with a long-term goal of playing finals football.

The club has a strong emphasis on team chemistry with many of the players having come up through the juniors together, which is seen as a huge advantage. Fun activities and a competitive training environment are helping keep the morale high.

"Our focus is to enjoy playing football, especially with your mates," said Damien.

"We look to learn from experience and mistakes – be able to take on feedback and learn from it as a team and individual."

Team goal for the year is improvement.

"We'd love to see ourselves back to playing finals – that's what you play for and it's the ultimate goal."



Mirboo North polishes its skills as the season approaches.



TIGERS at a glance:

- 2024 Senior Football Finish: 12th
- 2025 Senior Football Coach: Damien Turner
- Key Recruits: Doug Black (Neerim South), Brandon Watson (Thorpdale), Peter Taylor (returning), Daniel Powell (Thorpdale), Jack Robertson (Gormandale), Jesse Chila (Moe), Jacob Blair (Morwell East)
- Key Departures: Daniel Taylor (Thorpdale)
- 2024 A Grade Netball Finish: 6th, Elimination finalists
- 2025 A Grade Coach: Emily Taylor

TARWIN FOOTBALL NETBALL CLUB



Tarwin Senior coach Lachie Jones with new recruits Bayleigh Cowell and Bodhi Abernethy.

New senior playing coach for Sharks

TARWIN Football Netball Club is fielding seven senior, reserves and junior football teams in 2025 including an U18 side for the first time in a decade.

Lachie Jones, recruited from Wonthaggi Power in 2024, is now the senior playing coach and Tarwin F.C. is in the best position it has been in for many years, particularly in the junior ranks with upwards of 200 players.

Finishing eighth last year, and the A grade netballers also well down the ladder, Tarwin has some ground to make up for season 2025.

Tarwin is fielding 10 netball teams in 2025, with two teams in the U11s and U13s playing in the Leongatha competition.

Katrina Slidders is new to the club this year as A Grade Netball Coach.

The 2024 senior playing coach Jason Kennedy will be missed from the mid-field at Tarwin but new into the side are Nathan McRae from Churchill F.C., Bayleigh Cowell from Inverloch U18s, and Bodhi Abernethy



Tarwin Sharks defender Alex Chadwick.

up from the Leongatha U18s.

Also new to the Sharks this season are Troy Harley, Jordan Staley, Flynn Brosnan, Callum McLeod, and Tom Francis cleared from Box Hill North.

Missing from the team will be Hugh Suckling, Connor Agnew and Brandon Griffiths.

"We think we'll be very competitive," said Lachie Jones.

"A hard contested footy side."

Traditional rivals MDU and Fish Creek always produce a good contest against Tarwin and this year will be no exception.

"Last year's back-to-back premiers Fish Creek are the benchmark."

Look for Tarwin Football Netball Club on Facebook and Instagram.



SHARKS at a glance:

- 2024 Football Finish: 8th
- 2025 Senior Football Coach: Lachie Jones
- Key Recruits: Nathan McRae, Bayleigh Cowell, Troy Harley, Jordan Staley, Tom Francis, Bodhi Abernethy, Flynn Brosnan and Callum McLeod
- Key Departures: Jason Kennedy, Hugh Suckling, Connor Agnew and Brandon Griffiths
- 2024 Netball Finish: 11th
- 2025 Senior Netball Coach: Katrina Slidders

TARWIN LOWER

IGA plus LIQUOR

Employing local people and supporting local businesses

SHOP ONLINE

igashop.com.au



Good Luck sharks & sharkettes for season 2025

41-43 River Drive, Tarwin 5663 5265

[tarwiniga](https://www.facebook.com/tarwiniga) [tarwin_iga](https://www.instagram.com/tarwin_iga)



Proudly supporting
the Sharks



5 A'BECKETT STREET, INVERLOCH
Phone: 5674 1722



MID GIPPSLAND LEAGUE

FISH CREEK FOOTBALL NETBALL CLUB



Fish Creek players sharpen their skills.



Tom Valenta, Sam McGannon and Kairon Dorling are among the Senior leaders at Fish Creek who are keen to guide the Kangaroos to their third straight flag.

Kangaroos vie for premiership hattrick

REIGNING premier Fish Creek will be on the hunt for its third flag in a row in the 2025 season.

The highly anticipated opening round will see Fish Creek and Yinnar go head-to-head in a grand final rematch.

Set to be played on April 5, the game will be played at the Kangaroos' home ground and will feature the unfurling of the flag.

The Seniors have made a strong start to pre-season with great numbers at training under the leadership of returning coach Jarrod Walker.

They've recruited Jacob and Ethan Lamers from Leongatha, Brodie Shaw and Luke Williams, and have farewelled premiership players Pat Pekin, Mat Watkins and Damien Scully.

Toby Redpath and Callum Moon will once again coach the Reserves, and the newly formed Thirds side will be coached by Liam Edgelow.

"For the last two seasons, our Thirds have been combined with Tarwin," Fish Creek's recently appointed club president Travis Manne said.

"It has gone really well and Tarwin have been great, but both teams have been able to form their own standalone teams this season."

Ray Stefani stepped down from his role of club president, paving the way for Manne to take over the position.

Manne was a player for the club from 2004 up until two years ago.

A number of new faces have joined him on the committee, promising a fresh outlook for the season ahead.

"We're looking forward to starting in early April with our grand final rematch against Yinnar," Manne said.

"Overall, we are hoping to see the club improve as a whole. Our Seniors are chasing a third flag, and we hope to see our Seconds go deeper into the finals series. Last season, they made the finals and were knocked out in the first week."

"Our netballers have been in contention for the flag for a few seasons, so we hope to see them take that next step. A Grade lost the grand final by a goal last season."

After falling agonisingly short, Fish Creek's A Grade side is keen to earn its place back in the grand final with returning coach Jayde McGlead at the helm.

D Grade also made a grand final appearance in 2024 but also finished the season as the runner-up.

This season, D Grade will be coached by Ella Schable, with Maddi Carew coaching B Grade and Beth Pratt coaching C Grade.

In the lead-up to the competition, Fish Creek had a season launch at Waratah Bay on February 15.

The club opened the season with a training session and family day activities.

In amongst the excitement of the home and away season, Fish Creek will have plenty to look forward to off the field with its mid-year ball and reverse draw on the calendar.

Fish Creek is now training on Tuesdays and Thursdays at the recreation reserve, with its Melbourne-based players running the same schedule.



FISH CREEK HOTEL

Proud sponsor of the Fish Creek FNC

Open 7 days
Bistro - Sports Bar
Accommodation
Bottle Shop

5683 2404

10LD WARATAH ROAD, FISH CREEK
FISHCREEKHOTEL.COM.AU



Maddi Carew (B Grade), Jasmine Manne (15 & Under), Katie Hamilton (13 & Under), Beth Pratt (C Grade), and Ella Schable (D Grade) are some of Fish Creek's 2025 coaching contingent.



ELLINBANK & DISTRICT LEAGUE

2025 FIXTURE

ROUND 1

Saturday, April 5
Buln Buln v Ellinbank
Nilma Darnum v Neerim Sth
Bunyip v Trafalgar
Lang Lang v Longwarry
Poowong v Yarragon
Nyora v Catani

ROUND 10

Saturday, June 14
Buln Buln v Catani
Ellinbank v Nyora
Neerim South v Longwarry
Nilma Darnum v Lang Lang
Trafalgar v Yarragon
Bunyip v Poowong

ROUND 2

Saturday, April 12
Neerim South v Buln Buln
Ellinbank v Bunyip
Trafalgar v Nilma Darnum
Longwarry v Nyora
Yarragon v Lang Lang
Catani v Poowong

ROUND 11

Saturday, June 21
Bunyip v Buln Buln
Ellinbank v Nilma Darnum
Neerim South v Trafalgar
Longwarry v Poowong
Lang Lang v Nyora
Yarragon v Catani

EASTER - April 19

ROUND 3 (Anzac)

Saturday, April 26
Buln Buln v Bunyip
Nilma Darnum v Ellinbank
Trafalgar v Neerim South
Poowong v Longwarry
Nyora v Lang Lang
Catani v Yarragon

ROUND 12

Saturday, June 28
Trafalgar v Buln Buln
Neerim South v Ellinbank
Nilma Darnum v Bunyip
Yarragon v Longwarry
Catani v Lang Lang
Poowong v Nyora

ROUND 4

Saturday, May 3
Buln Buln v Trafalgar
Ellinbank v Neerim South
Bunyip v Nilma Darnum
Longwarry v Yarragon
Lang Lang v Catani
Nyora v Poowong

ROUND 13

Saturday, July 5
Buln Buln v Nilma Darnum
Ellinbank v Trafalgar
Bunyip v Neerim South
Longwarry v Catani
Lang Lang v Poowong
Nyora v Yarragon

BYE WEEKEND - July 12

ROUND 5

Saturday, May 10
Nilma Darnum v Buln Buln
Trafalgar v Ellinbank
Neerim South v Bunyip
Catani v Longwarry
Poowong v Lang Lang
Yarragon v Nyora

ROUND 14

Saturday, July 19
Longwarry v Buln Buln
Ellinbank v Lang Lang
Neerim South v Yarragon
Nilma Darnum v Poowong
Trafalgar v Catani
Bunyip v Nyora

ROUND 6

Saturday, May 17
Buln Buln v Longwarry
Lang Lang v Ellinbank
Yarragon v Neerim South
Poowong v Nilma Darnum
Catani v Trafalgar
Nyora v Bunyip

ROUND 15

Saturday, July 26
Buln Buln v Lang Lang
Ellinbank v Longwarry
Poowong v Neerim South
Nilma Darnum v Yarragon
Nyora v Trafalgar
Bunyip v Catani

ROUND 7

Saturday, May 24
Lang Lang v Buln Buln
Longwarry v Ellinbank
Yarragon v Nilma Darnum
Trafalgar v Nyora
Catani v Bunyip

ROUND 16

Saturday, August 2
Poowong v Buln Buln
Catani v Ellinbank
Nyora v Neerim South
Longwarry v Nilma Darnum
Lang Lang v Trafalgar
Yarragon v Bunyip

ROUND 8

Saturday, May 31
Buln Buln v Nyora
Ellinbank v Yarragon
Neerim South v Lang Lang
Nilma Darnum v Catani
Trafalgar v Poowong
Bunyip v Longwarry

ROUND 17

Saturday, August 9
Ellinbank v Buln Buln
Neerim St v Nilma Darnum
Trafalgar v Bunyip
Longwarry v Lang Lang
Yarragon v Poowong
Catani v Nyora

ROUND 9 (King's B'Day)

Saturday, June 7
Yarragon v Buln Buln
Poowong v Ellinbank
Catani v Neerim South
Nyora v Nilma Darnum
Longwarry v Trafalgar
Lang Lang v Bunyip

ROUND 18

Saturday, August 16
Buln Buln v Neerim South
Bunyip v Ellinbank
Nilma Darnum v Trafalgar
Nyora v Longwarry
Lang Lang v Yarragon
Poowong v Catani

FINALS

Qualifying Final: Sat Aug 23
2nd Semi Final: Sat Aug 30
Preliminary Final: Sat Sept 6
Elimination Final: Sun Aug 24
1st Semi Final: Sun Aug 31
Grand Final: Sat Sept 13



ELLINBANK & DISTRICT LEAGUE

NYORA FOOTBALL NETBALL CLUB



Dylan Heylen Seniors captain, Will vice-captain and Paul Delaroche deputy vice-captain are hoping to get a few wins under their belt this season.

Nyora look to have some wins this season

LAST season saw Nyora Saints Seniors undergo a huge shift in their team with twelve players departing and eight new players recruited to the side.

These big changes have continued this season, with another 15 young new recruits joining, but fortunately, only two players departing due to retirement.

Key recruits include Paul Delaroche a strong forward, Cam Stow a solid ruckman, Tyler Hotchkin a regular midfielder and Tyler Kirkbride a reliable backline player.

Despite not winning a game last year, there is positivity from the club's leadership team about the upcoming season, which president of the club Sam Dixon puts down to a successful off field season.

"We had a great year off the field. Considering we didn't win a game in seniors and we won three games in the reserves. So, players that were here last year, if they're still playing footy, they're playing here," said Sam.

"Even the guys we recruited last year, they didn't win a game and they're coming back so that's good. We created a good environment for



Carl O'Brien Reserves coach, Scott Battams Senior assistant coach and Darryl Swinburne Seniors coach are looking forward to developing the young Nyora players this year.

everyone. Culturally we're good, we've just got to move that on-field."

The Saints have also secured a new coach, Darryl Swinburne from the Frankston area who will work alongside new assistant coach Scott Battams from Koo Wee Rup.

The coaches are looking to develop the young side over the next couple of seasons in terms of fitness and playing together cohesively and consistently.

"Last year we got blown out of the water in a lot of games, late in quarters and late in games because we just weren't fit, we didn't have the commitment from guys at training."

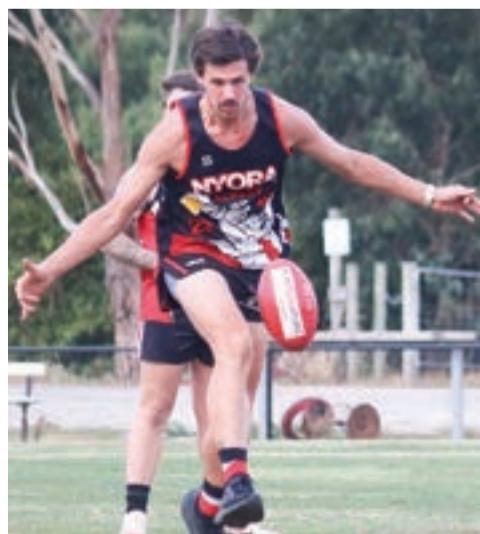
explained Sam.

"We probably weren't bad as a team, quality-wise to not win games, but with poor fitness, we were just getting blown out of the water."

Sam anticipates that upcoming challenges the side may face is learning to win, with only four or five players left that have experience of playing in a winning side and in a seniors final.

"Hopefully we'll get a bit of cohesion in the group over the next couple of years. Start small this year and aim for six or seven wins," added Sam.

Leonne McCluskey will be returning to coach the A grade netball side.



The young Nyora Seniors are looking for some wins.

SAINTS at a glance:

- 2024 Senior Football Finish: 11th
- 2025 Senior Football Coach: Darryl Swinburne
- 2025 Senior Captain: Dylan Heylen
- Key Recruits: Paul Delaroche, Cam Stow, Tyler Hotchkin and Tyler Kirkbride
- Key Departures: Santo Joma and Pete Bastin
- 2024 A Grade Netball Finish: 11th
- 2025 Senior Netball Coach: Leonne McCluskey



POOWONG FOOTBALL NETBALL CLUB



Matt Cozzio, Mitch van't Hof, Alex Henshall, Fig Tobesure and Mitch Molloy bring some experience to a young Poowong side.

Young Poowong side to show their skills

A NUMBER of young, fit and eager players from the juniors will move up to fill out the Magpies senior side this year.

Most of these young players experienced at least one senior game last season, so they won't be completely green going into their first round of the year but will need time to develop as a team.

A couple of preseason practice matches have been key in assisting returning coach Dale Carroll in determining positioning across the field.

That said, Dale is working to create a versatile team of skilled and fit players who can perform well in any position.

It could prove to be a wise decision as a dozen or so senior players have departed, leaving some crucial on-field gaps.

"Basically, our spine, like full forwards and half forwards have all gone, either to play with family, time off, injured, retired or to go to other clubs," explained Dale.

"We've got our main players that I know that we can rely on in the midfield and they'll probably slot forward as well."

Training twice a week and working on building fitness and skills has been the focus of pre-season for the young Magpies side.

"We've been working on our fitness a lot,



Some of the young up-and-coming players to watch in the seniors this year are Tom Burgess, Aaron Damon, Calvin Langford and Pat Dorian.

MAGPIES at a glance:

- 2024 Senior Football Finish: 8th
- 2025 Senior Football Coach: Dale Carroll
- 2025 Captain: Mitchell Van't Hof
- Key Recruits: Connor Ives
- Key Departures: Numerous
- 2024 A Grade Netball Finish: 8th
- 2025 Senior Netball Coach: Sarah Hogan



The Poowong Hotel

with fun and a friendly atmosphere

Lunch Wednesday - Sunday 12noon-2.30pm
Dinner Wednesday - Saturday 5.30 - 8.30pm

SENIOR meals available
Wednesday to Friday

Open Monday & Tuesday from 2.30pm,
Wednesday to Sunday from 11am

All occasions catered for including
birthdays, weddings and engagements

The Poowong Hotel would like to wish
Poowong Football & Netball Clubs
all the best for season 2025

1 Ranceby Rd p: 5659 2351
w: www.poowonghotel.com.au



Get ready for NetSetGo

REGISTRATIONS are open for aspiring young netballers to join their local NetSetGo program.

Kilcunda-Bass is once again running its well-established program under the leadership of coach Kim Pike.

Starting from April 23, the program will run for 10 weeks concurrently with Auskick.

Each week, NetSetGo will kick off at 4.45pm and run until 5.45pm.

Kilcunda-Bass' junior netball operations manager Shez O'Brien said NetSetGo has been extremely beneficial over the years, giving young netballers a pathway into the junior sides of the West Gippsland Football Netball Competition.

"We had more than 10 kids last year and similar numbers have enrolled in this year's program already," Shez said.

"It's a really valuable program that gets kids ready for competitive netball. We cater for kids from Grade Prep through to eight- or nine-year-olds, and many look to join our U11s program from there."

NetSetGo is open to boys and girls and focuses on the skills of the game.

Participants learn ball drills, enjoy game time and learn about positions on the court.

They also work on their fine motor skills, which translates well into a lot of ball sports.

"The kids love it. We'd really like to see more boys getting involved this year," Shez said.

"Our NetSetGoers will also have the opportunity to experience what game day is like on a Saturday. We will feature an exhibition game for our NetSetGoers during halftime of one of our senior matches during the season."

Registrations for Kilcunda-Bass' NetSetGo will stay open until the seventh week of the program.

NetSetGo centres can be found online and links to Kilcunda-Bass' registration page can be found on its social media sites.

Local NetSetGo programs:

- Bass April 23
- Inverloch April 30
- Leongatha May 3
- Meeniyian March 15
- Phillip Island May 2

Catch the Fun!

Woolworths NETSETGO!

Kilcunda Bass NetSetGo program
5-10 year olds

SIGN UP TODAY!

Starts: Wednesday, April 23 at 4.45pm



GIPPSLAND POWER



Zac Walker (centre) is heading into a season with Gippsland Power after a successful 2024 with Phillip Island.
Photo: Carol Ratcliff.

Gippsland Power launches into new season

COMING off the back of a recent practice match against Dandenong, the 2025 Gippsland Power squad is ready to head into the new season.

It is looking to be a strong season, with the boys going into the competition with a little more experience to lean on.

The 2024 squad consisted of many bottom-age players, so those who played are going into the new season knowing what to expect and ready to deliver.

Training has been going well, with players meeting at five different locations during the preseason, as well as coming together at the central site at the Morwell Recreation Reserve.

Gippsland Power played the Murray Bushrangers in round one at the Highgate Reserve in Craigieburn at 1pm on Sunday, March 30.

Gippsland Power has fared well against the Murray Bushrangers historically, winning the last seven games against them.

Gippsland Power had a 22-point win over the Murray Bushrangers during the regular season last year and won again by seven points in the wildcard round of the finals.

Regardless, Gippsland Power is not going into round one with any presumptions and intends to give their all to the first game of the year.

This season, Gippsland Power is looking out for Sandringham, which has always put up tough competition in the past.

Gippsland Power's 2025 squad is loaded with local players to follow and keep an eye on ahead of the draft.

The last of the Duursmas, Willem, was selected for the Gippsland Power squad and is a highly touted draft prospect.

From Inverloch, Jobe Scapin is a highly talented, skilful and athletic player, and Archie Terlich is set to bring about

some depth in half back.

Leongatha's Hamish Gill is a tall key position player and will also be one to watch.

This year's squad also has a high intake from Phillip Island.

Thomas and Connor McMillan are brothers who play along the backline and on the wing. Finn O'Brien and Zac Walker are another couple of tall key position players, and Yianni Caffieri is a skilled running defender.

Gippsland Power head coach Rhett McLennan said the goal for the 2025 season is to once again develop these players as teammates as well as individuals.

"It's all about seeing how these players develop as the season progresses. We want to see them stay fit and healthy, and get a few games on the board," he said.

"The more exposure they can get in front of AFL recruiters, the more likely they are to see their footy dreams realised. We'll be there to help them as much as possible."

The Gippsland Power coaching panel includes McLennan as head coach, Craig McCaughan as backline coach, Hayden Burgiel as midfield coach, Allan Chandler as forward line coach and Toby Wallace as head of development.

The regular season will run for 19 rounds, finishing on August 23. Gippsland Power will have byes in rounds four, five and 14.

Gippsland Power's fixture and weekly scores can be followed on PlayHQ.



Zac Walker takes the mark for the Dogs during the 2024 season.
Photo: Carol Ratcliff.



RIGHT: The fourth Duursma to play for Gippsland Power, Willem, completed this spectacular marking attempt on the Power's forward line in their practice match against Dandenong at Wonthaggi last year.



SOUTH EASTERN WOMEN'S FOOTBALL LEAGUE

BASS COAST BREAKERS



Bass Coast Breakers gear up for the 2025 season with new recruits and a focus on progress, improvement, and fun.

Watch the Breakers soar in 2025 season

PROGRESS, improvement and fun are the key motivators driving the Bass Coast Breakers in 2025.

Training has been extremely positive with good numbers attending in the lead-up to the season opener.

"We've been working on skills development and decision-making drills," Breakers president and coach Ella Angarane said.

"We've seen excellent improvement in both skill and spirit, but it's not too late to join our team. We could always do with a few more players."

The Breakers' 2025 recruits include Cloe, Kelly, Gina, Amilly, Jacky,

Brooke, Ellen and Darcy, with no retirements.

Ella said the club is also looking forward to seeing how the second-year players have improved since last season.

The Breakers started their 2024 season in Division 1 but found it to be a little out of their range.

Once they had settled back into Division 2, it was a positive season with the team just missing out on finals in the end.

The 2025 season will be launched on April 5, but a draw had not yet been released at the time of writing.

"We are focused on offering a nice and flexible format for players who

worry about not being able to commit to every week," Ella said.

"We will be playing games on Sundays, some Saturdays after the Seniors, and we are looking to have a few Friday night matches to build the profile of the team.

"Overall, we just want people to have the opportunity to be part of the team and have fun."

Ella has been coaching the side, but the club is open to taking expressions of interest from head coaches or assistant coaches.

A major event on the Breakers' calendar will once again be the Pride Round.

A date for the Pride Round will be confirmed once the draw is released, but it has become an important event for the players and the community.

The goal for this season is to get a few wins on the board, but also to ensure the girls enjoy the sport they love and to continue to be an exceptional local pathway for the Youth Girls.

Those interested in joining the Bass Coast Breakers are encouraged to contact the team via Facebook or turn up at training on Wednesday nights from 6pm at the Dalyston Recreation Reserve.

BREAKERS at a glance:

- **2024 Finish:** 5th
- **2025 Coach:** Ella Angarane
- **Key Recruits:** Cloe, Kelly, Gina, Amilly, Jacky, Brooke, Ellen, Darcy
- **Key Departures:** None



The recent Amazing Race style training was a success with plenty of challenges.

CARDELL

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS



Proud sponsors of the Bass Coast Breakers

Good luck for the 2025 season

Technical experts and trusted business advisors

TAXATION SPECIALISTS | ASSURANCE & AUDIT
SUPERANNUATION | BUSINESS ADVISORS

3a Billson St Wonthaggi 03 5672 3722 www.cardell.com.au

HM12427



YOUTH GIRLS FOOTBALL



Dalyston's Matilda Hales protects the ball, under pressure from her Inverloch-Kongwak opponents in the U14 Southern Gippsland Junior Football Competition 2024 grand final.

Junior girls ready for exciting competition

also won by Dalyston.

It is hoped this addition to the fixture will go ahead again this season.

"It's all about showing young girls that football is an option for them," operations manager Bobbie-Lee Blay said.

"The level of competition is picking up, and we've also got the U15s All Stars squad through the Gippsland League as another pathway."

Girls wanting to get involved in junior footy are encouraged to contact their local clubs.

Training days will depend on the respective club.

Games are looking to be held on Friday nights to give the girls the opportunity for added visibility.

"It's about fun and fitness, club unity, making new friends and enjoying the sport in a safe environment," Bobbie-Lee said.

"We're all about empowering the next generation and it's been wonderful watching this competition grow."

Any additional information about this season's competition will be printed following April 3.

Community Bank
• San Remo, Cowes & Grantville Branches

Proud to be a major supporter of the Bass Coast Breakers

Bank with the Bendigo and your club wins.

For more information contact the team at San Remo on 5678 5833 to find out more.

Bendigo Bank

Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited ABN 11 068 049 178, AFSL/Australian Credit Licence 237879 A1389139, OUT_1597679, 21/10/2020



HM12416



Phillip Island FNC Photos: Al Dillon Images

Best of luck to all teams in the 2025 season!

From before the season's first bounce until after the grand final siren, the Sentinel-Times has football and netball covered in 2025.

All the latest news and results every week.

Sentinel-Times
COVERING SOUTH GIPPSLAND AND BASS COAST

www.sgst.com.au





Tranquil living set on approx. 2.4 acres

TUCKED away in the heart of Mirboo North, this charming three-bedroom home offers a rare opportunity to embrace the peaceful country lifestyle you've been longing for. Set on a generous 2.4-acre block (approx.), this property perfectly blends the rustic appeal of rural living with the comforts of modern convenience – ideal for a family or couple looking to escape the hustle and bustle and enjoy a more relaxed pace of life.

Step inside to discover an inviting living space with a striking cathedral ceiling that creates an airy, open feel. With three split systems strategically placed throughout, you'll enjoy year-round comfort, while a cosy wood heater sets the tone for chilly nights. An additional wood heater in the spacious two-car garage, which also doubles as an excellent workshop or creative retreat, adds further charm to this homely abode.

The mezzanine level offers not only extra storage options but also the potential to serve as a quiet study or personal retreat – perfect for moments of focus or relaxation. Two of the bedrooms are conveniently located at one end of the home, providing a private and peaceful sanctuary, while the third bedroom is situated at the other end for added privacy. The main central bathroom has been

stylishly renovated, offering a modern and sleek space for everyday comfort.

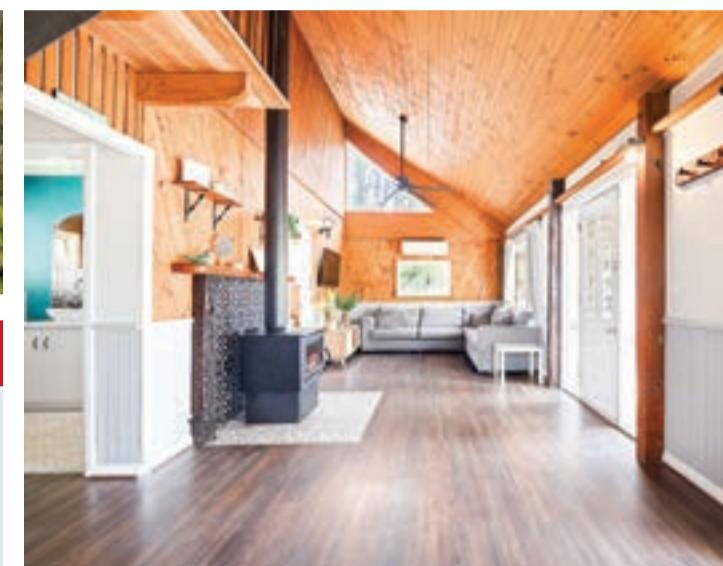
The wrap-around verandas are the perfect spot to unwind and enjoy the surrounding beauty, while outdoors, a gazebo perched among the mature native trees provides an ideal setting for both peaceful reflection and social gatherings. For those with a green thumb, raised garden beds await, complemented by two large woodsheds and a low-maintenance garden. There's also a small orchard with around 11 fruit trees, offering a lovely touch of fresh produce.

Added convenience comes in the form of a generator point with a 32-amp plug.

There's no shortage of parking, with ample space for up to four vehicles, ensuring that friends and family always have a spot to park when visiting. Just a short stroll from the local swimming pool, reputable schools, and the vibrant main street, this home enjoys a peaceful location with all the conveniences of town life within easy reach.

Make this tranquil retreat in Mirboo North your new haven – where a strong sense of community and a relaxed lifestyle await.

Contact Kellie Thomas on 0438 647 449 from Harcourts to arrange your own private inspection.



3 | 1 | 2 2.4 Acres

1 Wanke Road, Mirboo North

For Sale \$799,000

Agent Nutrien Harcourts

Kellie Thomas 0438 647 449

kellie.thomas@nh.com.au

Nutrien Harcourts Leongatha

We make it possible

47 Bair Street (03) 5662 2292

nutrien.harcourts.net/au/office/leongatha



FOR SALE

3 2 2

LEONGATHA Immaculate Family Home!

- Immaculate home on spacious 973m² block.
- Master suite boasting ensuite and walk-in robe.
- Lock up shed for trailer/boat/caravan.

\$720,000

JUST LISTED

2 1 1

LEONGATHA

Your Next Chapter Starts Here!

- Well presented unit located in The Grange.
- Light and bright open plan living.
- Single lock up garage with internal access.

\$480,000

FOR SALE

3 2 2

LEONGATHA

Country Living on the Edge of Leongatha

- Neat family home on approx. 2.47 acres.
- Master bedroom boasting walk in robe and ensuite.
- 3 bay lock up shed with concrete floor, lights & power.

\$895,000



Barry Redmond

Director / Estate Agent
0477 622 292



FOR SALE

4 2 4

INVERLOCH Stunning Lifestyle Property

- Spacious brick veneer open plan living home.
- Double garage, solar power, great stockyards & infrastructure.
- Approx. 88 acres of fertile land with panoramic views.

\$1,850,000 - \$1,890,000

JUST LISTED

3 1 2

NERRENA

Charming Renovated Home!

- Fully renovated family home on approx. 2.8 acres.
- Open plan living, modern kitchen.
- Massive 14m x 12m shed with roller doors & power.

\$810,000

JUST LISTED

4 2 8

MEENIYAN

Executive Residence in Meeniany!

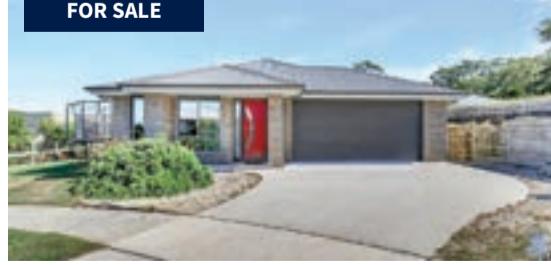
- Spacious master with WIR, and resort style ensuite.
- Fully appointed kitchen with Caesar stone benchtops.
- Massive shed, spacious lock up double garage.

\$1,150,000



Kellie Thomas

Licensed Estate Agent
0438 647 449



FOR SALE

3 2 2

FOSTER Family Home with an Elevated Outlook!

- Modern brick veneer home on 604m² block.
- Master bedroom with ensuite and a generous WIR.
- 2 car-lock up garage, great location.

\$690,000

FOR SALE

4 2 2

LEONGATHA

Stunning Home!

- Modern family home in established court on 871m².
- Master suite boasting ensuite and generous walk-in robe.
- Lock-up shed with studio, double lock up garage.

\$950,000

JUST LISTED

3 1 2

BUFFALO

"Belle Crae" Outstanding Dairy Farm

- Well presented contemporary brick veneer home.
- Excellent fencing & shedding, strong fertiliser history.
- Great amenities for farming.

\$3,636,000



Monique Wightman

Marketing & Administration
(03) 5662 2292

HM1631-1/20



Mark Kistemaker and Gus Gray from ACE Industrial with Rob Giles of Kincrome were selling a lot of tools and seeing fantastic sales results at Farm World. ob07_1325



Ash Kershew, Jacqulyn Lions and Debbie Cameron from St. Paul's Anglican Grammar School were chatting to current, future and past groups of students, former staff members and catching up with alumni. ob08_1325



Phil Cooper, Atreya and Hayden Poppe from HP Fire were enjoying meeting people from far and wide, making good sales prior to the winter rush. ob12_1325



The Nationals Martin Cameron and Melina Bath were meeting with and chatting to constituents about roads, erosion, fisheries, renewable energy and many other topics at Farm World. ob13_1325



Wonthaggi dairy farmer Simon Park with Mick McCarthy from the Victorian Farmers Federation and VFF sponsor from AirAgri, Royden Skeet were chatting to farmers and talking about the benefits of becoming a VFF member. ob11_1325



Nathan Hibbins, Kyle Campbell, Ant Cook and Ron Hampton from TTMI enjoyed seeing strong crowds, having good weather and plenty of sales over the three days of Farm World. ob05_1325

Innovation and agriculture unite at Farm World

FARM World continued its delivery of vast offerings in innovations and products in farming, agro-forestry, aquaculture, lifestyle, contractors, breeders, dairy, alpaca, and sheep industries this year.

Hands-on farming experiences were a big focus with a dedicated marquee zone for demos and presentations for the dairy and beef industries held over three days.

Two new Lifestyle Ag Equipment demonstration areas were introduced, allowing dealers to showcase products with power of 60kW (80hp) and below to prospective buyers throughout the event.

Agtech Alley was a new addition showcasing the future of farming with robotics, artificial intelligence, and advanced ag-tech solutions including hands free navigation.

Demonstration paddocks allowed attendees to witness full tractor and implement demonstrations and the latest drone technology used for herbicide and fertiliser spraying in hard-to-reach areas was showcased.

Local and interstate Beef Breeders'

displays were in the heart of Farm World for those interested in learning from the experts about the genetics of these animals.

Lifestyle was once again a big feature with boats, caravans, horse floats, and vehicles on display keeping travellers, boaters and campers enthralled, while masses of plants and tools kept others busy.

Families, teens and kids once again enjoyed the awe-inspiring Freestyle Moto-Cross shows with the Freestyle Kings and discovered deadly Australian creatures at the mobile zoo from Black Snake Productions.

Young children were thrilled to take pony, horse and camel rides and got up close and personal with alpacas and marvel at the mastery of the farm muster dogs.

Riders and horses showed off their magic and skills at the continuous equestrian event and thrilling competitions and razor-close finishes occurred in the adrenaline-pumping Tractor and Trailer Driving Competition.

The annual and signature event,

the Women in Ag Lunch was held for ladies in the industry, with guest speakers Stephanie Trethewey, the Founder of Motherland, and Dani Pearce, the Founder of Merry People presenting at an informative afternoon of fun, networking and connection.

The hospitality zone showcased Gippsland's best-crafted wines, beers, gins, ciders and vodkas and a range of tasty meals were available.

Multiple cooking demonstrations by local chefs and cooking experts provided delicious samples to those nearby.

The event was topped off on Saturday evening with an unforgettable night of elite bull riding action from PBR Australia who brought their Touring Pro Division to join the thrills and spills of the beloved rodeo event.

For more than half a century, this premier field day has been providing the farming community, locals and urbanites with a passion for the great outdoors, a great day out, and this year was no different.



Brad Carpenter, James King and Bronson Crick from Gendore said they were setting Farm World alive and having a great day with a good turnout of suppliers and staff. ob18_1325



Latrobe Health Services shines a spotlight on health at Farm World

LAST week, Farm World attracted visitors from near and far, eager to explore the latest in farm machinery, enjoy thrilling rodeos, and partake in family fun. However, an unexpected highlight of the event was the opportunity for attendees to prioritise their health through free Shane Warne Legacy Health Checks, which proved to be a resounding success.

Latrobe Health Services, in collaboration with qualified pharmacists, offered these complimentary health checks through their role as the founding partner of Shane Warne Legacy, using the advanced SiSU Health Stations. Over 300 tests were conducted during the event.

Ian Whitehead, CEO of Latrobe Health Services, emphasised the importance of these health checks, particularly for regional communities in Australia, which often exhibit some of the lowest cardiovascular health outcomes. Gippsland, in particular, has the poorest documented health outcomes for heart disease.



Ian Whitehead, CEO of Latrobe Health Services and Kate Jarvis, Head of Marketing Latrobe Health Services with AFL great Nathan Buckley.

The screenings assessed essential health indicators such as blood pressure, heart rate, body composition, diabetes risk, and non-fasting cholesterol levels.

"Results are provided immediately following the test," Mr. Whitehead explained.

"Our health professionals offer key insights on the results, advice on how to keep your heart healthy, and information on how to follow up with your GP if further action is required."

Adding to the event's

focus on health and wellbeing, Latrobe Health Services also hosted a special appearance by Nathan Buckley which was an overwhelming success. The esteemed former AFL coach and player shared his expertise on practical ways to look after one's health and wellbeing, inspiring attendees to thrive in their daily lives.

For more information about Latrobe Health Services' partnership with Shane Warne Legacy, visit latrobehealth.com.au/shane-warne-legacy.



The Burra Foods team were chatting to farmers about the hot topic of their increase in milk prices to suppliers, with Trevor Saunders (supplier), Burra Foods CEO Stewart Carlson, Karen Muir, Brett Loughridge (supplier), Dan Cullen and Peter Fort at Farm World. ob20_1325



Evans Petroleum staff were enjoying catching up with customers and all attendees who stopped by. Pictured are Arthur, Adam, Andrew, John and Tim. ob19_1325



Jim and Ryan from Marriots had a steady run of customers coming in to chat with them about their Can-Am series and some of their other great ranges. ob14_1325



Paul of Pakenham Poll Herefords was pleased to not only be catching up with other producers and seeing clients, which is "really good", but spoke highly of the event in itself. "We have been coming here for many years and the Lardner Park team are so supportive of the events". Paul noted a client even went home with one of their bulls on Friday. C02_1325

Elyse and Cameron Chapman from Chapman's enjoyed catching up with their customers at Farm World and showing off their different products including the exciting new Valtra Q and Kubota range. ob06_1325



CHAPMAN
MACHINERY SERVICE

LOCALLY OWNED AGCO & KUBOTA DEALER

ON SITE C6 - WITH & NEXT TO KUBOTA
30+ YEARS SUPPORTING SOUTH GIPPSLAND
LOCALLY FAMILY OWNED & OPERATED
NOW SUPPORTING FENDT VALTRA
MASSEY FERGUSON IN YARRAM WEST

FENDT **VALTRA** **CHAPMAN** **Kubota**
ISEKI **30** **YEARS** **KRONE**
56623973 **SILVA** **WMI**

58 YARRAGON ROAD LEONGATHA VIC 3953
www.chapmanmachinery.com.au





WANTED LEASE OR SHARE FARM

Young couple looking for dairy industry opportunity.

Contact Allan 0429 101 770



LARDNER PARK ELDERS AND ALEX SCOTT & STAFF DAIRY SALE

NEXT DAIRY SALE:
**Friday, April 11
at 11am**

A/c - M & M Briggs, Drouin South
- Herd sold

31 - April/May calving 100% A.I. bred Holstein heifers by Fon Doo, Harvest, Nighthawk, Hotchance & Tailor. Due to Holstein sexed Larson, Cartel, Leith, Fondoo. Dams 100% A.I. bred. Many generations A.I. breeding, beautifully grown, top quality heifers with absolute ideal udder development. Will fit in to the very best of herds. Herd av. 8,500 L, low cell count.

A/c - G & P Wildes, Yannathan

7 - Freshly Calved & Close Springing Holstein Jersey X Heifers 2 1/2 years, by stud Kings Ville Jersey Bull. Generations of A.I. Breeding. Herd dispersed 2 years ago.

Further Entries Invited

ATTENTION FARMERS

Please ensure all entries are booked in with your agent prior to sale

5623 4744 5941 0299

Terry Ahearn
0438 562 816

Darryl Adams
0408 385 872

Neil Darby
0418 595 265

Andrew Mumford
0407 803 360

**ALEX SCOTT
AND STAFF**
Elders

VV0258

Free Drought Resilience workshops will be held in Wonthaggi and Leongatha this April. ob01_1325

Drought Resilience Workshops set to help people prepare

FOOD and Fibre Gippsland will be holding free Drought Resilience Workshops in Wonthaggi and Leongatha for farmers, community groups and organisations on how to prepare and respond to drought.

These workshops are designed to share the knowledge and experience of drought, and how this understanding can be applied to building local resilience for agricultural businesses.

Workshop content will consider the role of farmers, key service providers and organisations in building resilience and capacity within the region.

"Drought affects all aspects of our rural and regional communities, we need to ensure that we prepare and respond accordingly. These workshops are designed and targeted at all aspects of the agricultural community and led by expert facilitator Jenny O'Sullivan," said Regional

Drought Resilience Officer, Brodie Anderson.

The workshops, led by Jenny O'Sullivan will have emphasis on the different stages of drought and its impact on businesses and people.

Jenny will lead participants to identify strengths and opportunities for action to support Gippsland communities prepare for – and maintain – their resilience to drought.

Workshop content will consider what's currently in place for communities when it comes to drought preparedness and resilience.

Each participant will leave the workshop with an increased knowledge and understanding of the stages of drought and the ability to apply processes within their organisation to reduce the impact on communities.

Equipped with the ability to identify drought preparedness actions,

participants will also have the ability to share learnings with colleagues, teams and networks.

The Drought Resilience Workshops will be held on Wednesday, April 16 from 9am – 1.30 pm at Old Wonthaggi Post Office, 74 McBride Avenue, Wonthaggi and Thursday April 17 from 9am – 1.30pm at Leongatha Golf Club, 855 Koonwarra-Inverloch Road, Leongatha South.

Morning tea, refreshments and a light lunch will be provided.

The events are supported by Food & Fibre Gippsland through funding from the Future Drought Fund's Helping Regional Communities Prepare for Drought program.

For any questions or assistance with registration, please contact Brodie Anderson on brodie.anderson@foodandfibre-gippsland.com.au or 0460 895 232.



Poowong dairy farmer Brett Loughridge is happy with the increase in milk prices set by Burra Foods. ob29_1325

Burra Foods farmgate milk price steps up

LAST week, Burra Foods announced a \$0.10/kgMS step up to Milk Supply Partners for the period July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025.

This takes the Burra Foods milk price range for the 2025 financial year to \$8.10/kgMs-\$8.60/kgMS.

In a letter to Milk Supply Partners, CEO Stewart Carson advised that "Like the GDT, demand and pricing for our fat products has improved, whilst protein products have continued to be overwhelming."

Despite increasing global volatility, he mentioned that demand in core international markets is stable, whilst China is still uncertain as local milk volumes exceed demand.

Mr Carson acknowledged the tough seasonal conditions impacting many of Burra's Milk Supply Partners and the stresses that this can bring.

"We're always happy to give a little bit back and it will run into next season," said Mr Carson.

Poowong dairy farmer Brett Loughridge is a supplier for Burra and was happy with the news of the increase in milk prices.

"I was very pleased to receive the step up. It wasn't a big step up, but every little bit helps," said Mr Loughridge.

Stewart Carson joined the Burra Milk Supply Team at Farm World, Lardner Park chatting to suppliers, customers and attendees.

**ALEX SCOTT
AND STAFF**

Est. 1886

36 BRIDGE STREET, KORUMBURRA PH: 5655 1133 FAX: 5655 2480

Livestock Sales

KORUMBURRA

David Ryan 0408 311 895

LEONGATHA

Dane Perczyk - Livestock Manager 0408 176 063

Jack Curtis 0427 762 670

WARRAGUL

Neil Darby - Livestock Manager 0418 595 265

Terry Ahearn 0438 562 816

Jordan Sim 0448 058 435

Mark Malacarne 0418 654 590

Georgie Snell 0417 100 657

FOSTER

0408 595 174

0429 436 040

WONTHAGGI

0408 595 183

0428 749 390

0419 723 255

PAKENHAM

0409 443 473

0408 975 476

0457 001 877

0420 306 599

0417 225 498

Real Estate Sales

KORUMBURRA

Scott McKenzie 0427 552 898

WONTHAGGI

Phillip Hanley 0417 140 508

Cal Nation 0439 334 163

Mick Chambers 0418 349 783

GRANTVILLE

Angus Hall 0466 326 487

INVERLOCH

Marni Lee Redmond 0403 525 413

BERWICK

Tom Gibson 0438 574 472

LEONGATHA

Andrew Newton 0402 940 320

Peter Dwyer 0428 855 244

Emily Hillberg 0422 622 299

Tony Giles 0407 528 192

Dan Huther 0418 334 801

WARRAGUL

Alan Steenholdt 0409 423 822

PAKENHAM

Tom Gibson 0438 574 472

LANG LANG

Scott McKenzie 0427 552 898

MELBOURNE LAND

0474 781 711

0428 855 244

0422 622 299

0407 528 192

0418 334 801

COWES

0419 337 441

0407 347 509

0423 272 819

VENUS BAY

0417 631 252

0419 885 489

KOO WEE RUP

0466 326 487

10m³ TIPPER HIRE

**MR AGRI
ALL AREAS**

**Phone Greg
0419 393 375**



ELECTRIC FENCE ENERGIZER REPAIRS

Paul Vassil
(Formerly Vassil Electronics)
38 Lower Gordon St, Korumburra
0408 515 184

JA21217

WELLINGTON LIVESTOCK

'WHERE LOYALTY COUNTS'

WANTED Friesian Jersey Cross
heifers, unjoined, no blood test,
200kg plus, \$600-\$700
Immediate inspection, immediate delivery

✓ more EXPORT ORDERS
✓ more LIVESTOCK OPTIONS
✓ more MONEY IN YOUR POCKET
✓ more LOYALTY & BETTER SERVICE
ABS Direct: Cattle processed from Friday to Friday

LIVESTOCK RATES	
250+ KG/DW	\$5.70
200 TO 249	\$5.30
160 TO 199	\$4.90
120 TO 159	\$2.90
BULLS PLEASE CALL FOR A BOOKING	

BEN BOULTON 0488 445 467

OFFICE: 0429 445 461 www.wellingtonlivestock.net



MARKET REPORT

Brought to you by...

CLAAS Harvest Centre 

2600 yarded at Leongatha

By SGSA

AGENTS yarded another good quality yarding of 2600 head at this week's VLE Leongatha store sale.

As similar to previous sales, the market was dominated by feedlot operators with JBS, G&K O'Connor and Campbell Ross securing a large percentage of the 400 kilogram to 600 kilogram Angus steers with local graziers and others securing a few pens with prices once again very strong in line with the previous sale; most of the better types making in the \$3.80 to \$4.20 range. Coloured cattle and Xbreds with weight for both steers and heifers held around firm if they were heavy enough to go straight onto feed.

Lighter and plainer types destined for the paddock attracted less competition and were once again a little easier as dry conditions continue.

Leongatha Store Sale on Thursday, Mar. 27, 2025

Steers

J Thorp 15 Angus	627kg	\$3.47	\$2180
Country Inv 14 Angus	588kg	\$3.91	\$2300
Alamiste 13 Angus	571kg	\$4.05	\$2320
Lauka Seta 11 Angus	552kg	\$3.80	\$2100
M & L Bennett 11 Angus	533kg	\$3.93	\$2100
White 19 Angus	529kg	\$3.93	\$2080
Hooper 19 Hereford	524kg	\$3.58	\$1880
HM Matties 22 Angus	505kg	\$3.95	\$2000
T & M Neesham 16 Angus	495kg	\$4.28	\$2120
Yeerung Pastoral 15 Angus	489kg	\$4.20	\$2060
DG Clark 21 Angus	488kg	\$4.34	\$2120
Chown 17 Angus X	485kg	\$3.75	\$1820
White 17 Angus	481kg	\$4.12	\$1980
Hislop 20 Angus	479kg	\$3.86	\$1850
G & B Morrison 13 Angus	477kg	\$3.98	\$1900
Campbell 16 Angus	472kg	\$3.87	\$1830
Briarsview Beef 16 Angus	471kg	\$3.89	\$1840
Hatch 12 Angus	463kg	\$3.86	\$1790
N Haustorfer 18 Angus	460kg	\$3.73	\$1720
J & P Fleming 12 Angus	454kg	\$3.69	\$1680
Yeerung Past 15 Angus	438kg	\$4.03	\$1770
Dividing Creek 19 Angus	438kg	\$3.69	\$1620
K Davis 20 Angus	428kg	\$4.10	\$1760
S Conway 17 Angus	427kg	\$4.13	\$1770
Billy Creek Cattle Co 14 Angus	420kg	\$3.99	\$1680
J & S Kelly 15 Angus	419kg	\$4.05	\$1700
N Haustorfer 19 Angus	417kg	\$4.11	\$1720
Ansa Earth Moving 23 Angus	415kg	\$3.97	\$1650
P Mattern 14 Charo	400kg	\$3.47	\$1390
J & P Flming	396kg	\$3.78	\$1500
D & H Campbell 12 Angus	395kg	\$4.25	\$1680
SM Thompson 12 Angus	394kg	\$3.95	\$1560
Bowman 24 Hereford	386kg	\$3.31	\$1280
A O'Loughlin 18 Angus	384kg	\$3.95	\$1520
Liaise 16 Hereford	383kg	\$3.60	\$1380
Stuart 20 Angus	382kg	\$3.84	\$1470
D Land 12 Hereford	367kg	\$3.62	\$1330
Dividing Creek 17 Angus	366kg	\$3.82	\$1400
Ridgewood Glen 16 Angus	363kg	\$3.85	\$1400
Ansa Earth Moving 23 Angus	361kg	\$3.87	\$1400
T & A Christensen 18 BB	361kg	\$3.59	\$1300
B & J Henwood 20 Angus	357kg	\$4.02	\$1440
G & J Schepers 11 Angus	355kg	\$3.88	\$1380
P Sutton 20 Angus	354kg	\$3.93	\$1380
J & S Kelly 15 Angus	351kg	\$3.87	\$1360
N & R Lee 16 Angus	351kg	\$3.95	\$1390
M & K Hall 10 Hereford	348kg	\$3.93	\$1370
Leebrooke 18 Angus	346kg	\$3.91	\$1360
Stuart 15 Angus	340kg	\$4.05	\$1380
M Breen 10 Angus	324kg	\$3.70	\$1200
Ridgewood Glen 12 Angus	320kg	\$3.98	\$1280
Brown 12 Angus	292kg	\$3.59	\$1050
Jakschik 20 Angus	283kg	\$3.07	\$870

Heifers

B Garrett 22 Angus	451kg	\$3.63	\$1640
D & M Lee 20 Angus	442kg	\$3.66	\$1620
Campbell 20 Angus	431kg	\$3.57	\$1540
W & N Patterson 10 Charo	426kg	\$3.61	\$1540
Mcrae 17 Angus	417kg	\$3.57	\$1490
B Garrett 23 Angus	404kg	\$3.70	\$1500
S Campbell 26 Angus	401kg	\$3.86	\$1550
Dividing Creek 16 Angus	401kg	\$3.71	\$1490
D & M Lee 20 Angus	390kg	\$3.76	\$1470
E & S Gloster 15 Angus	388kg	\$3.14	\$1220
Billy Creek 14 Angus	383kg	\$3.62	\$1390
Moscript 16 Char	376kg	\$3.51	\$1320
Shaw 11 Angus X	370kg	\$3.21	\$1190
Sm Thompson 16 Angus	360kg	\$3.10	\$1220
N & R Lee 21 Angus	357kg	\$3.40	\$1220
B & K Chewe	354kg	\$3.52	\$1600
Ridgewood Glen 14 Angus	347kg	\$3.16	\$1100
Ridgewood Glen 13 Angus	322kg	\$3.34	\$1080
E & S Gloster 27 Angus	305kg	\$2.87	\$880
M Breen 15 Angus	299kg	\$3.02	\$900
Jakschik 11 Angus	265kg	\$2.94	\$780
Stanistreet 10 Angus	252kg	\$2.97	\$750

Feedlot buyers busy at Leongatha VLE

FEEDLOT buyers featured prominently at Thursday's Leongatha Store Sale.

"One of the major standouts of the day was the strength of the feedlot buyers on any better-bred cattle and runs of cattle with weight in them," Nutrien's Brian McCormack said.

He noted three buyers accounted for about 80 per cent of Nutrien's sales in that bracket of cattle.

Commission buyer

Campbell Ross, Jason Ronalds of JBS and Mark Dwyer a buyer for O'Connors representing Bunnaloo Feedlot were the trio concerned.

"The condition of the cattle held up quite well," Brian said, explaining that was despite dry conditions, attributing that to the fact the weather has not yet got too cold and cattle aren't expending a lot of energy to stay warm.

Once the colder weather

hits, more hand-feeding will be required to keep cattle weight up.

While feedlot buyers were busy at Thursday's Store Sale, grass fatteners (backgrounders) picked up lighter cattle to grow out to a feedlot weight.

"Feedlot buyers are buying to a price as much as quality and condition," Brian said, with that explaining why Thursday's sale was lacking in price highlights.

Fun for all at Lardner Park's Farm World



Bass Coast Highway Patrol Sergeant Peter Pearce was on hand with the bike, which was thoroughly enjoyed by all the kids. C03_1325

Farmers for Climate Action members Paul Stark and Fergus O'Connor said the great thing about the charity organisation is that it has grown to over 8400 farmer members and over 80,000 associate members. ob10_1325

Craig 'Chips' Pringle and Mick Prezioso were enjoying getting to know the local community as the new owners of Wonthaggi Motorcycles and Power Equipment and getting a gauge on what people are after and seeing how they can be of service. ob17_1325



A delighted crowd sang happy birthday to Happy on Saturday, as he celebrated his second birthday. The mascot for Lardner Park's Farm World is also a fundraising icon for West Gippsland Hospital. He may have grown a fair chunk bigger but his smile shines even larger now. C04_1325



Bass Coast Landcare Public Fund

Empowering local initiatives to conserve Bass Coast's unique native plants and animals.

Discover more at www.basscoastlandcare.org.au/publicfund.html

Donations are tax-deductible; inquire about bequests today.

CLEARING SALE

Tractor, Farm Machinery & Sundries

Friday, April 11 at 10.30am

A/c - R & J Auchterlonie
243 Dollar Road, Dumbalk

Machinery Items: Massey Ferguson S5710 4WD Tractor & Loader 2,500Hrs, Can Am Defender XU 660Hrs (2YO), Krone KW 4.62/4 Tedder Rake, Krone KW 7.82/6x7 Tedder Rake, Kuhn GMD 3511 8 Disc Hay Mower (4YO), 1,000L Gold Acres Sprayer with 10m Boom Remote Control Hose Reel (3YO) barely used, Kuhn 1.8T Super Spreader (5YO), Suzuki Jimny Sierra no rego no RWC 149,000km 2015 model, AMC Explorer Ride On Mower, Flexigrip Soft Hands, Rear 3PL Silage Grab, John Deere Tractor Bucket, 3PL Grader Blade, Stihl Handheld Auger & Demo Saw, 3PL Smudgebar, Old Silage/Feed Out Wagon, Honda Water Pump with Suction Hose, Air Compressor, Honda G400 Generator, Old Tractor Bucket, 3PL Auger, Old Davey Water Pump, Trailing Hay Feeder, BOC Arc Welder, Liquid Arc Welder, Lavor Pressure Washer Electric, Effluent Sprayer, DeLaval Cow Shed Fan.

Sundry Items: 500L 50 teat Calf Milk Trailer, Calf Trailer (ATV), 5 Teat Calf Feeder x 5, Pelvic Lifter, New Treated Pine Posts, Bale Up Hay Feeder, Multiple Hay Rings, Wire Spinner & Wire, Overhead Fuel Bowser, Old Caravan, Old Milk Vat, Yamaha Water Pump (motor works-pump doesn't work), Steel Work table, Ringlock, Old Fence Posts, New Roll Poly Pipe 31/2inch, Pile of Gum Firewood Logs, Quad Bar Four Wheel Motorbike, Poly Water Troughs x 4, Ute Tray (Alloy), Stock Crate 10x6Ft, 600L Gold Acres Water Tank, Nylex 9,000L Water Tank, Tanks 500L With Stand x 2, Numerous Chemical Drums Half Full, Test Buckets Poly & Stainless x 8, Calf Grain Troughs x 15, Calf Water Troughs x 12, Cow Harness, AI tank, Rayburn 3 Combustion Stove & Numerous Sundry Items.

A/c Outside Vendor: 3 PL hay feeder, 6x4 calf crate, Wooden dog kennel, 13" x 7'9" round bale trailer (holds 8 round bales), 6x4x2' dog crate, 2 x 6x4 calf crates, 6x4 steel trailer, Molasses lick barrel, 4 x calf feeders, 2 x Trewella jacks. Various builders electric tools - some new and various other sundry items.

Outside Vendors Welcome

Refreshments available, Buyers I.D. required, number system will operate, NO buyer premium.

Terms: Card, cash or cheque day of sale unless prior arrangements are made.

GST Applicable

Listing and photos on Facebook:
Alex Scott and Staff - Livestock
or www.alexscott.com.au



Like us on Facebook
Alex Scott and Staff - Livestock
Dane Perczyk 0408 176 063
Jack Curtis 0427 762 670



Soil health expert Stefanie's goats will be a topic of conversation this Saturday.

Rage against ragwort and other weeds

SOUTH Gippsland Landcare invites you to this free workshop on Saturday, April 5 at the Hallston Hall. Come along to learn all about how and why we should be controlling Ragwort and other weeds.

You will hear from large animal veterinarian Tom Gibley about the importance of removing plant toxins from the diet of sheep and cattle while retired veterinarian and multispecies enthusiast Phil Poulton will shed light on the emerging field of growing multispecies to combat weeds.

Soil health expert Stefanie Hildmann will discuss various organic and biodynamic control methods including her use of goats. The day will also provide an opportunity to learn about new technology for weed control with drone operator Eloise Cunningham from Hazelwood Forestry demonstrating the latest in drone technology.

To register head to events.humanitix.com/rage-against-ragwort-and-other-weeds.

Email kirby@sgln.net.au for more information.

This event is funded by the Victorian Government "Partnerships Against Pests" program.



Drier conditions are leading farmers to buy in feed, having a ripple effect on other businesses.

Farmers starting to feel drought conditions

WITH a few years of less-than-average rainfall in South Gippsland, and with one of the driest years ever recorded for the region, uncertainty for farmers abounds.

While Gippsland farmers have been known for their generosity in supplying other flood, fire or drought impacted places with feed, when situations were dire - most notably through the Lions Club run charity, Need for Feed - they could soon be looking to stock up themselves.

Lower rainfall from spring 2024 right through to autumn this year, together

with increasingly unreliable weather patterns, has led to limited opportunities for farmers to conserve fodder and this could be a concern for some.

"A lot of farmers are feeding out at the moment so if they run out of feed they'll have to start buying in feed," said Elyse Chapman from Chapman Machinery Service.

"This greater need for farmers to start buying in feed is a cost they've got to think about."

Buying in supplementary feed when supplies run low or having to sell off stock can

not only result in increased costs for farmers, but can also decrease production and income, and increase mental and physical strain on those affected.

Ensuring there is enough water on farms can also be a burden if dams and tanks are running low or beginning to dry out.

The cost of living crisis also compounds these factors and farmers spending conservatively can have a flow on effect to other businesses, with Cameron Chapman of Chapman Machinery Service stating they are starting to see

the effect on their sales.

"It has slowed down. There's always something kind of ticking over, and we're still selling machines, but we'd all like a bit more rain."

The Bureau of Meteorology is predicting a typical range of rainfall for April to June with warmer-than-average days and nights, but time will tell.

Free Drought Resilience Workshops are being held in Wonthaggi and Leongatha this April for farmers and community organisations. Use the QR code to register.

VLE LEONGATHA STORE SALE 4000 CATTLE 4000

THURSDAY, APRIL 3, 2025 - Starting at 9am

PLEASE NOTE: 4PM WEDNESDAY CURFEW APPLIES

GROWN STEERS

A/c Wallaby Grazing P/L, Mornington (ELDERS)
100 Angus steers, 16-20 mths, North East Victoria Bred

A/c V Albanese, Tyers (ELDERS)
80 Angus steers, 16-20 mths, Yea District Bred

A/c M McLennan, Trafalgar (ELDERS)
50 Angus steers, 16-18 mths, Landfall blood

A/c P Nation, Hill End (ALEX SCOTT)
47 Angus & Angus/Hereford X steers 18-20 mths

A/c M & B Plozza, Yannathan (ELDERS)
42 Angus steers, 16-18 mths, GF & ABF

A/c Rosebank Farm, Foster (ELDERS)
40 Angus steers, 16-24mths, GF & ABF

A/c R.J. Mackenzie (ALEX SCOTT)
40 Hereford steers, 16-18 mths, NE Accred, Wiruna & Yavenvale blood

A/c Radvenjoy P/L, Narracan (ELDERS)
33 Angus steers, 18-22 mths, Merlewood & Battersby blood, VB, GF, ABF

A/c P Felstead, Nilma North (ALEX SCOTT)
28 Angus steers, 2 yo, Hamilton District Bred. 1 Mark

A/c White Pastures (ELDERS)
25 Angus steers 2 yo, Temania blood, GF & ABF

A/c S&L Storti (ELDERS)
20 Angus steers, 18 mths, Battersby & Harris blood VB, GF & ABF

A/c D & S Hourigan (ELDERS)
18 BB steers, 18 mths, Landfall & Fernleigh blood, 2 X 5in1

A/c 'Leaske Farms', Bunyip (ELDERS)
15 Angus steers, 18 mths, GF & ABF

GROWN HEIFERS

A/c Radvenjoy P/L, Narracan (ELDERS)
60 Angus Heifers, 15-18 mths, Merlewood & Battersby blood, VB, GF, ABF

A/c B.V.M. Pastoral, Yannathan (ALEX SCOTT)
25 Angus heifers, 18-20 mths, By stud Angus, "Wattlewood" bulls

A/c D & S Hourigan (Elders)
18 BB heifers, 18 mths, Landfall & Fernleigh blood, 2 X 5in1

WEANERS

A/c S Fahey & Son, Tyers (ELDERS)
100 Angus mix sex weaners, weaned, Piligard, 2 X 7in1, By Banquet Bulls, 12-14 mths, NE Accred

A/c Trandarra P/L, Moondarra (ELDERS)
100 Angus mix sex weaners, weaned, Piligard, 2 X 7in1, Landfall and Te Mania blood, 12 -14 mths

A/c Malanda Pastoral, Stradbroke (ELDERS)
100 Angus steers, weaned, Leewood Angus blood, 12-14 mths

A/c Estate KP Trotman, Buffalo (ELDERS)
100 Angus mix sex weaners, VB, GF & ABF, 12 mths, NE Accred

A/c Parker Amber, Krowera (ELDERS)
60 Angus mix sex weaners, weaned, Wattlewood and Bowman blood

A/c Bastwrouse Family Trust, Bass (ALEX SCOTT)
90 Mixed sex Angus X Hereford weaners, 10-12 mths, By Stud Fernleigh Bulls, drenched and vaccinated

A/c GR Bastin, Erica (ELDERS)
75 Angus mix sex weaners, weaned, Piligard, 2 X 7in1, Landfall and Te Mania blood, 12-14 mths

A/c D & S Hourigan (ELDERS)
60 BB mix sexes, 12 mths, Landfall & Fernleigh blood, 2 X 5in1

A/c P Cashman, Stratford (ELDERS)

40 Hereford & Hereford Angus mix sex weaners, 10mths, weaned, VB, GF, ABF, NE Accred

A/c Wheeler Logging, Hill End (ELDERS)
40 Angus X Hereford mix sex weaners, weaned, By Bowman Bulls, 12-18 mths

A/c B & L Pyle, Drouin South (ALEX SCOTT)
35 Angus mix sex weaners 11 mths, Murdeduke blood, weaned 8 weeks, 2 X 5in1.

A/c Rail & Spur, Allambie Reserve (ALEX SCOTT)
35 Angus Mixed sex weaners, 10-12 mths, weaned, VB, ABF, GF

A/c F & H Colaciello, Tyers (ELDERS)
30 Angus mix sex weaners, weaned, NE Accred, By Bowman Bulls, 12-14 mths

A/c Carra Falls, Carrarung South (ELDERS)
30 Angus mix sex weaners, weaned, By West Creek Angus Bulls, 12-14 mths

A/c M & J Brody, Tyers (ELDERS)
25 Angus steers, Millah Murray blood, 12-14 mths

A/c E & J Bennett, Mirboo North (ALEX SCOTT)
20 Angus Steer calves, 8-9 mths, By Leewood Angus Bull, weaned 3 weeks, VB, ABF, GF

A/c M & B Harding, Hill End (ALEX SCOTT)
20 Angus mixed sex weaners, By Hatch Bred Bull

A/c Sha-Valley, Krowera (ALEX SCOTT)
20 mixed sex Limo/Charolais, 10 mths, VB, NE Accred, GF & ABF

A/c V & D Vickers, Mirboo North (ALEX SCOTT)
17 X Black Baldy steers, 14 mths, GF & ABF

A/c C Hemple (ELDERS)
16 HH/AA X mix weaners, weaned, GF & ABF

A/c L Willow, Kilmany (ELDERS)
15 Char X steers, 12 mths

A/c D & E Perczyk, Hallston (ALEX SCOTT)

15 Charolais steer weaners, 10-12 mths, By Rangan "LT Ledger", drenched and B12 Inj on 9/3, yard weaned, VB, ABF, GF

A/c Vuiller Poll Shorthorn, Yanakie (ALEX SCOTT)
15 Poll Shorthorn steers 12-13 mths, drenched B12, Selenium and Copper by Royalla and Vuiller Poll Shorthorn Bulls

A/c D&K Bowman, Foster

12 Angus steers, 14 mths, GF & ABF

Mrs M Ainsworth, Stradbroke (ELDERS)

6 Angus steers

6 Angus heifers

8 mths, weaned, very quiet, By Innesdale Bulls, 2 X 7in1 vaccinations, NE Accred

A/c B.V.M. Pastoral, Yannathan (ALEX SCOTT)
10 Angus steers, 8-9 mths, By stud Angus, "Wattlewood" bulls, weaned 4 weeks

A/c F Miller, Toora (ALEX SCOTT)

6 Angus heifers

2 Angus steers

By Bowman Bull, VB, weaned, GF & ABF

XBRED & DAIRY

A/c A&J Hancock, Poowong (ALEX SCOTT)

20 Hereford X mix sex weaners, 10-12 mths, VB, GF & ABF

A/c S Eden, Woodleigh (ALEX SCOTT)

12 Friesian steers, 18 mths

BULLS

A/c The Breeder, "Featherstone Angus" (ALEX SCOTT)

8 Angus Bulls, rising 2 yo, semen tested, structural assessed, and genomic tested



5658 1894



5655 1133



5997 1555



5941 4666

SOUTH GIPPSLAND ASSOCIATED AGENTS



CROSSWORD

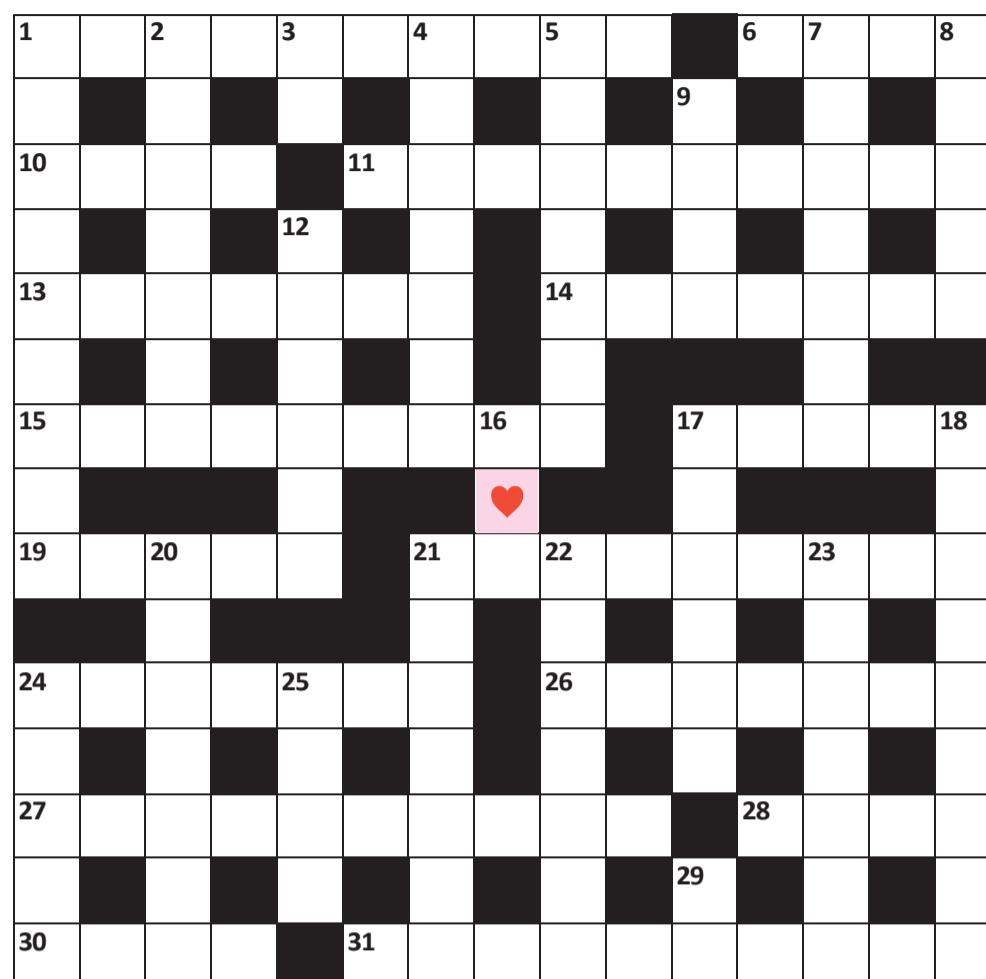
CRYPTIC CLUES

ACROSS

- Puppet Duke John, at birth, better naked! (10)
- Plots to roll internet nuisance (4)
- Underwater vehicles for payments? (4)
- Playful badger pod; go on, out! (2,2,2,4)
- Rule out the first US president returning (7)
- Wanting to feel under throw, without hesitation (7)
- Perfect example of a one-off 'rich' Jag (9)
- See 29-down
- Pins providing stretch to ears (5)
- 1-across, famously playing the odd 'Chopin' with Chopin (9)
- Perpetual heat around conjunction of choices (7)
- Big chap unfortunately hit with gaol (7)
- He made 21-across stay in lewd resort (4,6)
- See 3-down
- Hounded to try on diet now and then (4)
- Flexibility in thought after writing clichés (10)

DOWN

- This describes worker after organising crimes! (9)
- Stiff lift of the ears (7)
- 3 and 28-across** Regularly pounded digger became a bundle of nerves (2,4)
- Finally change direction in my understanding (7)
- Tire out, even with lightweight hammer (7)
- Iron connects 24-down handles under expert hand (7)
- See 9-down



No. 67 - by 'Johnno2' of Cape Paterson

STRAIGHT CLUES

ACROSS

- Puppet (10)
- Nuisance material on internet (4)
- Underwater vessels; also, (membership) payments (abbr.) (4)
- Mischiefous, playful, or worse (2,2,2,4)
- Rule out, withdraw (7)
- Wanting, requiring (7)
- Perfect example (9)
- See 29-down
- Pins, small nails (5)
- A famous 1-across (9)
- Perpetual/ly, eternal/ly (7)
- Biblical big chap (7)
- Maker of animated film, 21-across (4,6)
- See 3-down
- Hounded, sat on (4)
- Clichés no longer thoughtful (10)

DOWN

- Criminal, wrongdoer (9)
- Stiff, machine-like (7)
- 3 and 28-across** Wary, a bundle of nerves (2,4)
- Understanding, affinity (7)
- Hammer, thoroughly overcome (7)
- Hand, present (7)
- See 9-down
- 9 and 8-down** Example (generally a person) (4,5)
- Stroke gently (6)
- 21st Greek letter (3)
- Capricious, running hot and cold (6)
- Ineffective, lacking force (9)
- Belted, surrounded (7)
- Sun umbrella (7)
- Oversight, or dilapidation (7)
- Kept (everything) (7)
- Less (in number) (5)
- Latin for 'see', 'refer to' used in publications (4)
- 29 and 17-across** Initially (2,5)

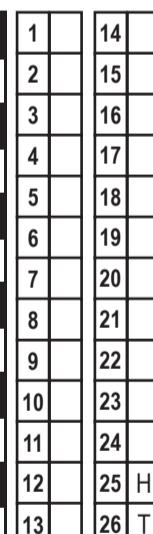
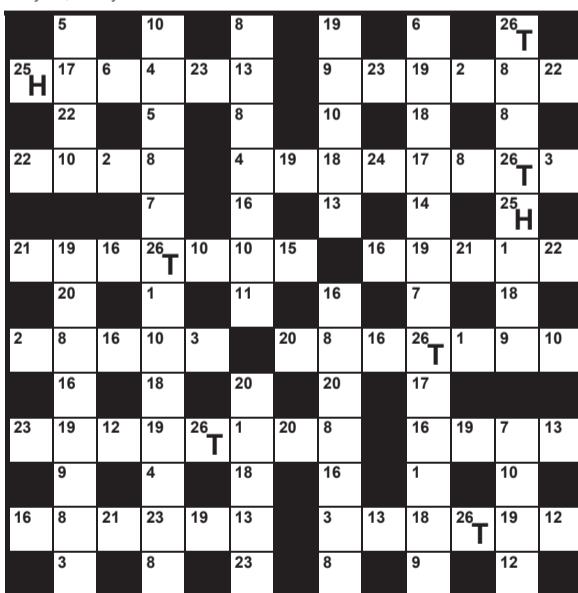
SOLUTION



CODEWORD

No. 264

Each number corresponds to a letter of the alphabet. Two have been filled in for you, can you work out the rest?



9 and 8-down Lore, for example? (4,5)

12 Stroke bothers heart vessels (6)

16 Hip parties for Greek's 21st (3)

17 Terrific Klezmer piece, sometimes hot, sometimes not (6)

18 Labour around hotel, 'working' but ineffective (9)

20 County initially led, after 101 runs belted (7)

21 Umbrella clauses, briefly on hold, crucially (7)

22 Government put in 'No' vote in oversight (7)

23 Kept everything in frost with nuclear fridges with regular leads (7)

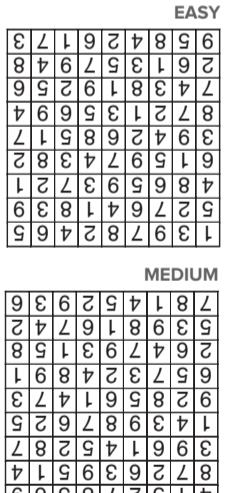
24 Less full jug (5)

25 See Latin '6' on Duroliponte walls (4)

29 and 17-across Initially treats rift as a part reversal (2,5)

2803 | PUZZLES AND PAGINATION © pagemasters.

SOLUTIONS



SUDOKU

No. 273

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every number from 1 to 9 must appear in: each of the nine vertical columns, each of the nine horizontal rows and each of the nine 3 x 3 boxes. Remember, no number can occur more than once in any row, column or box.



EASY



MEDIUM



No. 184

Can you find all the words listed? The leftover letters will spell out a secret message.

WORD SEARCH



QUICK QUIZ

- In The Chronicles of Narnia series, which Pevensie sibling is granted the regnal title of 'The Just'?
- Saoirse Ronan (pictured) starred opposite Emory Cohen and Jim Broadbent in which period drama film?
- Which act represented Finland in the 2023 Eurovision Song Contest with the song 'Cha Cha Cha'?
- What is the scientific term for the shoulder blade?
- Who wrote the 2018 essay collection titled 'How to Write an Autobiographical Novel'?
- On which Hawaiian island is the Mauna Loa volcano located?
- What is the national flower of the US?
- How many constellations are recognised by the International Astronomical Union?
- According to urban legend, how long does it take to digest a piece of gum?
- Apteryx are a species of flightless bird more commonly known by what name?

ANSWERS: 1. Edmund 2. Brooklyn 3. Karajga 4. Scapula 5. Alexander Chee 6. Island of Hawaii 7. Rose 8. 88.9. Seven Years 10. Kiwi

SECRET MESSAGE: sundae is my favourite day

of the week

SOUTH GIPPSLAND SENTINEL-TIMES | TUESDAY, APRIL 1, 2025 | 55

55

55

TRADES & SERVICES



DIRECTORY

AIR CONDITIONING

SAVE UP TO \$5,000 WHEN YOU REPLACE YOUR GAS DUCTED HEATING

Ask us how!

MITSUBISHI ELECTRIC
DIAMOND DEALER
SALE, INSTALLATION & REPAIR

citytocoastair.com
0400 001 465

CITY TO COAST AIR
WONTHAGGI

AU39230

AIR CONDITIONING

DAIKIN

03 5678 5190
office@picra.com.au

Coastal Refrigeration and Air-Conditioning

AU22840

COASTAL
REFRIGERATION & AIR-CONDITIONING

COMMERCIAL & DOMESTIC
SERVICE, INSTALLATION, MAINTENANCE AND SALES

AIR CONDITIONING

DAIKIN ENERGY EFFICIENT HEATING & COOLING

BEST PRICE GUARANTEED ON ALL DAIKIN AIR CONDITIONERS VEU rebates available

RELIANCE
HEATING & COOLING

CALL FOR A FREE QUOTE **5672 2426**
enquiries@easyair.com.au

AU33404

AIR CONDITIONING & HEATING

Bass Coast HVAC
HEATING, VENTILATION & AIR CONDITIONING

Heating & A/C install and maintenance
FREE NO OBLIGATION QUOTE
Nick 0421 170 827
nick@basscoasthvac.com.au

AU27155

ANTENNAS

PAULS ANTENNAS

- Professionally installing Antennas
- Data Points TV mounting
- Extra TV points

ALL WORK GUARANTEED
20 YEARS EXPERIENCE

Same day service. Covering all areas
Call Paul anytime 0402 429 114

JEN1972

ASPHALTING

ASPHALT

Schoolgrounds, Driveways
Carparks & repairs

Mike Rowley 0411 412 707
66 Nardoo Street, Cape Paterson 3995

AU6568

BLINDS

Zap's Blinds

Free measure & quote
"We come to you"

- Hollands
- Sunscreens
- Romans
- Canvas awnings
- Verticals
- Timber & aluminium Venetians

Servicing Gippsland - Mark & Rachael Zappa

0419 526 080 AH: 5672 3874

JEN1143

BOOKKEEPING

Mess Solutions

Bookkeeping Service

Registered BAS Agent #(90711003)

Take the stress out of your paperwork without the large fees.

Registered BAS Agent for all your bookkeeping needs.

Contact: Donna 0400 379 637

Email: donnatodd@westnet.com.au

CONCRETING

LEO MASTERSON CONCRETING

- Exposed aggregate
- Driveways
- Crossovers
- Cow lanes
- Factories
- Shed floors

Call Leo: 0419 580 301

CONCRETING

REINFORCED CONCRETE SOUTH GIPPSLAND

For all your concreting needs

Phone: 0447 137 009

Email: reinforcedconcreteaustralia@gmail.com

EARTHMOVING & TREES

EARTH MOVING & TREES

TREVOR BUNN 0427 572 270

E: tbunn@outlook.com.au

MACHINERY:

- CAT326 Excavator 26 tonne
- CATD7 Bulldozer 25 tonne
- Giltrap Tip Trailers 16 tonne
- MF 7615 4WD tractor with front end loader (180 horsepower)
- Power grader
- Scraper
- Large wood chipper that can handle any size logs, alternative to burning

ELECTRICIAN



For all your electrical works including

- Domestic upgrades
- Maintenance and Repairs
- TV, data and home networking
- Lighting installations & upgrades
- Kitchen appliances install

JOEL SHARPE 0412 950 720

www.jselectricians.com.au

HM101

ELECTRONICS



James Dell

10 Ashenden Street
Leongatha, Vic, 3953
5662 3891

admin@gardnerelectronics.com.au

Gardner Electronics

Security/Access control • CCTV • TV
• Data/Phone • Home Theatre • PA

LB0703

FLOORING



LET US GIVE YOU A QUOTE

carpetone.com.au

21 Murray Street, Wonthaggi
5672 2915

JAE1812

GARAGE DOORS & GATES



ABN: 85202917027

ROLLER DOORS
SECTIONAL DOORS
AUTOMATED GATES
SALES, SERVICE & REPAIRS

EMAIL: gandrgaragedoors@outlook.com
RUSS: 0415 679 778 GAV: 0400 217 595

LB0705

GARAGES & SHEDS



• Garages & sheds
• Supply & install
• Supply only
• Install only

WV0153

GUTTER CLEANING



Servicing Gippsland

BEN 0450 186 235

se.guttercleaning@gmail.com
Vacuum Gutter Cleaning
Solar Panel Cleaning

LB0240

BUILDER



SCHMIDTBUILDERS

TRADITIONAL QUALITY CARPENTRY

- Specialising in:
- Extensions
- Renovations
- New Homes
- Decks & Pergolas
- Stairs-Internal & External
- Private Jetties
- Retaining Walls

Adam Schmidt 0418 139 352

ABN 75092084574

aschmidtbuilders@bigpond.com

CONCRETING



BASS COAST CONCRETING
0491 950 640

HM654

BUILDER



Specialist builder of period style custom homes.

0428 496 266

brad@bradmccormackhomes.com.au

JEN1971

CARPET CLEANING



Cleaner Carpets

- Carpets
- Tiles
- Cars
- Upholstery
- Mattresses

Reasonable rates and friendly service.

Call David Britt today

0400 907 201

DECK RESTORATION



Specialists in restoration & preservation of timber decks

Residential & Commercial

SERVICING ALL OF BASS COAST

1800 332 525

www.deckseal.com.au

HM653

CLEANING SERVICES



LONGBEACH CLEANING SERVICES

- Domestic
- NDIS cleaning

Call Ashley:

0417 351 526

South Gippsland

DINGO SERVICES

BEN'S DINGO SERVICES

- Dingo (rubber tracks)
- 2 ton excavator

• Bucket work

• Rotary Hoe

• Trenching

Operating locally since 2001

0408 387 722

HM659



BLINDS



South East Gutter Cleaning

Servicing Gippsland

BEN 0450 186 235

se.guttercleaning@gmail.com

Vacuum Gutter Cleaning

Solar Panel Cleaning

LB0240

DEATHS	DEATHS	DEATHS	DEATHS	DEATHS	DEATHS	FUNERALS	FUNERALS
DOODLE, Paul: Late of Darkan, WA. Aged 83. Dearly loved husband of Anne (nee Kindellian), beloved father and father-in-law of Alice, Brigid and Greg. Special "Poppy Paul" to Louisa. Loved brother-in-law and uncle of the Kindellian, Corcoran and Taylor families.	KINGWILL (nee Juschkat), Willie (Knigge): Born on March 8, 1930. Passed away March 23, 2025. Willie (Knigge) passed away peacefully on March 23, 2025. Dearest Mum... my heart is broken but memories remain. Your loving son Peter x.	NICHOLSON, Edna: 03.11.1924 - 25.03.2025. Dearly loved sister of Victor Benetti, sister-in-law of Maureen (dec.). Much loved Aunty Edna of Catherine, Leo, Bernadette, Brendan, Philip, Anthony, Christopher and their families. Always loving, always kind, what beautiful memories you have left behind.	SHEEDY, Patrick Joseph: 13.04.1946 - 23.03.2025. Passed away peacefully surrounded by loved ones at the Frankston Hospital on March 23, 2025. Dearly loved husband of Julianne (dec.). Much loved and loving father of Grant, Mark and Adam. Loved father-in-law of Jodi, Jorgen and Samantha.	TREASE, Barry: Our beautiful brother and uncle. Brother and brother-in- law to Fay and John (dec.). Uncle of Sharon and Peter, Brad and Carolyn, Peta and Chris. His 10 Special great nephews and nieces and 2 great-great- nieces. We will miss you Badge.	WRIGHT, Edwin Benjamin: 07.04.1931 - 24.03.2025. Loved husband of Marlene. Loving dad and father-in-law of Jeanette and Julie (twins dec.), Anne Maree and Martin, Sharon and Phil, Janine and Greg, Daryl and Sharon. Adored 'Pa Ed' to Tim, Nick and Vanessa, Mitch (Scobie) and Rosie; Brooke Kelly and Matt, Luke and Chantelle; Beck and Matt, Chris and Sophie, Jess and Danny; Nikita and Jake, Angus along with his great grandchildren Cooper, Molly; Miller, Harper, Oscar Eddie, Zayne, Jett; Zara, Ryan, Archie, Tayla, Mia, Ella, Oliver; and Savannah. Will be sadly missed, in our hearts forever.	LEE OAM, Peter William: Esteemed member of the Community 22.06.1929 - 14.03.2025. Survived by partner Kathy Whelan, daughter Andrea Stevens and families. "Celebration of Life" Wednesday, April 9, 2025. Toora Bowls Club, 1-3pm. "A Life Well Lived".	SMITH, Kirsty (Christine): 30.05.1948 - 03.02.2024. Kirsty's ashes will be scattered and laid to rest at Mirboo North Cemetery on April 6, 2025, commencing at 11am. Friends and family are welcome to join us.
FACEY (nee Canobio), Phyllis Corbyn: 02.04.1924 - 21.03.2025. Passed away peacefully at 100 years of age. Wife of Jim (dec.). Loved mother and mother-in-law of Norm and Dianne, Arthur and Pamela. Adored nan of Kathryn and Jamie, Julie, John and Emma. Treasured "Nan Facey" to Nikeisha, Bronson, Mathilda and Jack. Admired and dearly loved by extended family and friends. The family advises that Phyllis was laid to rest in a private service surrounded by her family, as were her wishes. In the care of Wattle Range Funerals Millicent - 08 8733 2067	NICHOLSON (Hales), Edna Mary: 03.11.1924 - 25.03.2025. Passed away at Rose Lodge, Wonthaggi. Wife of Ewen Hales (dec.), remarried to Richard Nicholson (dec.). Mother of John, Kevin (dec.) and Ian Hales. Mother-in-law to Lyn. Grandmother to Tina and Greg Scott. Great grandmother to Lexi, Casey, Bianca, Hayden and Lachlan. Great-great- grandmother to Jayden and Leah. Daughter to Emilio and Caterina Benetti (both dec.). Forever in our hearts. Rest peacefully.	ROBINSON, Stanley Gibson: 10.06.1935 - 19.03.2025. Passed away peacefully in his sleep. Loved husband of Lia. Loved father of Jenny (dec.), and Trevor. Loving stepfather and father-in-law of Tania and Joe. Adored grandpa of Anthony, Paul and Mikaela. ROBINSON, Stan: In loving memory of my best friend, Stan.	ROBINSON, Stanley Gibson: Born on February 4, 1952. Passed away March 24, 2025. Passed away at the Leongatha Hospital. Son of Des (dec.) and Elsie (dec.). Loved brother and brother-in-law to Jimmy (dec.), Fay and John (dec.), Shirley and Alan (dec.), Neville and Anne, Dianna and Trevor.	TREASE, Barry: Fondly remembered by his family and friends. Rest in peace Badge, Brad and Caz, Dylan and Georgia, Lani, Adam and Annie, Remy and Ivy.	MACKAY: A service to celebrate the life of Susan Mackay will be held on Tuesday, April 8, 2025, in the Hester chapel Kittle Bros Funerals 7986 Melbourne RD, Shepparton, commencing 11am after which a private Cremation will take place. As Susan loved her garden and propagating plants from cuttings, the	ROBINSON: A Memorial Service to Celebrate the Life of Mr. Stanley Gibson Robinson will be held at St. Andrews Uniting Church, Peart Street, Leongatha on Friday, April 4, 2025, commencing 1.30pm. This Service will be livestreamed, to view please visit www.handleyfuneralservices.com.au	TREASE: A Memorial Service to Celebrate the Life of Mr. Barry Trease will be held at Space 47, 47 McCartin St, Leongatha Wednesday, April 9, 2025, commencing at 2pm. A Service for Burial will precede the above service at the Leongatha Cemetery commencing at 1pm.
				BADGE: Man of few words, but very much a part of our family.			

**CLASSIFIED DEADLINE
12 NOON MONDAYS**

forgotten.

Rest in peace
my dear friend.

Ron Zaghet and family.

**notice on this
page please**

5672 1888



EST 1530 UK
1882 AUSTRALIA
ABN 83 062 028 790

**BARRY WAKLEY
SCULPTORS AND
MONUMENTAL MASONS**

"Memorials of Distinction"

Solid Granite monuments in many colors and designs to suit any budget.

Letter cutting and renovation.

Handley

FUNERAL SERVICES

Caring For Our Community

MILKINS FUNERALS

Sentinel-Times Classifieds

FOR SALE

FILING CABINETS

Brand new with an anti-tilt safety feature

Available in 2, 3 and 4 drawers. Over 8 colours to choose from. Order now at the Sentinel-Times Wonthaggi office 47 McBride Avenue 5672 1888

FOR RENT

WONTHAGGI:

Furnished house for rent. 3 to 4 months. Available May. 2-bedroom excellent condition. References required. \$2000 per month, utilities included. 0417 112 385.

WANTED TO RENT

HOUSE: 68-year-old single male, looking for older style 1 or 2 bedroom home with garage for long term rental. References supplied if needed. Ph: 0490 497 752.

LOST

PHOTO ALBUM AND FAMILY TREE BOOK:

Seeking information and help in locating a lost photo album and family tree book for the "Sammon's" Eldorado near Wangaratta.

Please help, I feel time is running out to find this.

The last known holder was Patricia Hourigan, nee Hedrick, nee Holland.

Patricia's good friend from the Gippsland region contacted me but I have lost her name and phone number.

Anyone knowing who the friend is or thinks they have seen or know the book please contact me on 0418 293 610.

PUBLIC NOTICES

Ready to Make Changes?

Jason Crestani, your local Psychologist!

Over 28 years experience Local resident. Sees children & adults too NDIS and Medicare ASD, IQ & ADHD Assessments

www.inspiredhoney.com
P: 0425 764 733

Lifeline

HELP IS AS CLOSE AS THE TELEPHONE

13 11 14

Bass Coast Recyclers

5672 2946

0417 556 593

LBC1667

*Conditions apply

BASS COAST CAR REMOVALS

We pay you for your unwanted cars, 4x4's & trucks

We can remove farm scrap metal for free. Towing now available.

Call Shane 7 days a week

5678 2002 or

0407 599 616

NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS:

Advertisements offering a used motor car for sale must include in the advertisement:

(a) The cash price of the motor car; and

(b) Whichever of the following is applicable...

• If the motor car is registered, the registration number; or

• If the motor car is unregistered, the engine number of the vehicle.

SITUATIONS VACANT

ADVERTISERS PLEASE NOTE:

Much hardship and difficulty is caused to jobseekers by misleading advertisements placed in the employment columns.

Our Positions Vacant / Situations Vacant columns are reserved for advertisements which carry a specific and genuine offer of employment.

Ads for 'Business Opportunities', 'Commission Only/Sales,' training courses and employment services should be submitted under those headings.

Placing misleading job ads is an offence against the ACL and all advertisements are subject to the publisher's approval. For further advice contact the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission on 1300 302 502 or Consumer Affairs Victoria.

SITUATIONS VACANT

Ray White

Receptionist / Administration

Ray White Leongatha are currently looking for a vibrant and enthusiastic Receptionist/Administration Assistant to join our team on a part time basis.

What you can look forward to is being welcomed into a well known and highly respected team.

You will manage all aspects of General administration and reception duties including assisting both the rental and sales departments. Previous administration experience is desired, however, we are more interested in individuals who have the right attitude.

Your duties will include:

- Delivering exceptional customer service;
- Answering calls & directing walk-in enquiries
- Updating marketing material
- General administration duties

To succeed in this role you'll have:

- A current Real Estate Licence or Certificate of Registration (or be willing to obtain one ASAP)
- Exceptional customer service skills
- Excellent communication skills
- High levels of professionalism
- The ability to manage and prioritise your time
- A valid drivers licence

Please email your resume & cover letter to kasey.bowman@raywhite.com or pop in to our office, 15 Bair Street, Leongatha

DEADLINES

Classified single column

Mondays 12.00 noon

Classified double column

Fridays 3.30pm

Please note that double column advertisements requiring a proof must be received at least two hours prior to deadline and proofs will not be provided for single column advertisements.

TO ADVERTISE

Phone:
5672 1888

Email:
ads@sgst.com.au

In person:
47 McBride Ave, Wonthaggi
36 McCartin St, Leongatha

Mail:
47 McBride Ave, Wonthaggi

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

HMC1130

LBC1667

VV0257

HM11799

VV0257

Retail Assistant

Part time position

I require a person with good customer service and organisational skills for a Retail Shop in Wonthaggi.

Able to work 10-15 hours a week.

Please apply in writing with details of previous employment, together with details of referees to:-

The Manager, P.O. Box 559 Inverloch, 3996



LEONGATHA
Secondary College

HEALTH & PE TEACHER

Part Time (0.6) - Fixed Term
Commencing Term 2 2025
for remainder of school year.

All enquiries to Tanya Chalmers,
Acting Principal 5667 2200

Applications to be made via
Dept of Education's Schools
Jobs Vic website

VW226

HM12437



Legacy for Powlett Group at estuary two.

PUBLIC NOTICES

Wonthaggi & District Historical Society
Call for movie/video footage
Early Years 1950s to 1980s

Do you have some old video/movies/of:

Wonthaggi Union Theatre
Wonthaggi Hospital Garden Party
Italian Community at work and play
Sporting Activities incl. cycling/football/tennis
Dalyston Show
Farming/Fishing
Beach/Surf Carnivals
Entertainment
Family fun

HM12454

The Society would like to take copies of any footage to add to its collection and to use in its Digital History of Wonthaggi Project

Email: admin@wonthaggihistoricalociety.org.au
or, drop off at the Railway Station Museum
Thursdays 11am – 12 noon

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Leongatha RSL Annual General Meeting (AGM) is to be held at the clubrooms on

Wednesday, April 16, 2025 at 7:30pm.

Nominations are invited until 5pm on Friday, March 28 for the following positions which become vacant at the Annual General Meeting.

- Senior Vice President (Service)
One (1) Year Term
- Junior Vice President (Service/Affiliate)
Two (2) Year Term
- Treasurer (Service/Affiliate)
Two (2) Year Term
- Committee: Vacancy exists for Four (4) Committee persons: Three (3) x 2 Year Term, One (1) x One (1) Year Term

Nomination forms are available from staff at reception. These forms need to be signed by the nominee, proposer and seconder. All are required to be service or affiliate members of the sub-branch. They are required to be financial for 2025.

A fifty (50) word personal profile may be submitted with nominations.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Mark Carruthers 0412 623 227.

**Lasting legacy for Powlett River/Kugerungmome**

COLLECTIVE action and passion for the iconic Powlett River (Kungerungmome) catchment was on full display recently as people power drove the planning for the next phase of works to be delivered through strong partnerships and good old-fashioned hard work.

There was a lot of love in the room as West Gippsland Catchment Management Authority (CMA), over 20 partner organisations, community members and landholders gathered to plan the next phase of what is known in the business as community-driven stewardship or Integrated Catchment Management. The day was made richer with everyone bringing their own unique experiences, perspectives, skills and priorities.

"Our best work is done collectively and respectfully with Traditional Owners leading the process," said Deb Archer, Manager Strategy, Investment and Partnerships for West Gippsland CMA.

"When partners combine knowledge, passion and effort, we get maximum value for money and, most importantly, maximum results for the plants, animals and community who live along the rivers and tributaries from source to sea."

"We are proud of the achievements of the previous program and are looking to complete at least another 750 hectares of work over the next three years and keep celebrating and showcasing how awesome this community is," Deb told the group.

To start the conversation, the group reflected on the achievements of the previous Powlett River/Kugerungmome Partnerships Project (2020-2024).

"Everyone worked together and had something to contribute," said Jack Harriss from Bass Coast Landcare Network, who played a major part in the previous project, successfully working to reduce foxes to protect wildlife, including threatened Hooded Plovers.

Getting out on site was an important part of the day beginning with the group standing on Country at Kugerungmome estuary and reflecting on the commitment to Traditional Owner self-determination that guides the project. Kugerungmome is the original name of the river gifted to the project by the Bunurong Land Council. The story of the river is told in a painting by artist John Winch that is brought to every gathering.

The next stop was a landholder's property that has been transformed with the help of Bass Coast Landcare Network through funding gained in the previous project.

When Paul and Sonia Grovers bought their 140-hectare property, the paddocks were barren and creek lines eroded. The

couple became "accidental inner-city cattle farmers" with a reduced herd of Black Angus Beef cattle to "keep the grass down".

"It has been delightful watching the right plants being put in the right place. We are giving 25 per cent of the property back to nature with 37 hectares being planted with 25,000 trees. We have also removed weeds and fenced creek lines," said Paul.

"It's been a pleasure and we'd love to keep going. It's great to break even and also see the land recover."

Actions on this and other properties are contributing to a broader vision held by many of the stakeholders attending.

"Currently 15 per cent of Bass Coast Shire is revegetated and we are aiming for 30 per cent by working together on initiatives such as this," said Diana Whittington from Bass Coast Shire Council.

"Landholders are key, they inspire others and create a legacy of ongoing stewardship and care on properties," said Kelsey Tong, West Gippsland CMA.

The second site visit was to one of six adjoining bushland properties near Archies Creek. The properties each have a Trust for Nature covenant to protect and enhance the unique connected remnant native vegetation in this part of the catchment.

Trust for Nature began work on the properties in 1990 and their most recent success was to transform this block from being completely covered in the weed pittosporum to uncover and enhance the original eucalypt woodland.

"This was a huge task – the landholders were completely overwhelmed," explained Lauren Halstead from Trust for Nature.

"It was dark with a huge wall of pittosporum that you could barely walk through, but we took a strategic approach by attacking the female trees first and then the males. The biodiversity returning is also creating opportunities for Traditional Owners to contribute through a planned cultural burn that will further enhance connection to Country."

"We all have similar challenges and, working as a collective, we can make a big difference. It's quite rare to get this awesome opportunity to be together and explore opportunities – together we can achieve so much more. This next three-year program is ambitious and ultimately working towards 20-year healthy catchment goals," said Deb.

A second partner workshop will be led by West Gippsland CMA to develop the initial shared visions and insights into a detailed program of works to be delivered by partners for the next three years.

Advertise your job vacancy

in the **Sentinel-Times** and get a FREE listing in our online and searchable directory at www.sgst.com.au

Email your job adverts to: ads@sgst.com.au

DEADLINE: Fridays 3.30pm

Sentinel-Times

Tightlines

We got one, Friday's fishing success

A SPECIAL day of fishing and fun on the water took place on Friday, March 28, as Newhaven Yacht Squadron and Sailability Victoria joined forces for their all-ability fishing event. One of three special programs on the Newhaven Yacht Squadron/Sailability agenda, the first Sailability event took place back in May 2014. The program, which is run with support from Gippsport, has since evolved into a wonderful day with Club members volunteering their boats and time.

Friday morning saw Interchange Gippsland hit the water and whilst some of the visitors opted for a tour around the island taking in Rhyll, a few lucky anglers caught themselves lunch, with Luke, Shane and Byron hooking a snapper on Captain Brian's boat and Georgia catching her first ever fish onboard Captain Rob's boat.

"It was caught out the front," Captain Brian explained, "100 metres from the ramp."

Captain Frank alongside guests Mark, Jessie and Eddie took a beautiful tour of Phillip Island on the calm water and sun shining day.

"They loved it, had seals pop up near the boat, it's just a great day," one avid member smiled.

Russell Trait led the event, with support from Alen Garrett, a dedicated advocate who has been instrumental in the program's success for many years. Peter Smith from the Newhaven Yacht Squadron also played a key role in co-ordinating the event, ensuring everything ran smoothly for participants and volunteers alike.



Lunch was ready for fishermen Luke, Shane and Byron. C24_1325

Around 30 participants from Yooralla and Interchange took part in the event, which was filled with smiles, teamwork, and the joy of being on the water.

Bass Coast Shire Deputy Mayor, Cr Rochelle Halstead, attended the event and joined participants on the water in the afternoon.

"It was an absolute joy to see the excitement and enthusiasm of everyone involved," Mayor Halstead reflected.

"The dedication of the volunteers and the welcoming atmosphere truly highlight the importance of inclusive programs like Sailability. It's wonderful to witness firsthand how these opportunities enrich lives and bring our community together.

"The smiles on the faces of

participants is so rewarding."

The program is one of two active programs, and three in total that Newhaven Yacht Squadron/Sailability have underway. The second is a school-based learning-to-sail program.

"To see the development of the kids, some barely able to get in the boat initially and by the end, they are the first in the yacht," Alen explained.

"The (school) program is run every two weeks at high tide during the first and fourth terms. It is tide dependent."

Newhaven Primary School and Bass Coast Specialist School are part of the current program with approximately eight children involved.

The four special Hansa dinghies, made possible through grants, are specially designed

little yachts that allow total novices of any ability the opportunity to sail.

Whilst watching the larger boats come back to shore, Alen noted to the Sentinel-Times the timing of the 2025 Hansa World Championships in Sydney (March 23 to 30), hopeful that the lessons the avid young sailors are receiving may one day take them to an international level.

The final program for Newhaven Yacht Squadron/Sailability is similar to a mentorship program, that will allow people with disability the opportunity to use the resources and guidance of a volunteer member to help them go sailing.

"The kids really blossom when sailing," Alen concluded.

April set to be a busy month at Venus Bay Angling Club

WITH cost of living biting, it's the perfect time to join affordable family fun at Venus Bay Angling Club (VBAC), April set to be a busy month.

A Fisheries Victoria representative will visit the club on Thursday April 17 to talk about improvements for fishing in the local area.

The talk gets underway at Gerald's Shed at 7pm and all are welcome whether they are VBAC members or not.

The club's April fishing competition casts off the next day, Friday April 18, at 12pm, running through until Monday April 21.

There will be a weigh in each day at the club between 4-6pm, with the final weigh in from 2.30pm to 3pm on the Monday.

First prize for members is a \$50 voucher to enjoy the

hospitality of The Cavity in Venus Bay.

Non-members are welcome to join the comp for \$5, which includes a barbecue on the Saturday night from 6.30pm.

VBAC's annual Easter Egg Hunt takes place on Easter Sunday, April 20, at the park in Fishermans Road Venus Bay at 10am, with all children up to the age of 12 welcome to participate.

The club's new website, venusbayanglingclub.org.au is the ideal spot to visit to learn more.

VBAC's Roslyn Shelley expressed the club's appreciation for its sponsors who help keep fishing affordable for families, The Cavity, 4Shore Pizza, Agapi Fish and Chips, and newest sponsor Cruza, which supplies Ebikes in Venus Bay, all contributing.



You might snapper up a prize in the upcoming Venus Bay Angling Club Fishing competition.



Venus Bay Angling Club continues to entertain the whole family, with the annual Easter Egg Hunt taking place this month.

TIDE GUIDE

TIDAL PREDICTIONS FROM PORT PHILLIP HEADS

Approx. Tide Variations: Seal Rocks, Venus Bay, Waratah Bay and Cape Woolamai (Same), Tooradin +2hrs 45, Cowes Pier +50, Stony Point +40

TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
April 1	April 2	April 3	April 4	April 5	April 6	April 7
2.36am 1.56m 8.29am 0.24m 3.27pm 1.78m 9.00pm 0.58m	3.18am 1.60m 9.15am 0.15m 4.15pm 1.83m 9.45pm 0.59m	4.00am 1.61m 10.02am 0.11m 5.03pm 1.82m 10.29pm 0.61m	4.40am 1.60m 10.48am 0.13m 5.49pm 1.76m 11.11pm 0.64m	5.22am 1.56m 11.33am 0.19m 6.38pm 1.66m 11.53pm 0.67m	5.06am 1.50m 11.18am 0.28m 6.30pm 1.55m 11.37pm 0.72m	5.55am 1.42m 12.04pm 0.39m 7.26pm 1.46m



Will Lenehan with Callum Peters whom he will take on again on April 6.

Lenehan on the cards

FORMER Wonthaggi footballer Will Lenehan will fight before a huge TV audience against Olympian Callum Peters on Sunday, April 6, being on the undercard for Tim Tszyu's bout against Joe Spencer, the daytime action taking place at the Newcastle Entertainment Centre.

While Peters previously had slightly the better of Lenehan, Will's coach Gerry Murphy stressed that was in an amateur encounter, explaining it will be a different scenario this time in the professional ranks.

"Will's a harder puncher than Callum who is more of a rapid-fire puncher," he said, noting Peters likes to punch on the move whereas Lenehan sets his feet and delivers more power shots.

The bout is over five rounds as opposed to three in the amateurs and punches that land will be felt more acutely due to the nature of the gloves used, thin and just 10 ounces as opposed to the thicker amateur gloves.

It is the second professional contest for both fighters, Peters vastly more experienced in the amateur ranks.

Lenehan made the move to Melbourne to train with Murphy, going on to win the Victorian title in the amateurs, and went to the Olympic trials in 2023.

While the bout between Lenehan and Peters has only been locked in for a couple of weeks, Murphy said Will has been training hard anyway, the coach having a philosophy of ensuring his fighters are ready when an opportunity presents itself.

Another enjoyable rail trail parkrun for Mirboo North

MARKEt day at Mirboo North always draws fresh faces for the weekly parkrun event and last weekend was no exception.

One new participant was welcomed to the parkrun for the very first time and another participant came all the way from Queensland where his own parkrun event can attract over 500 people and starts on a trail not much wider than our own Grand Ridge Rail.

A big cheer went out to Caleb Smith for his official milestone achievements.

Watching Caleb reach for his personal bests bringing along friends and family is always a joy.

Carmel Quirk also celebrated her unofficial personal milestone of 150 parkrun events.

Loving a good chat and a stroll Carmel is a valued volunteer and has even been able to keep up the pace with some amazing times.

As always a big thank you to those who support parkrun in the town especially Robert who brought along a bucket of apricots to share.

The volunteers this week were David Lewis, Julia Groves, Katrina Palmer, Robert Gray, Steve Quirk, Tim Buckley and Val Smith.

Email us your fishing photos

news@sgst.com.au

BREAKAWAY

IT WAS another great turnout for the bowls this week it seems that we are steadily growing.

A great day was had by the team of Rhonda Rattenbury, Jan Murphy, Brian Newman and Marg Ford.

They won with +11 – well done, guys.

Another reason to get into indoor bowling – great friends, great competition and people who are willing to help you enjoy yourself.

The winners were Pat Novak, Jan Murphy and Linda Newman.

They won the day with +3 – well-done ladies.

FISH CREEK

On March 26 the final of the Mixed Pairs was played between Rob and Lynn Poletti, and Bill Symmons and Bronwyn Williams. After 17 ends they were all square, Rob and Lynn managed to hold on to score on the last end winning final. Congrats to Rob and Lynn.

On March 27th the Paragreen Real Estate sponsored Turkey Triples was held at Fish Creek.

Justin Wightman from Paragreen Real Estate attended and gave a brief overview of their time in South Gippsland before helping with the presentations.

A great day, fine weather, a full field and a lot of laughter and fun.

The winners on the day were Kevin Quale, John Chadwick (Mirboo North) and ably assisted by Rob Poletti (Fish Creek), four-game winners.

Runners-up on three wins and a draw were Mal Heywood, Dave Christie (Fish Creek) and Andrew Stimson (Port Welshpool).

Best Last Game Bart Zafarese, Alan Spooner (Toora) and Matt Gallagher (Port Welshpool).

Thanks to all the helpers on the day, and the players who come every month to make it a great day.

FOSTER

LAST Tuesday, Foster played its Roffeys Electrical and Paragreen Real Estate Triples Tournament.

A full green of 16 teams and very pleasant weather conditions made for a great day.

Winner for the day, winning all their four games, was the Korumburra team of Roger Beaumont, Keith Marsh and Peter Hearn.

Five teams had three wins, so it was down to their points.

Runners-up was the Fish Creek team of Dave Christie, Don Cripps and Ray Watkins.

Third place went to the Meenyan team of Nick Kelly, Ray Spokes and Dave Bond.

The encouragement prize went to the combo team of Marj Pearson, Jenny Roffey and Sue Symmons.

Representatives Justin Wightman from Paragreen Real Estate and Shaun Roffey of Roffey's Electrical were on hand to present the prizes.

A big thank you to them both for their continued sponsorship.

INVERLOCH

THURSDAY Social Bowls saw a tight competition with the eventual winners on two wins and 16 shots up.

This team consisted of Keith Cousins (skip), Peter Shaw and Nic van Grunsven.

Runners-up went to the team of Graeme Dunlop, (skip), Sally Brothwell and Peter Gentsch.

There will be no social bowls on April 3 due to the funeral of Pat Sheedy.

The social bowls will have a new starting time, starting on April 10.

Names are to be in by 9.30am with playing starting at 11am.

After the first game, there will be a lunch break with the second game after lunch.

Homemade soup will be available in June, July and August.

Autumn Invy Bowls is an eight-week competition of 28 teams of pairs.

It is held from 7pm to 9pm with an entry fee of \$10 per person.

Dates are April 1, 8, 15 and 29, and May 6, 13, 20 and 27.

Register quickly or miss out. Contact John Sutcliffe.

MIDWEEK

GREAT weather. Great company. Great green. In fact, a great day all around.

Fifty-six of the family of bowlers turned up at San Remo to once again fight it out for team of the week.

John welcomed all the players in as Claire and David prepared the teams.

Out on the green, everyone made their way to meet the other members of the team and start the challenge.

The weather was near great for bowls – no wind and the temperature was perfect.

There was some great bowling across the green as always.

Lots of laughter from all corners and not a lot of wrong bias shots.

The winners on a score of 36 were Jim Nunan (L), Pat Wilkinson (2), Tony Heppleston (S) and Frank D'Unieville (3).

Runners up were on a score of 35 were Vern Elliott (S), Elaine Williams (L), Bev Elliott (3) and Peter Borradaile (2).

Best one-game winners on a score of 19 were Richard Kerr (L), Jenny Harding (2), David Talbot (3) and Phil Wright (S).

A big thank you this week to Mark behind the bar – always a favourite for a lot of the members – and Gwen, Claire and John in the kitchen, as well as Claire, David and John for preparing the teams.

Next week, the bowlers will be meeting at Loch.

Please, be on time as the numbers are getting very close to a full house and if you are in after the books are full then you may have to miss out.

Meanwhile, till then, have fun and stay safe.

WONTHAGGI

SUNDAY saw the Skins event played on a perfect autumn day.

A field of 26 teams from local clubs, along with a good number of Wonthaggi bowlers, took advantage of having a big event at Wonthaggi.

If you don't know what Skins is about, it consists of 15 games of two-bowl triples.

The key is that each game is

played over two ends – up and back – before moving to another rink.

The purpose of the game is fun and a little luck.

Winners were John Duscher, Marty Hanniford, and Darren Rowe.

Runners-up were Allan Lowe, Ray Hin, and Colin Binch.

The NABA award went to members of the Roberts family – Sue Parker, Wayne Roberts, and their dad, Graeme Roberts – who each received caps and drink containers from the Wonthaggi Club.

The club would like to thank the Wonthaggi Club for its support of this event and the triples throughout the year.

Midweek bowls:

Wednesday saw 26 bowlers grace the greens on a perfect day for bowls.

Two teams finished with two wins, with the winners being Ken Webb, Ray Hin, and Trevor Teer with a score of two wins and 35 points.

The runners-up were Sue Parker, Frank Tagell, and Allan Lowe with two wins and 31 points.

Thursday saw a smaller group of bowlers enjoy a game of social bowls in good weather.

Friday night was once again a great success, with Tony Marotta claiming the members' draw of \$50.

Rob, Wayne, Tony, and Glynne were happy meat tray winners.

Saturday saw 18 bowlers take to the greens on a fine, mild day.

No teams secured two wins, but three teams had one win and a draw.

The winners were Alan Bolding, Syd Gostling, and Peter McBain with one win, a draw, and 18 points.

The teams of Mary McBain and John Duscher were unlucky.

Club Events:

The Basket Cabaret was once again an outstanding success, with a great mix of members and visitors enjoying live music and an all-around fantastic night out.

Check out the Facebook page for some photos.

Upcoming bowls:

Wednesday: Turkey Triples Day.

Thursday: Social bowls at 10am.

Friday: Coaching at 10am.

Saturday: Social bowls at 1pm.

A big pat on the back to Joy Phillips and Jenny Miller for their performance in the B Grade Championships during the week. Joy was able to claim her second championship.

Indoor

IT WAS another fun and enjoyable week of bowling with a total of 50 players.

Tuesday's winners with a plus 18 were Sylvia Mattock, Pam Russell, John Postlethwaite and Kevin.

Running a close second on plus 15 were Helen Rook, Jeanie Slocombe and Allan Ireland.

There was another close finish on Friday with the winners being Maggie Scapin, Teresa Ireland and Veronica Opray on plus 17.

Runner up were Thelma Kavanaugh, Jeannie Slocombe, Zofia Parkitny and Robert McLaren on plus 16.



Rhonda Rattenbury, Jan Murphy, Brian Newman and Marg Ford were the Breakaway Bowls winners on Monday.



The Breakaway Bowls winners on Friday were Pat Novak, Jan Murphy and Linda Newman.



This week's South West Gippsland Midweek Bowls Group winners were Jim Nunan (L), Pat Wilkinson (2), Tony Heppleston (S) and Frank D'Unieville (3).



The best one game winners for the South West Gippsland Midweek Bowls Group were Richard Kerr (L), Jenny Harding (2), David Talbot (3) and Phil Wright (S).



Teresa Ireland, Veronica Opray and Maggie Scapin enjoyed a win at Wonthaggi Senior Indoor Bowls on Friday.



Wonthaggi Bowls Club Skins winners John Duscher, Marty Hanniford and Darren Rowe.



Fish Creek Mixed Pairs runners-up Bill Symmons and Bronwyn Williams with winners Rob and Lynn Polletti.



Triples runners up Dave Christie, Don Cripps and Ray Watkins from Fish Creek with sponsors Justin Wightman from Paragreen Real Estate and Shaun Roffey from Roffey's Electrical at the Foster Bowls Club.



Fish Creek Turkey Triple winners John Chadwick, Kevin Quale, Justin Wightman (Sponsor) and Rob Polletti.



Korumburra sisters Julie Hillberg and Shelley Snooks won the Foursomes Scratch Championships.

KORUMBURRA

RESULTS: Tuesday, March 25. Stableford: 33 players.

A Grade: Steve Duffield (12) 40 points.

B Grade: Andy Millar (27) 43 points.

NTPs: first Rob Gallagher, seventh John Kerr, 10th Blayne Spokes and 13th Chris Clements.

Thursday, March 27:

Stableford: 23 players.

A Grade: Jake Cochrane (12) 42 points.

B Grade: Chris Clements (18) 42 points.

NTPs: first Jake Cochrane, seventh Dale Wyhoun, 10th Alan Twite and 13th Mick Belvedere.

Saturday, March 29:

Sponsor: Iain Riddle and Spokes Brothers.

Par: 59 players.

A Grade: Roy Fleming (8) +7. B Grade: Richard Johnson (17) +7.

NTPs: first Terry Maskell, seventh Neil Spargo, 10th Greg Wilson and 13th Roy Fleming.

Ladies

LAST Wednesday, Korumburra had 12 pairs play in the Women's Foursomes Championship Scratch and Net competition. Congratulations to all players and well done to the winners.

Sister duo Shelley Snooks and Julie Hillberg won the Scratch event with 91.

Runners up were Johanna van den Heiligenberg and Kath Welsh with 93, who also won the net event with 71.

Runners-up in the net with 72.5 were Heather Grist and Jenny Blackmore.

On Thursday night, the Twilight competition winners, with a fabulous 27 points, were Ian and Denise Gibson.

NTPs on the first went to Greg Jones and Mandy Seater.

On Saturday, a Par game was held with 13 women out playing.

Julie Hillberg (20), on a winning streak, had another great round with +5.

Runner-up was Jennie Loughnan (36) +2.

BDTL went to Kerri Besley +1 and Trudi Mantell -1 c/b.

NTP on the first was Julie Hillberg and on the 10th Marg Clasby.



Winners of the Ann Debenham Anti-Cancer Shield were C Grade Nicole Stewart, A Grade Jenny Teasdale and B Grade Lynda Bassett. They are pictured at the Leongatha Golf Club with sponsor Ian Debenham.



Runners-up in the second round of the Brian and Shirley Thomas Stableford Aggregate Board Event at Woorayl Golf Club Anne Grist and Barb James with winners Bev Bridge and Sharyn Rayson.



Anne Grist and Barb James were the winners of the Brian and Shirley Thomas Stableford Aggregate Board Event at the Woorayl Golf Club.

LEONGATHA

TUESDAY, March 25: Stableford.

Fifty-two members played Tuesday's Stableford round.

Overall winner: Michael Snoxell.

A Grade winner: Jeremy de Silva (8) with 36 points. A Grade runner up: Ken Smirk (14) with 35 points.

B Grade winner: Michael Snoxell (24) with 38 points. B Grade runner up: Michael Delaney (25) with 37 points.

NTP 14th: Ray Matthews, 16th: Ken Lay. NTP second shot fifth: Nicholas Byrne.

Thursday, March 27: Par.

Sixty-seven members and guests played Thursday's Par event.

Overall winner: Trevor Steer.

A Grade winner: Craig Hutchinson (4) with square. A Grade runner up: Norman Hughes (12) with -1.

B Grade winner: Trevor Steer (16) with +3. B Grade runner up: John French (15) with +1.

C Grade winner: Brian Wall (20) with square. C Grade runner up: Michael Gibbins (33) with -2.

NTP 14th: Bruce Christison, 16th: David Child. NTP second shot fifth: Grant McRitchie.

Saturday, March 29: Stableford. Sixty-eight members and guests played Saturday's Stableford Event.

Overall winner: Ari Akritidis

A Grade winner: Jim Petrou (The National Golf Club) (13) with 38 points.

A Grade runner up: Peter Rayson (12) with 36 points.

B Grade winner: Ari Akritidis (21) with 39 points.

B Grade runner up: Gordon Alan (15) with 38 points.

C Grade winner: Dianne Williams (22) with 39 points.

C Grade runner up: Anne Gibson (31) with 37 points.

NTP 14th: Colin Martin, 16th: Gordon Morrison. NTP second shot fifth: Gordon Morrison.

Ladies

IT WAS perfect autumn weather for the Ann Debenham Anti-Cancer Shield event and the 32 competitors.

The annual stall, which is run in conjunction with this event, was well supported and raised \$600 for the Victorian Cancer Council.

The raffle provided each year by Noreen Williams raised a

further \$140.

Since the stall and raffle began in 1975, more than \$50,000 has been raised.

Thanks must go to the Debenham family for their sponsorship of this event each year.

A particular thank you to Shirley Welsford, Max Eabry and Helen Mackenzie who gave up their game of golf to organise the stall.

Also, thanks to long-time supporter and instigator of the event Noreen Williams.

The scores were exceptional given the recent coring.

It was a day of 'first-time' board event winners.

A Grade was won by Jenny Teasdale (26) with 39 points on a count back from Kay Dumbleton.

Another first-time winner of a board event Lynda Bassett (33) had the best score in B Grade, finishing with 37 points.

Joy O'Sullivan was runner-up with 36 points.

New member Nicole Stewart (49) blitzed the course, finishing with 44 points to win C Grade.

Nicole will also have her name added to the prestigious Ann Debenham Anti-Cancer Shield Board.

As is often the way, she also won the raffle.

Newish member Deb Williams (54) was runner-up with 16 points.

Winners of balls down the line were Sue Bowler (38), Karen Bear (37), Marianne Leaver (36), Fay Quilford (36), Wendy Brown and Marg Griffiths (35).

Nearest the pin was Maryanne Gartner on the 16th and Bronwyn Debenham was closest with her second shot on the fifth.

MEENIYAN Ladies

ROUND two of the Meeniyan Ladies Championships sponsored by Kaelene of Meeniyan IGA Plus Liquor was played in perfect weather.

A Grade is going down to the wire with both Andrea Thorson and Dot Christie equal on 168 gross.

B Grade has Faye LePage leading with Tanya Thorson her closest rival, and in C grade Pam Erving has an 11-shot lead.

Wednesday, March 26, results:

A Grade winner: Dot Christie 75 net from Susan Straw 76.

B Grade winner: Faye LePage 68 net from Jan Trease 71.

C Grade: Pam Erving with a

great 65 net from Lyn Jennison 71 net.

Faye also won the putting with 24.

Down the line balls went to Gail Browne 72, Tanya Thorson 73 and Andrea Thorson 76.

MIRBOO NORTH

TUESDAY, March 25: Stableford.

A Grade: G. Shandley (11) 39 points.

B Grade: T. Tomada (35) 38 points.

DTL: L. Visser 38, M. Payne 37, and T. Bradshaw and S. McKenzie 36.

NTP: fourth L. Visser, sixth S. Woodall, 13th S. Woodall and 16th T. Bradshaw.

Birdies: fourth L. Visser, and sixth G. Renwick and T. Whitelaw.

Saturday, March 29: Stableford - Ray Bickerton Memorial Day.

A Grade: B. Bradshaw (5) 37 points.

B Grade: N. Bracecamp (16) 39 points.

C Grade: Joe Taylor (35) 38 points.

DTL: Tom Traill and N. Baker 38, S. Evison, C. Alford, A. Liebe and J. Kidd 37, and M. Payne and D. Atkins 36.

NTP: fourth L. Gervasi, sixth Tim Traill 13th G. Renwick and 16th W. Gervasi.

Birdies: sixth Tim Traill, J. Butler and C. Hogbin, 13th M. Payne and 16th W. Gervasi.

BDL: sixth Marg Johnson -1, Catherine Bolding, Bev Sloan and Lisa Brusamarello, all -2.

WONTHAGGI

RESULTS: Thursday, March 27, SR. 71.

Competition: Stableford 18-hole.

Winner: Philip McCrimmon 40.

Runner-up: Rod McBride 38.

Ball sweep: Glen Turner 37, Dio Apostolopoulos 36, Adrian Nixon 36 and Graeme Crawford 35.

Results: Thursday, March 27, SR. 34.5.

Competition: Stableford front nine-hole.

Winner: Ken Cuman 18.

Ball sweep: John Davis 17, Bob Cornelis 17 and Ray Hender 16.

Results: Saturday, March 29, SR. 71.

Competition: Par.

A Grade: Mat Johnson +2.

B Grade: John Walsh +2.

C Grade: Ray Hender +5.

BDL to +1.

Ball sweep: Glen Moresco +1, Ian Gilmour +1, Ross Lovett +1, Sam Dennis +1, David Hynes +1, Francis Loughran +1, Ben Clark +1 and Peter Magnussen +1.

NTPs: Mat Johnson second, Julian Wintle fourth, David Hynes pro pin eighth, Michael Scott 13th and Hamish Burns money hole 17th.

Ladies

WEDNESDAY was the final of the 4BBB Board event between Jan Beaumont (17) and Chris Hamilton (29) vs. Simone Lindsay (27) and Donna Brosnan (29).

It was a closely fought match with Jan and Chris the victors 2/1.

The remaining 18 players were sent out for a game of Par.

The A Grade winner and round of the day winner was Geraldine Prentice (24) +1.

B Grade's winner was Irene Walsh (25)-1.

Birdies are quite rare in the ladies' rounds but not on Wednesday – fourth Geraldine Prentice and Bev Sloan, while Marg Johnson holed out with wedge shots on the third and eighth.

NTP on second was Irene Walsh, eighth Anne Tschiderer and 17th Catherine Bolding.

BDL went to Marg Johnson -1, Catherine Bolding, Bev Sloan and Lisa Brusamarello, all -2.

Winners of the day were Sharyn Rayson 39 and Bev Bridge 37 = 76.

The runners-up were Barb James 39 and Anne Grist 32 = 71.

BDL: Linda Forrester 36 and Sherrill Winkler 31 = 67.

NTPs: eighth Kath Davis, 11th Heather Sullivan and 17th Anne Grist.

The winners of the Brian and Shirley Thomas Stableford Aggregate Board Event by one point were Barb James and Anne Grist.

Familial clashes at Wonthaggi Table Tennis

RADAK defeated Nittaku 4 to 1. When Radak's Uncle Donohue tagged Father Donohue for a game, you do wonder if said father had a sneak peek at the autumn comp fixture to align his time to play against Daughter Donohue.

Dad Andrew gave Daughter Charley no quarter as if she had eaten the last iced VoVo, denying dad his sweet treat.

Dad claimed the win in straight sets, but it was no pushover.

Braden dusted the ocean from his eyes to provide Nittaku's solitary win against the biscuit-deprived father bringing consolatory joy for Charley.

Double Fish defeated Stiga 4 to 1.

Evergreen Trish filling in, displayed flashes of yesteryear glory to have Double Fish hopping and hoping the past doesn't swamp the now.

Double Fish eventually succeeded, every point hard-earned.

Michael C and Tim's smash rallies were lively, Michael winning in five sets carrying Double Fish to victory.

Donic defeated Butterfly 3 to 2.

Donic's Justin prevailed in a tight five setter against Butterfly's David, proving to be the difference in the team's result.

Running commentary between the players allowed everyone to know what was going on without watching.

The jargon-laced jibber jabber was healthy fun and good-spirited, on par with the quality of play.

The front-footed Warren defeated the back-footed Michael S in an entertaining, hard-fought tussle.

Ladder: Double Fish 8, Radak 8, Donic 4, Stiga 4, Butterfly 0 and Nittaku 0.

Leading player: Justin 4.



Mary Grace celebrated her 99th birthday at the Leongatha Croquet Club last week.

Birthday milestone celebrated at Leongatha Croquet

MARY GRACE celebrated her 99th birthday at croquet in Leongatha on Wednesday, even though her official birthday was Sunday.

She plays weekly, quite often winning the game with a partner, making the most of the hoops.

She and Robin McKinnon enjoyed celebrating their birthday on the same day.

Final Longboard comp for the PIBC 24/25 season

THE fourth and final longboard round of the 2024/25 season for the Phillip Island Boardriders Club (PIBC) went down in style on Saturday, March 29, with Right Point delivering fun waves and classic longboard conditions.

Competitors of all ages brought big energy, smooth surfing, and plenty of stoke to the iconic break, as the club wrapped up a memorable season of longboarding.

The club gave a special shoutout to PIBC Longboard Coordinator Nala Taylor for her tireless work coordinating the longboard series all season, and to her support team and the many volunteers who helped all through the season.

While the longboard comp season has officially wrapped, the overall champions for 2024/25 will be crowned at the highly anticipated PIBC Presentation Ball in October.

Thanks go out to the generous sponsors of Longboard 4: Rip Curl Phillip Island, Carly Meade Creative, Creatures of Leisure, Otis Eyewear, and Sophie Fletcher Designs.

And to photographers Craig Anderson and Bryden Banks, who captured the surfing from the headland.



Ebony Maier (Winner Open Women). Photo: Craig Anderson.



The SGB team are heading to Brisbane for the National Championships. Back, from left: coach Dylan Muir, Rahni Matheson, Zac Shear, Miah Roberts, Cormac Flynn, Billy Fisher, Jarrah Tagell, Mostyn Lumsden. Front: Levi Jarrett, Claudia Croatto, Gemma Cook, Maggie Fisher, Georgia Perry and Isabella Lynch.

Uniforms at the ready for SGB nationals team

IT WAS a night of celebration on Friday evening as 13 swimmers heading to the Australian National Age and Open Championships were presented with their uniforms at a fundraising event held at the Leongatha RSL.

The team, a mix of returning swimmers and several first-timers, head to the Brisbane Aquatic Centre for the competition starting on April 10. The Age sections and multi-class run until the 18th and the Open event runs from April 21-24.

The squad will be accompanied by coaches Dylan Muir and Lorri McKenzie. The members of the squad are Gemma Cook, Claudia Croatto, Billy Fisher,

Maggie Fisher, Cormac Flynn, Levi Jarrett, Izzy Lynch, Mostyn Lumsden, Rahni Matheson, Sophie McKenzie, Georgia Perry, Miah Roberts, Zac Sherar and Jarrah Tagell.

The squad will be training hard over the coming weeks in preparation for the meet.

Coach Dylan is excited to be in Brisbane.

"I think it's a great pool to race in," Dylan exclaimed.

"We have a lot of swimmers returning to Nationals with experience from previous years who are working hard to improve from previous campaigns.

"The first-timers will face some challenges as they get settled, but they are a

competitive group that I believe will do well."

"It's such an outlay for families, time and money wise, to get their kids to achieve the qualifying time," added Coach Lorri.

"It's a massive achievement to make it to Nationals, only a small percentage make it during their swimming career. As a coach it's a huge honour and privilege to coach them at Nationals."

"My multi-class squad have been training so hard and now it's time to shine on the big stage. They have worked so hard towards these dreams; I'd love to see them come true."

The swim club is currently

raising money to help the team. Anyone interested in supporting the team can contact the club by going to the club's Facebook page for the link. All donations are tax-deductible.

For Levi Jarrett, it was a huge honour to receive his national uniform.

"I am most excited to swim in front of Australia and represent our club. I can't wait to meet more multi-class swimmers from all over the nation," Levi said.

For Maggie Fisher, competing for the first time, "It is very exciting. I've got my brother who has competed there before to give me some advice but I'm looking forward to it".

Aislin shoots to the top again

AISLIN Jones took out the NSW Women's ISSF Skeet State Title in Sydney, competing on March 22 and 23 in the first selection event for the World Championships, scheduled for Athens, Greece this October.

Prior to the selection event, Aislin competed in Melbourne as a warm up and training run and commented that while she didn't shoot particularly well there, by Friday before the competition she felt confident.

"I felt good in training on the Friday and I knew what I had to execute to do what I needed to do," said Aislin.

Shooting conditions started off well enough with blue skies and sunshine, but by the final shoot, rain was bucketing down, making a challenging finish.

Despite this, Aislin managed to pull out a top score of 117/125.

Unlike the Olympics, more than one Australian shooter can qualify for the ISSF World Championship Shotgun, so Aislin said while she will be competing against other Australians in the lead up, her preparation for the event will involve comparing scores to international competitors and training accordingly.

"Training will be focused on doing more competition pressure drills and working on shot control - my timing when I'm shooting pairs," explained Aislin.

"The reason why I'm approaching my training with



Aislin Jones shot 117/125 to take out the NSW Women's ISSF Skeet state title, the first of three selection events for the World Championships, in Athens, Greece in October.

high-pressure drills and the like is to bring more of that element to training so that it becomes more normal for competition."

The second selection event will be held in Brisbane in mid-June and the third and final selection event will be in Melbourne in August.

Between these titles and in additional preparation for the World Championships, Aislin will head to Lonato del Garda, Italy in July to compete in the ISSF World Cup Shotgun.

"It's my favourite place in the world to travel to for shooting. It's pretty cool that pretty much every year they have a World Cup there," said Aislin.

"They'll be sending - I haven't made that team yet - the people who are ranked highest for World Champs' team selection, the top performers from the selection series, pre-empting that they're likely to be on the World Championships team."

Amongst training and competing, Aislin also juggles full time work as an estimator for Wood Street Windows in Bairnsdale while completing a commerce degree with a major in financial planning.

To manage all of this, Aislin commented that her competing and training schedule has reduced in volume since last year, so it is now a bit more sustainable.

Aislin also organises all the fundraising and sponsorship opportunities she can, so she can continue to compete at elite levels both nationally and internationally.

Team Sisters riding for a future we can all see



Team Sisters members Sharon Oates, Kerry Fitzgerald and Leesa Willmott share a nice moment with Leading Senior Constable Aidan Williams, Acting Inspector - Bass Coast LAC Jason Hullick, and First Constable Josh Hill. W02_1325

a quick chat about road and cyclist safety and their charitable work. Local police officers, Leading Senior Constable Aidan Williams and First Constable Josh Hill praised the sisters for their use of hand signals and took the opportunity to promote safe cycling practices.

"As local police, we're entrenched in the community. Most of us live locally as well, so we love getting involved with charity events, sporting clubs, and anything of the sort. This is also a great opportunity to promote road safety and cyclist safety," said Jason Hullick, Wonthaggi Police Acting

Inspector - Bass Coast LAC.

For the sisters, the mission is clear - continue raising funds to fight eye diseases and improve treatment options for those affected.

"Currently, there is no cure, but you never know," Sharon Oates said.

"If we keep raising money, anything is possible. We've raised \$61,000 in two years, so if we keep this up, who knows."

Macular degeneration is a progressive disease that affects central vision, making everyday tasks like reading and recognising faces difficult. It comes in two forms - dry

macular degeneration, which progresses slowly, and wet macular degeneration, which can cause sudden vision loss. While there is no cure, early detection and treatment can slow its progression.

Team Sisters are calling on the community to support their fundraising efforts. Donations go directly to CERA and the Lions Eye Health Program, funding research, treatments, and public education initiatives.

All donations over \$2 are tax-deductible and can be made at: 31st-lions-ride-for-sight-2025.raiselysite.com/teamsisters.

PHILLIP ISLAND & DISTRICT DARTS

THRILLS and triumphs were on full display in round four of the Phillip Island and Districts Darts League. The night had it all - dominant performances, nail-biting finishes, and a dash of community spirit.

After a rocky start to the season, Storm finally found their footing with a commanding 6-1 victory over Riverboys. It was a crucial first win that could mark the turning point for the team as they move forward with renewed confidence.

Aulin continued their sensational form, steamrolling past Mustangs with a flawless 7-0 triumph. This dominant display solidifies Aulin's reputation as a team to watch, with their consistency becoming a formidable weapon.

In another one-sided affair, Vikings proved too strong for Deadly Darts, securing a decisive 7-0 win. With performances like these, the Vikings are cementing themselves as top contenders in the league.

For those craving suspense, Joe's Hornets delivered a tense 4-3 victory over Dart Vaders. In a match that went down to the wire, the Hornets showcased resilience, holding their nerve to scrape through in a high-pressure environment.

The comeback of the night belonged to Mirimar. After falling behind 0-3 against the Breakers, they staged an extraordinary rally to clinch the final team leg, sealing a remarkable 4-3 victory. It was a testament to their determination and never-say-die attitude.

Beyond the darts action, the evening's highlight for many was the San Remo Butchers meat tray raffle. Duffy (Tony Duff) took home the coveted prize, with Jamie personally delivering the goods the next day - a wonderful touch that reflects the close-knit community spirit that defines the league.

As we look ahead to round five next week, fans can anticipate more quality games and thrilling matchups. If round four was any indication, the best is yet to come in the Phillip Island and Districts Darts League.

PHILLIP ISLAND BRIDGE

LAST week's 2025 Midweek Pairs Event delivered thrilling bridge action as players vied for the coveted prize: a fine bottle of wine.

Over the course of two weeks of intense play, Greg Nicholson and Deb Anglim emerged victorious, securing the top spot with an impressive aggregate score of 60.10 per cent. The event, which combines scores from two consecutive weeks, showcased the duo's exceptional partnership, one that has been cultivated over the past year. Their growing reputation as formidable contenders is well-earned - Greg's bridge journey began in 2012, where he claimed victory in his very first competitive appearance.

Other winners this week included Paul Waylen and Rob Maclellan, who won Wednesday's competition with 61.57 per cent. Meanwhile, Monday's Duplicate Bridge competition brought its own drama, as Neville Chapman and Lorrie Read with 59.72 per cent narrowly edged out Greg Nicholson and Jean Barbour with 59.17 per cent.

SOUTH GIPPSLAND BRIDGE

MARCH 25 at Wonthaggi RSL - five tables competing

First Phillip and Nev Chapman 57.87 Second Ruth Harvey and Sue Edwards 55.56. Third Hannah Martin and Ruth Stevenson 54.63. Fourth John French and Deb Anglim 53.70. Fifth Alan Johnston and Lois Dwyer 52.78

March 28 at Inverloch - eight tables competing

North/South Master point winners First Don and Trish Stewart-Uden 62.50. Second Phillip and Nev Chapman 61.90. Third Alan Johnston and Clive Hope 56.25. Fourth Ruth Harvey and Sue Edwards 53.57

East West winners

First Denise Allitt and Tom Kudelka 62.50. Second Faye Rowlands and Anne Gibson 58.93. Third Lois Dwyer and Robyn Egan 58.33. Fourth Moya Crowley and Mike Dooley 56.25.



A Grade: Evan Bruning, Xavier Bruning, Sienna Bell and Emily Ellery-Burke.



A Grade: Liam Roberts, Lauchie McCarthy and Ollie McCarthy.

Leongatha's hat trick

ON SATURDAY, March 22, Mirboo North and District Junior Tennis Association held their grand finale at Mirboo North.

Congratulations Leongatha, taking out A Grade, B Grade and C Grade on the day!

A Grade: Leongatha Blue: 5 sets, 32 games def Baromi 1 set, 16 games

B Grade: Leongatha Black: 6 sets, 36 games def Baromi 0 sets, 4 games

C Grade: Leongatha Green: 3 sets, 15 games def Baromi/Mardan 2 sets, 16 games



B Grade: Archer Commadeur, Ryan Perry, Declan Russell, Max Massaro, Abbie Walker and Charlotte Roberts.



C Grade: Halle Witten, Riley Collier, Quinn Donaldson, Amy Campbell and Jack Evans.



Section 1: Runners-up Madi Van Den Brock, Aerie Hughes and Jemimah Watson (Korumburra) with winners Meyanna Christensen, Eli Bowker and Mitch White (Phillip Island).



Pennant: Winners Ethan D and Felix B (Westernport) and runners-up Zak and Sophie (Leongatha Green)



Section 2: Winners Angus W, Sam H and Archer H (Korumburra Blue) with runners-up Jess C, Matthew C and Will K (Poowong).



Section 5: Runners-up Tristen, Ava and Tullen (Phillip Island).



Section 4: Runners-up Noah M, Corin P, Aiden H and Alistar H (Inverloch) with winners Ollie H, Zaine L, Jack M and Will Mc (Phillip Island).

Korrine and District Tennis Association Junior Finals

YOU couldn't ask for better conditions for the finals of the K&DTA Junior Summer competition, which was held on Saturday, March 22. The sun was shining, and the wind was a mere whisper as the two top teams from each section battled it out to determine the overall winner of the ten-week season.

Inverloch hosted the Pennant, Section 1 and Section 2 finals while Wonthaggi hosted the Section 3, Section 4 and Section 5 finals.

Congratulations to all the players on the day for your epic efforts!

The results are as follows:

Pennant: Westernport defeated Leongatha Green

Section 1: Phillip Island defeated Korumburra

Section 2: Korumburra Blue defeated Poowong

Section 3: Inverloch Blue defeated Phillip Island

Section 4: Phillip Island White defeated Inverloch

Section 5: Westernport Barty defeated Phillip Island White

The K&DTA team look forward to the Winter Competition commencing on May 10.

Riverside Tennis Grand Final Results

SECTION: 1 Singles
Moe White 3-6-35 def Moe Blue 0-1-15.

Section 2 Doubles
Neerim District 3-35 def Warragul White 6-44.

Section 2 Singles
Neerim District 3-41 def Warragul 3-34.



Section 5: Winners Evie Halstead, Eden Hallas and Olivia Clark (Lucy Pirouet absent) (Westernport).



Archer McRae (boundary), Zac Moresco (boundary & field), Rod Gillett (director of umpiring), Jackson Thomas (field), Cohen Wolkow (boundary & field), and Hudson Wolkow (boundary) are ready for the 2025 season. A11_1325

South Gippsland Umpires ready for season ahead

SOUTH Gippsland Umpires Association (SGUA) launched its season on Wednesday night, the officials learning about a new feedback system through which umpire observers will provide valuable guidance.

"It's all standardised and user friendly," SGUA field umpire coach Josh Chenoweth told his audience of the SportsGauge system that was developed with the assistance of feedback from community umpires.

Possible ratings are 'performing well', 'on target', and 'let's work on this together', the latter a reflection of the modern approach to evaluating umpire performance.

Chenoweth explained young umpires starting out these days cope a lot better with feedback than used to be the case, with much of that attributable to the positive way in which it is delivered.

"When I first started, it was like 'You did this well but you were unfit and you missed five free kicks', whereas now it's about getting in the right

position and paying the correct free kick," he said.

Mistakes are treated as a learning opportunity.

While there is an emphasis on encouragement, feedback is constructive and detailed to ensure umpires know what they are doing well and what they need to work on.

Chenoweth also reflected on the increased importance of umpires taking a team approach and demonstrating strong values, always putting the game first.

Values include integrity and impartiality, along with a willingness to help when needed through actions such as taking on an extra game when numbers are short.

One of the young umpires Sentinel-Times met, Cohen Wolkow also plays footy for Buln Buln. He has rapidly made the transition from running the boundary to field umpiring and was looking forward to doing so for the first time in U12 and U14 practice matches between Lang Lang and Kilcunda Bass.

SGUA director of umpiring Rod Gillett said he always advises umpires to "signal big", so that everyone can see clearly what they are paying.

Gemma Cook, one of SGUA's boundary umpire coaches went through the V/Line Cup Academy, for which umpires are selected from AFL Victoria's Community Umpire Accelerator Program. Besides her onfield responsibilities as either a boundary or field umpire, she is in the 'women liaison' post for the SGUA in which the emphasis is on creating an environment where women and girls feel safe and respected.

SGUA president Kane Pepperell spoke of the high number of female umpires, urging male umpires to be considerate when at footy grounds lacking female-friendly change rooms.

After training and the season launch talks, the umpires enjoyed a well-earned barbecue, the camaraderie very much like that among players on a team.

West Gippsland to introduce independent board

THE member clubs of the West Gippsland Football Netball Competition met to formalise the process of appointing its first independent board to the region on Tuesday, March 25.

The board positions were placed on the market under an expression of interest with five positions becoming available.

This board will assist and guide the competitions through its next stages of progress and governance of what is already a very strong competition within AFL Victoria Country.

An experienced field of candidates applied for the five available positions, with Tony Mitchell being voted by the member clubs as the new independent chairperson.

Tony will be joined by Ian Dougherty, Ms Jo Wilkinson, John White and Josh Chenoweth.

All candidates have a wealth of business, financial, governance and sports club/league acumen.

Tony joins the West Gippsland Football Netball Competition after 30 years as a football/netball board member, deputy chair of the former VCFL and long-standing chair of the Outer East Football Netball Competition.

He has held many roles in sports administration and is highly regarded as one of the most experienced in the football/netball landscape.

Tony is chuffed to be appointed to the new role.

"I am so excited to take on this new challenge. I have loved my time at Outer East and have so many fond memories, experiences and friends within the Outer East region. I am also excited about taking on this newly appointed role in a great competition that is



Boundary umpire coach Gemma Cook and SGUA president Kane Pepperell. A12_1325

Hill End selected for 'The Carlton Draft'

HILL End has been selected from over 150 clubs across Australia as part of The Carlton Draft. Now in its fourth campaign, The Carlton Draft supports local footy by giving registered senior men's footy clubs a chance to draft former AFL icons for a one-off game during the season.

After struggling with financial difficulties, declining player recruitment, and poor on-field performances – finishing at the bottom of the ladder in both 2023 and 2024 – Hill End and Grove Rovers Football Netball Club was selected for the Carlton Draft.

According to their application, the Club hopes to use the opportunity to inspire their community, attract sponsorship, and rebuild the club's future, providing hope during a challenging time, especially following the devastating news of a beloved club member's family facing terminal illness.

Official Draft Recruiter Dylan Buckley and Draft Commissioner Jonathan Brown have been hard at work getting the new draftees signed up for this season, resulting in a draft class comprising 1437 AFL games between them.

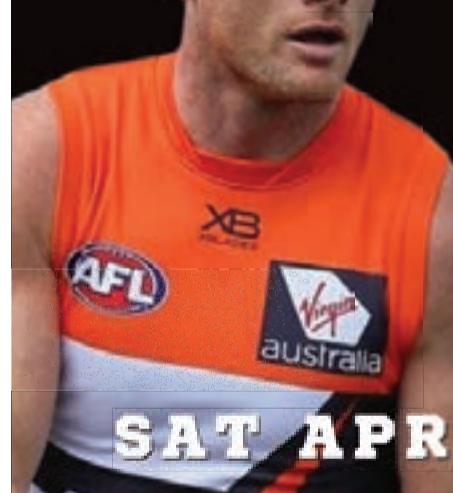
The 2025 Carlton Draft playing pool comprises:

- Three-time premiership Cat Tom Hawkins
- 2004 AFL Draft Pick No. 1 and 275-game player Brett Deledio
- AFL Hall of Famer and Fremantle legend Matthew Pavlich
- 2010 premiership Pie and former spearhead Travis Cloke
- 2018 premiership Eagle and media personality Will Schofield

Winning clubs will be able to select their legend during The Carlton Draft night, held on Wednesday, April 30 at The Sporting Globe in Richmond, before the matchdays commence.

KORUMBURRA BENA FOOTBALL NETBALL CLUB

GIANTS V DALYSTON



SAT APRIL 26TH

SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKERS

HEATH SHAW & RICKY NIXON

LIGHT LUNCH PROVIDED

12:00 - 1:30PM IN THE CLUBROOMS

@ THE KORUMBURRA SHOWGROUNDS

GAME STARTS AT 2:00PM

HEATH SHAW

PLAYING FOR THE GIANTS!

BOOK A TABLE TODAY!!

CALL RUSS WHITE ON 0409 574 334

Or email secretary@kbfngiants.com.au

\$50 TICKET

FOOTY TIPPING

18

**BEN FISHER**

Collingwood
Geelong
Gold Coast Suns
Brisbane
North Melbourne
GWS
Port Adelaide
Fremantle

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 7



81 Commercial Street,
Korumburra
5655 1024

18

**MATT ROBERTSON**

Collingwood
Geelong
Adelaide
Brisbane
Sydney
GWS
Port Adelaide
Fremantle

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 6



119 Graham Street,
Wonthaggi
5672 1027

17

**CARL LINDSAY**

Collingwood
Geelong
Gold Coast Suns
Brisbane
Sydney
GWS
Port Adelaide
Fremantle

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 6



145 Graham Street,
Wonthaggi
5672 1137

16

**ALEX GEYER**

Collingwood
Geelong
Gold Coast Suns
Brisbane
Sydney
GWS
Port Adelaide
Fremantle

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 5



Wonthaggi 5672 5522
Leongatha 5662 2941

11

**JAE DAVEY**

Collingwood
Geelong
Adelaide
Brisbane
Sydney
GWS
Port Adelaide
Western Bulldogs

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 5



62-64 McBride Avenue,
Wonthaggi
0421 162 530

18

**DARRYL McGANNON**

Collingwood
Geelong
Gold Coast Suns
Brisbane
Sydney
GWS
Port Adelaide
Fremantle

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 6



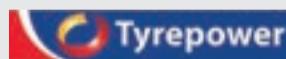
1 Roughead Street,
Leongatha
5662 2327

14

**KRIS BAKER**

Collingwood
Geelong
Gold Coast Suns
Brisbane
Sydney
GWS
Port Adelaide
Fremantle

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 4



78-80 Watt Street,
Wonthaggi
5672 5760

18

**RYAN SHANE**

Collingwood
Melbourne
Adelaide
Brisbane
North Melbourne
GWS
Port Adelaide
Fremantle

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 6



Leongatha Toyota
7-13 Hughes Street,
Leongatha
5662 2302

16

**CRAIG FARRINGTON DARREN TILEY**

Collingwood
Geelong
Gold Coast Suns
Brisbane
Sydney
GWS
Port Adelaide
Fremantle

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 6



6/5 Cyclone Street,
Wonthaggi
Darren 0405 603 569
Craig 0415 641 845

18

**ADAM WARE**

Collingwood
Geelong
Adelaide
Brisbane
Sydney
GWS
Port Adelaide
Fremantle

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 7



2/88-98 Watt Street,
Wonthaggi
1800 358 131

17

**JUSTIN CAPORALE**

Collingwood
Geelong
Gold Coast Suns
Brisbane
Sydney
GWS
Port Adelaide
Fremantle

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 6



41 McCartin Street,
Leongatha
5662 2529

19

**LEIGH DONOHUE**

Collingwood
Geelong
Gold Coast Suns
Brisbane
Sydney
GWS
St Kilda
Western Bulldogs

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 7



Wonthaggi
0400 001 465

**The best tyre service in South Gippsland!**

With over 33 years' of industry experience in wheel alignments, suspension, wheels and tyres, Kris and the team are your trusted professionals!

- The latest and best equipment in the region
- HUGE range of stock available in-store
- Friendly, professional, welcoming staff

Our guarantee, you won't find better service or workmanship!



GET THE POWER OF AUSTRALIA'S BIGGEST INDEPENDENT
78 Watt Street, Wonthaggi | 5672 5760 | www.tyrepowerwonthaggi.com.au

Proudly brought to you by

Wonthaggi Toyota



JA22108

346 Bass Highway,
Wonthaggi LMCT 8179

5672 1722

LEADERBOARD AFTER ROUND 3

Phil Hardy	23
Hayden Poppe	19
Leigh Donohue	19
Adam Ware	18
Ben Fisher	18
Darryl McGannon	18
David England	18
Liam Sawyer	18
Matt Robertson	18
Peter Fort	18
Ryan Shane	18
Aaron McGregor	17
Brad Hodson	17
Carl Lindsay	17
Justin Caporale	17
Alex Geyer	16
Craig & Darren	16
Dylan Clark	16
Warren Stewart	16
Brett Jacobs	15
Keith & Eddie	14
Kris Baker	14
Jae Davey	11

16



**WARREN
STEWART**

Collingwood
Geelong
Gold Coast Suns
Brisbane
Sydney
GWS
Port Adelaide
Fremantle

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 6



Wonthaggi Toyota

346 Bass Highway,
Wonthaggi
5632 3503

23



**PHIL
HARDY**

Collingwood
Geelong
Adelaide
Brisbane
North Melbourne
GWS
Port Adelaide
Fremantle

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 7



Bass Coast LIGHT ENGINES

317 White Road,
Wonthaggi
5672 4017

16



**DYLAN
CLARK**

Collingwood
Geelong
Gold Coast Suns
Brisbane
Sydney
GWS
Port Adelaide
Fremantle

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 6



1 A'Beckett Street
Inverloch
5674 1432

18



**DAVID
ENGLAND**

Collingwood
Geelong
Adelaide
Brisbane
North Melbourne
GWS
St Kilda
Fremantle

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 7



3/45-61 McKenzie St,
Wonthaggi
5644 2080

18



**PETER
FORT**

Collingwood
Geelong
Gold Coast Suns
Brisbane
Sydney
GWS
Port Adelaide
Fremantle

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 6



47 Station Street,
Korumburra
0417 332 141

14



**KEITH
KELLY** **EDDIE
CHANDLER**

Carlton
Geelong
Adelaide
Brisbane
Sydney
GWS
Port Adelaide
Fremantle

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 2



54 Graham Street,
Wonthaggi
5672 1311

18



**LIAM
SAWYER**

Collingwood
Geelong
Gold Coast Suns
Brisbane
Sydney
GWS
Port Adelaide
Fremantle

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 5



16 McBride Avenue,
Wonthaggi
5672 1007

17



**AARON
McGREGOR**

Collingwood
Geelong
Gold Coast Suns
Brisbane
Sydney
GWS
Port Adelaide
Fremantle

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 6



24 Inverloch Road,
Wonthaggi
5672 5906

17



**BRAD
HODSON**

Collingwood
Geelong
Adelaide
Brisbane
Sydney
GWS
Port Adelaide
Fremantle

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 5



15/17 Murray Street,
Wonthaggi
5672 5878

15



**BRETT
JACOBS**

Collingwood
Geelong
Gold Coast Suns
Brisbane
North Melbourne
GWS
Port Adelaide
Fremantle

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 6



28 Inverloch Road,
Wonthaggi
5672 4770

19



**HAYDEN
POPPE**

Collingwood
Melbourne
Gold Coast Suns
Brisbane
North Melbourne
GWS
Port Adelaide
Fremantle

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 5



6/6 Cyclone Street,
Wonthaggi
5672 2543



OFFER ENDS APRIL 11

8:00 AM - 4:00 PM (Mon-Fri)
28 Inverloch Road,
Wonthaggi 3996
Ph: 5672 4770

UP TO
**30%
OFF**



abicor
Southern





Mason Nicholls, Bo Whelan and Brodi Stevic have had a blast playing in the domestic autumn competition in the Korumburra Basketball Association. Tk06_1325



U17s player Jorge Chila moves the ball down the court, under pressure from Mackenzie White. Tk05_1325

Basketball delight

THROUGHOUT the week, the Korumburra Basketball Stadium is buzzing with activity.

The Korumburra Basketball Association is now at the midway point of its autumn domestic season, and the competition has been thrilling.

"It's been a brilliant season. We've had 400 juniors registered across eight grades, as well as five men's teams and five masters' teams," the association's domestic basketball coordinator Amy White said.

Due to netball commitments and CBL requirements, there was no women's competition on the autumn fixture.

However, there are plenty of women taking on the joys of local basketball, consistently coming back to compete in the spring competition.

"Last season, we had 10 women's teams register – enough to fill an A and a B competition," Amy said.

Amy said numbers are always steadily increasing throughout the year, largely thanks to the successful Aussie Hoops program.

Aussie Hoops is designed for five- to eight-year-olds and is a great introduction to the sport.

"A lot of our Aussie Hoops participants come up into the U10s. It's a great starter program to help the kids develop their skills and get them ready for that game experience," Amy said.

"As the season goes on, it's so nice to see how the kids have improved in their confidence and skill level. A lot of our rep basketballers start from the U10s and go through the pathway to get to U17s."

"Families are always happy to see their kids getting out there and playing the sport."

The domestic season is heading into round six but will take a break during the school holidays.

When school resumes, so will the competition, which will lead into the grand final to be held on June 1.

"It's been a very close competition so far. We've got a great range of players this season, from beginners through to the Wildcats reps," Amy said.

"No experience is required to play in our domestic competition. It's all about having fun and sharing the ball around."

The Korumburra Basketball Association will start advertising for its spring competition in July.

The spring competition runs from August until the end of November.

Those who are interested in competing in the spring competition are encouraged to register through PlayHQ.

Links will be posted to the association's Facebook page when registration opens.

Box Hill Hawks double header returns to Wonthaggi

THE Hawks are heading back to Bass Coast next month, and to kick things off, AFLW star midfielder Emily Bates was in town on Friday taking the 2024 McClelland Trophy on tour with a visit to the iconic Kilcunda Trestle Bridge.

A premiership player with Brisbane, Bates is one of the most decorated athletes in AFLW history, having won the league best and fairest, AFL Coaches Association AFLW Champion Player of the Year, and AFL Players Association AFLW Most Valuable Player awards in season six – making her the first AFLW player to claim all three end-of-season honours. She took on the role of Hawthorn captain in 2024 and continues to inspire the next generation of footballers.

AFLW Captain Emily Bates said the VFLW players are excited to return to Wonthaggi: "It's great to be back in Bass Coast. Our VFLW side love coming to Wonthaggi, where there is always a big crowd and a fantastic ground to



Hawthorn Captain Emily Bates and Bass Coast Mayor Rochelle Halstead with the McClelland Trophy at Kilcunda Trestle Bridge, celebrating the Hawks' return to Wonthaggi next month. C06_1325

play on. The community here is so passionate about footy, I'm sure they can't wait to put on a great show."

The event also provides a unique opportunity for young footy fans to see both VFL and VFLW teams compete on the same day and at the

same venue.

Bass Coast Mayor Cr Rochelle Halstead welcomed the return of the event, highlighting the boost to local tourism.

"The Box Hill Hawks double-header is becoming a key feature of our events

calendar, bringing thousands of football fans to Wonthaggi, especially during the ANZAC Day long weekend. We're proud to continue leading the way in fair access, ensuring women's and men's football share the spotlight."

The double header match returns to Wonthaggi on Sunday, April 27.

The VFL match featuring Hawthorn affiliate Box Hill Hawks versus Port Melbourne starts at 11.05am. The VFLW match, Box Hill Hawks versus the Port Melbourne starts at 2.35pm. Entry is free, and gates open at 10.30am.

For the kids, there will be halftime Auskick games, player photo signings, and a Wonthaggi Power canteen serving refreshments. Kids who aren't part of a local club are still welcome to join in the Auskick fun on the day!

Just last month, Wonthaggi Recreation Reserve secured \$250,000 in funding from the Victorian Government's Country Football and Netball Program.



Mei, Savannah, Jet and Riley show off their ribbons after a tight contest in shot put. C05_1325

Ribbons galore at Wonthaggi North Primary

THERE were ribbons flying off hats and shirts on Friday, March 28 as Wonthaggi North Primary School hosted their annual athletics day with students giving their best across an array of athletic disciplines.

A favourite was the grade six versus teacher relay race at the end of the day.

However before lunch it was all happening at the shot put with the grade six boys and girls putting in their best.

The final results for the girls were Mei (5.76m), Savannah (5.39m) and Somer (5.22m). For the boys, Riley (6.58m), Jet (5.83m) and Hoori (5.20m).

Powlett Penguins – Blue House won the overall athletics day.

MDU take an unexpected victory in C2 at Inverloch



Man of the Match Clayton Fisher MDU vs Inverloch Grand Final. B29_1325



Inverloch captain Warren Stewart works the ball to the offside during his innings of 45 in the C2 Grand Final won by MDU. A41_1325



MDU Captain Dale Thomas with the 2025 C2 Division Premiership Cup. B31_1325



Nerrena's C1 premiership team, from left, back: Billy Trotman, Chris Williams, Shem Murphy, Wayne Cocksedge, Daniel Grigg, Ben Stein and Brendan Salmon. Front: Clancy Salmon, Gerard Murphy, Eamon Berryman, captain Brian Gannon, Christos Marinou, Cameron Baudinette. Absent: Jack Donohue.

Premiership glory for the Red Caps

C GRADE, DIVISION 1

AFTER spending the season at the top of the ladder, Nerrena wrapped up its 2024/25 season nicely with a premiership win over OMK.

The final showdown took place at Leongatha's East Campus.

The toss went in Nerrena's favour, and the Red Caps opted to bat first.

Captain Brian Gannon got the ball rolling with 17 runs, but the top performers were Gerard Murphy and Cameron Baudinette with 21 and 29 runs respectively.

Ben Stein finished off the innings with 14 not out.

OMK bowler Scott Anthony Handley was the main factor standing in Nerrena's way of an easy victory.

Handley claimed 5/19 and drastically reduced Nerrena's run rate.

Singles were claimed by Russ White, Owen Fitzpatrick, captain Jordan Myors and Brad Hayes.

Nerrena played out its allotted overs but had only made it to 9/108, which could've been in OMK's reach.

OMK openers Robert Quaife and White were quickly dismissed for six runs each, but number three batsman Fitzpatrick corrected the course and put 38 runs on the board.

This turned out to be the top score, with Handley adding 29 runs.

OMK looked threatening and as if they could catch the Red Caps.

However, the Nerrena bowlers weren't about to let OMK have it and upped the pressure, quickly running through the bottom of the batting order.

Nerrena's best bowler was Brendan Salmon, who took 3/13.

Shem Murphy and Baudinette took two wickets each and singles were claimed by Eamon Berryman and Gerard Murphy.

Ultimately, OMK fell short when it was bowled out 10/102 in the 34th over.

C GRADE, DIVISION 2

Thomas and Fisher storm their way to victory

CAPTAIN Dale Thomas and Clayton Fisher were the heroes of the day as they led MDU to a premiership win over Inverloch on Saturday.

After finishing third on the ladder, MDU has had a fairytale run home, defeating second-placed Phillip Island in the second semi-final and bringing it home to outplay minor premiers Inverloch in the final showdown.

The grand final clash was played out at the Inverloch Recreation Reserve.

MDU started on its winning way with a successful toss, choosing to send the Stingrays in to bat first.

David Harris and captain Warren Stewart opened well, making 31 and 45 runs respectively.

Harris was run out by

Simon McRae, and Stewart was run out by George Batten and Fisher.

Lucas McMillan added another 41 runs to the tally before he was bowled by Fisher.

Fifth bat Jason Smith made 15 runs for Inverloch and was not out at the end of the innings.

For MDU, wicket-taking was shared between McRae, Craig Hoober and Fisher.

Inverloch played out its allotted overs and was ready to defend its total of 6/151.

However, the partnership of Thomas and Fisher was all that was needed for MDU to win the day.

They opened the innings for MDU and could not be dismissed by Inverloch's onslaught.

Thomas made 51 runs and Fisher made 90 runs.

In the 32nd over, MDU amassed 0/155 and secured the 2024/25 premiership.

LDCA to investigate food spiking complaint

THE Leongatha and District Cricket Association is investigating a food spiking allegation following the A1 semi-final.

OMK Cricket Club issued an official complaint against Nerrena Cricket Club, which is now in the hands of the league.

The Leongatha and District Cricket Association (LDCA) are waiting on responses from the people involved before either making an in-house decision with the committee or going to the tribunal.

Those involved have 15 days to respond from the time of the complaint, and the committee will have another 15 days to make its decision.

The incident did not impact the result of the match, as OMK went on to claim the A1 premiership over the weekend.

C GRADE

DIVISION 1

Nerrena 9/108 d OMK 102

Nerrena – 1st INNINGS

Brian Gannon b: R White	17
Billy Trotman lbw: SA Handley	2
Eamon Berryman c: M Walker b: SA Handley	5
Gerard Murphy c: P Harper b: B Hayes	29
Cameron Baudinette	
c: R Quaife b: O Fitzpatrick	21
Wayne Cocksedge c: P Harper b: J Myors	0
Shem Murphy b: SA Handley	5
Ben Stein not out	14*
Chris Williams b: SA Handley	7
Christos Marinou b: SA Handley	0
Brendan Salmon not out	4*
Extras (3w, 1nb)	4

Total 9 / 108 (35 Overs)

Bowling: R White 7-0-30-1, SA Handley 7-1-19-5 (1nb), O Fitzpatrick 7-1-18-1, J Greenwood 7-1-17-0 (1w), J Myors 4-0-12-1, B Hayes 3-0-12-1

OMK – 1st INNINGS

Robert Quaife lbw: B Salmon	6
Russ White c: B Gannon b: S Murphy	6
Owen Fitzpatrick	
c: B Trotman b: C Baudinette	38
Mitchell Nicholas c: G Murphy b: B Salmon	0
Scott Anthony Handley c: ? b: S Murphy	29
Justin Greenwood c: ? b: C Baudinette	5
Mathew Walker c: G Murphy b: E Berryman	7
Brad Hayes c: ? b: G Murphy	3
Craig Hart run out: Ben Stein	0
Paul Harper c: ? b: B Salmon	4
Jordan Myors not out	0*
Extras (4w)	4

Total 10 / 102 (33.5 Overs)

Bowling: S Murphy 7-2-17-2 (1w), B Salmon 5.5-0-13-3, B Trotman 2-0-14-0 (1w), C Marinou 3-0-9-0 (2w), C Baudinette 7-2-26-2, E Berryman 7-1-21-1, G Murphy 2-0-2-1

C GRADE

DIVISION 2

MDU 0/155 d Inverloch 6/151

Inverloch – 1st INNINGS

David Harris run out: K Sinclair	31
Warren Stewart run out	45
Lucas McMillan b: C Fisher	41
Wayne Chapman c: S McRae	2
Jason Smith not out	15*
Jordon Foote c: D Thomas b: C Hoober	4
Mitchell Woods run out: C Fisher, D Thomas	1
Cameron Butler not out	1*
Extras (8w, 2nb, 1lb)	11

Total 6 / 151 (35 Overs)

Bowling: K Brown 7-1-24-0 (1w), L Webb 3-0-12-0, S McRae 7-1-16-1 (2w), K Sinclair 4-0-17-0 (5w, 2nb), C Hoober 7-1-33-1, S Riley 3-0-33-0, C Fisher 4-0-15-1

MDU – 1st INNINGS

Dale Thomas not out	51*
Clayton Fisher not out	90*
Extras (10w, 2nb, 2lb)	14

Total 0 / 155 (31.4 Overs)

Bowling: C Butler 6-0-30-0 (3w), W Chapman 7-1-18-0, J Smith 7-0-41-0 (5w, 1nb), A Parker 7-0-34-0 (2w), H Williams 3.4-0-25-0 (1nb), N McMillan 1-0-5-0

C GRADE

DIVISION 2

Local sport

South Gippsland and Bass Coast

Sentinel-Times



www.sgst.com.au



2025 C2 Division MDU Premiership Team. Back, from left, Lochlan Webb, Glen Cocksedge, Stephen Riley, Tim Bright, Gary Webster, Simon McRae, Keiran Brown and George Batten. Front, Dale Thomas (captain), Clayton Fisher (Man of the Match), Kurt Sinclair, Cooper Webb and Craig Hoober. B32_1325

B GRADE

DIVISION 1

Nerrena 5/224 d Club 221

Club – 1st INNINGS
 David Britt b: J Checkley 22
 Harry West c: J Renden b: M Croatto 61
 Kai Allison run out: M Croatto, M Croatto 0
 Jason O'Reilly c: W Croatto b: C Dougherty 19
 Trae Dudas-Jacobs b: W Croatto 1
 Sean Roche c: M Croatto b: R Clark 22
 Heath Dobbie c: M Croatto b: R Clark 1
 William Speed not out 50*
 Jai Williamson b: D Symmons 6
 Mohamed Ashik Mohamed Nizar b: D Symmons 7
 Bryce Evans run out: D Symmons, R Clark 8
 Extras (8w, 2nb, 5lb, 9b) 24
 Total 10 / 221 (69.1 Overs)

Bowling: W Croatto 13-5-21-1, R Clark 17.1-2-57-2,
 M Croatto 10-3-27-1 (8wm 2nb), J Checkley 8-3-
 17-1, T Harris 6-1-19-0, C Dougherty 9-1-30-1,
 D Symmons 6-0-36-2

Nerrena – 1st INNINGS

Damien Symmons c: J Williamson b: S Tessari 29
 Kade Berryman c: K Allison b: B Evans 28
 James Kelly st: H West b: B Evans 92
 Joel Renden lbw: H Dobbie 49
 Ryan Clark c: S Roche b: H Dobbie 3
 Mitchell Croatto not out 13*
 Charlie Dougherty not out 2*
 Extras (1w, 3lb, 4b) 8
 Total 5 / 224 (67.2 Overs)

Bowling: J Williamson 13-2-44-0, S Roche 14-3-31-0, S Tessari 10-1-35-1, H Dobbie 12-1-35-2,
 MAM Nizar 5-0-18-0 (1w), B Evans 13.2-0-54-2



The 2024/25 B1 premiership went to Nerrena. Pictured back from left, captain Michael Croatto, Charlie Dougherty, William Croatto, Ryan Clark, Jaxon Checkley, Joel Renden, front from left, man of the match James Kelly, Kade Berryman, Mitchell Croatto, vice-captain Damien Symmons and Tyson Harris. Tk17_1325

Red Caps stand victorious over Wonthaggi Club

B GRADE, DIVISION 1

NERRENA was named the 2024/25 B1 premier after successfully chasing down Wonthaggi Club's score on Sunday.

The grand final was a top of the table battle, and the Red Caps proved to be the superior side in a close result.

Club put up a great fight on Saturday.

Playing at the Nerrena Recreation Reserve, Club won the toss and went in to bat first.

David Britt and Harry West opened, delivering a great start with 22 and 61 runs respectively.

Captain Sean Roche later contributed 22 runs and William Speed wrapped it up for Club with 50 not out.

For Nerrena, the bowling glory was shared between Ryan Clark and vice-captain Damien Symmons with two wickets each.

Singles were taken by William Croatto, Mitchell Croatto, Jaxon Checkley and Charlie Dougherty.

Club was bowled out with a score of 10/221.

Nerrena went into its innings on Sunday fired up for a win.

Symmons and Kade Berryman started the innings well with 29 and 28 runs respectively.

Third bat James Kelly just missed out on his century – stumped by West off the bowling of Bryce Evans for 92 runs – but had done enough to earn himself man of the match.

Joel Renden added 49 runs to the score, and Nerrena managed to chase down Club in the 68th over with Mitchell Croatto and Dougherty at the crease.

Nerrena won the premiership with a score of 5/224.

Heath Dobbie and Evans were Club's top bowlers with two wickets each, and one wicket was taken by Shaun Tessari.



Jason O'Reilly works the ball to the on-side during his knock of 19 for Wonthaggi Club in its B1 Grand Final defeat against Nerrena. A54_1325



Wonthaggi Club's Trae Dudas-Jacobs is watchful against the bowling of Charlie Dougherty of Nerrena but fell shortly afterwards to Will Croatto for 1. A57_1325



Harry West leaves a ball during his patient innings of 61, Wonthaggi Club's top score in its B1 Grand Final loss to Nerrena. A53_1325

Town take back the top spot

B GRADE, DIVISION 2

IT WAS a case of Foster winning the battle but Leongatha Town winning the war following the B2 grand final over the weekend.

Foster pipped Leongatha Town on the ladder in the final round, claiming the minor premiership, but Town won the game that mattered and was crowned the 2024/25 premier.

Playing at Foster's home ground, Town launched the match with a successful toss and chose to bat.

Town was rattled early when Max Hardy was lost for a duck, but Trent McRae kept the momentum alive with 65 runs.

Foster bowler Jack Gay went on a run that slowed Town's run rate through the top of the batting order, but Luke Bowman and Luke Ashton had Town back on course with 27 and 22 runs respectively.

Gay was in top form, claiming eight of Town's wickets.

Neil Henry and Brett Gay took the remaining two wickets.

Town's Davern Goss ended the day with a handy 32 runs.

Leongatha Town set the target for Foster when it was bowled out 10/217.

Jack Gay and Jake Pilkington opened for Foster and had their team off to a promising start with 35 and 31 runs respectively.

However, the rest of the innings proved incredibly challenging for Foster.

Fourth bat Billy Davy contributed the only other significant score with 17 runs.

Leongatha Town's Pandukabhaya Jayasinghe caused the most damage for Foster, taking 5/23.

Jayasinghe largely took out the tailenders, ending Foster's run early.

Three wickets were taken by Lachlan Gill and two wickets were taken by Levi Hickey.

Foster was all out after 52 overs, conceding defeat with a score of 10/125.

B GRADE

DIVISION 2

Town 217 d Foster 125

Town – 1st INNINGS

Mark Hardy lbw: J Gay	0
Trent McRae c: B Davy b: J Gay	65
Pandukabhaya Jayasinghe lbw: J Gay	17
Colin Bruce b: J Gay	0
Max Carter lbw: J Gay	6
Luke Bowman lbw: B Gay	27
Luke Ashton b: J Gay	22
Rory Gilliatte c: B Busuttil b: N Henry	19
Frazer Livingstone not out	13*
Levi Hickey lbw: J Gay	6
Davern Goss b: J Gay	32
Extras (5w, 3nb, 2lb)	10
Total 10 / 217 (67.2 Overs)	

Bowling: N Henry 17-4-75-1 (1w), J Gay 29.2-11-64-8 (1w), C Ford 10-1-30-0 (1w, 2nb), B Gay 9-1-36-1 (2w), D Caldwell 2-0-10-0 (1w)

Foster – 1st INNINGS

Jack Gay c: T McRae b: P Jayasinghe

Jake Pilkington lbw: L Hickey

Neil Henry c&b: L Hickey

Billy Davy b: L Gill

Donald Caldwell c: T McRae b: L Gill

Dan Garlick b: P Jayasinghe

Chris Ford c: D Goss b: L Gill

Shaun Chaseling c: D Goss b: P Jayasinghe

Brandon Busuttil not out

Brett Gay c: M Hardy b: P Jayasinghe

Tim Garvey lbw: P Jayasinghe

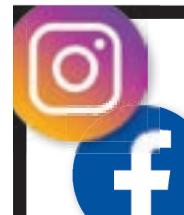
Extras (6w, 1nb, 6lb, 5b)

Total 10 / 125 (52 Overs)

Bowling: L Gill 16-9-21-3 (1w, 1nb), L Hickey 11-2-26-2 (1w), P Jayasinghe 12-6-23-5, F Livingstone 2-1-14-0, L Ashton 2-0-9-0, T McRae 9-2-21-0 (4w)

Max Carter is ecstatic after catching Foster's Brett Gay, the penultimate Tigers' wicket to tumble as Leongatha Town charges to victory in the B2 Grand Final. A49_1325

Davern Goss is Leongatha Town's final wicket to fall, making an important 32 in the Scorpions' B2 Grand Final triumph against Foster, man of the match Jack Gay claiming his wicket in his 8/64. A43_1325



Connect with us

@sentineltimes



Hartley Wells
Betta
Leongatha
www.hartleywells.com
Phone: 5662 2930

LEONGATHA & DISTRICT CRICKET ASSOCIATION

A1: Brodie Johnston (Phillip Island) **83** ; Travis Pickering (OMK) **4/34**

A2: David Newman (Inverloch) **102** ; Reece Cordeux (Nyora) **7/70**

B1: James Kelly (Nerrena) **92** ; Heath Dobbie (Club) **2/35**

B2: Trent McRae (Town) **65** ; Jack Gay (Foster) **8/64**

C1: Owen Fitzpatrick (OMK) **38** ; Scott Handley (OMK) **5/19**

C2: Clayton Fisher (MDU) **90*** ; Clayton Fisher (MDU) **1/15**

Choices
The floor you've been searching for

BEAUMONT TILES
Looking good!

8-10 Koonwarra Rd, Leongatha. 5662 5030
Cnr Carneys Road & Bass Highway,
Wonthaggi. 5672 2148



Noel Creed and Peter Dell are all smiles after the tight win. C16_1325



Brodie Johnston played the innings of his life making a patient 83. Photo: Peter Cleeland.

Diggers dig in for memorable victory

From page 76

Captain Koby Brann was the batsman to make all the difference for the Diggers.

Brann went into bat fourth and was there to stay, proving unmovable and making 70 not out.

These were the runs OMK needed to hold on to the victory, as Phillip Island demolished the middle order.

The final two hours were all or nothing, just when it looked to be over for OMK they bounced back, but it was neck and neck as Nick Auddino stepped into the crease; he had one job, stay in for 13 runs.

There is no doubt the final two overs were a thriller for the strong crowd.

Six runs down and one over more to go, Brann split it, with two runs before a final four landed the win.

Phillip Island's best bowler was Zac Brown, who took 4/62.

Max Royal took two wickets and singles were claimed by Timothy and Thomas Niven.

After 70 overs, OMK had earned its victory with a score of 9/175.

In accepting the 2025 Premiership Cup, Brann thanked Phillip Island for putting up a challenge, the OMK team and umpires.

Brann's stunning batting streak changed the best player honours in the last half an hour of the final according to umpires Ashleigh Stride and Shane Moore, with the captain awarded the man of the match.



Evergreen Peter Dell bowled magnificently taking 3 for 43 from 28 probing overs. Photo: Peter Cleeland.



Phillip Island batsman Tim Niven made 37 runs before OMK bowler Tommy Wyatt finished the Island innings. Photo: Peter Cleeland.

Koby Brann's young cousin's Tate and Cade celebrate the win for OMK. C14_1325



Young Oscar helps celebrate his father Noel's win. C15_1325



Back from left, Inverloch's Riley Harris, Jack Butcher, Dylan Clark, David Newman, Lewis Rankin, Jacob Strickland, Callum Asbury, and front, Ty Debono, Rhys Newman, Jesse Dugard, Cooper Newman and Jake Dennerley were the 2024/25 A2 premiers. Tk11_1325

Inverloch cap stellar season with victory

A GRADE, DIVISION 2

AFTER a heartbreakng 2023/24 season in A1, Inverloch rose from the ashes to dominate the 2024/25 season in A2 and ultimately win the premiership.

Inverloch went head-to-head with Nyora, which also enjoyed a strong home and away season.

Playing at Leongatha's Scorpion Park, Inverloch went into bat first.

Nyora bowlers Aaron Kaddatz and Reece Cordeux took

control of the game, dismissing Riley Harris for a golden duck, and Callum Asbury and Dylan Clark for ducks.

Opening batsman Rhys Newman managed to get the ball rolling for Inverloch with 20 runs and Jesse Dugard added 27 runs.

It was captain David Newman who would turn the tide for Inverloch, leading his team to a well-earned victory.

David Newman made his century and added 102 runs to the tally before he was stopped by Cordeux.

Ty Debono contributed 36 runs to Inverloch's final score of 10/226.

Cordeux was a dominant force for Nyora, taking a whopping seven wickets.

Kaddatz claimed two and a single wicket was taken by Benn Hayes.

Inverloch's score seemed gettable, but Nyora could not gain the momentum required to compete with Inverloch.

Henry Dolphin opened for Nyora and made 41 runs, but also watched the carnage as the Inverloch bowlers took out

batsman after batsman.

Scott Peatling, captain Jake Henry, Colin Knox and Hayes were all dismissed for one run each, and Jy Hull and Kaddatz were dismissed for ducks.

Tailenders Aaron Thompson and vice-captain Aidan Simmons managed to scrape together 11 and 13 runs respectively to bring Nyora's total to 10/93.

Inverloch's best bowler was Asbury, taking 4/15.

Three wickets were taken by Lewis Rankin, two by Dugard and one by Cooper Newman.



Nyora bowler Aaron Kaddatz sends one down to Inverloch batsman Jesse Dugard on Saturday. Tk13_1325



Nyora celebrates the dismissal of Inverloch batsman Jacob Strickland. Tk12_1325

A GRADE

DIVISION 1

OMK 9/175 d Phillip Island 171

Phillip Island – 1st INNINGS

Lachlan Cleland b: T Pickering	0
Kurt Lane b: P Dell	3
Brodie Johnston c: N Creed b: T Wyatt	83
Daniel Mock c: E Lamers b: T Pickering	25
Thomas Niven c: P Fermanis b: T Pickering	0
Jarrod Black c: P Fermanis b: P Dell	6
Kohen Beaumont c&b: T Pickering	1
Max Royal lbw: P Dell	0
Timothy Niven b: T Wyatt	37
Zac Brown lbw: T Wyatt	0
George McCausland not out	8*
Extras (2nb, 6lb)	8
Total 10 / 171 (84.4 Overs)	

Bowling: T Pickering 25.4-11-34-4 (1nb), P Dell 28-12-43-3, J Lamers 8-1-27-0, T Wyatt 17-6-43-3, E Lamers 5-2-17-0 (1nb), N Auddino 1-0-1-0

OMK – 1st INNINGS

Clayton Quaife c: J Black b: M Royal	23
Zavier Lamers b: T Niven	5
Ethan Lamers c: D Mock b: Z Brown	47
Koby Brann not out	70*
Jacob Lamers run out: J Black	3
Thomas Wyatt c: D Mock b: Z Brown	0
Noel Creed c&b: Z Brown	0
Paul Fermanis c: K Beaumont b: T Niven	8
Peter Dell c: T Niven b: M Royal	11
Travis Pickering b: Z Brown	0
Nicholas Auddino not out	0*
Extras (1w, 6lb, 1b)	8
Total 9 / 175 (69.4 Overs)	

Bowling: G McCausland 8-3-12-0, T Niven 13-5-24-1, M Royal 24-7-51-2, Z Brown 20.4-2-62-4 (1w), K Lane 1-0-1-0, T Niven 3-0-18-1

A GRADE

DIVISION 2

Inverloch 226 d Nyora 93

Inverloch – 1st INNINGS

Riley Harris c: J Hull b: A Kaddatz	0
Rhys Newman c: J Hull b: A Kaddatz	20
Callum Asbury c&b: R Cordeux	0
Jack Butcher lbw: R Cordeux	1
Dylan Clark b: R Cordeux	0
Jacob Strickland lbw: R Cordeux	4
Jesse Dugard c: R Cordeux b: B Hayes	27
David Newman c: B Hayes b: R Cordeux	102
Ty Debono c: A Thompson b: R Cordeux	36
Cooper Newman c: J Hull b: R Cordeux	15
Lewis Rankin not out	3*
Extras (2w, 10nb, 5lb, 1b)	18
Total 10 / 226 (89.5 Overs)	

Bowling: A Kaddatz 19-3-50-2, R Cordeux 24.5-7-70-7 (5nb), A Simmons 10-3-22-0 (1w), M Rowe 2-1-4-0, H Dolphin 5-1-16-0, B Hayes 9-2-22-1, A Thompson 10-4-17-0 (4nb), J Henry 10-2-19-0 (1w, 1nb)

Nyora – 1st INNINGS

Henry Dolphin lbw: C Asbury	41
Scott Peatling b: J Dugard	1
Jake Henry c: J Butcher b: J Dugard	1
Jy Hull lbw: C Asbury	0
Aaron Kaddatz b: L Rankin	0
Colin Knox c: J Butcher b: C Asbury	1
Benn Hayes c: R Newman b: L Rankin	1
Reece Cordeux b: L Rankin	6
Aaron Thompson c: R Newman b: C Newman ..	11
Aidan Simmons lbw: C Asbury	13
Mitch Rowe not out	6*
Extras (6w, 2nb, 4lb)	12
Total 10 / 93 (48.3 Overs)	

Bowling: L Rankin 14-6-26-3 (5w, 1nb), J Dugard 12-6-12-2, C Asbury 12.3-7-15-4 (1nb), T Debono 2-0-12-0, C Newman 8-1-24-1 (1w)



The 2024/25 A1 OMK Premiership Team. Back, from left, Paul Fermanis, Ryan Williams, Clayton Quaife, Dylan McMeekin, Noel Creed, Travis Pickering, Peter Dell and Nick Auddino. Front, Zavier Lamers, Ethan Lamers, Koby Brann (captain), Jacob Lamers and Tom Wyatt. C09_1325

Diggers dig in for memorable victory

A GRADE, DIVISION 1

IT WAS a fairytale ending for OMK, coming back from fourth on the ladder to win the A1 2024/25 premiership.

The Diggers were up against it when it took on the giants of the season Nerrena in the first semi-final, but they rose to the challenge and brought the same energy to the final match-up with Phillip Island.

Phillip Island had finished its season third on the ladder and had also caused a semi-final upset when it defeated Wonthaggi Club.

The two teams left standing met at Wonthaggi's Butch West Oval.

OMK won the toss and made the exceptional decision to bowl first.

It was clear from the word go that the OMK bowlers were in

form and ready to take down the Sharks, as the opening partnership of Lachlan Cleeland and Kurt Lane were dismissed for a duck and three runs respectively.

However, first drop batsman Brodie Johnston wasn't about to lie down and let OMK have the premiership that easily.

Johnston stood his ground and made 83 runs before he was caught by Noel Creed off

the bowling of Thomas Wyatt. Captain Daniel Mock added 25 runs to the tally.

OMK's bowlers persisted and continued to run through the batting order.

The bowling honours went to Travis Pickering, who claimed 4/34.

Peter Dell and Wyatt took three wickets each.

Timothy Niven finished Phillip Island's innings with

37 runs.

OMK bowled out Phillip Island and was tasked with chasing 10/171.

For OMK, Clayton Quaife and Zavier Lamers opened the account.

Zavier Lamers was bowled for five runs, but Ethan Lamers stepped up to the crease and he and Quaife made 23 and 47 runs respectively.

Continued page 74

keep warm this winter

dollar curtains + blinds

value in every dollar

dc+b Wonthaggi

21 Murray St, Wonthaggi
Ph. 5672 2915

• with our locally made designer curtains



dollarcurtainsandblinds.com.au

WORRY-FREE FLOORING



CARPET ONE FLOOR & HOME

EASY CLEAN OPTIONS FOR BUSY HOUSEHOLDS

- ✓ Durable
- ✓ Stain Resistant

carpetone.com.au
5672 2915