

Sentinel-Times

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SHIRE UNVEILS \$123M BUDGET

THE Bass Coast Shire Council has unveiled a new \$123.1 million budget ahead of this Wednesday's council meeting of which \$87.5 million is allocated to day-to-day Council operations, \$31.4 million to capital works and \$5.035 million in debt repayments.

Expenditure excluding depreciation and amortisation for the 2025-26 year is expected to be \$87.9 million.

Employee costs are expected to increase from \$36.674 million to \$38.953 million, going to \$43.690 million by 2028-29.

The vast majority of council funding is provided by the ratepayers and those paying fees and charges.

Council's spending program will be financed by total rates and charges of \$81.5 million, up from \$77.6 million this

financial year, of which rates are expected to generate \$61.6 million, compared to a projected \$59.3 million in last year's budget.

According to the council meeting papers, the 2025-26 budget projects an operating deficit of \$1.56 million for 2025-26 and an adjusted underlying deficit of \$10 million.

But despite debt levels reaching \$28.792 million by June 30, 2025, the budget papers say the shire is "maintaining a balanced funding statement position".

"The forward indicators confirm Council's financial position will remain sound over the four-year outlook with a cumulative four-year operating surplus of \$5.6 million and a decreasing adjusted underlying deficit."

Council expects to get its borrowings

down to \$22.458 million by 2028-29 while paying upwards of a \$1 million each year in interest, paying between \$5 million and \$2.6 million in loan principal and taking on new borrowings in the next three years of \$2 million, \$3.8 million and \$1.5 million.

Features of the capital works program of \$31.3 million will be investment in new tracks and trails and the commencement of the externally funded Cowes Streetscape development.

"The Budget provides for significant upgrades to netball pavilions at both Wonthaggi and Bass Recreation Reserves, whilst continuing to invest in the renewal of Council assets, ensuring the access, usage and service levels are maintained.

Continued page 3



HAPPY Easter

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Sentinel-Times.

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GA1228-V10

Bass Coast Police adequately resourced despite rise in crime

POLICE resourcing in Bass Coast is under scrutiny, with locals concerned that unmanned stations are becoming more frequent as the population grows, thereby raising issues, despite reassurances from Victoria Police that the community is adequately resourced.

Amid reports of increasing crime, according to crime statistics, total criminal incidents are up 10.9 per cent in Bass Coast, with 40.8 per cent of charges laid, however a spokesperson for Victoria Police confirmed the reception counter at Cowes and Sam Remo Police Stations is not 24-hour, however, they are fully staffed during peak periods, including Christmas and New Year's Eve.

"While the public cannot attend the reception counter in the early hours of the morning, police are on patrol in the community every day and night."

"We also regularly utilise specialist police units when needed, including the Air Wing, Dog Squad, Water Police, Public Order Response Team (PORT), and Critical Incident Response Team (CIRT)."

"Just last month, PORT was deployed to Bass Coast as part of extra efforts to prevent crime, and over the last long weekend, the State Highway Patrol were out in force keeping the roads



safe."

To ensure crime remains low, Victoria Police strategically allocates resources to communities based on a range of factors, including calls for assistance, recorded crime, and traffic incidents.

At any given time, police may be responding to multiple incidents, and every call for assistance is prioritised based on urgency.

So, if you need immediate police attendance, always call Triple Zero.

Football club targeted in overnight break-in

ON SUNDAY, April 6, at 4.30am, it was reported that unknown offenders forced entry to the front door of the Kilcunda Bass Football Netball

Club (KBFNC) and stole alcohol from fridges, totalling approximately \$1000 in value. A similar incident took place at Lang Lang Football Club; however, the cases are not confirmed to be linked, and this event is under investigation by the Cardinia Criminal Investigation Unit. Any information on the KBFNC incident should be reported to the Bass Coast Criminal Investigation Unit or Crimestoppers.

Deceased found at Bass Recreation Reserve, not foul play

VICTORIA Police have confirmed that on Saturday, March 15, a deceased person was found at the Bass Recreation Reserve. After conducting a preliminary investigation, officials

have deemed the death as non-suspicious and will prepare a report for the coroner.

Cowes Police Station opened for community enquiry

COWES Police Station was open to the community on Friday, April 11, following a recent death in the Cowes area. Police have confirmed that residents had concerns regarding family violence and other general safety issues, and therefore opened the station to those with related concerns or general police enquiries. Most queries on the day were from residents keen to get in touch with police and/or express their desire for a 24-hour police station. Though police might not always be visible at stations, they are out and about patrolling the streets.

Vehicles still missing after aggravated burglary

TWO vehicles, car keys, a garage remote and a handbag have been stolen after offenders entered an address in Cowes at 4am on April 12. The two vehicles, a red Hyundai i30 and white Mazda hatchback are still outstanding. Anyone with information is urged to contact Bass Coast CIU on 5671 4100 or Crimestoppers 1800 333 000.

Bass Coast Shire unveils \$123 million budget

From page 1

"Council will continue to advocate for State and Federal government financial support for the delivery of major inter-generational capital projects.

"Council declared a climate emergency in 2019. In response to this, dedicated funding is included in the Capital Budget providing new infrastructure to achieve actions as per our adopted Climate Change Action Plan 2020-30."

The new borrowings of \$2 million in the 2025-26 financial year will provide \$1 million for the Wonthaggi Netball Pavilion and \$1 million for the 14-kilometre inland path between Wonthaggi and Inverloch.

Although the budget does not provide a breakdown of the cost of operating the shire's two arts centres, at

Wonthaggi and Cowes (Bennineit), operational costs are disclosed at \$2.468 million, with an income of \$922,000 and an operating loss of \$1.546 million.

2025-26 Budget Snapshot

- \$123.1 million total gross budget
- \$87.5 million operating budget to support Council services
- \$31.4 million Capital Works Program funding to invest in new infrastructure and meet asset renewal targets
- \$4.2 million Debt Servicing
- Three per cent average general rate increase in line with the State Government rate cap

2025-26 Budget Highlights

- \$16.3 million on our leisure and recreational facilities, including
- Bass Recreation Reserve
- netball pavilion (\$2.0 million),
- Wonthaggi netball pavilion \$1.9 million,
- Art, cultural and heritage services at Wonthaggi Union Community Arts Centre and Bennineit \$2.5 million,
- Playspace renewal and upgrade program \$340,000.
- \$10.8 million to improve and maintain Council's road network, including:
- Grantville-Glen Alvie road improvements (\$1.4 million)
- Investment in urban roads renewal (\$2.0 million)
- Urban roads and drainage improvement program (\$650,000)
- \$4.3 million to improve tracks, trails and footpaths, including:
- Inverloch to Wonthaggi trail (\$3.5 million)

• Cowes to Ventnor Trail Design (\$220,000)

- Pathway Gaps and Renewal Program (\$575,000)
- \$14.6 million to upgrade community facilities, including:
- Inverloch community hub renewal program (\$1 million)
- Old Wonthaggi Post Office renewal (\$1.1 million)
- Wonthaggi Union Community Arts Centre building renewal (\$900,000)
- Powlett River Pedestrian bridge renewal (\$650,000)
- \$22.7 million on our waste services, including:
- Delivery and management of waste services (\$16.0 million)
- Landfill rehabilitation (\$5.1 million)
- Waste facility improvements (\$1.6 million).

CPSU says VFA proposal doesn't make operational or environmental sense

ACCORDING to Community and Public Sector Union (CPSU) industrial organiser, Kassey Dickie the VFA proposal that seeks to reduce its workforce by 35 roles, including a sharp drop in Fisheries Officers (FO) – from 27 to just nine doesn't make operational or environmental sense.

"We are a state union representing the members who work within the public service, including the Fisheries Officers," said Kassey.

"Our role is to work closely with them regarding the proposal from the employer.

"The issue that workers have in these situations is that the final decisions are entirely at the employer's discretion. Staff can submit alternative proposals. Those can be either fully or partially accepted or rejected."

Kassey explained that subsequent conversations with the employer revealed that, yes, the nine positions will still be authorised officers, so they'll be able to do the enforcement work, but the reality is they will be engagement officers.

"Engagement and education are already embedded in these officers," said Kassey.

"There will be less enforcement on the ground, and VFA will have to re-prioritise how they're going to do things and decide how to categorise how major crime is declared."

The VFA are proposing to close five stations and open three shopfront-style hubs for the community in locations that aren't going to be best for launching craft.

"This will create a huge travel issue for nine officers to get across a large area."

Without the presence, the VFA increase the risk of overfishing, and unsafe practices.

"Even before this proposal, they didn't have enough staff. Now they're proposing a cut," said Kassey.

The final decision rests with the VFA, but CPSU says the state government have the power to stop this. There is still time to do the right thing.

Member for Bass Jordan Crugnale said, "The Victorian Fisheries Authority is consulting with employees and the union on workforce changes, and no decisions have been made.

"Under the proposed changes, a Major Fisheries Crime unit will target organised illegal fishing. This unit will be given additional resources so they can focus on those deliberately doing the wrong thing," said Ms Crugnale.

"The VFA have stated in their organisational change proposal that All Fisheries Engagement Officers will continue to be Authorised Officers who carry a badge and can issue fines and undertake inspections as they currently do.

"As a strong fishing and boating advocate, I have been sending all correspondence from our community directly to the Minister for Outdoor Recreation to ensure their concerns in particular the reduction of Officer numbers covering Western Port and Port Phillip are well heard."

The VFA proposal is due to make the final decision on Wednesday, April 16.

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| DISPLAY: | Advertising closes at 3pm on Fridays |
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The South Gippsland Sentinel-Times is published on Tuesdays.

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

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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-V15

EASTER DEADLINES

Due to the Easter long weekend the deadlines for the next issue of the South Gippsland Sentinel-Times, to be printed Wednesday, April 23 will be as follows:

DISPLAY ADVERTISING

Deadline: 3pm
Thursday, April 17

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

Deadline: 12 noon
Tuesday, April 22

Please note our offices are closed Good Friday and Easter Monday



Sentinel-Times

JA22968

6 Day Weather Forecast

SOUTH GIPPSLAND



TUE | Apr 15

Mostly sunny.
Wind AM: E 20-30km/h
Wind PM: Light

13° 24°



WED | Apr 16

Mostly sunny.
Wind AM: Light
Wind PM: Light

12° 26°



THUR | Apr 17

Mostly sunny.
Wind AM: Light
Wind PM: Light

13° 27°



FRI | Apr 18

Partly cloudy.
Wind AM: W 15-20km/h
Wind PM: SW 15-20km/h

13° 26°



SAT | Apr 19

Shower or two.
Wind AM: W-NW 15-20km/h
Wind PM: SW 15-20km/h

14° 26°



SUN | Apr 20

Shower or two.
Wind AM: SW 15-20km/h
Wind PM: S 15-20km/h

12° 19°

IN BRIEF

Tourism forum at Warragul

DESTINATION Gippsland has put together an inspiring group of industry leaders for the Gippsland Tourism Industry Forum on Tuesday, May 20 from 11am to 3.30pm at the Warragul Country Club.

The theme of the forum will be 'Smarter Strategies for Success: Thriving Through Change'. This theme explores resilience, cost efficiency, profitability, and adaptability in an ever-evolving workplace and economic landscape.

Hear from Jaclyn Thorne at The Tourism Collective to understand how fostering a culture of innovation can enhance business resilience. By developing new products, services, and processes, businesses can quickly adapt to disruptions and changing market conditions, turning challenges into opportunities.

Bookings for the Gippsland Tourism Industry Forum at Eventbrite.

Mange crisis in Bass Coast wombats

MANGE Management Inc. is urgently calling for volunteers in the Bass Coast region as cases of wombat mange continue to rise at an alarming rate. The current team of volunteers is struggling to keep up with the growing number of affected animals.

Mange Management is now recruiting volunteers in Cape Paterson, Wonthaggi, Kilcunda, and Harmers Haven. Full training and support will be provided, and volunteers must be available in the early evenings, when treatment is most effective.

Love wombats? Want to help? Please email your full name and phone number to volunteers@mangemanagement.org.au. Applicants must reside in one of the listed areas. For more information, visit mangemanagement.org.au

Ladies Be Good head to Phillip Island

EASTER Sunday Ladies Be Good – yes they are an all-ladies group – will be taking to the stage at Phillip Island Bowling Club, 40 Dunsmore Road, Cowes from 2pm – 4.30pm as part of the Phillip Island Jazz Club. In their repertoire, you'll hear some well-known jazz tunes and more. Stunning vocals, interesting arrangements and talented musicians, combining youth and experience they love what they do and have a whole lot of fun doing it. It's recommended to book early if possible, which gives the Jazz Club an idea of how many tables and chairs are needed for the day.

For more information please contact: Jill Boyce on 0417 416 300

No Good Friday tin rattling for Leongatha CFA

DUE to member commitments Leongatha CFA have had to cancel this year's Good Friday Appeal tin rattling as previously published in Discover. Members of the public can donate directly to the Good Friday Appeal online or head out of town and visit one of the many tin rattles in surrounding communities.

Asbestos off truck under investigation

A DOUBLE skip truck travelling along Strzelecki Highway just north of Mirboo North last Tuesday lost an unsecured load of asbestos sheeting.

The sheets of asbestos littered the road and a driver subsequently stopped to drag them off – not realising at the time that the material was hazardous.

The EPA was notified and stated that they are investigating the circumstances around the truck incident, and their officers supported emergency services in the clean-up.

A spokesperson from the EPA said that there was no

risk to the public travelling through the area.

WorkSafe are also investigating the incident and a WorkSafe spokeswoman stated that, "WorkSafe inspectors have responded to ensure occupational health and safety obligations are being met."

Reid Street rehabilitation petition heads to Council

RESIDENTS affected by the planned rehabilitation of Reid Street in Rhyll have taken their petition opposing the works to council with the item officially on the agenda for consideration at Wednesday's council meeting.

The petition, signed by 32 local property owners, calls for a postponement of the proposed rehabilitation project. Signatories are seeking more time to collaborate with Council on developing a maintenance or replacement strategy that preserves the current primer seal asphalt surface – which residents say continues to meet the needs and amenity expectations of the local community and visitors alike.

The proposed changes to Reid Street have sparked significant concern, particularly regarding the potential environmental, health, and economic impacts should the road be downgraded to an unsealed state.

In accordance with Section 55.2 of the Council's Governance Rules, the petition will lie on the table at this meeting, with a report due no later than the May 2025 Council Meeting.

Swag of consultation opportunities set to hit South Gippsland

IT'S UNLIKELY anyone other than the most avid council watchers will muster much enthusiasm about an array of South Gippsland Shire Council documents that are set to be put forward for public consultation.

That's despite the undoubtedly importance of the documents in terms of planning for

the shire's future.

If wading through reams of documentation is your thing, you'll be in heaven.

Should councillors vote at Wednesday's council meeting to put the documents out for comment, you can have your say on the following:

* Draft Council Plan 2025-2029

* Draft Financial Plan 2025/26 - 2034/35

* Draft Revenue and Rating Plan 2025 - 2029

* Draft Budget 2025/26 - 2028/29, including the Draft 2025/26 Council Plan Annual Initiatives

* Draft Asset Plan 2025-2035

* Draft Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2025-2029

The consultation period related to all those documents would run from April 17 until May 7 inclusive.

Councillors will also vote on Wednesday whether to adopt the Community Vision 2040 Review, council already having conducted consultation on the Community Vision 2040 earlier this year.

However, with the high level of support for the existing document, the Community Vision 2040 will remain as it is.

Anyone fancying a bit of light bedtime reading can make a head start before Wednesday's meeting, with a swag of documents to choose from, all available on council's website attached to the Wednesday, April 16 Council Meeting Agenda.

Don't forget the coffee.

Waterline Library temporarily closed

THE Waterline Community Library will be closed from this Wednesday, April 16, as it relocates to new premises.

The library will reopen in late April at the new premises unit 3, 1524 Bass Highway, Grantville.

There'll be plenty to celebrate when the library reopens including an Open Access membership which will allow members the opportunity to visit between 7am and 8pm daily.

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Bass Coast lets \$7m landfill contract to Korumburra firm

THE Bass Coast Shire Council is expected to accept the tender of Korumburra water delivery and environmental infrastructure firm, EcoProjects Australia, for innovative landfill rehabilitation works to be carried out at the old Wonthaggi tip.

The contract is worth just a tick under \$7 million to EcoProjects but with a contingency allowance of more than \$1 million, the shire has set aside \$8.4 million due to unforeseeable costs associated with the complexity of the project and unknown quantities of usable fill.

Although EcoProjects Australia was not the lowest cost tender of the four firms which qualified for the final selection process, the panel of five council officers and an external consultant recommended paying an additional \$6500 due to the strengths of their proposal.

In a report to this Wednesday's meeting, it was concluded that the tender submitted by EcoProjects Australia would provide Council with the best value for money for the following reasons:

- EcoProjects Australia achieved the highest weighted score based on the method of evaluation and provided a high-quality submission, which demonstrated a very good understanding of the Project requirements;
- Demonstrates a strong site-specific understanding of challenges associated with the project and provides confidence that they have the ability to manage site works and liaise effectively and harmoniously with the community within which these works will be highly visible; and
- EcoProjects Australia is a local business that plays a vital role in supporting various aspects that contribute to Quadruple Bottom Line (QBL) outcomes for Council.

The old Wonthaggi landfill operated from the 1920s until 2000 and while previous remedial capping has been performed, the Council is required by the Environment Protection Authority (EPA) to complete final capping in compliance with current regulations by February 13, 2026.

"Wonthaggi Landfill Rehabilitation Works will implement an innovative geocomposite capping system, the first of its kind in Australia, to ensure long-term site stability and minimise environmental risks. The project is scheduled to commence in April/May 2025 and is expected to be completed before the EPA deadline," according to the report to council.

The shire said that managing closed landfills is a critical responsibility for local councils to protect both public health and the environment.

"Over time, old landfills can pose risks such as gas emissions, groundwater contamination, and structural instability."

Although these risks reduce over time, councils are required to constantly monitor the quality of groundwater and emissions and report the results to the authorities.

A motion to accept the tender from EcoProjects Australia and award Contract No 24020 for the sum of \$694,410.10 including GST is expected to be supported by the council this Wednesday.



Items stolen from the Wonthaggi Transfer Station were dumped at night in the cemetery next door. B05_1525



Paint cans are among the items stolen at night and discarded in the Wonthaggi cemetery. B10_1525

Night raiders leave a trail of rubbish

By Bruce Wardley

RESPECT has gone out the window according to one local Wonthaggi resident appalled at the growing amount of rubbish dumped in the Wonthaggi cemetery.

Paint cans, a table, a push-bike and even a canoe stolen from the Wonthaggi Transfer Station overnight have been dumped into the cemetery under the cover of darkness.

Outside the gates a television set, video player and a pedestal fan also discarded most likely dumped because of State Government restrictions on e-waste into landfill.

Denise from Wonthaggi said it gets to the point where there is no respect anymore.

"It could be the same person or groups of people," she said.

"It's disappointing."

Managing Director of Wonthaggi Recyclers and waste contractor for Bass Coast Shire Adam Hill said the Wonthaggi Transfer Station is constantly being broken into.

"It happens most nights," Mr Hill said.

"The intruders take e-waste, paint, couches, mattresses, steel products and car batteries.

"Often these items are left in the cemetery," said Mr Hill.

"We clean up what is visible almost on a daily basis."

Bass Coast Shire has advised many items can be recycled at council waste facilities including batteries, cardboard, whitegoods and scrap metal all free of charge.

One disgruntled resident claimed a metal car wheel was recently rejected for recycling.

"These items are acceptable at the Transfer Station," said Mr Hill.

"We accept steel and alloy wheels free of charge."



Adam Hill Managing Director of Wonthaggi Recycling noted the transfer station is broken into nightly with waste often discarded in the cemetery. B11_1525

"If a tyre is still on the rim, then an additional charge is applied due to the cost associated with recycling the tyre."

Recyclables accepted free of charge at the Bass Coast Waste Transfer Stations include most types of glass including glass packaging, glass bottles and jars but not window glass or glass table tops due to the plastic laminate.

Co-mingled recycling such as plastic bottles, aluminium cans, steel cans and glass bottles and jars, newspaper, office paper and cardboard are all accepted if loose and not bagged, and the packaging and strapping has been removed.

Scrap metal such as white goods, aluminium, steel, barbed wire fencing, steel poles, rods, bicycles, iron sheets, barbecues, frying pans, and cooking pots with the plastic handles removed are readily accepted.

Light globes, compact fluorescent light globes and light tubes, batteries, household batteries, and vehicle batteries can also be recycled.

disposal fee.

Lawnmowers are accepted for free, but any petrol or oil must be removed, and charges may apply for non-metal parts of the mower such as the catcher.

Hot water systems are accepted free, but fees apply to heat pump hot water systems, refrigerators, freezers, and air conditioners because of the need for them to be degassed before recycling.

Metal tools and car parts are free, but charges may apply for the non-metal parts.

Motor oil can be disposed of without charge but there is a limit of twenty litres per visit.

Empty paint tins with the lids off and scraped clean are also free.

Domestic landfill charges apply to plastic plant pots so it may be worth checking with local nurseries to see if they allow empty plant pots to be returned.

Small appliances mostly metal are free including microwave ovens, benchtop cookers, toasters, and toasted sandwich makers.

A number of commercial outlets will accept photocopier and printer toner cartridges.

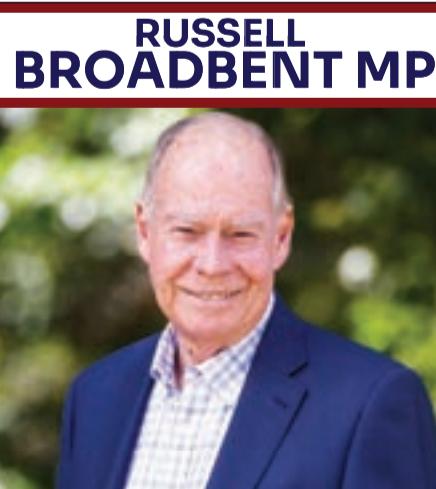
Rooftop solar panels are not accepted for recycling.

Bass Coast Shire has four waste facilities at Cowes, Grantville, Wonthaggi and Inverloch.

If unsure about what can be recycled give the Bass Coast Waste Services team a call on 1300 BCOAST (226 278) or send an email to basscoast@basscoast.vic.gov.au

For opening times and more information on recycling at Bass Coast Transfer Stations go to basscoast.vic.gov.au/services/waste-rubbish/waste-facilities.

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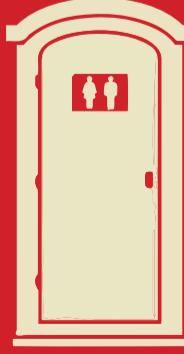
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Locals voice concerns over cemetery restrictions

A NEWLY erected sign at the Wonthaggi Cemetery listing a range of prohibited items has caused a stir among locals, with many taking to social media to express their frustration and disappointment.

The sign, recently installed by the Southern Metropolitan Cemeteries Trust (SMCT), prohibits the placement of several items at gravesites. These include glass, ceramic, stones, tiles, bricks, chemicals or flammable materials such as lanterns, artificial flowers, items with hooks or sharp edges, food, alcohol, cigarettes, inground plantings, furniture, and decorative lighting like fairy lights or solar stakes.

Although the sign is new, the SMCT insists the rules have always existed.

"Following the recent transfer of management of Wonthaggi and San Remo Cemeteries to Southern Metropolitan Cemeteries Trust (SMCT), updated signs have been installed to reflect long-standing policies across SMCT's network of cemeteries and memorial parks," the Trust said in a statement.

"While the sign is new, the items listed as prohibited have not substantially changed."

SMCT says the rules are based on their Floral and Mementos Guidelines and align with statewide cemetery regulations. The prohibited items, the Trust says, pose safety risks to visitors and staff,



The newly erected sign at the Wonthaggi Cemetery is attracting the wrong kind of attention from locals. W04_1525

hinder maintenance, and can cause environmental damage.

"Many items such as plastic wrapping for flowers, rubber bands or vases damaged through time and weather become litter to the environment, harm the local native wildlife, and have a detrimental impact on the environment," the statement reads.

But the new signage has struck a nerve with the local community, many of whom see the move as an unnecessary intrusion into how they honour their loved ones.

"What a joke," one person wrote online. "Better not touch my Pop and Nonna. I take fake flowers, but I also clean all around their resting place. I'm sick of being told what to do."

Another added, "That's beyond a joke, stopping people from grieving and showing love to their deceased loved ones in their own way."

A third person described the changes as "sad," writing, "All the things that mean something to the families of the loved ones at the cemetery, having to be removed."

In response to these concerns, SMCT said it continues to engage with the local community.

"SMCT has listened to the Bass Coast community on operational matters, cemetery upkeep, historical preservation and entrance signage specific to these sites," the Trust said.

"Our teams continue to consult with the community regularly about ongoing

matters and welcome community members to discuss their feedback or concerns with us."

The Trust also acknowledged the importance of personal tributes in the grieving process.

"Families are still welcome to leave flowers and appropriate mementos that do not pose a safety risk and are weather-proof. Our teams are available to support families who may have questions or would like guidance about how to honour their loved ones in a way that is meaningful and compliant with cemetery guidelines."

Despite these assurances, some residents remain upset by what they see as overly restrictive rules that make the cemetery feel less welcoming and comforting.

Slippery paint causes injuries

LAST week local woman Jessica Allamby slipped on painted pavement near Kelly's Bakery in Korumburra, causing her serious injury, but council have refused to fix the problem.

Jessica was taking her daughter, brother and sister out to breakfast and the group were walking down the lane at the back of the bakery towards Commercial Street. Coming down the hill they followed a natural progression from that direction which saw them crossing the painted and very slippery pavement.

"My brother had almost fallen, so we told him to be careful; and then my daughter had almost fallen, so I sort of reached out to grab her, so she didn't hit her head – and that's when I slipped," explained Jessica.

When she fell, Jessica not only sustained a sore and bruised coccyx but she also reopened the scar on her ankle from a previous ankle reconstruction. "I'm just waiting on x-rays to come back from the doctors to see if I need to go see the specialist again."

Jessica notified the South Gippsland Shire Council; however, she is less concerned about her own fall and far more concerned about the possibility of someone elderly in the community slipping and coming to serious harm.

"We've spoken to the manager at Kelly's bakery, about four of their staff have already fallen there and twice, two elderly people have fallen, and they required ambulances," explained Jessica.

The Council called Jessica back the following day. "They just said, if you want to put in a claim, you can, but we're not going to do anything more about it unless something really bad happens."

Since the incident occurred, Council stated: Council are aware of recent slips on this loading zone area and have barricaded the area to prevent pedestrian access.

"They only spray painted it, so they didn't fix it with any anti-slip stuff that they're supposed to, so they 'cheated out' on that," said Jessica.

NO ONE'S UNSINKABLE

To all those Unsinkable Guys out there –

You might think it's safe to have a few drinks around water, skip the life jacket when you're out on the boat or go for a swim without checking the conditions.

But statistics prove that 4 out of 5 drownings are men.

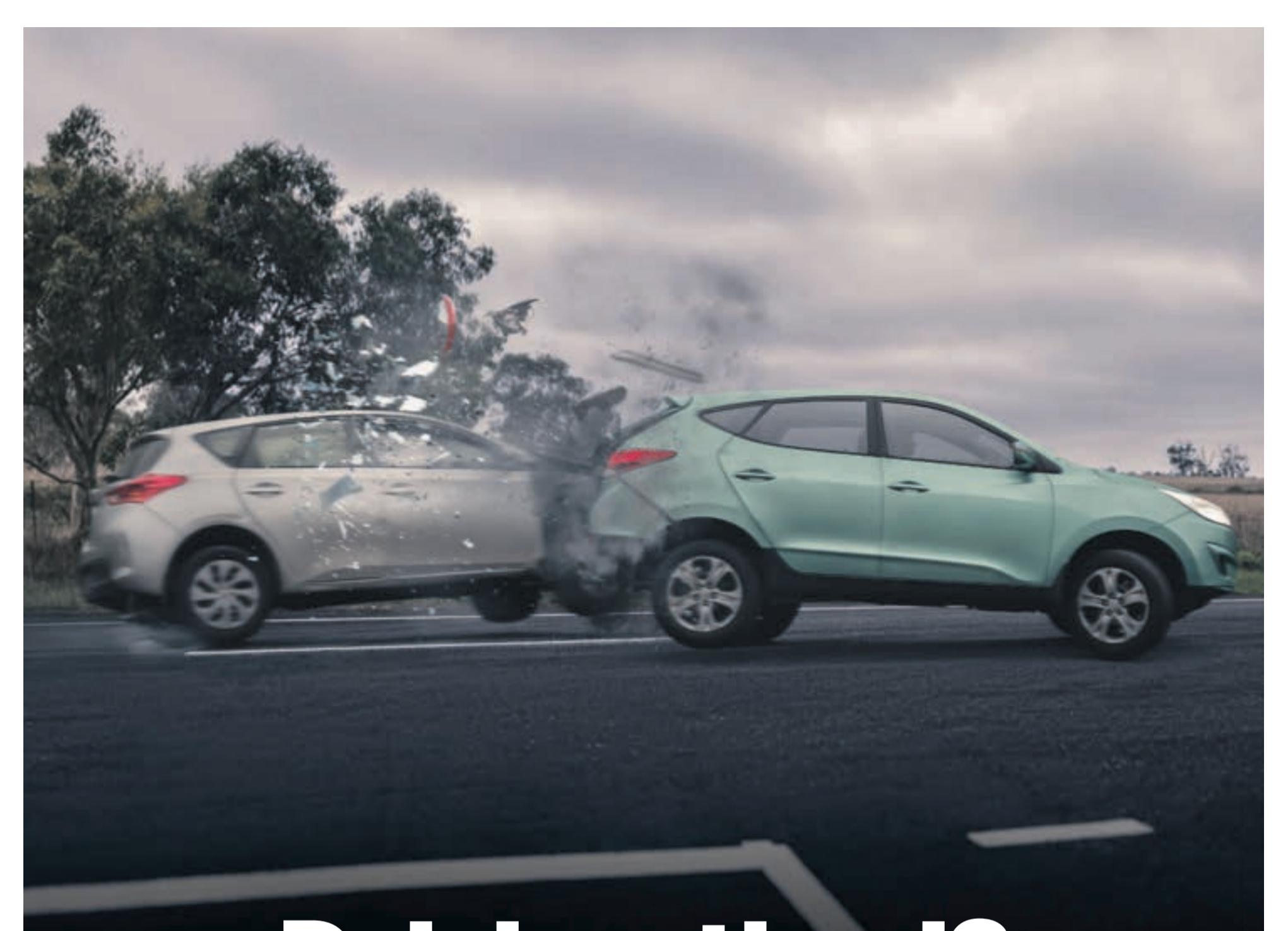
Just remember that no one's unsinkable.

Q UNSINKABLE GUY

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TAKING RISKS
AROUND
WATER



VICTORIA
State
Government



Driving tired? You won't see the crash coming.

Fatigue is a contributing factor in 16-20% of all road crashes in Victoria.

If you're feeling tired, arrange an alternative mode of transport, postpone your trip, or get more sleep before driving. Because when you drive on less than 5 hours sleep, you're 4 times more likely to crash.

Driving tired? Wake up to yourself.



Expect to be tested as road safety operations underway

MOTORISTS travelling through Bass Coast and South Gippsland this holiday period can expect to see a stronger police presence on local roads, as Highway Patrol and general duties officers gear up for Operation Compass.

The statewide initiative, which runs from Thursday, April 17 to Saturday, April 27, coincides with the busy Easter and ANZAC long weekends – a time when road use traditionally spikes.

Sergeant Peter Pearce – Bass Coast Highway Patrol, said Operation Compass aims to reduce road trauma by focusing on key driving behaviours such as speeding, impaired driving, mobile phone use, fatigue, seatbelt compliance, and unauthorised driving.

"There'll be an increased presence and visibility," Sgt Pearce said.

"Expect to be pulled over for drug and alcohol testing at our random testing sites, and if you're planning a long journey, plan ahead. You don't want to add trauma into that holiday period because of something going wrong."

Operation Compass is supported by the Transport Accident Commission (TAC), which funds additional shifts to boost police patrol hours. "Members rostered on during this period are working on top of their normal shifts," Sgt Pearce explained.

"That allows us to have more police on the roads, increasing our ability to test and be visible."

The upcoming operation follows several other ongoing operations across the Bass Coast and South Gippsland areas. These include the following:



Leading Senior Constable Damian Young and Sergeant Peter Pearce – Bass Coast Highway Patrol are fully prepared for the upcoming Operation Compass. W03_1525

Operation Expeditiously – targeting speeding on rural roads. Running from Friday, March 29 to Friday, June 21, this operation has already seen 41 infringements detected across just three deployments. Seven of those drivers lost their licences for exceeding the speed limit by more than 25km/h.

Operation Outpost – targeting impaired drivers under the influence of drugs or alcohol. Launched on Wednesday, February 28, the operation will be ongoing.

Random Booze Bus Operations – mobile testing units supported by police vehicles are regularly deployed from Melbourne

to test local drivers for drugs and alcohol.

"These operations are in addition to our daily patrols," Sgt Pearce said.

"Marked cars and motorbikes are constantly operating on our highways."

Sgt Pearce noted a significant shift in local enforcement of drug driving offences.

"There used to be a perception in Bass Coast and South Gippsland that you wouldn't be tested for drugs. That's no longer the case," he said.

"General duties officers are now trained and approved to conduct oral fluid drug tests. Previously, this was exclusively

the job of highway patrol, but now this has been expanded. Every police car now has the capacity to test."

This expansion of testing aims to deter risky behaviour and improve safety across all road types.

"Of all drivers killed in Victoria, half die on rural roads," Sgt Pearce said. "That's why it's vital we're seen and visible on those roads."

While speeding and impaired driving remain central focuses, Sgt Pearce said fatigue and distraction – particularly mobile phone use – are just as dangerous.

"If you've been awake for 17

hours, your risk of crashing is the same as someone over the legal alcohol limit of 0.05," he said.

"You're seven times more likely to be involved in a crash. Take a break every two hours and, if possible, share the driving."

He added that distraction caused by mobile phones continues to be one of the most dangerous behaviours on rural roads.

"We deal with constantly changing weather, road surfaces, and other variables, but distraction from devices is constant and always present. If you need to use your phone, pull over."

While enforcement is a key element of these operations, visibility and deterrence are just as important.

"We recently received feedback from a community member thanking us for our increased presence on the Bass Highway," Sgt Pearce said. "Nobody likes getting fined, but I think most people would rather get pulled over than be involved in a crash."

He said the goal is to make roads safer for everyone. "We all want to be surrounded by other safe drivers. These are the roads we share with our friends, families, and strangers – your safety and your life depend on others doing the right thing too."

Sgt Pearce's final message for the public is clear:

"Plan ahead and drive to the conditions. If you're going out with the opportunity to have alcohol, then have a way to get home that is both safe and within the rules, and drive to the conditions and the speed limit. If you can do those things, then you will have a safe trip."



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**South Gippsland
Shire Council**

South Gippsland Shire Council News

Access and Inclusion Advisory Committee

Council is working to make our community public spaces, goods, services and facilities accessible for everyone.

The South Gippsland Access and Inclusion Advisory Committee provides a diverse voice to Council on:

- Access and inclusion issues.
- The promotion of inclusion, access and equity in our community.
- A South Gippsland Access and Inclusion Action Plan guiding our next steps.

The Committee meets monthly

and includes a combination of community members with lived experience of barriers to access and inclusion, and organisational representatives who work with access and inclusion issues.

If you're a community member interested in joining the Committee, we would love to hear from you!

For more information and to submit your Expression of Interest, visit:

<https://yoursay.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/eoi-access-inclusion>

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 - NOTICE OF SALE

Council impounded a silver 2005 Holden Sedan on 19 March 2025 in accordance with Schedule 11 of the *Local Government Act 1989*:

Impounded from: Princes Street, Korumburra

Registration Number: UVM317

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 hereby invited for the purchase and removal from Council.

Offers close at 2.00pm on 25 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/409 Korumburra Rail Precinct: Design & Construct Skate Park

Tenders close 2.00pm AEST on Tuesday 22 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

Great Southern Rail Trail Tourism Forum



The Forum is an opportunity for our local businesses to understand how they can leverage from the Rail Trail.

Updates on enhancements to the Rail Trail experience will be provided and new promotional material will be launched.

When: Wednesday 7 May, 10.00am to 4.00pm

For more information and to book, visit: www.gsrt.com.au/gsrt-tourism-forum/

Discussion on future of Leongatha Memorial Hall

THURSDAY'S Leongatha Memorial Hall Workshops suggest a Community Hub is being strongly considered as a future use for the hall, with community members called on to provide their thoughts on what the hall and other facilities in the precinct mean to them.

They were asked their views on what works well, what could be improved, what must be kept and what could go.

Such general questions were followed by others asking what services and activities people would like to see in a Community Hub, what rooms and spaces would be needed and what would have to be in them.

Another question raised was, "If a hub were developed, what would be the most important considerations?"

Attendees were also asked to provide their vision for a Community Hub and/or Memorial Hall Precinct.

The Sentinel-Times attended the afternoon session run by Wendy Dunstan of Outside the Square Consulting.

She is one of the Memorial Hall Project team members appointed by South Gippsland Shire Council to explore the future of Leongatha Memorial Hall.

The project team includes consultants in the areas of planning, heritage, theatre, along with architectural representatives, a building surveyor, structural engineer and an economic impact and demographics expert.

Leongatha Memorial Hall's heritage value and status as a war memorial and the need to maintain those elements were key issues raised by those in attendance.

"It is a designated war memorial," Leongatha Historical Society secretary Lyn Skillern said, later declaring "You are not changing the stairs."

That prompted another attendee Karen Vincent to suggest accessible access to the hall should be from the side, noting that links well with the carpark.

Concerned local Jacqueline Milroy also stressed the need to preserve the hall's history.

"It's so important to the community, the history and heritage, the legacy," she said, noting she wants to make sure the hall's façade is not modified.

Sound engineer Chris Gale,



Leongatha Memorial Hall Workshop facilitator Wendy Dunstan from Outside the Square Consulting with participants Peter Western, Chris Gale and Karen Vincent. A12_1525



Former South Gippsland Shire Council president, and Leongatha Historical Society member Peter Western and the organisation's secretary Lyn Skillern ensured the heritage value of Leongatha Memorial Hall was noted at Thursday's workshop. A10_1525

who has been involved in Leongatha Lyric Theatre productions and works professionally at the West Gippsland Arts Centre Theatre attended, highlighting the need for technical improvements at Leongatha Memorial Hall.

He described the existing lighting bars, from which to hang lights, as "inadequate" and the environment of the hall as not great for theatre, noting Lyric Theatre has to provide improvements such as drapes for its productions to create a theatre-like atmosphere.

The theatrical group also expends tremendous effort in creating a suitable stage and tiered seating, having led to calls from some in the community for the hall to be transformed into a proper performing arts space for South Gippsland.

Wendy said that those on the project team are intent on speaking to representatives of the various groups currently using Leongatha Memorial Hall.

Discussions will also be held with those representing other

organisations in the area.

The library was an example provided, with talk of the possibility of incorporating that service into a Community Hub.

Karen feels that idea has appeal and spoke of the funding potential that could flow from having a building with multiple uses.

Meeniyans' Jenny Draper noted the need for a Community Hub and its various uses to be practical and accessible to potential users.

"It needs to be economically viable and cheap enough for community groups to use it," she said, that point backed up by session facilitator Wendy.

The hall's current closed off feel was mentioned, with discussion of turning it into a more welcoming space.

With services such as the Citizens Advice Bureau and attractions like the Leongatha Art Gallery already in the Memorial Hall precinct, and with attached meeting rooms, an argument was made that the hall already serves as a Community Hub.

Information collected during the current community and stakeholder consultation period will be collated at the end of April, with the aim of then creating a draft vision for the hall and its precinct.

"It needs to be strongly tied to what's possible and community need," Wendy said of the hall's future direction.

Mayor's Message



Cr John Schelling

HELLO South Gippsland.

School Holidays in South Gippsland

It's wonderful to see families and children out and about, making the most of our beautiful region during the school holidays. I would like to encourage everyone to, where possible, make the effort to support our small local businesses. Whether that be grabbing a quick bite to eat, attending the local cinema or purchasing equipment for games and activities, it's important that we consider our local economy first. Looking for something exciting to do these school holidays? Coal Creek has you covered. Check out two fantastic exhibitions at the Park: **Hidden Ecology** by the Toora Arts Network and **Spin a Yarn** by the Coal Creek Spinners. These exhibitions are perfect for all ages and offer a fantastic opportunity to explore our thriving South Gippsland arts scene while experiencing a slice of history and culture. I also suggest you don't miss the live yarn spinning demonstrations by the Coal Creek Spinners on Friday, May 2.

Whilst on the topic of art and activities, be sure to catch the ArtCubes in Venus Bay before they make their next big move to the Leongatha Railway Precinct. Artist Mandy Gun, Cathy Hayward, Lily Palmer and Jade McAlear will have their work on display in the Venus Bay ArtCubes until Sunday, April 27.

April Council Meeting

Our upcoming Council Meeting (Wednesday, April 16) has a jam-packed agenda. We have many important topics to discuss, including our draft budget and Council Plan. These documents will guide Council's direction for the next four years, so I encourage everyone to stay informed and engaged with matters that affect our community.

Gippsland Emergency Relief Fund: Free Home Assessments

The Gippsland Emergency Relief Fund is offering free home assessments to up to 10 volunteer homeowners across Gippsland. This is a great initiative to ensure your home will be safe and prepared for any emergency. If you're interested, please email info@gerf.org.au with a brief description of your home and take advantage of this valuable service. Applications close Friday, May 16.

Westpac Bank in Leongatha

We were pleased to hear that a new Westpac Bank regional banking centre will be coming to Leongatha early next year. The centre will provide valuable support for customers who prefer, or require, in-person face-to-face banking. Lastly, I would like to note that rainfall has been low, leading to increased wildlife movement as animals search for water. Please be extra vigilant on the roads to ensure the safety of both our wildlife and residents. Thank you for your continued support and involvement in our community.

State Government urged to do better with wind energy engagement

MAYOR John Schelling expressed frustration about the Victorian Government's continued failure to work closely enough with South Gippsland Shire Council and its communities in relation to proposed renewable energy projects in the region.

Despite council's ongoing efforts to work with the government, Cr Schelling stressed there continues to be instances in which that doesn't happen, highlighting the latest one in this week's Mayor's column.

He noted the recent visit of

Minister for Energy and Resources, Lily D'Ambrosio, to release Victoria's Offshore Wind Energy Implementation Statement 4.

"The announcement was a surprise to council, and I am disappointed with the lack of prior notification and engagement, especially considering the projects will undoubtedly have a significant impact on South Gippsland; we expect more from one of our closest partners," he wrote.

"They say they want to work with the community but when

they come down they don't invite anyone, they just come down, make an announcement and go home," he told the Sentinel-Times, saying there is a feeling South Gippsland is being ridden over roughshod.

"I'm sending them a letter, and we've done this before and they keep saying we want to liaise with you and understand what everyone's looking for," Cr Schelling said.

"We're busy going to Spring Street and Canberra and all sorts of places to talk to State and Federal politicians about

the advantages of offshore wind (energy generation) is going to bring to South Gippsland, and they keep nodding their heads but then they come down here and nothing ever happens."

Cr Schelling noted the community is looking for jobs, housing and economic development among the benefits that should flow from offshore wind energy projects in the area.

"All we want to do is work with our government partners to create something that's going to be good for everyone," the mayor declared.

A thinking sit

By Daniel Prior, Partner, Prior Law

I WILL spare you the gory details, but the week before last I found myself in hospital for a few days. As with most things that are not planned, a hospital visit is a really good way of disrupting a week.

As I gingerly left the hospital last Wednesday I walked out into brilliant sunshine and was blinded by the light. I was promptly informed that the weather had been glorious. I had had no idea. I had been living a separate life, one punctuated by scheduled blood pressure checks and the beeps of a thousand different machines making themselves known. Reality had been temporarily suspended.

Whilst in hospital there was a lot of time to fill, but little to do. I had already rued the absence of books, recoiled at the TV options, wore out my thumb doomscrolling, searched for Directories and then resolved to simply sit. Whilst awake, I would multi-task, I would sit AND think.

Fever dream thoughts swirled around in that emergency department chair and the ward bed. Some thoughts for myself, some more gonzo style and some thoughts to share here. One particular line of thinking which consumed many hours, was the more than minor inconvenience that would befall on my family if I were to get seriously unwell. Worse still, die.

The surgeon, who identified a self-employed person from the laptop on the lunch tray, noted that provided the surgery went well, there was no need for a sick certificate because I would be unlikely to claim any loss of income insurance. He was correct, most policies require about a month (or more) before a policy holder could claim loss of income and I would only be out of action for a week or so. But once I started on death and insurance, I couldn't stop.

Whilst he went through the statistics of something going wrong, a major complication didn't seem far-fetched. He went through the risks so that his insurer covered him. Fair enough, and also helpful. He noted that the risk of death was low, always good to hear.

But I then went through the maths of what my wife and kids would need if I, colloquially speaking, kicked the bucket, and the risk seemed more immediate. Mortgage, business loan, school fees, kids – all expensive and would need an insurance payout if my wife and kids were to be ok once I was gone.

But what about my business? More than a simple inconvenience – I would like to think it wouldn't be the same without me – I then resolved to look up what key person insurance we have organised and check whether it fits the bill.

Oh, and the Will. I thought about my Will. I've got one, but it's been a while since I have brushed it off and had a read. Before the kids were born and the eldest is almost 12. I thought it would all be good, the Will contemplated kids, but who are the guardians of the kids again?

Those that have seen me to do their Wills have likely heard me utter the phrase "kick the bucket" as a polite euphemism of death – a phrase that I thought Sidney Baker in The Australian Language would point to some Australian origin, but it turns out has an earlier, unclear origin, perhaps stemming from as early as the 16th century. In print the earliest use of the terms appears in a 1785 Dictionary of the Vulgar Tongue. I made a mental note to find another phrase to mix it up.

I got distracted. The point?

Death comes to us all. But before death can come inconvenience or worse. Consider your insurance needs before something happens – who is going to pay the mortgage when you're gone? Do you need to consider insurance to cover the mortgage at the very least? Consider what your business needs to keep going if you can't get up in the morning, and who is going to pay for it. And, before we all shuffle off this mortal coil (thanks Hamlet), we need to consider whether our Will leaves what we have to those people or institutions who we want it to go to. Make it easy for them to sort it out.

Because, once all that is sorted, you can go back to searching for Sands & McDougalls, or whatever takes your fancy.

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SAV Board Member Colin Scott, PICAL Centre Manager David Rooks and stroke survivor and advocate Stephen Fullarton. C01_1525

Carers, survivors all are welcome as Stroke Recovery Group launches

THIS Wednesday, April 16, the first Bass Coast Regional Stroke Recovery Group will launch at Phillip Island Community and Learning Centre Inc. (PICAL) from 10am to 12 noon, with stroke survivors and carers all welcome to pop in during the time.

"We'd like to thank David and PICAL for hosting this group on Phillip Island," SAV Board Member and ex-Board Chair Colin Scott said on Friday as parties gathered to finalise details.

"Isolation for stroke survivors is an ongoing problem in regional areas and causes all sorts of ongoing problems for stroke survivors," he continued.

"We're really trying to establish a community-led Stroke Recovery Centre and encourage people with various levels of stroke to collaborate with others."

The launch of Phillip Island's Wednesday group will be followed on April 23 by the launch of the same concept in Wonthaggi at Wonthaggi Power Football and Netball clubrooms between 10am and 12 noon.

The groups will then alternate each Wednesday between locations, with people invited to attend either or even both, if they so desire.

"The first meeting is to try and get a feel for what people need," Colin continued.

"We're not a clinical organisation, we're a support organisation, and we'll be encouraging as many people as possible who have had a stroke to come along and tell us what their feelings are and what they need.

"You can't say that one case fits all because every stroke is different, and the recovery process is different. But what we have found, and working off the back of the Stroke Foundation, is that people need to have advocacy."

Centre manager David Rooks is proud that PICAL is supporting the initiative.

"We always see the value when people connect, it's bread and butter for us, and this is just another great opportunity to have people who have had a stroke or know people that have had a stroke to come along – anyone is welcome."

As Colin and Stephen Fullarton agreed the group will organically evolve.

"Last year, over 100 people presented to Bass Coast Hospital with a stroke, and that's not counting the number of people who go directly to the major hospitals. In the corresponding period this year, there's been a substantial increase," Colin stated.

A stroke survivor himself, Stephen is looking forward to the groups.

"People want to be able to talk," Stephen said, acknowledging the difference it can make in the life of a stroke survivor.

"Cross sharing information and experiences."

As the duo agree, communication can change everything.

"Stroke survivors can get back to a relatively normal life with the support and encouragement of peers."

Proposed renaming of Loch road section

COMMUNITY members are likely to have their say on a proposal to rename a section of Speight Street, Loch to Albert Road, South Gippsland Shire Council arguing that will help avoid confusion for drivers, including emergency service personnel.

"The section proposed to be renamed is the section from the intersection with Queen Street and Smith Street, which continues into Albert Road," council states in its meeting agenda.

Councillors will vote at Wednesday's public meeting on whether to undertake community consultation on the recommended change, and should they decide to do so, that will take place between April 17 and May 18. Following such a period of consultation, a

report would be presented at the June 25 council meeting detailing the outcome of the community consultation and what is recommended from there. Council stresses it must follow mandatory rules outlined by Geographic Names Victoria when naming roads, and the current naming of Speight Street is not consistent with these rules.

One of the principles dictates that 'A road name must not be applied in an ambiguous or confusing way for road users.'

"Council has been in contact with affected property owners at 15 Speight Street, and 1 Albert Road, Loch and discussed the naming proposal for renumbering of street addresses if this proposal is adopted at a future council meeting," it is noted.



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O'Brien to talk local in Leongatha

THE Nationals Member for Gippsland South, Danny O'Brien is taking his office on the road to meet with locals in their hometowns and provide an opportunity to raise state government issues face-to-face.

Mr O'Brien is taking appointments in Leongatha, Leongatha South and Ruby at local venues on April 29 to discuss and see first-hand the issues impacting the communities.

"I truly value the opportunity to sit down with locals and chat face-to-face about their concerns," Mr O'Brien said.

"For some, these meetings provide an opportunity to discuss specific state government-related concerns that are impacting their daily lives, while for others it is just an opportunity to sit down and chat with their local MP about the broader issues at play."

Mr O'Brien will continue to take meetings in towns across the Gippsland South electorate throughout the year.

"I try and get out into each town within Gippsland South to hold these meetings as often as I can and am very grateful to the local venues that host me.

"I am on the road all the time but for my formal mobile office visits I will be contacting residents by email or unaddressed mail to invite them to meet with me face-to-face.

"People can also contact my office on 5144 1987 to find out when I will next be in their town or to organise any urgent meetings.

"Alternatively, constituents are always welcome to email me at danny.obrien@parliament.vic.gov.au to ask for help with state government-related matters or even just share their opinions with me.

"I believe that it is a crucial part of our democracy that people have direct access to their MP and as such I do my best to accommodate that."

Reliable mess-free firewood available in Bass Coast and South Gippsland

SUSTAINABLY grown kiln-dried hardwood mill ends that make excellent firewood are again available from four businesses in South Gippsland and Bass Coast Shires.

The timber is grown in Tasmania and milled in East Gippsland for the building trade and is untreated, the easy-to-handle mill ends being clean with no bark.

"When using them for firewood, they are perfect because they are nice even small pieces, so they work perfectly in small fires and for anyone with issues holding larger pieces of wood," co-owner of Wonthaggi Garden Supplies Melanie Carlisle said.

That is one of the businesses selling the mill ends, the others being Ross Chapman Cartage & Earthmoving Contractors in Kongwak, Inverloch Garden Supplies and Leongatha Garden Supplies.

Being hardwood, the mill ends provide long burn times and reliable heat.

Kongwak's Nick Chapman said the timber can be combined in the fireplace with red gum or local wood.

The mill ends can be loaded onto trucks or trailers in bulka bags or delivered loose, the participating businesses selling the wood for \$225 a cubic metre.

Owner of Leongatha Garden Supplies, Andrew Hous-



Paul Cooper (Inverloch Garden Supplies), Nick Chapman (Ross Chapman Cartage & Earthmoving Contractors), Melanie Carlisle (Wonthaggi Garden Supplies) and Andrew Houston (Leongatha Garden Supplies) are ready to keep people warm this winter. A05_1525

ton, spoke of the convenience the wood provides, his parents among the enthusiastic buyers.

"They've got a little heater in their place and it suits them perfectly," he said of the size of the mill ends and the lack of mess created.

Melanie also elaborated on the convenience factor.

"We have a lot of retired older customers that were getting double and triple split wood and now they can

just get this," she said.

The four businesses have combined to sell the mill end firewood for the last three-four years, Nick getting the tradition started through a mate in the timber industry and bringing the other businesses on board.

Melanie explained that the combined arrangement boosts the affordability of the firewood.

"We can move it in bulk so it saves in cartage costs

and that gets passed on to customers," she said.

Nick highlighted the sustainability of the timber, noting it comes from a substantial and appropriately managed "renewable plantation".

With various options for firewood this winter, including local wood and red gum to meet all your fire requirements head to your local supplier.

Stay warm this winter.

FIREWOOD

Sustainable hardwood mill ends

- ✓ Burns hot and clean
- ✓ Great affordable alternative to Redgum
- ✓ Easy to handle
- ✓ Clean, no bark

Available
in bulka bag

OTHER WOOD SUPPLIES AVAILABLE



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Wonthaggi
Phone 5672 3757



Inverloch
Garden Supplies
26 Bear Street,
Inverloch
Phone 5674 1707



Leongatha
Garden Supplies
13 Anderson Street,
Leongatha
Phone 5662 3656



Ross Chapman
Cartage
3 Kongwak-Inverloch Road,
Kongwak
Phone 0408 032 387

HM12463



**DON'T
CROSS
THE LINE**

A photograph of a woman in blue medical scrubs with a stethoscope around her neck, standing next to a patient in a hospital bed. The patient is lying in the bed, and a man in a tan shirt is standing to the right, gesturing with his hands as if speaking. The background shows a hospital setting with teal walls and windows. A large yellow diagonal line with the text 'DON'T CROSS THE LINE' is overlaid across the middle of the image.

Aggression and violence against workers causes harm.



Scan to learn more



Funding available to improve water efficiency

WESTERNPORT Water is assisting local business and community organisations to take control of their water use and become more water efficient thanks to the Victorian Government's WaterSmart program.

The Program is being delivered locally by Westernport Water with \$150,000 available to help businesses and organisations install data loggers to monitor water use, enabling them to detect leaks and reduce water and energy costs.

Funding for eligible organisations is available to June 30, 2025, under three streams including: monitoring water use through data logger technology; water use audits and undetected leak identification; and sporting ground audits which includes upgrades and retrofits.

Westernport Water invite high and medium water-using businesses to apply for free data loggers, providing real-time water usage monitoring and high-use alerts.

By monitoring water use online, businesses will be able to detect and fix leaks quickly, reduce water wastage, save money and better fulfil their climate change reporting obligations.

"Water-saving initiatives that support our region's water needs not only promote sustainability but also help businesses save on their water bills," Managing Director Westernport Water, Dona Tantirimudalige stated.

"Eligible customers will be able to conveniently access data from the VicFacilities online portal to understand better how they are using water and to identify leaks or other forms of water waste at their sites."

The WaterSmart program is delivering actions in the Central and Gippsland Region Sustainable Water Strategy, which aims to maximise water efficiency in business and community-based organisations, such as councils, sporting facilities and hospitals.

For more information and frequently asked questions please visit westernportwater.com.au/our-community/watersmart.

Clark family's generous donation to Carinya

A GENEROUS donation was recently made to Carinya in Korumburra from local family Douglas and Darren Clark, and will make a significant difference to the facilities staff and residents.

The family donated a patient lifting hoist after it was purchased to assist Douglas in caring for his wife, Beverley, at home, after she became frail and her mobility declined, due to a form of Parkinson's.

The hoist could be used in case Beverley fell or needed to be safely transferred.

Sadly, Beverley passed away and the machine went unused.

Douglas and Darren, who has a long connection with the Aged Care Facility, decided to donate the machine so others could benefit from it, rather than leaving it unused in the shed.

Beverley worked as an aged care nurse herself and her son Darren explained that she was always giving away things to family and friends, rarely keeping anything for herself, so it also turned out to be a fitting tribute.

"We didn't want anything for it, just for someone to use it, otherwise it just sits out there, the batteries go and it's just a waste of the \$18,000," said Darren.

Douglas was happy to know that it would be useful to Carinya's staff and residents.

"I'm sure it's going to go to good use," said Douglas.

"It's going to a good cause."

Sam Manoharan is the Physiotherapist at Carinya



Darren, Erin and Douglas Clark generously donated a patient hoist machine to Carinya, with staff members Joel Stevenson, Kate Billing and Sam Manoharan (front). ob13_1525

and spoke about the difference the machine will make to the lives of the caregivers and residents.

"First of all, I would like to thank the family who made such an incredible donation for us," said Sam.

"Particularly for caregivers, it means less physical strain and makes transfers much easier and also gives them

more time and energy so that they can provide proper patient-centred care."

"For residents, it's definitely a safer transfer, a bit more comfortable and also their care needs are met definitively and safely."

While Kate Billing, Co-CEO of Corporate Services for Carinya, commented that funds which were

allocated towards such equipment, can now go towards something additional for the facility.

The Clark family will be acknowledged for their generous donation, with an engraved plaque, which will be placed on Carinya's community tree, located in the reception area of the main building.

ANZAC DAY

LEST WE FORGET

25th April

- Dawn Service 6am** - Cenotaph Cowes Foreshore
- Gunfire Breakfast 7am** - Phillip Island RSL
- March 10:40am** - Muster at 10.40am St Phillip's Anglican Church, Cowes
- Service 11am** - Cenotaph, Cowes Foreshore
- Carvery Lunch 12pm-2pm** - Service members Free
Veterans Free
Adults \$15
Kids under 13yrs \$10
No other food offering available

ANZAC Day Football **LIVE & LOUD** from 3pm

5:30pm Dinner Bookings – normal a la carte menu available



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Paint, patience and hanging cables

WHILE guests at the opening for the Inverloch Art Show this Thursday night sip wine, admire brushstrokes, and confidently use the word "juxtaposition," little thought will be given to a lesser-known performance by the committee and other volunteers – one of caffeine-fuelled chaos, creative problem-solving, and at least one rogue ladder.

Running an art show, as it turns out, is not all paint palettes and poetic musings. It's more like a high-speed dance between artists, volunteers, and one heroic soul who spent 45 minutes figuring out how to hang a three-foot canvas straight on an uneven wall.

"There's this beautiful moment when everything finally looks perfect," said Deb Watson, President of the BCH Inverloch Art Show auxiliary and part-time artist wrangler.

"But getting there involves roughly 700 conversations, curators up and down a step stool 500 times, three mild existential crises, and at least one emergency run for blue tack."

Volunteers will have spent days transforming a blank space into a curated dream – carefully arranging artwork, adjusting plinths so they are "just dramatic enough," and negotiating truce agreements

between hanging wires, hooks and artworks. Artists have balanced their nerves and excitement, while organisers fought with printers that mysteriously refused to print anything but labels for "The Untitled Piece."

And let's not forget the all-important Par 3 Café, where most of the committee meetings are held, where the coffee and cake are curated with nearly as much care as the artwork to be hung.

Despite the occasional moment of panic like when someone leans a little too hard on a freshly hung piece or when the square reader threatens to stage a digital revolt – the show will come together, and beautifully so.

"We joke about the madness," said curator Ursula Theinert, "but truly, it's a labour of love. Every little hiccup and hilarious misstep is worth it to see people connecting with the art – and supporting an incredible cause."

The Inverloch Art Show isn't just a way to celebrate art – it is a celebration of community, passion, and the kind of teamwork that only a shared love of creativity (and cake) can inspire.

Held over Easter at the Inverloch Hub, Recreation Hall, 16 A'Beckett St, Inverloch. Opening night Thursday, April 17, 7pm-9 pm – everyone welcome!



Red Cross members enjoy last year's morning tea fundraiser at the Woorayl Golf Club.

Red Cross' Monster Raffle returns

THE Leongatha Red Cross Unit has launched its annual Monster Raffle to raise vital funds for people affected by disasters both in Australia and overseas.

Tickets for the fundraiser are just \$2 each and are available throughout April and early May, with the winners to be drawn on Friday, May 10 at the Leongatha Newsagency – just in time for Mother's Day.

First prize is a large, beautifully crafted quilt, valued at \$600 and generously donated by a local community member.

Second prize is a Mother's Day Indulgence Hamper worth \$100, filled with chocolates, sweet and savoury biscuits, cake mix, a selection of tea, coffee, hot chocolate, drinks, nuts and confectionery.

Third prize is a \$50 voucher to Leongatha Beauty Care.

Red Cross Unit Secretary Cathy Curwood said the raffle was being run to raise money to support the organisation's emergency services.

"All money raised will go towards helping vulnerable people both nationally and internationally," she said.

Currently, more than 100 Red Cross Emergency Services personnel are on the ground in New South Wales and Queensland responding to the aftermath of Cyclone Alfred. Among them were three volunteers from the Leongatha Red Cross Unit – Kathy Hill, Gay Higgins, and Peter Jones.

Kathy and Gay recently returned from providing support at a Recovery Centre in the Lockyer Valley, while Peter helped at a Recovery Centre in Ipswich.

"Their dedication and willingness to help others in times of need is

something we're incredibly proud of," Ms Curwood said.

Funds from the Monster Raffle will help Red Cross continue this work and assist in providing materials and grants to those impacted by disasters like Cyclone Alfred.

The raffle also supports the Red Cross' global efforts, which recently included helping more than 14.5 million people in Ukraine and aiding in many other crisis zones.

Tickets are available at the Leongatha Newsagency, or IGA on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, as well as at the Leongatha Community Market at the Railyards on Easter Sunday, Sunday, April 20.

Ms Curwood encouraged locals to get behind the fundraiser.

"If you can, please give generously when you see our stand around town," she said.

Remote voter services for the 2025 federal election

The Australian Electoral Commission (AEC) will be visiting soon, so you can vote in the federal election. Check the remote voter services schedule below for the dates and times you can vote in your area.

All Australian people aged 18 years and older must vote.

This schedule may change. To confirm details, visit aec.gov.au, call 13 23 26 or look out for information on your community noticeboard.

DIVISION OF GIPPSLAND

| | | | |
|-------------|--|--------------------|----------------|
| BEMM RIVER | Bemm River Community, Recreation Centre, 12 Roberts Rd | Tuesday 29 April | 11:00am-2:00pm |
| BENDOC | Bendoc Hall, 26 Dowling St | Wednesday 23 April | 11:30am-2:30pm |
| CANN RIVER | Cann River Public Hall, 24 Tamboon Rd | Tuesday 22 April | 9:00am-4:00pm |
| TOORLOO ARM | Lake Tyers Aboriginal Trust, 485 Rules Rd | Wednesday 30 April | 8:30am-11:30am |

2025 federal election, Saturday 3 May



aec.gov.au |  13 23 26

**ELECTION
2025**

AEC25_RVSC_186x260

Major step forward in cardiac care

THE Patent Foramen Oval (PFO) closure procedure, a state-of-the-art treatment that offers new hope for patients at risk of stroke and other heart-related complications caused by PFO, a condition where a small opening between the heart's upper chambers fails to close after birth, has been introduced at Latrobe Regional Health (LRH).

"We are thrilled to bring this new procedure to Gippsland. Our goal is to provide world-class cardiac care closer to home for our community. Introducing PFO closure procedures marks a significant milestone in achieving that goal," Head of Cardiology at LRH Dr Derk Pol said.

Leading the introduction of the procedure is Dr Rohit Samuel, an experienced Interventional and Structural Cardiologist who has been part of the LRH cardiac team since 2022.

"The PFO closure procedure is a safe and effective way to reduce the risk of stroke and improve quality of life for selected patients under the age of 60," Dr Samuel said.

The procedure involves using a catheter-based approach to seal the PFO, reducing risks associated with the condition.

"By introducing this new procedure, we're demonstrating our commitment to providing comprehensive, patient-centred care for the Gippsland community. This is the first time that this type of procedure has been done in Victoria outside Melbourne, and we're delighted to be able to offer this as part of our growing cardiac services to Gippsland patients," Chief Executive at LRH Don McRae said.

Gippsland has higher than average numbers when it comes to both heart disease and deaths due to heart disease.

"We are certainly overrepresented when it comes to heart conditions in Gippsland and while a lot of that can be changed with more emphasis on diet and exercise, the LRH cardiology service is expanding to meet the need that is obviously present with the addition of new staff and the introduction of new procedures allowing people to receive treatment locally," Dr Pol said. Patients interested in learning more are encouraged to consult with their healthcare providers.



Nine family members from Wonthaggi participated as part of Milly's Mission team, to Run for the Kids, raising over \$2000 for the Royal Children's Hospital (RCH) Good Friday Appeal.

Milly's Mission runs for the kids

RUN for the Kids raises money to support the Royal Children's Hospital (RCH) Good Friday Appeal and was held on Sunday, April 6, with a local Wonthaggi team participating.

The team of nine family members participated as part of the Milly's Mission team to help raise money for the RCH, who have played a major role in helping get local toddler Milly Wagenaar well again.

Two-year-old Milly underwent surgery to control seizures at RCH approximately a

year ago, which was followed by weeks of intensive rehabilitation in hospital, followed by ongoing rehabilitation at home and regular checkups at the RCH; she has since come along in leaps and bounds.

The team of joggers wore matching pink t-shirts with Milly's picture on them.

Some team members ran the five-kilometres and others like Milly's Mum and Dad, took on the 14-kilometres.

"We did the 14-kilometre run, it was a challenge and very sore today but it was all

worth it," stated Amy, Milly's Mum.

The goal of Milly's Mission was to raise \$1000, however the team managed to double this amount and raised just over \$2000 for the Good Friday Appeal.

"We are overwhelmed with the support and donations; from the bottom of our hearts, we'd like to thank everyone who donated and supported us," said Amy.

The official Good Friday Appeal will be held this Friday, April 18, but donations can

be made at any time.

Donations mean that the RCH can continue to provide world-class care to patients and their families.

From 2022 to 2023, 90,260 patients presented to the Emergency Department at RCH, 50,345 children and young people were admitted to a ward, 407,563 children and young people attended an outpatient appointment, and 14,963 patients underwent surgery.

To donate, go to goodfridayappeal.com.au.

Looking for fun this Easter?

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Easter Message of Hope From Russell Broadbent MP

Remarkably, as our supermarkets and chocolate shops celebrate Easter with chocolate eggs and bunnies, our Christian communities celebrate the Passover and the death and resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ.

For many Australians it is still the Cross, rather than the hot cross buns. It is still the Cross that shines the light into the darkness of situations, and it is still the Cross that remains a beacon for the lost, the lonely and the unloved. Yes, it's still the Cross.

How is it in this time, a religious festival is turned into commercial fair, including a holiday season consumed by football, horseracing and other social events?



Many children today have no idea that Easter is meant to be one of the most holy and sacred times in the Jewish and Christian calendars.

Wishing you and your family a happy, relaxed and safe Easter.



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Member for Monash

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

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

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Switch off to help protect shearwater chicks

PHILLIP Island Nature Parks has called on the community to act as citizen conservationists to help protect the thousands of short-tailed shearwater chicks about to embark on their annual 15,000-kilometre migration north.

This year, the Nature Parks has partnered with Bass Coast Shire Council, Phillip Island Conservation Society, WE-EF Lighting, Ausnet and the Victorian State Government – Department of Transport and Planning to stage the annual campaign, Dark Sky So Shearwaters Fly – asking locals to switch off outdoor lights from April 19 to May 10.

The collective effort, which requires residents and businesses in the birds' flight path to turn off their outdoor lights at night, will give the chicks the best chance of reaching their destination in the seas around Alaska.

Bright light sources can be a deadly distraction for the young seabirds as they learn to fly. They are drawn to street lighting and land on roads, becoming a risk to themselves and to motorists, particularly on the San Remo bridge.

Phillip Island Nature Parks Senior Scientist Dr Duncan Sutherland said the more supporters they have would ultimately safeguard more chicks.

"Spreading the word and turning off as many outdoor lights as we can at this time of year provides shearwater chicks the best chance of a safe departure," Dr Sutherland said. "As they learn to fly, they can become disorientated by bright lights. If they land on roads, they can be hit by cars and become a hazard to road users as well."

In an effort to raise awareness and educate industry, a workshop about dark sky conservation, short-tailed shearwater research and wildlife sensitive lighting is included in the campaign this year.

Bass Coast Mayor, Cr Rochelle Halstead said the council was proud to partner in the 2025 shearwater program to ensure the wellbeing of the birds and the safety of the community.

"This initiative highlights the power of collaboration in protecting our local wildlife," Cr Halstead said. "We are grateful to the businesses and residents who participate in this initiative: switching off lights, slowing down on the roads, and staying informed to help safeguard the incredible short-tailed shearwaters during their migration. Your efforts make a real difference in ensuring these remarkable birds can complete their journey safely."

Elise Blight, Head of Marketing, WE-EF Lighting Australia/New Zealand, said raising awareness about responsible outdoor lighting was vital to protect precious wildlife.

"By participating in this year's events, we continue our commitment to promoting best practices that balance human needs with conservation efforts," she said.

"Campaigns like Dark Sky So Shearwaters Fly play a crucial role in empowering communities to make more informed lighting choices – decisions that not only support wildlife but also help minimise light pollution and its impact on ecosystems."

Betta living for two lucky winners



Ryan, staff member of Betta, Jo Runciman from LBC with lucky prize winners Rachelle Dawes and Greg Jones, together with Marg Barter, LBC and Evana from Betta Home Living in Leongatha. ob01_1525

THE Leongatha Bowls Club announced the two lucky winners of their annual fundraiser at Hartley Wells Betta Home Living last week, who are their major sponsor.

First prize was a \$1000 gift voucher for Betta Home Living and was won by Greg Jones; while second prize, a 32-inch colour TV, was won by Rachelle Dawes.

Greg commented that he wasn't sure what he'd spend the prize money on but was keen to have a look around the store.

Jo Runciman and Marg Barter from the Leongatha Bowls Club presented the prizes to the lucky winners, along with Betta Home Living staff Ryan and Evana.

The raffle is Leongatha Bowls Club biggest fundraising event of the year, and it has been going for over 15 years.

This year over \$6000 was raised and will go towards maintenance and improvements inside or outside the club house.

"We'd like to say a big thank you to Hartley Wells (Betta Home Living)," said Jo.

Leadership in action: St Paul's leaders inspire the next generation



St Paul's school leaders Giaan McConville Plant, Sydelle Isaacs, Thomas Prestidge and William Blackwood having fun in the playground.

A STRONG connection is quickly forming between St Paul's Anglican Grammar School's new Drouin Campus and its Warragul Campus. Recently, whole-school leaders were delighted to visit the new school and spend time with students in Prep to Year 3.

School Captains, Giaan McConville Plant and Thomas Prestidge, and Deputy School Captains, Sydelle Isaacs and William Blackwood, along with St Paul's Principal, Mr Cameron Herbert, were warmly welcomed by the Drouin students.

The younger students were eager to guide the school leaders around their campus and enjoy time together in the playground and sandpit before heading into the multi-purpose room for an engaging Question-and-Answer session.

Embodying the spirit of leadership, the leaders were thrilled to offer advice and answer questions, emphasising the importance of listening to teachers, being respectful to others and embracing new activities.

The visit not only provided the leaders with an opportunity to inspire the next generation to be respectful citizens in the community but also to reminisce about their own primary school days.

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Prep information morning

WITH increasing interest from families, Newhaven College is exploring the introduction of an additional Prep class in 2026. To support this exciting development, the College is inviting prospective families to a special Prep Information Morning on Tuesday, April 29.

This event will offer a wonderful opportunity to meet the dedicated staff and discover what makes Newhaven College such a unique and enriching place to learn. Known for its small class sizes and nurturing environment, the College provides a supportive and engaging educational experience that often exceeds parents' expectations.

During the information morning, families will learn about Newhaven's hands-on learning approach, creative play spaces, music programs, and outdoor adventures, all designed to inspire and support young learners.

To support a smooth and positive start to school life, Newhaven College is excited to launch its Prep Transition Program in Term 2, continuing throughout the year. This initiative is all about building strong, meaningful connections with our future students and their families. As part of the program, their dedicated Prep teachers will be visiting future students in their kindergarten settings, giving them a chance to connect in a familiar environment.



Newhaven College Prep Luca Canil enjoyed sharing his reading progress and showing off his classroom with mum Nicola during the Prep Reading Party in March.

Looking ahead to Term 3, Newhaven College's future Prep students will also enjoy weekly library sessions, offering a fun introduction to books and the school setting. The library sessions provide an opportunity for future Preps and their families to meet and get to know Head of Junior School, Cath Huther and Principal, Tony Corr. These learning experiences will not only help future Preps become familiar with their new surroundings but also allow them to build connections with their peers.

Equally important, the

transition program will serve as a valuable opportunity for parents to connect with other families embarking on the Prep journey next year.

In Term 4, the transition program will intensify as students join in some learning sessions in their future Prep classes. While students are busy acclimatising, parents will participate in information sessions to ensure that the partnership starts strongly and consistently. These sessions will include resources and activities to help families prepare for school and develop strong

foundations that align with the College's educational philosophy.

Mrs Huther is passionate about the importance of welcoming future Preps, "Our Pre-Prep Transition Program is more than just an introduction to school – it's the beginning of an educational journey. We are thrilled to see our future Preps take these first steps with confidence and enthusiasm, knowing that they are supported by a strong community of peers, educators and families," she said.

"We look forward to witnessing the many milestones they will achieve as they transition, grow and become valued members of our Newhaven College community."

There are currently some vacancies for the Prep 2026 intake at the College. The special Prep Information Session will be tailored for 2026, 2027 and 2028 prospective enrolments.

To learn more about Newhaven College's Prep program, everyone is encouraged to attend the Prep Information Morning on Tuesday, April 29. The event will feature an informative presentation, a parent perspective talk, followed by a guided tour of the school.

For more information, visit the Newhaven College website: 'Book A Tour', or contact admissions@newhaven-col.vic.edu.au.



The critically endangered Southern Giant Burrowing Frog.

Hope spawns at Melbourne Zoo with world-first clutches

IN A giant leap for frog kind, Zoos Victoria's amphibian specialists have successfully bred two critically endangered Victorian species for the very first time: Watson's Tree Frog and Southern Giant Burrowing Frog.

Tadpoles of both species were collected from the wild in 2022 to establish conservation breeding programs at Melbourne Zoo's Amphibian Bushfire Recovery Centre.

Specialist Keeper Amphibian Conservation Programs Damian Goodall said this is the first breeding season since the frog founders have reached sexual maturity and marks an early, significant success in the species' recovery.

"We have been honing our husbandry techniques over the past three years while the tadpoles metamorphosed and grew into adult frogs," Mr Goodall said.

"We're now able to successfully breed and raise frogs for each of Zoos Victoria's five Critically Endangered amphibian conservation breeding programs right here at Melbourne Zoo."

Lessons learned in the breeding centre are aiding field researchers' attempts to locate wild populations, too.

Amphibian Specialist Ryan Moes said replicating varied environmental parameters are key to revealing the behaviours of Southern Giant Burrowing Frog, which true to its name spend the majority of its adult lives underground.

"Frogs are incredibly sensitive to their environment, and weather patterns tend to dictate their activity," said Mr Moes.

"We replicate seasonal variation in temperature – warm summers and cold winters – and simulate rainfall events, which correspond to the weather we see outside the breeding centre.

"Because these frogs can be quite sensitive to changes in atmospheric pressure, they often anticipate rain coming, which is when they will come out of their burrows and start to cruise around to feed and find mates."

The Southern Giant Burrowing Frog and Watson's Tree Frog are among Victoria's most poorly understood frog species. Their populations have been severely impacted by habitat destruction and extreme weather events, such as prolonged drought and bushfire. The widespread amphibian disease chytridiomycosis has also had devastating impacts on populations.

Easter bunny visits Newhaven College

NEWHAVEN College Junior School welcomed a surprise visit from a special guest on the last day of term. The Easter Bunny visited every classroom, gave out Easter eggs and received an appreciative high five or hug from every single student.

Head of Junior School, Cath Huther, accompanied the Easter Bunny to each class. Director of Business, Mr Alan Nolan was the person behind the mask and did an excellent job getting the students excited about Easter. The celebrations included a bake stall at recess, with funds raised for the Good Friday Appeal.

Newhaven College wishes the entire Bass Coast community a very happy and safe Easter!



Easter Bunny received many high fives and hugs as thanks for giving out Easter eggs across Newhaven College's Junior School.



Newhaven College Year 1 students Beatrix Jones, Mila O'Connor and Kaleb Keene enjoyed the Easter celebrations.



If you're contemplating where to send your child in 2026 or beyond come along to our

Prep Info Morning

TUESDAY 29 APRIL 2025 10AM

Discover what makes Prep at Newhaven College so special

Starting school is a big milestone, and we know you want the best for your child. That's why we're inviting you to learn more about what makes Prep at Newhaven College such a nurturing, engaging, and exciting experience. Meet our team, and see firsthand why so many families are choosing Newhaven for their child's first year of school. To find out more contact our Admissions Officer, Bec Anderson on 03 5956 7505 or email admissions@newhaven-col.vic.edu.au

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Rotary's birthing kits for African communities

THE Rotary Club of Phillip Island and San Remo is making a powerful contribution to global maternal health by packing vital birthing kits destined for African communities, where clean and safe childbirth supplies can be the difference between life and death.

The initiative is part of a global humanitarian effort aimed at reducing the staggering toll of preventable deaths caused by sepsis during childbirth. Every year, an estimated 300,000 women and 2.4 million newborns die from infections related to unclean birth conditions. These heart-breaking statistics inspired the club to take action.

Last week, club members came together to pack hundreds of

birthing kits – simple yet lifesaving parcels that provide the basic tools needed for a clean delivery.

What's in a Birthing Kit?

Each kit contains six essential items: a plastic sheet, soap, sterile gloves, gauze, a sterile blade, and cord ties. Designed to meet World Health Organisation guidelines, these basic supplies significantly reduce the risk of infection for both mother and baby during childbirth.

"These kits are incredibly simple, but in the hands of a midwife or birthing attendant in a remote village, they can be lifesaving," said Club President Gea Lovell.

"They give women a cleaner, safer birthing experience – something we take for granted in Australia."

The Rotary Club's packing day is held in partnership with the Birthing Kit Foundation Australia and is part of Rotary International's broader commitment to maternal and child health. The packed kits will be sent to trusted field partners in African countries, where they'll be distributed to expectant mothers and healthcare workers in areas with little or no access to medical facilities.

"For us, it's a few hours of us working together. For women in rural Africa, it could mean surviving childbirth," said Club International Chair, Stevie O'Reilly, who organised the event.

"It's humbling to know that something so small can have such a big impact."



The Rotary Club of Phillip Island and San Remo came together to pack hundreds of birthing kits, simple yet lifesaving parcels.

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Current ADF personnel

Information Session at Leongatha RSL
Tuesday 29th April at 11:00am

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LIMITED PLACES
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The Mental Health Literacy and Suicide Prevention Training Program has been funded by the Department of Veterans' Affairs

Nominate an inspiring community leader

BASS Coast Shire Council nominations are open for the 2025 Bass Coast Community Awards, celebrating the volunteers, leaders, and changemakers who make the region a better place.

Held during National Volunteer Week, these awards acknowledge the individuals and groups whose dedication strengthens the community.

Nominations close on May 4, 2025, with winners to be announced at a special awards ceremony on May 28 at the Cape Paterson Surf Lifesaving Club. The Community Awards complement the Council's Bass Coast Business Awards, which are also open for entries.

This year introduces an exciting new category, the Sports Leadership Award, created to celebrate the people, clubs and initiatives making an outstanding contribution to sport and recreation across Bass Coast. Whether through coaching, committee leadership, creating inclusive programs or hosting memorable local sporting events, this award recognises the positive influence sport can have in building community.

Bass Coast Mayor Cr Rochelle Halstead said, "Every year, we see the incredible impact volunteers and community leaders have across Bass Coast. These awards are our way of saying thank you to those who dedicate their time and energy to making our region stronger, more inclusive, and connected. If you know someone whose efforts deserve recognition, now is the time to nominate them."

The 2025 Community Awards include:

• Community Leader Award (all ages)

For an individual who, in their profession or as a volunteer, leads by example, inspires others and demonstrates excellence and commitment in their field.

• Next Generation Leader Award (aged 12 to 25)

Celebrates an exceptional young person(s) who demonstrates leadership and courage, to make an outstanding contribution to the Bass Coast Community that inspires others.

• Community Group Award

Recognises a Bass Coast community group, sports club, or not-for-profit that provides support, events, fundraising or services for the benefit of residents and visitors.

• Sports Leadership Award

New in 2025, this award celebrates the outstanding contributions of individuals, organisations or events that strengthen our sporting and active recreation culture in Bass Coast. This can include, but is not limited to, individuals, organisations and events.

Now is the time to recognise those who go above and beyond to make our community a better place. If you know someone who deserves to be celebrated, nominate them today! For more information and to submit a nomination, go to basscoast.vic.gov.au/community-awards

Why your eyes might feel drier this season

AS THE crisp autumn air arrives across regional Victoria, many people begin to notice their eyes feeling irritated, gritty, or unusually dry. These could be signs of Dry Eye Syndrome (DES) – a common condition where the eyes don't produce enough tears, or the quality of the tears isn't sufficient to keep the eyes properly lubricated.

While dry eye can occur year-round, seasonal changes play a big role in how your eyes feel – especially in country areas like ours. Autumn often brings cooler temperatures, lower humidity, and increased outdoor allergens, all of which can make dry eye symptoms more noticeable.

Common signs of Dry Eye Syndrome include:

- Burning, stinging, or itching eyes
- Redness
- Sensitivity to light
- Blurred or fluctuating vision
- A feeling like there's something in your eye

In rural regions, local environmental factors can amplify these symptoms. Here's why:

1. Cooler, drier air: As temperatures drop, so does humidity. This dry air leads to faster tear evaporation, leaving eyes exposed and unprotected.
2. Increased wind: Autumn breezes are beautiful but can be harsh on eyes, particularly when working or spending time outdoors.
3. Farming and dust: Regional areas often experience more airborne dust and pollen during seasonal agricultural activity, which can irritate the eyes further.
4. Indoor heating: Although it's not winter just yet, many homes begin heating earlier in the season. Indoor heaters and fires can reduce indoor moisture, creating a drying environment for your eyes.
5. Extended screen time: As the days get shorter and people spend more time indoors, screen usage often increases. Staring at digital devices can reduce your blink rate, further drying the eyes.

Simple ways to manage dry eye this autumn

- Use a humidifier to add moisture back into dry indoor air
- Stay hydrated to support natural tear production
- Wear protective glasses to shield your eyes from wind and allergens
- Use lubricating eye drops to soothe and protect your eyes
- Take screen breaks and remember to blink often

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2025 South Coast Community Leadership Program participants.

Community program empowers future leaders

A GROUP of 25 participants from across Bass Coast and South Gippsland Shire have come together for the first time for the 2025 South Coast Community Leadership Program; a program that will run until August, that aims to equip each participant with a set of skills that will enable them to lead in their community.

South Gippsland Shire Council Mayor, John Schelling, said, "It was a pleasure to meet the participants for the 2025 South Coast Community Leadership Program and participate in some activities together.

"I look forward to watching these participants develop and the effectiveness of delivering the Program alongside our neighbours at Bass Coast

Shire Council."

Bass Coast Shire Council Mayor, Rochelle Halstead, said the program is a fantastic opportunity for emerging leaders to build their skills, connect with like-minded individuals, and make a real difference in their communities.

"Leadership takes many forms, and simply stepping forward to be part of this journey is an important first step. I do not doubt that each participant will bring something unique to the program, and I look forward to seeing the positive impact they will have across our region."

Participant Nikole Schellekens said she was thrilled to be selected.

"We're only two sessions in, and already it's been a

rewarding experience – packed with learning, inspiration, and connection.

"The group I'm learning with is incredible – so many different backgrounds and community groups are represented, and all with a shared drive to build stronger, more connected communities. It's inspiring to be surrounded by such capable, passionate, like-minded locals," Nikole said.

"As a Mental Health Social Worker who's deeply invested in strengthening my community, the skills, insights, and relationships I'm building through this program are already proving invaluable. It's helping me grow not only as a professional but as a local who genuinely cares about the future of our region."

Another successful participant, Liza Lee of Phillip Island, has been a long-term member of the Phillip Island Citizens Centre and is motivated to lead the centre into the future.

"Although we've just begun, we are working successfully as a team, where everyone gets along and communicates effectively, and it helps us bring great ideas to the table," said Liza.

The program helps participants strengthen their leadership capabilities, and Nikole said, "A major component of the program is developing and delivering a community-based project as a team, which has added a whole new layer of practical, hands-on learning that I'm loving."

Latrobe Health Services Gippsland Business Awards launched



At the launch of the 2025 Latrobe Health Services Gippsland Business Awards was Latrobe Health Services Chief Executive, Ian Whitehead, with the Awards Committee Chair, Graeme Sennett.

100,000 members Australia-wide."

Latrobe Health Services Chief Executive Officer, Ian Whitehead, said the organisation was excited to continue its partnership with the awards, initially as the Healthcare and

Wellness category sponsor and now as the naming rights sponsor.

"It is important to showcase the amazing businesses throughout the region who continually demonstrate their commitment to be the best that

they can," Mr Whitehead said.

This year, two new award categories have been introduced – Transport and Automotive Services and Microbusiness. In addition, based on the changing business environment, several other categories have been updated.

As well as the prestigious Gippsland Business of the Year award, other categories being recognised in 2025 are: Accommodation and Tourism, Hospitality and Food Service, Food and Agribusiness, Retail, Trade and Technical Services, New Business, Manufacturing and Construction, Business and Professional Services, Beauty and Personal Care Services, and Healthcare and Wellness.

Nominations are now open for the awards, with entries closing on Friday, May 23.

Nominations can be submitted on the website – gpa.org.au. Once a business is nominated, it will receive a unique email link to complete its entry. All entries are completed online.



Danny O'BRIEN MP State Member for Gippsland South

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Young drivers urged to be aware of trucks

THE National Heavy Vehicle Regulator has issued an important warning to young drivers as concerning statistics reveal critical knowledge gaps when it comes to teens driving alongside trucks.

With the April school holidays now here, more young drivers are expected to hit the road over the coming weeks.

The National Heavy Vehicle Regulator (NHVR) issued critical reminders regarding navigating a truck's blind spots, not passing turning trucks and leaving enough space when overtaking.

NHVR executive director corporate affairs Michelle Tayler said the NHVR is focused on grabbing the attention of young light vehicle drivers and starting conversations on road safety.

"Alarmingly, we see young drivers are vastly overrepresented when it comes to crashes involving heavy vehicles – a scenario no one wants to see," Ms Tayler said.

"It's why the NHVR is constantly exploring new ways of engaging with young drivers – evident through the launch of our highly successful Being Dead is Boring campaign."

The NHVR surveyed 1167 young drivers over the past six months and found almost half reported they had not had any instructions on how to drive safely around trucks by their parents, guardians or driving instructors.

Just 39 per cent of young people surveyed recalled having a question about driving trucks on their learner test, and 31 per cent didn't know you should keep one lane free either side of a truck when it is turning.

"Our goal is to prevent situations where an inexperienced driver could be in a lane next to a turning truck, they pull in front of a truck too soon or they linger in a truck's blind spot," Ms Tayler said.

"We want to urgently remind all drivers to ensure they understand how to safely navigate around heavy vehicles – it could save your life."

Easter Display is back

THE annual Bass Coast Historical Automobile Club is back this weekend with their Easter Saturday display.

Whilst the cars on show are restricted to that of BCHAC members only, everyone is welcome to come on down from 8.30am and check out what promises to be another spectacular display.

Food will be available from the Lions while a coffee cart will help kick-start the morning caffeine fix.

Get your Easter weekend off to the right start and pop down to Apex Park in Wonthaggi on Saturday, April 19 from 8.30am.

Torana and racing history on show in Foster

FOSTER locals were recently treated to a display of cherished Holden Toranas, including ones replicating the appearance of famous Bathurst-winning cars, the event organised by 'Aussie Torana Legends Social Cruisers'.

The group's motto is "Join us and keep the Torana history alive."

Foster's Anthony and Denise Bravington showed off their stunning 1977 LX hatchback in eye-popping Sebring Orange, Anthony responsible for organising the event in his hometown.

Rosebud's Brook Mead brought his 1978 A9X model, a replica of the 1979 Bathurst winning vehicle driven by Peter Brock and Jim Richards that triumphed by six laps, Brock breaking the then fastest lap record on the final lap.

Lilydale's Greg Church proudly displayed his replica of the car in which Brock recorded his first Bathurst win in 1972, president of the Aussie Torana Legends Social Cruisers, Colin Crane pointing out that Greg's vehicle features a painted colour scheme rather than stickers.

Colin arrived in his 1976 Torana that he restored, completing an engine rebuild and a full paint job, the car being one of the first



Denise and Anthony Bravington can't be missed with their vibrant Torana in Sebring Orange. A02_1525

LX hatchbacks.

He started the club 10 years ago, his passion for Toranas encompassing the Holden Dealer Team (HDT) and its racing history.

Some famous HDT representatives joined the group for lunch, including former team manager John Sheppard, past driver and engineer Ron Harrop and Bruce Nowacki who was chief mechanic and a renowned builder of Torana racing cars.



Holden Dealer Team racing identities John Sheppard, Ron Harrop and Bruce Nowacki at the Foster lunch organised by the 'Aussie Torana Legends Social Cruisers'. A04_1525

Biggest Morning Tea at Tarwin Lower Hall

ON SUNDAY, May 4, from 10am to 12pm, join the third Biggest Morning Tea hosted by the Tarwin District Auto and Machinery Club at the Tarwin Lower Hall, where guests will gather to support the Cancer Council.

Organiser Melinda Holland said the ten-dollar entry fee includes light refreshments as well as tea and coffee, all provided by the club committee, and all donations will go directly to the Cancer Council.

"This year, we're inviting guests to open up and discuss their experiences, whether they've had cancer themselves or have supported friends or family through their battle," said Melinda.

"Unfortunately, nearly everyone has been impacted by cancer in some way, and this year's event will focus on that: on how we can support



The Tarwin District Auto and Machinery Club are holding their third Biggest Morning Tea at the Tarwin Lower Hall on Sunday, May 4 from 10am until 12pm. Z01_1525

each other and our loved ones and help them through treatment after diagnosis, whether that be radiation, chemotherapy, or surgery."

Melinda and the committee have come together again

this year to help raise essential funds for people impacted by cancer. There will be raffle prizes and classic cars on display, and all donations will go directly to cancer research, bringing Australia closer to a cancer-free future.

"Bring a friend, grab a plate, make a cuppa, and mingle. It's a very informal event with a relaxed atmosphere, and everyone is welcome."

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OH WHAT A FEELING



Julie Sanders and Freda Swan from Grantville were kept busy selling delicious fare at the bake stall at the CWA Art Show. ob24_1525



Willow, Ruby and Layla – Ruby is a junior CWA member and won first prize for her paper flowers. ob27_1525



Susan Hawker, President of CWA Bass group, Gail Huitema and Di Wilson from CWA Bass group helped to bring a very successful 70th Art Show together. ob29_1525



Faye Tuchtan and Jacki Dow from the CWA Grantville group were enjoying welcoming people to the CWA Bass Art Show. ob30_1525



Dianne Holtrop from Cowes CWA entered in the produce and crocheted garment sections at the very last minute, winning five prizes altogether. ob25_1525



Mary and Robyn from Mirboo North CWA held their exhibition last week in Meeniyan and commented on all the talented country women in the region. ob26_1525



Members of the current Cowes CWA.

90 years celebrated at Cowes CWA

PRESIDENT Lorraine Roy welcomed Bass Group members, friends and descendants of the first Cowes CWA Branch on the occasion of the 90th birthday of Cowes CWA and the 55th anniversary of the opening of the CWA Rest Rooms – now the CWA shop in Thompson Avenue, Cowes.

A short history of the Branch included excerpts from Mrs June M Cutter's publication "The First Fifty Years of the CWA on Phillip Island" – a valuable and informative resource.

In 1928 the Country Women's Association of Victoria was formed and seven years later on Wednesday, April 10, 1935 a meeting of ladies was held at "Broadwater" Cowes at the home of Mrs Oswin Roberts. On that day 27 ladies joined and Mrs Oswin Roberts was the first president.

At the second meeting a commitment was made to support the Warley Bush Nursing Hospital. Money was raised through jumble sales, American teas, Dutch auctions, euchre parties and dances, afternoon teas at the local footy ground.

Ever mindful of the needs of the community 200 manna gums were planted at the recreation reserve; craft and cooking demonstrations were always popular.

During the Second World War Christmas hampers were sent to the local men on active service, members



Dianne Holtrop and Jan Setford assisted in cutting the celebratory cake as the two longest serving members of Cowes CWA, pictured with president Lorraine Roy.

donated sheepskins for the RAAF pilots warmth, tens of thousands of camouflage nets were made. Homemade jams, pickles and preserves were made for the Defence Force. Food and knitted squares were sent to Britain, groceries to Warley Hospital and many appeals for assistance were answered.

In April 1943 the Branch pledged support for a Baby Health Centre in Cowes. In 1954 Cowes Branch transferred from the Mornington Peninsula Group to the newly formed Bass Group and the first Bass Group Craft Exhibition was held at San Remo – this year they celebrate their 70th anniversary.

Membership was vibrant and a Choir and Drama

Group followed with years of success.

The current CWA shop was first rented and officially opened on October 21, 1960.

It was also rented to the Warley Hospital Auxiliary, Red Cross and the Farmers Association.

Members also began to stock the shop with knitting and sewing for much needed revenue.

In 1968 a decision was made to purchase the shop and land and with the assistance of many local people, shops, businesses and service organisations the CWA Rest Rooms were officially opened on August 18, 1970.

Cowes Branch have had two Life Members of CWA, Cicely May

Peasley and Jayne Mitchell, as a record of achievement and dedication to CWA.

The 90th Birthday celebratory cake was cut by the two longest serving members – Dianne Holtrop and Jan Setford.

This was followed by a display of vintage clothing through the decades while some of the many achievements of the Country Women's Association of Victoria and Australia were presented; followed by a delicious High Tea.

Cowes Branch meets on the first Thursday at 1pm between February to November. Members will also welcome visitors to the CWA Shop, 96 Thompson Avenue, Cowes most Wednesdays to Saturdays 10am – 2pm.

CWA Bass group celebrates their 70th Art Show



Val Foster, Ellen Bryce, Lynne Marsh and Cynthia Love are knitting scarves for a local charity while having a knatter at the CWA Arts Show. ob21_1525

goes into everything CWA members do."

The talent showcased throughout the exhibition also represented the skills and knowledge that have been passed down from generation to

generation, underpinning the values of the CWA.

"I never cease to be amazed by the wonderful support and friendship that the members have for one another," said Susan.

A total of 17 trophies and a number of medals were given out, among them some for junior members and others for the special creations made for the 70th celebrations display.

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Are our farmers the shire's cash cow?

AT THE Bass Coast Shire Council meeting this Wednesday, there are a couple of very important items on the agenda, one of them is the draft budget for 2025-26, proposing total expenditure \$122 million, and the other is a review of the shire's Revenue and Rating Plan.

The neighbouring South Gippsland Shire Council will be going through a similar process in the weeks ahead.

Obviously, how the Bass Coast Council proposes to spend the \$81.5 million it collects from the community in total rates and charges is crucial and it's up to our elected representatives to go through the budget with a fine-tooth comb and see where savings might be made and changes identified to get a better outcome.

Fortunately, you will see the word "efficiency" mentioned several times in the budget papers including as one of the key guiding principles, as follows: "Service levels to be maintained with the aim to use fewer resources with an emphasis on innovation and efficiency".

It would be good to see those efficiencies quantified in a public document.

But, of equal importance this year is the review of the shire's Revenue and Rating Plan, which only comes around every four years after a council election.

A key feature of the plan is how the council distributes the burden of rates between the various classes of property: general (residential), industrial, commercial, farming, vacant land and one or two other categories.

By using "differential rates", for example by charging the owners of farming land 80 per cent of the general rate, the shire can adjust up or down the share of the \$61.6 million it expects to collect from the farmers.

Disappointingly, however, prior to offering the farmers and others a very limited opportunity over the next month to comment on whether the farm rate should be lower, the shire has already proposed that no changes be made.

They've also left precious little time to consider changing the farm rate to 70 per cent of the general rate or lower, in line with earlier statements by the Victorian Farmers Federation, that speculative increases in farm values, especially in sought-after areas like Bass Coast, have unfairly shifted more of the burden of rates on to local farmers over several years.

It's a complex issue and giving the community less than a month, between April 17 and May 14, to mount a case and have it considered by council, ahead of a deadline of an absolute deadline of June 30, 2025 is frankly not good enough.

If the farmers are being expected to pay more of the \$61.6 million, relative to other ratepayers, than they have in the past because their farm values have increased at a faster rate than other classes of property, there may well be a case for adjusting the farm differential and the council owes it to the community to give it long and careful consideration.

Such fundamentals, if not set right, can have unwanted consequences.

When do they open?

I HAVE just recently moved to Korumburra so I don't know hours that many businesses and services operate.

I went to Leongatha shire office - closed - only open two days a week. Restricted hours also on these days.

I was told to get the Korumburra Flyer. I did. I looked up Library - no hours' info at all, for general info most churches OK - hours of services very clearly in flyer. But many, many other shops, services, businesses - no info.

We are not all mind readers; think of those that don't have a computer and all its partners.

I am fed up with www.....s. Even the funeral directors and particularly young staff that mumble into their phones when they do answer.

Carinya, hospital and medical centre no hours.

Joyce Bennet, Korumburra

Nuclear vs renewables

I AM surprised so many environmentalists seem opposed to nuclear power when it is the only environmentally friendly way to achieve net zero before 2050. That is why it has been adopted as policy by the Greens Party in Finland.

There is no evidence that nuclear reactors damage the environment.

In fact, fish, animals and birds all thrive around them.

Instead, we should be more worried about the environmental damage caused by renewables.

Where are the complaints about the bulldozing of huge tracts of native vegetation and wildlife habitats to make way for solar farms and their fields of batteries?

Like the 85-hectare Big Battery near Geelong with 210 batteries standing 2.8m high on big concrete platforms so that a fire in one doesn't spread further - as happened in July 2021.

What about the destruction of habitat to build the huge concrete bases of wind turbines on land and in the sea?

The Associated Press reported that, in the United States alone, wind turbines kill more than 573,000 birds each year, including federally protected species like bald eagles and golden eagles.

Overseas studies show that the noise pollution of wind turbines disrupts key behaviours of birds, introducing potential shifts in bird population dynamics, causing increased predation, dwindling mating success and reduced survival rates.

On March 26, 25 Renew Economy reported that the environmental study on the Great Eastern wind project in Bass Strait "has identified 59 threatened and migratory marine species including albatrosses, petrels, tern and fairy prion, 29 shorebirds and migratory land birds, eight threatened marine mammals including the pygmy blue whale and southern right whale, three marine turtles and six migratory fish species, etc...."

It goes on to list onshore threatened species.

What about the thousands of square kilometres of native bushland currently being removed to install pylons to carry the power from remote areas at a cost of \$10 million per kilometre?

Recycling of chemicals is a far more complex, difficult and expensive task than the simple recycling of plastics and glass by remelting. Or the repulping of paper and cardboard.

A recent article by the American Solar Recycling Company spells it these costs.

"Throwing panels away hurts our environment badly. Every 205 tons of solar PV waste in landfills releases about 2039 tons of carbon dioxide equivalent. The waste of silver, copper, and silicon also makes it harder to build new panels."

Studies show an \$18 per panel fee over 12 years could create a profitable recycling industry by 2032.

Have these annual USD18 per panel fees (AUD28) been included in the costing of renewables?

There is no doubt as to who will be paying them!

Batteries are worse.

Atmos is one of the leading renewable energy companies in the world and operates several large facilities in Australia.

Atmos Financials had this to say, "A carbon footprint can be defined as the amount of greenhouse gas emissions that are associated with consumption."

Nuclear power plants have the lowest carbon footprint for an energy source, estimated to be nine grams of CO2e per kilowatt hour produced.

And, unlike solar or wind, nuclear works 24 hours a day, 365 days a year for 60 years or more.

Then there is the fire danger (apart from those at recycling plants).

While their fire risk is considered low, the possibility of a fire getting into the bush and out of control cannot be totally dismissed.

How ironic that an invention designed to reduce CO2 emissions might be the cause of colossal amounts being discharged into the atmosphere!

According to DCCEEW, the Black Summer Bushfires of 2019-2020 released about 830 million tonnes of carbon dioxide.

That is more than the combined output of all the Australian fossil fuel power stations over six years! (141,268,605 tonnes per year- Australian Government Clean Energy Regulator Report).

The costly damage caused by renewables has been overlooked or downplayed and it is time people were made aware that nuclear power is a far more environmentally friendly solution to our large-scale power requirements than solar or wind.

I am not against renewables as such. They are useful to reduce bills in domestic situations and small businesses. I have solar panels on my own roof.

But we must call out the damage to the environment caused by sacrificing vast tracts of bush and valuable farmland to build huge, ugly and expensive fields of renewables in the vain hope that they will provide the reliable power Australia needs in future.

If we genuinely want a carbon-free source of reliable power, nuclear is the only way to go.

Anton Gosselin, Newborough

Scurrilous party leaflets

I AM really disappointed to have had the Teal Independents Vote with the Greens' leaflet authorised by S. Smith, Liberal, L12, 257 Collins Street, Melbourne, delivered to my letterbox on Monday, April 7.

The Liberal Party used to stand for something and had many fine policies to offer. I think their 2025 Federal Election campaign is abysmal. They have few policies they are willing to give details of - 'These will all be revealed later'...?

Instead, they have lowered themselves to sending out leaflets denigrating the other parties standing for election in our seat of Monash.

Do they think this ethical? Admirable? Will encourage voters in Monash to vote for you?

Sorry, it just looks like name calling. It seems the Liberals, without credibility or policies have decided their only option is to try and undermine the opposing candidates. I will now not be voting for them under these circumstances.

Libby Lambert, Bena

Stop with the signage

I LIVE in the Monash Electorate and have been dismayed at what seems to be deliberate breaches of law by the Teals - Deb Leonard campaign for the Federal seat of Monash.

People in my area are angry that signs have been plastered all over our area between Foster and Hedley. I am sure that other areas in Monash are coping the same treatment.

It seems locals have already pulled some

signs down in disgust e.g. outside Toora Post Office on Council land. Two are outside Welshpool school. Others are bolted into the trunks of trees.

Being a person with knowledge of the law, I would assume that Deb Leonard would know this is a breach of local and state laws. I can find no evidence that she has gained any permits for these signs which are bolted to anything that looks like a good spot on public land in Toora, and on South Gippsland Highway between Hedley and Foster.

I have sent details and photos to South Gippsland Shire and VicRoads and contacted the Australian Electoral Commission.

A search of her website reveals that Deb Leonard is a Teal, although she is reluctant to say so.

Having received almost \$400,000 dollars from Climate Australia, she spins the line that she is independent of Simon Holmes à Court and Climate 200? Pull the other leg Deb. They don't give \$400k to anyone who wants money. They expect a return, and you know it.

You are a teal.

Dan Hopkins, Hedley

Editor's Note: South Gippsland Shire Council have confirmed they have removed one campaign sign from Council land this election period but did not state who the sign belonged to. Furthermore, a spokesperson for the Department of Transport and Planning stated on Friday, "We're aware of the signage in the road reserve along the South Gippsland highway between Foster and Hedley and have requested it be removed." The department did not confirm who the signage related to.

Leave our roads alone

AS A permanent resident in Outlook Drive Cowes, I received a disturbing letter from Bass Coast Council regarding proposed changes to the road surface.

Our sealed road will be ripped up, and replaced with crushed rock, a significant downgrade of council services. This will impact locals aesthetically, financially and their personal safety.

The existing road is relatively stable requiring minimal maintenance from time to time. To rip up this surface up and lay crushed rock will reduce the value and saleability of my property. A crushed rock surface will disappear into mud during winter and become a muddy mess. In summer the road will be a dust bowl and dust clouds will coat our properties.

It is unreasonable that council reduce our services while constantly increasing our rates.

I am, as are others disappointed with the proposal. We all use these roads for dog walking and our own personal exercise routine. Most of the locals are of advanced age, I am 76, and for council to expect us to traverse unmade roads that cause a problem for walking, to say nothing of the dust and muck we will inhale as cars pass by. I also make comment that the risk of falls and substantial injury is significantly increased as a result of walking on an unstable surface. Walking on a sealed road provides a level of security and peace of mind. We don't have many footpaths.

Having lived in Outlook Drive for 25 years I have seen what unsealed roads are like. I had hoped the roads would be sealed because of the winter muck and summer dust. I wondered then what inhaling this dust was doing to my lungs. When a firm surface for dust reduction was finally completed it was a pleasure to walk these roads and not having to hose down my house regularly. Actually, a sealed road is a water saver.

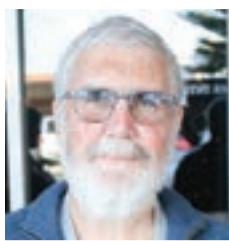
I respectfully ask council to revise their decision.

If this were to go ahead I would expect a substantial reduction in rates to help cover the drop in my property value.

Martin Saunders, Cowes

Vox Pop

Do you prefer to pay with cash, or other methods?



Greg Paten

"I use both, I just paid at the post office with cash. I definitely think we should have both for when technology fails."



Bronwyn Miller

"I prefer credit card. I only really use credit card; we should have both though."



Robert Mesley

"I use both, but I prefer to have cash on me. It's important to have both."



Antonio Ciccarelli

"I only pay with cash. It's easier and I can see exactly what is happening."

Major parties spread misinformation about Leonard

I AM a member of Voices for Monash and like hundreds of other people in the Monash electorate I am volunteering my free time to campaign for Deb Leonard. As a supporter of Deb, I feel I know her policies and understand how community led politics work.

Until there is legislation to prevent lies in political campaigns, we volunteers expect to have to counter or correct misinformation with the truth.

I have been particularly disappointed recently at the deliberately false propaganda about Deb that is being perpetrated by the major parties.

At a recent market, the Labor candidate told me something about Deb's policies which was blatantly untrue and would not accept my correction.

However, the card in my letter box, authorised by the Liberal Party absolutely takes the cake at deceptive advertising. The headline on the card reads, "Teal independents vote with the greens" and shows three columns allegedly representing voting patterns. This is a blatant scare campaign and devious use of statistics.

To make any sense of the graphic, further information is required, but not included (because it would damage the false case being presented).

I am sorry to say that people can't believe everything they read or hear. I encourage everyone to check out Deb Leonard's website before being fooled by such scurrilous campaigns.

Deborah O'Connor, Berrys Creek

the Bass Coast.

Yet, there have been trails established in the Valley in the last years you have represented Monash. It seems you neglect the Bass Coast.

What will you do moving into the future to establish mountain bike trails on the Bass Coast?

Why should I promote you to the mountain bike community?

Dr Todd Jacobson, Phillip Island

I'm backing Aldred for Monash

WITH the federal election approaching on May 3rd I have been asked by many locals who I would support in the electorate of Monash.

I have known the Liberal candidate Mary Aldred for over a decade and know that she is a passionate Gippslander who is committed to supporting our local communities, backing small business and standing up for the interests of Gippslanders.

I have no hesitation in encouraging people to support Mary as the Coalition candidate in Monash.

I have been bemused and bewildered by claims by so-called independent candidates. It is one thing to say that your financial support comes from "local individuals", but it is misleading when nearly half a million dollars has in fact come from Climate 200 and even more from other external groups.

Voters should also understand the false promises being made by some. For example, I saw the teal independent promising to get the West Gippsland Hospital built. Leaving aside the fact an independent cannot make such a commitment when they will never be in government, this issue is entirely a state responsibility and has nothing to do with the federal government.

Likewise, road maintenance is a state responsibility and not something that federal independents can address.

This sort of broad unaccountable electioneering is the complete antithesis of the integrity platform that so-called independents claim to stand for.

The biggest threat to Australia's future is a Labor-Greens-Teal Government and we can't afford to risk that becoming a reality by supporting independents.

I encourage all Monash voters to throw their support behind Liberal candidate Mary Aldred.

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

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

Broadbent, what about our mountain bike trails

YOU might recall that we asked you to a meeting in Wonthaggi about two years ago. Several serious interested people wanted to establish mountain bike trails in the Bass Coast. The meeting you attended was also attended by senior representatives of Parks Victoria.

PV declined to support us and you did not object; you said nothing.

After the meeting you gave us some simplistic suggestion to promote our cause on the Internet. You didn't really assist us in establishing any mountain bike trails on



Mary MacKillop Catholic Regional College Captains Patrick Wilson and Eleanor Pedlow with Teacher Sarah Roscoe-Smith and Teaching and Learning Leader Scott Blencoe at JJAMM in Sydney.

Sydney welcomes Mary MacKillop student captains

MARY MacKillop Catholic Regional College captains Patrick Wilson and Eleanor Pedlow were treated to a rare insider's glimpse of Sydney at a recent JJAMM gathering of student leaders from Josephite secondary schools around Australia and New Zealand.

Twenty-five Josephite schools were welcomed to the four-day leadership retreat honouring formidable leaders in the Catholic faith such as Saint Mary MacKillop.

Patrick and Eleanor spent time having discussions in school groups grabbing ideas for initiatives to take back and implement in Leongatha.

The first day of the JJAMM program at Mary MacKillop Place and Baulkham Hills in North Sydney focused on settling in and allowing students to feel comfortable with their environment.

The next two days focussed on courage and practical leadership with a range of fun, engaging, and educational activities.

Students were tasked to select an issue and create a large poster and stage a protest for the rest of the group followed by workshops on public speaking, courage, leadership, and faith.

A highlight for everyone was morning prayer at the tomb of Mary MacKillop.

where students truly felt a connection to the life of Mary and how they should act as leaders.

It was an amazing experience according to Patrick and Eleanor with every student, staff member, journey, lesson, and teaching exciting the apprehensive and curious minds of those gathered in the surrounds of Mary MacKillop Place.

As the ice was broken friendships were made and leaders shared stories about who they are and how they connect with the overarching story of Australia's first Saint.

The JJAMM-packed final day ended with a ferry ride through the City of Sydney, admiring the beauty of Sydney Harbour and allowing non-Sydney friends do some sightseeing.

In the last week of school before the end of term high achieving year 10 students from Mary MacKillop Catholic Regional College were invited to attend a networking event organised by the South Gippsland Bass Coast Local Learning and Employment Network (LLEN).

Based on their interests and aspirations the Mary MacKillop students were matched with a number of different mentors from the community.

Two keynote speakers addressed the students

challenging them to lean on their strengths and never be afraid of exploring new pathways.

Each of the students was given an opportunity to ask questions about the journeys their mentors had taken and the challenges they had faced along the way.

It was a timely event for the students as they prepared to embark on their first week of work experience organised by the college.

College tours, Meet the Principal sessions and Grade 6 Activity Days for 2026 enrolments will be conducted on Wednesday, May 7 for Grade 6 students from St Johns Koo Wee Rup and government schools, Monday, May 12 for Grade 6 students from St Joseph's Wonthaggi and St Joseph's Korumburra, and Wednesday, May 14 for Grade 6 students from Star of the Sea in Cowes and St Laurence Leongatha.

To book a tour of the college go to mackillopleongatha.catholic.edu.au/enrolment/transition-program/event-registration-form.

For further information on Mary MacKillop Catholic Regional College go to mackillopleongatha.catholic.edu.au, email enrolments@mmcrc.catholic.edu.au or phone the college on 5662 4255.

Nyora students hand-deliver easter messages

MANY of the residents in Nyora were overjoyed to receive heartfelt and delicious surprises in their letterboxes last week, ahead of Easter.

For the past eight years students from Nyora Primary School have made Easter cards and hand delivered them around the township of Nyora - some with chocolate eggs attached.

All students at the school help to create the handmade cards, writing a personal message on each one.

The students then have fun picking different routes to make their deliveries to.

All staff and students enjoy the delivery walk and usually finish at the local playground to play and chat with locals.

This year students were thrilled when staff showed them the overwhelming amount of thank you messages from locals on the community notice board.

Students also deliver Christmas cards to houses and enjoy being part of the community and spreading cheer and goodwill to others.

RIGHT: All staff and students from Nyora Primary School walked different routes to hand deliver Easter messages.



Prevention is the key to mental health crisis

SUICIDE is the leading cause of death among young people aged 16-24 according to Youth Live4Life. Mental ill-health and suicide among young people is an urgent national problem according to Bernard Galbally CEO of Youth Live4Life and is alarmingly acute in rural and regional areas.

Latest figures from the ABS show that the suicide rate in regional areas is more than 50 per cent higher than in major cities, and in remote communities, it is more than double.

"The over-representation of these communities is a neglected escalating crisis which demands action now," said Mr Galbally.

Worldwide evidence suggests that in many countries the mental health of young people has been declining for the past two decades.

The US Surgeon General has labelled it a youth mental health crisis. Lancet Psychiatry wrote in August 2024 that mental ill health, which has been the leading health and social issue impacting the lives and futures of young people for decades, has entered a dangerous phase.

Mr Galbally warned there are two significant problems with funding solutions proposed recently by both major political parties, the first is the shortage of trained clinicians, psychiatrists, psychologists and therapists to fill existing positions in our services.

"Who is going to staff the additional services that both major parties are saying they will fund," asked Mr Galbally. The issue of workforce shortages is particularly acute in rural and regional areas.

The second problem is that nowhere in either of the parties' announcements was there any mention of prevention measures.

While welcoming the promised funding for youth mental health services from both major parties Mr Galbally said we need to stop and consider why so many people are struggling with their mental health in the first place.

"What measures can be put in place so that all Australians, especially young people have the knowledge and tools to understand and look after their mental health in the normal course of their day-to-day lives."

The direct economic cost of mental ill-health and suicide in Australia has been estimated at \$43 to \$70 billion in 2018-2019. The cost of disability and premature death due to mental ill-health, suicide and self-inflicted injury is equivalent to a further \$151 billion.

"The promise of more mental health services, more headspace services and youth specialist centres is welcomed and will help but only if we are able to agree on a national strategy to address the workforce issue," said Mr Galbally.

"We can't keep picking up the pieces and letting young people fall through the ever-widening gaps of an already over-stretched mental health system," he said.

A major plank in effective prevention is mental health education. Evidence shows that improving the mental health knowledge of secondary school-aged students and improving the mental health knowledge of the adults who support them builds community resilience in addressing mental ill-health and reduces suicide.

Lifeline is a 24-hour crisis support and suicide prevention service, call 13 11 14, text 0477 13 11 14 or chat online 7pm to midnight, seven nights a week at lifeline.org.au.

Kids Helpline call 1800 55 1800 or go to kidshelpline.com.au.

\$10 million election commitment for Phillip Island recreation and sporting complex

ISLAND voice continues to advocate for the future of Phillip Island, and according to Peter McMahon, the federal candidates for Monash are seeing the future of the Phillip Island sporting and recreation precinct as a priority.

"Candidates see this project as the number one project in Bass and potentially Monash. It's a pity the Shire can't see it, or are we about to see a change," said Peter.

It seems the project that has been advocated for, for over 20 years may just have a wave of renewed political backing, with Federal Labor candidate for Monash, Tully Fletcher, Independent candidate for Monash, Deb Leonard, and Member for Monash, Russell Broadbent MP running as an independent candidate for Monash in the 2025 election, voicing their support.

The Federal Member for Monash, Russell Broadbent MP, announced on April 9 his commitment to fight for \$10 million to kickstart the planning and preparation of the recreation and sporting hub at Phillip Island.

The initial plan includes two football ovals, two soccer pitches, an aquatic centre, a dog park, and basketball and netball courts. There is also scope to cater for cricket, tennis and skateboarding.

Mr Broadbent recently met with Island Voice committee members Peter Paul and Peter McMahon to discuss the proposal.

LIBERAL candidate for the seat of Monash, Mary Aldred, acknowledged she can't match the Climate 200-backed Deb Leonard for funding, declaring her own supporters the key to success when speaking at Inverloch's Inlet Hotel on Friday evening.

"We need to win this by word of mouth," Mary said, urging those who support her to talk to their friends and neighbours and let them know what she and the Gippsland coalition team offer.

Mary was introduced by prominent Liberal and former Victorian opposition leader Alan Brown who declared that in his 50-year involvement with the Liberal Party and attending numerous preselections, he hasn't seen a better candidate.

He described her as whip smart and spoke of her late father Ken as having been a highly respected politician, as well as her responsible position as Head of Corporate Affairs, Australia and New Zealand at Fujitsu and her strong community involvement.

Mary said the upcoming Federal election could not be more important.

"We have had 12 interest rate rises and one very modest fall in the last period of government, household



Peter Paul and Peter McMahon met with Federal Member for Monash, Russell Broadbent MP, as he announced his commitment to fight for \$10 million to kickstart the planning and preparation of a recreation and sporting hub at Phillip Island.

Mr McMahon said the complex would put the entire region on the map. "This area could become a legacy project for Phillip Island because we believe it is destined to become the football headquarters for the greater region," he said.

Building on the idea, Mr Broadbent said the complex would further promote sports participation across the region.

Tully Fletcher responded to the Sentinel-Times, stating that the community has been talking about this project his entire life. "I'm nearly 40 with two kids. That's long enough," Mr Fletcher said.

"Since we first started talking about the new recreation reserve, Phillip Island's permanent population has tripled in size from 5000 to 15,000. A population that big deserves a modern multi-

sport recreation reserve and a lot more investment from all levels of government in new services and infrastructure," he said.

"I prioritised this project at the beginning of my campaign for Monash, and I've already met with Bass Coast, Island Voice, and the Phillip Island Football Netball Club about it. The need for federal investment in the new recreation reserve is clear, and if I'm elected as the new federal member for Monash, I'll deliver it."

"I'm a genuine local with the runs on the board in business and government to get things done for Monash. Islanders can take me at my word when I say I'll get this done."

Deb Leonard also shared her interest in the project, saying "I am acutely aware how our community has been ignored in relation to funding for the new Phillip Island

Aquatic Centre and Recreation Reserve. If elected, I am committed to securing federal funding to get this project off the ground."

"I've met with representatives of the Phillip Island Football Netball Club who say they are having to turn kids away due to lack of capacity. I 100 per cent support this project, it's vital our growing community has these facilities."

With all eyes now on the federal election and mounting pressure from residents, sporting clubs and advocacy groups like Island Voice, Phillip Island's long-delayed recreation reserve could finally be on the brink of becoming reality – if promises translate into action.

Liberal candidate for Monash, Mary Aldred, was contacted for comment, but the Sentinel-Times is yet to receive a response.

Mary Aldred up for the fight in the Monash electorate

By Andrew Paloczi



Supporters of Mary Aldred get behind her campaign at Inverloch's Inlet Hotel, Mary pictured in the centre with local Senate candidate Glenn Arnold and Member for Eastern Victoria Melina Bath. A13_1525

savings have dropped to an all-time low, small businesses have gone into receivership and administration at record rates; it has never been harder to be a small business owner," she said.

"In regions like ours, we've never been more forgotten; the Labor Party at a State level and at a national level has never treated regions like ours with more contempt."

"They don't respect that the wealth of Australia and Victoria is created in regions

like ours where we're proud to grow, make and manufacture things; when Gippsland as a region succeeds, Victoria thrives and Australia does well."

Mary declared that should she be elected, she will stand up and make sure the Monash electorate is respected and that it can secure the infrastructure, services and investment it needs to play its part.

Her work ethic and commitment are apparent, having left school when she was 15 to be a

farmhand for her parents and since filling a diverse range of roles.

Those roles include having worked in the energy sector, which she describes as "such a consequential industry to our day-to-day lives and the prosperity of our businesses," stressing her pride in the Latrobe Valley as a national energy hub and saying she wants to see it continue to offer highly skilled jobs into the future.

She was the founding CEO of the Committee for Gippsland.

Ashlee Ferguson was proudly wearing her Mary Aldred t-shirt in Liberal blue on Friday, Mary having been her boss at the Committee for Gippsland.

"I know how passionate she is about this region and I want to help her as much as I can," Ashlee said, adding that Mary will do a great job for Monash if given the opportunity.

Mary has a Master of Business Administration from Federation University and has also completed a Bachelor of Arts (Honours) from Monash University, and a Master of Agribusiness from the University of Melbourne, and is a graduate of the Gippsland Community Leadership Program.

She has chaired the Gippsland United Basketball League and been a Board member at Leongatha's Woorayl Lodge, further underlining her commitment to the area.

Luck of the draw as One Nation scores top spot in the Monash ballot draw

By Bruce Wardley

NO-ONE could argue the barrel of numbered balls that would ultimately decide the order of candidates on the ballot paper for Monash was not well rotated.

No less than three candidates took turns to rotate the container which after an exhaustive ballot not only decided the order of candidates but the candidates' identifying numbers.

For numerologists, Labor Candidate Tully Fletcher was allocated No. 1, followed by Liberal Candidate Mary Aldred No. 2, and David O'Reilly from the Legalise Cannabis Party No. 3.

Labor's luck was not to last however with the rotating barrel and blindfolded hand of AEC staffer Kate eventually placing One Nation's Kuljeet Kaur Robinson at the top of the ballot paper followed by Labor's Tully Fletcher, Independent Federal Member for Monash Russell Broadbent, Liberal Candidate Mary Aldred, Independent Deb Leonard, Geoffrey Dethlefs for Family First, David O'Reilly Legalise Cannabis Party, Greens Candidate Terence Steele and Trumpet of Patriots Candidate Alex Wehbe last.

Does a candidate's position on the ballot paper matter?

According to the Australian Electoral Commission when a



Mary Aldred (Liberal), Terence Steele (Greens), Tully Fletcher (Labor), Kuljeet Kaur Robinson (One Nation) and Deb Leonard (Independent) at the ballot draw for the forthcoming Federal Election on Saturday, May 3. B21_1525

ballot paper is numbered 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 etc in the same order that the candidates' names appear on the ballot it is known as a 'donkey vote'.

Donkey votes may be a voter not understanding how to vote correctly, not caring how they vote or actually expressing their true preference.

Whatever the reason a donkey vote is considered a formal vote and will be counted.

It is only when a ballot paper has not been fully completed, is completed incorrectly or can identify the person who voted is it considered an informal vote

and not included in the count. At federal elections nationally around five per cent of votes end up being assessed as informal.

In 2022 for the Division of Monash, 4.68 per cent of the vote or 4752 ballot papers were considered informal out of a total of 101,464 votes.

The Greens were placed at the top of the ballot paper in Monash in 2022 and achieved a primary vote of 9.9 per cent.

Liberal Member for Monash Russell Broadbent was placed second on the ballot paper in 2022 and ended up scoring 37.8 per cent of the primary

vote.

After the distribution of preferences in 2022 the Liberals received 52.9 per cent of the vote compared to Labor with 47.1 per cent.

Donkey votes have been variously estimated at between one and two per cent of all votes however it could be that what appears to be a donkey vote is in fact a genuine representation of a voter's preferences.

For the Division of Monash on May 3 a consecutively numbered vote from the top of the ballot paper to the bottom would be a vote for Kuljeet Kaur Robinson and Pauline Hanson's One Nation Party.

For more information on voting for the May 3 Federal Election go to aec.gov.au

Results of the AEC Ballot Draw for the Electoral Division of Monash 2025

1. Kuljeet Kaur Robinson (One Nation)
2. Tully Fletcher (Labor)
3. Russell Broadbent (Independent) (Sitting Member)
4. Mary Aldred (Liberal)
5. Deb Leonard (Independent)
6. Geoffrey Dethlefs (Family First)
7. David O'Reilly (Legalise Cannabis Party)
8. Terence Steele (Greens)
9. Alex Wehbe (Trumpet of Patriots)



Federal Labor candidate for Monash supporting free public mental health care. B12_1525

Labor pledges free public mental health care backed by Medicare

By Bruce Wardley

A BILLION dollar election pledge by the Albanese Labor Government to roll out more free public mental health places has won the support of Labor candidate for Monash Tully Fletcher.

According to Federal Labor, the \$1 billion commitment fills the gaps in support for mental health with new free mental health services better matched to the needs of all Australians including an ongoing and sustained uplift in mental health funding.

Tully Fletcher said Gippsland knows Peter Dutton can't be trusted on frontline public sector job cuts or working from home because of how the Liberals and Nationals privatised the SEC.

"The Liberals also ended V/Line train services to Leongatha, shut Moe hospital, closed 350 Victorian schools, sacked 7000 Victorian teachers and took the knife to ABC Gippsland," claimed Mr Fletcher.

"Peter Dutton can pretend to backflip all he likes but Monash voters know the Liberals' and Nationals' real agenda for Gippsland is huge Trump-style job cuts to pay for their risky \$600 billion nuclear scheme which includes a nuclear reactor at Loy Yang," said Mr Fletcher.

Mr Fletcher said the Liberals and Nationals want to force taxpayers to pay for their \$600 billion nuclear scheme because electricity from nuclear will cost between two and ten times as much as wind, solar and gas.

"Private sector investors won't go near it," said Mr Fletcher.

The \$1 billion mental health commitment from Labor includes upgraded Medicare Mental Health Centres, new, upgraded and expanded headspace services, Youth Specialist Care Centres for young people with complex needs and 1200 more training places for mental health professionals.

According to Labor, the new network of 20 Youth Specialist Care Centres will close a critical service gap in the mental health system, ensuring young people in what mental health experts call 'the missing middle' get the specialist help they need.

Filling 'the missing middle' service gap means young people with complex mental health needs, like personality disorders, eating disorders and early psychosis can get the ongoing and intensive care they need outside of hospitals.

headspace which acts as a one-stop-shop for young people who need help with mental health, physical health (including sexual health), alcohol and other drugs has been operating in Bass Coast since 2019.

headspace Wonthaggi can be found at headspace.org.au/headspace-centres/wonthaggi or by searching for headspace Wonthaggi on Facebook or [headspace_wonthaggi](https://www.instagram.com/headspace_wonthaggi/) on Instagram.

Cutting through the rising cost of living in Monash

By Bruce Wardley

increased by 100 per cent.

The Anglican Food Rescue is not alone with Phillip Island Community and Learning Centre Inc. noting their numbers in the PICAL Pantry were up 20 per cent on last year, on Friday.

"We have older people turning up and younger people," said Rev. Graeme.

"We even had a father and son where the father was caring for his son."

"If they don't have their own house and can't afford rent it is really hard for them."

In many cases, people are struggling to get work, particularly young people with a disability.

Going hungry is not the only concern

"Dental health is something people run away from," said Rev. Graeme.

"Poor dental hygiene can make you very sick and tooth infections can be costly to get fixed, it should be on Medicare. So many people I know have terrible dental health."

The cost of medications is another serious cost of living issue for many living in Monash.

"If they don't have the cash for medications it can lead to health problems."

Free vaccinations are greatly appreciated by the elderly and those on low incomes, particularly the shingles vaccine.

Instability in the share market has hit pensioners hard because that is where their superannuation is invested.

The number of people coming to the Food Rescue program has

Retired nurse and food rescue volunteer Neal Kruger said the health system is broken.

"It's on the decline," he said noting it's the cost of getting things done that's the problem.

"You can wait for hours at the Emergency Department, it's understaffed."

Volunteer Ron Osbourne said the Emergency Department needs a bigger budget.

"Hospitals were really stretched by COVID," said Mr Osbourne.

Dental services may be terrible according to Mr Kruger but public transport in Monash gets a big tick from the volunteers.

"Public transport is good in Wonthaggi and the taxi service can be useful if you have vouchers," they all agreed.

Meat however is unaffordable and off the menu for many.

"People can't afford to buy meat," said Rev. Graeme.

Occasionally supermarkets donate meat or fish to the Food Rescue Centre.

Rev. Graeme said \$50 vouchers purchased by the parish are greatly appreciated.

Some people are desperate for money but usually not to buy food with begging on the street becoming more common.

Neale Kruger called Labor's promised tax cuts a joke.

"Politicians don't listen to our problems, all they want to do is save the world," said Mr Kruger.

"I'm fed up, I help people where I can," said Mr Kruger.

Housing is the biggest election issue according to Mr Kruger.

"A lot of people are renters. If you don't have a house by the

time you are 50 you never will," said Mr Kruger.

"The young ones are not coping. Tax cuts won't do anything to help."

Ron Osbourne said the coalition's promise to halve the tax on fuel for 12 months saving motorists 25 cents per litre will help everyone.

"I think it's a good thing," said Mr Osbourne.

Immigration is another sensitive touch point for those struggling with the cost of living.

"Too many migrants," said Mr Osbourne.

"With 300,000 new migrants since COVID no wonder we don't have enough homes."

"Politicians don't hear us, they deflect anything you say."

However, Pauline Hanson knows about people according to Mr Kruger.

"Only Pauline Hanson gets out and spends time to get to know you."

Mr Kruger said politics went too far to the left and now it's going too far to the right.

Another volunteer Lia Pavic said it was time to discipline the young ones.

"Parents have no authority," said Lia.

"Kids have become delinquent."

The Wonthaggi Anglican Parish Food Rescue program is open to the public on Wednesday and Friday between 11am and 11.30am at the rear of the Anglican Church in Hagelthorn Street Wonthaggi.

The opinions expressed in this article are those of the individuals and not the Anglican Church.

High Tea at Bena Hall

ENJOY the quaintest of English dining customs and sit down for high tea, indulging in luxurious cakes, sandwiches and scones whilst sipping tea from fine bone china and enjoying conversation with friends and family at the Bena Hall.

Set for Sunday, May 4, the event marks the very first high tea to be held by the Bena Hall Committee.

The event will be pink themed and will raise funds in support of cancer research and education for the McGrath Foundation, with some funds also going towards the maintenance of the hall itself.

"This is the first ever High Tea we've had at the Bena Hall and we thought it was appropriate to hold it before Mother's Day. It is the perfect gift idea for all the Mums out there, to come and enjoy high tea," said Genine Gilbert, Bena Hall Committee member.

Expect white linen tablecloths, napkins, raffles and prizes. There will be games, such as guessing how many sugar cubes are in the jar, as well as a vintage photo booth with antique furniture and playful props for patrons to pose and take home happy memories of the day.

"It's something for the community to enjoy and we look forward to welcoming everyone on the day," said Genine.

High Tea at the Bena Hall will be held on Sunday, May 4 at 11am. Dress code is smart attire and tickets are \$25 each.

Tickets can be purchased online only, via Trybooking at bit.ly/3RE4BYV. Enquiries can be made via info@benahall.com.au or phone 0491 632 804.

• FAITH FACTOR

Jesus Christ Superstar!!!!

By Janet Snashall-Woodhams,
Ministry Team: Uniting Church
Wonthaggi-Inverloch

I LOVE musical theatre.

I enjoy the way stories come to life right in front of you. Music, movement and stagecraft woven to make art.

Jesus Christ Superstar is back again in Melbourne and to celebrate a friend's birthday we travelled from all parts of Victoria to see it together.

And what a performance it was! A telling of the last week of Jesus' life.

This week, between Palm Sunday, through Good Friday and on to Easter Sunday, is called Passion Week. And boy, did we see that passion in the musical.

The week begins with a joyous procession, shouts of "Hosanna" and the waving of palm branches as Jesus rides a colt into town. In Hebrew Hosanna means 'save us we pray.' Jesus was seen as God's messenger, a leader, someone they hoped might overthrow the oppressive Roman rulers.

But Jesus' plan was a spiritual revolution not a political one.

The message was for a kin-dom, community based on equitable relationships, built on peace and compassion, justice and mercy. That message met great opposition.

Surrounded by betrayal, denial, mockery, and cruelty, Jesus remained faithful to the kin-dom of God. And it cost him his life.

By the end of the week Jesus is dead. And that is where the musical stops.

But that is not the end.

In the Gospel stories, the story of the Christian faith, Jesus' body is no longer in the tomb.

Followers experience Jesus' presence with them; breaking bread with them and eating fish. Reminding them that it is their job now to carry on the work of the good news. To go tell others the story that love conquers all. That Jesus lives through us today.

As we gather with family and friends, our kin-dom, and feast on hot cross buns and chocolate, take time to reflect on the themes of Easter – of love and sacrifice, of speaking truth to power and hope that never dies.

And to that I say – Amen (so be it!)

Author to inspire at Deery Consulting's Biggest Morning Tea fundraiser

ACCLAIMED author and mentor, Lisa Ireland will this year be the special guest speaker at Deery Consulting Structural and Civil Engineers' fifth annual Biggest Morning Tea in support of Cancer Council research on Thursday, May 22, at 10 am.

Lisa, a renowned author and former primary school teacher, will share her personal story and the experiences that have helped shape her perspective and influence her writing.

"I think everyone has been touched by cancer in some way – whether personally, through a family member or friend," said Lisa.

"For me, that journey started when I was 19, and one of my friends was diagnosed with bowel cancer."

Lisa will speak of cancer awareness as a form of hope after supporting friends who have been affected by cancer and survived, thanks to early detection.

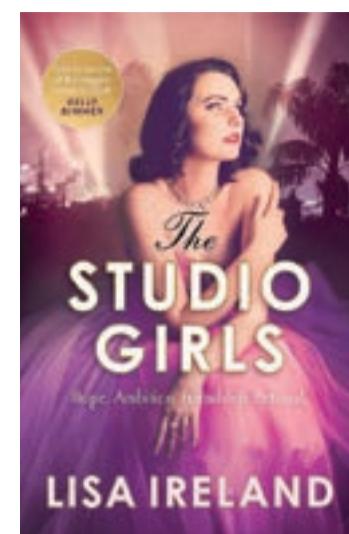
"There are still stories of heartbreak, but there are



Lisa Ireland, author and Australian writing mentor, will attend the Deery Consulting Structural and Civil Engineers' fifth annual Biggest Morning Tea as a guest speaker on Thursday, May 22, at 10 am.

also stories of strength and survival," she said.

Robyn Hodson from Deery Consulting Structural and Civil Engineers has kick-started the fundraiser by holding a Lucky Number draw, and there will be lucky door prizes, raffles and



The Studio Girls by author and Australian writing mentor, Lisa Ireland.

auctions on the day. The event will be a casual morning filled with conversation, connection, tea and coffee and a delicious variety of sweet and savoury treats.

This event will be Lisa's first time attending the Deery morning tea, though she has

supported Cancer Council events for years.

"I'm looking forward to being there in person," Lisa said.

"I'll speak briefly on my latest novel, The Studio Girls, and I plan on donating a percentage of the profits to this great cause."

The Studio Girls, published in 2024, is Lisa's eighth published novel, and is based on hope, ambition, friendship and betrayal. As well as a published author and former teacher, Lisa is now a writing mentor, having 10 years of experience in the industry, she is helping ambitious novelists share their own stories.

To hear Lisa Ireland's story about fulfilling her passion in becoming a published author, and donating to the Cancer Council in support of those affected by cancer, visit Deery Consulting at 1/54 Dixon Street, Inverloch or donate online at Australia's Biggest Morning Tea – Deery Consulting.

~ NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE & ADULT LEARNING NEWS ~

WONTHAGGI NEIGHBOURHOOD CENTRE

welcome any queries you may have.

The Wonthaggi Men's Shed have already had a couple of Fixit Café sessions this year.

The next one is coming up on Sunday, April 27. If you have an item that is not performing at its optimal ability (broken) and you have a special rapport with it and would like to have it back in your life all happy and working then perhaps you need to book it in for a sesh with a fixer at the Fixit Café.

You can do this by ringing or emailing Mitchell House and they will assess which fixer can do the job.

Make sure you can carry your item into the Men's Shed on the day (so that ride on lawn mower will have to stay home.) Also, bring with you any spare parts to help with the rehab and possibly

a gold coin donation to the café to help with the running costs.

Those at the Fixit Café aim to reduce, recycle, re-pair, restore, repurpose or refer, rather than pass items on to landfill, where possible. So, while you may have something to be fixed, you could have fixit skills that you may consider offering the café.

They are always looking out for handy persons – welders, needle work preparers, electricians, mechanics etc. Check it out on Sunday, April 27, 10am to 12noon.

Bookings before the day are essential. The Wonthaggi Men's Shed is beyond the Big W car park, past the Goods Shed.

When one is struggling with addiction and it is making life's journey a real

challenge then perhaps going to a supportive group to share one's experiences so to gain strength and hope with others that they and you may solve your common problems and help each other to achieve a better outcome or attain sobriety.

There is the Narcotics Anonymous group on Monday's 7pm to 8pm. Contact Peter for more information on 0456 000 844.

Also, there are two AA meetings; one is on Wednesday's 7pm to 8pm, contact Sean on 0425 707 480 and the other is on Sunday's from 6.30pm. Contact Sid on 0406 628 992.



6 Murray St, Wonthaggi PH: (03) 5672 3731 www.wonthaggineighbourhoodcentre.com 

BASS COAST ADULT LEARNING

Term 2 will be a special free workshop on financial literacy. It will be a very timely and important class for anyone looking to stretch their budget as far as possible.

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

It's a small start on cool season planting, with a cautious approach until rain falls to thoroughly rejuvenate soils and compost.

Other tasks couldn't wait: clearing out dead shrubs, prepping green waste for adding to the compost bins and working cow manure into plots in need of a top up.

To find out more about the garden or to get involved contact tgorodn@westnet.com.au BCAL on 5672 3115, or drop in on a Thursday between 10am and noon, to see what's happening. All welcome.

■ WONTAGGI COMMUNITY GARDEN

A perfect autumn morning, last Thursday, saw volunteers plant strawberries and plenty of garlic, for a harvest in early summer.

Through the week others had planted carrots, onions, broccoli, dill and a smattering of lettuces.

■ WONTAGGI WOODCRAFTERS

This weekend, the Woodies will be holding a special

display on Easter Saturday at Churchill Island.

The event will be showcasing the toymaking group, with toys on sale in kit form and pre-assembled. The kits allow children to put the toys together themselves. No tools are required.

Why not get the kids something for Easter which will last longer than a few minutes and not leave them with a sugar rush?

For more information, visit wonthaggiwoodcrafters.com.au or pop in to the workshop.



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

Grand hall grand piano project hits the right notes

THE quiet town of Fish Creek has made a resounding statement in the world of regional arts with the triumphant success of the "Grand Hall Grand Piano" project – a joint initiative of Fish Creek Memorial Hall and Prom Recitals which has brought a world-class concert grand piano to the heart of South Gippsland.

What began as a hopeful vision shared by local musicians and arts advocates has blossomed into a cultural milestone.

The official unveiling concert, held on Saturday, April 5, 2025, at twilight, filled the hall and ended with a standing ovation, as internationally acclaimed pianist Timothy Young inaugurated the newly acquired Yamaha C6 grand piano.

His captivating program of classical and contemporary works highlighted both his virtuosity and the piano's rich, expressive tone – a perfect match for the hall's warm and resonant acoustics. The celebrations continued on Sunday with a spellbinding afternoon of opera.

Opera Australia artists Iain Henderson and Genevieve Dickson delivered powerful performances of beloved arias and songs, accompanied by Phillipa Safey, whose sensitive and dynamic playing transformed the piano into a full orchestra for the occasion.

The project, driven by the



Grand Hall Grand Piano (GHGP) and opera team.

passionate efforts of members of the Fish Creek Memorial Hall and Prom Recitals committees, raised over \$50,000 through generous private donations, community fundraising concerts, and the unwavering dedication of volunteers.

"We felt that Fish Creek deserved something extraordinary – not just for visiting artists, but for our musicians and students," said Daryl Standfield, a key coordinator of the project.

At the heart of the initiative was a bold and inspiring vision – to provide a professional-grade instrument that would attract renowned performers, uplift local concerts, and nurture the talents of emerging pianists across the region.

With the Yamaha C6 now

taking pride of place in the Memorial Hall, that vision has come to life.

Local pianist and teacher Karen Vincent described the project as "a gift to the whole region," adding, "Having access to an instrument of this calibre in our backyard opens up enormous opportunities – for concerts, education, and cultural growth."

Looking ahead, the grand piano is set to feature prominently in a growing program of events, from student recitals and artist residencies to community workshops. Plans are already underway for the inaugural Fish Creek Piano Festival in 2026 – a celebration which promises to bring together both local talent and international stars.

"These launch concerts have been wonderfully successful," said Trace Rayner, Fishy Hall Committee and one of the 'Fab Four' GHGP team.

"The Grand Hall Grand Piano project has brought our community together in an extraordinary way. Now, it's time to fill our hall with even more music."

Plans for upcoming events at the "Grand Hall" at Fish Creek include:

- Jazz with Nichaud Fitzgibbon and The David Dower Trio
- Student Showcase Concert
- An Open Piano Afternoon: Play the Grand!

Visit the Fish Creek Memorial Hall website: fishcreekhall.org.au for updates and bookings.

New podcast 'Love Your Work' showcases inspiring locals

THE new podcast, 'Love Your Work' with Cathie Agg, was launched on March 31, stemming from a long-standing interest in getting to know real people, understanding what motivates them and sharing their authentic stories.

"At times in our lives, we often get drawn to things that meet our values," said Cathie, and this is what 'Love Your Work' dives into.

Cathie interviews people from all walks of life to discuss their all-time favourite jobs, and whether these jobs align with their values.

"I started in radio at 3MFM in Inverloch many years ago. Before then, I was working at 3GG as a drive announcer. I've also done voiceovers, audio production and marketing communications," said Cathie.

"I live in Inverloch and had this idea for ages, and then I stumbled across some research that said people are happiest and more fulfilled in their job when it aligns with their values (the things that are most important to them). And I went 'Bingo!'"

The podcast 'tests this theory'.

"It's a fascinating conversation – and it's so interesting to talk about things a bit below the surface – while getting to know people we share our towns with," she said.

Cathie has already released two interviews.

"A fabulous conversation with Bron Beach from Korumburra (President of Leongatha Lyric Theatre), and Grant from Leongatha (a former sound recordist



Cathie Agg, host of the 'Love Your Work' podcast.



Bron Beach, president, Leongatha Lyric Theatre, speaks on bringing theatre to life.

for TV and film, who's travelled the world with his work – from tropical forests to war zones).

"Have you ever wondered if theatre is for you? You might be surprised after listening to Bron! 'We find a place for everyone,' she says. Hear what she loves, and what goes on behind the scenes to bring their theatre productions to life."

Bron's values are authenticity, being a lifelong learner, and "kindness – always kindness".

Grant, on the other hand, has worked on programs such as 'Beyond 2000' with Amanda Keller.

Overseas, Grant's work was focused on creating human interest stories with Australian journalist John Pilger, who was

known as a champion for justice. Working with John and a small crew, their documentaries captured stories of local people living in war-torn countries such as Iran, Palestine and Iraq.

"However, I was particularly interested to hear about his time in Afghanistan," said Cathie.

Grant's values, he says, are, "Do no evil do as little harm as possible."

On Sunday, April 13, 'Love Your Work' will speak with a mental health counsellor in South Gippsland.

"We'll be talking about what personal values are – and how to identify your values. As the research suggests, they can be a great guide to finding fulfilling work," said Cathie.

"I should also say that two other South Gippsland locals, Rebecca Jones and Michele Bennett, have been fantastic in helping to create this show."

The rich mix of voices celebrates the diversity and depths of the local community in Bass Coast and South Gippsland. Each episode is an informal chat that peels back the layers, and Cathie will be adding new interviews, including a chat with snake catcher, Jake Condotta and a scuba diver, coming soon.

To listen search, Spotify podcasts: 'Love Your Work Cathie Agg Spotify' at shorturl.at/yNW8w or Apple podcasts: 'Love Your Work Cathie Agg Apple' at shorturl.at/RMwtX.



Kofta Meatballs

By Meg Viney

Ingredients

- 500 gm minced beef or lamb if you can find it
- 2 slices of bread made into breadcrumbs
- 1 beaten egg
- 1 ½ tbsp thick mint sauce
- 1 tsp each ground cumin and turmeric
- 1 onion
- Olive oil
- White pepper
- A couple of tablespoons flour for rolling

Sauce

- 400gm tin of diced tomatoes with herbs if you can find them
- Salt, pepper, sugar to taste
- ¼ cup cream

Method

If you have surgical gloves it makes the process very clean.

Before you start, have two dinner plates, one with a handful of flour, and one empty. Also, have a frying pan on the stove with olive oil in it (not turned on).

Cut an onion into small dice and add to a pot with a little olive oil or butter. Add a pinch of salt, cumin and turmeric, put the lid on and cook over a low heat for 10 minutes, until aromatic.

In a mixing bowl, place the mince, eggs, breadcrumbs, mint sauce and onion with spice.

Mix well with gloved hands and make into walnut kernel size balls, then toss in flour. Remove meatballs to plate once all are brown.

Turn on the heat and fry the meatballs gently in the oil, being careful not to break them as you turn them – a fork is useful. Remove meatballs to plate once all are brown.

Add the tomatoes and a little chicken stock or water (do not use stock cubes) to the pan and then slowly, salt, pepper and sugar until the sauce tastes fabulous.

Put the meatballs back in, lid on and cook over a very low heat for about an hour.

Serve with fettuccine that has been tossed in a little cream, and, if you like, a little more thick mint sauce.

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!



Courtney, Leo and Warren the scarecrow at the PICO Harvest Day on Phillip Island. B103_1425



Karen and Amber from the local area came along to have a look at the art. ob28_1525



John and Sally Matthews, who is president of the Phillip Island Twilight group and CWA State president won many prizes at the Art Show. ob22_1525



Gail Huitema with Assistant Convener of the CWA 70th Art Show, Di Wilson who was happy to see people coming through the door and admiring the artwork. ob15_1525



Ralph and William with Mr Scarecrow Scaredy Pants at the Phillip Island Community Orchard Harvest Day. B107_1425



Jack Bickley, Ray Edwards and Paul Cross support Monash candidate Mary Aldred at Inverloch's Inlet Hotel on Friday. A18_1525



Dalzeil and Jevon Scott came for a look at Thursday's Leongatha Store Sale during school holidays. A19_1525



John and Doreen Western at Thursday's Leongatha Store Sale at which their son Philip sold an entire row of cattle at excellent prices. A20_1525



Aurora and Yumi are both making decorations to go on their fairy wings. ob02_1525

Snapped Out

Pictures of you and your friends at PICO Harvest Day on Phillip Island, Mary Aldred event in Inverloch, Butterfly Ninja Dragon Wings School Holiday Event at Korumburra Library, Leongatha Store Sale and Bass CWA groups 70th Art Show in Loch.



Micah, Heidi, Sophie, Ellie and Anastasia with Hannah, Emma and Riley the scarecrow at the PICO Harvest Day. B106_1425



Anthea Harris from Wonthaggi group CWA had ten entries and eight prizes in the horticulture section, with Gail Lewis from Cowes CWA. ob16_1525



Susan Hawker, President of Bass group CWA with Cr Bron Beach and Alex Beach who were all admiring the versatility and beauty of the art works. ob17_1525



Penny Wolswinkel, Agnes Veldhuizen and Dicky Dikkenberg commented on the prolific talent on display at the CWA Arts Show. ob18_1525



Agnes Veldhuizen from Woodleigh Vale CWA group is talented in sewing, crocheting and quilting, and handmade this quilt called 'Of a Feather' from a Sue Spargo design. ob20_1525



Jan and Jack are creating a special set of dragon wings. ob03_1525



Max, Mary and Harry are having fun making their butterfly wings. ob04_1525



Georgia is artfully creating a beautiful set of dragon wings. ob05_1525



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



LEONGATHA

Country Living on the edge of Leongatha!

- Lovely family home on approx. 2.47 acre block.
- Master bedroom with walk in robe and ensuite.
- Low maintenance gardens, good shedding & fencing.

\$895,000



FISH CREEK

Idyllic Country Living on 28 Acres!

- Beautiful home with stunning fittings & fixtures.
- U/cover alfresco, double lock up garage, great shedding.
- Large dam, shelter belts, elec. Fencing, large water tank.

\$1,385,000



ARAWATA

Dream Lifestyle Property

- Gorgeous brick family home on small acreage.
- Timber kitchen with quality appliances.
- Undercover alfresco, approx. 1 acre with good shedding.

\$750,000



Barry Redmond

Director / Estate Agent
0477 622 292



Kellie Thomas

Licensed Estate Agent
0438 647 449



FOSTER

Family Home with an elevated outlook!

- Modern brick veneer home on 604m² block.
- Master BR with an ensuite and a generous walk in robe.
- 2 car-lock up garage, great location.

\$690,000



MEENIYAN

Executive Residence in Meeniyan!

- Executive Style family home on approx. 3,492m².
- Designer kitchen with Caesar stone benches & WIP.
- Backyard access, massive l/up shed with concrete.

\$1,150,000



MIRBOO NORTH

Location! Location! Location!

- Charming home on large flat block, approx. 1,157m².
- Functional kitchen with spacious walk in pantry.
- Lock up shed with roller door and lovely gardens.

\$550,000 - \$580,000



Monique Wightman

Marketing & Administration
(03) 5662 2292



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



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



FOSTER

Brand New Home in Foster

- Newly built home close to the CBD.
- Kitchen boasts quality appliances and butlers pantry.
- Large 6x6m double garage, undercover alfresco area.

\$890,000



Skye Clothier

Sales Associate
(03) 5662 2292



How Australian houses are getting larger and less sustainable

THE footprint of the average Australian home is growing – but there are fewer people living under one roof.

RMIT researchers attribute this to 'space creep', where our lifestyle choices demand larger homes. But, for a more sustainable and less lonely future, researchers say we need to embrace smaller living spaces.

Australia builds the largest new homes anywhere in the world. Houses are getting bigger while lots are getting smaller; compromising green space to the detriment of biodiversity, shading from trees and stormwater runoff.

The number of residents in the average Australian household has decreased about 45 per cent to 2.5 people in 2024. At the same time, the average house size has increased more than twofold since the 1950s, to 236m² in 2020.

Studies have found we spend more time in our houses than in the past, but overall time spent in each space in the house is less. Some families buy or build bigger homes for their separate "hobby rooms" for crafts or music, or home offices. We also see the kitchen creeping into the garage with old fridges and chest freezers allowing for greater food storage, but also greater energy consumption. 'Space creep' now also occurs even in shrinking, empty nest households. Garages and sheds are increasingly being converted into "man-caves" or rumpus rooms for tinkering, play and privacy.

Apartment dwellers perceive their homes to be smaller than they were before COVID.

To transition from larger to smaller homes we will need to do more than build smaller houses. It will mean shifting from a culture where we have an abundance of private spaces such as pools, home theatres and hobby rooms in our homes to shared social infrastructure.

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FOR SALE
By EOI closing Thursday 24th April at 2pm
59-63 Graham Street, Wonthaggi



HIGH PROFILE CORNER DEVELOPMENT SITE IN THE HEART OF WONTHAGGI

Land area: 1516m² on 3 Titles. Road Frontage: 80 metres

Total Laneway frontage: 30 metres. Zoned Commercial

Vacant possession available February 2026

Price Guide \$2.4mil Plus

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Trusting the process, Christie's climb in real estate

FOR Christie Nelson, real estate has never just been about properties – it's about people.

Born from humble beginnings in South Gippsland and now running her own successful agency, Christie Nelson Real Estate @realty, Christie's story is one of passion, resilience, and a deep commitment to the local community.

Raised locally in Korumburra after her parents made a "tree change" in the early eighties, Christie was immediately drawn to the lifestyle and the strong sense of community the region offered.

"I've always enjoyed the lifestyle we have here," she said.

"It's a beautiful part of the world, and I love helping others discover it too."

At just 18, she stepped into the real estate world – not initially by design, but by seizing an unexpected opportunity. After a dream of becoming a professional pilot didn't pan out, she found herself drawn to real estate following a friend's disappointing experience at a property inspection.

"I realised I might have the right interpersonal skills to do better," she said.

That spark led to extra work experience, her Agent's Representative certificate, and a determined start in the industry just weeks after finishing VCE.

Christie's first role was in office administration and property management, but it wasn't long before she moved into sales – the area she'd always aspired to be in.

Since then, she's built a career spanning more than two decades, working through significant economic shifts and global events, including the Global Financial Crisis and the COVID pandemic, all while



Christie Nelson, the founder of Christie Nelson Real Estate @realty, has built a successful career on passion, people, and persistence.

raising a young family.

"The property industry always ebbs and flows," she said.

"You need to trust the process, focus on the long game, and keep working hard because you love it – especially during the quiet periods."

Christie launched her own business, Christie Nelson Real Estate @realty, after years of dreaming about being her own boss. Timing, she says, was everything.

"Starting a business with young kids wasn't going to work, but once our children finished primary school and were more independent, I knew it was the right moment," she said.

Her leap of faith has since been rewarded. Along with receiving numerous industry accolades over the years, Christie was recently named an All-Star Agent – an honour given to the top five per cent of @realty agents across Australia and New Zealand. But it's not the awards that matter most to her.

"It means a lot when past clients return after 18 or 20 years," she said.

"That loyalty and trust are what I'm proud of."

What sets Christie apart in the South Gippsland market is her genuine, people-first approach.

"I always say it's as much about the people as it is about the property," she said.

"Listening is key – really understanding what people need, whether they're buying or selling."

Adaptability is another strength. While the real estate landscape continues to evolve, Christie stays sharp through professional development and keeping up with market trends.

"You can't help your clients properly if

you're not informed," she said.

Away from the office, Christie remains just as connected to the region she loves. She's the Vice-President of the Leongatha Business Association, a former President of the Southern Business Women's Network, and a graduate of the South Gippsland Shire Council Leadership Program. She's also an active Parkrun participant and supports local events and organisations, including the Rotary Art Show and Lyric Theatre.

"I enjoy giving back to the community. There are so many amazing people in this area, and real estate is such a networking business – being connected really matters," she said.

As for the local market, Christie notes that first-home buyers are particularly active now and that design elements like black tapware continue to trend.

Her advice for buyers or sellers?

"Do your research, work with someone who understands the area, and be realistic with your expectations."

Christie is also passionate about personal growth.

"How you do one thing is how you do everything," she said. Whether it's business, family or fitness – she believes in showing up fully. That work ethic is something she hopes will inspire her children, along with others in the community.

Looking ahead, Christie's dream is to one day help foster the next generation of local business talent.

"I'd love to start or support a young entrepreneurs' program," she said.

"If I can help break a few stereotypes about the industry and inspire others to back themselves, that would be a legacy worth leaving."

87 Shingler Road, Inverloch

For Sale:
\$1.4 million, offers invited

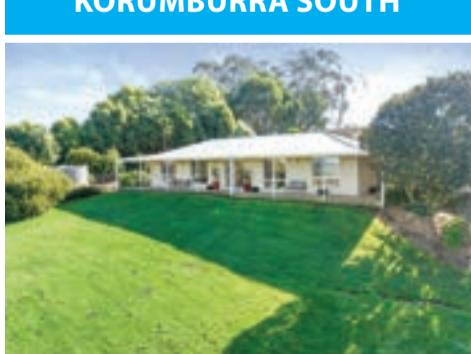
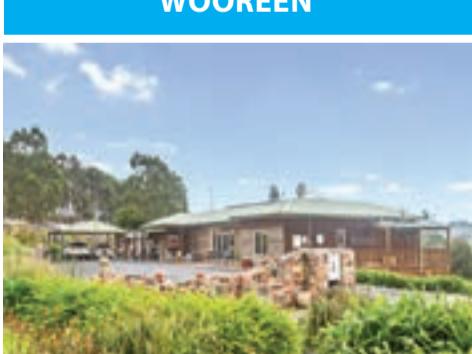
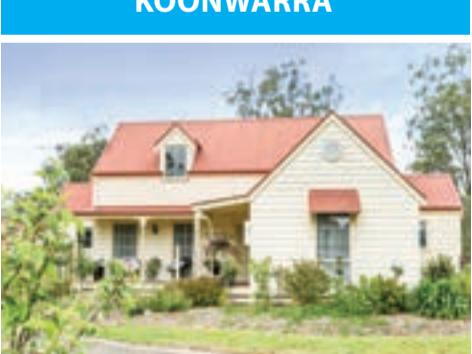
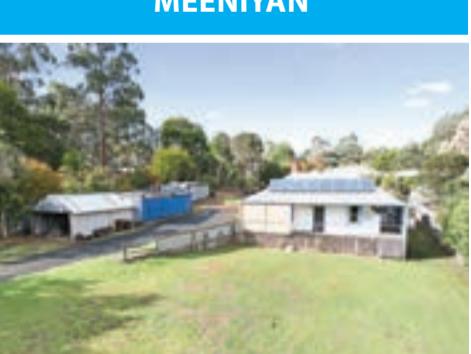
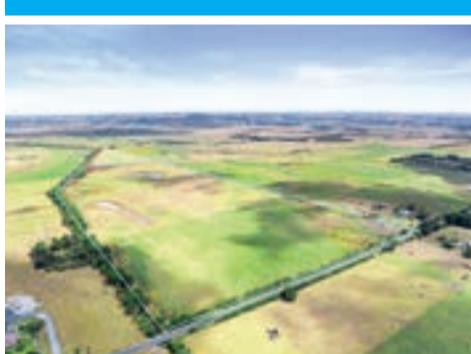
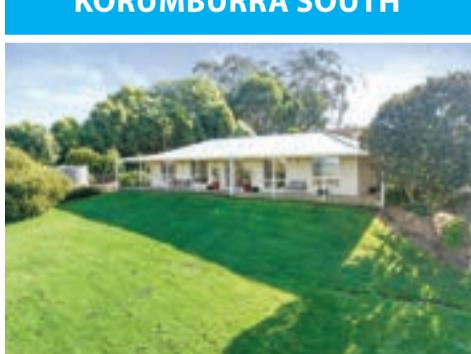
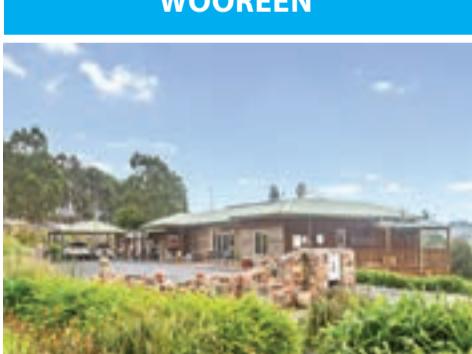
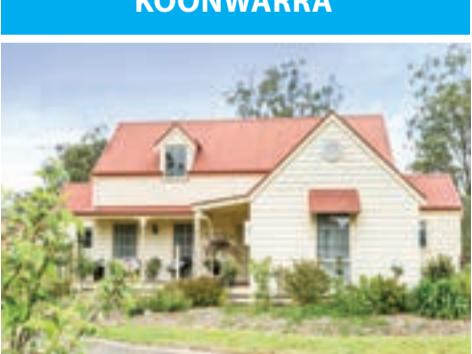
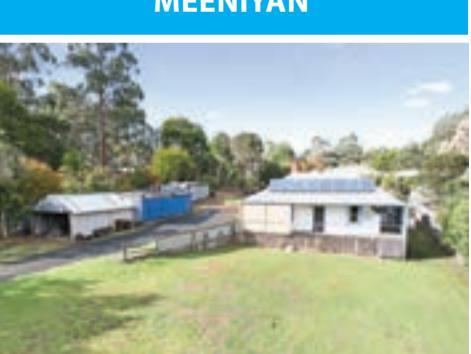
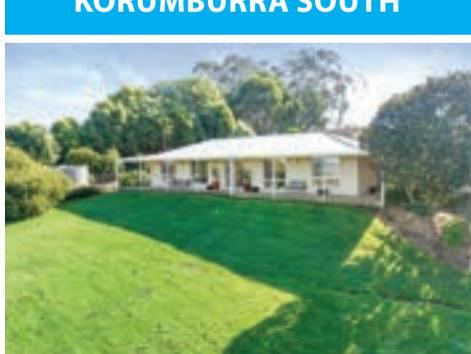
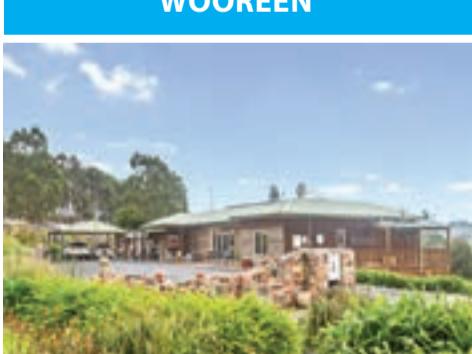
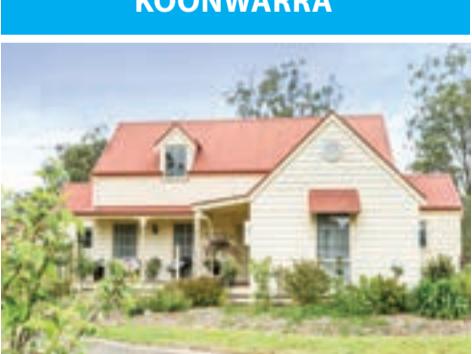
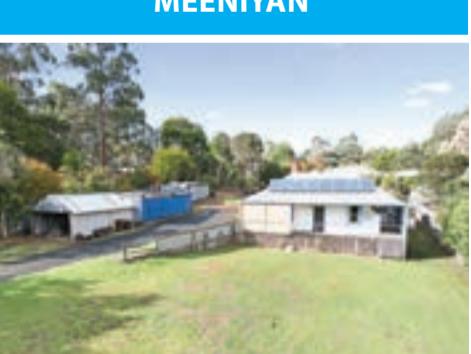
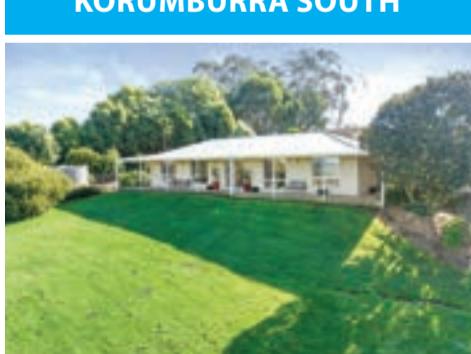
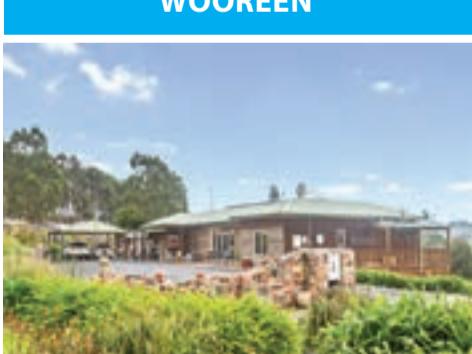
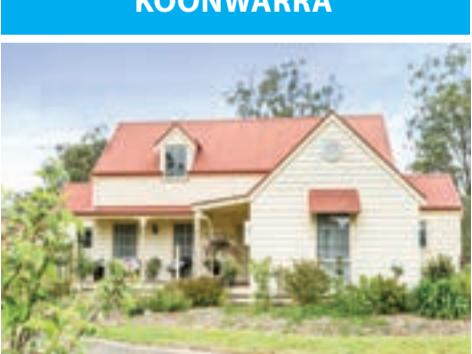
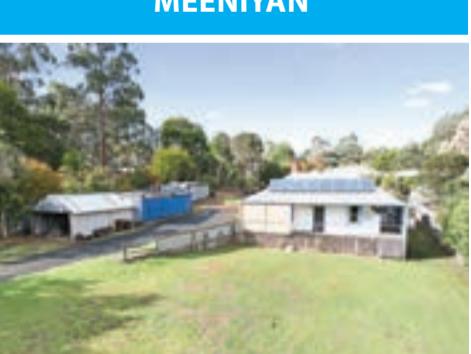
- 6.3 acres • Atrium style residence
- Elevated location, magnificent water views
- Shedding and carport, well fenced
- "Off grid" solar and batteries with backup generator
- Natural bush and easy to maintain garden

Inspection strictly appointment only

SOLD

Phelan & Henderson & Co

For further information contact Simon Henderson 0428 740 750

| | | | |
|--|---|--|--|
| 19 BLACKMORE AVENUE LEONGATHA | 32 BLACKMORE AVENUE LEONGATHA | 5B LOUISE SIMON COURT LEONGATHA | 72 KARDELLA ROAD KORUMBURRA |
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| 20 ASHFORD CRESCENT KORUMBURRA | 22 NORVIEW DRIVE LEONGATHA | 5/11 SHELLCOT ROAD KORUMBURRA | 385 RUBY FAIRBANK ROAD FAIRBANK |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Immaculately presented home Mobility friendly. Low maintenance Quiet location. Genuine Vendor \$729,000-\$749,000 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Elevated location, rural views Large open plan living spaces Great family home, LU shed \$760,000 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Neat unit, returning \$370 per week R/C air con, spacious living & meals areas Walk-through bathroom to master | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The most stunning views Approx 9 acres, only mins from town 16 x 14m workshop. School bus route. |
| 340 BUFFALO WARATAH ROAD BUFFALO | 165 OLD KORUMBURRA ROAD LEONGATHA | 8 SILVERBACK PLACE LEONGATHA | 72 BENA ROAD KORUMBURRA |
|  |  |  |  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approx 100 acres, turnout block Water licence, sealed road Loading race & yards \$1,287,500 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Only mins from the heart of town Sealed Road, 2.47 acres Good shedding & fencing | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sizeable as- new home High quality kitchen. Dual occupancy option Low maintenance surrounds | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Brand new build with views Rent out or move in Take adv. of the FHOG for a new build |
| 360 KORUMBURRA SOUTH RD KORUMBURRA SOUTH | 585 YARRAGON LEONGATHA RD WOOREEN | 17-21 KOALA DRIVE KOONWARRA | 61-63 WHITELAW STREET MEENIYAN |
|  |  |  |  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Incredible views, 2.6 acres Close to Leongatha or Korumburra Good shedding, sealed road \$998,000 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 19.5 acres with rural views Main residence + 2 cottages Vineyard, orchard, veggies & more | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Charming home on 1 acre Close to rail trail & café Surrounded by nature reserve | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cottage in popular Meeniyana 2,438m² block, walking distance to shops Town water. Huge potential here |
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Stunning family retreat on 10 acres



4 | 2 | 2 10 acres

9 Hall Road, **Mount Eccles**
For Sale \$1,450,000 - \$1,550,000
Agent Ray White Leongatha
 Dave Trotman 0418 589 805

NESTLED on a sprawling 10-acre estate in the serene locale of Mount Eccles is this magnificently built residence offering an unparalleled lifestyle of comfort and luxury. This property is perfect for families seeking space and tranquillity.

water tanks ensuring energy efficiency, sustainability and low-cost living.

Outside the home you will be amazed by the stunning gardens with many spaces to relax and take in the views.

There are vegetable gardens, spring bulbs, roses, irises, two ponds, shiraz vines, fruit trees and large established exotic and native shade trees in this well thought out garden, designed to enhance the beauty of the property whilst being reasonably low maintenance and giving colour all year round. There is a shed, perfect for additional storage or projects plus a garden shed.

With two separate living areas plus rooms that could be used for a home gym, studio, theatre, study or office the home has multiple potential uses. The large open plan kitchen/dining/living area is fully equipped and includes views of the surrounding farmland.

Enjoy year-round comfort with ducted reverse cycle heating and cooling plus the inviting open fireplace adds a cosy touch, perfect for those chilly evenings.

This home boasts double-glazed windows, solar hot water, solar panels, and two extra large

The grazing land is separated into two paddocks with troughs and a dam.

There are too many features at this property to mention, with opportunities for a young family, tree changers, extended family, retirees etc.

We recommend a visit to 9 Hall Road, Mount Eccles to see what possibilities are available to you, you will not be disappointed.

Call Ray White Leongatha today to organise a private inspection or simply to find out more about this property.

Spacious family residence with stunning rural views

LOCATED in a highly sought after area midway between Leongatha, Korumburra and Inverloch, this substantial four-bedroom brick veneer home sits on 5.26 flat acres overlooking surrounding farmland as far as the eye can see.

The Residence

The solid brick veneer home has been recently repainted throughout and offers plenty of room for a growing family. The central hub of the home boasts an open plan living/dining/kitchen space which opens onto the outdoor entertaining area, as well as an expansive formal living area offering plenty of room for the whole family.

The master bedroom with walk through robe and ensuite is located off the northern side of the home along with the study, whilst the further three bedrooms (all with built-in robes) are at the far side serviced by a central family bathroom. A ducted gas heating system along with evaporative cooling ensure comfort all year round.

The Infrastructure

Automatic gates at the front of the property offer security and safety for children and animals, whilst a double garage offers room for two cars to be parked securely. There is no shortage of shed space with a two-bay workshop/man cave complete with reverse cycle air conditioner and wood heater, plus a further two bays (one with high clearance) perfect for car/boat/caravan accommodation. A 110,000L water tank ensures no shortage of water.

The land is flat and well fenced, making it a low maintenance lifestyle property perfect for horses or a couple of cows! Contact us today, as inspection will not disappoint!



4 | 2 | 4 5.26 acres

770 Outtrim Leongatha Rd, **Outtrim**
For Sale \$1,000,000 - \$1,100,000
Agent Ray White Leongatha
 Kasey Bowman 0439 207 196





‘Springs Estate’ Leongatha

Prestigious Estate with beautifully orientated blocks with excellent rural views over the Nerrena Valley and nearby Coalition Creek. Situated within close walking distance to a new park reserve & all main services available including gas. If you have a caravan, a boat or BOTH, then these are the blocks for you. Construction will start soon. From 2054m² in size.

Prices from \$395,000

Inspections by appointment only.



For Sale

54 Tarwin Ridge Blvd, **Leongatha**

STUNNING FAMILY HOME

- Family friendly area next to playground
- Multiple living areas
- Double garage and covered alfresco
- Spacious 903m² allotment

Dave Trotman 0418 589 805

\$895,000 - \$925,000 4 2 2



For Sale

7/106 McCartin St, **Leongatha**

RENOVATED 2 BEDROOM UNIT

- Short walk to town centre
- Fully renovated throughout
- Stylish kitchen and rev cycle A/C
- Single garage and low maintenance yard

Dave Trotman 0418 589 805

\$465,000 2 1 1



For Sale

56 Jeffrey Street, **Leongatha**

SPACIOUS HOME IN PRIME LOCATION

- Just a stones throw from Schools
- Large kitchen and spacious living areas
- 4 rev cycle A/Cs for year round comfort
- Alfresco and beautifully designed garden

Mick Hanily 0417 311 756

\$525,000 3 1 2



For Sale

4/19 Clinton Court, **Leongatha**

CONVENIENTLY LOCATED

- Open plan layout with A/C
- Single garage with internal access
- Close to McIndoe Park
- Perfect for retirees or investors

Mick Hanily 0417 311 756

\$475,000 3 1 1



For Sale

190 One Chain Road, **Fairbank**

ON TOP OF THE WORLD

- 2.31 acres of established trees & gardens
- Chefs kitchen with high end appliances
- Stunning views from every window
- Abundance of shedding and studio space

Mick Hanily 0417 311 756

\$970,000 4 1 5



For Sale

3235 Strzelecki Hwy, **Mirboo Nth**

LAND ON THE EDGE OF TOWN!

- Highly productive grazing land
- Red/grey soils, easy to run
- Panoramic views from house sites (STCA)
- Ample water, 3 shed, stockyards

Kasey Bowman 0439 207 196

\$1,375,000 Land: 108.5 acres



For Sale

25 Eccles Way, **Leongatha**

ATTRACTIVE FAMILY HOME

- Elevated views and 803m² lot
- Master with WIR and Ensuite
- Open plan living/dining/kitchen
- Outdoor entertaining deck

Kasey Bowman 0439 207 196

\$695,000 4 2 2



For Sale

520 Clear Creek Road, **Mirboo**

START YOUR FARMING VENTURE HERE!

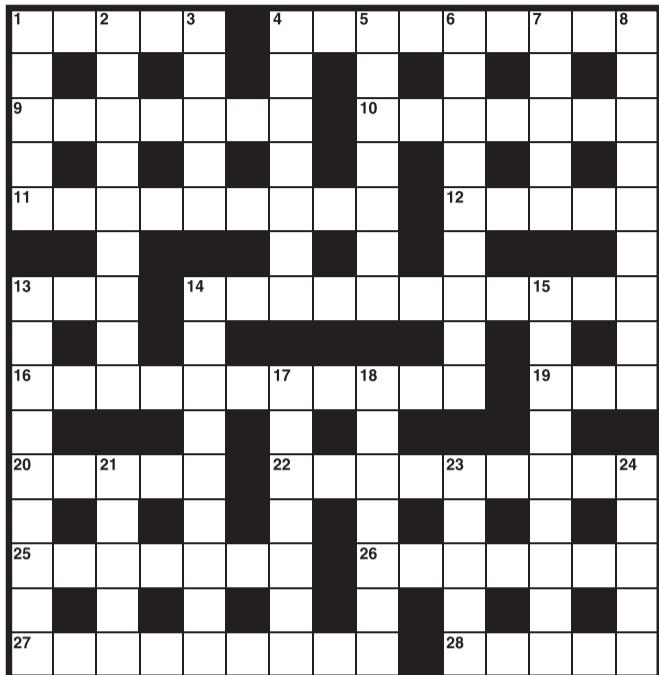
- Modern and charming homestead
- Dairy transformed into further accomm
- 231 acres over 2 titles
- 2 sets of cattle yards & plenty of shedding

Kasey Bowman 0439 207 196

\$2,650,000 5 2 2



CROSSWORD



ACROSS

1 Skin on the head (5)
4 Relying on or exploiting others (9)
9 Poland's longest river (7)
10 Try (7)
11 Long pasta (9)
12 Uncomplaining (5)
13 Fire (3)
14 Energy (11)
16 The signatory (11)
19 Male sheep (3)
20 Fastening (5)
22 Diseased in the joints (9)

9-LETTER

No. 276

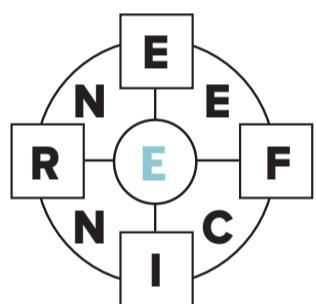
Using the nine letters in the grid, how many words of four letters or more can you list? The centre letter must be included and each letter may only be used once. No colloquial or foreign words. No capitalised nouns, apostrophes or plural nouns ending in 's'.

Today's Aim:

11 words: Good

17 words: Very good

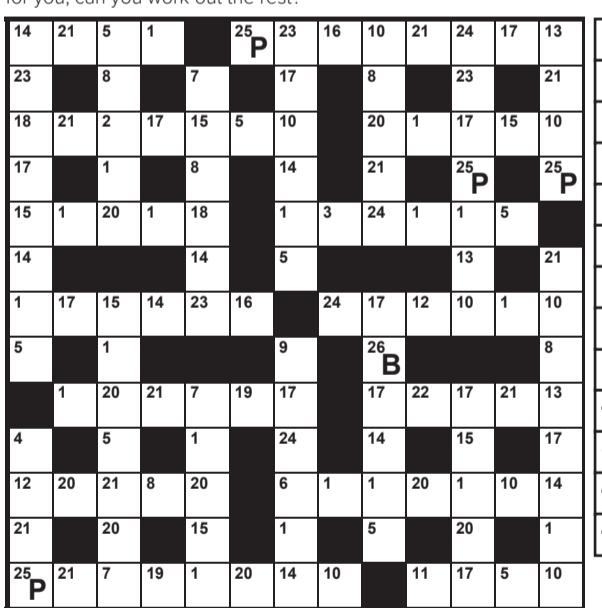
23 words: Excellent



CODEWORD

No. 266

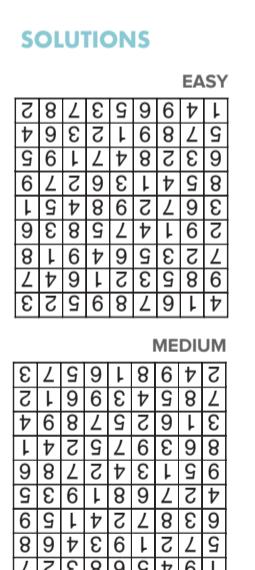
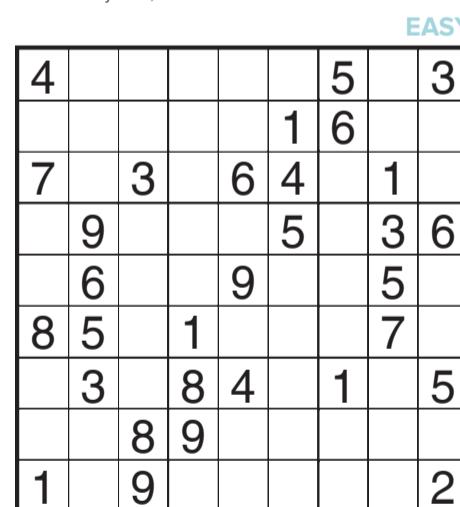
Each number corresponds to a letter of the alphabet. Two have been filled in for you, can you work out the rest?



SUDOKU

No. 275

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 3x3 boxes. Remember, no number can occur more than once in any row, column or box.



CODEWORD: 1 = E, 2 = Z, 3 = X, 4 = Q, 5 = D, 6 = K, 7 = G, 8 = O, 9 = J, 10 = S, 11 = F, 12 = U, 13 = L, 14 = T, 15 = R, 16 = Y, 17 = A, 18 = W, 19 = M, 20 = N, 21 = I, 22 = V, 23 = H, 24 = C, 25 = P, 26 = B

QUICK QUIZ

- Whose song *How to Make Gravy* was also the title of his 2010 memoir?
- Who played Luke Skywalker in the Star Wars films?
- In which ocean is Christmas Island?
- In which US drama series did Australian actor Jesse Spencer (pictured) star as Matthew Casey?
- In the TV show *The Simpsons*, what breed of dog is Santa's Little Helper?
- Giuseppe Verdi's 1871 opera *Aida* was originally commissioned to celebrate the opening of what?
- With which song did Abba win the 1974 Eurovision Song Contest?
- What is the only part of the human body that can't repair itself?
- Balaklava is a town in which Australian state?
- Ca is the symbol for which chemical element?



ANSWERS: 1. Paul Kelly. 2. Mak Halli. 3. Indian. 4. Chicago Fire. 5. Greyhound. 6. Suez Canal. 7. Waterloo. 8. Teeth. 9. South Australia. 10. Calcium.

WORDFIT

No. 276

No. 276

25 Make better (7)
26 Adorable (7)
27 Pleases (9)
28 Glossy (5)

DOWN

1 Keeps (5)
2 Refrained (9)
3 Bag (5)
4 Gab (7)
5 Practical person (7)
6 Well pleased (9)
7 Speed and rhythm (5)
8 Violent disaster or upheaval (9)
13 Nations (9)
14 Flagrantly bad (9)
15 Grumpy (9)
17 Resident of Jerusalem or Tel Aviv (7)
18 Mildly irritates (7)
21 Opinions (5)
23 Shifts (5)
24 Small river (5)

3 LETTERS

APT
ART
ASH
AYE
EKE
ERA
EVE
EYE
LIE
LOP
MEL
MEN
NEE
NIL
ODE
OIL
PRO
RUE
RUT
SAG
SEE
SEW
TOO
WHO

4 LETTERS

ADDs
DUBs
KEEP
LAWS
LEER
MEET
MOPE
OPTs
POST

5 LETTERS

ACRES
AGREE
AIDED
ALOOF
ALTAR
AMUSE
ARGUE
AROMA
ASPEN
AWAIT
BIPED
CAMEO
CITES
CREPE
DEFER
ERODE
FLIES
FORTE
LASER
LITRE
MOVED
NIECE
OUTED
PARSE
PEERS
PLAID
POSED
PROVE
READS

6 LETTERS

ANYWAY
LAMEST
PLAQUE
SUPPER

7 LETTERS

RESET
SAFER
SCARE
SCENT
SLEDS
SONGS
SPARK
SPEED
STOOP
TEASE
TODAY
TONNE
TRICK
TRIED

8 LETTERS

TRIPE
TRUMP
UNITE
UPEND
WEEDS
WHINE
YEARS
BUTCHER
CASSETTE
DEADLINE
EMPEROR
DESIDRING
ROPEABLE
PERTAIN
PROFANE

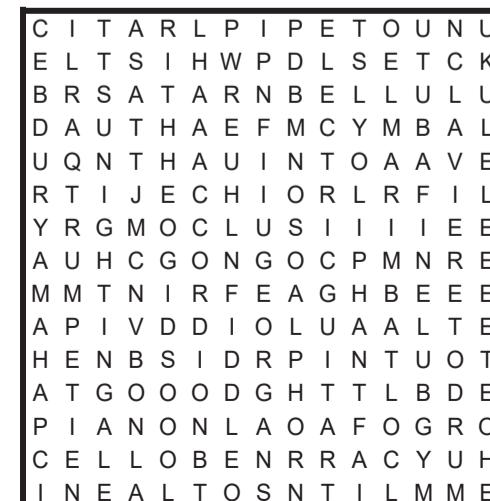
SOLUTION



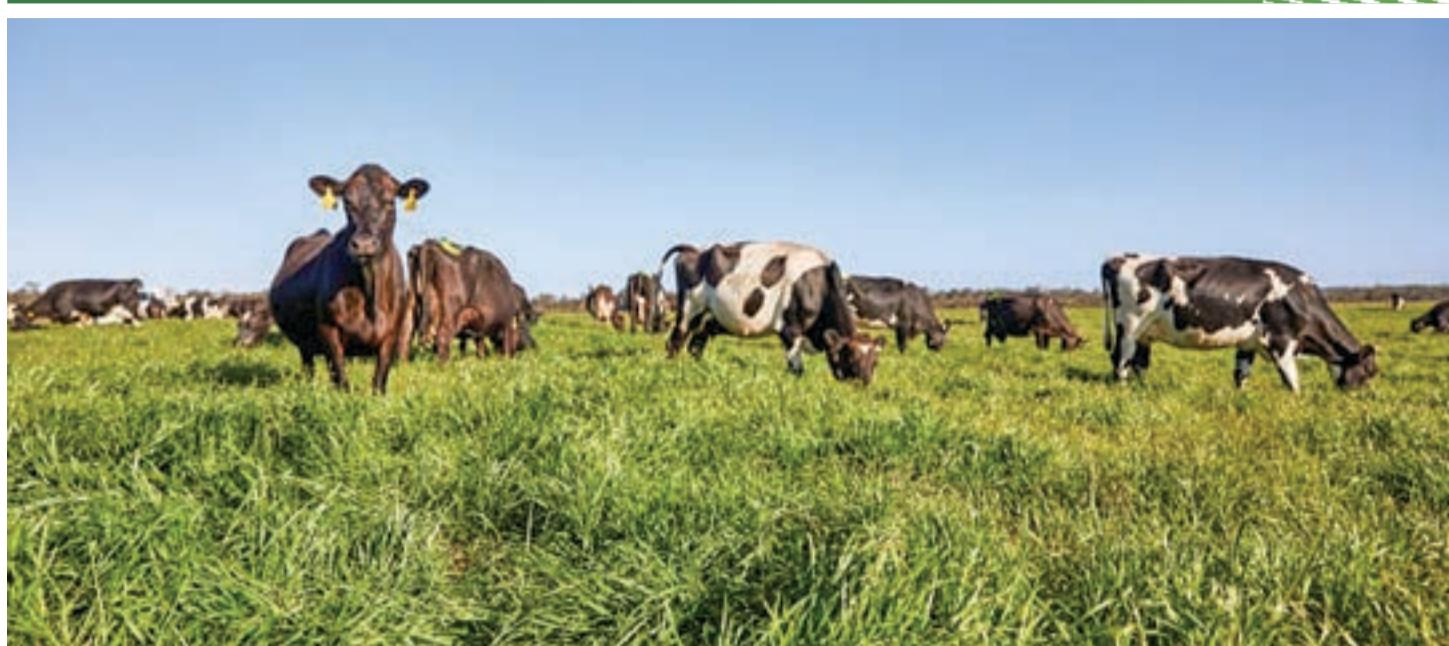
WORD SEARCH

No. 186

Can you find all the words listed? The leftover letters will spell out a secret message.



SECRET MESSAGE: To understand the future of music, one needs to go Bach in time



Are Bass Coast's farmers shouldering too much of the council's rates? Here's a one-in-four-year chance for them to make a difference.

Here's a chance for Bass Coast farmers to cut their rates

THE Bass Coast Shire Council is set to release its draft new 'Revenue and Rating Plan' at this week's council meeting, going out for public comment and feedback over a 28-day period from Thursday, April 17 until Wednesday, May 14, 2025.

It's an opportunity for farmers and individuals who believe the rating system in place at Bass Coast unfairly puts the burden of the shire's costs on them through rates to make submissions.

However, the new rating strategy, which must be reviewed under Section 93 of the Local Government Act 2020 following a general council election, proposes no substantive changes to the current rating strategy and rating differentials.

Residential, commercial

and industrial rates are proposed to remain at 100 per cent of the rate set annually by council, and the differentials for vacant land at 150 per cent and farms at 80 per cent.

Ratepayers, residents, visitors, farmers and business owners who have an interest in the Revenue and Rating Plan are invited to attend three community engagement sessions at Cowes, Inverloch and Corinella during April and May to provide stakeholder feedback.

The dates and times for these community engagement sessions are proposed as follows:

Cowes – Wednesday, April 23 (midday to 1pm)

Inverloch – Tuesday, April 29 (10 am to midday)

Corinella – Thursday,

May 8 (2pm to 4pm)

Council will also consider any submissions received on the plan at a Council Briefing on May 28, 2025, prior to the adoption of the plan by June 30, 2025.

Bass Coast VFF president Bill Cleland said the organisation will again be making a submission in relation to its concerns the current rating system places an unfair burden on farmers.

"I've spoken to a senior policy advisor at the VFF and they're going to have a look at Bass Coast and see how sits in comparison to the rest of the State," Bill said, with that to help inform the submission.

He outlined why the original benefits of the 80 per cent differential rate for farms continues to be eroded.

"The farm values go up and then you get a much greater increase in farmland rate as compared to residential, and that's where councils should be looking at adjusting their differentials to keep it balanced," Bill said.

"With farmland, you're paying a lot more rates than everybody else because of the size of your property but it does increase exponentially as compared to residential rates."

Bill referred to current drought conditions, noting "Our income's going to be considerably down while rates are going the other way."

"It's more the increase of the value that's really critical here, and the differentials need to be adjusted to make the rates equitable."

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| David Ryan | 0408 311 895 | Dick Faulkner | 0408 595 174 |
| | | Brian Vuillermi | 0429 436 040 |
| LEONGATHA | | WONTHAGGI | |
| Dane Perczyk - Livestock Manager | 0408 176 063 | Rob Ould - Livestock Manager | 0408 595 183 |
| Jack Curtis | 0427 762 670 | David Holden | 0428 749 390 |
| WARRAGUL | | PAKENHAM | |
| Neil Darby - Livestock Manager | 0418 595 265 | David Setches - Livestock Manager | 0409 443 473 |
| Terry Ahearn | 0438 562 816 | Glenn Barwick | 0408 975 476 |
| Jordan Sim | 0448 058 435 | Morgan Croucher | 0457 001 877 |
| Mark Malacarne | 0418 654 590 | Tim Gibson | 0420 306 599 |
| Georgie Snell | 0417 100 657 | Imogen Price | 0417 225 498 |

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| KORUMBURRA | | LEONGATHA | | MELBOURNE LAND | |
|-------------------|--------------|-----------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|
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| | | Peter Dwyer | 0428 855 244 | | |
| | | Emily Hillberg | 0422 622 299 | | |
| Phillip Hanley | 0417 140 508 | Tony Giles | 0407 528 192 | Greg Price | 0419 337 441 |
| Cal Nation | 0439 334 163 | Dan Huther | 0418 334 801 | Brian Silver | 0407 347 509 |
| Mick Chambers | 0418 349 783 | | | Chase Watters | 0423 272 819 |
| GRANTVILLE | | WARRAGUL | | VENUS BAY | |
| Angus Hall | 0466 326 487 | Alan Steenholdt | 0409 423 822 | Daniel Lawrie | 0417 631 252 |
| INVERLOCH | | PAKENHAM | | KOO WEE RUP | |
| Marni Lee Redmond | 0403 525 413 | Tom Gibson | 0438 574 472 | Sue Lawrie | 0419 885 489 |
| BERWICK | | LANG LANG | | JA21216 | |
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SUCCESS THROUGH SERVICE

MARKET REPORT

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Solid result for stores

By SGSA

AGENTS yarded another very good offering of 2800 head at this week's VLE Leongatha store sale.

The regular field of feedlot and commission buyers attended and all operated in a strong market again with prices generally on par with the previous week's sales.

Once again feedlot orders dominated taking the bulk of the offering for anything 400kg and upwards with local graziers competing on a few nice runs of annual drafts of weaners.

Leongatha Store Sale on Thursday, Apr. 10, 2025

Steers

| | | | |
|-----------------------------|-------|--------|--------|
| R McCulloch 10 Angus | 588kg | \$3.77 | \$2220 |
| Nichol Primary 16 H/Ford | 571kg | \$3.85 | \$2200 |
| R & D Chisholm 21 Angus | 561kg | \$3.84 | \$2160 |
| Boytonrath Pastoral 5 Angus | 554kg | \$4.00 | \$2220 |
| Jackson Pastoral 18 Angus | 531kg | \$4.17 | \$2220 |
| Hurstdale 13 Angus | 531kg | \$4.04 | \$2150 |
| Henderson Farms 16 Angus | 514kg | \$4.16 | \$2140 |
| Jones 19 Angus | 513kg | \$4.23 | \$2170 |
| Hurstdale 20 Angus | 511kg | \$4.10 | \$2100 |
| B & I Gale 19 Red Angus | 511kg | \$3.71 | \$1900 |
| Jackson Pastoral 16 Angus | 500kg | \$443 | \$2220 |
| Jackson Pastoral 15 Angus | 494kg | \$449 | \$2220 |
| D Jelbart 20 Angus | 484kg | \$4.12 | \$2000 |
| L & L Osborne 20 Angus | 476kg | \$4.15 | \$1980 |
| Jackson Pastoral 10 Angus | 476kg | \$4.01 | \$1910 |
| R Castello 22 Angus | 469kg | \$4.09 | \$1920 |
| G & S Potter 13 BB | 465kg | \$4.03 | \$1880 |
| G & J McGrath 10 Charo | 465kg | \$3.65 | \$1700 |
| Hooper 18 Hereford | 460kg | \$4.00 | \$1840 |
| Kuch Grazing 15 Angus | 457kg | \$4.11 | \$1880 |
| SP Dunlop 15 Angus | 452kg | \$4.09 | \$1850 |
| Kuch Grazing 15 Angus | 448kg | \$4.19 | \$1880 |
| Bowka 13 Angus | 445kg | \$4.08 | \$1820 |
| A & M Dunkley 13 Angus | 428kg | \$4.08 | \$1750 |
| O'Loughlin Farms 14 Angus | 401kg | \$4.10 | \$1650 |
| Hayes 13 BB | 404kg | \$3.93 | \$1590 |
| Bannah Beef 20 Angus X | 400kg | \$4.25 | \$1700 |
| A & M Dunkley 22 Angus | 398kg | \$4.16 | \$1660 |
| J & P Fleming 30 Angus | 392kg | \$4.07 | \$1600 |
| M Lawless 12 Angus | 391kg | \$4.16 | \$1630 |
| Hayes 15 Angus | 391kg | \$4.13 | \$1620 |
| A & M Dunkley 24 Angus | 387kg | \$3.99 | \$1550 |
| R Castello 22 Angus | 383kg | \$3.78 | \$1450 |
| G & J McGrath 22 Angus | 382kg | \$4.31 | \$1650 |
| A Rumble 12 Angus | 380kg | \$4.02 | \$1530 |
| Tarwin Ridge 15 Hereford | 375kg | \$3.73 | \$1400 |
| J & S Kelly 17 Angus | 368kg | \$4.20 | \$1550 |
| Von Pace 16 Angus | 366kg | \$4.17 | \$1530 |
| Ponderosa Hereford 17 Angus | 364kg | \$4.00 | \$1460 |
| W Bullock 14 Angus | 362kg | \$4.27 | \$1550 |
| A & M Dunkley 19 Angus | 360kg | \$4.25 | \$1530 |
| J & S Kelly 10 Angus | 359kg | \$4.39 | \$1580 |
| T & N Pouw 15 Angus | 355kg | \$4.30 | \$1530 |
| Sheagan 13 Hereford | 338kg | \$4.23 | \$1430 |
| CW Littlejohn 14 Angus | 338kg | \$4.19 | \$1420 |
| W Bullock 10 Angus | 328kg | \$4.32 | \$1420 |
| Elm Valley 22 Angus | 317kg | \$4.46 | \$1420 |
| T & R Browne 10 Angus | 315kg | \$4.11 | \$1300 |
| RA Jones 10 Angus | 313kg | \$3.37 | \$1090 |
| Elm Valley 23 Angus | 282kg | \$4.74 | \$1340 |
| RA Jones 11 Angus | 281kg | \$4.08 | \$1150 |

Heifers

| | | | |
|-------------------------------|-------|--------|--------|
| B & K Chewe 10 Angus | 513kg | \$3.60 | \$1850 |
| L Xuerub 10 Angus | 439kg | \$3.71 | \$1630 |
| R Castello 10 Angus | 436kg | \$3.76 | \$1640 |
| B & P Fleming 16 Hereford | 422kg | \$3.76 | \$1590 |
| P & T Harris 17 Angus | 418kg | \$3.79 | \$1590 |
| Grazing Developments 13 Angus | 408kg | \$3.38 | \$1380 |
| Roberts 16 Angus | 405kg | \$3.82 | \$1550 |
| Roberts 12 Hereford X | 395kg | \$3.41 | \$1350 |
| Sj Conway 20 Angus | 381kg | \$3.59 | \$1370 |
| J & P Fleming 10 Angus | 380kg | \$3.36 | \$1280 |

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Visiting US vet suggests calf-feeding rethink

A VISITING American veterinarian is encouraging Australian dairy farmers to rethink their calf-feeding regime.

Dr Liz Cox, who oversees agricultural animal care in California, says that feeding more to calves earlier, basing their feed on dry matter solids instead of litres and using a step-down approach to the milk-feeding program can lead to long-term health and production benefits.

She has also encouraged Australian farmers to feed the first lot of colostrum to calves within six hours of birth.

Dr Cox, who has been hosted in Australia by ProviCo, has met farmers, suppliers and veterinarians in New South Wales and Victoria to stress the importance of feeding calves early and well.

"Research shows that as we feed calves more, we improve health and gains and we help them to reach the producer's goal of having a healthy cow that makes more milk," she said.

Dr Cox oversees the animal care program for California's Department of Food and Agriculture and also consults nationally with Calf Compas and around the world on calf nutrition and health. Her previous work within the industry included Merck Animal Health (MSD in Australia) and Purina Land O'Lakes.

This was her second visit to Australia and included a forum on calf nutrition with farmer suppliers at ProviCo's Dennington milk processing facility. During her week in Australia, she also met with farmers and veterinarians in New South Wales and Victoria to teach about thoracic ultrasonography of calves.

Dr Cox said farmers should aim to get the first feed of colostrum into calves within six hours of birth to improve immunity



Dr Liz Cox has stressed the importance of feeding calves early and well.

and reduce the risk of disease.

"If you can't do that, ensure you feed the colostrum as soon as you're able due to drop off of the efficacy in the immunity response," she said.

Dr Cox said farmers should monitor the colostrum program by testing it and consider enriching lower-quality colostrum by using a colostrum enhancer.

"You need to ensure the colostrum is greater than 22 per cent on the Brix reading," she said.

Farmers should also assess overall colostrum by taking a blood sample from calves 48 to 72 hours after they are born.

"Vets can test the sample for total serum protein which gives an estimate of how well your system is working for feeding colostrum," Dr Cox said.

After colostrum when moving calves over to milk, Dr Cox said farmers need to feed 1.5 to two per cent of body weight at kilograms of dry matter of milk solids – and not just think in litres.

"Most farmers will be thinking in litres that they feed to their calves, but because we can add powder to vat milk or we can feed milk replacer at different total solids, we can change the energy density of the milk."

Dr Cox's visit to Australia included seven forums at Dennington and Allansford in South West Victoria, Echuca and NSW and Tasmania.

"People traditionally thought in volume because they were feeding milk from the vat to calves," she said.

"Now we can feed milk replacer or milk that has powder added to it so you can't just think in litres, you have to think in dry matter because it can be a different amount."

"The important thing is how many grams of dry matter is fed to calves, which is the same way you would think about how you feed your cows. Remember that the preweaning period has lifelong effects on her health and production."

At the Dennington forum, Dr Cox said farmers could increase the volume of feed or the number of times they fed their calves each day, but she stressed that consistent feeding routines were vitally important.

She also said there was a limit to how much dry matter feed could be safely consumed by calves and warned that calves were susceptible to cold stress.

"I advocate twice-a-day feeding to minimise stresses and while there are ways such as shelters or jackets to protect them from cold stress, the way we feed them can also help."

Dr Cox recommended a step-down approach to the milk-feeding program to promote the earlier transition to starter feed.

"Increased feeding of milk solids early in life, grows a larger calf who is then able to eat more starter feed during the steps down in milk offered," she said.

"Pre-weaning average daily gain above 0.5 kg/d can enhance the first lactation performance of heifers. The best indicator that she is ready to wean is consuming two kilograms of starter feed daily."

Dr Cox's visit to Australia included seven forums at Dennington and Allansford in South West Victoria, Echuca and NSW and Tasmania.

Bath calls for Landcare funding increase

\$500,000 per annum for Landcare Victoria Incorporated's support program.

Ms Bath said the Landcare program delivered multiple benefits to regional communities, but the program needs future certainty.

"Over the past decade, Landcare's funding has not increased or kept pace with the rise in CPI, with our facilitators stretched thin and asked to do more with less."

"It is widely accepted that for every \$1 invested in Landcare facilitators, \$7 is impressively returned as a minimum."

"Landcare Victoria volunteers dedicate their time to habitat restoration, weed reduction, and other environ-

mental efforts without financial compensation.

"Our Landcare facilitators coordinate the 60,000 strong volunteers and the project work which delivers impressive environmental, social, and economic returns."

"Recently, I coordinated Landcare's attendance at state parliament to display their work, and I continue to thank coordinators and volunteers for their valuable efforts."

"An increase in program funding is crucial for protecting vulnerable species and ensuring the future success of our Landcare program to deliver essential regional projects."

LIVESTOCK, REAL ESTATE & INSURANCE



Philip Western is pleased with the prices his Angus steers fetched at Thursday's Leongatha Store Sale. A08_1525

Great result for Tarwin calves

THE yearly Angus calf sale of Tarwin Lower's 'Elm Valley' was a highlight at Thursday's Leongatha Store Sale, Nutrien Leongatha - South Gippsland Livestock selling an entire row of the young steers, with pens going for up to \$4.70 per kilo.

Well-weaned and well-grown, the seven- to eight-month-old calves are by Kunuma Bulls.

Elm Valley owner Philip Western was pleased with the prices, noting he has repeat buyers from year to year, that being an endorsement of his cattle.

"They grow out well, they're quiet and they seem to perform for them, so they keep coming back," he said of the attributes that encourage buyer loyalty.

It was a strong start when Elm Valley's opening pen went for \$1420 a head for 22 steers averaging 318 kilos, equating to \$4.46 per kilo, and the cattle performed strongly the length of the row.

"It's not all about the first pen, it's about the average for the whole lot," Philip said, clearly pleased with the overall result.

Running exclusively Angus cows and calves, he summed up the appeal of the breed.

"For the last 20 years, that's what has been making the most money, and the Angus (breeders) have been selecting animals for performance on growth rates and carcass traits for that period, and they just seem to perform," he declared.

Those with feed available were keen to buy at Thursday's sale, contributing to healthy prices.

"Everyone's looking for an Autumn break," Philip said, adding "We really need a 60mm plus rainfall event to start the season before we come into winter," that being important due to the lack of grass growth once the bite of winter takes hold.



Attendees at the Veggie Patch to Plate Workshop at the Wonthaggi Community Garden on Sunday led by Harriet Pellizer. ob62_1525

From the veggie patch to plate workshop

TEN attendees gained great garden and cooking ideas during the Veggie Patch to Plate workshop held at the Garden Group of Wonthaggi's Men Shed on Sunday.

Harriet Pellizer from Bass Coast Adult Learning led the workshop. She is passionate and knowledgeable about all things gardening, cooking and environmental sustainability, and this is one of 12 workshops she will be leading for the Living Lightly project.

"We just went through really good things to use herbs for," said Harriet.

The attendees made a potato salad with yoghurt and added handfuls of herbs from the garden, creating a flavoursome dish with little effort.

"Just changing flavours with things from the garden mainly. So we can use lemons to make (food) go this way or that."

They went over some uses for spices as well to add to food flavour profiles.

They also talked about good uses for things that grow too much, in particular, cucumbers, eggplant and silverbeet – think spanakopita.

With a focus on reducing waste and using things in the garden for a variety of purposes.

Attendees got six recipes to take home and try.

"We are about to go through what's really important for the veg patch – worm wine and fertiliser," said Harriet on Sunday, who also brought flowers to plant around for the bees and butterflies.

This workshop was proudly presented as a part of the Living Lightly project as a partnership between Bass Coast Shire Council, Bass Coast Adult Learning and community gardens across the region.

Hog deer hunting underway in Gippsland

By Ken Slee, Australian Deer Association

deer per hunter during the April season.

Hog deer may be hunted during April on private property with landowner permission, as well as on some areas of public land managed by Parks Victoria (several State Game Reserves and parts of the Gippsland Lakes Coastal Park). A ballot system also gives limited access to a small number of lucky hunters to three additional areas of public land at Blond Bay and Boole Poole Peninsula to the south of Bairnsdale and Snake Island in Corner Inlet.

To hunt for hog deer, it is necessary to hold a firearms licence, a Victorian game licence endorsed for deer and to have obtained tags from the Victorian Game Management Authority. The bag limit is one male and one female

In recent years quite a few hunters and syndicates have bought land to manage it for hog deer and to provide hunting for themselves

or for family and friends. A number of landowners also provide hunting access for a fee under a Victorian Game Management Authority program, making as much as \$7000 for each trophy stag harvested.

Managing private property to produce hog deer usually entails reducing livestock numbers along with increasing cover, providing a secure water supply and reducing fox numbers – a win for an often neglected and fragile low-lying coastal environment.

Spending time in nature, the challenges of the hunt and the possibility of some very tasty venison and a set of trophy antlers as a reminder of the hunt are factors that draw hunters back year after year to the haunts of this most challenging game species.

VLE - LEONGATHA STORE SALE 2000 CATTLE 2000

THURSDAY, APRIL 17, 2025 - Starting at 9am

PLEASE NOTE: 4PM WEDNESDAY CURFEW APPLIES

GROWN STEERS

A/c E&K Triantafyllou, Woodside (ELDERS)

24 MG/AA X steers, 18 mths, GF & ABF

A/c M Kesper (ELDERS)

20 Angus steers, 16-18 mths

A/c B East Farms, Hedley (ELDERS)

18 Charolais steers, 18 mths

A/c Mondamac Pastoral, Mirboo North (ELDERS)

12 Angus steers, 18 mths, GF & ABF, NE Accred, Eprinex pour on, Annual Booster of 7in1 & Pestigard, very quiet

A/c Rosebank Farm, Foster (ELDERS)

12 Shorthorn steers, 2 yo, GF & ABF

GROWN HEIFERS

A/c E&K Triantafyllou, Woodside (ELDERS)

12 MG/AA X heifers, 18 mths, GF & ABF

WEANERS

A/c Omeo Station, Benambra (ELDERS)

Annual Draft

300 Angus & Angus/Hereford X mix sex weaners, VB, GF & ABF

A/c Hurley Family Angus, Dargo (ALEX SCOTT)

80 Angus steers, 10-12 mths, By AI and Millah Murrah stud bulls, weaned 5/1/2025, drenched Eprinex, 2 x 5 in 1, multimed noted doing cattle

A/c K & H Nicklen, Erica (ALEX SCOTT)

80 Angus mix sex weaners, 10-12 mths by Fernleigh & Absolute Angus bulls, weaned 4 weeks, 2 x 5 in 1

A/c Gem-Brae AG, "Yancowinna", Cape Paterson (ELDERS)

40 Angus steers

20 Angus heifers

8-9 mths, Te Mania blood, weaned 1 x week, VB, GF & ABF, 1 X 5in1, 1 X Multimin

A/c Melgar, Ruby (ELDERS)

40 Black Baldy steers, 7-8 mths, by Harris bulls out of Yalgo blood Black Baldy cows, 2 x 5in1, drenched Vetmec inj, yard weaned 5 weeks. NE Accred, GF, VB

20 Angus heifers 7-8 mths Harris blood, yard weaned

5 weeks, VB, NE Accred, GF drenched Vetmec inj,

2 x 5in1, Pestigard vac

A/c Netherwood Pastoral, San Remo (ALEX SCOTT)

30 Angus steers

20 Angus heifers

by stud Fernleigh bulls, 10-12 mths, weaned, Swish and Virbamec on 2/4, Coppernate and Selovin LA on 10/2, Vitamin A D E on 1/3

A/c G & J Tuckett, Woodside (ELDERS)

30 Angus steers, 8-12 mths, weaned and quiet, Landfall blood, VB, NE Accred, GF & ABF

A/c Oakbank Pastoral Co (ALEX SCOTT)

24 Angus & Angus/Hereford steers, Alkira Angus & Kunuma Angus blood, 9-10 mth, yard weaned, NE Accred, GF, ABF & VB

A/c A Casson, Hallston (ELDERS)

23 Black Aquitaine X mix sex weaners, 8-9 mths

A/c G Jones, Foster (ELDERS)

20 Hereford steers, 12-14 mths, VB, GF & ABF

A/c Black Range Angus, Ryanston (ALEX SCOTT)

20 Angus steers, 12 mths, by stud Banquet and Absolute Angus bulls, weaned and drenched

A/c D C McGrath, Phillip Island (ALEX SCOTT)

20 Angus mixed sex weaners by stud Fernleigh bulls, 12 mths

A/c E & J Bennett, Mardon (ALEX SCOTT)

18 Angus heifers, 8-9 mths, by Leawood Angus bull, yard weaned 4 weeks. GF, ABF, VB

XBRED & DAIRY

A/c Melton Park (ELDERS)

30 Friesian steers, 18mths

20 Angus / Friesian x heifers, 18 mths

A/c RG Pratt, Lardner (ALEX SCOTT)

23 Angus/Friesian X & Speckle Park/Friesian X steers 10-12 mths, bucket reared

COWS & CALVES

A/c D Dewit, Bass (ALEX SCOTT)

7 x 7 Angus/Friesia x cows & calves with Limo calves at foot 3-4 mths not rejoined

BULLS

A/c Eaglehawk Creek Speckle Parks, Glengarry (ALEX SCOTT)

2 Registered Speckle Park Bulls, 14-16 mths, 7in1, Pesti, Multimin injected 12 weeks ago



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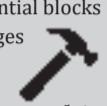
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DEATHS

BOLGE:
Amelia:
13.08.1934 - 04.04.2025.

Passed away peacefully surrounded by her family.

Daughter of Giovanni (dec) and Albina Croatto, (dec)

Sister of Rina, Bruno and Mario (all dec)

Loving wife of Armando (dec)

Much loved mother of John (dec) and Lina, Damian, Sue and Dave, Tony and Desley, Greg and Virginia, Tim and Kirsty, Ursula.

Adored Nonna and Bisnonna to Anita and Nathan, Clair and Maddison, Christopher and Sarah, Grace and Luke, Max and Anna, Talya, Asher, Sophie and Peter, Jordan, Abby, Xavier, Isaac, Jacob, Oliver, Declan and Amelia, Eli and Lottie, Johnny and Percy, Torah and Zeke.

Loving Aunt and Great Aunt to all her nieces and nephews.

Now at eternal rest in God's care.

BOLGE,
Amelia:

Loved and devoted Sister in Law to Peter and Giulia. Beautiful Aunty to Robert, Sandra, Tania (dec) and families.

Forever in God's care, and forever in our hearts.

DEATHS

McCALLUM,
Brian:

With heavy hearts, we announce the passing of Brian Ross McCallum.

Born in Whangarei, New Zealand on September 30, 1931.

Died peacefully in Leongatha on March 30, 2025.

Beloved husband of Gillyan McCallum (dec.).

Loving father of Susan (dec.) and Peter McCallum (dec.).

Father-in-law of Bernard and Carolyn.

Dida to Nikki (& Shaun), Petra (& Daniel), Tony (& Sally), Gypsy (& Hermione), and Georgia (& Loui).

Great Dida to Matilda, Dahlia, Archie, Frankie, Ivy, Henry, William, Thomas and Sunny.

Brian lived a long life full of love, laughter, family and adventure. He will be deeply missed, and his humour, strength and kindness will never be forgotten.

Private memorial to be held at a later date.

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FUNERALS

BOLGE:

A Requiem Mass for the repose of the soul of Mrs Amelia Bolge will be offered at St Laurence's Catholic Church, 31 Ogilvy Street, Leongatha on Wednesday, April 16, 2025, commencing at 11.30am.

Following the conclusion of Mass, the Funeral will proceed to the Leongatha Cemetery for interment.

The Rosary will be recited at the church prior to the Mass, beginning at 11am.



BRYCE:
The Funeral Service to Celebrate the life of Robert James Bryce will take place at Loch Memorial Reserve, Loch-Poowong Road, Loch on Wednesday, April 23, commencing at 2:30pm.



McCOLL:
A Memorial Service to Celebrate the Life of Mr. John Campbell McColl will be held at Leongatha Uniting Church, 16 Peart Street, Leongatha on Wednesday, April 16, 2025, commencing at 1pm.

A Private Family burial will precede the service.

For live-streaming go to www.handleyandersonfunerals.com.au

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GARAGE SALES

INVERLOCH:

4 Manna Gum Close, Saturday, April 19, 9am - 2pm.

Many fishing gear - rods, reels, lures etc. Tapes, CD's, DVD's. Electric bike near new. Books, assorted hard and soft cover. Collectors tee shirts, caps and other assorted household items.

INVERLOCH:

2 Freda Street, Unit 2 & 4. Saturday, April 19, 8am - 3pm.

Household items, books, CD's, electrical, golf clubs and others.

INVERLOCH:

32 Nautilus Road. Saturday, April 19 from 8am

Huge garage sale, clothes, toys, games, household goods.

INVERLOCH

34 Park Street. Saturday and Sunday April 19 and 20. 9am to 3pm.

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INVERLOCH

7 Heather Grove. Saturday, April 19, from 8.30am.

Moving House, everything must go.

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25 Seaview Dve, Saturday 19 - Sunday 20, April, 2025.

8 Seater dining table, kero lamps, garden mulcher, LP records and player, edison, pathe, glassware, butter churner, vintage and antiques, gold jewellery, sewing machine, something for everyone.

WONTHAGGI:

7, 9, 10 and 12 Heron Drive. Saturday, April 19, 8am. Lots of items.

WONTHAGGI:

20 North View Drive, Saturday April 19, 8.30am

HUGE GARAGE SALE 2 House Lots

WONTHAGGI:

24 Korumburra Road Saturday, April 19. 8am - 4pm.

GARAGE SALES

WONTHAGGI:

10 Drysdale Street, Easter Saturday, April 19, 8am to 1pm

240V plus 18V Battery, Ryobi 101 lot. Wood working tools, including air and hand. Potted plants, lots of orchids, all must go.

WONTHAGGI

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V0280

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We are always looking for talented and passionate individuals who are committed to making a positive difference in the lives of others and share our values which are: **Community, Respect, Wellbeing, Accountability and Partnership.**

Rose Lodge offers a range of rewarding and meaningful career opportunities in the aged care industry and this new traineeship program is an extension of this.

The program is in collaboration with All Health Training – AHT and Rose Lodge, allowing staff to **earn while you learn** in a supportive environment.

If you are interested, we will be holding the below information session to answer any questions you may have.

• Wednesday, April 23 at 11am – Rose Lodge

If you would like to apply, please email your resume to hr@roselodge.com.au

JA2993

V0283

SITUATIONS VACANT



Early Childhood Teacher

Meeniyan Preschool has an Early Childhood Teacher vacancy. This is a Long Service Leave Position from June 23 – September 16, 2025. The Position is a 5 day fortnight (Monday, Tuesday and alternating Wednesdays. Opportunity to negotiate)

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- Enthusiastic and cheerful disposition
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- Passion for high quality education and care

For a position description or for further enquiries please contact Melissa McRae via email president.meeniyan@kindergarten.vic.gov.au. Applications including cover letter to be returned via email by close of business **Monday, April 28, 2025**

V0261

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Sentinel-Times

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Diversity is celebrated and respected as important for our wellbeing and success. Through our Equity, Inclusion and Diversity Strategic Plan, Gender Equality Action Plan and upcoming Reconciliation Action Plan we are actively working to address the gender pay gap, create opportunities for underrepresented groups and partner with Traditional Owners.

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South Gippsland Water

HM1248

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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

Mirboo North Fire Brigade needs you

"CAN you give us a hand to protect our community?"

When you need a big red truck you call Triple 000 and a volunteer from the local CFA will arrive with a crew to the emergency. Well, now they need you to lend a hand.

Mirboo North Fire Brigade, part of the CFA, is completely made up of community volunteers for fire and rescue emergencies in Mirboo North and surrounding areas.

The Mirboo North CFA has turned out to 51 incidents so far this year, which is a significant increase from previous years. Mirboo North CFA doesn't just attend fires, they are also a road rescue brigade.

"The Mirboo North CFA is a family-oriented brigade. We are a very active brigade, training every Thursday night during the warmer months and every second Thursday night in the colder months," said captain Trent Venten. "The brigade has social nights and is heavily involved in supporting community events in the area. The brigade often supports neighbouring brigades along with our own area. We are 100 per cent volunteer and are always looking to build the brigade membership so if you're motivated to support your community come see us anytime or enquire at fbrmnth@icloud.com."

The Mirboo North CFA currently has 44 members across operational and non-operational support roles. They are looking for help in several volunteer roles:

- Operational response especially daytime firefighters
- Non-operational support which could include community advice and engagement including schools' education, pickup and delivery of equipment and supplies, fundraising or brigade member support tasks to name a few.

Full training and ongoing support are provided, so you can learn new skills and be part of the team.

There's a role for everyone at CFA. Anyone can be helpful and anyone can make a difference. This is a volunteer brigade so you give what you can, when you can. If you would like to be a part of the Mirboo North CFA family, meet new people, challenge yourself, have fun and help your community and you're over 16 and under 100, you can apply.

The brigade will be hosting an open day on April 26 between 10am - 1pm at the station, so members of the public can come and see their trucks and equipment and find out more about what they do, including the rescue truck. There will be demonstrations, either a rescue or tanker operations. There will also be a sausage sizzle for a gold coin donation to help fund the brigade.

If you are interested in finding out more about volunteering at the Mirboo North Fire Brigade, you can get further information at the open day or the CFA's Volunteering web page cfa.vic.gov.au/volunteers-careers/volunteer-with-cfa or you can reach out to Trent Venten at fbrmnth@icloud.com.

SITUATIONS VACANT

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to arrange a time to meet and discuss
further or to drop off a resumé.



Venus Bay CERT member David Hasell, Marcus Ferguson whose life was saved by CERT volunteers, and CERT members Bev Franklin and Warren Inglis encourage people to volunteer for the organisation and to support its raffle. A21_1525

Help save lives in Venus Bay and surrounds

VENUS Bay's Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) is made up of lifesaving volunteers and you don't need a medical background to join, with new members always welcome, while community members can also show support through the team's fundraising initiatives such as a current raffle.

Sentinel-Times caught up with a trio of current CERT members for a coffee and chat, the group having just responded to a call.

A local who owes his life to CERT and a retired team member joined the conversation.

David Hasell, who began volunteering for CERT four years ago spoke of the close relationship with Ambulance Victoria and the extensive training provided.

After their initial training, those getting started spend time as observers going out with an experienced crew while becoming familiar with the requirements of the role, being assigned manageable tasks as they do so.

That is a change from the days when Bev Franklin came on board 16 years ago when there were no observers and once you completed initial

training and went out on the road the pressure was on immediately.

She is delighted with the support now available for starting CERT members.

The Venus Bay CERT crew is comprised of people from diverse backgrounds.

Warren Inglis is a retired electrician who became part of the team about 18 months ago.

While he had some first aid training due to the nature of his employment, others start from scratch.

Retired CERT member Tom Ochia worked as a crane driver and while it was a sharp learning curve when he joined CERT, he is delighted he made the choice.

"This 10 years of volunteering was more satisfying than any of the jobs I've done," he said.

He still sees people around town who would no longer be around for their friends and family were it not for the medical intervention of a CERT crew, something that is a source of pride.

Artist and photographer Marcus Ferguson was there to express his appreciation of CERT members who came to his rescue twice last year.

He spoke of his admiration and respect for what the CERT volunteers do and the assistance he received.

"At the end of last year, October, I was airlifted from the football oval here to the Monash Hospital where I was pronounced dead, but if it hadn't been for the great work of the CERT crew, I would have been dead before they put me in the helicopter," Marcus said.

While that team was entirely made up of volunteers, Marcus described them as professional.

Members of the public often express amazement that the crew is volunteer-based, due to the standard of service provided.

Training is ongoing, and crews follow set Ambulance Victoria protocols for tackling particular types of jobs, ensuring treatment is consistent and all required steps are followed.

Crew members discuss call-outs, what went well and what can be improved on, with communication a key to success.

Those wanting to join Venus Bay CERT are encouraged to email vbdcert@gmail.com.

People wanting to provide financial support for Venus Bay CERT can buy a raffle ticket

for \$5 or a book of 10 tickets for \$50.

A large trailer load of yellow box firewood, a \$500 Bunnings voucher and a \$500 IGA voucher are the prizes up for grabs.

"The first ticket holder drawn will take whatever they choose from the three," Tom said, the next winner taking their pick of the remaining two prizes.

There'll be plenty of opportunities to buy tickets.

"We'll be running around Venus Bay, Tarwin Lower, Foster, Meenyan and Inverloch," Tom said, with people encouraged to check the Tarwin Lower/Venus Bay Community Voice page on Facebook for details of where and when tickets are available.

Tickets are also available by emailing vbdcert@gmail.com.

"Please provide your contact details and how many tickets you require and we will send you your ticket numbers," Tom said, reminding people that "CERTs save lives" and thanking everyone for their support.

Payment for email ticket orders is through Bendigo Bank Inverloch.

BSB 63300. Account number: 146133152.

Multi-celebration Poowong dance

LAST Friday night, dancers from the region joined together in a fun evening of multiple celebrations – of dance, music and tradition. Over, 60 people attended the autumn dance festival hosted by Sarah Williams, Colin Monk and friends, aka the Poowong Twinkle Toe Dancers.

Long-term local Colin Monk explained, "In a way, it is a revival of a very old tradition. The opening of Poowong Public Hall back in 1937 featured, of course, a Gala Dance."

The weekly Poowong dance became a highly popular and important Saturday night tradition. Young people made their debut, met, kissed and married through these dances. Over the years, dance popularity petered out with changing opportunities, attractions and distractions. Now, of course, we're reviving a little of the magic. Modern music and dance are more diverse, with excellent musicians and sound equipment able to travel more easily

around the region to give joy to the different communities and enclaves of dance groups.

"So, last Friday's event was both a multi-celebration of dance and music and a tribute to two special people. Both are still going strong after thousands of performances and millions of steps.

"Silhouette band leader Peter Neilson, an ex-Warragul High School student, who recently had his 80-year birthday. He's been playing, promoting and organising dance music for over 60 years.

"His colleague, Joey D'Addario, bass guitarist and a 17-year veteran of the Silhouettes, touring with Peter from Bairnsdale to Bendigo and beyond."

A highlight of the last Friday evening was a special rendition of a variation of the Hermans Hermits song, "Silhouettes" composed and sung enthusiastically by an ad hoc choir, the visiting dancers. Peter and Joey were presented with a memorial dance poster, signed by all the dancers.



Peter Neilson, Colin Monk, Sarah Williams, and Joey D'Addario and the Poowong Tribute Dance.

Fisheries information night in Gerald's Shed

THE main roller door of Gerald's Shed in Venus Bay was damaged, but not breached, by a night-time ram raid at the Venus Bay Angling Club.

"The alarms went off, but nothing was stolen," said club treasurer Tony Bryant.

Undeterred, the club is hosting a fisheries information night this Thursday (April 17).

Affectionately known as Gerald's Shed in honour of former club member Gerald Batt, the Venus Bay Angling Club can be found at the end of Fisherman's Road in Venus Bay.

The fisheries information night will be an opportunity to discuss Victoria's Better Boating Fund and future works on ramp upgrades.

"We need an extra ramp for kayaks," said Tony Bryant.

"Lots of people fish out of kayaks."

Fisheries enforcement and compliance will also be discussed along with fish stocking, fisheries management and Victoria's recreational fishing grants program.

Tony Swinden said estuary perch in the Tarwin River are among the finest in Victoria and are used for breeding and restocking.

The Venus Bay Angling Club holds fishing competitions every month with senior and junior trophies and prizes awarded after each competition to members. Club members are also eligible for annual trophies for the heaviest fish, highest



Venus Bay Angling Club President Tony Swinden with Treasurer Tony Bryant and Social Coordinator Annmarie Swinden outside Gerald's Shed. B15_1525

aggregate points score, best gummy shark and best elephant fish. Double points are awarded for whiting and perch.

The Easter Fishing Competition will be held from 12pm on Good Friday April 18, to 3pm Easter Monday, April 21 with weigh-in between 4pm and 6pm on April 18, 19 and 20, and 2.30pm to 3pm on April 21.

A barbecue will be held on Saturday night April 19 at 6pm.

A highlight of the Easter fishing competition will be the Easter Egg Hunt on Easter Sunday at 10am in the children's playground around Gerald's Shed. The Easter Egg Hunt is a free

event open to all children up to 12 years of age.

"We usually expect 70 to 80 children for the Easter Egg Hunt," said social coordinator Annmarie Swinden.

"Our social nights are also popular," Ms Swinden said.

"We've had an Elvis night and a club trip to Sandy Point."

Fishing competitions will be held in May, the King's Birthday weekend in June, July, August, September, Melbourne Cup weekend, November and December.

If you're interested in becoming a member of the Venus Bay Angling Club or would like further information you can drop

into Gerald's Shed by the boat ramp on Fisherman's Road any Friday between 4pm and 6pm.

Email mail@venusbayanglingclub.org.au, search for Venus Bay Angling Club on Facebook or go to venusbayanglingclub.org.au.

The Venus Bay Angling Club will also have a pop-up information kiosk at the Tarwin Lower Community Market on Easter Monday, April 20.

Anyone who may have sighted a 4x4 vehicle with a bull bar and all terrain tyres in the vicinity of the Venus Bay Angling Club on Sunday April 6 around 10.49pm please contact local police or Crimestoppers.



Archie Smyth has been selected for the Victorian Talent Squad. Pictured receiving the Rod Godfrey award recently.

Archie selected for Victorian Talent Squad

ARCHIE Smyth is a talented swimmer who was recently selected for the Victorian Talent Squad.

In the past year, he has won 13 state and country titles.

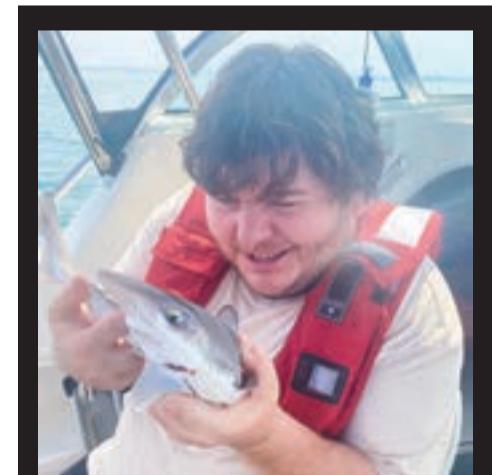
On top of this, he has broken the LC Country records for 12yr-boys 100m backstroke, 100m butterfly and the LC State 12yr-boys 100m Backstroke.

Archie is looking forward to the sessions, especially training in the 50-metre high-quality pools.

"I'm really proud to have been selected for Victoria's Junior talent squad. It's an amazing reward for my hard work at training and my racing over the long course season. I'm looking forward to training with people I normally swim against, and being inspired by the guest speakers that come and tell us their stories and pathways that have helped them become Olympic swimmers," he said.

Archie trains six sessions a week in the pool in Wonthaggi as well as gym and stretching sessions.

He is looking forward to sharing what he learns with his teammates back at the club.



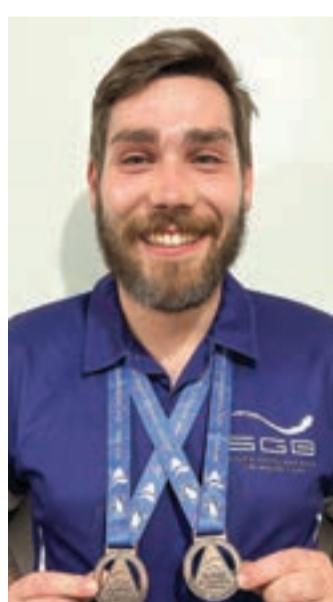
A fishing day with Yooralla

CORRAN Djuric, a proud participant at Yooralla, proved just how fearless he is during a recent outing. Attending Yooralla five days a week, Corran is part of a vibrant program that supports people with disabilities through enriching experiences and community engagement.

On Friday, March 28, Corran joined a group for a fishing trip, run in conjunction with Sailability and Newhaven Yacht Squadron – and to everyone's amazement, he caught a shark on his rod!

His mum, Veronica Kilpin, couldn't be prouder.

"He's fearless," she shared. "The look on his face was absolutely priceless."



SGB Bayley Nicholas took out bronze medals in the 200m Backstroke, 50m Backstroke and 4th in the 100m Breaststroke and 100m Backstroke.

SGB Masters squad makes a splash at Nationals

SHOWING that age is no barrier to following your dreams, three SGB swimmers took to the big stage, competing in the 49th Masters National Swimming Championship at MSAC April 8-12.

Bayley Nicholas, Donna Lancaster and Janice Goudie competed in several events in their respective age categories. Competition was fierce, and the ages of competitors ranged from young people in their 20s to 90-year-olds still holding their own.

Bayley, who regularly races for the club, came home with several medals, taking out bronze medals in the 200m Backstroke, 50m Backstroke and fourth in the 100m Breaststroke and 100m Backstroke. Janice also took sixth in the 50m Breaststroke. Bayley loved the racing over the week,

competing in seven events over the five days.

The return to racing for Janice, who teaches swimming in Korumburra, was filled with such joy and excitement.

"I am just having so much fun," she said.

"I used to race as a kid, and I'd forgotten how much fun it is. When I finish and see my name up on the screen with my times, I am just blown away. I'm hooked and will be looking for some other masters' events now."

"When I was young, I always dreamed of being an Olympian," said Donna.

"I think that opportunity has passed, but I'm loving the chance to race against people my age on the big stage. In our Gippsland events, I usually race against swimmers in the 17 and over section, meaning those I am against are young swimmers."

Today it was wonderful to have people next to me – it has pushed me, and I got two big PBs."

In a role reversal, Donna was cheered from the stands by her two daughters, whom she normally watches from the stands in the same pool. The girls were inspired by the older swimmers competing and amazed at how fast many in the fastest heats still were.

This year was the first time the SGB team has competed, with the clubs' Masters group forming just over a year ago. The group trains twice a week: Monday mornings and Thursday evenings in Leongatha. For anyone interested in training, please contact the club.

The trio are looking forward to the next event, a distance event in Traralgon against other Gippsland Masters swimmers.

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 April 15 | WEDNESDAY April 16 | THURSDAY April 17 | FRIDAY April 18 | SATURDAY April 19 | SUNDAY April 20 | MONDAY April 21 |
|------------------|--------------------|-------------------|-----------------|-------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| 1.20am 1.44m | 1.51am 1.46m | 2.23am 1.48m | 2.55am 1.49m | 3.29am 1.47m | 4.02am 1.45m | 4.37am 1.41m |
| 7.24am 0.41m | 7.57am 0.37m | 8.30am 0.35m | 9.02am 0.34m | 9.35am 0.35m | 10.05am 0.37m | 10.36am 0.40m |
| 2.15pm 1.64m | 2.46pm 1.68m | 3.16pm 1.70m | 3.48pm 1.69m | 4.22pm 1.66m | 4.59pm 1.61m | 5.39pm 1.55m |
| 7.53pm 0.70m | 8.25pm 0.70m | 8.57pm 0.70m | 9.30pm 0.71m | 10.02pm 0.73m | 10.35pm 0.76m | 11.08pm 0.79m |

Email us your fishing photos
news@sgst.com.au

Leongatha Small Bore Rifle Club

2025: 50m Prone Pennant - Section A. Round seven: Leongatha A 579.021. Daniel Croatto: 195.009, Kenneth Hart: 194.007, Jack Sargent: 190.005, Christopher Sargent: 188.004.

Round eight: MISC A 588.024 defeated Leongatha A 575.024. Daniel Croatto: 194.010, Kenneth Hart: 191.010, Christopher Sargent: 190.004, Jack Sargent: 186.003.

Round nine: FPTRC A 591.026 defeated Leongatha A 572.015. Daniel Croatto: 192.006, Christopher Sargent: 190.005, Jack Sargent: 190.004, Kenneth Hart: 186.006.

Ladder: MISC A 32, FPTRC A 28, Kyneton 20, Leongatha A 16 and Casterton A 12.

2025: 50m Prone Pennant - Section D

Round seven: Mildura 551.011 defeated Leongatha B 527.011. Mathew Eldridge: 181.003, Kaleb Mee: 175.005, Bradley Hall: 171.003, Cameron Davidson: 162.000.

Round eight: Brunswick 565.016 defeated Leongatha B 517.006. Mathew Eldridge: 178.002, Kaleb Mee: 170.002, Bradley Hall: 169.002, Cameron Davidson: 149.004.

Round nine: Numurkah B 557.019 defeated Leongatha B 524.004. Mathew Eldridge: 184.002, Kaleb Mee: 161.001, Cameron Davidson: 174.002, Bradley Hall: 166.000.

Ladder: Brunswick 36, Mildura 24, Numurkah B 12 and Leongatha B 8.

The club shoots Friday nights at 8pm at the Leongatha Rifle Club on the recreation reserve.

Any inquiries, please call R. Spratt 5664 2358.

Thrilling wins at Wonthaggi Table Tennis

BUTTERFLY defeated Stiga three to two:

Tim and Luke from Stiga adorned their usual bohemian headwear and casual cool but run into David "Jolly" Kimmings at the peak of his powers.

Doubles was the difference where David and teammate Warren were not too bedazzled by bandanas and ponytails, held focus and won in five.

Radak defeated Double Fish three to two:

Double Fish's Sven played masterfully in two titanic singles wins versus stalwarts Mark and Dirk.

However, partner Brad played the role of iceberg in the doubles, sinking Sven's hopes of securing team victory.

Donic defeated Nittaku three to two:

Nittaku's Charley was euphoric after a thrilling win in a seven-setter against Donic's stoic Michael.

The euphoria spilled over when she pinched an incredible set off the club champ Justin.

The exaltation was celebrated with such an ear-splitting squeal of primal force that the older players were soon checking their titanium joints for fractures.

Justin soon restored the natural order to win in five very competitive sets and carry Donic to their third win this season.

A Grade ladder: Radak 16, Donic 12, Double Fish 8, Butterfly 8, Stiga 4 and Nittaku 0.

Leading player: Justin 8, Dirk 6 and David 5.

Thursday night - B Grade: Edge defeated Smash three to two. Edge's emerging youngsters Bella-may and Elijah won the doubles with three sets going to deuce in a nerve-tingling classic.

Serve defeated Ball three to two. Ladder: Serve 11, Ball 6, Smash 4 and Edge 3.

Leading players: 4 Jay, Shane, Vicki and Trish.

Westernport Tennis Club shines bright for the community



Westernport Tennis Club members are encouraging people to attend their "Light Up" event on April 30 from 5.30pm to 7.30pm. Pictured from left, Kate Buchanan, Craig Baumann, Holly Egan, Sharyn Blackmore and Genelle Beven.

WESTERNPORT Tennis Club members are thrilled with a recent upgrade to court lighting thanks to a \$43,423 Bendigo Bank Community Grant, (Cowes, San Remo and Grantville Branch).

Existing lights on all four courts at the San Remo based club were removed and replaced with energy-efficient LED lighting, reducing the club's power bills and saving energy.

To celebrate the occasion, the club are encouraging people of all ages abilities to come along for a free, fun, social "Light Up" event at the club on Wednesday, April 30, from 5.30pm until 7.30pm.

There will be door prizes, a sausage sizzle, special guests and free social tennis under the bright lights.

Aside from celebrating the

light installation, Westernport Tennis Club president Kate Buchanan said the event is also about encouraging participation in the great sport of tennis.

"Tennis is a sport for all. From modified tennis for kids to fitness-focused Cardio Tennis, club competition or tournaments everyone can get involved, so come on down for a hit on April 30," she said.

"Bookings are not required, and you're not obliged to stay the whole night. Simply come along for a sausage sizzle and an opportunity to get active and have fun."

Westernport Tennis Club is located at the San Remo Recreation Reserve, 1 Wynne Road, San Remo.

Please bring your own tennis racquet - a limited amount will be available for use on the night.

Leongatha wins the Leonburra croquet shield

THE yearly Leonburra Croquet Shield competition was held on Saturday, April 11.

It was a beautiful day to play the competition, and everyone had an enjoyable day.

The eventual winner was Leongatha with 95 points and Korumburra received 79 points.

Kathryn Belcove and Julie Perrian were the highest scorers for Leongatha, while Terry Nash and Maree Nicholas from Korumburra scored very well, winning all their games.

Other news within the Leongatha Croquet Club is congratulations to Garry Shandley, who won section 2 in association croquet and Stephen Beitz who won Section 4.

Both these gentlemen have been selected to play within their respective sections in the Victorian Country Association Regional Croquet competition to be held in Geelong from April 27 to 30.



Leongatha and Korumburra croquet clubs recently contested the Leonburra Croquet Shield. Leongatha won the coveted prize. Both teams are pictured, with Leongatha's Lynne Hodges holding the shield.

Palladino powers on in thrilling doubles

DARTS fans were treated to a night of top-tier competition and an electric atmosphere on Monday as the Phillip Island and Districts Darts League hosted its hotly anticipated Doubles Championship - and what a night it was.

A strong field of 34 players across 17 teams packed into the venue, eager to take their shot at glory in a knockout format playing 601, best of three.

With the room buzzing and the arrows flying, the crowd witnessed some truly gripping battles, none more so than the final showdown.

Continuing his red-hot form from last week, Vince Palladino teamed up with the ever-reliable Dave Healey representing Joe's Hornets.

The dynamic duo powered through three intense rounds to meet the formidable Paul Gleeson and Paul Duff of the Vikings in a high-stakes final.

The match was tight, the tension thick - but in the end, it was Vince and Dave who

emerged victorious, edging out the Vikings in a close and competitive contest that had the crowd on their feet.

Both teams showed class and camaraderie, proudly accepting their prize vouchers courtesy of the generous new sponsor Woolworths.

A big congratulations to all competitors on the night - the standard of darts was top-notch, and the sportsmanship even better, but that wasn't the only excitement.

Creative Blinds has joined the growing list of sponsors, and its very own Pete Murphy from the Breakers had a night to remember, scoring the succulent San Remo Butchers meat tray in the raffle.

Meanwhile, Chris Chivers from the Storm kept things festive by taking home the crownies.

The league action doesn't stop there - it's back in business this Monday night for round six of the regular competition.

Don't miss it.



Dave Healy and Vince Palladino teamed up to win Phillip Island and District Darts League's hotly contested Doubles Championship.

Local, off-peak nippers program proves to be popular

A PILOT program for local, off-peak nippers wrapped up its final session at the Inverloch Surf Living Saving Club (SLSC) last Wednesday afternoon.

The program was held for five weeks and ran from early March to April, specifically catering to local children by providing families with greater flexibility to participate in Nippers outside the traditional summer period.

"We just felt like there was a bit of a gap between our membership and our local membership. It felt like all of our members were from Melbourne, and almost none of our members were locals, which didn't really make sense," explained membership and leadership development officer of Inverloch SLSC, Holly Foster.

"And we obviously have this big community here that we weren't really focusing on. So, we decided to create the program and we had 40 (nippers) for our first season, which is pretty good."

Throughout the pilot program, the club has seen increased engagement from local families who may not have otherwise had the opportunity to join either the club or a nippers program.

The success and popularity of the program will see another local, off-peak nippers program run in November, which will also be longer.

"We already have 40 kids on the wait list for the Term 4 program," said Holly.

The SLSC will also be running a number of free Surf Rescue Certificates and Bronze Medallions for parents of the nippers, so they can become qualified in water safety.

Water safety rules puts the ratio of nippers to adults at one to five, in the water, and without the 60 odd, qualified water safety volunteers that work for the club over the summer, parents need to become involved for the program to be sustainable.

"It's a good incentive for them to do the free courses that we offer; and then a lot of the parents are in the water with the kids anyway, so we might as well get them qualified," said Holly.

The ongoing beach erosion issues at Inverloch are also not without their impacts on the Nippers program.

A couple of sessions were moved because of high tides causing a lack of space on the beach to safely run the program.



A pilot program run by the Inverloch SLSC for local nippers in the off season proved to be very successful. ob07_1525



Young local nippers racing in the water relay. ob10_1525



A pilot program run by the Inverloch SLSC for local nippers in the off-season proved to be very successful, the nippers warming up with a beach run before hitting the water. ob11_1525

Wonthaggi strongly represented at Nationals

VICTORIA recently hosted the 2025 Underwater Hockey (UWH) Nationals in Ballarat. This was a weeklong event with teams competing in multiple divisions from all over the country, and once again, the Wonthaggi UWH club was in the thick of it all, from organising the event to producing players in medal-winning teams.

Wonthaggi ran tryouts in September, and there was such a strong showing, they had to run another day of trials before picking the teams. Wonthaggi was strongly represented in all divisions and especially strong in the junior divisions.

U15s had Tamsyn Walsh as captain with Jake Grace, Alisha Dunlop-Walters, Cathal O'Flynn, Tom Cowen, Amy Pearce, Anastasia Davidson, Izzy Stead, Issac Hatty and Oscar Hatty all representing Wonthaggi UWH club.

U19 had Caden Milnes as Captain, Jack Ryan as Co VC, with both of the boys coming off of playing worlds for Australia last year in Malaysia, Lacie Phillips as Co VC, Dan Pearce, Oscar Hatty (playing up, he's that good), Ethan Milnes, Devlin Rowe, Will Stein and Lachie Riseley once again almost making it an all Wonthaggi squad.

Elite women had Emma Le-Mar, Merryn Quilford, and Lacie Phillips.

Elite men had Caden Milnes, Jack Ryan, Hamish Scothern, Ben Robinson and Tim Ogden.

Masters had Kev Chisholm, Dave Barry-Macauley, Dave McFee and Michael Milnes.

The U15s trained hard in the lead-up to the competition, and it showed as soon as they hit the water. They dominated all their games with the exception of QLD and WA. The kids were coached well by Emma Le-Mar and Michael Milnes and responded exceedingly well in the semi-final with a new game plan against the eventual gold medallist, QLD.

The team pushed QLD like no other and had them on the ropes to only narrowly lose late in the game. The kids came out fired up for the bronze medal game against NSW and romped it in, never looking like being challenged and winning 10-1.

The U19s played a hard tournament against stiff competition. They proved their mettle in the round-robin stage of the event, qualifying for the finals and improving after every game played. The bronze medal playoff match was a nail-biter where they only missed the podium by one goal. Coaches Lucy Perdermo and Tim Ogden were pleased with the team's performance and are expecting a strong showing next year.

The Elite women had mixed success throughout the tournament, including some standout efforts, such as keeping Queensland (second) to 1-0 in the round-robin. Despite not managing

to secure a medal, the team revelled in their underdog status, making the top teams work hard for their victories.

The Elite men went in as the defending champs, but not necessarily the top-ranked team, with their previous captain coach moving to WA mid-last year. With that in mind, it was always going to be a VIC versus WA gold medal playoff with the WA boys being more structured and disciplined.

The VIC men played a much more physical and aggressive game, which unfortunately resulted in one point having three players out of the water at the same time. The boys kept their heads high and battled to the end, but unfortunately, the trophy wasn't coming back here this year.

The masters aren't playing for sheep stations, but you wouldn't believe it going by the tactics of the northern neighbour state that were able to bring two of their elite men back into the master's to play the finals. The VIC boys played better than expected, especially as Victoria hadn't entered a master's team in many years with a few of the old boys getting a bit of "grass fever" and playing the best games of their lives, unfortunately, enthusiasm and will alone, couldn't get them over the line and they finished fourth in the bronze medal playoff.

All Wonthaggi players who made state teams should be incredibly proud of what they have achieved.

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The standout bowlers at Breakaway Bowls on Monday were Linda Newman, Peter Grenville and Pat Novak.



Sponsor Jack McLaughlin pictured with encouragement award winners Phil Stimson, and Anne and Andy Ploughman at the Fish Creek Bowls Club.



Foster Bowls Club's April Triples winning team Kelvin Park, Norm Cooper and Ian Park.



Fish Creek Bowls Club's award winners were Bill Symmons (Singles Champion), Bronwyn Williams (Singles Champion), Scott Jenning (Men's Pairs Champion), Lynn Poletti (Mixed Champion), Robyn Napier (Ladies Pairs Champion), Wendy Watkins (Ladies Pairs Champion, winner 21up and 100up) and Don Cripps (Men's Pairs Champion). Absent: Rob Poletti (Mixed Champion).



Michael Dady, Sue Wright, Brenda Moloney and Colin Scales were this week's South West Gippsland Midweek Bowls Group winners.



Fred Demenech, Glenda Binch and Theo Sholley were the Wonthaggi Senior Indoor Bowls winners on Friday.

BREAKAWAY BOWLS

WHAT a day was had on Monday – rain, rain and more rain. Then there was the bowling. Again, what a day. The winners were Linda Newman, Peter Grenville and Pat Novak with a score of + 31 – not too bad considering the runners-up scored + 29.

Friday saw a good number of members attend for a great afternoon of bowls.

The winners were John Stewart, Helen Gladstone and Les Stanbury – a great result with +25.

FISH CREEK

THE Fred McLaughlin Memorial Day was held at Fish Creek last Sunday, April 6.

Jack McLaughlin and other family members were in attendance, both as workers and players.

Unfortunately, Phyllis was unable this year to make the trip but sent her best regards.

The club was blessed with good weather, and a full field of local and visiting bowlers, all competing to get their names on the Shield.

The family provided great trophies once again, in its seventh year.

Lee McKenzie, David Patience and Nick Whitlaw from Morwell were the winners.

Runners-up were Robyn Napier, Nick Kelly and Ray Spokes.

Best last game went to Joe Paynting, John Ryan and David Bond while the much sought after encouragement award went to Phil Stimson, and Anne and Andy Ploughman.

Once again, thank you to the club members who helped on the day to make it so successful.

A big thank you to Jack, and the McLaughlin Family for choosing the club to once again honour Freddie.

The annual presentation night was held last Friday night in conjunction with the monthly dinner.

A great crowd turned out for the evening.

President Bill gave a summary of the year and then made a presentation to Ben and Eileen Worsteling, who are leaving to go to Melbourne to live.

Ben and Eileen have been valued members of the club and will be sadly missed.

Ben, who is senior vice president, in his last duty for the year presented the Singles Champions, Bill Symmons and Bronwyn Williams with their awards.

The winners for the year were: Bill Symmons and Bronwyn Williams, Singles Club Champions; Don Cripps and Scott Jennings, Men's Pairs Champions; Wendy Watkins and Robyn Napier, Ladies Pairs Champions; Rob and Lynn Poletti, Mixed Pairs Champions; Wendy Watkins, 21up and 100 up winner.

It was a great year for the club.

FOSTER

LAST Thursday saw the bowlers play their April Monthly Triples – the last for the summer season.

The weather was perfect and a great day was had by all.

The sponsors for the day were Foster Seafoods and I and L Park.

A big thank you goes to them both.

The only four game winning team took home the yummy seafood vouchers.

Congratulations to the Foster team of Kelvin Park, Norm Cooper and Ian Park.

Runners up were the Toora team of Ray Lecher, Alan Spooner and

Bart Z.

The 'best game' wine prizes went to the Foster team of Pieter Leodolff, Bev Tyers and Rab Best.

A big thank you to Foster IGA for sponsoring the season.

The encouragement prize of club drink vouchers went to the Foster team of Brian Roffey, Ray Parsons and Frank Raiti.

The club will be running Winter Triples once again on the second Thursday of the month, with the usual complimentary soup and dim sims to purchase.

This competition starts on Thursday, May 8.

The start time is 10am – wear casual clothes.

Teams into Noleen McGlead by calling 0427 928 542.

The club is getting a few players for Saturday social bowls but would love to see a few more. Turn up or put your name in by 12.30pm for a 1pm start. Phone 5682 2061.

The club's presentation night is this Thursday.

A few more winners were added to the list over the last couple of weeks.

Congratulations to Ian McLeod for taking out the President's Open Handicap Singles final against Mark Taylor, Norm Cooper taking out the Men's 100 Up final over Neil Shaw, and Heather Ray taking out the Open Minor Singles final against Neil Shaw.

Lots of great bowling by all and all excellent games for spectators – well done to you all.

INVERLOCH

ROUND two of the Night Bowls competition took place on Tuesday night and the competition was hot.

The club had four two game winners on each green and the teams that came out on top were, Green 1 Daryl and Joan McStravick and on Green 2 it was Keith Cousens and Peter Shaw.

The action will continue next Tuesday at 7pm.

Thursday's social bowls saw tight competition again with bowlers split into teams of threes and fours.

Eventual winners on 34 points were Harry Evans, Ryan Luke, Pam Sutcliffe and Bill Selby (skip).

Runners up were Robert Litchfield, Karen Orford and Bruce Corrigan (skip) on 32 points.

The hard luck story went to the team of Jenny Slater, Joan McStravick and Laurel Lee (skip) on 30 points.

Social bowls now starts at 11am with sign ins needed by 9.30am.

MIDWEEK BOWLS

WHAT a day.

So many of the family of bowlers met up at Lang Lang to once again fight it out for team of the week.

It is hard to describe the weather, but it was perfect for bowls.

The club was welcomed by Vern and Bev, while Claire and Rob arranged the teams.

Out on the green, it was lots of fun, as always – great quality bowling, great quality players.

Laughter could be heard across all rinks as friend fought friend for the day.

Just a quick compliment to the club for the wonderful state of the green – it makes the day so much fun.

There were a couple of wrong bias bowls to keep the Royal Children's Hospital tin filling – always good to see.

The winners on a score of 35 were Michael Dady, Sue Wright, Brenda Moloney and Colin Scales.

Runners up on a score of 34 were Denis Talbot, Ron Fenton, Raff Mearante and Jim Nunan.

Best one game winners were Rob Jeffrey, Max Williams and Alex Martin.

Marianne and Colin looked after all the thirsty bowlers and are so much appreciated by everyone.

A big thank you also to Jenny and Laurie for looking after the kitchen and cleaning up after the match.

Also, to Neville for preparing the green and David for clearing up outside after the game. As next week is so close to Easter, the bowlers will be having a day off, but they will be regrouping again on April 24 at Corinella.

The club wishes all its members, as well as everyone else, a very happy Easter and hope that it brings families together for the season.

Meanwhile, till April 24, have fun and stay safe.

WONTHAGGI

IT WAS another good week at the club.

Things are starting to slow down, with social bowls being the main activity during the week.

Wednesday saw a fine, sunny day greet 19 bowlers, with the Phillip Island Triples taking some bowlers away.

There was one team that was a two-game winner, and two teams that had one win and a draw.

The winners were Rod Beech, Lyn Tagell, and Chris Graham, with a score of two wins and 34 points.

Thursday also brought fine weather and a good number of bowlers who enjoyed a game of social bowls.

Friday night featured another of Amanda's meals – and it was near perfect.

A tidy number of 26 diners enjoyed a great meal.

Deidre, Keitha, Ben, and Jeannie were lucky meat tray winners, once again courtesy of Wonthaggi Meat Supply.

Saturday saw 37 bowlers grace the greens on a perfect day for bowls.

There were two teams that were two-game winners.

The winners were Rob Westbrook, Charlie Wright, George Stein, and John Hill, with a score of two wins and 34 points.

The runners up were Alan Bolding, Sheila Ormerod, Wendy Donohue, and Rod Beech, with a score of two wins and 31 points.

Bowls this week:

Wednesday: Social bowls at 12.30pm.

Thursday: Social bowls at 10am.

Friday: Coaching at 10am.

Saturday: Social bowls at 12.30pm.

Don't forget the Friday night members' draw, plus the meat tray raffles.

Have a good week and good bowling.

WONTHAGGI INDOOR

TUESDAY saw another close finish.

The winning team of Jenny Baker, Max Sweetnam and Robert McLaren won with a plus 18.

Coming a very close second on plus 17 were Teresa Ireland, Phylis Peterson and Steve Kenny.

On Friday, the club had only one team with two wins.

They were Fred Demenech, Glenda Binch and Theo Sholley with a plus eight.

The runners-up with one win only on plus 18 were Max Sweetnam, John Bird and Bill Featherston.

This will be the last report for a couple of weeks as the government takes the rooms for voting.

The bowlers will return on May 5.



Korumburra's round one Gloria Burgess grade winners were Kerri Besley, Deb Wrigley and Karen Sorrell.



Korumburra Golf Club's Thursday A Grade winner Tim Fowles (left).



Leongatha Golf Club's April Monthly Medallist Jennifer Fraser.



Korumburra's C Grade winner was Jack Clink on Saturday.



Luke Giliam, Inge Giliam, Gav Price and Lyn D'Laney were the winners of the Guys and Dolls Day at the Woorayl Golf Club.



Runner-up Bev Sloan and winner Simone Lindsay on the Stableford event at the Wonthaggi Golf Club on Wednesday.



Steve Duffield won A Grade at the Korumburra Golf Club on Saturday.

KORUMBURRA

RESULTS: winners.

Tuesday, April 8:

Stableford: 37 players.

A Grade: Iain Riddell (13) 38.

B Grade: Chris Corr (26) 37

C/B.

NTPs: first Ray Ludenia, 10th Bob Newton and 13th Peter Hislop.

Thursday, April 10:

Stableford: 35 players.

A Grade: Tim Fowles (11) 39

points.

B Grade: Charles Mackin (38) 44 points.

NTPs: first Steve Rose, seventh Michael Thomas, 10th Murray Webb and 13th Luke Gillian.

Saturday, April 12:

Sponsor: Hays Jewellers.

Stableford: 63 players.

A Grade: Steve Duffield (10) 41

points.

B Grade: Blake Cosson (17) 37

net.

C Grade: Jack Clink (21) 41

points.

NTPs: first Zac Scholte, seventh Peter Van Agtmael, 10th Ben Fitzpatrick and 13th Paul Hopkins.

Ladies

IT WAS perfect golfing conditions for the first round of the Gloria Burgess Memorial Event last Wednesday.

Winners are determined by the best two Stableford scores over three rounds.

Well done to the 25 women who played, giving the event three grades.

A Grade's winner was Kerri Besley (12) with a fabulous 39 points.

Runner-up was Aliesha Wrigley (21) with 35 points.

B Grade's winner was Deb Wrigley (23) having 32 points.

Runner-up was Barb Twite (24) with 31 points on a c/b.

C Grade's winner was Karen Sorrell (32) with 36 points.

Runner-up was Lyn Leppin (33) having 34 points.

BDTL: Johanna van den Heiligenberg 33 points, Heather Grist 32 points and Trudy Olden 31 points c/b.

NTPs: first Trudi Mantell (Kellys Bakery), 10th Aliesha Wrigley and 13th Lyn Leppin.

Dates for the next two rounds of GB are round two Wednesday, April 23, and round three Wednesday, May 14.

On Saturday, the club had 17 women take the field in beautiful golfing weather.

The winner in A Grade was Heather Grist (19) with 33 points.

Runner-up was Aliesha Wrigley (21) with 32 points.

B Grade's winner with a fabulous 39 points was Gail Beer (28).

Runner-up was Trudi Mantell (22) with 35 points.

BDTL went to Deb Wrigley 33 points and Merrissa Cosson 31 points c/b.

NTPs on the first Heather Grist (Kellys Bakery), 10th Lyn McIvor and the 13th green Gail Beer.

LEONGATHA

TUESDAY, April 8.

Competition: Par {GA Course}.

Entrants: 53.

Jeremy de Silva 8 +4

A Grade winners

A - 1 Jeremy de Silva 8 +4

A - 2 Winton Knop 8 0 C/B

B Grade winners

B - 1 Rob Higgins 30 +2

B - 2 Louis Read 33 +1

Nearest the pin: 14: Winton Knop 434cm. 16: David Richards 620cm

Thursday, April 10:

Competition: Stroke (net) (GA Course).

Entrants: 71.

Overall winner

Geoffrey McDonald 19 68

A Grade winners

A - 1 Ken Smirk 13 71 C/B

A - 2 Josh de Groot 8 71 C/B

B Grade winners

B - 1 Geoffrey McDonald 19 68

B - 2 Malcolm Legge 15 70

C Grade winners

C - 1 Joe Lowell 21 72

C - 2 Sean Munley 24 75 C/B

Nearest the pin:

Five: Gordon Morrison NTP second shot.

14: Peter Brownlie NTP.

16: Christopher Leaver NTP.

Saturday, April 12:

Total Entrants: 86

Competition: John Westaway Ambrose Pairs Gross/Net Board event.

1 Oliver Stone and Peter Jas-

pers 63.25 net
(Peninsula Kingswood Country Club)

2 Steven Piasente and Daniel Jolley 64.75 Nett

Nearest the pin: Five: Renato Monacella 194cm NTP second shot. 14: Gerry Carcour 293cm. 16: Rene Zeller 330cm.

Competition: John Westaway Ambrose Pairs Gross/Net Board event.

1 Oliver Stone and Peter Jaspers 69 C/B Gross.

(Peninsula Kingswood Country Club)

2 Alan Starkey and Chad Clasby 69 Gross.

Thanks to the Westaway family for their continued support of the event – greatly appreciated.

Ladies

IT WAS perfect weather again this week for the 37 women competing in the April Monthly Medal.

There were also some excellent scores.

The Monthly Medal was won by Jenny Fraser (33) with an excellent 69 net.

Jenny also won the B Grade event.

The runner-up in B Grade was Jill Steer with 75 net on a count back from Jo McNaughton.

The very busy women's captain Janet Monk (20) won A Grade with 71 net with Deb Miller runner up on 74 net.

Balls down the line went to 77 net – Jo McNaughton, Mandy Moyle, Michelle Roberts, Mel Wilder, Wendy Brown, Bronwyn Debenham, Anna de Bondt and Chris Lay.

Nearest the pin was Judy Bright on the 14th and the 16th, and Shirley Welsford second shot on the fifth.

Marie Sands had another win this week with 18 points, and Glenys Day earned a ball down the line with 16 points.

MEENIYAN

IN PERFECT weather and the course looking fantastic, Wednesday, April 9, saw 14 ladies playing in the qualifying round of the Ray and Heather Poletti 4BBB Knockout Board event.

The winners on the day were Susan Straw and Gail Browne with a lovely 44 points.

The runners-up were Jan Trease and Lyn Jennison with 42 points.

On Friday, April 11, Jan Trease won B Grade Stableford event at Phillip Island with a brilliant 37 points.

The Section 2 pennant team have one more game to play before the finals.

MIRBOO NORTH

TUESDAY, April 8: Stableford.
A Grade: J. Winters (12) 38 points.

B Grade: J. McFarlane (16) 34 points.

DTL: S. Woodall 37, T. Bradshaw 34 and T. Whitelaw 33 c/b.

NTP: fourth J. Smeriglio, sixth N. Whichello, 13th S. Beitz and 16th G. Renwick.

Birdies: fourth J. Smeriglio, sixth T. Whitelaw and J. Gunn, and 16th J. Winters and R. Thompson.

Eagles: S. Duff 17th hole.

Saturday, April 12: Stableford.

A Grade: Tim Traill (3) 36 points c/b.

B Grade: J. Robbins (14) 38 points c/b.

C Grade: J. Gunn (27) 38 points.

DTL: C. Gunn 38, B. Robinson 37, and J. McFarlane, J. Conlan, J. Coleman and P. Woodall, 36.

NTP: fourth S. McKenzie, sixth P. Woodall, 13th A. Collins and 16th J. Coleman.

Birdies: fourth S. McKenzie, sixth P. Woodall, 13th N. Bickerston and 16th J. Coleman.

Nearest the pin was Judy Bright on the 14th and the 16th, and Shirley Welsford second shot on the fifth.

Marie Sands had another win this week with 18 points, and Glenys Day earned a ball down the line with 16 points.

Results: April 10, SR. 71.
Competition: Stableford 18-hole.

Winner: Warwick Judkins 36.

Runner up: Peter Ali 36.

Ball sweep: Stephen Kane 35.

Graeme Crawford 35 and Bruce Betts 34 C/B.

Results: April 10, SR. 34.5.

Competition: Stableford front nine-hole.

Winner: Mark Nicholls 18.

Ball sweep: Simon O'Halloran 17.

Results: April 12, S.R 71.

Competition: Stableford.

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Korumburra's C Grade winner was Jack Clink on Saturday.



Steve Duffield won A Grade at the Korumburra Golf Club on Saturday.



Ladies

WEDNESDAY saw two different events being played on the same day.

Event one was the preliminary finals for the Singles Knockout Board event, which saw four matches played and the winners will play in the semi-finals next week.

These will be Anne Tschiderer vs. Donna Brosnan and Lisa Brusamarello vs. Karen Sheerin – good luck.

The remainder of the players (15) played Stableford in a great day weather-wise, and the winner was Simone Lindsay (27) 35 points with runner-up Bev Sloan (18) 34 points.

BDL went to Marg Johnson 32, Jan Beaumont 29, Irene Walsh 29 and Catherine Bolding 28.

NTP on the second was Layla Robertson and eighth Catherine Bolding.



WOORAYL

THE event on Wednesday was the annual Guys and Dolls Day, sponsored by Evans Petroleum.

South Gippsland Bridge Club

APRIL 8 at Wonthaggi RSL – eight tables competing.

Winning master points N/S pairs:

First: Alan Johnston and Lois Dwyer 64.25. Second: Rob Graham and Glenys Lohr 58.68. Third: Hannah Martin and Maureen Stiles 54.17.

E/W point winners:

First: Ruth Harvey and Sue Edwards 60.12. Second: Neville and Phillip Chapman 59.23. Third: Julie Perriam and Anne Gibson 49.11.

April 11 at Inverloch Angling Club – a great turnout with 11 tables competing.

N/S master point winners:

First: John French and Deb Anglim 55.44. Second: Alan Johnston and Clive Hope 54.75. Third: Greg Nicholson and Jean Barbour 54.66. Fourth: Sean Munley and Bruce Higgs 51.42. Fifth: Doug McIntosh and Michael McGregor 49.22. Sixth: John Farr and Peter Campbell 49.22.

E/W point winners:

First: Faye Rowlands and John Currier 60.97. Second: Julie Perriam and Anne Gibson 58.69. Third: Edward Leszkiewicz and Tom Kudelka 54.75. Fourth: Marie Sands and Ken McKenzie 53.12.

Phillip Island Bridge mourns the loss of long-time member

PHILLIP Island Bridge Club members were shocked on Monday as it learned of the unexpected passing of Paul Waylen, a beloved and long-time member, who died on Sunday, April 6.

Known for his cheeky demeanour and cherished by all, Paul will be deeply missed by his fellow club members, especially his playing partners and friends.

He was not only an excellent player, but also a fine club man and a true gentleman.

Results:

Monday, April 7 (five tables):

First place: Don Stewart-Uden and Marion Wellwood with 62.04 per cent.

Wednesday, April 9 (5.5 tables):

First place: Greg Nicholson and Jean Barbour with 61.11 per cent.

Patterson finished with 1.97m against Olyslagers 2.05m

AFTER nine days of competition, the 2025 Australian Athletics Championships concluded on Sunday, April 13 in Perth, rounding out one of the best edition of the championships in its history of over 100 years.

Five-time global medallist Eleanor Patterson (VIC) finished with 1.97m, knocked out by dual Olympic medallist Nicola Olyslagers (NSW) who kept a clean sheet to 2.01m when equalling her championship record in the Women's High Jump.

Olyslagers then raised the bar to 2.05m in an attempt to rewrite history and her national record of 2.03m, producing three strong attempts before signing off with her sixth consecutive Australian title.



Veteran Cricketers looking their best before the first game last season

Successful season for veterans' cricket

THIRTY cricket veterans, players in either their sixties or seventies, representing two West Gippsland teams, recently returned from the ever-popular Echuca Cricket Carnival. Teams from all over the state competed in three divisions over four days of friendly but keenly contested matches. Both Gippsland sides had players from Phillip Island, Inverloch, Korumburra, Packenham, Koo Wee Rup, Wonthaggi, Foster and Leongatha.

The carnival is the culmination of another successful season of veterans' cricket. The competition runs throughout the usual cricket

season, with games played on Sundays (over 60s) and Tuesdays (over 70s) each fortnight. Sides from Melbourne plus several local clubs make up the competition with an emphasis on participation as well as catering for the competitive spirit that stays with all who have played the game from an early age.

The competition is administered through Veterans Cricket Victoria, which oversees registrations, fixtures and insurance. Often described as a men's shed on grass, aging ex-players get the chance to continue their love of the sport. Games are played on both turf

and hard wickets, and travel to Melbourne venues is usually by carpooling or via a community bus. Friendships are fostered or renewed in the forty-over games, or when taking part in the usual change room banter, plus during the after-game celebrations with refreshments and a barbecue.

If you or anyone you know would be interested in rediscovering their love of the great game and still has the urge to snare a wicket, or send a ball to the boundary, further information about next season's competition is available from Brendon Thomas on 0437 930 851.

Regional Victorians still paying price for Games hoax says O'Brien

INQUIRY findings released on Wednesday, April 1, confirm the doomed 2026 Commonwealth Games were no more than a cruel hoax to win votes in regional Victoria.

The release of the final parliamentary report on the Games highlighted the lack of planning, governance and accountability that is still dogging regional Victorians.

Damningly, the final report

states: "A hasty political decision was made by the then-Andrews Labor government to support the Commonwealth Games in the proposed multi-city model, but the government did not undertake proper due diligence."

Those words are a slap in the face to all regional Victorians, who were promised legacy projects and rejuvenation in their cities, only to have that hope

and optimism ripped away by a cancellation, according to Shadow Minister for Regional Development, Danny O'Brien, who said the failed Games cost \$600 million and regional Victorians received nothing.

"These were the Con Games and this report underlines and confirms that," Mr O'Brien said.

"This was a political stunt and a charade that rolled on for too long."



Ride for Sight training on track

Frank Hirst has been racking up the kilometres and is about to put his training into first gear, doing big hills, big kilometres and riding two days in a row, in preparation for and to raise money for the 270-kilometre Lions Ride for Sight. Frank was at Loch Market chatting to others about the cause on Sunday. ob63_1525

Shooting team nominated for prestigious award

KARDELLA'S Linda Ryan – as part of the Victorian ISSF Target Pistol Shooting State Team – was announced as one of the finalists for the 18 categories at the 2024 Victorian Sport Awards.

These awards recognise and celebrate the achievements of homegrown sporting heroes at both grassroots and high-performance levels.

A record 330 nominations were received from the Victorian sporting community, honouring those who have made an exceptional contribution to sport and recreation in Victoria during the previous calendar year.

The Target Pistol Australia National Championships were contested in Brisbane in 2024, comprising 15 individual and team events with 420 entrants representing every state and territory.

Victoria's team of 14 men and women aged 18-58 and a Para-sports athlete collected three team match and three individual titles as well as all Individual Aggregate national titles (women, men and juniors). However, it was their consistent shooting across all matches, by the entire team, that saw Victoria win the overall Team Aggregate Championship and take home the Manton Shield.

The Victorian ISSF Target Pistol Shooting State Team was nominated in the AED Authority Team of the Year category of the 2024 Victorian Sport Awards.

Presented by the State Government and Vicsport, the Victorian Sport Awards will be held on Wednesday, May 14, in the Members Dining Room at the Melbourne Cricket Ground (MCG).

"It is a wonderful achievement and a credit to the Victorian sporting industry that the nominations records was shattered this year. Combined with the calibre of the nominations, these awards are a true showcase of the successes throughout the Victorian sport and active recreation community," Vicsport chair Jason Hellwig said.

"I thank all the judges who took on the challenging but rewarding task of deciding this year's finalists and winners, and I look forward to honouring those recipients at the 2024 Victorian Sport Awards in May."

Minister for Community Sport Ros Spence congratulated the nominees.

"It's fantastic to see this group of outstanding Victorians nominated by their communities for going above and beyond at all levels of sport," she said.

"We're delighted to shine the spotlight on these local icons at the 2024 Victorian Sport Awards."



Lauryn Eyre-Walker (WD) regains balance and passes it back to MDU's goal end. ob68_1525



Lillyca White (GD) passes it off while on the run. ob67_1525



Lauryn Eyre-Walker (WD) keeps a strong defence against Thorpdale. ob66_1525



Pallas Lamers (GA) takes the pass and sets up another goal for MDU. ob65_1525



Hailey Schreurs looks for options for Nyora.



Tanasha Walters moves the ball out of Nyora's defensive end.



Tiana Heylen shoots for goal.



Netballers threw their support behind the Mental Health Round this week in the Gippsland League.

ELLINBANK

RESULTS

A GRADE

Longwarry 75 d Nyora 25
Neerim Sth 69 d Buln Buln 15
Catani 30 It Poowong 31
Ellinbank 59 d Bunyip 29
Trafalgar 36 It Nil-Darn 54
Lang Lang 49 d Yarragon 45

B GRADE

Longwarry 53 d Nyora 21
Catani 35 It Poowong 39
Neerim Sth 40 d Buln Buln 21
Trafalgar 31 It Nil-Darn 52
Ellinbank 52 d Bunyip 37
Lang Lang 54 d Yarragon 34

C GRADE

Longwarry 65 d Nyora 7
Catani 34 d Poowong 27
Ellinbank 42 d Bunyip 22
Trafalgar 32 d Nil-Darn 21
Neerim Sth 42 d Buln Buln 38
Lang Lang 17 It Yarragon 36

LADDERS

| A GRADE | GA% | pts | 17 & UNDER | GA% | pts |
|--------------|------|-----|--------------|------|-----|
| Longwarry | 2.78 | 8 | Catani | 3.95 | 8 |
| Neerim South | 2.32 | 8 | Longwarry | 2.50 | 8 |
| Ellinbank | 2.22 | 8 | Nilma Darnum | 1.35 | 8 |
| Poowong | 1.03 | 8 | Ellinbank | 1.11 | 6 |
| Catani | 1.45 | 4 | Trafalgar | 1.26 | 4 |
| Trafalgar | 1.05 | 4 | Neerim South | 1.00 | 4 |
| Nilma Darnum | 0.98 | 4 | Poowong | 0.76 | 4 |
| Lang Lang | 0.73 | 4 | Yarragon | 0.95 | 2 |
| Yarragon | 0.94 | 0 | Lang Lang | 0.86 | 2 |
| Bunyip | 0.55 | 0 | Bunyip | 0.69 | 2 |
| Nyora | 0.39 | 0 | Buln Buln | 0.56 | 0 |
| Buln Buln | 0.31 | 0 | Nyora | 0.12 | 0 |

B GRADE

| B GRADE | GA% | pts | 15 & UNDER | GA% | pts |
|--------------|------|-----|--------------|------|-----|
| Ellinbank | 1.51 | 8 | Catani | 4.67 | 8 |
| Nilma Darnum | 1.51 | 8 | Lang Lang | 2.46 | 8 |
| Lang Lang | 1.51 | 8 | Bunyip | 2.03 | 8 |
| Poowong | 1.07 | 8 | Neerim South | 1.79 | 8 |
| Catani | 1.96 | 4 | Longwarry | 2.07 | 4 |
| Longwarry | 1.38 | 4 | Poowong | 1.43 | 4 |
| Neerim South | 1.24 | 4 | Nilma Darnum | 1.09 | 4 |
| Bunyip | 1.09 | 4 | Buln Buln | 0.91 | 4 |
| Yarragon | 0.77 | 0 | Ellinbank | 0.61 | 0 |
| Buln Buln | 0.57 | 0 | Trafalgar | 0.42 | 0 |
| Trafalgar | 0.56 | 0 | Yarragon | 0.42 | 0 |
| Nyora | 0.29 | 0 | Nyora | 0.05 | 0 |

C GRADE

| C GRADE | GA% | pts | 13 & UNDER | GA% | pts |
|--------------|------|-----|--------------|------|-----|
| Longwarry | 3.83 | 8 | Lang Lang | 6.67 | 8 |
| Catani | 3.00 | 8 | Catani | 5.60 | 8 |
| Yarragon | 1.97 | 8 | Buln Buln | 5.21 | 8 |
| Trafalgar | 1.74 | 8 | Trafalgar | 2.04 | 8 |
| Neerim South | 1.21 | 8 | Bunyip | 1.96 | 4 |
| Ellinbank | 1.31 | 0 | Longwarry | 1.07 | 4 |
| Buln Buln | 0.97 | 4 | Nilma Darnum | 0.89 | 4 |
| Nilma Darnum | 0.71 | 0 | Poowong | 0.69 | 4 |
| Poowong | 0.66 | 0 | Yarragon | 0.38 | 0 |
| Bunyip | 0.52 | 0 | Neerim South | 0.30 | 0 |
| Lang Lang | 0.48 | 0 | Ellinbank | 0.17 | 0 |
| Nyora | 0.10 | 0 | Nyora | 0.11 | 0 |

GIPPSLAND

RESULTS

A GRADE

Maffra 39 It Wonthaggi 58
Leongatha 62 d Sale 32
Warragul 64 d Morwell 49
Drouin 43 It Bairnsdale 49
Moe 29 d Traralgon 38

B GRADE

Maffra 22 It Wonthaggi 58
Leongatha 55 d Sale 24
Warragul 38 It Morwell 42
Drouin 36 d Bairnsdale 50
Moe 51 d Traralgon 37

C GRADE

Maffra 21 It Wonthaggi 63
Leongatha 27 d Sale 20
Warragul 18 It Morwell 45
Drouin 44 d Bairnsdale 35
Moe 29 d Traralgon 28

LADDERS

| A GRADE | % | pts | 17 & UNDER | % | pts |
|------------|--------|-----|------------|--------|-----|
| Moe | 219.48 | 8 | Bairnsdale | 246.15 | 8 |
| Warragul | 155.17 | 8 | Traralgon | 243.59 | 8 |
| Leongatha | 140.00 | 8 | Sale | 133.33 | 8 |
| Morwell | 93.69 | 4 | Warragul | 114.75 | 8 |
| Wonthaggi | 87.27 | 4 | Maffra | 93.51 | 4 |
| Sale | 70.71 | 4 | Drouin | 73.20 | 4 |
| Bairnsdale | 67.69 | 4 | Wonthaggi | 88.46 | 0 |
| Drouin | 86.54 | 0 | Morwell | 73.33 | 0 |
| Maffra | 79.17 | 0 | Leongatha | 55.17 | 0 |
| Traralgon | 65.47 | 0 | Moe | 42.20 | 0 |

B GRADE

Wonthaggi 180.65 8
Moe 168.12 8
Leongatha 165.45 8
Drouin 116.13 8
Morwell 96.59 4
Maffra 71.08 4
Warragul 81.25 0
Traralgon 78.16 0
Bairnsdale 66.67 0
Sale 53.26 0

C GRADE

Wonthaggi 364.52 8
Morwell 182.00 8
Leongatha 140.48 8
Bairnsdale 101.37 4
Sale 95.92 4
Drouin 93.83 4
Moe 86.57 4
Traralgon 81.97 0
Maffra 47.78 0
Warragul 29.47 0

Wonthaggi 348.48 8
Traralgon 185.71 8
Drouin 160.47 8
Sale 136.62 8
Maffra 158.93 4
Bairnsdale 81.16 0
Morwell 58.57 0
Leongatha 56.60 0
Wonthaggi 12.69 0

Morwell 210.71 8
Leongatha 161.29 8
Maffra 195.65 4
Bairnsdale 129.03 4
Drouin 104.65 4
Sale 82.35 4
Moe 78.38 4
Traralgon 37.31 4
Maffra 68.57 0
Warragul 31.91 0

MIRBOO NORTH

IT WAS a hot day of netball at Boolarra for Round 2, with Mirboo North teams stepping onto the court ready to give it their all. The day began with our youngest Tigers in the 13 & Unders showing heart and hustle in a tough contest. They fought hard, but Boolarra managed to take the win 24–16. Georgie Schaeche was a standout with strong defensive pressure, earning Best on Court, while Abbie Walker took home the Coaches Award for her effort and positive energy.

The 15 & Unders continued the battle, facing a polished Boolarra side. Despite some great passages of play and a solid four-quarter effort, they fell short with a 41–23 scoreline. Amy Conlan held strong in defence and was named Best on Court, and Emmeline Berquez impressed with her work rate and received the Coaches Award.

A nail-biter unfolded in the 17 & Unders game, with both teams going goal-for-goal. It was a tense finish, and although our girls pushed right to the end, Boolarra just edged them out 38–35. Holly Chila led by example on court and was named Best, with Shaela Johnson receiving the Coaches Award for her consistent presence throughout the game.

The D Grade side brought some fire to the court, controlling the game early and holding their lead to come away with a solid 36–19 victory. Carolyn Movchan dominated in both attack and defence and was awarded Best on Court, while Beth Liley's strong goal shooting earned her the Coaches nod.

C Grade faced a determined Boolarra outfit and, despite their best efforts, couldn't match the pace, going down 46–27. Amy Symmons was a standout and took Best on Court honours, while Sophie McGrath's relentless work earned her the Coaches Award.

Momentum picked up in B Grade, with the Tigers hitting their stride. They played with flair and intensity, comfortably securing a 67–31 win. Mia O'Brien controlled the court with sharp passes, earning Best on Court, while Bella Cook's consistency and impact saw her take home the Coaches Award.

And then came the A Grade showdown – an absolute thriller. Boolarra came out strong, applying pressure from the first whistle, but Mirboo North matched them every step of the way. As the game wore on, the Tigers' superior fitness began to shine through. With fast ball movement and strong connections, they pulled away in the final quarter to claim a hard-earned 69–49 win. Jessie Holland was dynamic in goals all game and rightly named Best on Court, while Dani Blair was recognised with the Coach's Award for her composed and commanding performance.

A big day of netball with plenty to be proud of – roll on Round 3!



Evie and Willow show their Magpie spirit

Well done to U15 Toora netballers Evie Stone and Willow Butinar who played in three matches this Saturday, including senior A and B grades along with U/15 Juniors. They both received player awards. Photo: Wil Pruyne.



Emma Evans puts up a challenge in B grade for Mirboo. Photo: Annie Holland.



Jessie Holland shoots for goal in A grade. Photo: Annie Holland.



Determined to make a mark for their respective teams the centres battled it out for the ball. Photo: G.S. Bruning.



WA Dani Blair lands the ball mid run. Photo: Annie Holland.



Hannah Keily and Livinia Mandemaker battle it out on the court. Photo: G.S. Bruning.

MID GIPPSLAND

RESULTS

| A GRADE | | B GRADE | | C GRADE | | D GRADE | | 17 & UNDER | | 15 & UNDER | | 13 & UNDER | |
|-------------|------------------|--------------|------------------|--------------|-----------------|--------------|------------------|--------------|-----------------|-------------|-----------------|--------------|-------|
| Yinnar 57 | d Toora 25 | Yinnar 53 | d Toora 34 | Yinnar 41 | d Toora 22 | MDU 56 | d Thorpdale 4 | Tarwin 18 | It Stony Crk 33 | Yinnar 27 | d Toora 26 | Yinnar | 14.43 |
| MDU 51 | d Thorpdale 29 | Tarwin 28 | It Stony Crk 40 | MDU 65 | d Thorpdale 4 | Yinnar 34 | d Toora 20 | Yinnar 40 | d Toora 27 | Tarwin 24 | d Stony Crk 11 | Newborough | 7.44 |
| Tarwin 36 | It Stony Crk 62 | MDU 51 | d Thorpdale 39 | Tarwin 36 | d Stony Crk 16 | Tarwin 30 | d Stony Crk 22 | Morwell-E 22 | It Hill End 38 | Foster 47 | d N-borough 36 | Tarwin | 4.60 |
| Boolarra 49 | It Mirboo Nth 69 | Morwell-E 35 | It Hill End 41 | Morwell-E 26 | It Hill End 33 | Boolarra 19 | It Mirboo Nth 36 | Boolarra 38 | d Mirboo Nth 35 | Morwell-E 8 | d Hill End 46 | Boolarra | 1.48 |
| Morwell 66 | d Hill End 29 | Boolarra 31 | It Mirboo Nth 27 | Boolarra 46 | d Mirboo Nth 27 | Morwell-E 23 | It Hill End 27 | Foster 25 | It N-borough 26 | Boolarra 41 | d Mirboo Nth 23 | Foster 5 | 1.06 |
| Foster 72 | d N-borough 31 | Foster 64 | d N-borough 50 | Foster 26 | d N-borough 36 | Foster 28 | It N-borough 33 | | | | | N-borough 28 | 4 |

LADDERS

| A GRADE | GA% | pts | B GRADE | GA% | pts | C GRADE | GA% | pts | D GRADE | GA% | pts | 17 & UNDER | GA% | pts | 15 & UNDER | GA% | pts | 13 & UNDER | GA% | pts |
|--------------|------|-----|--------------|------|-----|--------------|------|-----|--------------|------|-----|--------------|------|-----|--------------|------|-----|--------------|-------|-----|
| Morwell East | 2.33 | 8 | Stony Creek | 2.12 | 8 | Yinnar | 2.38 | 8 | Mirboo North | 1.63 | 8 | MDU | 4.00 | 8 | Hill End | 4.84 | 8 | Yinnar | 14.43 | 8 |
| Foster | 2.32 | 8 | Mirboo North | 1.94 | 8 | Tarwin | 1.64 | 8 | Yinnar | 1.51 | 8 | Boolarra | 2.04 | 8 | Boolarra | 3.66 | 8 | Newborough | 7.44 | 8 |
| Stony Creek | 1.97 | 8 | Foster | 1.94 | 8 | Boolarra | 1.44 | 8 | Tarwin | 1.27 | 8 | Yinnar | 1.68 | 8 | MDU | 2.73 | 8 | Tarwin | 4.60 | 8 |
| Mirboo North | 1.73 | 8 | Fish Creek | 1.14 | 8 | Hill End | 1.40 | 8 | Newborough | 1.26 | 8 | Toora | 1.79 | 4 | Yinnar | 2.24 | 8 | Boolarra | 1.48 | 8 |
| Yinnar | 1.48 | 8 | Yinnar | 1.22 | 4 | Newborough | 1.36 | 8 | Morwell East | 2.59 | 4 | Mirboo North | 1.11 | 4 | Foster | 1.31 | 8 | Hill End | 1.17 | 4 |
| MDU | 1.43 | 8 | Newborough | 1.00 | 4 | MDU | 2.30 | 4 | MDU | 1.85 | 4 | Hill End | 1.10 | 4 | Toora | 1.64 | 4 | Mirboo North | 1.06 | 4 |
| Fish Creek | 0.94 | 4 | Toora | 1.00 | 4 | Morwell East | 1.71 | 4 | Stony Creek | 0.98 | 4 | Foster | 0.96 | 4 | Tarwin | 0.75 | 4 | Morwell East | 0.35 | 4 |
| Toora | 0.80 | 4 | MDU | 0.98 | 4 | Foster | 0.72 | 4 | Hill End | 0.91 | 4 | Stony Creek | 0.59 | 4 | Morwell East | 0.17 | 4 | Foster | 0.18 | 4 |
| Tarwin | 0.66 | 0 | Morwell East | 0.96 | 4 | Fish Creek | 0.32 | 4 | Foster | 0.85 | 4 | Morwell East | 0.58 | 4 | Fish Creek | 0.15 | 4 | Fish Creek | 0.16 | 4 |
| Newborough | 0.61 | 0 | Hill End | 0.80 | 4 | Toora | 0.65 | 0 | Fish Creek | 0.75 | 4 | Fish Creek | 0.54 | 4 | Newborough | 0.61 | 0 | MDU | 0.10 | 4 |
| Boolarra | 0.57 | 0 | Thorpdale | 0.83 | 0 | Stony Creek | 0.64 | 0 | Toora | 0.71 | 0 | Newborough | 0.45 | 4 | Mirboo North | 0.39 | 0 | Stony Creek | 0.38 | 0 |
| Thorpdale | 0.49 | 0 | Tarwin | 0.64 | 0 | Mirboo North | 0.61 | 0 | Boolarra | 0.65 | 0 | Tarwin | 0.28 | 0 | Stony Creek | 0.19 | 0 | Toora | 0.07 | 0 |
| Hill End | 0.45 | 0 | Boolarra | 0.40 | 0 | Thorpdale | 0.12 | 0 | Thorpdale | 0.06 | 0 | Thorpdale | 0.00 | 0 | Thorpdale | 0.00 | 0 | Thorpdale | 0.00 | 0 |

KILCUNDA BASS

A GRADE: A grade came out firing early against Warragul. The girls bounced back well after a tough game in the opening round. The goalers combined beautifully and shot with accuracy and the full court defensive pressure was exciting to see. The girls left it all out there, which allowed them to achieve their first win of the season.

B Grade: Still managing injuries and player unavailability, we were thrilled to welcome Juliette Townsend back to the club and Jess Egan up from C Grade. We also celebrated Ciara Santorini's B Grade debut after her return from injury. Every player stepped up and stayed focused from the first whistle to the final siren. With several rotations throughout the game, everyone embraced the changes with a great attitude and flexibility. Even with a strong lead, the team's commitment to giving 100 per cent every quarter, every game, all season was clear.

A special shoutout to Liz Crawford who got to "live out her dream" playing in goals – what a moment! Awards: Kiara Brusamarello & Kylie Wookey

C Grade: C Grade had a strong start against Warragul, matching their intensity and keeping scores tight in the first half. Despite their efforts, Warragul gained momentum in the second half, and our girls couldn't quite close the gap. A special mention goes to Ruby McGillivray, who celebrated her 100th game for Kilcunda Bass – a fantastic achievement and a testament to her dedication to the club. Plenty of positives to take into next week as the team continues to grow. Award: Ruby McGillivray.

D Grade: Kilcunda Bass D grade girls came out guns blazing with a 17 goal to three goal first quarter! After quarter time Warragul found their feet and held their own for the remainder of the game with Killy Bass coming away with a strong 43-19 victory. We are looking forward to building on a great start to the season. Congratulations to Kim Pike on playing her 50th club game. Award: Miranda Eden

17 & Under: A warm start to the day marked Alana's milestone 100th game, a special moment for her and the team. Bass came out strong, with Peyton making her first appearance on court this season.

The girls worked together seamlessly, attacking and moving the ball to the ring. The flow of play in the goal circle was particularly impressive, showcasing

excellent coordination and timing.

Defensively, it was a tough battle, but the team never wavered. The girls showed great resilience, intercepting balls and capitalising on every opportunity. Their determination to push through and keep the pressure on was evident, even when the game got tough. It was a true team effort.

Awards: Alana Dakin and Matilda Feehan

15 & Under: Finally the wait was over and we got to hit the court for our first game of the season. The girls went out strong matching Warragul goal for goal, we let the Dusties get away from us for a bit during the second quarter however the girls were able to reset at half-time and came back out with pure determination and a new outlook on the game and what they needed to do to change it. We held them off for a while and crawled our way back to get within eight points and we matched them in the last quarter on the scoreboard which was the aim.

Unfortunately, we didn't come home with the win but the game experience is sometimes worth more than the four points. Our set plays started to come together and as the minutes ticked over their confidence as a team grew stronger which is how we will find success.

Congratulations Savanna Bennett on your debut at the club and in the team and also welcome back Ciara Santorini after a long stint on the sidelines due to injury. We look forward to taking on Inverloch next weekend. Award: Olivia Berry for her focus throughout the entire game both on and off the court.

13 & Under: Second game of the season, our girls came out strong, finishing the first quarter neck and neck with Warragul. Despite the solid start, Warragul pulled ahead in the end to take the win. Award: Ashley Burgess

11 & Under: First home game for the season and our U11 girls were eager to take the court. We had worked hard at training on some defensive skills this week and the practice paid off. We changed our lineup up from last week and the team seemed to be able to string together some good passages of play. The kid's enthusiasm for the game is so uplifting. We are excited to see how they progress throughout the season as they learn more skills. Award: Zoe Cartmel and Sage Van Der Walt.



Kylie Wookey takes the ball high in the air in the Kilcunda Bass goal circle during B grade.



Esther Evans defends Warragul Industrials' shot at goal in B grade.



Grace Rand passes to her Kilcunda Bass teammate in A grade.



Emma Felsovary lines up a shot at goal with strong defensive pressure from her Warragul Industrials opponent.



Elisha Nicholas (GA) goes up for a goal for the Giants. ob71_1525



Mackenna Whiteside (GS) and Renee Pilkington (GD) go head-to-head for the ball. ob72_1525

WEST GIPPSLAND**RESULTS**

A GRADE
IK 34 d Kor-Bena 40
Tooradin-Dal 50 d KWR 39
K-Bass 55 d Warragul-I 28
NNG 44 d Dalyston 35
Garfield 42 drew P-Island 42

B GRADE
IK 43 d Kor-Bena 14
Tooradin-Dal 65 d KWR 35
NNG 39 d Dalyston 47
K-Bass 69 d Warragul-I 20
Garfield 35 d P-Island 48

C GRADE
IK 44 d Kor-Bena 22
Tooradin-Dal 49 d KWR 12
NNG 50 d Dalyston 15
Garfield 41 d P-Island 28
K-Bass 22 d Warragul-I 37

D GRADE
IK 35 d Kor-Bena 30
Tooradin-Dal 25 d KWR 28
NNG 49 d Dalyston 7
K-Bass 43 d Warragul-I 19
Garfield 36 d P-Island 19

LADDERS

| 17 & UNDER | | A GRADE | | C GRADE | | 17 & UNDER | | 13 & UNDER | | GA% pts | | |
|------------------------------|--|----------------|------|----------------|----------------|-----------------------|---|-----------------------|------|----------------|----------------|------|
| IK 31 d Kor-Bena 22 | | Kor-Bena | 1.34 | 8 | Nar Nar Goon | 2.32 | 8 | Warragul Ind. | 3.43 | 8 | Nar Nar Goon | 5.29 |
| Tooradin-Dal 32 d KWR 27 | | Nar Nar Goon | 1.25 | 8 | Inverloch-K | 2.00 | 8 | Inverloch-K | 1.41 | 8 | Garfield | 3.20 |
| K-Bass 55 d Warragul-I 28 | | Cora Lynn | 1.12 | 8 | Warragul Ind. | 1.39 | 8 | Nar Nar Goon | 1.20 | 8 | Kor-Bena | 2.10 |
| NNG 44 d Dalyston 35 | | Garfield | 1.19 | 6 | Cora Lynn | 1.13 | 8 | Cora Lynn | 1.13 | 8 | Cora Lynn | 1.70 |
| Garfield 42 drew P-Island 42 | | Dalyston | 1.11 | 4 | Tooradin-Dal. | 1.87 | 4 | Phillip Island | 1.22 | 4 | Koo Wee Rup | 1.65 |
| K-Bass 12 d Warragul-I 57 | | Kilcunda Bass | 1.09 | 4 | Garfield | 1.09 | 4 | Kor-Bena | 1.04 | 4 | Tooradin-Dal. | 1.10 |
| | | Tooradin-Dal. | 1.07 | 4 | Kilcunda Bass | 0.83 | 4 | Tooradin-Dal. | 1.02 | 4 | Warragul Ind. | 0.54 |
| | | Inverloch-K | 0.85 | 4 | Koo Wee Rup | 0.61 | 4 | Koo Wee Rup | 0.96 | 4 | Inverloch-K | 0.54 |
| | | Phillip Island | 0.89 | 2 | Kor-Bena | 0.65 | 0 | Dalyston | 0.86 | 0 | Kilcunda Bass | 0.53 |
| | | Koo Wee Rup | 0.70 | 0 | Phillip Island | 0.65 | 0 | Garfield | 0.45 | 0 | Phillip Island | 0.28 |
| | | Warragul Ind. | 0.59 | 0 | Dalyston | 0.46 | 0 | Kilcunda Bass | 0.40 | 0 | Dalyston | 0.15 |

| 13 & UNDER | | B GRADE | | D GRADE | | 15 & UNDER | | 11 & UNDER | | GA% pts | | |
|------------------------------|--|----------------|------|----------------|----------------|-----------------------|---|-----------------------|------|----------------|----------------|-------|
| Inverloch-K 14 d Kor-Bena 26 | | Inverloch-K | 3.07 | 8 | Nar Nar Goon | 3.00 | 8 | Nar Nar Goon | 2.70 | 8 | Garfield | 26.00 |
| Tooradin-Dal 33 d KWR 14 | | Kilcunda Bass | 2.34 | 8 | Garfield | 2.38 | 8 | Cora Lynn | 1.07 | 8 | Inverloch-K | 5.75 |
| NNG 32 d Dalyston 10 | | Tooradin-Dal. | 1.57 | 8 | Koo Wee Rup | 2.00 | 8 | Inverloch-K | 0.00 | 8 | Koo Wee Rup | 4.70 |
| K-Bass 17 d Warragul-I 25 | | Dalyston | 1.46 | 8 | Kilcunda Bass | 1.55 | 8 | Tooradin-Dal. | 1.54 | 4 | Cora Lynn | 2.18 |
| Garfield 40 d P-Island 19 | | Garfield | 1.29 | 4 | Cora Lynn | 1.50 | 8 | Kilcunda Bass | 1.31 | 4 | Nar Nar Goon | 1.80 |
| | | Nar Nar Goon | 1.06 | 4 | Inverloch-K | 1.17 | 8 | Garfield Stars | 1.47 | 4 | Kor-Bena | 0.96 |
| | | Phillip Island | 1.00 | 4 | Kor-Bena | 0.89 | 0 | Warragul Ind. | 1.00 | 4 | Warragul Ind. | 0.38 |
| | | Cora Lynn | 0.77 | 4 | Tooradin-Dal. | 0.78 | 0 | Koo Wee Rup | 0.98 | 4 | Phillip Island | 1.00 |
| | | Koo Wee Rup | 0.55 | 0 | Phillip Island | 0.53 | 0 | Phillip Island | 0.80 | 0 | Tooradin-Dal. | 0.41 |
| | | Kor-Bena | 0.48 | 0 | Warragul Ind. | 0.39 | 0 | Dalyston | 0.20 | 0 | Kilcunda Bass | 0.30 |
| | | Warragul Ind. | 0.36 | 0 | Dalyston | 0.15 | 0 | Kor-Bena | 0.00 | 0 | Dalyston | 0.00 |

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LAST WEEK'S TIPS 6



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30

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LAST WEEK'S TIPS 6



119 Graham Street,
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5672 1027

30

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LAST WEEK'S TIPS 6



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30

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LAST WEEK'S TIPS 7



Wonthaggi 5672 5522
Leongatha 5662 2941

23

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LAST WEEK'S TIPS 7



62-64 McBride Avenue,
Wonthaggi
7051 0720

32

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LAST WEEK'S TIPS 7



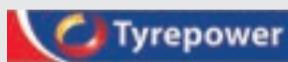
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5662 2327

28

**KRIS BAKER**

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LAST WEEK'S TIPS 7



78-80 Watt Street,
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5672 5760

26

**RYAN SHANE**

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LAST WEEK'S TIPS 4



Leongatha Toyota
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Leongatha
5662 2302

31

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LAST WEEK'S TIPS 8



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Wonthaggi
Darren 0405 603 569
Craig 0415 641 845

31

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LAST WEEK'S TIPS 7



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LAST WEEK'S TIPS 7



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30

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| Liam Sawyer | 32 |
| Peter Fort | 32 |
| Aaron McGregor | 31 |
| Adam Ware | 31 |
| Craig & Darren | 31 |
| David England | 31 |
| Justin Caporale | 31 |
| Alex Geyer | 30 |
| Ben Fisher | 30 |
| Brad Hodson | 30 |
| Carl Lindsay | 30 |
| Dylan Clark | 30 |
| Leigh Donohue | 30 |
| Matt Robertson | 30 |
| Warren Stewart | 30 |
| Hayden Poppe | 28 |
| Kris Baker | 28 |
| Keith & Eddie | 27 |
| Ryan Shane | 26 |
| Brett Jacobs | 25 |
| Jae Davey | 23 |



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LAST WEEK'S TIPS 6



Bass Coast LIGHT ENGINES
317 White Road,
Wonthaggi
5672 4017



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LAST WEEK'S TIPS 7



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LAST WEEK'S TIPS 7



3/45-61 McKenzie St,
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LAST WEEK'S TIPS 7



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LAST WEEK'S TIPS 8



54 Graham Street,
Wonthaggi
5672 1311



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LAST WEEK'S TIPS 7



16 McBride Avenue,
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5672 1007



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LAST WEEK'S TIPS 7



24 Inverloch Road,
Wonthaggi
5672 5906



**BRAD
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LAST WEEK'S TIPS 7



15/17 Murray Street,
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5672 5878



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LAST WEEK'S TIPS 4



28 Inverloch Road,
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5672 4770



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MID GIPPSLAND LEAGUE RESULTS

RND 2

MIRBOO NORTH FOOTBALL CLUB



68



34

BOOLARRA MIRBOO NORTH

Boolarra 2.1 6.3 9.5 10.8 (68)
Mirboo Nth 1.2 4.2 4.4 5.4 (34)**GOALS, Boolarra:** Nathan Giardina, James Holmes, Joel Mason 2, Dillon Leys, Brendan Mason, Tristan Salerno, Marcus Twomey 1 each**BEST:** Bailey Flanigan, Simon Noy, Mason Porykali, Brendan Mason, Nathan Giardina, Timothy Potter**GOALS, Mirboo Nth:** Riley Gillian 2, Douglas Black, Beau Peters, Damien Turner 1 each**BEST:** Jesse Chila, Jacob Blair, Aaron Scicluna, Hudson Kerr, Douglas Black, Archie Woodall

RESERVES

Boolarra 2.0 3.1 7.4 9.6 (60)
Mirboo Nth 2.2 5.4 7.8 9.10 (64)**GOALS, Boolarra:** James Holmes, Glen Smith 2, Ronan Byrne, Jedd Felmingham, Patrick Haines, Jayden Hawkins, Joshua Hussey 1 each**BEST:** Thomas Holley, Jedd Felmingham, Corey Meers, Ben McCormack, Joshua Hussey, James Holmes**GOALS, Mirboo Nth:** Brett Killury, Blake Peters 2, Nicholas Cummaudo, Luke Gervasi, Ethan Hall, William Lewis, Mitchell Richardson 1 each**BEST:** Mitchell Richardson, Luke Gervasi, Ethan Hall, Isaac Shineberg, Cameron Young, Alex Windsor

THIRDS

Yinnar 1.2 6.5 8.7 12.8 (80)
Mirboo Nth 2.0 3.0 4.4 6.4 (40)**GOALS, Mirboo Nth:** Tobias McDuffie 5, Sebastien Berquez 1**BEST:** Zane Fleming, Archie Evans, Tom McGrath, Finn Bourke, Sebastien Berquez, Tobias McDuffie

MDU FOOTBALL CLUB



113



75

MDU

THORPDALE

MDU 5.2 9.5 14.8 17.11 (113)

Thorpdale 3.1 6.5 8.6 11.9 (75)

GOALS, MDU: Nick Nagel 7, Trent McRae 4, Wayne Stewart, Lachie Wright 2, Timothy Harris, Shaye Walsh 1 each**BEST:** Trent McRae, Jarvis Lacy, Shaye Walsh, Jason Kennedy, Hunter Fennell, Samual Wilson**GOALS, Thorpdale:** James De Virgilio, Jeremiah Jones, Michael McMahon, Travis Patten 2, Shaun Falla, Mitchell Gorman, Shannon Pickering 1 each**BEST:** Jacob Patullo, Heath Ferguson, Shaun Falla, Travis Patten, James De Virgilio, Hayden Britten

RESERVES

MDU 3.6 9.10 16.12 22.14 (146)

Thorpdale 0.1 0.1 1.1 2.2 (14)

GOALS, MDU: Brendan Tomada 7, Luke Harris 3, Ben Cantwell, Kyra Helms, Erik O'Loughlin, Rhys Weaver 2, Kieran Bohn, Rylie Checkley, Bailey Martin, Billy Trotman 1 each**BEST:** Brendan Tomada, Kieran Bohn, Erik O'Loughlin, Luke Harris, Michael Smith, Raph Jefferis**GOALS, Thorpdale:** Bryce Dunn, Daniel Holt 1 each**BEST:** Daniel Holt, Daniel Hammond, Bryce Dunn, Paul MacKenzie, Cooper Miles, Wade Allan

THIRDS

MDU 5.4 9.10 13.12 17.18 (120)

Fish Creek 1.2 2.3 5.4 6.4 (40)

GOALS, MDU: Angus McInnes 5, Jordan Cleator 4, Cody Amor, Cameron Bruce, Will Campbell, Archie Casey, Lincoln Hamilton, Cohen Harrison, Archie Hulshof, Bailey Taylor 1 each**BEST:** Cameron Bruce, Jordan Cleator, Angus McInnes, Cohen Harrison, Will Campbell, Aaron Bruce**GOALS, Fish Creek:** Rye Cicero 3, Aiden Bradley, Lance Moon, Joseph Rysko 1 each**BEST:** Mason Thomson, Aiden Bradley, Asher Hamlett, Lance Moon, Harley Brewer, Oscar Bright

IN OTHER GAMES...

SENIORS

Morwell East 12.8.80 d Hill End 11.8.74

RESERVES

Morwell East 16.11.107 d Hill End 2.5.17

Demons double down on Tigers

by Rover

BOOLARRA doubled Mirboo North's score in its 34-point victory over the mighty Tigers in honeyful 27c sunshine, at Boolarra Recreation Reserve on Saturday.

In doing so, the Demons also retained the George Lewis Memorial Trophy, played between the two clubs every season.

Mirboo North selected teenager, Ollie Mahoney, for his first game of senior football.

From the outset, the pace was a cracker, with supply chain interruptions the only way to slow down run and carry implementations.

It was a spirited opening quarter by both teams, that saw the home side take a five-point lead into the first break.

First to score a goal was Mirboo North's Douglas Black at the three-minute mark, before the Demons twice found the wide opening later in the term.

After Riley Gillian – who was making his first appearance for Mirboo North since 2021 – booted two goals and playing coach, Damien Turner, added another, the Tigers hit the front, 17 minutes into the second quarter.

Woe to report, that was Mirboo North's last major until late in the final quarter.

Soon after, tall and talented youngster, Nathan Giardina, marked and goaled for the Demons, before James Holmes and Joel Mason's conversions helped Boolarra grab a 13-point advantage at halftime.

In the space of six minutes, the Demons had lifted the pressure on their opponents, with instinctive, composed and surgical football, as they increased their forward line focus on flexibility, pace and balance.

As a result, Boolarra proved it's never the wrong time to make the right delivery decisions in a game of Aussie Rules football.

There was more pain for



Jacob Blair prepares his handball to **Timothy Potter**. Photos: Annie Holland.

Mirboo North in the third quarter when Boolarra added 3.2 to the Tigers' two behinds.

Pick of the crop of these majors came from Holmes, when his long left-foot torpedo punt set shot on the boundary line, curled through the big white sticks like it had eyes.

Holmes had earlier played a full game in Boolarra's reserves, where he kicked two goals.

The Demons were forced to play one man short for 15 minutes, when Dillon Leys was yellow carded for an indiscriminate bump on Mirboo North skipper, Hudson Kerr.

Fourth quarter goals came via playing coach Brendan Mason's right boot for the Demons and Mirboo North's Beau Peters from close range.

Jesse Chila, Jacob Blair, Aaron Scicluna and Archie Woodall kept plugging away for the Tigers, as they had done all afternoon.

Although the heat had long gone out of the game, it was still 26c in the middle of the oval when the final siren sounded.

Mirboo North returns from the Easter break on Saturday, April 26, when it hosts the Tarwin Sharks at Tigerland.



Todd Alexander applies a tackle in the reserves.

MDU convincingly beat Thorpdale for their season's first victory

By Rob Popplestone

THE Demons were eager to move on from their first-round loss to Newborough but remained wary of a visiting Thorpdale side that came with winning form from the week prior.

Playing in front of a healthy home crowd provided the perfect setting for an improved performance.

MDU 17-11-113, thirty-eight point winners over the Blues 11-9-75.

"I'm super proud of how the lads responded yesterday after a poor performance in round one," Rhett Kelly, MDU coach declared.

"The energy was up early in the first quarter and set us up for what I think was a great four quarter-game. We moved the footy really well and were able to get our hands on the footy at the stoppages, something we couldn't do the week before. Credit to Thorpdale, who really challenged us

defensively and caught us out the back a few times and were able to score from it.

The Demons certainly had put their first-round defeat to the side as they worked harder, worked smarter and finished better than their round one effort.

"Disappointing as we couldn't get the game on our terms all day," Daniel Taylor, Thorpdale coach said.

"We got beaten on the inside and comprehensively beaten on the outside by a fit and fast MDU side in hot conditions. We just couldn't go with them on the spread, we couldn't get any pressure on the ball carrier which meant their forwards became a real handful."

Even at this early stage of the year, it is becoming obvious that there is no weekend where a club can expect to "bank a win" either you are ready to play or you are not, and if you're not, you're in trouble!



MDU's Jason Kennedy takes a strong mark. ob50_1525

Lions roar to victory over Sharks

By Rob Popplestone

Early season wins are like gold and there is no better time to make a real statement by taking the four precious premiership points than when your opponent is your neighbouring rival.

The Sharks hosting the Creek found themselves chasing the Lions for most of the day, before a disappointing twenty-six-point loss, their 7-10-52 well short of the visitors 12-6-78.

"We were out worked today by Stony Creek who were disciplined and hungrier so full credit too them," Lachie Jones, Tarwin coach said.

"I'd like to acknowledge Chris Verboon who has had a terrific career."

It hasn't be an ideal start to the season for the Sharks, but it must be said that they were competitive for most of the day, a seventeen point lead at quarter time set up the win for the visitors, however there was a lot to like about Tarwin's third quarter where they comfortably outscored the Lions and put themselves, very much in the game.

"It was a very fast paced tight contest down at Tarwin where we were able to convert our chances and come away with our first win for the year!" Troy Shepardson, Stony Creek coach said.

With five goal scorers, and multiples to Bergles, Bull and Bernando, the Lions proved to have plenty of avenues to goal, couple that with the observations of an opposition that describes Stony Creek as "disciplined and hungry" and the makings of a good side are quickly being put together.



Chris Verboon played his last game for Stony Creek on Saturday after announcing his retirement. Photos: G.S. Bruning.



Jayden Battersby, Jordan Staley, and Chris Verboon move in to contest the football.

Tigers pounce early as dogs brought to heel

By Rob Popplestone

MOST clubs, even after a long pre-season and a round-one clash under their belt, are still very much finding their feet in the early part of the year.

However, doing it as quickly as possible is crucial as sides attempt to be part of the leading pack rather than chasing and hoping for results to fall their way in the months ahead.

Foster had to sit and watch round one as a consequence of their first week bye, but if they had spent the time to watch Newborough they would have been under no illusions as to the enormity of the task given the Bulldogs

impressive first round victory.

The Tigers, however, were well and truly ready, jumping out of the block beautifully and kick-starting their season with an impressive 14-12-96 to 5-9-39 victory.

"Nice to get a win first up – we overused the ball going forward and didn't lower our eyes enough and played into their hands," Sam Davies, Foster coach said.

"We did end up with plenty of goal kickers which is nice and we still have a couple to come back in."

At this early stage of the year it really is difficult to line up form from one week to the next but certainly in the first fortnight Newborough have had rapidly contrasting contests.

"Foster much too strong on the weekend," Pat Frendo, Newborough coach stated.

"We showed patches of effort and pressure for periods but Foster responded well every time. Felt like we had a lot of the ball in our forward fifty in the second half but failed to impact the scoreboard at all. Foster was really well drilled and set up behind the footy.

Gave us a really good indicator of things we need to work on going forward. At least we now have the Easter break and bye coming up so get two weeks off to recuperate before we face Thorpdale at home."

An early season break will be welcomed by the players, but not always by the coaches, who after a win are keen to maintain momentum and after a loss want desperately to right some wrong, so with "two" weeks away, the Bulldogs will be under the spotlight as they return to the kennel in an attempt to get their game back on track.

MID GIPPSLAND LEAGUE LADDERS

| | SENIORS | W | L | % | pts | RESERVES | W | L | % | pts | THIRDS | W | L | % | pts |
|-------------------------------|---------|----|--------|---|-----|---------------------------|---|----|--------|-----|--------------------------------|---|---|--------|-----|
| Foster | 1 | 0 | 246.15 | 8 | | Morwell East | 2 | 0 | 973.68 | 8 | Yinnar | 2 | 0 | 289.74 | 8 |
| Yinnar | 2 | 0 | 167.24 | 8 | | MDU | 2 | 0 | 543.59 | 8 | Newborough | 2 | 0 | 160.61 | 8 |
| Boolarra | 2 | 0 | 138.95 | 8 | | Yinnar | 2 | 0 | 301.39 | 8 | Hill End | 1 | 0 | 150.00 | 8 |
| Stony Creek | 1 | 1 | 119.83 | 4 | | Tarwin | 2 | 0 | 147.13 | 8 | MDU | 1 | 1 | 182.8 | 4 |
| MDU | 1 | 1 | 107.69 | 4 | | Stony Creek | 1 | 1 | 132.99 | 4 | Tarwin | 0 | 1 | 46.23 | 4 |
| Mirboo North | 1 | 1 | 102.97 | 4 | | Newborough | 1 | 1 | 90.48 | 4 | Mirboo North | 0 | 2 | 57.14 | 0 |
| Tarwin | 1 | 1 | 100.00 | 4 | | Mirboo North | 1 | 1 | 79.29 | 4 | Fish Creek | 0 | 2 | 29.32 | 0 |
| Thorpdale | 1 | 1 | 93.84 | 4 | | Foster | 0 | 1 | 67.42 | 4 | Stony Creek | 0 | 0 | 0.00 | 0 |
| Fish Creek | 0 | 1 | 86.67 | 4 | | Hill End | 1 | 1 | 62.99 | 4 | Toora | 0 | 0 | 0.00 | 0 |
| Morwell East | 1 | 1 | 83.09 | 4 | | Fish Creek | 0 | 1 | 13.51 | 4 | Boolarra | 0 | 0 | 0.00 | 0 |
| Newborough | 1 | 1 | 79.47 | 4 | | Toora | 0 | 2 | 75.78 | 0 | Thorpdale | 0 | 0 | 0.00 | 0 |
| Hill End | 0 | 2 | 71.33 | 0 | | Boolarra | 0 | 2 | 58.28 | 0 | Morwell East | 0 | 0 | 0.00 | 0 |
| Toora | 0 | 2 | 55.02 | 0 | | Thorpdale | 0 | 2 | 7.14 | 0 | Foster | 0 | 0 | 0.00 | 0 |
| LEADING GOAL KICKERS | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Kane Grinstead-Jones (Yinnar) | | 12 | | | | Jarryd Garlick (Yinnar) | | 13 | | | Billy Durea (Yinnar) | | 9 | | |
| Nick Nagel (MDU) | | 10 | | | | Brendan Tomada (MDU) | | 9 | | | Tobias McDuffie (Mirboo North) | | 8 | | |
| Josh Pearce (Newborough) | | 8 | | | | Jack Brincat (Newborough) | | 8 | | | Angus McInnes (MDU) | | 7 | | |

MID GIPPSLAND LEAGUE RESULTS

RND
2

TARWIN FOOTBALL CLUB

STONY CREEK FOOTBALL CLUB

| TARWIN | 52 | STONY CREEK | 78 |
|--------|----|-------------|----|
|--------|----|-------------|----|

| | | | | | |
|-------------|-----|-----|-----|------|------|
| Tarwin | 1.3 | 2.5 | 6.7 | 7.10 | (52) |
| Stony Creek | 4.2 | 6.2 | 8.3 | 12.6 | (78) |

GOALS, Tarwin: Jordan Staley 4, Josh Chalmers, Troy Harley, Jacob Proctor 1 each

BEST: Lachie Jones, Fergus Warren, Jordan Staley, Ben Chalmers, Ben Ellen, Flynn Brosnan

GOALS, Stony Crk: Kael Bergles, Zye Bergles-brown 3, Tully Bernaldo, Hayden Bull 2, Cody Loughridge, Matthew Portelli 1 each

BEST: Chris Verboon, Cameron Stone, Cody Loughridge, Zye Bergles-brown, Julian Stone, Hayden Funnell

RESERVES

| | | | | | |
|-------------|-----|-----|------|------|------|
| Tarwin | 2.2 | 5.3 | 6.6 | 10.9 | (69) |
| Stony Creek | 1.2 | 2.5 | 4.12 | 5.12 | (42) |

GOALS, Tarwin: Hudson Guymer 3, Logan Anderson, Callum McLeod, Casey Mills 2, Ethan Senior 1

BEST: Callum McLeod, Jordan Osborne, Hudson Guymer, Luke Keily, Stuart Kilsby, Casey Mills

GOALS, Stony Crk: Matthew Coutts 2, Jarrad Abbey, Brodie Chadwick, Brad Renden 1 each

BEST: Jack Stuart, Joel F Brann, Angus Wright, Glenn Gray, Nick Svenson, William Speed

THIRDS

| | | | | | |
|------------|-----|-----|------|-------|-------|
| Tarwin | 3.3 | 4.4 | 6.5 | 7.7 | (49) |
| Newborough | 5.2 | 9.4 | 12.8 | 16.10 | (106) |

GOALS, Tarwin: Alec Francis, Lucas Jones 2, Jake Andronaco, Lachlan Cann, Bailey Trevena 1 each

BEST: Indie Cameron, Lachlan Cann, Alec Francis, Zac McRae, Harrison Watt, Felix Finlay

FOSTER FOOTBALL CLUB

| FOSTER | 96 | NEWBOROUGH | 39 | | |
|------------|-----|------------|------|-------|------|
| Foster | 3.4 | 8.6 | 10.7 | 14.12 | (96) |
| Newborough | 0.2 | 4.3 | 4.5 | 5.9 | (39) |

GOALS, Foster: Jack Flavelle, Flynn Materia, Jack Rathjen, Josh Toner, Troy Van Dyke 2, Shaun Chaseling, Matthew Clark, Billy Flavelle, Angus Norton 1 each

BEST: Oliver Callcott, Jack Flavelle, Dylan Williams, Lachlan Rathjen, Josh Toner, Cody Banbury

GOALS, Newborough: Josh Pearce 5

BEST: Josh Pearce, Blake Julin, Liam Flahavin, Tyler Peters, Peter Ainsworth, Jack Edebohls

RESERVES

| | | | | | |
|------------|-----|-----|------|-------|------|
| Foster | 3.2 | 6.3 | 7.3 | 9.6 | (60) |
| Newborough | 2.4 | 6.7 | 11.9 | 13.11 | (89) |

GOALS, Foster: Alej Lacanaria 3, Tai Daldy 2, Khy Davy, Jack Gay, Zach House, Lucas Welsh 1 each

BEST: Alej Lacanaria, Flynn Lomax, Simon Gibson, Jack Gay, Lucas Welsh, Ben Smith

GOALS, Newborough: Jack Brincat 8, Platon Georgiou, Dominic McColl 2, Harrison Gallagher 1

BEST: Jack Brincat, Harrison Gallagher, Dominic McColl, Alexander Bartish, Corey Beaver, Ben Richards

THIRDS

| | | | | | |
|------------|-----|-----|------|-------|-------|
| Tarwin | 3.3 | 4.4 | 6.5 | 7.7 | (49) |
| Newborough | 5.2 | 9.4 | 12.8 | 16.10 | (106) |

GOALS, Newborough: Hunter Dunstan 3, Platon Georgiou, Oscar Hanson, Alexander Korab, Bayley Read 2, Daniel Edebohls, Harrison Gallagher, Cooper Hanson, Mitch Langdon, Toby McCabe 1 each

BEST: Harrison Gallagher, Toby McCabe, Bayley Read, Cooper Coulthard, Daniel Edebohls, Platon Georgiou

Local Sport

South Gippsland and Bass Coast

Sentinel-Times



Second half surge seals win for Yinnar

By Rob Popplestone

THE clash of the Magpies on Yinnar's home ground was one in which the visitors were aware of the enormity of the task, Toora, regardless of the result wanted to see firsthand what they might need to compete with one of the best.

The answer was, still quite a bit, as one of the league's leading premiership contenders really put their foot down after quarter time to win by better than ten goals.

"We played some really good football in the first quarter where our pressure was up and our ability to move the ball was on point," Jay Accardi, Toora coach stated.

"Unfortunately we were not able to stay at that level for long enough and Yinnar ran all over us after halftime."

The visitors indeed did match it with the home ground Magpies early, with scores locked away at twenty-two a piece at the first break, but as good sides do Yinnar quickly put their opposition under more and more pressure to gain control.

"Very happy to come away with wins in all grades of football and netball in our first home game of the season," Sam McCulloch, Yinnar coach said.

"After a fairly even first half, we managed to get on top in the second half and get the game on our terms. We ran the game out really well and finished with a good win. Plenty to work on going into the Easter break."

The key to Yinnar's success is evident in McCulloch's response, despite being happy with the win, getting the game on their terms and running the game out well, he feels there is still plenty to work on, and that constant drive to be better is what makes clubs and players their best.

TOORA FOOTBALL CLUB

 119  51

YINNAR

TOORA

| | | | | | |
|--------|-----|-----|-------|-------|-------|
| Yinnar | 3.4 | 8.9 | 11.13 | 17.17 | (119) |
| Toora | 3.4 | 5.5 | 6.5 | 7.9 | (51) |

GOALS, Yinnar: Kane Grinstead-Jones 8, William Robertson 2, Adam Bailey, Josh Bugeja, Ben Burrows, Sebastian Famularo, Harvey McKay, Clancy Mills, Flynn Schill 1 each

BEST: Kane Grinstead-Jones, Nixon Hall, Flynn Schill, Adam Bailey, William Robertson, Blake Van Der Meer

GOALS, Toora: Michael Bezzene, Leigh Craig 2, Lachlan Marr, Aron Rhodes, Sam Smart 1 each

BEST: Michael Bezzene, Jordan French, Joseph Platt, Gus Gordon, Sam Smart

RESERVES

| | | | | | |
|--------|-----|------|------|------|------|
| Yinnar | 3.0 | 5.1 | 9.3 | 11.3 | (69) |
| Toora | 1.4 | 3.10 | 5.12 | 6.16 | (52) |

GOALS, Yinnar: Cameron Le Page 4, Kyle Elphick 3, Matt Nelson 2, Mathew O'Toole, James Shea 1 each

BEST: Kyle Elphick, Kyle Alexander, James Shea, Bradley Watson, Noah McCafferty, Gabe Olver

GOALS, Toora: Jarryd Guganovic, James Maurilli-Pullin 2, Leigh de Boer, Cory Jenkins 1 each

BEST: Zac Clavarino, Ayden Walker, Peter Grant, Luke Anedda, Josh Griffin, Jaxon Cripps

THIRDS

| | | | | | |
|------------|-----|-----|-----|------|------|
| Yinnar | 1.2 | 6.5 | 8.7 | 12.8 | (80) |
| Mirboo Nth | 2.0 | 3.0 | 4.4 | 6.4 | (40) |

GOALS, Yinnar: Xavier McCafferty, Hudson McCulloch 4, Billy Durea 3, Harry Bugeja 1

BEST: Kobey Ross, Jay Rogalsky, Hudson McCulloch, Harry Bugeja, Billy Durea, Teddy Try



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Labor promises funds for Fish Creek Football Netball Club rebuild

MONASH Labor candidate Tully Fletcher announced on Saturday that a re-elected Albanese Government will provide \$1.5 million towards the construction of a multipurpose meeting space for Fish Creek Football Netball Club and the broader community.

He is the latest candidate for Monash to commit to assisting the club's rebuild after the devastating November 2023 fire that destroyed the Kangaroos' rooms and priceless memorabilia including premiership flags and cups.

Fish Creek is one of Victoria's most successful clubs with 38 Senior football premierships to its name.

Mr Fletcher joined the Fish Creek and Meeniyan Dumbalk United U18s at halftime to make the announcement.

"The suspected arson attack on the Fishy clubrooms hit South Gippsland hard; we can't replace the priceless memories, but we can rebuild," he said.

This announcement builds on successful club and community fundraising efforts and a prior \$500,000



Monash candidate Tully Fletcher announces that a re-elected Labor Government will help Fish Creek Football Netball Club to rebuild, making the \$1.5 million commitment during halftime of the Kangaroos' U18 game against Meeniyan Dumbalk United on Saturday.

commitment from the Victorian Labor Government.

Mr Fletcher acknowledged the advocacy of Fish Creek Football Netball Club and its rebuild committee co-chair Megan Vuillermin, along with that of Member for Eastern

Victoria Tom McIntosh.

Mr Fletcher's \$1.5 million commitment towards the Fish Creek rebuild matches that of Liberal candidate for Monash Mary Aldred, who said last month that an elected Dutton government would provide

that assistance.

Independent Deb Leonard early last month committed to fighting to secure the \$1.5 million in Federal Government funding needed to rebuild the Fish Creek Football Netball Club rooms.

Breakers learning what works as their development continues

BASS COAST Breakers is expecting continued improvement this season, with an influx of new players meaning it will take time for the side to gel, coach Ella Angarane impressed with her team's effort against Red Hill-Balnarring despite a 60-point loss.

Overall conditions were good but Red Hill-Balnarring was quickest to adjust to the evening dew, taking just minutes to register its first goal. With the visitors having most of the play, Tayla Stahl capitalised on the Breakers' first promising forward entry, her goal giving the home side a bit of spark.

Molly Conroy was a welcome inclusion in the midfield and was one of the few Bass Coast players with clean hands throughout the match. Ellen Williams was another player to rotate through the middle, adding strength and making a contest.

The visitors came out of the main break firing but the

Breakers' defence withstood the pressure.

Cloe Booth used her speed to help clear the ball and Gaby Hynes was a great target around the ground.

While they managed to limit the damage on the scoreboard in the third quarter, the Breakers' defence again had to work hard in the last.

Taking mark after mark in front of goal, the footy seemed to come straight back in.

Coach Angarane took the opportunity to move players around the ground and trial them in different positions.

Final score: Red Hill/Balnarring 9.12-66 def Breakers 1.0-6

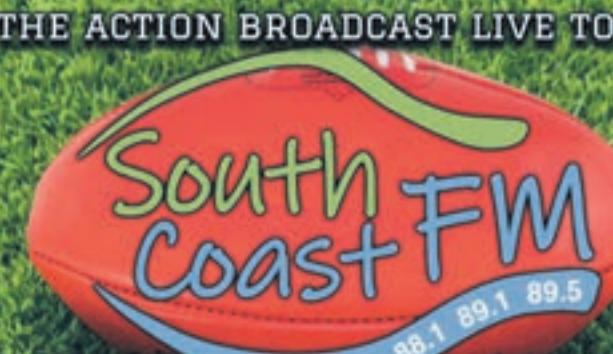
Best: Jenna Russo, Ellen Williams, Molly Conroy, Cloe Booth, Gaby Hynes

Goals: Tayla Stahl

The Breakers will enjoy a week's rest before travelling to Frankston for another tough challenge on Saturday April 26, action starting at 10am at Kinetic Stadium.



Ellen Williams gets a kick away for the Breakers.

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Leongatha and Sale tussle for the ball. ob31_1525

Leongatha gets best of Sale again

LEONGATHA continued its dominance over Sale, the Parrots triumphing by 84 points to make it 11 straight wins against that opponent, this time overcoming a competitive start from the Magpies.

Sale took it right up to the Parrots in the opening term, Leongatha leading by just seven points at the first break, the Magpies playing with patience and often finding unattended marking targets during that period.

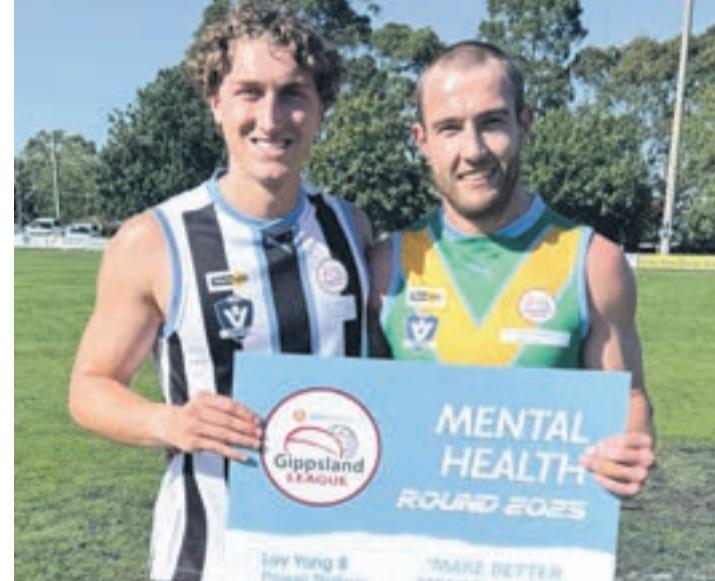
At quarter time, Leongatha coach Trent McMicking commented on the term going just 26 minutes, attributing that to a lack of contests and stoppages and the kick, mark nature of the game, urging his players to work harder.

They responded, Sale finding it increasingly difficult to find easy marking targets as the game progressed.

The Magpies still found avenues to goal, managing three majors in both the second and third terms but Leongatha increasingly kicked into gear, booting 11 goals in that period.

While the Parrots had the game well in control by the final break, holding a six-goal advantage, McMicking stressed the need to improve the delivery to the side's potent forward line.

"Stop kicking 50 metres, 45 metres," he said, telling the players to instead hit up



Sale's Jake Hutchins along with Leongatha's Tom Marriott supported the Mental Health Round cause.

forward targets with well-directed passes.

Again, his message was well received, with some neat passing to the Parrot forwards featuring in a dominant Leongatha finish that yielded eight goals to none in the last term.

Tallin Brill had the ball on a string in that period, booting four goals for the quarter to finish with five for the game, that combined with his ball-winning tenacity around the ground seeing him named the Parrots' best, ahead of recruit Benjamin Harding.

Kim Drew performed strongly

in his 50th Senior game, while Ty Hall excelled with four goals and contributed plenty around the ground, three of his majors coming early in the game when Sale was right in the contest.

Jenson Garnham also booted four goals for the winning side.

While Patrick Ireland finished with three majors, it might easily have been more with some better finishing.

He continues to look an excellent acquisition, his strong leads and commanding marking ability demanding close attention from opposition

defenders.

Thomas Wrigglesworth and Will Leslie were named best for beaten Sale.

Ruckman Jack Leslie had many solid contests with Leongatha's Jacob Warne as the two tussled for hit-outs, the big Magpie finishing with a couple of goals, Wrigglesworth and Jarrod Freeman matching that output.

Skipper Jack McLaren and Kane Cutler were others working hard for the outclassed Magpies, Derek Eggmolesse-Smith looking dangerous at times when Sale players at the coalface got the ball out to him in space.

Leongatha skipper Tom Marriott and Sale's Jake Hutchins each wore the number zero, attracting attention to Saturday's Mental Health Round.

The win puts Leongatha second on the ladder, behind Morwell on percentage. McMicking delighted with the Parrots' work in the last term on a 29 degree day that was better suited to cricket.

"It was a really good, resounding win," he said after noting it was an ugly game at times.

While we're only a couple of rounds into the season, it all comes to a screeching halt for Easter, the Parrots' next challenge an away contest against Bairnsdale on Saturday, April 26.

GIPPSLAND LEAGUE RESULTS

RND
2

LEONGATHA FOOTBALL CLUB

 **133**  **49**

LEONGATHA

SALE

| | | | | |
|-----------|-----|-----|------|------------|
| Leongatha | 2.4 | 8.4 | 13.5 | 21.7 (133) |
| Sale | 1.3 | 4.4 | 7.5 | 7.7 (49) |

GOALS, Leongatha: Tallin Brill 5, Jenson Garnham, Ty Hall 4, Patrick Ireland 3, Aaron Heppell, Jack Hume 2, Jacob Warne 1

BEST: Tallin Brill, Benjamin Harding, Kim Drew, Mitchell Bentvelzen, Ty Hall, Thomas Marriott

GOALS, Sale: Jarrod Freeman, Jack Leslie, Thomas Wrigglesworth 2, Bohdi Walker 1

BEST: Thomas Wrigglesworth, Will Leslie, Cooper Whitehill, Jack Leslie, Derek Eggmolesse-Smith, Lachie Ronchi

RESERVES

| | | | | |
|-----------|-----|-----|-------|-------------|
| Leongatha | 2.5 | 8.6 | 10.10 | 16.13 (109) |
| Sale | 0.0 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 (1) |

GOALS, Leongatha: Xavier Bolge, Brok Davidson, Mitch De Kleuver, Noah Fixter, Tadgh Gannon, Xavier Lamers 2, Jake Cochrane, Levi Hickey, Jake Mackie, Connor Watson 1 each

BEST: Brok Davidson, Luke Marshman, Xavier Bolge, Xavier Lamers, Connor Watson, Jake Mackie

BEST, Sale: Jake Simic, Christopher Laverty, Shane Fyfe, Archer Gerrard, Shaun Runciman, Zane Waixel

THIRDS

| | | | | |
|-----------|-----|-----|-----|------------|
| Leongatha | 3.2 | 4.4 | 8.8 | 11.11 (77) |
| Sale | 1.0 | 1.4 | 1.4 | 1.6 (12) |

BEST, Leongatha: A Williams, C Richards, A Logan, I Bolge, A Livingstone, F Donohue

BEST, Sale: B Harrison, H Davine, J Halligan, M McMaster, D Vandervoort, J Lamb

FOURTHS

| | | | | |
|-----------|-----|-----|-----|-----------|
| Leongatha | 0.0 | 3.3 | 5.4 | 7.5 (47) |
| Sale | 3.5 | 4.6 | 7.9 | 9.12 (66) |

BEST, Leongatha: S Kreutzberger, M Johnston, R Tucker, L Chila, N Bradley, C Bickerton

BEST, Sale: C Rand, A Gerrard, J McDonald, K Pritchett, T Young, O Centra

WONTHAGGI FOOTBALL CLUB

 **70**  **99**

MAFFRA

WONTHAGGI

| | | | | |
|-----------|-----|-----|------|-----------|
| Maffra | 2.1 | 6.2 | 7.4 | 11.4 (70) |
| Wonthaggi | 5.1 | 9.3 | 10.7 | 15.9 (99) |

GOALS, Maffra: Luke Dyer 4, Caleb Calwyn 2, Dylan Alexander, Alex Carr, Noah Christy, Sam Robbins, Archer Watt 1 each

BEST: Thomas Scott, Luke Dyer, Noah Christy, Sam Anderson, Jack McQuillen, Daniel Bedggood

GOALS, Wonthaggi: Jai Williams 3, Blake Cornelis, Cooper McInnes, Jaxon Williams 2, Noah Anderson, Jarryd Blair, Harry Dawson, Jye Gilmour, Joshua Schulz, Hunter Tiziani 1 each

BEST: Kyle Reid, Jye Gilmour, Joshua Schulz, Hunter Tiziani, Noah Anderson, Ryan Sparkes

RESERVES

| | |
|-----------|----------|
| Maffra | 8.7 (55) |
| Wonthaggi | 0.1 (1) |

GOALS, Maffra: Winston Gieschen 2, Jayke Andrews, Jye Brickley, Jack Dowsett, Jovi Kellow, Sebastian Pendergast, Seth Smith 1 each

BEST: Andrew McKenzie, Chase Henry, Joel Bristow, Jovi Kellow, Harper Walker, Sebastian Pendergast

BEST, Wonthaggi: Silas O'Halloran, Kyle Yann, Tom Davey, Ryan Cornell, Charlie Magro, Noah Martin

THIRDS

| | | | | |
|-----------|-----|------|-------|-------------|
| Maffra | 6.4 | 13.5 | 17.11 | 20.16 (136) |
| Wonthaggi | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 (1) |

BEST, Maffra: H Walker, S Richards, J Henry, L Harrington, W Burgiel, B Cottrell

BEST, Wonthaggi: M Ori, L Lidstone, O Feather, L Ton, C Duscher, S Carter

FOURTHS

| | | | | |
|-----------|-----|-----|------|-----------|
| Maffra | 3.2 | 6.3 | 10.5 | 13.5 (83) |
| Wonthaggi | 0.0 | 1.1 | 3.1 | 4.1 (25) |

BEST, Maffra: I Brown, H Johnston, J Linford, M Cox, A Burgiel, R Gieschen

BEST, Wonthaggi: H Bowen, A Jobe, R Hullick, R Tack, B Wyhoun, M Plenkovich

GIPPSLAND LEAGUE LADDERS

ROUND 2

| SENIORS | W | L | % | pts |
|------------|---|---|--------|-----|
| Morwell | 2 | 0 | 228.18 | 8 |
| Leongatha | 2 | 0 | 204.12 | 8 |
| Moe | 1 | 1 | 130.95 | 4 |
| Wonthaggi | 1 | 1 | 118.92 | 4 |
| Bairnsdale | 1 | 1 | 101.82 | 4 |
| Traralgon | 1 | 1 | 92.31 | 4 |
| Maffra | 1 | 1 | 89.83 | 4 |
| Warragul | 1 | 1 | 72.58 | 4 |
| Sale | 0 | 2 | 57.21 | 0 |
| Drouin | 0 | 2 | 48.88 | 0 |

| RESERVES | W | L | % | pts |
|------------|---|---|--------|-----|
| Leongatha | 2 | 0 | 430.56 | 8 |
| Maffra | 2 | 0 | 420.83 | 8 |
| Morwell | 1 | 1 | 271.43 | 4 |
| Traralgon | 1 | 1 | 164.71 | 4 |
| Bairnsdale | 1 | 1 | 142.06 | 4 |
| Moe | 1 | 1 | 102.88 | 4 |
| Warragul | 1 | 1 | 96.88 | 4 |
| Wonthaggi | 1 | 1 | 69.77 | 4 |
| Sale | 0 | 2 | 15.48 | 0 |
| Drouin | 0 | 2 | 8.24 | 0 |

| THIRDS | W | L | % | pts |
|------------|---|---|--------|-----|
| Warragul | 2 | 0 | 766.67 | 8 |
| Maffra | 2 | 0 | 696.55 | 8 |
| Leongatha | 2 | 0 | 261.9 | 8 |
| Drouin | 1 | 1 | 174.26 | 4 |
| Traralgon | 1 | 1 | 102.67 | 4 |
| Bairnsdale | 1 | 1 | 96.03 | 4 |
| Sale | 0 | 2 | 27.97 | 0 |
| Wonthaggi | 0 | 2 | 9.36 | 0 |
| Moe | 0 | 2 | 4.88 | 0 |

| FOURTHS | W | L | % | pts |
|------------|---|---|--------|-----|
| Traralgon | 2 | 0 | 814.29 | 8 |
| Maffra | 2 | 0 | 271.7 | 8 |
| Warragul | 2 | 0 | 213.75 | 8 |
| Bairnsdale | 2 | 0 | 124.73 | 8 |
| Sale | 1 | 1 | 87.04 | 4 |
| Moe | 1 | 1 | 60 | 4 |
| Traralgon | 1 | 1 | 63.64 | 0 |
| Drouin | 0 | 2 | 45.86 | 0 |
| Wonthaggi | 0 | 2 | 44.38 | 0 |
| Moe | 0 | 2 | 30.86 | 0 |

LEADING GOAL KICKERS

Brandon McDonald (Morwell) 8
Ben Crocker (Moe) 6
Jenson Garnham (Leongatha)

Dusties over the line against the Panthers

A YOYING contest saw Kilcunda Bass go down to the Warragul Industrials by nine points.

On an unexpectedly hot day for April, both teams looked to be in form at the Bass Recreation Reserve and it was a battle to see who would take charge of the game.

Both sides did well to ensure the standard didn't slip throughout the game despite the heat, which was highly commendable.

The Dusties got the jump on the Panthers playing a superb opening 12 minutes of the first quarter.

Kilcunda Bass found itself chasing and defending early, trying to keep up with the threatening opposition.

The Panthers had the opportunity to pull the game back in its favour through the back half of the first term and were happy to head into the first break only two goals down after what the start of the game had looked like.

Kilcunda Bass regrouped and went in to play a solid second quarter.

The Panthers reciprocated the pressure from the first quarter and converted its opportunities to kick five goals to one.

Dale Gawley played another impressive game in the ruck, standing strong against Warragul Industrials' Robert McCallum all day.

Nathan Foote played another consistent game and thrilled fans when he took a screamer.

Jack Soroczynski was also a standout in the halfback role.

The third quarter has posed a challenge for Kilcunda Bass historically, and the third quarter is where it lost the game this week.

During the third quarter, Kilcunda Bass worked its way up to a 21-point margin and it was looking like it would be very comfortable going into the last term.

Brody Connelly made two snapshots at crucial moments, which kept the Panthers in the hunt and were very exciting for local fans to see.

However, Warragul Industrials took it up a notch during the middle of the quarter and Kilcunda Bass failed to hit its targets as the three-quarter time siren loomed.

Kilcunda Bass allowed the Dusties to draw within seven points going into the



Jack Soroczynski flies at his Dusties opponent in an attempt to win the ball.
Photos: Anna Carson

final break.

After bringing the game back into its reach, Warragul Industrials went into the last quarter with confidence.

Although the Dusties managed a nine-point win, a few shots from the Panthers – including one on the siren – made the contest look a lot closer for the spectators.

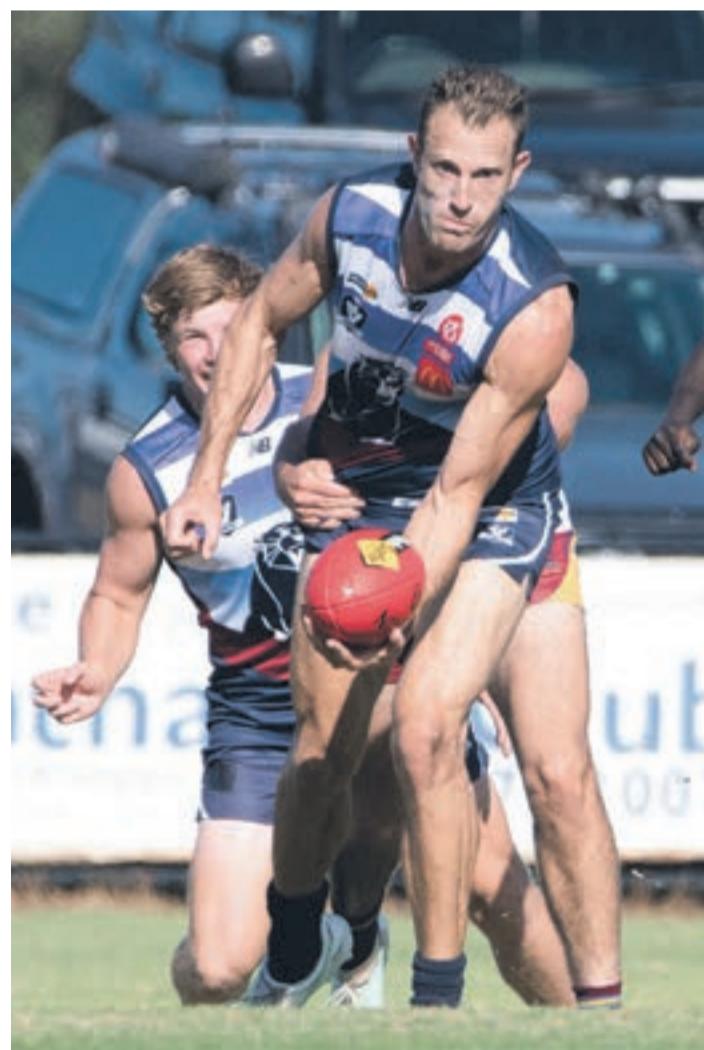
Kilcunda Bass is a young side this season, and there were plenty of positives to take from this match, as well as a few learnings that will be focused on during training.

Kilcunda Bass assessed two hamstring injuries after the game, which may see one player out for next week's match.

Next week, Kilcunda Bass will take on Inverloch-Kongwak in the Easter Saturday clash at the Inverloch Recreation Reserve.

The Panthers are looking forward to this match, which will give them a good indication of where they sit in the pack early in the season.

RIGHT: Travis Tuck looks for the handball as his Dusties opponent closes in.



Phillip Island powers past Garfield with blazing last term

PHILLIP Island Seniors have stamped their authority on the West Gippsland Football Netball Competition with a dominant 84-point win over Garfield on Saturday afternoon, after their shocking first round loss to Nar Nar Goon.

The Bulldogs were in control from the opening bounce, piling on five goals to one in the first quarter to set the tone for the afternoon. Their relentless pressure and superior ball movement saw

them stretch their lead at every break, cruising to a 22.7 (139) to 8.7 (55) victory.

Island's firepower was on full display, with captain Jack Taylor leading from the front and booting six goals in a best-on-ground performance. He was well supported by Billy Taylor with four majors, while Cameron Pedersen and Nick Anderson added four and three goals respectively in a potent forward line.

The visitors' midfield

engine room dominated and kept the ball moving forward with precision and purpose.

Garfield struggled to match the intensity and polish of their opponents. Despite a valiant effort, particularly in the third quarter where they added three goals, the Stars were outgunned across the ground. Cooper Reilly, Angus Emery, Jett Pickering and James Symons battled hard for the home side a goal apiece, while Jahmain Harrison contributed two goals.

James Symons, Brody Turner and Jed Pinkerton also tried to lift the hosts, with Pinkerton showing signs of spark inside 50, finishing with four scoring shots.

Phillip Island's 11-goal final quarter sealed the deal, turning a comfortable lead into a blowout, and sending a clear message to the rest of the competition.

The Bulldogs now look ahead to their ANZAC round clash with Kilcunda Bass on April 26 at the kennel.

WEST GIPPSLAND COMPETITION RESULTS

RND 2

KILCUNDA BASS FOOTBALL CLUB

72 **81**

KILCUNDA BASS | **WARRAGUL IND**

| | | | | | |
|------------|-----|-----|------|-------|------|
| K-Bass | 2.2 | 7.5 | 9.8 | 10.12 | (72) |
| Warragul-I | 4.4 | 5.7 | 7.13 | 11.15 | (81) |

GOALS, K-Bass: Brody Connelly 3, Nathan Foote, Dean McRae 2, Bradley Aldwell, Timothy Gunn, Owen Thomas 1 each

BEST: Nathan Foote, Brody Connelly, Joseph West, Jack Rosenow, Travis Tuck, Timothy Gunn

GOALS, Warragul-I: Bailey Beck, Michael Debenham 3, Regan Awty, Will Gibson, Timothy Hancock, Nic Visser, Luke Walker 1 each

BEST: Kuiy Jiath, Bailey Beck, Michael Debenham, Kyan Willis, Robert McCallum

RESERVES

| | | | | | |
|------------|-----|-----|-----|------|------|
| K-Bass | 1.2 | 2.3 | 3.3 | 5.4 | (34) |
| Warragul-I | 3.1 | 5.3 | 9.3 | 14.6 | (90) |

GOALS, K-Bass: Adam Banks, Sam Dickinson, Kyle McGregor, Dylan Susic, Peter Tucker 1 each

BEST: Sam Dickinson, William Campbell, Travis Stuckey, Lachlan Burns, Dylan Susic, Jai Jose

GOALS, Warragul-I: Declan Burton, Jacob Gibson, Jarrod West 2, Jack Commadeur, Joel Crowther, Joel Dunstone, Noah Glen, Mitchel Jameson, Antony Nicoll, Oakley Walsh, Russ Ware 1 each

BEST: Jack Commadeur, Antony Nicoll, Declan Burton, Harrison Radcliffe, Jarrod West, Gavin Stevenson

FOURTHS

| | | | | | |
|------------|-----|-----|------|------|-------|
| K-Bass | 0.2 | 1.2 | 1.3 | 1.4 | (10) |
| Warragul-I | 3.1 | 9.4 | 14.5 | 20.8 | (128) |

GOALS, K-Bass: Bryce Lawrence 1

BEST: Charlie Burgess, Perry McKay, Cruz Maund, Blake Eden, Ty Amato, Hayden Fenwick, Jack Morgan, Steward Oling 2, Oliver Adlington, Campbell Moore 1 each

GOALS, Warragul-I: Ky Bannister 5, Riley Matthews 3, Samuel Akarsu, Ronnie Buck, Alex Ingham, Jack Morgan, Steward Oling 2, Oliver Adlington, Campbell Moore 1 each

BEST: Cooper Belsham, Henry Brooks, Samuel Akarsu, Ronnie Buck, Steward Oling, Alex Ingham

PHILLIP ISLAND FOOTBALL CLUB

55 **139**

GARFIELD | **PHILLIP ISLAND**

| | | | | | |
|----------------|-----|------|------|------|-------|
| Garfield | 1.2 | 3.3 | 6.4 | 8.7 | (55) |
| Phillip Island | 5.2 | 11.2 | 16.6 | 22.7 | (139) |

GOALS, Garfield: Jahmain Harrison, Jake Van Den Berghe 2, Angus Emery, Jett Pickering, Cooper Reilly, James Symons 1 each

BEST: Ben Tenace-Greenall, Angus Emery, Edward Morris, Lachlan Schreurs, Jahmain Harrison

GOALS, P-Island: Jack Taylor 6, Cameron Pedersen, Billy Taylor 4, Nick Anderson 3, Hayden Bruce 2, Jay Ladson, Max Walton, Jaymie Youle 1 each

BEST: Jack Taylor, Jaymie Youle, Cooper Walton, Cameron Pedersen, Joshua Ryan, Jordy Patullo

RESERVES

| | | | | | |
|----------------|-----|-----|------|------|------|
| Garfield | 2.0 | 3.2 | 4.3 | 4.5 | (29) |
| Phillip Island | 3.3 | 5.3 | 10.4 | 12.7 | (79) |

GOALS, Garfield: Liam Bow, Archer Burgmann, Scott Simpson Brewer, Lachie Spinks 1 each

BEST: Max Mattock, Daniel Caffieri, Darcy Thompson, Kirby Fuller, Kohen Beaumont, Oliver Hibbert

GOALS, P-Island: Jack Keating, Ethan Michaelides 2, Kirby Fuller, Oliver Hibbert, James Nicolaci, Alexander Officer, Brady Ross, Ash Smith, Blake Thompson, Darcy Thompson 1 each

BEST: Beau Scampolino, Archer Burgmann, Scott Simpson Brewer, Oliver Whibley, Matthew Bow, Lachie Spinks

THIRDS

| | | | | | |
|----------------|-----|-----|-----|------|------|
| Garfield | 0.4 | 0.5 | 1.7 | 3.8 | (26) |
| Phillip Island | 3.2 | 5.4 | 8.5 | 12.7 | (79) |

GOALS, Garfield: No goal scorers listed

BEST: Nathan King, Joachim Hayward, Dalton Lawrence, Joel Thomson, Kai Kelsey, Ding Dieng

GOALS, P-Island: No goal scorers listed

BEST: Ayden Fawaz, Jeremy Kelly, Charles O'Garey, Finniss Gibson, Blake Murphy, Archie Ross

FOURTHS

| | | | | | |
|----------------|-----|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Garfield | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | (00) |
| Phillip Island | 6.6 | 11.11 | 16.14 | 23.16 | (154) |

BEST, Garfield: Blaize Koesmans, Makai Maroney, Jex Taylor, Oliver Elvidge, Hunter Redfern, Dane Phillips

GOALS, P-Island: No goal scorers listed

BEST: Jack Mascaros, Sam O'Garey, Ethan Rhee, Kai Cashman, Joe Kelsey, Marley Cabello

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WEST GIPPSLAND COMPETITION

Nar Nar Goon **33.13.211** d Dalyston 5.3.33Phillip Island **22.7.139** d Garfield **8.7.55**Inverloch-Kongwak **9.19.73** d Korumburra Bena **6.11.47**Tooradin-Dalmore **15.13.103** d Koo Wee Rup **14.8.92**Warragul Industrials **11.15.81** d Kilcunda Bass **10.12.72**

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DALYSTON FOOTBALL CLUB

211 DALYSTON **33**

NAR NAR GOON **DALYSTON**

Nar Nar Goon 5.3 14.8 24.12 33.13 (211)

Dalyston 1.0 2.1 4.2 5.3 (33)

GOALS, NNG: Dermott Yawney 7, Harrison

Brain 5, Matthew Gentile, Cooper Pursell 4, Jacob Keyzers, Jake Smith 3, Jed Smith 2, Jake Blackwood, Ryan Bromley, Jed Murphy, Kyle O'Sullivan, Zac Smith 1 each

BEST: Aidan Pipicelli, Harrison Brain, Trent Armour, Nate Pipicelli, Kyle O'Sullivan, Dermott Yawney

GOALS, DALYSTON: Blake Carew 2, Mitchell Davey, Robert Davey, Brady O'Toole 1 each

BEST: Ben Lewis, Radley Tilley, Joe Alexander, Hayden Wallis, Sarin Barnard, Kyle Hutchinson

RESERVES

Nar Nar Goon 6.3 12.5 18.9 25.15 (165)

Dalyston 0.1 0.1 0.1 0.1 (1)

GOALS, NNG: Luke Dortsman, Billy Williams 4, Jonathan Dai, Lachlan Graham 3, Nicholas

Bransgrove, Dan Cross 2, Ryan Doolan, Ethan Douglas, Jai Hamilton, Max McGreal, Lachlan Mcleod, Jack Murphy, Harrison Waters 1 each

BEST: Lachlan Graham, Max McGreal, Jai Hamilton, Billy Williams, Euan Grierson, Luke Dortsman.

BEST, DALYSTON: Troy Alford, Shannon Coldebella, Declan Kelly, Ziggy Bowman Kissane, Campbell Bell, Owen Luff

THIRDS

Nar Nar Goon 3.2 6.8 8.15 13.19 (97)

Dalyston 1.1 1.4 2.4 3.4 (22)

GOALS, NNG: Archer Shorey 4, Oliver Ockwell-Payne 3, Zac Ferguson,

Kaelen Henry, Todd Lester, Tarrant Millar, Oliver Ratten, Austin Schram 1 each

BEST: Matthew Cross, Oliver Ratten, Zac Ferguson, Kaelen Henry, Archer Shorey, Oliver Ockwell-Payne

GOALS, DALYSTON: Noah Shepherd 2,

Darcy O'Toole 1

BEST: Riley Pearson-Rutland, Angus Rosenow, Bailey Anderson, Max Toler, Cooper Shepherd, Tom Humphris

FOURTHS

Nar Nar Goon 1.3 2.4 6.7 7.10 (52)

Dalyston 0.1 0.5 0.5 0.5 (5)

GOALS, NNG: Mason Mathews,

Morgan Robinson 2, Jai Hall, Toby Holland, Aidy Patterson 1 each

BEST: Tristan Crema, Mason Mathews, Flynn Shorey, Jai Hall, Toby Holland, Aidy Patterson

BEST, DALYSTON: Finn McNally, Zack Hughes, Hamish Bell, Tafara Karema, Luke Franks, Jarvis Hynes

IN OTHER GAMES...**SENIORS**

Tooradin-Dal 15.13.103 d Koo Wee Rup 14.8.92

RESERVES

Tooradin-Dal 10.11.71 d Koo Wee Rup 1.3.9

THIRDS

Tooradin-Dal 7.8.50 d Koo Wee Rup 7.7.49

FOURTHS

Tooradin-Dal 14.6.90 d Koo Wee Rup 3.5.23

THIS WEEKEND'S DRAW

SATURDAY, APRIL 19

WEST GIPPSLAND ROUND 4 (EASTER)

Phillip Island v Warragul Industrials

Inverloch-Kongwak v Kilcunda Bass

Local sport
South Gippsland
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Magpies overpowered by Nar Nar Goon

WITH six players out of the lineup, Dalyston knew Saturday's match was going to be a tough slog, but Nar Nar Goon showed it is in a league of its own.

Playing at Nar Nar Goon, the reigning premiers unfurled the 2024 flag before heading out onto the ground to demonstrate why it is once again the flag favourite.

Nar Nar Goon sent Dalyston home with a devastating 178-point loss to contemplate.

Round one of the West Gippsland Football Netball Competition gave a good indication that last season's battlers are certainly improving, but Nar Nar Goon has stepped it up to another level, looking more like a VFL side.

Nar Nar Goon recruited exceptionally well during the preseason and will be a force in the league.

It wasn't all doom and gloom for Dalyston though, as it was thrilled to welcome back former player Brad Monson in a one-off game.

Monson was visiting from interstate and put his hand up to help the club with so many players out.

He proved to be an asset on the halfback flank.

Conditions were hot, but the ground was in immaculate condition for the Senior contest.

The siren started the game, and Nar Nar Goon was on, kicking five goals to Dalyston's one.

Nar Nar Goon looked slick and Dalyston's backline was under constant pressure.

Ben Lewis did what he could to slow Nar Nar Goon's attack, standing tall throughout the entirety of the game.

He was assisted by Joe Alexander in the back pocket, who played with class under Nar Nar Goon's onslaught.

By the second quarter, Nar Nar Goon had well and truly warmed up and was ready to leave Dalyston in its dust.

Nar Nar Goon piled nine more goals on, led by top goalkicker Dermott Yawney, who kicked seven for the game.

Dalyston continued to fight and added one more goal of its own before the halftime break.

The second half looked much the same, with Nar Nar Goon continuing to hit its targets with precision.

For Dalyston, Sarin Barnard was listed as one of the best players.

Barnard has come over to Dalyston from Mirboo North



Dalyston's Jesse Orchard-Moore finds the ball despite the close attention of the Goons.

Photos: Kylie Pipicelli, Nar Nar Goon Football Netball Club.

and played his first game in black and white on Saturday.

He played a tagging role on one of Nar Nar Goon's top players and limited his opportunities to get his hands on the ball in an exceptional performance.

Onballers Brad Tilley and Kyle Hutchinson also held their own against the overwhelming odds.

Nar Nar Goon polished off the game with nine more goals, while Dalyston kicked five for the game.

The Magpies are looking to turn their luck around as they prepare to play Korumburra-Bena in the Anzac Day round.

Dalyston and Korumburra-Bena have developed a healthy local rivalry which, combined with the spirit of the Anzac Day round, promises to attract a great crowd to the Korumburra Showgrounds on April 26.

Dalyston is hopeful it can get a win on the board, especially with a few more of its players expected to return to the lineup.

However, the Magpies will not be underestimating the Giants, which have shown improvement already this season and are looking forward to a close clash.



Blake Carew tracks the ball along the boundary line under extreme Nar Nar Goon pressure.

Sea Eagles win in tough slog

A HARD-fought match resulted in a 26-point win to Inverloch-Kongwak in its first game of the season against Korumburra-Bena.

The Sea Eagles went into their season opener scrappier than they would've liked, but much of it was to the credit of the Giants, who demonstrated great pressure and intensity.

It was a warm day and hard ground made it tough for Korumburra-Bena, but the boys were ready to fight for the win after coming off a disappointing loss last week against Kilcunda-Bass, looking to redeem themselves against a strong Inverloch-Kongwak group.

Nick Beasley for Korumburra-Bena kicked the first goal of the game with the second goal going to Bryce Riddell.

Inverloch-Kongwak had only scored two points 10 minutes in.

Jye Celebrine stopped Inverloch-Kongwak's first potential goal with a great tackle, resulting in a free kick to Korumburra-Bena.

Tackling pressure was high all quarter, and the first term was won by Korumburra-Bena with hard tackling pressure, great leads to the ball and smooth ball movement.

The great tackling pressure continued into the second quarter.

Jayden Deas kicked his first for the game and the second for the quarter, and Joel Cuman goaled after a free kick.

Deas then kicked his second goal of the game and Evan Allaway produced great rucking taps in favour of his team all game.

Inverloch-Kongwak kicked a goal in the last seconds of the second quarter to be in front for the first time all game.

By the third quarter, injuries started to occur, leaving one less on the bench.

Spirits were still high and tackling pressure high from the Giants.

Inverloch-Kongwak started to win more of the ball in the third quarter, and the results were shown on the scoreboard.

Ethan Park dominated for Inverloch-Kongwak through the midfield, and Will Turner was influential at half forward and on the wing.

Dylan Clark was another high-performing player for the Sea Eagles, going between the backline and the ruck.

Inverloch-Kongwak picked up its game to lead by nineteen points at the last change.



Tate Short for the Sea Eagles launches, successfully spoiling the mark. ob54_1525



Dylan Clark and Will Croatto fly high to contest the ball. ob61_1525



Free of opponents, Rem Dal Pozzo passes it confidently down the line. ob55_1525



Dylan Clark, who was pivotal for his team's second half resurgence, springboards another attack. ob57_1525

WEST GIPPSLAND COMPETITION RESULTS

RND
2

INVERLOCH-KONGWAK FOOTBALL CLUB

KORUMBURRA BENA FOOTBALL CLUB

73 **47**

INVERLOCH-K **KORUMBURRA BENA**

Inverloch-K 1.5 4.8 7.14 9.19 (73)
Kor-Bena 2.3 5.6 5.7 6.11 (47)

GOALS, IK: Joseph Nowell 3, Dylan Clark, Jack Ginnane, Toby Mahoney, Ethan Park, Joe Soumilas, Oscar Toussaint 1 each

BEST: Ethan Park, William Turner, Dylan Clark, Clinton McCaughan, Jayden Sullivan, Lachlan Scott

GOALS, Kor-Bena: Jayden Deas 2, Nicholas Besley, Joel Cuman, Hugh Gordon, Bryce Riddell 1 each

BEST: Blake Webb, Evan Allaway, Jayden Deas, Josh Hopkins, Aidan Simmons, Joel Cuman

RESERVES

Inverloch-K 3.2 9.3 15.7 16.15 (111)
Kor-Bena 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 (0)

GOALS, IK: Tully Dickie, Reegan Kemp, Matt McCaughan, Liam O'Neill 2, Ashton Hewitson, Patrick Jobling, Jasper Kempster, Tyler Leonard, Harry McInnes, Malachy O'Flynn, Campbell Scott, Will Tiesdell-Smith 1 each

BEST: Barry Withers, Jack Butcher, Liam O'Neill, Reegan Kemp, Tully Dickie, Ashton Hewitson

BEST, Kor-Bena: Luke Walker, Charlie Dougherty, Zachary Barrett, Alex Walker, Colin Terry, James Dunn

THIRDS

Inverloch-K 5.7 10.15 16.20 18.26 (134)
Kor-Bena 0.0 0.0 0.1 2.2 (14)

GOALS, IK: Augustus Finsterer 5, Hamish Gleeson 4, Froley Anderson, Jesse Dugard, Mitchell Ward 2, Lucas Allen, Luke Aungier, Archie Terlich 1 each

BEST: Archie Terlich, Lucas Allen, Hamish Gleeson, Maxwell Scott, Andot Mankhong, Augustus Finsterer

GOALS, Kor-Bena: Chase De Grandi 2

BEST: Max Fowles, Clayton Quaife, Kade McGuinness, Braedyn Swain, Noah Belvedere, Chase De Grandi

FOURTHS

Inverloch-K 3.2 5.2 8.5 11.5 (71)
Kor-Bena 1.0 3.0 3.0 3.2 (20)

GOALS, IK: James Martin, Cooper Newman 2, Chase Bergmeier, JJ Bowring, Otis Close, Marc Laubscher, Tex Metselaar, Finn O'Halloran, Max Tonkin 1 each

BEST: James Martin, Hayden Bell, Jay Douglas, Finn O'Halloran, Noah McLennan, Cooper Newman

GOALS, Kor-Bena: Zac Fowles, Hudson Graham, Billie Wrigley 1 each

BEST: Braedyn Swain, Kurt Hansch, Dallas Walker, Phoenix Lorkin, Tyler Dole, Harley Storr

WEST GIPPSLAND COMPETITION LADDERS

ROUND 2

| SENIORS | W | L | % | pts |
|----------------|---|---|--------|-----|
| Nar Nar Goon | 2 | 0 | 384.88 | 8 |
| Tooradin-Dal | 2 | 0 | 123.97 | 8 |
| Warragul Ind | 2 | 0 | 111.18 | 8 |
| Kilcunda Bass | 1 | 1 | 164.44 | 4 |
| Inverloch-K | 1 | 0 | 155.32 | 4 |
| Phillip Island | 1 | 1 | 109.71 | 4 |
| Koo Wee Rup | 1 | 1 | 99.39 | 4 |
| Cora Lynn | 0 | 1 | 69.23 | 0 |
| Garfield | 0 | 2 | 59.47 | 0 |
| Kor-Bena | 0 | 2 | 45.29 | 0 |
| Dalyston | 0 | 2 | 33.1 | 0 |

| RESERVES | W | L | % | pts |
|----------------|---|---|--------|-----|
| Nar Nar Goon | 2 | 0 | 466.67 | 8 |
| Tooradin-Dal | 1 | 1 | 219.15 | 4 |
| Phillip Island | 1 | 1 | 143.18 | 4 |
| Warragul Ind | 1 | 1 | 137.5 | 4 |
| Cora Lynn | 1 | 0 | 118.75 | 4 |
| Koo Wee Rup | 1 | 1 | 109.3 | 4 |
| Kilcunda Bass | 1 | 1 | 80.95 | 4 |
| Garfield | 1 | 1 | 75.76 | 4 |
| Inverloch-K | 1 | 0 | 0 | 4 |
| Kor-Bena | 0 | 2 | 20.11 | 0 |
| Dalyston | 0 | 2 | 6.4 | 0 |

| THIRDS | W | L | % | pts av |
|----------------|---|---|--------|--------|
| Inverloch-K | 1 | 0 | 957.14 | 4.00 |
| Nar Nar Goon | 2 | 0 | 204.11 | 4.00 |
| Tooradin-Dal | 2 | 0 | 193.33 | 4.00 |
| Warragul Ind | 1 | 0 | 146.67 | 4.00 |
| Koo Wee Rup | 1 | 1 | 214.81 | 2.00 |
| Phillip Island | 1 | 1 | 166.67 | 2.00 |
| Garfield | 0 | 2 | 45.53 | 0.00 |
| Cora Lynn | 0 | 1 | 27.37 | 0.00 |
| Dalyston | 0 | 2 | 15.85 | 0.00 |
| Kor-Bena | 0 | 1 | 10.45 | 0.00 |
| Kilcunda-Bass | 0 | 0 | 0.00 | 0.00 |

| FOURTHS | W | L | % | pts av |
|----------------|---|---|--------|--------|
| Warragul Ind | 2 | 0 | 2075 | 4 |
| Tooradin-Dal | 1 | 0 | 391.3 | 4 |
| Inverloch-K | 1 | 0 | 355 | 4 |
| Nar Nar Goon | 2 | 0 | 236.36 | 4 |
| Phillip Island | 1 | 1 | 371.15 | 2 |
| Koo Wee Rup | 1 | 1 | 70.09 | 2 |
| Kilcunda Bass | 1 | 1 | 35.26 | 2 |
| Kor-Bena | 0 | 2 | 41.38 | 0 |
| Dalyston | 0 | 2 | 21.15 | 0 |
| Garfield | 0 | 2 | 1.68 | 0 |
| Cora Lynn | 0 | 0 | 0.00 | 0.00 |

LEADING GOAL KICKERS

Dermott Yawney (Nar Nar Goon) 8
Jack Taylor (Phillip Island) 8
Billy Taylor (Phillip Island) 7

| LEADING GOAL KICKERS | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| Brady Ross (Phillip Island) | 5 |
| Nicholas Lang (Tooradin-Dal) | 5 |
| Augustus Finsterer (Inverloch-K) | 5 |

| LEADING GOAL KICKERS | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| Chayse Campbell (Tooradin-Dal) | 7 |
| Archer Shorey (Nar Nar Goon) | 5 |
| Augustus Finsterer (Inverloch-K) | 5 |

| LEADING GOAL KICKERS | |
|-----------------------------|----|
| Ky Bannister (Warragul Ind) | 12 |
| Alex Ingham (Warragul Ind) | 6 |
| Jack Morgan (Warragul Ind) | 6 |

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ISSN 1834-7932



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Disciplined Wonthaggi sees off Maffra challenge

IT PROVED a rewarding road trip for Wonthaggi, Power seeing off repeated challenges from home side Maffra to record a deceptively comfortable-looking winning margin of 29 points.

A Dylan Alexander goal 13 minutes into the final term cut Wonthaggi's lead to just 10 points, the Eagles immediately surging into attack again.

However, Power's backmen were up to the task, the ball soon down the other end where it was marked by Blake Cornelis who made no mistake with his set shot to give Power some breathing space.

Wonthaggi powered on to add a couple more goals, Maffra unable to increase its score for the remainder of the game.

It was an entertaining affair in hot conditions, Maffra starting the game brightly with the first couple of majors but Power's backline working hard to prevent further damage.

Wonthaggi increasingly took charge as the first term wore on, pulling away to lead by three goals at the first change.

While little separated the sides in a tight second quarter, Wonthaggi delivered the highlight early in the stanza, a delightful passage of play setting up a Cooper McInnes mark and set shot goal.

That opened up a 25-point Power lead at the three-minute mark but the tenacious Eagles were right in the battle for the rest of the term, Wonthaggi adding just a point to its quarter time lead by the major break.

Both sides worked hard for minimal scoreboard reward in the penultimate quarter, managing just a goal each.

The floodgate opened for the remainder of the match, with nine goals booted in the last quarter, Power managing five of those.

Kyle Reid and Jye Gilmour were deservedly recognised as the winning side's best contributors.

Both had a crucial impact in defence, Gilmour also doing lots of important work on the ball around the ground and kicking a goal.

Reid regularly cleared the footy from Wonthaggi's defensive arc, delivering well-measured passes.

He wasn't content to then leave all the work to others, showing a propensity to run on, accept a teammate's pass and drive Power further away from danger.

Hunter Tiziani continued to show a readiness to get in and win the ball when needed and used the footy effectively, kicking an important second-quarter goal for Wonthaggi when Maffra was threatening.

Jai Williams topped the winner's goalkicking list with three majors, Jaxon Williams, Cornelis and McInnes managing a couple of goals each.

Thomas Scott was named Maffra's best.

He worked hard in the ruck and impressed around the ground with his mobility and skill.

Luke Dyer finished with four goals for the beaten team, booting a couple in the last term and helping set up another to have the Eagles in contention, while Noah Christy might easily have been acknowledged as Maffra's best.

Christy was excellent all over the ground, winning the footy and using it with purpose and kicking a third-term goal from out wide to keep the Eagles close to the visitors on the scoreboard.

Wonthaggi earned a well-deserved Easter break, Power sure to be full of confidence when they host Drouin in Round 3 on Saturday, April 26, the Hawks having to regroup after a couple of solid defeats to start the season.

Photo: Wazshots Photography



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