

SO, IT BEGINS

NINETEEN months after Erin Patterson was charged with three counts of murder and one of attempted murder arising out of an incident at Leongatha in July 2023, her trial is set to begin in the Supreme Court in Morwell tomorrow.

There has been and continues to be intense interest in the case.

Upwards of 40 representatives of media outlets, from Australia and overseas, have already assembled in the town ahead of the start to the trial proper.

It is also expected that the trial will have particular interest to the people of South Gippsland.

Strict rules are in force about how the case between the Crown and Erin Trudi Patterson, 50, of Leongatha may be reported during the course of the trial to the effect that all details released publicly prior to the trial must be set aside and only those details presented before the jury can be published.

Prior to the start of the trial on Wednesday, the court dealt with some administrative matters on Monday and will move on to the empanelment of the jury on Tuesday.

The trial, before His Honour Justice Beale, is set to commence at 10.30am on Wednesday, April 30 with opening remarks by Dr Nanette Rogers SC for the prosecution and Mr Colin Mandy SC for the defence.

LEFT: Erin Patterson will face three murder charges and an attempted murder charge arising out of an incident in Leongatha in July 2023 when her trial begins in Morwell on Wednesday.

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



So, What Are People Saying About Deb Leonard?



Mohya Davies
Fmr. Mayor of South Gippsland Shire

"Watching Deb speak at a community forum, I was really impressed with her style, you could tell she wasn't just another politician. **She's one of us**—she understands the struggles people go through with bills and actually wants to fix things, not just talk about them."



Ian MacPhee AO
Fmr. Liberal MP for Goldstein & Minister

"The major parties no longer have the wide support they once had. **The Liberal Party no longer has the vision and integrity to safeguard Australia.** That's why I'm supporting Deb Leonard as an independent candidate who has common sense and policies that the voters of Monash deserve."



Cathy McGowan AO
Fmr. Independent MP for Indi

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Bass Coast won't rip up dust suppressant seals for now

THE backlash over moves by the Bass Coast Shire Council to rip up dust suppressant seals on seven residential streets around the shire has had the desired result – for now.

The shire issued a statement on Thursday afternoon, April 24, ahead of the Anzac Day long weekend, saying it will “give careful consideration of community concerns” and hold off while it investigates further. The announcement comes ahead of a decision by council at the April 16 meeting to receive the petition from Reid Street and to take no action until a report is presented to council no later than the May 2025 meeting.

Here's what the council had to say on Thursday:

“Following feedback from residents and property owners, Bass Coast Shire Council will pause upcoming works to remove deteriorated dust suppressant seals on the following roads: Outlook Drive, Cowes, Scenic Drive, Cowes, Bayview Drive, Cowes, Park Lane, Cowes, Maxwell Street, Cowes, Queen Street, Wonthaggi, and Reid Street, Rhyll. “Between 2005 and 2007, dust suppressant products were trialled on some unsealed roads to help manage dust. The primer seal treatment has now deteriorated beyond repair and was scheduled for removal, with roads to be returned to a compacted gravel surface.

“Council will now take time



Some of the residents of Scenic Drive including Lara Rooney, Lesley Truffle, Rachael Ferguson and Dianne Christophers who are among those bemused at plans by the shire to rip up the bitumen seal on their residential street because it costs too much to maintain. B04_1325

to consider recent petitions received and continue to work with property owners. This pause will allow for careful consideration of community concerns, investigation of treatments, financial analysis and will ensure that our approach continues to meet local needs and road maintenance standards.

“Property owners interested in options under the Urban Roads and Drainage Policy will continue to be supported through this process.

“We appreciate the community's input and thank residents for their ongoing patience. Affected residents will receive direct correspondence

from Council. Further updates will be provided as the review progresses.”

Cr Tim O'Brien was particularly forthright at the recent council meeting in his view that council should have a moratorium on the removal of these dust suppressant seals saying policy made no sense to the residents or the councillors either.

“Look, I think this is of such contention that I do believe we need to have a moratorium on this activity. It's very, very difficult to explain to someone that the bitumen is being taken up outside of their property in the name of progress and dust suppression. It makes

no sense to a resident, and certainly makes little sense to us when speaking with these people,” said Cr O'Brien.

“So, yeah, certainly I'm in support of this petition and with a broader view that right around the shire there's not only Reid Street, there's a whole lot of streets affected, Scenic Drive and well, very many others that taking up bitumen seems to be a retrograde step.

“We perhaps need to have a rethink about this strategy, notwithstanding, we know it costs a little more. I've heard the answer that it costs six times more. I'd be very interested have a look at the ledger on each side on this before we make a decision.”

Rachael Ferguson of Scenic Drive in Cowes said she had spoken to a few local residents since the council announcement all of whom were very pleased with the council response.

“We felt we've been very respectful with the way we've gone about this and that we're not simply against change for change's sake,” said Ms Ferguson this week.

“We're very pleased that the council has listened to the residents' concerns and that they are going to take the next 12 months to consider the options.

“Let's get some better solutions on the table and let's do it together,” she said.

Ms Ferguson said they had Cr Tim O'Brien coming down to meet them over the long weekend to continue the discussion.



Eastern Victoria MP Melina Bath with the grave of Wonthaggi ANZAC Albert Wilkinson, 14th Battalion, at the Courtney's and Steel's Post Cemetery at Gallipoli.

Represented at Anzac Cove

THE dawn service at Anzac Cove started with the lapping of water followed by three calls on the conch shells and the wailing of two New Zealand Mouri service personnel at 5.30 in the morning.

Thereafter followed the iconic sound of the didgeridoo calling out to Australians assembled on the Gallipoli Peninsula for the 110th anniversary service, including Eastern Victoria MP Melina Bath, and those of us 15,000 kilometres away at home.

Her Royal Highness Princess Anne the Princess Royal delivered the reading.

She referred to Australian Private William Alexander McPhee's account of the first day landing on the beach under fire at the start of a brutal eight-month campaign.

How different to the tranquillity there last Friday.

Following the Princess Royal, the New Zealand Prime Minister Christopher Luxon gave an account of the terrible hardships experienced by soldiers on both sides including the 16,000 New Zealanders who came from a nation of just a million people. The experience scared his country he said but also left a legacy of courage and mateship that forged a bond between Australian and New Zealand people that endures today. He expressed his immense gratitude to the Turkish Government for looking after the area.

Ms Bath said it was a very moving experience and one she will never forget.

She also spent time at the Beach Cemetery and Courtney's and Steel's Post Cemetery, searching for the graves of Gippslanders, and regrettably, finding a number of them including William Barratt Good from Archies Creek, Sydney Stratham from Leongatha and Albert Wilkinson of Wonthaggi among others.

“They are the most serenely beautiful places,” said Ms Bath in a brief message to the Sentinel-Times this week.

Ms Bath, who paid her own way to make the pilgrimage to ANZAC Cove, plans to collate an account of the local graves she has found and to publish the details online.

ANZAC Day tributes across the district



Among the official guests at Cowes on ANZAC Day were left, Julian Glynn and right, Ian Baker of the Phillip Island RSL with Cr Ron Bauer and Liberal candidate Mary Aldred.



Labor candidate Tully Fletcher with Wonthaggi RSL secretary Toni Cornelius. Turn to page 22 for more.



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CONTENTS

Entertainment	37
Real Estate	40-41
Puzzles	39
Farming	42-45
Trades & Services	46-47
Classifieds	48-49

FEATURES

Plan the Perfect Wedding	27-33
Footy Tipping	62-63

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6 Day Weather Forecast

SOUTH GIPPSLAND



TUE | Apr 29
Shower or two.
Wind AM: Light
Wind PM: SE 15-20km/h
13° 19°



WED | Apr 30
Possible shower.
Wind AM: Light
Wind PM: SE 15-20km/h
11° 18°



THUR | May 1
Partly cloudy.
Wind AM: Light
Wind PM: Light
8° 18°



FRI | May 2
Sunny.
Wind AM: Light
Wind PM: Light
8° 19°



SAT | May 3
Sunny.
Wind AM: Light
Wind PM: Light
8° 22°



SUN | May 4
Sunny.
Wind AM: Light
Wind PM: NE 15-20km/h
10° 24°

IN BRIEF

Pipeline renewal works set to begin on Tarwin Lower Road

SOUTH Gippsland Water is planning on renewing approximately 2.4 kilometres of pipeline to be installed within the Tarwin Lower Road Reserve.

The work in the road reserve is expected to begin in May and expected to continue through to July. During this period, South Gippsland Water will have traffic management in place to ensure the safety of road users and workers, so please make sure you add a little extra time for your journey.

This work forms part of a major renewal project that will see South Gippsland Water install and replace more than 7.5 kilometres of ageing pipeline along Tarwin Lower Road and in private properties.

The project has progressed well, with over 4.4 kilometres of new pipelines already installed and reinstated across private properties. The environment is also being carefully managed to minimise any impact on native flora or fauna.

South Gippsland Water thanks everyone for their patience during these upgrades, as they help to improve long-term service reliability for our communities.

Section of Speight Street, Loch, for renaming

AT LAST week's Council Meeting, Council considered and endorsed renaming a section of Speight Street in Loch to Albert Road for community consultation. The suggestion to rename this street came via a community request.

South Gippsland Shire Council Mayor, John Schelling, said, "It's important that all streets in South Gippsland are named in a clear, straightforward way to allow everyone who drives on our roads to get around easily. This is especially true for emergency services responding to a call for help. I encourage locals and road users to provide their

feedback on the proposal so we can make an informed decision about the street naming."

Council will consult the community for a period of four weeks from Thursday, April 17 2025 to Sunday, May 18 2025.

To provide your feedback, please visit: yoursay.southgippsland.vic.gov.au.

Bass Coast celebrates its hard working volunteers

ORGANISATIONS across Bass Coast are coming together to honour the powerful role volunteers play in building inclusive and thriving communities.

As part of National Volunteer Week 2025, a special community celebration will be held at 10am on Tuesday, May 20, at The Nobbies Centre, Phillip Island.

The event will feature morning tea, inspiring guest speakers and opportunities for volunteers to connect with one another and with local volunteer groups.

"Bass Coast has a vibrant and dedicated volunteer community, with more than 6000 individuals contributing across a wide range of sectors – from environmental conservation and health and wellbeing, to education, emergency services, animal welfare and beyond," Phillip Island Nature Parks' community impact manager Kate Adams said.

"The incredible impact volunteers have on our community is often underestimated. That's why it's so important to come together, acknowledge their efforts and celebrate the spirit of connection that volunteering creates."

Phillip Island resident and volunteer Michelle found new friendships and purpose through the Phillip Island Conservation Society (PICS) after making a permanent sea change in retirement.

"It was like dropping a stone in a pond – the circles just kept expanding," she said. "I've made great friendships and connected with several other volunteer and social groups

across the Bass Coast through my involvement with PICS."

If you volunteer with an organisation, service provider, sporting club or community group – or you simply want to celebrate the power of volunteering – you're invited to attend this free event.

Register your attendance via trybooking.com/DAWMB.

This event is proudly presented by Bass Coast Health (BCH), Phillip Island Nature Park (PINP), Bass Coast Shire Council, Phillip Island Community and Adult Learning Centre (PICAL), and MYLI – My Community Libraries as part of National Volunteer Week, running from May 19 to 25.

This year's theme "Connecting Communities" highlights the spirit of connection and the incredible impact volunteers have in building inclusive and thriving communities.

Pioneer Bay arrest after carjacking

CASEY Crime Investigation Unit detectives have charged a man following an alleged car theft and hit and run outside a Berwick hospital on Wednesday morning, April 23.

The 25-year-old man, of no fixed address, has been charged with several offences including theft of motor vehicle, dangerous driving causing serious injury, unlicensed driving, reckless conduct endanger life and failing to render assistance.

The charges follow an alleged incident where a woman was accompanying her husband from their Ford Territory to a hospital entrance on Kangan Drive Berwick around 11.20am.

The 25-year-old man allegedly got into the vehicle, then struck the woman as she attempted to stop him from driving away.

The 66-year-old woman was transported to another hospital where she is in a critical condition.

Detectives arrested the 25-year-old man in Pioneer Bay on Wednesday afternoon and the Ford was recovered nearby.

He was remanded to appear at Dandenong Magistrate's Court later in the week.

Green Fieldz at Inverloch

THE South Gippsland Jazz Club are holding an afternoon of entertainment at the RSL, Inverloch on May 4 from 2pm until 4.30pm. This month, the club are excited to have a return visit from Sally Carter and Keith Rea, who perform as "Green Fieldz."

Their performance includes stunning ukulele duets with wild fiddle and blazing guitar intertwined melodies and harmonies on well-known tunes. This is a well-polished duo with lively on-stage banter and warm humour are playing a mixture of Gypsy jazz, classical, folk and well-known standards. This group performs on the Mornington Peninsula as well as festivals throughout Australia.

Visitors are most welcome, cost: \$18 cash.

Can you spare 4 minutes?

THAT'S all it takes to check your heart health!

To coincide with Heart Health Week, the Leongatha RSL is bringing a Shane Warne Legacy Heart Health Machine to the venue from May 6 to 19, offering valuable benefits to our community. The Shane Warne Heart Health Check is a self-administered test that requires approximately four minutes to complete. No prior appointments are necessary; individuals are encouraged to visit the venue during opening hours.

Should there be a brief wait to use the machine, the RSL offers a delightful selection of coffee and cake throughout the day, in addition to a variety of meals available in the recently renovated bistro from 12pm to 2pm for lunch and 5.30pm to 8pm for dinner. Why not enjoy a meal while taking advantage of your free Shane Warne Heart Health Check! For further information please visit the website, leongatha-rsl.com.au or call reception on 5662 2747.

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Chris Padovani Director Better Boating Victoria with club members at the Venus Bay Angling Club B01_1725

Spy in the sky drones and remote cameras to combat illegal fishing

VENUS Bay anglers have been warned cutbacks to the Victorian Fisheries Authority (VFA) could result in the increased use of drones and remote cameras to crack down on illegal fishing.

Undersized fish left on the deck or multiple fishing trips on the same day to avoid catch limits could be detected and prosecuted using evidence from drones flying overhead and powerful land-based cameras.

Speaking to members of the Venus Bay Angling Club, Director of Better Boating Victoria, a division of the VFA, Chris Padovani revealed fisheries compliance and investigation officers are highly skilled in conducting surveillance and detecting offences.

"I like fishing and boating," said Mr Padovani.

Better Boating Victoria makes boating safer explained Mr Padovani by taking responsibility for the planning, consultation and approval of major upgrades and essential maintenance to public boat ramps funded by marine licence fees.

"It's a long process to go through and final designs are restricted by budget."

The VFA's Education and Enforcement Branch and Safe Transport Victoria also check for essential boat safety equipment such as life jackets, first aid kit, fire extinguishers, flares, anchor and bilge pump.

Up to six major ramp upgrades are funded each year and over the past twelve months major improvement

By Bruce Wardley

works have been completed at Mahers Landing and Inverloch with works to commence soon at the Lang Lang boat ramp.

The VFA is now using targeted covert surveillance, camouflage, night vision cameras and drones to monitor illegal fishing activities.

Eye in the sky drones with satellite links could relay crucial evidence to ground crews according to fisheries compliance officers.

The VFA and other Government agencies use concealed camera technology on public land and in marine protected areas to gather evidence of habitat destruction, illegal fishing and hunting, wildlife poaching, and rubbish dumping.

Future upgrades to boating facilities by Better Boating Victoria do not include Venus Bay which according to local anglers desperately needs dredging because of the shallow water.

"We only have a metre of water at high tide," said Angling Club President Tony Swinden.

Work is about to finish on a ramp upgrade at French Island with works planned for Tooradin in the second half of 2025.

Jetty and boat ramp upgrades at Grantville and Newhaven are in the pipeline but with no starting date confirmed as yet.

Floating pontoons funded by Better Boating Victoria have also been installed at Rhyll.

Smaller grants are available from the Recreational Fishing

Grants Program for fish cleaning tables and solar lighting at popular fishing locations.

Responding to critics of the new Mahers Landing jetty Mr Padovani said funding a floating jetty that met all abilities access requirements would have cost an extra \$2 million given the tidal movements.

"We have retained the old boat ramp for the launching of kayaks and windsurfers," said Mr Padovani.

"All-tide access at Mahers Landing is proving very popular with boaters."

Mr Padovani reminded anglers that boat launching facilities are funded by boat licence fees and Western Port and Port Phillip Bay attracted more funding because of the greater number of boats registered in the area.

Old boat ramps can be dangerously slippery complained one boat user at Venus Bay.

Mr Padovani said safety comes first and mesh grates have been installed at the bottom of the boat ramps at Inverloch and Mahers Landing.

"Boat users have the right of way," said Mr Padovani.

Responding to several complaints that it can be difficult to launch alone at Mahers Landing Mr Padovani said Inverloch, Tooradin and Venus Bay are always an alternative.

"Venus Bay needs a walkway between the boat ramp and the land-based fishing floating pontoon," suggested one boater.

"My advice would be to encourage South Gippsland

Shire, the manager of the boat ramp to apply for a grant," was Mr Padovani's response.

"Channel markers are in the wrong place," said another.

"Gippsland Ports is the waterway manager and are responsible for channel markers," said Mr Padovani.

Keen to encourage more women into recreational boating and fishing, Better Boating Victoria praised the VFA's Women in Recreational Fishing and Boating Network.

Responding to concerns about budget cuts to the VFA Mr Padovani said restructuring forced by government-imposed savings was nothing new and occurs under both sides of politics.

Facing the potential loss of 35 positions in fisheries, administration, I.T. and licensing the Cowes office of the VFA is proposed to be closed with a new office opening in Tooradin.

"Around 12 years ago the then Fisheries Victoria underwent a restructure which focused on a reduction of technical and scientific staff," said Mr Padovani.

The general feedback from compliance according to Mr Padovani was that most people are doing the right thing however there was always an element of people doing the wrong thing.

For more information on Better Boating Victoria go to betterboating.vic.gov.au.

The Venus Bay Angling Club can be found on Facebook or go to venusbayanglingclub.org.au.

Operation Compass continues as local police catch offenders

BASS Coast police have caught several drink drivers and speeding motorists during the first week of Operation Compass, as the statewide road safety operation continued through the Anzac Day long weekend.

Between April 17 and April 27, local officers covering the Bass Coast police service area detected three drink drivers, one drug driver, four unlicensed drivers, four disqualified drivers and 78 motorists exceeding the speed limit. Police also issued infringements for one seatbelt offence, one mobile phone offence, one disobey signs and 21 unregistered vehicles. Officers recorded two cyclist offences and did not impound any vehicles during this period.

Operation Compass aims to reduce road trauma over the Easter and Anzac Day periods by targeting risky driving behaviours such as speeding, impairment, distraction, and unauthorised driving.

Victoria Police remain concerned by the statewide figures. In the first week of the operation (April 22), officers across the state detected 466 alcohol and drug driving offences – including 248 drink drivers from 150,116 preliminary breath tests, and 218 drug drivers from 5308 roadside drug tests. The strike rate for drug drivers is particularly alarming, currently standing at one in every 24 drivers tested. Police also caught 530 unauthorised drivers across Victoria, including those driving while unlicensed, disqualified or suspended. Officers are using automatic numberplate recognition technology to detect and remove these drivers from the roads.

In total, police detected 7,689 traffic offences across Victoria during the first seven days of Operation Compass. These included:

- 3,231 speeding offences
- 466 disobeying signs or signals
- 375 mobile phone offences
- 131 seatbelt offences
- 149 vehicle impounds
- 757 unregistered vehicles

Tragically, five fatal crashes occurred during the same period, bringing the state's road toll to 91 lives lost so far this year – one more than at the same time last year.

Road Policing Assistant Commissioner Glenn Weir said the number of impaired and unauthorised drivers remains a major concern.

"Despite our continuous warnings, we are extremely concerned at the number of motorists we've detected drink and drug driving over the Easter period," he said.

"Our message is clear – there is absolutely no excuse for drink or drug driving. Take the risk, and you will be caught."

With wet weather forecast for the long weekend, police are urging all drivers to allow extra travel time, drive to the conditions, and show courtesy to other road users.

Operation Compass ran until midnight on Sunday, April 27.

Melina BATH MP

THE NATIONALS MEMBER FOR EASTERN VICTORIA REGION

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Mayor's Message



Cr Rochelle Halstead



LAST Friday, I had the honour of joining the San Remo community to commemorate Anzac Day at a moving morning service.

Across the Bass Coast and the nation, Australians gathered at dawn and throughout the day to remember and reflect. From San Remo to Wonthaggi, Cowes, Inverloch, and Bass, local services brought our community together in solemn tribute.

I began the day at the dawn service in Bass and was proud to know my fellow Councillors attended ceremonies across the Shire – each representing our shared respect for the Anzac spirit and those who have served.

We paused to honour the Anzacs who landed at Gallipoli 109 years ago, and every Australian who has served our country in war, conflict, and peace-keeping efforts since.

San Remo, with its proud maritime history and strong sense of service and community, forms part of this national tradition. The values of the Anzacs – courage, mateship, endurance, and sacrifice – continue to resonate deeply here.

For many of you, Anzac Day is not only a day of national remembrance – it is personal. It certainly is for me.

My grandfather, Eric Brokensha, served in World War II. He enlisted in January 1942 and was discharged in 1946 after four years of service as a Private in the Australian Military Forces. Like many of his generation, he spoke little of what he experienced. But his quiet strength, resilience, and humility left a lasting legacy in our family.

My grandfather's story is just one of thousands. Behind every name on a memorial, every medal polished and pinned, is a life, a family, and a story that shapes our collective memory.

On Anzac Day, we honoured them all.

We honoured those who never returned and those who did, forever changed. There are many families who bore the weight of war long after the battles ended. We also acknowledged those still serving today – here and abroad – who carry forward the legacy of those who went before them.

We are free because of their sacrifice.

On behalf of Bass Coast Shire Council, thank you to everyone who attended services across our region. Your presence helps ensure the stories are passed on, and that the spirit of the Anzacs remains alive in our hearts.

Lest we forget.

Bass Coast finances OK, they say

DESPITE projecting an operating loss of \$1.6 million in the 2025-26 financial year and an adjusted underlying deficit of \$10 million in its draft budget, Finance Coordinator at the Bass Coast Shire Council, Joseph Kay, said last week that the shire's finances were still in good shape.

Turning out at a consultation session on the new budget last Wednesday in Cowes, Mr Kay answered community questions in full and members of the public acknowledged they walked away with a better understanding of the shire's finances.

Asked if a reduction in the Council's working capital position from a net \$17 million in 2025-26 to \$1.9 million by June 2029 was an indication of financial stress, Mr Kay said it was simply an indication council was putting its reserves to good use.

Following the awarding of a contract to a local South Gippsland firm for a \$7 million rehabilitation of the old Wonthaggi tip, some of that reserve will go there, but there's also a fair slab of cash to go towards the \$32 million cost of the Berninnet Cultural Centre.

The shire received \$8.3m in grants, took out a \$10 million low-interest loan and needs to find \$13.7m from reserves and new loans to pay for that, inevitably dragging down the shire's



Bass Coast Shire Council staff members Finance Coordinator Joseph Kay and Waste Education Officer Isobella Grasby field questions and submissions on the shire's draft budget from Island residents including John Trigt and Graham Jolly.

financial position in cash and depreciation.

Council watcher Graham Jolly, who also attended the information session said he didn't believe the council should be planning to make a \$1.6 million loss and was concerned about the depletion of reserves, although he preferred that to increase rates and charges.

"I think the council should be tightening its belt," he said this week.

"And the community has already identified savings that can be made by pulling out the South East Councils Climate Change Alliance which has cost ratepayers a total of \$357,980

over the past five years, cutting back on subscriptions to other organisations of \$388,000 and rescinding its climate change emergency policy which has so far cost \$2.68 million."

Mr Jolly said the City of Dandenong and Mornington Peninsula councils had just done exactly that.

"The council should adopt a simple priority list for projects and programs."

Mr Jolly said he'd also like to see the shire cut total permanent employee expenditure from \$40.6m to \$38m in the first instance and to set targets for efficiency across the whole organisation in an effort to free up

funding for community projects and programs.

Mr Kay said that as well as managing rising costs under a three per cent rate cap, Bass Coast had seen a reduction in its dividend from residential and vacant land growth over the past few years.

The number of new houses to be added to the rate base in 2025-26 is projected to be 398 and increase of 1.4 per cent where growth of 438, 602 and 592 houses over the previous three years had delivered a big boost to the rate base.

If you would like to learn more about the Bass Coast budget, you can attend further consultation sessions on Tuesday, April 29 from 10am to 12 noon at the Inverloch Community Centre and Thursday, May 8 from 2pm to 4pm at the Corinella and District Community Centre.

Budget facts: The draft Budget includes a \$31.4 million capital works program, a proposed three per cent average rate rise (in line with the State Government cap), and updated fees and charges schedule based on projected inflation and increased delivery cost including a 7.4 per cent increase in the garbage charge.

Council's main sources of income are rates and state government grants. Council's draft budget for 2025-2026 includes revenue of \$113.4 million.

Thanks for keeping the tradition alive, Bass Coast Mayor

IT'S an important national day but for many people, ANZAC Day is personal.

It is for Bass Coast Mayor Cr Rochelle Halstead.

Here in part is what she had to say at a very well-attended service on the foreshore at San Remo last Friday.

"Across the country today, in towns big and small, Australians are gathering just like we are – at dawn, at memorials, in silence – to remember and to reflect," said Cr Halstead.

"Here in San Remo, we are part of that national tradition. A proud coastal town with strong ties to the sea, to community, and to service.

"The values we associate with the ANZACs – courage, mateship, endurance, and sacrifice – are values that still resonate deeply here.

"For many of us, ANZAC Day is not only about national remembrance, it's personal. It



Behind every name there's a story of sacrifice and service, according to Bass Coast Mayor Cr Rochelle Halstead who addressed a big crowd at San Remo on ANZAC Day.

certainly is for me.

"My grandfather, Eric Leslie Brokensha, served in World War II. He enlisted in January 1942 and was discharged four years later in 1946.

"He served as a Private in the Australian Military Forces,

and like so many of his generation, he didn't often speak about what he experienced.

"But his service, and his quiet strength, resilience, and humility left a lasting mark on our family.

"His story is just one of

thousands, but it reminds me that behind every name etched on a memorial, every medal pinned to a chest, is a real person. A family. A story that shapes who we are. Today, we honour them all.

"We honour those who served and never came home. We honour those who returned, forever changed. We honour the families who carried the burden of war long after the fighting ended.

"And we acknowledge those still serving today – here and overseas, who carry on the legacy of those who went before them.

"We are free because of their sacrifice. And we are grateful.

"So, on behalf of Bass Coast Shire Council, I thank you for being here today in San Remo. For remembering. For passing the stories on and for keeping the spirit of the ANZACs alive in your hearts.

"Lest we forget."

Danny O'BRIEN^{MP}
State Member for Gippsland South

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www.sgst.com.au

Wonthaggi Citizens' Band crowned Brass Champions

THE Wonthaggi Citizens Band was proudly named the Open C Grade Brass Champions at the Australian National Band Championships, held over the Easter long weekend.

Eleven bands competed in this category, largely from Queensland, New South Wales and Victoria. This amazing achievement was the result of four months of hard work and dedication from the players, including committing to extra rehearsals on weekends.

For many, this was their first Australian National Band Championships and first competition.

Most notably, there were seven members of the youth band who now perform with the senior band.

"The band performed brilliantly. We went in hoping to do the best we could do, and it was great to be able to accomplish something like this at a national level," musical director Craig Marinus said.

Travelling to Kew to perform at the Methodist Ladies' College, the band was tasked with performing four pieces – a hymn, test piece, major work and stage march.

"Our focus was on playing the music differently. We want to bring the music to life, not just play the notes in front of us, and we were successful enough to impress the adjudicator."

"We brought real feeling and emotion to the hymn, and the test piece was 12 points clear of the runner-up band," Craig said. "We were really happy and felt good about the way



Three generations of musical director Craig Marinus' family were involved in the Wonthaggi Citizens Band's national title recently. Pictured is Craig with his daughter Alicia, granddaughter Emerald, son Adam and wife Susan.

we played, but we couldn't believe the result. We are really proud to have achieved this on a national stage. It's magic when something like this happens."

For the Wonthaggi Citizens Band, the weekend was a family affair with many families playing together in the band.

This includes Craig's family, which has three generations involved – Craig and his wife Susan, his daughter Alicia and son Adam, and his granddaughter Emerald. Craig thanked the community for its ongoing support of the Wonthaggi Citizens Band.

"The town support is fantastic. It's good backing for when we represent the town in another region," he said.

"We always receive awesome feedback and support from the community. We posted a video of the band singing There's a Part of My Heart in Wonthaggi and it received 3700 views."

The Wonthaggi Citizens Band have had a great run of competitions over the last eight years, which has come down to the dedication, hard work and support of its players.

With so much commitment

from those involved, the band is already looking forward to its next performances.

A concert with renowned artist and trumpeter James Morrison is coming up in August at the Union, and tickets are already on sale. The band is also looking forward to its annual concert in October.

On top of this, a number of members – including Craig and his family – will be joining the City of Traralgon Band to play in London, France and Denmark in June. They will be playing at war memorials and will be performing for King Frederik and Queen Mary in Denmark.

"Playing with the band opens up some wonderful opportunities to travel the world," Craig said. The band is also looking ahead to defend its title in Brisbane next year.

"It will require some hard work and fundraising to get all 35 members to Brisbane, but these competitions have been fantastic to build the band's musical awareness and skills, which flows on into the concerts performed for the public," Craig said. "Our players travel from all over Gippsland to rehearse and perform with the band, not only for the music, but the fellowship, friendship and inclusiveness that being in the band provides. I would personally like to thank all members, families and supporters."

Craig also thanked The Wonthaggi Club for its ongoing sponsorship.

The Korumburra Cemetery Trust committee open day

KORUMBURRA Cemetery Trust committee are holding an Open Day on Sunday, May 4, between 1pm and 4pm for the local community to answer any questions regarding the Cemetery projects or procedures on burials, cremations, etc.

Many projects are going on, including the extension into the 10 acres of Crown Land next door, part of the Korumburra Cemetery. The Cemetery have lodged a grant for \$24,000 for a geophysics survey to ensure there are no rock issues in this extension, and it is also using radar penetration equipment on sections of the Cemetery, trying to locate a section of the Cemetery around the 1900s where paupers were buried.

The computer program being installed looks positive, where the public will be able to scan a QR Code at the gate and then key in a grave number or name, and it will display a marker on the grave via your phone. No sensitive interment information is displayed; this work involved 4500 plots/interment codes and 8500 names, hopefully, this QR code will be available shortly.

Arrow Bronze will have representatives on site with new plaques, urns and special ashes containers for families; they have some great work to display. Arrow Bronze is in Dandenong and processes about 300 plaques a day for Australia and New Zealand.

A 360-degree camera system has been installed, which notifies Trust members of any event taking place immediately and sets off alarms and lights. Members have also installed a shade sail over a donated seat and table near the Memorial Garden, and plots in the Monumental Section are available for purchase.

Community Support Program

2025-26 Sponsorship applications open now!



Apply between 7 May - 11 June 2025

\$35,000 is available for eligible local schools, kinders, community groups, sporting clubs and not-for-profit organisations from within our service area.

Five sponsorship packages to choose from:

1. Water refill stations (fountains) - up to \$7,000
2. Small water efficiency projects - up to \$5,000
3. School / Kinder package - up to \$3,000
4. Sports hydration package - up to \$500
5. Event package - \$500, hydration station, bottles, billboard sign

Each package aims to promote drinking tap water; water conservation; sustainable environmental outcomes; or build important community partnerships.

Need inspiration for your application?

Scan the QR code, or go to our website to view previous projects and events we have sponsored, as well as the Terms & Conditions and Eligibility Criteria for applicants.





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Authorised by Steve Staikos, Australian Labor Party
438 Docklands Drive, Docklands VIC 3008

Do you know how to make your vote count?

Federal election, Saturday 3 May 2025

It's important that you understand how to vote correctly.

On election day you need to complete two ballot papers:

- a green one for the House of Representatives
- a large white one for the Senate.

On the green ballot paper you are voting for a representative of your local area or electorate in the House of Representatives.

On the white ballot paper you are voting for representatives of your state or territory in the Senate.

Don't worry if you make a mistake.
Just ask for another ballot paper and start again.

Green ballot paper – number **every** box in the order of your choice



House of Representatives
Ballot Paper



State

Electoral Division of Division Name

Number the boxes from 1 to 8 in the order of your choice

2

SURNAME, Given Names
INDEPENDENT

LOGO

3

SURNAME, Given Names
PARTY

LOGO

7

SURNAME, Given Names
PARTY

LOGO

8

SURNAME, Given Names
PARTY

LOGO

1

SURNAME, Given Names
PARTY

5

SURNAME, Given Names
PARTY

LOGO

6

SURNAME, Given Names
PARTY

LOGO

4

SURNAME, Given Names
PARTY

Remember... number **every** box to make your vote count

SAMPLE

Sample ballot paper

White ballot paper – you can choose to vote either above or below the line



Senate Ballot Paper
State – Election of 6 Senators



You may vote in one of two ways

Either

Above the line

By numbering at least 6 of these boxes in the order of your choice (with number 1 as your first choice).

A

LOGO

5

PARTY

B

LOGO

2

PARTY

C

LOGO

1

PARTY

D

LOGO

PARTY

E

LOGO

3

PARTY

F

LOGO

6

PARTY

G

4

Or

Below the line

By numbering at least 12 of these boxes in the order of your choice (with number 1 as your first choice).

PARTY

SURNAME
Given Names
PARTY

1

SURNAME
Given Names
PARTY

SURNAME
Given Names
PARTY

PARTY

8

SURNAME
Given Names
PARTY

5

SURNAME
Given Names
PARTY

SURNAME
Given Names
PARTY

SURNAME
Given Names
PARTY

PARTY

SURNAME
Given Names
PARTY

3

SURNAME
Given Names
PARTY

2

SURNAME
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PARTY

PARTY

6

SURNAME
Given Names
PARTY

SURNAME
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PARTY

12

SURNAME
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PARTY

PARTY

10

SURNAME
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PARTY

9

SURNAME
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PARTY

PARTY

SURNAME
Given Names
PARTY

4

SURNAME
Given Names
PARTY

SURNAME
Given Names
PARTY

SURNAME
Given Names
PARTY

UNGROUPED

SURNAME
Given Names
INDEPENDENT

7

SURNAME
Given Names
INDEPENDENT

SURNAME
Given Names
INDEPENDENT

SAMPLE

Sample ballot paper

EITHER

Vote above the line
Number **at least 6 boxes**
for parties or groups,
in the order of your choice.

OR

Vote below the line
Number **at least 12 boxes**
for individual candidates,
in the order of your choice.

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Authorised by the Electoral Commissioner, 10 Mort Street, Canberra

Ground-breaking solution to cap Wonthaggi landfill site

By Bruce Wardley

TWELVE million dollars was the initial estimate to cap the old Wonthaggi landfill site.

Demanding a more cost effective solution Bass Coast Council has not only saved itself a very handy \$5 million but has come up with a ground-breaking solution claimed to be an Australian first.

Served with an EPA environmental action notice to complete the installation of a final landfill cap Bass Coast had few available options for securing the landfill area.

A preliminary quantity survey put the cost of a conventional landfill cap at \$12 million.

Searching the world for an alternative solution council officers conducted a thorough review of available capping methodologies and finally obtained EPA approval for an alternative geo-composite capping design.

Landfill capping generally involves placement of a clay layer over waste materials to minimise the percolation of rainwater or surface water into the landfill.

According to Bass Coast Councils the geo-composite capping system will provide better long-term site stability and minimise environmental risks and management costs over decades.

Best practice for a composite capping of landfill depends on site conditions and the type of waste being managed but a common solution and most cost-effective approach globally is to use a geomembrane as the primary liner, combined with a secondary liner such as a geosynthetic clay liner (GCL) or a compacted clay layer.

Bass Coast is remaining tight lipped about the exact nature of its revolutionary landfill capping system but given the competitive cost advantage Council may be well advised to keep its valuable intellectual property under wraps. Cr Jon Temby commended



The \$6.9 million solution to cap Wonthaggi's landfill site is an Australian first. B06_1725

council officers for having done the research and finding a far better solution at almost half the price of what was anticipated.

"Landfill capping is always a difficult and expensive problem wherever it occurs," said Cr Temby, "but this is a better long-term solution and getting it right was important for all sorts of reasons."

"I think we've come up with a far better solution than the standard one that has been implemented over many years across Australia. This technology has been used very successfully overseas," he said.

Cr Temby added he was pleased to see Bass Coast had the courage to adopt a process for implementation that will be watched by people right across the country.

"We are taking the lead, I think it is excellent."

Cr Mat Morgan also thanked council officers and particularly the waste management team for the fantastic work that they had been doing.

"I really hope that with this capping method, we are setting an example for local government in waste management," said Cr Morgan. "It is wildly important that we get this right, so let's do this once, let's do this

right and let's reduce our waste. "There is only so much capping we can do."

Cr Morgan also asked residents to stop putting polystyrene into landfill bins.

"We can recycle polystyrene," said Cr Morgan, "but you have to take it down to our waste transfer station."

Cr Ron Bauer noted that the historic cost of capping the old Wonthaggi tip was first put at \$3 million but that had now more than doubled.

"Yet another example of how a capital works project has blown out," said Cr Bauer. "We were lucky that we could extend the Inverloch tip capping down the track in the long-term plan to allow Council to cover the overrun. Houdini would be proud of us."

Mindful no doubt of the still significant cost of the project Mayor Cr Rochelle Halstead congratulated the Finance Department on setting aside money for the project so it wasn't going to be a huge hit on council.

"There has been money saved and diligently placed in an account so this work can take place," said Mayor Cr Halstead.

"It is quite incredible that a reasonably small regional council the size of Bass Coast has such expert officers that can find

solutions that not only reduce the cost to the community but also serve our community well in that 75 per cent of our waste is being redirected from landfill.

"We're leading the state for that. A huge congratulations to our community as they're the ones doing the recycling and they're the ones using their bins the way they should," said Mayor Halstead.

"For us to get to 75 per cent is really encouraging."

Cr Tim O'Brien joined Cr Halstead in her comments saying all indicators show the Bass Coast community is leading the pack.

"Best on ground," added Mayor Halstead.

Cr Temby said it was a great project, and council had reduced the cost of managing the landfill very significantly with a better product than what had been available before.

The tender for the Wonthaggi landfill rehabilitation works was awarded to EcoProjects based in Korumburra for a contract sum of \$6.9 million.

The project is scheduled to commence in April/May extending into 2025/26. The total budget available for this multi-year project is \$8.4 million (GST exclusive), which includes contingency and project management fees.

GSHS achieves outstanding accreditation results

GIPPSLAND Southern Health Service has achieved outstanding results in its latest accreditation review.

GSHS's hospitals in Leongatha and Korumburra have both been accredited for the next three years following the review.

In December 2024, GSHS undertook the rigorous SNAP accreditation process, the national quality and healthcare standard for assessing clinical quality, patient safety, and governance.

The final report has been issued this month, showing GSHS has passed all eight standards. CEO Lou Sparkes said GSHS achieved outstanding results and had passed accreditation with flying colours.

"This achievement is a testament to the expertise, vision, and dedication of our remarkable teams," Ms Sparkes said.

The report says GSHS has well-established governance processes with a highly engaged board that oversees the processes.

"There is a relatively new executive team, and their commitment to work with the Board and staff to ensure there was a culture of quality and safety in all clinical areas was noted," it states.

It said the organisation's strong governance culture was evident, with monitoring and commitment by the executive team and relevant committees evident in Infection Control standards.

The health service's connection with the community was also praised.

"The organisation has a consumer participation strategy for 2023-2026, and consumers on the Safety and Best Practice Committee are engaged in policy development and review," the report states.

A strong culture of management of high-risk medications and best practice in management of pharmaceutical waste was noted in the report. The report praised good governance processes with policies and procedures in relation to comprehensive care.

"Effective communication for safe patient care is underpinned by procedures to enable information to be transferred across the patient's journey commencing at admission through to discharge and follow up. The goals of care were consistently discussed with patients and families at handover."

Blood is effectively managed across GSHS and there are good governance processes in place with a blood management committee.

The report also praised GSHS's processes for managing patients experiencing acute deterioration. Following the initial review, GSHS was assessed as having met all requirements of the eight standards.

How are you celebrating National Volunteer Week?



Council is excited to announce our micro-grant program, designed to support volunteer groups celebrate National Volunteers Week under this year's theme: *Connecting Communities*.

What's on offer:

- Micro-grants up to \$100 per group
- Funds can support events such as morning teas, sausage sizzles, or outings, to acknowledge your volunteers
- Already have an event planned? Apply for funding to boost it!

Let's Get Creative! Let's Connect Communities!
To apply visit www.basscoast.vic.gov.au/volunteerweek

For further information contact Council's Community Strengthening Team on 1300 BCOAST (226 278) or (03) 5671 2211 or email communitystrengthening@basscoast.vic.gov.au



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South Gippsland Shire Council News

Provide feedback on key Council Plans

South Gippsland Shire Council is seeking community feedback on several key draft documents that will help shape the future of our region.

The suite of strategic documents will guide Council's decision-making and actions over the next four years, setting the direction for South Gippsland as outlined in the revised 2040 Community Vision.

The key documents include:

- *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*
- *Draft Asset Plan 2025 - 2035*
- *Draft Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2025 - 2029*

Your feedback is essential to ensure these key Plans reflect our community's aspirations.

To read any of the documents that interest you and provide your feedback, please visit:
yoursay.southgippsland.vic.gov.au

Feedback closes Wednesday 7 May 2025.

Corner Inlet Motorcycle Club Lease Feedback



The proposed lease of 2746 Meeniyar Promontory Road, Yanakie to the Corner Inlet Motorcycle Club is now open for community consultation, as part of Council's budget feedback process.

Council is proposing to lease the site to the Club for five years as of 1 July 2025, with an option for a further lease term of five years for the purpose and use of the land as a motorcycle track and club.

To provide your feedback, please visit:
yoursay.southgippsland.vic.gov.au

COUNCIL MEETINGS

Additional Council Meeting:

An additional Council Meeting will be held on Wednesday 30 April 2025 at 10.30am in Council Chambers, Leongatha. The Meeting will be closed to the public as there will only be one item considered, which relates to the recruitment of the CEO.

Council Meeting:

The May Council Meeting will be held on Wednesday 21 May 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

COMMUNITY TRAINING

South Gippsland Shire Council's May and June Community Training Calendar is now available.

These sessions offer learning and development opportunities for South Gippsland Shire residents, volunteers, community leaders, community groups and not-for-profit organisations.

To see what's available and to register for a session, please visit:

www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/communitytraining

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Check out our current vacant positions here:

www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/vacantpositions

CANDLELIGHT VIGIL

Join us for a Candlelight Vigil on Wednesday 7 May to honour and remember those whose lives have been lost due to domestic and family violence.

When: 6.30pm

Where: The grassed area between the Council office at 9 Smith Street and Leongatha Memorial Hall

CONTACT US

9 Smith Street, Leongatha

15 Little Commercial Street, Korumburra
03 5662 9200

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South Gippsland Shire Mayor John Schelling and Cr Bron Beach stand at either end of the latest group of South Gippsland residents to declare their loyalty to Australia. The new official Aussies are Kenneth and Diane Dixon (New Zealand), Jody Page (USA), Ruth Hamilton (UK), Charles Kagonda (Zimbabwe), Vasko Cickovski (North Macedonia), Bertram Trow and Deborah Williams (UK).

New Aussies in South Gippsland

EIGHT South Gippslanders became dinky-di Aussies at a Wednesday night citizenship ceremony held in Leon-gatha's council chambers.

Iconic Australian images such as echidnas, banksias and wattle, vegemite and meat pies were shown on screens, accompanied by the patriotic sounds of the South Gippsland Shire Brass Band playing live numbers including 'I am Australian' and 'I Still Call Australia Home'.

Council's Interim CEO Alison Jones and Mayor John Schelling led the formalities, half the conferees electing to pledge their allegiance to Australia by oath and the rest by affirmation.

Cr Schelling told the conferees they would assume both the privileges and responsibilities of Australian citizenship.

Ruth Hamilton from the UK, who lives in Tarwin Lower, decided that after 37 years in the land down under it was time to officially become an Aussie, her son-in-law's decision to do so recently encouraged her to follow suit.

She looks forward to having an Australian passport and to voting, saying she can have her say in the upcoming Federal election, making her feel more engaged in the process.

Ruth is delighted to have migrated to Australia to raise her children due to the available opportunities, saying she's never looked back, becoming an Australian citizen reinforcing the sentiment that she is at home.

Settling on the coast of South Gippsland makes for the perfect environment to wind down as she heads for retirement, enjoying having a larger block, chickens and a vegetable garden, along with a friendly community.



Kenneth Dixon is acknowledged as an Australian citizen by Cr Bron Beach and Mayor John Schelling. A02_1725

Toora resident, Charles Kagonda has lived in Australia for 21 years after arriving from his native Zimbabwe and is excited to be an Aussie, like Ruth looking forward to voting.

He moved to Australia as a skilled migrant so his children could grow up in a peaceful environment with opportunities to follow their passions and shape their own futures.

Having been raised in a rural environment where he looked after livestock, coming to South Gippsland felt like a return to his roots and he has reconnected with farming and loves spending time in nature.

Vasko Cickovski of North Macedonia came to Australia to study accounting, falling in love with the country and its people.

He and his family moved to South Gippsland when they purchased a bakery in Meenyan, all of them enjoying country life and visiting nearby beaches.

Deborah Williams arrived

in Australia with her family as a youngster, her parents making the move in search of a brighter future, and she and her family were drawn to the charm of South Gippsland, the peace and quiet, welcoming community and relaxed country atmosphere.

She continues to enjoy the open spaces, bushland, horse riding and walking in nature reserves.

Kiwis Kenneth and Diane Dixon shifted to Australia when Kenneth got work at BHP in South Australia, eventually heading to Victoria and making the move to South Gippsland in retirement after being drawn there by the stunning countryside and relaxed pace.

Jody Page was a television producer and studio engineer in Connecticut America before meeting and marrying an Australian from South Gippsland and moving to Australia during the pandemic.

He loves South Gippsland's beaches and restaurants and the chance to spend quality

time with family, being a keen camper and a theatre lover.

Bertram Trow from the United Kingdom came to Australia during a gap year, meeting his now wife just a week before he was to head home and quickly deciding to cancel his flights.

He and his wife settled in Korumburra, friends already having moved to the area, Bertram feeling at home with the cool and wet weather.

Bertram and his family love exploring nearby towns, learning about the region's history and enjoy foraging for wild foods and having space to grow their own produce.

The new citizens were free to sing the national anthem with the accompaniment of the brass band.

In keeping with modern sentiments, the Australian flag was accompanied by those representing Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, and attendees and conferees heard of the enduring culture and importance of the nation's original inhabitants.

Shire Message



South Gippsland
Shire Council

Cr Bron Beach



HELLO South Gippsland, Firstly, I would like to extend my thanks to the Mayor for giving me the opportunity to share with our wonderful community this week.

ANZAC Day

As we reflect on ANZAC Day, I had the honour of attending the service in Korumburra. It was a moving tribute to the brave men and women who have served our country, and a reminder of the sacrifices made for our freedom.

Engagement Opportunities

Council currently has several engagement opportunities available, and I encourage everyone to provide feedback. In particular, we want to hear your thoughts about the key Council Plans that will help shape the future of South Gippsland. These plans cover a wide range of important areas, including financial management, public health, infrastructure, and community wellbeing. I can't stress enough just how incredibly important your feedback is. It ensures that we, as a Council, align our work with the aspirations of our community.

Additionally, there is an opportunity to have your say on the lease extension proposal for 2746 Meenyan Promontory Road, Yanakie to the Corner Inlet Motorcycle Club, and the proposition to rename a section of Speight Street in Loch to Albert Road.

Community Planning Networks

I would also like to acknowledge our many Community Planning Networks and the incredible job they do advocating for their communities and helping Council bring their advocacy priorities to fruition. These networks are instrumental in making South Gippsland a fabulous place to live, work, learn, and visit.

Community Group Funding

In our Draft Budget, you will see an additional \$20,000 allocated to Council's Community Grants program. This funding aims to support the incredible work of volunteers and non-profit

organisations in South Gippsland, bringing the total value of the program to \$260,000.

We believe that these funds will empower our community groups to thrive, supporting the retention of volunteers through various initiatives. Whether it's providing essential resources, organising community events, or launching new projects, this additional funding will help ensure that our community groups continue to flourish and make a positive impact.

Community Training

We also have a number of FREE community training sessions happening throughout May and June, starting with the Provide Basic Emergency Life Support (HLTAID010) course. In-person sessions will be held in Foster and Venus Bay, and participants will receive a nationally accredited statement of attainment upon completion.

To register or find a training session that interests you, please head to: www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/communitytraining

Art in South Gippsland

Finally, I want to give a shoutout to our incredible arts community. As a member of the Arts Advisory Committee. President of Leongatha Lyric Theatre and someone who attend many arts events around the region, I am always blown away by the incredible talent and creativity that thrives in our community. The dedication and passion of local artists, combined with the support and enthusiasm of our audiences, create a buzzing arts scene. Each event and exhibition showcases unique perspectives and artistic expressions, making South Gippsland a truly special place for the arts.

There are so many creative events happening all over South Gippsland and if you're looking for things to do on the weekend, there are always exhibitions and events celebrating our incredible community. A small yet mighty group whose creativity knows no bounds. visitsouthgippsland.com.au/events

Thank you for your continued support and engagement.

Explore education at St Paul's Open Day



ST PAUL'S Anglican Grammar School invites families and the wider community to explore the world of education at this year's Open Day on Saturday, May 10 between 10am and 2pm at their Drouin and Warragul Campuses.

Visit the Drouin site via McGlone Road (opposite Kingston Heath Drive) and meet the friendly team to discover how the year has progressed for Pre-Kinder to Year 3 students since the opening of the campus earlier this year.

Tour the Warragul Campus facilities and connect with dedicated educators to gain

insight into Kinder through to Year 12 at 150 Bowen Street.

Tours start from 10am with the last tour departing at 1pm. To register your attendance for Saturday, May 10, please visit the St Paul's website: stpaulsags.vic.edu.au

LEFT: St Paul's Secondary School Leaders Sydelle Isaacs, Giaan McConville Plant, Thomas Prestidge and William Blackwood welcome families and the wider community to attend the school's Open Day.

New mapping system for South Gippsland Shire Council

A \$97,150 contract awarded for a replacement Geographical Information System (GIS) sparked the Sentinel-Times' curiosity, leading to an intriguing chat with a couple of South Gippsland Shire Council technological enthusiasts about the applications for such a system and the need for a replacement.

The three-year contract, with two one-year extensions available, was awarded to Chartis Technology to implement Pozi GIS, council currently using IntraMaps.

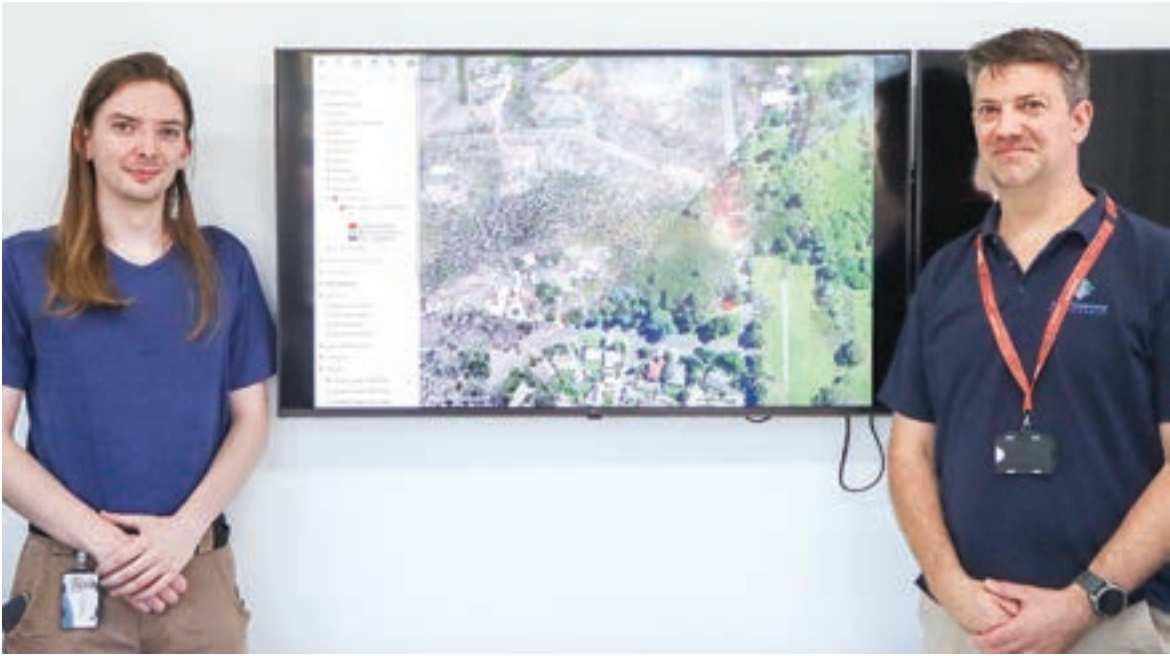
Council's manager for digital and technology Simon Dean and geographic information officer Sam Stacey were delighted to share some of the many uses for GIS and detail the need for a change in provider.

Simon outlined the reason for the transition after having been with IntraMaps for quite some time, explaining that on-premises support was ending, forcing a move to the cloud and that would more than double yearly costs up to about \$95,000.

"Not only was it going to cost us too much but we also start to lose functionality so the planners wouldn't be able to access the information they need," he said.

"We ended up with Chartis who jumped on board with us with Pozi and they provided better value," Simon said of the outcome of a tendering process to explore other options, saying council will benefit from reduced costs and better technology.

Sam added that new features continue to be added to Pozi



South Gippsland Shire Council's Sam Stacey and Simon Dean enjoy explaining the use of Geographical Information Systems, here demonstrating Mirboo North after and before the February 2024 storm. A01_1725

and that expected future developments have been well communicated.

"It's anything to do with spatial information or where things are located in the world," he said of GIS, a simple practical example being the location of pipes, that informing those running the Dial Before You Dig service.

The public can currently access some information, excluding anything confidential or private, related to South Gippsland Shire through IntraMaps, with the Pozi version to replace that.

Access to high resolution birds-eye imagery from across the shire is likely to appeal

to many community members, being able to see things in much greater detail than through Google.

"We're aiming to have things like your bin collection dates displayed on the map, any council facilities and services, or upcoming things like when immunisations (will) be happening, sports and recreation, your nearest schools," Sam said.

People can view differences over time, a stark example being images of Mirboo North before and after the devastating 2024 storm event.

Erosion in the Sandy Point area was illustrated by contrasting 2008 images with

those from 2024.

"You can see large-scale changes over long periods of time," Sam said.

That includes tying in with council's asset management systems, access to GIS enabling staff to view how assets are changing over time and helping with prioritisation of work needing to be done.

The tool also allows for evaluation of risks such as potential landslips.

GIS has practical applications for planning, with concerns over coastal erosion a key area.

"There's a whole lot of other data sets that contribute, things like sea level rise,

sensitivity of environment which planners will use in this system, working with State Government as well, it's all collated into a single reference point," Sam said.

"So, if someone rings up council and says I want to build a new house on this property, when they get through to a planner for planning advice, that planner will open up a map looking at that property and the overlays that might apply to it or other constraints."

Potential impacts of changes to legislation, such as buffer zones around landfill sites, can be seen through the use of GIS.

Required buffer zones around proposed wind turbine sites in South Gippsland Shire were illustrated to be impractical to achieve in many cases through the use of GIS, dots on a map showing the high density of rural housing in the shire.

That requires the expertise of council staff to identify such opportunities and apply them practically through various available tools.

With Nyora expected to experience major development and substantial population growth, GIS can show proposed settlement boundaries for the township and how particular pieces of land are currently zoned.

The swap over to Pozi is expected to occur on May 5 but IntraMaps will still be accessible by council staff until the end of the year if needed.

There's no doubt one can easily get lost in the absorbing detail available across a broad range of applications and locations in the GIS environment.

MARY ALDRED

GET AUSTRALIA
BACK ON TRACK



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

So, what are people saying about Deb?

We asked around...

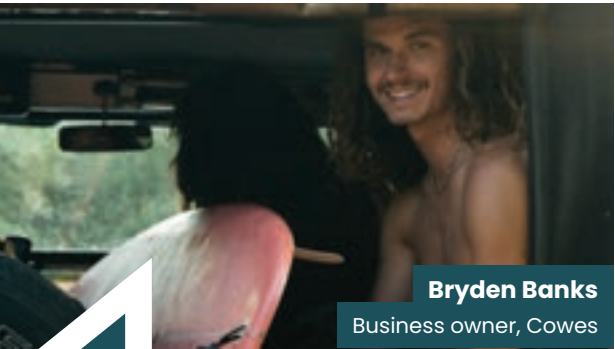
Vote 1

Deb Leonard

INDEPENDENT



"Firstly Deb Leonard is an **exceptional** listener and is **genuinely** looking to understand people. Secondly, and most importantly, **she understands life in regional communities**. Not just the challenges of living remotely but the national and international issues that are impacting our **families** and **businesses**."



"I'm supporting Deb because **she's not another party puppet**. She'll **fight** for our fair share of funding for infrastructure, roads and the West Gippsland hospital. We need someone who **represents us**, **not party interests**."



"As a young person who recently started a business, we have faced plenty of struggles. Deb has been **genuinely** keen to assist with any issues and **create opportunities** for young people, supporting us to **stay in the region**."



"As a doctor in Baw Baw Shire, I see firsthand how our healthcare system is struggling. **Deb understands we desperately need that new hospital** and will **fight** for it. She'll put our community first."



"Deb is not like the usual politicians. She **actually listens** when I talk about how hard it is to make ends meet these days. Deb will **fight** for the everyday people in our community to bring costs down, improve housing and bring more **common sense, integrity** and **transparency** to politics."



"Deb cares about **delivering**. She's fighting for **better health services, more aged care places, and more affordable housing** because that's what we **actually** need."



"Deb understands the struggles faced by everyday people in our community, like **rising grocery costs, increasing power bills and the lack of affordable housing**. Deb has **practical** policies that will bring costs down, improve our towns and **look after** people in our community."



"The party politicians have had their chance. I've watched Deb **stand up** for families in crisis throughout her career. She doesn't just talk about fairness—**she fights for it**. That's why she has my vote."



"The major parties have **ignored** regional Victoria for **too long**. I'm supporting Deb because we **deserve** a representative who'll make sure **we're heard** and get us **funding** for all the things our community needs."

Tully Fletcher rubbishes local Teal’s campaign but preferences her highly

By Andrew Palocz

DESPITE savaging Deb Leonard’s campaign on Win News, Labor candidate for Monash Tully Fletcher has thrown his support behind the Climate 200-backed independent on his how-to-vote card, listing her second.

“Voters in Monash have been on the receiving end of one of the biggest and most annoying marketing campaigns our community has ever seen from the Teals and the Liberals,” Kilcunda-based Mr Fletcher told viewers, appearing to link the two adversaries as having run a joint campaign.

However, his how-to-vote advice does anything but. Liberal candidate Mary Aldred listed sixth.

Illustrating the gap that exists between the Coalition and the Teals, Liberal candidate for Monash Mary Aldred placed Ms Leonard eighth, only ahead of Greens candidate Terence Steele.

As reported in this paper on February 25, a spokesperson for the Bass Coast Greens, in a media statement to announce Mr Steele’s candidature, acknowledged some regular Greens volunteers were moving over to Ms Leonard’s campaign.

“Here in Monash, we’ll be focusing on keeping Dutton’s Liberal candidate out of office and are happy to see a strong independent candidate putting up a good fight,” the Greens spokesperson said at the time, having noted the Greens have demonstrated an ability to work constructively with the crossbench and Teal MPs.

Interestingly, Mr Fletcher acknowledges Ms Leonard as a Teal despite the repeated protests of her supporters that she is a true independent and that Teals are a made-up media concept.

Monash electors join the rush to vote early

IN LINE with record numbers of voters turning out in the first few days of early voting last week, queues snaked out of the Phillip Island Masonic Lodge for up to 100 metres at various stages on Wednesday and Thursday.

Some of it was down to the holiday crowds that have continued to linger on the Island even after schools went back, ahead of the Anzac Long Weekend but it was noticeable that most were locals.

“Just getting it out of the way,” was the popular refrain with most people not even bothering with the pretence of claiming to be working or travelling on election day although in the country many people get a legitimate excuse for voting early by being more than eight kilometres from a polling place on election day.

However, with upwards of half a million people voting on each of the first three days, and at least 2.4 million expected to vote by postal ballot there will be precious few of the 18 million enrolled voters left when the official election day rolls around on Saturday, May 3.

It was quite a festive scene at the Cowes booth on Wednesday with multiple volunteers for the major party candidates, Mary Aldred of the Liberals and Tully Fletcher for Labor, and each of the others including Greens, One Nation, Deb Leonard and Russell Broadbent represented by party supporters.

The Trumpet of Patriots, Legalise Cannabis and Family First candidates periodically represented.



Volunteers for the Labor Party Anne and Tony were surprised by how busy the early voting centre was at Cowes on the first few days of early voting.



Michelle was handing out Greens how-to-vote cards at Cowes during the week.

Voters happily ran the gauntlet of the how-to-vote card volunteers flanked by a colourful array of corflutes and banners with candidates faces beaming out or reminding voters of key policy settings.

Michael Robinson representing his wife, Kuljeet Kaur Robinson, the Pauline Hanson One Nation Party candidate, was happy to promote two popular policies, “Dump the beer tax” and “Split family incomes” as likely vote winners.

During the morning Tully Fletcher dropped by to take a turn handing out cards and pressing the flesh and a huge trailer adorned with local independent Deb Leonard’s image lapped the venue for most of the day.

You couldn’t miss the location or the occasion at the rear of St Philip’s parish hall. It looked to all the world like election day.

Technically at least, you’re supposed to have an excuse for voting early. Here are a few excuses you might like to have ready although you’re unlikely to be asked.

You can vote early either in person or by post if on polling day you:

- are outside the electorate where you are enrolled to vote
- are more than eight kilometres from a polling place
- are travelling
- are unable to leave your workplace to vote
- are seriously ill, infirm or

due to give birth shortly (or caring for someone who is)

- are a person with disability (or caring for someone who is)
- are a patient in hospital and can’t vote at the hospital
- have religious beliefs that prevent you from attending a polling place
- are in prison serving a sentence of less than three years or otherwise detained
- are a silent elector
- have a reasonable fear for your safety or wellbeing.

Early voting continues locally at Wonthaggi’s Senior Citizens Club in Murray Street and at the Cowes Masonic Lodge in Church Street this week right up to election day on Saturday, May 3.



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BASS COAST

Living Lightly
Bass Coast

May Events | Practical Workshops Across Bass Coast

Energy Evolution

Winter Comfort

Thursday, 8 May – 6pm
Online

| Free

Future Foods

Beekeeping for Beginners

Thursday, 15 May – 6pm
Online

| Free

Garden Gems

Composting and Worm Farming

Saturday, 31 May – 10am
Phillip Island Community Orchard

| Free

Circular Solutions

Sustainable House Day

Various Days in May (webinars and open houses)
In person/Online



Scan To Learn More Or To Stay Up To Date

Visit: thecap.com.au for more information

*Dates and locations may be subject to change.
Visit thecap.com.au for the most up-to-date information.

Why we're backing Mary Aldred at the Federal Election



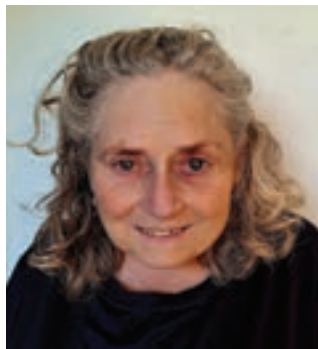
Kerrie Redmond

After hearing Mary speak at a meeting in Inverloch, I believe she will represent our community very well by supporting farmers and small business.



Ray Edwards

Mary is a very switched-on young lady who has genuine knowledge of the Monash Electorate and will advocate for important issues.



Sharon Beck

Mary is a leader who has shown integrity and dedication to our community. Having spoken to her about my NDIS experiences, she'll be a compassionate advocate for all.



Alan Brown

I've known Mary for more than 20 years, and no other candidate in this election better understands the electorate or is better placed to deliver on the projects we need.



Sharon Oates

Our community needs a passionate, energetic representative like Mary, who understands small business and farming. She will stand up for agribusiness in our region.



Kirk De Marchi

Mary's got a proven track record of delivering for our region. She'll stand up for things we need and the issues we face, including the erosion we're seeing across Bass Coast.



I'm committed to fighting every day for Monash.

Our community needs a strong voice who understands the issues facing our region.

From Longwarry to Moe, Warragul to Phillip Island, I'll make sure our community has the representation it deserves in Canberra.

With your support, we can give Monash the voice it deserves.



MARY ALDRED
LIBERAL FOR **MONASH**

(Small green ballot paper)

You must number every box.
Electoral Division of **Monash**



- | | |
|---|--------------------------------|
| 3 | ROBINSON, K |
| 6 | FLETCHER, T |
| 4 | BROADBENT, R |
| 1 | ALDRED, Mary
LIBERAL |
| 8 | LEONARD, D |
| 2 | DETHLEFS, G |
| 5 | O'REILLY, D |
| 9 | STEELE, T |
| 7 | WEHBE, A |



Female voters in Monash have put women's health top of the election agenda. B04_1725

Women in Monash want better health services and a safer world

LOSE weight, they say, or go away. Female voters easily outnumber male voters in Monash but with the election just a week away women's health and the safety of women is yet to be satisfactorily addressed by either of the two major parties according to women on the Bass Coast.

Dismissing attempts by some in politics to redefine what it is to be female these Bass Coast women accept transgendered males who identify as female. "We are all treated as second-class citizens," said one woman, who met during a group chat and opened the doors to the Sentinel-Times.

"You don't have to be born a woman to identify as a woman." The women said they are often unfairly criticised because of their weight. "There is a bodyweight culture that discriminates against women," they agreed.

A woman's pain is often dismissed as normal by male doctors. "Pain is never normal," said another woman.

"I was in debilitating pain and the first thing a gynaecologist told me was to lose weight. No way should we put up with pain."

The group is calling for more research into women's biology and more female doctors.

"Medications are usually tested on men," they claimed, with research from renowned Universities including Chicago and California, Berkeley backing this up.

"What about the side effects on women?"

The women have called for better education in women's health particularly for male doctors.

"Some female medical conditions can only be treated by specialists and are not covered by Medicare. Men get a better deal from Medicare."

One woman wanted boys and girls to be better educated about each other's biology.

"The mystery surrounding women's bodies is incredible," she said.

"Men are still ignorant about women's health issues."

Boys need to learn more about the women who will one day become mothers.

The world is not a safe place

The world is not a safe place for women according to the women themselves. "Men are seen as a threat," they all agreed.

Most women have a story of domestic violence or sexual abuse within the family.

"Once it was safe to go to Melbourne on the train," explained one of the women.

"No way would I allow my daughters to travel on public transport at night."

According to those in attendance, the education system is also failing young

By Bruce Wardley

girls. "Girls learn differently than boys. Girls are taught to be apologetic and cultivated to be subservient."

Bullying at school is a problem according to a mother with two daughters.

"There is no dedicated welfare support or consistency for girls."

Reports of abuse, even between girls, is ignored.

"Problems at school are common and tend to be unsupported by staff."

Housing for single women or young women in the workforce is also a problem that has yet to be addressed according to these women.

"It is difficult for women to afford rent. Homeless women are invisible."

A woman can stay trapped in an unhappy marriage because of the likelihood of homelessness.

"Women often don't have enough money to move anywhere else and landlords are reluctant to rent to tenants on government support."

'Run' money is also not uncommon for women.

Furthermore, the earnings gap between men and women is still real according to the women, not necessarily because women are paid less, but because they work in lower-paying professions such as nursing and teaching; with women still expected to be the primary carer on the Bass Coast and in South Gippsland.

Immigration was not seen as a threat to jobs or housing, but they did emphasise the need for better assimilation.

Not wanting to be seen as bossy, the women said they generally don't make a fuss.

"Men are more assertive and more likely to seek leadership roles."

"If women speak out in the community they are seen as bossy or anti-social."

One woman who had stood for council said people are more likely to listen to a man.

Hate speech in social media against female candidates is rife according to the women.

"They would never talk about men the way they talk about female candidates."

While the women as a group were reluctant to commit to either of the major parties preferring instead to support alternative candidates, one woman said perhaps only the Prime Minister could understand women because Anthony Albanese was raised by a single mother.

"He grew up in a single-parent family with an unmarried mother."

LGBTIQ+ issues are very important for Gen Z girls and boys.

Women may not make a fuss, but they do vote.

— Response to what women need —

The Legalise Cannabis Party knows that drug laws and policing practices disproportionately harm women, particularly mothers, carers and survivors.

These outdated policies don't keep us safer; they add to the burden already carried by too many women. We're working to change that, and end cannabis-related discrimination, especially in the workplace and child protection system.

Expand access to medicinal cannabis to support women living with pain, endometriosis, trauma and mental health challenges.

Protect women's freedom to choose natural therapies without fear, stigma or criminalisation.

Every woman deserves to live with dignity, safety, and autonomy. We're committed to building a system that respects women, listens to women, and puts compassion first.

And we will fight for that in Parliament.

Legalise Cannabis Party

As not only a woman myself but also a mother of a daughter, I hear and see the unique health needs and safety concerns of women and girls who have been overlooked or dismissed by our political leaders for far too long, it's unacceptable.

In Monash, women make up the majority of voters yet we still face barriers to accessing quality healthcare, feel unsafe in our communities, and see our pain and experiences minimised.

Throughout my career as a community lawyer, I've witnessed first-hand how our health system too often fails women and girls who need it most.

I've worked with countless clients who have struggled to access mental health services, afford medications, or get the care they need close to home.

The time has come for us to have a strong independent voice in Canberra who will fight relentlessly for better health services for women in Monash and real action on women's safety.

We cannot afford to wait any longer.

Deb Leonard (Independent)*

The big issue for the Greens is to fix the tax system, one in three big corporations pay no tax.

The ordinary person is paying a greater share of tax than at any time in Australia's history, this is one of the major causes of the cost of living crisis affecting us all.

The Greens will use our balance of power to push for increased corporate taxation and for the money to be spent where we need it, putting mental and dental into Medicare and increasing the Medicare benefits.

When it comes to women the Greens walk the talk. Most of our Federal Members (15) are women and the majority of our candidates are women.

Terence Steele (Greens)*

Over the last eight weeks I've spoken with thousands of Gippsland women, and they've told me that safety, health, childcare, (and) housing are really big concerns this election.

Labor always puts social and economic equality for women at the heart of our agenda because equality for women is not an add-on, it's at the heart of every decision Labor makes in government.

The Albanese Labor Government has committed more than \$4 billion for women's safety initiatives and if we're re-elected, we'll impose stronger controls on domestic violence perpetrators and take new steps to prevent physical and financial abuse.

If re-elected the Albanese Labor Government has pledged to invest an extra \$790 million in women's health, and we will expand the national network of endometriosis and pelvic pain clinics including a dedicated clinic right here in Gippsland.

Labor has significantly expanded the network of women's shelters and is working hard to deliver new housing supply to address the housing crisis, including social housing.

Tully Fletcher (Labor)*

*Responses have been edited for space, read in full at sgst.com.au.

Respect for women was a cornerstone of my upbringing, and I thank my parents for that foundation. When I entered the parliament more than 20 years ago, I was confronted by the realities of domestic violence and the broader inequities women face. Soon after I hosted a women's roundtable to identify solutions, but I quickly learned these are complex, deeply embedded issues. It is distressing that many women continue to suffer, perhaps now more than ever, and completely unacceptable that Gippsland continues to record some of Victoria's highest domestic violence rates.

I have long supported women's safety, equity, and leadership. In March 2022, I publicly supported the Women's March in Canberra, despite party pressure not to.

Respect for women must be more than rhetoric, it must shape policy, services, and workplace culture, that includes support for parents, flexible work, and properly resourced, community-informed services.

Russell Broadbent MHR (Independent)

AS A woman, a mother of three children including two daughters, and a registered nurse who has worked closely with women's health I am acutely aware of the challenges that many women in our community face.

My personal experience with chronic pain has given me a first-hand understanding of the difficulties that many women deal with when it comes to their health particularly when their pain is dismissed or not properly addressed. Women deserve to be taken seriously when it comes to their health, and I will work to ensure that more research is done into women's specific health issues and that our healthcare system listens and responds more effectively to their needs.

The issue of family violence is another area that I am deeply committed to especially because of my cultural background where this is an ongoing and significant problem.

Women's mental health is another critical area that requires immediate attention.

As a nurse and someone who has worked closely with women I know that mental health challenges often go hand in hand with physical health issues yet there is a significant gap in support, especially in regional areas like Monash. Education particularly the way girls are supported in schools is another area that needs reform. Finally, housing affordability is an ongoing issue for many women.

As a candidate for One Nation, I am committed to putting the needs of women in Monash first especially when it comes to health, safety, and empowerment.

Kuljeet Kaur Robinson (One Nation)*

Respect for women was a cornerstone of my upbringing, and I thank my parents for that foundation. As a genuine local candidate with a track record of community engagement, I have been working to raise issues that are important to women in Monash for many years.

Having served on a local hospital board, community aged care and Lifeline Gippsland I understand first-hand how important mental health and access to affordable and available healthcare is.

Family violence is a critical issue across many parts of our community and only the Coalition has a strong national plan to resource this issue through a strong national response. The Coalition will implement a National Domestic Violence Register to help police access and share information about a person's previous family violence convictions.

The Coalition will invest billions of dollars in targeted health measures to better support women through menopause, plus we'll open specialist pain clinics to support women dealing with endometriosis and pelvic pain. I have genuine local experience and an up to date, modern understanding of our health challenges across Monash.

As part of a strong Coalition team, I've got a direct line to senior people like the Shadow Health Minister, Senator Anne Ruston who visited South Gippsland this month with me. With your support, I'll deliver for our community.

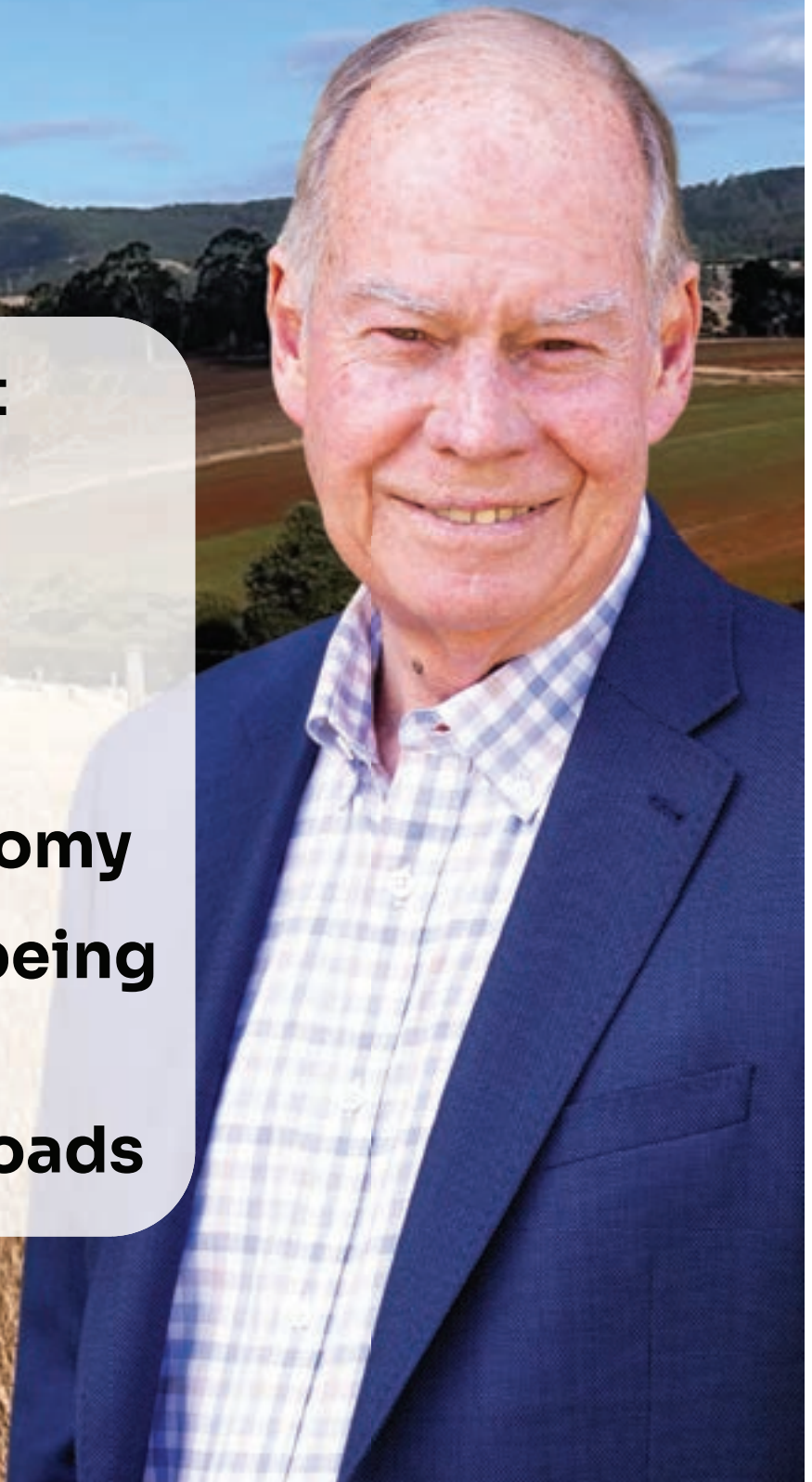
Mary Aldred (Liberal)*

RUSSELL BROADBENT

**I DON'T WORK FOR PARTIES -
I WORK FOR PEOPLE!**

I SUPPORT POLICIES THAT:

- ✓ **Put Families & Farmers First**
- ✓ **Ensure Fuel Sovereignty**
- ✓ **Let Parents Parent**
- ✓ **Protect Our Freedoms**
- ✓ **Ensure a Responsible Economy**
- ✓ **Invest in the Health & Wellbeing
of Australians**
- ✓ **Fund & Maintain Country Roads**



TRUE
^
YOUR INDEPENDENT MEMBER FOR MONASH

Authorised by R. Broadbent MP, Independent Federal Member for Monash, 46C Albert St Warragul VIC 3820

SOUTH GIPPSLAND SENTINEL-TIMES | TUESDAY, APRIL 29, 2025 | 17



Family First candidate Geoff Dethlefs has a different take on election policies to most candidates in Monash. Maybe his views will appeal to you.

Stop the rot, it's family first, says Geoff

By Michael Giles

FAMILY First candidate in the electorate of Monash, Geoff Dethlefs, is a different cat. A resident of Drouin for 20 years, a former Chairo Christian School teacher and Baptist Church pastor, he tells it like he sees it which you're allowed to do in Australia. On a busy day at the Wonthaggi polling booth last Thursday, he had just enough time when handing out his 'how-to-vote' card to the passing parade of locals to say; "our focus is on families and what they need". Stands to reason. But his policies run deeper into the fundamentals of Australia's way of life. "Why did I decide to run for the seat of Monash?"

"Politicians have created a cost-of-living crisis through net zero policies, they are confusing our children about their gender and government is putting pressure on parents' rights to educate their children in the faith-based school of their choice. "This needs to stop. The Albanese Government has no answers; it makes choices that worsen the problems.

"Why did you choose to join Family First? "A team is far more effective than being an independent. Family First believes strong families create a strong nation and the more family-focused MPs we can get into Parliament the better we can make life for mums and dads raising the next generation, and the stronger our future as a nation will be." He lists cost of living, housing and the pressure on families as a result of the government's energy policy as key issues.

"Cut power prices. Australia must urgently abandon net zero, the Paris accords, and the rollout of wind turbines and solar factories. This is driving up the cost of electricity and therefore the cost of everything else. 'Free power' is not so free! We must return urgently to affordable and reliable sources of power generation such as Victoria's abundant coal and gas. If China, India and the US decide to go to zero emissions over time then Australia could gradually transition to nuclear energy."

He wants to see parents free to educate their kids in the school of their choice "free from governments imposing LGBTIQ+ influencers on their faith-based schools" and he'll fight to get biological males out of girls' and women's sports and their toilets and change rooms.

"Men are free, as adults, to choose to live as women, but they must not invade female spaces, as they are still biological males whatever invasive surgery they have had."

That, in part, is what Geoff Dethlefs stands for.

Asked why he thought so many people were voting early last week, Geoff said many people were fed up with the messages from both sides during the election campaign and just wanted it over and done with.

Early voting centres at Cowes and Wonthaggi are open daily at 8.30am Monday to Friday this week, extending to 6pm on Friday.

All your usual polling booths will be open on Election Day, Saturday, May 3 from 8am to 6pm.

Go to aec.gov.au/election/voting for details of a polling place near you.

Local voices demand reform as rural mental health gets left behind

By Trent Westaway

AS THE federal election draws nearer, South Gippsland and Bass Coast residents are being urged to demand real, lasting reform in Australia's mental health system, particularly in regional communities where services remain sparse, and support is often out of reach.

For Donna Kerr, the fight for better mental health support is deeply personal. After losing her son Daniel to suicide, she has become an advocate for improved access, affordability, and understanding in a system she believes is critically under-resourced.

"Since losing Daniel, my eyes have become very wide open," Donna said. "I've had so many people reach out, young adults, older adults, all saying there's just not enough support. The city has so many outlets. Out here in the country, we haven't got near enough."

Donna is not alone. Across Gippsland, there is a call for urgent and meaningful investment in mental health. Despite repeated government pledges, Donna believes most policies amount to little more than "Band-Aid fixes".

"We don't need a temporary solution. We need something permanent – and it needs to be free. People shouldn't have to choose between getting help and paying their bills. No one should be forking out \$300 for an appointment when they're already struggling."

As mental health continues to take centre stage in the national conversation, Donna has been speaking with local political candidates, including independent candidate for Monash, Deb Leonard, about what real change could look like.

"She's been very supportive, and we've had lengthy discussions about the gaps here in the regions."

In a statement, Ms Leonard said the Monash electorate was "crying out for dedicated, specialised mental health support", pointing to the lack of acute mental health beds and step-up-step-down facilities as major failings.

"Patients and their families have to travel to Traralgon for



Member for Monash Russell Broadbent met with Donna Kerr and Noah Tebbutt on the lawns of Parliament House last year on International Men's Day.

acute mental health support, and as far as Bairnsdale for step-up-step-down facilities. It's not good enough," she said.

"Residents are suffering, families are under strain, and lives are being lost because successive governments have overlooked our mental health needs for too long."

Ms Leonard said she would fight for local facilities, expand youth mental health services such as Headspace, and advocate for an increase in Medicare-covered sessions – noting that mental health issues are "rarely resolved in just 10 sessions".

The lack of crisis support is another urgent concern. Donna shared a harrowing story where someone in acute distress was told by a helpline to call back another day.

"When you're in crisis, that response can be the differ-

ence between life and death," she said.

"You don't know what someone's going through until it's too late."

She also called out the lack of political focus on men's mental health.

"I would like to see a Minister for Men and Boys. As women, we have a Minister and lots of support. Why don't men? It's not just one way; men have a right to support too."

Education and early intervention also ranked high on Donna's list of priorities. She wants schools and communities to play a bigger role in mental health prevention.

"We need more education – more awareness about the signs, more safe spaces where people feel they can talk. Teachers and staff should be trained to handle mental health crises properly."

Ms Leonard echoed these

calls, saying schools must be resourced to deliver best-practice anti-bullying education and mental health programs. "I want to see all teachers and school staff receive comprehensive mental health training," she said.

And Donna is calling for a shift in who delivers the support, pleading for greater involvement of people with lived experience.

"We need more people with lived experience, people who understand it and can connect. Stats are fine, but unless you've seen it raw, especially in our communities, you don't really get it."

With some of the highest suicide rates in the state, the cry for change in Gippsland and Bass Coast can no longer be ignored.

All nine candidates contesting the seat of Monash at the upcoming federal election were contacted for comment.

Don't mess with our local weather station

YANAKIE Automatic Weather station is set to be decommissioned from Tuesday, July 1, 2025. Locals are concerned with one resident posing the question to the Sentinel-Times for the Monash candidates, highlighting that sailors, kayakers and boaties around Corner Inlet rely on the station. Here's what the candidates had to say:

Alex Wehbe, Trumpet of Patriots

"The impending closure of YAWS on July 1st is deeply concerning. Reliable, local weather data is crucial for our

farmers, emergency services, tourists and the broader community, especially in an era of increasing climate unpredictability. Eliminating this service poses a significant risk to lives by restricting access to accurate and timely information that enables people to make critical decisions.

"I firmly believe that regional communities deserve the same level of support and infrastructure as urban areas. Therefore, I oppose the closure and will advocate for retaining the station or installing an upgraded system to ensure uninterrupted coverage."

Tully Fletcher, Labor

"I know how variable and localised weather can be around the Prom, and I know how welcome the new Yanakie Automated Weather Station was for farmers, boat users, and the CFA when it was installed.

"We needed it then, and we need it now. I'm not sure how this decision has been made but it should be undone. Appropriate consultation clearly hasn't taken place and from my point of view, if a CFA captain tells government that a weather station is essential to their

operations and crew safety, that should be the end of the debate.

"If I'm elected to represent Monash in Canberra on Saturday, I'll raise this with the new Minister responsible for the Bureau of Meteorology as soon as they're sworn in, and work with South Gippsland Shire and the community to find the best way to keep the Yanakie Automated Weather Station running."

Head to sgst.com.au to check out the responses from Russell Broadbent and Deb Leonard.

When you see it, the choice is **easy.**



Community Independent

- Chosen by **the community**
- Driven by **local needs**
- Answers to **YOU!**

Party Politician

- Chosen by **the party**
- Driven by **the party**
- Answers to **the party**



"I've been working for our community my whole life, and I know what matters most to Monash. As an Independent, I will fight for all the things that the major parties have neglected - reducing bills and costs of living, promoting integrity and truth in politics, and better access to health services.

So, if you're tired of waiting and think our community deserves more, VOTE 1 Deb Leonard!"

Deb *Vote 1*
Leonard
INDEPENDENT

Deb Leonard

Community Independent for Monash

Upgrades to sewer pump stations

WESTERNPORT Water are upgrading ten sewer pump stations to enhance site safety, improve staff access and support continuous operation in extreme weather.

The \$2M investment, spread over a five-year period, will deliver upgrades to sewer pump stations assessed as requiring upgrades to ensure safe and reliable sewerage services across Westernport Water's network.

The scope of upgrade works varies from site to site. From minor civil work to improve site access, generator installation and/or the installation of new infrastructure.

Generators provide a backup power supply to move sewage to treatment plants during mains power outages. Preventing sewer spills and reducing ongoing costs associated with deploying mobile diesel generators.

Safety and access upgrades include re-surfacing and drainage improvements and moving pipework and valves above ground, eliminating the need for high-risk confined space entry. A sewer pump station at Rhyll will receive new storage tanks to better manage high flows during extreme wet weather events. There will be no impacts to sewer services. Occasional traffic management will be required to ensure public and contractor safety.

During the 2023/24 financial year, upgrade works were completed at sewer pump stations in Dalyston, Kilcunda, Pioneer Bay and Cape Woolamai. Sewer pump stations in Grantville, Newhaven, and Rhyll are currently being upgraded. Works are expected to be completed by late May 2025. Upgrade works at the Grantville (Stewart Street) sewer pump station include minor civil works to improve site access and safety, and the installation of a generator.

Newhaven (Boys Home Road) and Rhyll (Hastings Street) sewer pump station upgrades include safety improvements and minor civil works, plus the installation of storage tanks (Rhyll only). The sewer pump station on Settlement Road in Cowes, (near the Industrial Estate) will be upgraded by June 2025, with a generator installed and access improved.

Sewer pump stations in Ventnor (Anchorage Road) and Smiths Beach (Beachcomber Street) will be upgraded by June 2027.

Stroke survivors in Wonthaggi call for more support services on the Bass Coast

RECOVERING from a stroke, even a mild stroke, has been described as a significant challenge for even the most capable or independent of us.

Lack of access to support services particularly speech pathologists in the days and weeks after the stroke has been identified as a major problem on the Bass Coast.

Invited by the Stroke Association of Victoria to share their experiences at the Wonthaggi Power Social Clubrooms stroke survivors in Wonthaggi spoke of the need for support in and out of hospital.

The Stroke Association of Victoria (SAV) is a community-based support service for people re-entering their lives after having a stroke with a focus on community stroke support programs and services.

"Our aim is to bridge the gap from when a stroke survivor leaves clinical care to when they are able to re-engage with their community," said Neville Taylor SAV Board Member and Treasurer.

Peer stroke support and discussion groups have been organised on a fortnightly rotating basis at PICAL in Cowes and the Power social clubrooms in Wonthaggi.

The discussion groups are a safe space where stroke survivors and carers can come together to provide each other with emotional support and mutual understanding.

"Stroke can happen to anyone, of any age, at any time," according to Neville Taylor.



Alyssa, John Day (SAV), Carol, Leah, Glenn, Neville Taylor (SAV) and Stephen at the stroke discussion group in the Wonthaggi Power Social Clubrooms. B05_1725

"It's vital to know how to spot the signs of a stroke in yourself or someone else."

The FAST test can help identify the most common signs of a stroke.

Facial weakness – Can the person smile, has their mouth or eye drooped?

Arm weakness – Can the person raise both arms?

Speech problems – Can the person speak clearly and understand what you say?

Time to call 000 if any of these signs are evident.

Acting FAST will give the person having a stroke the best chance of survival and recovery, always call 000 straight away.

Ambulance paramedics are trained in stroke and will ensure the person receives emergency medical care and specialist treatment.

Although the FAST test helps to spot the three most

common symptoms of stroke there are other signs that should always be taken seriously including sudden weakness or numbness on one side of the body, including legs, hands or feet, difficulty finding words or speaking in clear sentences, sudden blurred vision or loss of sight in one or both eyes, sudden memory loss or confusion, dizziness or a sudden fall, or a sudden, severe headache.

The Wonthaggi discussion group heard from a female stroke survivor who 12 days after being released from hospital had still not been contacted for follow-up support.

"Her speech had been affected and no one was helping," said Mr Taylor.

The woman felt abandoned by the health system with no speech pathology services for stroke survivors in Wonthaggi.

"Speech is often impacted by a stroke depending on which side of the brain is affected," said Mr Taylor.

Speech can be impaired but not body movement.

The feeling of being isolated in the community is common.

"People can learn so much from talking to each other."

Stroke survivors can also be put in contact with others in the allied health industry, helped to navigate the NDIS and assisted with accessing disability pensions.

The Wonthaggi stroke discussion group will meet fortnightly on Wednesdays from May 7 at 10am in the social clubrooms of Wonthaggi Power at the Wonthaggi Recreation Reserve.

To find out more go to strokeassociation.com.au or email info@strokeassociation.com.au.

Safeguarding the community
Sewer pump stations ready for any weather.

Westernport Water will service a healthy community by upgrading critical sewer pump stations. A \$2M investment to ensure safe and reliable sewerage services.

LOCATION	SCOPE OF WORK	WORK STATUS
Bass Hwy Dalyston & Kilcunda	Access and site safety improvements.	Completed 2024
Pioneer Bay (Daisy Ave)	Generator installation. Access and site safety improvements.	Completed 2024
Cape Woolamai	Access and site safety improvements.	Completed 2024
Newhaven (Boys Home Rd)	Access and site safety improvements.	Due to be complete by the end of May 2025
Rhyll (Hastings St)	Storage tank installation. Access and site safety improvements.	Due to be complete by the end of May 2025
Grantville (Stewart St)	Generator installation. Access and site safety improvements.	Due to be complete by the end of May 2025
Cowes (Settlement Rd, near the Industrial Estate)	Access improvements and generator installation.	Due to be complete by the end of June 2025
Ventnor, (Anchorage Rd) & Smiths Beach (Beachcomber Ave)	Access and site safety improvements.	Due to be complete by no later than June 2027



Leongatha teens to visit Kokoda with local RSL support

TWO LEONGATHA students will experience the life-changing challenge of walking the Kokoda Track next year, Leongatha RSL president Bill Verboon announcing on Anzac Day that the Sub Branch will sponsor their educational adventure.

The annual trip is organised through the George Collins Kokoda Award program, with Leongatha students who will be in Year 11 in 2026 eligible to express their interest when applications open.

The George Collins Kokoda Award started in 2007 and has so far resulted in 54 students from the Baw Baw Shire trekking Kokoda.

Those at the Leongatha Anzac Commemoration Service in the town's Memorial Hall heard from one of those who established the initiative, Gary Blackwood, along with recent participants Leith Metcalfe and Zara McNair.

Gary is a former member of the Victorian Legislative Assembly, having represented the electorate of Narracan.

He and friend Bernie Rowell were inspired to start the program after their experience walking the Kokoda Track and hearing of the bravery of the 39th Battalion, comprising many Gippslanders, in halting the Japanese.

"Bernie and I thought, we're not taught this history in schools, and the Kokoda battle was probably strategically



Leith Metcalfe speaks about his experiences on the Kokoda Track. A11_1725

the most important battle Australia had fought," Gary said.

That convinced them to ensure the memory and legacy lives on by starting a program to take Year 11 students there each year enabling them to experience the track, understand what Australian Diggers went through and how much the Fuzzy Wuzzy Angels supported them.

Year 10 students applying to join the program submit an essay about what Kokoda means to them and what it means to Australia today.

There is then an interview process, those selected undertaking a training regime ahead of the physically and mentally demanding trek.

After returning from Papua New Guinea, participants

serve as Kokoda ambassadors for 12 months.

Leith reflected on the bonds formed by those undertaking the Trek, the humidity that "hit like a punch in the guts", and a demanding climb up Brigade Hill, also known as 'the wall'.

He spoke of standing among a sea of white marble headstones, many for people his age and read his poem telling the story of the fighting at Isurava.

While clearly an emotional experience, Leith is adamant hiking the Kokoda Track changes you in many ways and all for the better.

Zara also detailed many challenges but spoke of the joy of playing soccer with local kids and with her group's porters.



Zara McNair reflects on her time in Papua New Guinea. A12_1725

She thinks of the Track every day and the happiness of the local people despite having so little.

Zara also spoke of a war cemetery visit.

"They fought hard for our country and gave up everything for us," she said of the many who lie beneath the marble headstones.

Leongatha RSL's Greg Nugent declared the George Collins Kokoda Award initiative as a "very worthwhile project", calling on community members to get behind the decision to send Leongatha students.

Donations can be made at Leongatha RSL and many fundraising initiatives lie ahead, a total of \$15,000 needing to be raised to send the chosen pair of young locals.

Leongatha Secondary College welcomes families for 2025

LEONGATHA Secondary College is proud to invite all Grade 4, 5, and 6 students and their families to our Year 7 Information and Open Day, to be held on Friday, May 2, beginning at 9am in the Performing Arts Centre (PAC).

This exciting event offers families the opportunity to explore our dynamic learning environment, meet our passionate teachers, and discover how our college supports every student to grow into confident, capable learners.

Upon arrival, visitors will be warmly welcomed by our current students, who will be available to assist families with directions from the front office to the PAC and throughout the morning. Their presence is a true reflection of the strong sense of responsibility, leadership, and school pride fostered at Leongatha Secondary College.

Leongatha Secondary College has a proud history of guiding students through successful educational journeys. We are committed to providing strong pathways into apprenticeships, tertiary studies, and careers. More than just academic outcomes, we value connection – building lasting friendships, nurturing supportive teacher-student relationships, and helping young people become resilient, self-assured individuals ready for life beyond school.

Join us on May 2nd to see what makes Leongatha Secondary College a vibrant, forward-thinking and inclusive learning community.

For more information, please contact: Mr Robbie Carter, Junior Assistant Principal, Leongatha Secondary College Front Office 5667 2200.

Year 7 Information and Open Morning



LEONGATHA
Secondary College

FRIDAY 2nd MAY - 9AM START

To begin in the Performing Arts Centre (PAC)

Students will assist with directions (as you arrive)

All Grade 4, 5 and 6 students and their families are warmly invited

SCAN ME





ANZAC DAY

FRIDAY, APRIL 25

Tarwin Lower's community Anzac Day Service a success

IT WAS another fantastic turnout for the Tarwin Lower Anzac Day ceremony with up to 200 people present, the weather playing its part.

Emergency services from the area had a presence, representatives again marching with other community members and accompanied by Wonthaggi Citizens' Band.

Local councillor Sarah Gilligan was the MC, with the special guest being Chief Petty Officer David Aberly.

David, who has been enjoying holidays in Venus Bay since childhood, spoke about Tarwin Lower's Lone Pine, sparking later conversation about the need for a plaque identifying its significance.

People also suggested propagating more trees from the Gallipoli descent before it is too late.

David reflected on the 110th anniversary of the Gallipoli landing as well as talking about some of the numerous other conflicts remembered on Anzac Day.

Graham Romanes played bagpipes throughout the wreath-laying ceremony.

Reflecting the significance of the occasion and the popularity of the local Anzac Day service, an impressive 21 wreaths were placed around the cenotaph by individuals, businesses and community groups.

Tarwin Lower Primary School students Scarlett Lawton-Nye and Claire McGowan recited the Anzac Requiem.

The Wonthaggi Citizens' Band performed the hymn 'O God, Our Help in Ages Past' and 'Advance Australia Fair', with Terry Teylor singing both, to the relief of Cr Gilligan who woke up believing she may have that responsibility.

As well as her MC duties, Sarah maintained her tradition of speaking about the war involvement of a particular person, this time highlighting the service of popular New Zealand WWI chaplain William Grant at Gallipoli.

"Chaplain Major Grant wanders up and down the beach all day long helping the wounded and with a cheery word for everybody; he takes absolutely no notice of the shrapnel and bullets and seems to have a charmed life as I have seen shrapnel dropping all around him and he only smiles," Sarah read.

The writer declared, "He deserves more than a VC and I sincerely hope God will spare him."

Sadly that wasn't to be, Chaplain Grant was fatally shot just after dressing the wound of a Turk.

Newhaven College pays tribute to our ANZACs

IT IS a proud tradition for Newhaven College students to speak at ANZAC Day ceremonies across Bass Coast on ANZAC Day. Newhaven College captains Isaac Savona and Grace Howlett spoke at the Cowes RSL Dawn Service, with Isaac also speaking at the 11am service in Cowes.

College captain Gabriel Di Falco delivered his speech at the Inverloch RSL service and Abby Papas was the guest speaker at the San Remo Community Service.

Junior school captains, Venus Herath Mudiyansele, Dallas Latham, Nate Kondarios and Peyton Rhee also took part in the ANZAC Day services, laying wreaths on behalf of the College at the 11am Cowes ceremony.

On the day before ANZAC Day, Newhaven College's students and staff gathered to reflect and show appreciation to our armed forces past and present. The amphitheatre was soaked in the moving music of bagpipes played by Year 12 piper Mackenzie Cameron and the Celtic Drum played by his brother, Year 10 student James



Newhaven College Captain Gabriel Di Falco with Richard Huntriss MC and Vice President Bob Sutton from Inverloch RSL.

Cameron, as students and staff assembled.

Proceedings were run by School captains Isaac Savona, Abby Papas, Gabriel Di Falco and Grace Howlett. In her speech at the College service, captain Grace Howlett reflected on how all the students assembled should reflect on how young the ANZAC veterans were

when they went into battle.

"At 17 and 18, many of us are just beginning to figure out who we are. We're finishing school, working part-time jobs and making choices about our futures. Yet at the same age, over 400,000 young men from this country were preparing to leave everything behind – their homes, their families and

their dreams – to sail into the unknown, facing a war they could never imagine.

"They weren't superheroes. They were ordinary young Australians and New Zealanders. They had plans, fears, and lives just like us. And still, they showed up. They volunteered. They stepped forward into something greater than themselves.

"So today we honour ordinary teenagers who did something extraordinary. We remember their undeniable bravery through the darkness, fear and incomprehensible loss of war. Lest we forget."

The Combined College Choir sang the poem 'In Flanders Fields' by Craig Tibbitts as well as the New Zealand and Australian national anthems. Year 12 student Felix Fothergill and brass specialist James Ryan played the Last Post on trumpet. The junior school captains laid a wreath at the Lone Pine as Year 9 students raised the flags. All students were reflective and respectful throughout the sombre occasion.

Great support for Anzac day program by Foster RSL



A team of 30 marchers led by flag bearers carrying the Australian flag and the RSL flag, marching to the Cenotaph on ANZAC Day in Foster.

FOSTER RSL's program of events on ANZAC Day was well supported by the local district. A crowd of some 300 people attended the ceremony held at the war memorial Cenotaph in Foster.

RSL president Bruce Lester conducted the ceremony, which began with the arrival of marchers led by a WWI mounted Australian Light-horse re-enactor, Will Pridham. An Australian light infantry ex-army vehicle provided and driven by ex-serviceman Cameron Stone followed up as rear guard.

President Bruce spoke on three of Foster's ex-servicemen: the late Will Power, Robert Mahomed and Baden Williams, each of whom died in extreme and sad circumstances serving Australia.

By Carole Williams, Foster RSL

Bugler Felicity Weight gave a very moving presentation of The Last Post.

Following a wreath laying ceremony a formal service was conducted in the Foster War Memorial Arts Centre. Guest speaker Lt. Commander David Lassam (ret) a former Australian Naval medical officer, spoke on the role of the Australian Navy in the Pacific in WWII. Local musicians Bec Bone and Fiona Curram enhanced the service with beautiful musical tributes of respect and remembrance.

A barbecue lunch was served at the Foster RSL clubrooms.

Read the full story at sgst.com.au



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OH WHAT A FEELING



ANZAC DAY

FRIDAY, APRIL 25



Lieutenant Colonel (retired) John Blunt speaks at the Leongatha Dawn Service. A09_1725

Large attendance at Leongatha dawn service

MILD and still conditions set the scene for reflection at a brief but poignant Dawn Service in Leongatha, many people paying their respects.

Lieutenant Colonel (retired) John Blunt, a member of the Committee of Management for the Leongatha RSL, spoke of his great uncle George Collins who landed at Gallipoli on the first day of hostilities there, later serving in France.

While George made it home to Australia after the Great War, marrying and having a son, that son died as a prisoner of war in WWII.

"George, like many of his contemporaries, enlisted in the First Australian Imperial Force in September 1914; after initial training, George and his mates sailed on the first convoy that departed Australia in November 1914 and for many that was the last time they saw Australia," Lieutenant Colonel Blunt said.

George's 3rd Battalion served in many of the Gallipoli battles, including at Lone Pine.

The 3rd Battalion was later split, George being moved to the 55th Battalion which served on the Western Front at places including Fromelles, the Somme and Bullecourt.

He was eventually promoted to Warrant Officer, going on to receive a Meritorious Service Medal, one of only three awarded to the Battalion.

"His citation reads in part, 'Under the most trying of weather conditions, you so controlled the preparation and forwarding of rations to the battalion in the front line that the spirits and morale of the men were always of the highest order, which contributed largely to the success of operations,'" Lieutenant Colonel Blunt said.

People were encouraged to remember the soldiers whose names are commemorated on the many memorials in cities and towns throughout Australia and overseas.

"We also remember those who have served and those who today are serving," Lieutenant Colonel Blunt said.

Wreaths were laid and the Last Post rang out, the service soon at an end and attendees invited to enjoy a gunfire breakfast at Leongatha RSL.

Moving Anzac Day service in Leongatha



CFA representatives prepare to pay their respects in Leongatha. A37_1725



Red Cross ladies Noreen Williams, Lois Young, Marion Cook and Margaret Higgins honour the Anzacs. A38_1725



Corporal Nicholas Aldham, Craftsman Brandon Choi and Lance Corporal Bret Maunder attended the Korumburra Anzac Day service in Coleman Park. B18_1725

Korumburra pays tribute to the fallen on Anzac Day

YOUNG Korumburra boy Patrick proudly wearing his great-grandfather's wartime medals said it all as Korumburra fell silent on Anzac Day to pay tribute to those who had fallen in the defence of our country.

Gippsland South MP and Victorian Nationals Leader Danny O'Brien thanked those who had gone before us and made the ultimate sacrifice.

Standing with Mr O'Brien and Korumburra RSL President David Jackson were Liberal Candidate for Monash Mary Aldred, South Gippsland Cr Bron Beach, and 2025 Korumburra Secondary College Captains Holly Fowler, Kiera Winton, Riley McIntosh and Martyn Cook.

Servicemen in attendance to salute the RAAF flyover were Corporal Nicholas Aldham, Craftsman Brandon Choi and Lance Corporal Bret Maunder. Korumburra Secondary

College Captains Holly Fowler and Martyn Cook delivered the ANZAC requiem, and a prayer for peace was made before the laying of wreaths.

The Australian flag was lowered for the Last Post before a minute's silence.

Reveille sounded the raising of the flag before the national anthems of both New Zealand and Australia were played by the South Gippsland Concert Band.

The unique Korumburra Cenotaph was dedicated by Brig Gen Harold 'Pompey' Elliott just over one hundred years ago on October 14, 1922.

The Cenotaph originally stood at the intersection of Bridge and Commercial Streets but was relocated to Coleman Park in 1970 alongside Korumburra's Lone Pine a descendent of the original Lone Pine made famous during the Gallipoli campaign.

WHILE conditions later suggested farmers' long-awaited Autumn break is on the way, sun shone for Leongatha's brief but moving 11am Anzac Day service at the town's war monument, people then filing into the Memorial Hall for speeches, hymns and prayers.

Outside, Leongatha RSL president Bill Verboon placed a wreath at the foot of the monument to the strains of 'Abide with Me', Vietnam veterans, various community groups, Mayor John Schelling, school students and others following suit.

Naval personnel from HMAS Cerberus formed the catafalque party.

Sister and brother naval veterans Penni Ellicott and Marshall Livingstone, along with Mary MacKillop student Taine Lowe, who has served in the cadets, combined to carry the Australian, RSL and New Zealand flags.

Before the service, Sentinel-Times chatted to local John Diaper who recalled his navy experience, enthusiastically joining up when he was just 21 only to discover he suffered from seasickness.

Mirboo North's Frank Krausz also attended, his number having come up for national service in the 1970s,

serving with the Royal Engineers, spending time in Tully, North Queensland, where his skills as a newly qualified electrician were used.

With the uplifting sounds of the South Gippsland Brass Band and the South Gippsland Singers filling the Memorial Hall, proceedings indoors commenced with a rousing rendition of 'God Save the King'.

The South Gippsland Singers later performed 'Shackleton', and 'In Flanders Field', the Brass Band then played 'Here's to the Heroes' accompanied by the voices of Jim Pickersgill and Kiki Joseph, Waltzing Matilda also taking centre stage.

Mary MacKillop students Tayla Atyeo-Peters and James Montgomery along with their aforementioned Year 12 compatriot Taine, read the Anzac Requiem, Tayla and James having earlier placed a wreath.

After the national anthems of New Zealand and Australia, the service ended with a light-hearted 1914 sing-along, kicked off with 'It's a Long Way to Tipperary'.

All in all, it was an excellent service, drawing a strong crowd after a great turnout for the earlier Dawn Service.



Korumburra Secondary College Captains Holly Fowler, Kiera Winton, Riley McIntosh and Martyn Cook with Korumburra RSL President David Jackson. B15_1725



Mia Kruger and Mikayla Occhipinti, Scouts at Korumburra Scout Group, serving ANZAC biscuits after the dawn service in Korumburra.



Helen Maguire, WWII food volunteer Avis Tilley (99) and Diane Dunn from Korumburra. B14_1725



South Gippsland Concert Band at the Korumburra Anzac Day service. B17_1725



Anzac spirit ripples through Inverloch's next generation

THE Inverloch community gathered to pay its respects to its war heroes at Friday's Anzac Day service.

The Inverloch RSL was blown away by the turnout.

"We had a massive turnout for the dawn service, and we had similar numbers at the march – it's just fantastic," Inverloch RSL member Richard Huntriss said.

Mr Huntriss led the services, as Inverloch's oldest member 99-year-old Trevor Scott was going around the MCG in the motorcade, led by RSL secretary Lindsay Guerin.

The march was held at 10.45am and included an RAAF flyover, leading into the 11am service.

Mr Huntriss said the number of young people who attended was encouraging.

A notable youth was guest speaker Gabriel Di Falco from Newhaven College, who reflected on life and lessons to take from the landing at Anzac Cove 110 years ago.

"Now, more than a century later, the spirit of the Anzacs remains as poignant and relevant as it ever has with Australian servicemen and women continuing to dedicate their lives to defending our country and freedom through acts of courage, sacrifice and resilience," he said.

"This Anzac spirit transcends



Bass Coast College students Rebecca Barclay, Lola Denver and Jenson Bremner, and Inverloch Primary School students Reef Metselaar, Josie Richer, Bianca De Bellis and Joshua Settle proudly represented their schools and laid wreaths at the Inverloch Anzac Day service. tk05_1725

generations. Those who have served our country in World Wars to the present day have provided us with examples of great selflessness and sacrifice as they faced the relentless challenges that occurred on the battlefield, whilst remaining steadfast in care and compassion.

"Following this example is extremely important in my generation. When we reach adulthood, we face choices that shape our own lives, and also the lives of those around us. With many of those fighting in Gallipoli being only teenagers, just like myself, I find it greatly sobering to reflect on just

how much they sacrificed."

Bass Coast College students Rebecca Barclay and Jenson Bremner read In Flanders Fields.

The rain held off and wreaths were laid by numerous community organisations and individuals to complete the touching tribute.

Skies clear as veterans take to McBride

ANZAC Day is a day of respect, quiet reflection and heartfelt unity, but in Wonthaggi on Friday there was an air of solemnity.

After quiet introductions by Toni Cornelius and Rev Graeme Liersch, the national anthems sung, bible reading, prayer and hymn 'Abide with Me', Bass Coast College School Captain and regular Anzac Day presenter Chloe Lawson read 'The Spirit of Anzac'.

However, it wasn't until guest speaker, president of the Friends of the State Coal Mine, Garry 'Moz' Wilson took to the podium that laughter rang out across the crowd.

Moz spoke of the Wonthaggi Fire Brigade's homage to the battlefields of Europe, particularly in recognition of founding member John Sparks.

"Ironically, we stand here today, you can actually look over and see his house. The house he enlisted in 22 Baillieu Street," Moz said.

"John enlisted early in the war and landed on the Anzac Peninsula, one month after the landing. He served through that campaign, wounded twice and was shipped off to France."

John was one of 800 men, according to Moz that enlisted in WWI, with most from the State Coal Mine, but some shopkeepers and others amongst the mix.

"There were some fairly highly ranked members of Wonthaggi who won high medals. Not to forget, in World War II, three hundred men left Wonthaggi to fight for our freedom."

"While over there we paid homage to the grave of John Sparks – we laid wreaths and rosemary... in a sunken road cemetery near Pozieres in France. Within two metres of where he lay, you could still pick up remnants of World War I. Shrapnel, bullets, you name it – it really opened my eyes to those that were there at the time."

Parting ways with his firefighter comrades, Moz and his family travelled the battlefields of France and Europe.

"We travelled to Belgium and something quite extraordinary happened to me – I will never forget. We went to Menin Gate in Yeper."

"Spelt and said so many ways, Yeper was previously spelt Ypres and pronounced Eep, Eeprah or Eepray. Because it started with a Y, the Aussie soldiers called it 'Wipers' like windscreen wipers. And tricky as the Aussies were they found an old printing press and started printing a magazine in the trenches called The Wipers Times – that was very good for morale for the men."

No matter, which way it's spelt now, Menin Gate holds a daily service at 8pm. The Ode to the Fallen is said and the Last Post is played.

"While I was waiting there to place a wreath at the tomb, the president of the Last Post Association came up to me and asked if I would like to read the Ode to the Fallen – it was two minutes prior to the ceremony."

"I nearly cacked myself. Obviously, I said yes."

"I marched out to the middle, I read the Ode and marched back to where I was... That was one of the most special times in my life."

Moz also spoke of a promise he made 25 years ago and subsequently fulfilled on his trip to Tassie Taber, a local WWII veteran.

He laid a poppy on the name of Tassie's father Albert that is engraved on the wall of Menin Gate, one of 53000 soldiers with no known grave. Tassie had never met his father, born just before his father was killed in Belgium.

The service concluded with The Ode, Last Post, Reville and the laying of the wreaths.

Dawn service at the Bass Cenotaph

THE Gods were with us today, the rain held off until after the Dawn Service.

It was great to see so many people there, and a big thank you Roderick McIvor our Guest Speaker, Rob Horsburgh the Piper, Colin McKenzie aka Tex who did the last post, Jordan Crugnale and the Mayor Rochelle Halstead.

It was great to see so many people there as well as a

contingent of pupils from Bass Valley Primary School who laid wreaths they had made.

A big thank you goes out to the organisations and the people who laid wreaths and flowers, it was a beautiful display.

The Service was followed by a Gunfire Breakfast in the Bass Hall catered for by Bass Valley Friends of the RSL and sponsored by Maru Koala and Animal Park.



Three generations of the Renehan family; three participating in the march. From left, Brent, Thomas, Mila and Seth. C07_1725



Wonthaggi RSL vice-president and former president, Dan Lucas with (Major) Major) Graham Eva. C13_1725



ANZAC DAY

FRIDAY, APRIL 25



Co-captains of Newhaven College, Isaac Savona, left and Grace Howlett, right gave stirring addresses about the ANZAC legacy at the Cowes' dawn on ANZAC Day, with Nicholas Talevski of the Cowes Primary School and Emily Le Couteur of Newhaven College also speaking.

Waters of Western Port lap as Cowes falls silent on ANZAC Day

THE President of the Phillip Island RSL Peter Paul acknowledged it after more than 3000 people turned out at the dawn service on ANZAC Day in Cowes on Friday morning, April 25.

"There wouldn't be too many better places to commemorate ANZAC Day than this," he said, indicating the tranquil waters of Western Port Bay that only minutes before had lapped quietly in the silence between the reciting of the Ode of Remembrance, the playing of the Last Post and the communal refrain: "Lest We Forget".

One hundred and 10 years ago, on the first Anzac Day, April 25, 1915, on another beach 15,000km away, the Australian and New Zealand Army Corps (ANZAC) landed at Gallipoli in Turkey. Approximately 16,000 soldiers participated in the landing, and around 2000 were killed or wounded on that day alone in an action which marked the ANZACs' first major action in World War I.

Earlier, Mr Paul had welcomed the community to the event, saying it wasn't a time to glorify war but a day of reflection and appreciation, honouring those who have served, and especially those who had lost their lives and celebrating the spirit of the ANZACs that was such a part of our heritage today.

A feature of the Cowes commemoration was the role played by students from Newhaven College and the Cowes Primary School, taking the microphone to address the crowd after the names of the fallen, listed on the town's cenotaph, had been read out.

Co-captain of Newhaven College, Isaac Savona dedicated his address to his great grandfather Stanley Hargreaves who served in World War I but according to family folklore, never spoke about his experiences beyond saying that "war is no good for anyone".

"But we see it in our sporting clubs and our community organisations that the ANZAC spirit isn't just a story, it's a living

tradition.

"The peace and prosperity we enjoy now was earned by their sacrifice and hardship and it's something that I promise I will never forget... lest we forget."

Another speaker from Newhaven College Emily Le Couteur dedicated her address to family member Willaim James Rupert Terry who also saw action in France in the First World war while another co-captain of Newhaven, Grace Howlett, called on the assembled crowd to honour the service of ordinary teenagers like herself who were called on to do extraordinary things.

One such person was a family member of hers, Second Lieutenant Charles Hamilton Jones, who joined the fight on the Western Front as a teenager, surviving the horrors of trench warfare right up until the last week of the conflict.

Nicholas Talevski of the Cowes Primary School joined Phillip Island RSL member Tom Goode in reciting a poem during the service.

Thereafter followed a wreath laying by Phillip Island RSL secretary Bob Wood on behalf of the returned services and Cr Ron Bauer on behalf of the Bass Coast Shire Council.

It's interesting to note that the catafalque party, the guard of honour at the dawn service, was provided for the first time by members of the Phillip Island RSL including Lawrence Buck, Caleb de Kroon, Amelia Fletcher and Michael Reardon trained by Michael Crump, who has served for many years as a member of armed services catafalque parties.

Members of the Australian Great War Association, the group had four engagements on the day, completing their commitment at Cowes in the mid-morning march before travelling to Oakleigh and Berwick events.

Members of the Wonthaggi 317 ACU Army Cadets also supported the event and Danielle Crestani sang the national anthem.



Members of the Phillip Island RSL including Lawrence Buck, Caleb de Kroon, Ameilia Fletcher, Michael Reardon and trainer Michael Crump provide the catafalque party for ANZAC Day at Cowes for the first time.

Community out in force for San Remo's ANZAC Day service

THE advertised time for the ANZAC Day service on the foreshore at San Remo was 10.45am but from 10am onwards they started to arrive and well before the appointed hour, the seats were full and there were ranks of people standing behind in an impressive show of support for our most important national day.

By the time Master of Ceremonies John Methven OAM offered his opening welcome, the nearby children's playground had fallen silent with well over 500 people in attendance.

"For all members of the public, especially the veterans, it's a fantastic sight to look out here at our small fishing village and see the turnout we have here today," said Mr Methven.

He started the event with a warm acknowledgement of the traditional owners, the Bunurong people, also thanking the former owners of the Westernport Hotel, Nick and Mish Say, for assisting with a public address system for a decade of events, and also for offering their venue in the event of wet weather, an accommodation that has been extended by the new owners.

The first speaker was Bass Coast Mayor Cr Rochelle Halstead who described the day as not only an important national occasion across every country town and city in Australia, but also an intensely personal event for those who had served or had close family members who had served in the armed forces.

"We honour those who served and never came home. We honour those who returned, forever changed. We honour the families who carried the burden of war long after the fighting ended," said Cr Halstead.

"And we acknowledge those still serving today - here and overseas, who carry on the legacy of those who went before them.

"We are free because of their sacrifice. And we are grateful."

Year 12 captain at Newhaven College, Abby Pappas, spoke next continuing the theme of gratitude to our service personnel.

"This day reminds me as a person remote from the horrors of war to be grateful," said Abby.

"At an age when I'm worrying about my approaching Year 12 exams, they were worrying about plans to go to war.



Maureen Matthews and Marion Brennan had the honour of laying a wreath on behalf of the Phillip Island and San Remo Legacy War Widows at a well-attended ANZAC Day service on the foreshore at San Remo on Friday, April 25.



Newhaven Primary School grade six students Louis and Lilly-Mae present their handmade wreath on ANZAC Day at San Remo.



Peter Buitenhuis did an expert rendition of the last post for the San Remo ANZAC Day service.

"We need to recognise that the freedoms we enjoy have been won by the sacrifices made by those who fought to protect our way of life. That's what the ANZACs fought for."

"It's easy to picture the ANZACs as a group but each soldier was an individual with their own families and lives whose absence was greatly felt. The pain and sacrifice of war is not just limited to the battlefield, it is acutely felt by those at home as well."

"We gather here today to support each other, to carry on the tradition of ANZAC Day and to reflect on their sacrifice. Lest we forget."

Other speakers included Year 9 Bass Coast College captains Olivia

Louwdijk and Shianne Godena. Squadron Leader (Ret) John Turner read the Remembrance Ode, Peter Buitenhuis did a superb rendition of the Last Post and several community groups and individuals laid wreaths including Maureen Matthews and Marion Brennan for the Phillip Island and San Remo Legacy War Widows, Cr Halstead for the Bass Coast Shire Council, a representative of Bass MP Jordan Crugnale, David Ellison of the Woolamai Beach Surf Lifesaving Club, youngsters Louis and Lilly-Mae from the Newhaven Primary School.

John Methven rounded out the day by thanking the community for a "masterful turnout" and closing with a military joke about an American marine, a British soldier and an Aussie digger...

The American bragged they had the best officers, one of them still leading the charge after a bullet to the stomach. "That's nothing," said the Brit. His commanding officer held his hand to the back of his head after a piece of shrapnel passed through and continued the fight. The Aussie claimed their officers could easily top that.

"They've got no brains and no guts but still turn up every day."

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Trained by award-winning global makeup artists, including Shev Kelly, an Oscar-winning makeup artist, and Joanna Blair, Katie brings a world-class level of expertise to every sitting. Whether you're planning a wedding, engagement, elopement, debutante ball, or any other special occasion, Katie's calm demeanour and commitment to her clients make her an ideal choice for your special day.

One of Katie's biggest strengths is her ability to truly listen and adapt to what her clients want – no two looks are the same. She believes makeup should be about celebrating who you are and empowering oneself. With her personalised approach and exceptional attention to detail, you'll walk away feeling confident, radiant, and truly yourself.

As a destination makeup artist, Katie offers an "I travel to you" service, ensuring a relaxed, luxurious experience wherever your event takes you. Whether you're getting ready at home, in a hotel suite, or at a rural wedding venue, Katie brings her expertise and calming presence right to your door.

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CONVERSATION
with Claire



Marriage. A celebration of unity and love.
By author Claire Chitty

THERE are few occasions in life that are as profound, special and joyful as getting married.

Of course, the lead-up may be incredibly stressful for the bride-to-be and those directly involved. Financially, it can be an investment depending upon culture and expectations, yet can a price be truly placed on love?

For many of us, we seek a love outside of ourselves that is nurturing, resilient, and united, where we can grow together, embrace the imperfections, and evolve through kindness and communication. And for those lucky to find a partner who truly sees, supports and loves unconditionally through the easy and the challenging times, is indeed a blessing.

Ideally, the core of marriage is a partnership where two individuals stand side by side to build a strong foundation of mutual respect and share a life filled with trust, adventure, connection, and companionship. Marriage is not just a ceremony or a piece of paper; it's a coming together with family and friends to celebrate and witness the joining of two people through a commitment to build a future together.

Having found 'the one,' the next step is the marriage ceremony.

Planning a wedding involves many elements, with marriage ranking #7 on the life stress test. It's important to enjoy the process and remember the purpose: that is a celebration of love and taking the relationship to the next level of commitment. The next question is what type of celebration – Will it be a grand event with every distant relative and friend invited, an intimate gathering or a beach wedding?

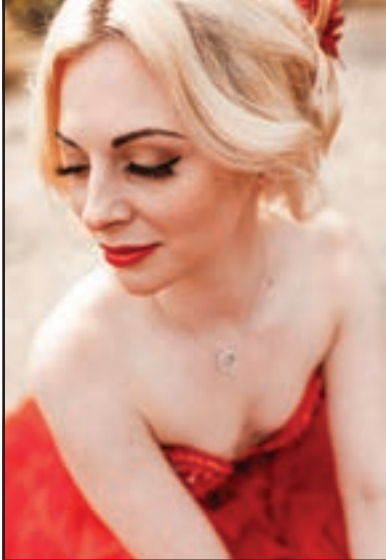
Each wedding is unique for the couple. I've been to dozens of weddings from simple garden parties to extravagant seven-course meals plus fireworks, yet the most memorable were the quirky yet simple affairs.

Financial considerations may include the reception venue, wedding attire, (bridal dress, shoes, bridesmaids, groomsmen) flowers, catering, the cake, stationery invitations and honeymoon. There are many variables, and the list is far from complete. It's a good idea to set a realistic budget and plan for unforeseen costs and last-minute hiccups which are bound to arise.

In the lead up to the special day, consider injecting some creativity into the planning from writing personalised vows, establishing meaningful rituals, selecting favourite songs and collating the unique stories how the couple met.

And for those travelling down the marriage path, in whatever way you choose to celebrate your union with loved ones, as you exchange vows, may your day be blessed with love, laughter and festivities that create memories that last a lifetime of joy together.

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From a spark something special grew

FOR Lisa-Anne, the best part of any ceremony is that quiet, powerful moment just after a couple says their legal vows – when it’s just the two of them, when all the nerves, excitement, and love come together, and everything else falls away.

Known for her heartfelt and soulful ceremonies across Bass Coast, Lisa-Anne has also been pivotal in the fuss-free marriages of those who didn’t want the pomp and parade.

Creating raw, unforgettable moments in small, intimate registry office-style weddings the concept for Lisa-Anne was born during COVID, when guests were limited and later evolved for couples wanting a simple, local way to marry without the overwhelm of a big wedding.

By Chloe Kent

What she loves most is the variety: young couples with babies in their arms, older couples finally tying the knot after 30 years together, people in boots straight from the farm, or couples who never imagined they could handle a wedding at all – until they climbed those stairs.

You see, becoming a celebrant was something Lisa-Anne was born to do.

She had always been the person called upon to tell a story, to bring people together, to create something meaningful when it mattered most.

No matter who walks up those stairs, it’s about giving them a moment that’s truly theirs – simple, genuine, and full of heart.

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IMAGINE saying “I do” with the endless blue of Bass Strait behind you and the tranquil beauty of native bushland all around.

At RACV Inverloch Resort you’ll find the perfect blend of seaside elegance, natural beauty, and modern luxury for your special day.

Nestled between the stunning coastline of Anderson Inlet and Cape Paterson, RACV Inverloch offers a wedding experience that captures the best of beach and bush.

“Down on the Bass Strait, you’ll find the spectacular RACV Inverloch Resort, perfect for those looking for a seaside wedding without compromising on elegance and style,” explains Resort Manager Carey Norton.

Whether you’re dreaming of an intimate gathering or a grand celebration, RACV Inverloch has the flexibility to make your vision a reality. The resort caters for up to 200 guests, with five tailored wedding packages designed to suit a variety of styles and budgets. Three stylish reception spaces are available, each offering breathtaking ocean views to create a stunning backdrop for your wedding photography.

Whether for small intimate celebrations or hosting a rehearsal dinner, The Boardroom offers the perfect private dining experience during your stay.



With sweeping views of Bass Strait, the spacious Panorama Room at RACV Inverloch Resort offers an elegant coastal setting for celebrations of up to 200 guests, blending modern style with breathtaking natural beauty.

“The Resort has three reception spaces – all with ocean views – providing you with the perfect backdrop for wedding photography with sweeping views of Bass Strait,” said Carey.

Beyond the ceremony and celebration, RACV Inverloch makes it easy for you and your guests to relax and enjoy an unforgettable wedding weekend. With a diverse range of onsite accommodations – from ocean view rooms to spacious villas, even caravan lots – everyone can stay close to the celebrations while enjoying the resort’s facilities, including an indoor pool, restaurant, and walking trails through beautiful coastal bushland.

“With idyllic views of natural bushland and native wildlife, combined with the beauty of the coastline, it’s the perfect wedding location for bush and beach lovers alike,” Carey added.

RACV Inverloch is more than just a venue – it’s an experience, offering warmth, sophistication, and stunning natural surroundings. Whether you envision a sun-drenched ceremony overlooking the waves or an elegant evening celebration under the stars, RACV Inverloch is ready to help create a day that’s everything you dreamed of and more.

For more information or to start planning your dream wedding, visit RACV Inverloch Weddings.



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Weddings are the heart and soul of The Grove. The small, passionate team – led by Wedding and Events Manager Sarah and General Manager Josh Erlich – is dedicated to crafting celebrations as unique as each couple. Here, you're never confined to rigid packages. Whether you dream of a grand gathering under the stars, an intimate ceremony tucked among the olive trees, or a cosy indoor reception in the light-filled Conservatory, your wedding will be tailor-made just for you.

"The Grove offers a lot of flexibility and we want to make your wedding personal," general manager Josh Erlich said, noting that even having a dog as the best man is warmly welcomed.

Dining at The Grove is an experience in itself. Head chef Tara, who brings a world-class touch to every dish, creates menus that champion local and homegrown produce.

The property can host up to 140 guests for a sit-down reception or up to 250 for a cocktail-style affair, with multiple stunning



ceremony and photo locations – from picturesque dams to romantic forest clearings, sun-dappled olive groves, and rolling paddocks. Sunset over the oaks provides the perfect golden glow to complete your wedding album.

Originally a fine dining destination, The Grove has evolved into one of Gippsland's most sought-after wedding venues, without losing its roots in incredible food, warm hospitality, and spectacular scenery, did we mention award-winning olive oil. Front-of-House Manager Lilian and groundskeeper Ash, along with the rest of the

team, ensure every detail is cared for with professionalism, passion, and a genuine love for love itself.

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Bring your floral dreams to life at Flowers by Bell in Traralgon. Photo by Bek Smith Images

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"I love it," said Bella Cheney.

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A personalised touch on your special day

THERE'S something profoundly moving about the moment a couple truly connects in a ceremony – when the noise fades, the nerves settle, and they realise, “This is our moment.” For celebrant Shannon of Simply Divine Ceremonies, that’s the magical moment.

Specialising in authentic, intimate and personalised ceremonies, Shannon brings a unique approach to weddings across Gippsland and South East Melbourne. Her philosophy is simple: your wedding, your way.

“I really enjoy providing a space for couples to celebrate their story and coming together with family,” Shannon explains.

Whether it’s a barefoot backyard gathering, an intimate beach escape, a second wedding filled with quiet joy, an elaborate affair or a commitment ceremony free of legalities, Shannon’s approach is about honouring each couple’s story – no matter what it looks like.

Though she offers the full range of ceremony styles, from micro-weddings to more elaborate affairs, Shannon’s passion lies in family-focused gatherings – often in a backyard, a favourite



Celebrant Shannon from Simply Divine Ceremonies creates space for couples to truly connect – where nerves melt away and the heart of the day takes centre stage. Photo: Zoe Strapp Photography.

lookout, or even the family verandah.

“There’s no cookie-cutter script here,” she says with a smile.

“It’s all about making people feel seen and comfortable – and giving them the space to just be present.”

As Shannon notes clients are often surprised to learn they don’t have to head to Melbourne’s registry office

to get married, if they’re keen on the small elopement – something she’s keen to change.

“You can have a legal and meaningful ceremony at home, at a park, or somewhere special to you. It doesn’t have to be a big production to be memorable.”

Every wedding Shannon officiates is custom-built. She not only manages the legal

complexities with ease, but also coaches couples through vow writing, public speaking jitters, and even helps include children in the ceremony in meaningful ways.

“I do a lot of coaching,” Shannon said, noting she has even been known to coach the fathers of the bride.

“It’s about letting the couple be the centre of attention, letting their story evolve from themselves. Essentially, I am in the background highlighting them.”

Shannon’s attentiveness extends beyond the ceremony. She checks in regularly with her couples, offering thoughtful guidance so the day unfolds smoothly and genuinely reflects who they are.

“The party and photos are important, but it’s the ceremony itself that you look back on; though you don’t always recognise it at the time,” she added.

A master of ceremonies, Shannon guides the rite with grace and subtlety keeping the focus on the special couple, letting the magic weave itself.

For the moments you remember. The ones that matter, Shannon is with you.

For more, visit sdceremonies.com.au.



Diana Ayscough recalls her marriage to Keith. C43_1725

Celebrating 62 years

DIANA and Keith Ayscough were married on June 22, 62 years ago in Yorkshire, England.

Although Diana admitted that they’ve had their moments she fondly recalls their four children being born. Julie, who arrived a year after they were married, Alan, Linda and Sheridan.

Diana was 21 years old when she married a 23-year-old Keith.

The pair now reside at Rose Lodge together.

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Photo: Zoe Strapp Photography



Phoebe and Luke were married at Phillip Island Winery. Photo: Claire Davie.

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ME0404

Let your wedding unfold your unique love story

WHEN it comes to planning a wedding, the details are easy to dream about: the invitations, the vows, the fairy lights. It's the finer details – the timely order of the dress, the setup of the venue, and the colour of the bouquet – that make the day unique.

Behind these thoughtful touches are creatives like Sarah Prime, the quiet force behind Rustic Wedding Hire in Mirboo North. With sustainability and simplicity in mind, Sarah's pre-loved vintage pieces add soul to the special day, inviting couples to embrace a timeless approach.

"I love that people are moving towards meaningful and low-impact weddings," she said.

"It's not about buying more – it's about creating charm with what already exists."

Sarah's advice to couples? "Pick your three non-negotiables, things that you want to be perfect."

Over on the beauty front, Katie Thomas, makeup artist (MUA), brings her highly skilled artistry to weddings across the country.

Based in South Gippsland but available for destination weddings, "I love to travel."

Katie blends high-end products with tailored techniques to create everything from soft, romantic looks to full glam.

Katie continually partakes in masterclasses keeping her inspired and on-trend. Whether for an elopement or a six-person bridal party, her key tip for brides is simple: "Relax and enjoy—it goes by so fast."

Then, to find the gown that tells the story.

Bridal wear is evolving, and at Amante Bridal, Elena Liesenberg helps guide each bride to find the perfect dress, whether it be silhouettes that hold classic elegance or dipped corseted bodices, beading, minis, and



Lover of organising, Sarah Prime of Rustic Wedding Hire.

detachable skirts that are huge right now. Her bridal boutique offers a personal experience that goes beyond fittings.

"We are here to listen, offer advice and direction. Our experience and knowledge will help the bride choose the right dress. We can always make and create a desired gown," said Elena.

With styles forecasting as far as 2027, Amante Bridal brings an international edge to regional Victoria.

Elena's advice? "Start early, and source reputable vendors."

With a list that includes a vast range of vendors, the venue is most important, it needs to blend professionalism and personal connection, and on the sweeping landscapes of Phillip Island, Misha Say of Phillip Island Winery invites each couple for an initial walkthrough of the venue, and during this meeting, gathers information about the couple's background, and how they got engaged.

"This helps us establish the couple's vision for their wedding day," said Misha.

"Our peak wedding season runs from November through to April. These dates generally start to fill up 18-24 months in advance, particularly for Friday and Saturday weddings. We do

offer weekday weddings, and winter weddings are starting to take off. We also offer discounted rates for off-peak times.

Whether it be a cosy winter wedding by the fire or a summer garden party, the team at Phillip Island Winery want the day to reflect each couple, without anyone else's expectations.

If, on the other hand, a couple is looking for an open wide space that welcomes a maximum of 130-140 guests, Knockwood Estate is framed by heritage trees and rolling hills, and invites creativity, where the couple are responsible for organising catering, marquee hire, decorations and drinks.

Run by Julie Curtis, she said, "This enables the couple to work to their budget and style."

With trends evolving, Alli at Flower Fixation said, this year's trends are seasonal cottage flowers.

"Mostly whites and blues, or whites and greens," she said.

When it comes to selecting the perfect bouquet or designing the ceremony and reception arrangements, Alli recommends couples provide an idea of inspiration, and she can work on bringing the vision to life, remembering that for Alli, no venue is too far.



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Family, laughter and resilience

SIXTY-ONE years ago, John and Joan Wilkinson were married at Corpus Christi Catholic Church in Glenroy.

"I remember saying I do," Joan smiled.

"I was 21 the day before."

The ceremony was followed by drinks at Pascoe Vale Hall and a cake made by John's uncle, who was a pastry chef with his own shop in town.

However, it wasn't smooth sailing for the newlyweds. That evening, they discovered their first hurdle, thanks to John's sister, who had kindly lent them a caravan – but decided to remove the wheels.

"The caravan was put up on blocks," John recalls, able to laugh about the moment now, but less so at the time.

"We couldn't take off."

The tricks didn't stop there with his sister also sowing across the legs of his pajama pants, because according to her, who needed pj's on their honeymoon. Though a very shy, young John certainly had felt otherwise at the time of the prank.

There were also a number of other surprises left for the couple thanks to family, though the one that put a dent in the journey wasn't planned.

"We made it to Mildura when the caravan needed a new wheel bearing," the duo recall the business Slippery Slams helping fix the problem, however, the setback meant the couple never made it to Adelaide for their honeymoon as planned.



Joan and John Wilkinson proudly hold a photo from their wedding day, sixty-one years ago. C40_1725

"We had a good time however, the honeymoon was fun."

Ten months later their first son Robert was born, followed by Patricia, Daniel, Alan and Christopher, with the couple purchasing their first home for £2500.

A painter and decorator at the time, John quickly went to work doing up their new home, an old war service building.

When asked what his favourite moment of their marriage has been, John answered, "children".

"We have such a close-knit family," John smiled.

"We also looked after a young boy; raised six kids."

The last addition is no less family than their own blood, with the now slightly older young chap every inch a part of their family.

Giving up painting and decorating for a position in a bus company, John transitioned from track work to charters and eventually trucks, something he had always idolised in his brother.

"After we gave up trucks we got a leasehold at a shop in Foster, Fish n' Chips and general store in the main street; a mixed business they called it."

For two years, the pair assisted by the kids, ran the shop.

"Everyone had a job to do."

As life moved on, the family relocated from Foster to Leongatha, later settling in Inverloch in the 80s and then Wonthaggi.

It wasn't an easy life for the pair with John working long hours, and Joan busy raising the family and working.

Despite the demands of work and family life, John always found time to help others, spending many years restoring old bikes and either donating them to those in need or selling them with the proceeds going to charity.

"Some of my most favourite times with the family was when we'd travel to Noojee," John added.

"Five motorbikes would fit on the trailer and we'd go up for the weekend, or when we'd go to Yarram to cut firewood."

Following a health scare and a new chapter in their lives, Joan and John set off travelling Australia with a caravan before settling back in Wonthaggi at Rose Lodge. The pair since winning a rock n' roll dance on their 60th wedding anniversary and creating artworks, some of which are donated to Rose Lodge Op Shop.

With family scattered locally and as far as Western Australia, the happily married couple now count 13 grandchildren and six great-grandchildren amongst the mix.

The secret to over 60 years of marriage:

"Family and love – trust each other. It's give and take."



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Make your special day unforgettable with Iain Luck Celebrant Services

PLANNING a wedding is one of the most exciting yet overwhelming experiences a couple can have, and choosing the right celebrant to guide you through the process is essential. With Iain Luck Celebrant Services, you can rest assured that every detail of your ceremony will be thoughtfully crafted, leaving you with beautiful memories that last a lifetime.

Iain Luck offers a completely obligation-free initial interview at a location of your choice. This first meeting gives you the chance to get to know Iain and discuss your vision for the big day, all without any pressure. He prides himself on being approachable and friendly, making sure the experience feels relaxed and enjoyable from start to finish.

You will work closely with Iain, receiving unlimited support via phone, email, and face-to-face meetings. His goal is to listen carefully to your desires and help you create a ceremony that is uniquely yours. Whether you're envisioning a traditional ceremony or a more modern, personalised celebration, Iain is committed to ensuring every detail aligns with your vision.

From the very start, Iain provides you with a Wedding Information Booklet, which includes a treasure trove of resources. From sample ceremonies and wedding vows to readings, quotes, music, and rituals, the booklet offers endless inspiration. Need a little more guidance? Iain will help you design a ceremony that feels just right, offering as many drafts as necessary until you're completely happy with the final version.

The planning process can be hectic, but Iain ensures you're never left in the dark. He will assist with all the required legal documents, ensuring timely submission, and work with you to organise a full ceremony rehearsal before the big day. You can rest easy knowing every aspect of the ceremony is taken care of.

When it comes to your ceremony, Iain goes above and beyond to ensure everything runs smoothly. Equipped with a professional PA system, he will conduct the ceremony with poise and professionalism. Always punctual, Iain will arrive early to set up, allowing you to focus on enjoying the moment without worrying about the details.

After the ceremony, you'll receive a personalised copy of the ceremony, giving you a beautiful keepsake to cherish forever.

With Iain Luck Celebrant Services, your wedding will be everything you've dreamed of – personal, meaningful, and perfectly executed. Ready to start planning your dream ceremony? Arrange your initial consultation today!

A wonderful life spent in Cape Paterson

IT WOULD be remiss not to mention the legacy the Legg family has in Wonthaggi/Cape Paterson and this short piece is just a snippet.

Joyce and Leslie Legg were married at St George's Anglican Church in Wonthaggi on June 26, 1954.

The duo, both 19 years old when they were married, went to school together and had been friends for years, according to Mrs Legg.

"We used to go dancing together," Mrs Legg smiled.

The town hall was where it was at for the young folk, whilst the fire brigade was for the "oldies" where there was a lot of Scotch dancing.

The Wonthaggi Life Saving Club was also a large part of their lives over the years, with Leslie also helping form the Cape Paterson Surf Life Saving Club.

"The day before the wedding my mother was cooking meat (for the wedding), and my dad was practising with his ventriloquist doll, and the pressure cooker blew," Mrs Legg recalls laughing.

"Mrs Sullivan was there, and she even put it in the paper. She turns to him and says 'Gee, Percy, you better do better than that at the wedding, I saw your lips



Joyce and Leslie Legg on their wedding day outside St George's Anglican Church in Wonthaggi. C42_1725

move!"

For those who recall, Mrs Sullivan wrote up the announcement in the Sentinel-Times back in those days. Mrs Sullivan described Joyce's dress, which was made by Mrs Hanson, as a bittersweet pink colour.

The reception was held at St George's Hall with 120 people in attendance.

"It was a big family, we had to hire the hall," she laughed, noting they were showered in confetti as they walked out of

the church, the confetti visible all over Les' suit jacket in their wedding photo.

"We couldn't get a lot of time off work, only a week (after the wedding) so we went to Phillip Island for our honeymoon. It was very nice, a very quiet time. Matter of fact we couldn't wait to get back to talk to people as we didn't know anybody over there."

The secret to 71 years of wedded bliss.

"Family always came first with us," Mrs Legg explained

noting there are now thirty-six in the family across four generations.

"We had six children – David, Barry, Leanne, Mark, Sharon and Paul – our best editions."

The secret for the Leggs.

"Agreeing to things," Mrs Legg stated.

"Agreeing with things, even agreeing to disagree. We never, ever fought. We would not fight. We would discuss things."

The duo spent most of their lives in the same house in Cassia Street, Cape Paterson, with Mrs Legg crediting Bass Coast Council with providing a lot of help during Les' transition to care, helping Joyce with cleaning and transport to see Les, particularly when he was recovering in Leongatha, before moving to Rose Lodge.

"We always had a happy home. When I left work we would have all the grandchildren during school holidays, it was Camp Legg. They loved the beach – we'd go swimming, to the life-saving clubs, rock hunting, and shell collecting, just enjoying the open air."

"We've had a wonderful life together; we don't want for anything."

Sentinel-Times

COMMENT

Do they know where
we are going?

AS ELECTION campaigns go, you've got to say the 2025 edition has been pretty ho-hum, lacking the excitement of a reform agenda on tax, education and the like or a clear statement about where we are going as a nation from either major party.

They had been working up a head of steam before Cyclone Alfred crossed the Queensland coast on March 8, ruining any chance of an April election date.

And they haven't been able to recapture the momentum since then, the Opposition Leader Peter Dutton in particular, struggling after a number of gaffs and policy back-downs.

Will that impact the chances of the Coalition winning government? Who knows but the polls certainly think so.

If the polls are correct, the Prime Minister Anthony Albanese and Labor are on track to win a second term of government which, historically at least, is to be expected. One-term Federal governments are rare in Australia. The last time it happened was in 1931, the theory being that swinging voters don't like to change their mind after one election because they'd have to admit they were wrong the first time around.

After two terms, it's open season again.

So, it looks like it might be a Labor win this Saturday, and they may even take enough seats for a majority which looked unlikely a few months ago.

All that is academic at the moment. The job we have in front of us is deciding which of the nine Monash candidates we think will best represent us locally, and which set of policies we think is going to serve us best locally and as a nation.

Funding for a new aged-care facility in Leongatha and making a meaningful start on a new sporting precinct on Phillip Island have been among the local promises bandied around. There's also been an assurance that there'll be no high-voltage power line connecting offshore wind to the Latrobe Valley at Waratah Bay.

We hope whichever government or local MP is elected, those three promises at least are honoured, together with universal calls for adequate road funding.

If Labor does win, their next term of government will take them through to 2028, just two years shy of 2030 when their energy target of greenhouse gas emissions 43 per cent below 2005 levels comes home to roost.

At the moment, we're sitting at 29 per cent below 2005 levels with estimated emissions going up not down in the year to December 2024.

So, how are we going to get there? That certainly hasn't been explained during this election campaign.

Perhaps it's time, as the slogan goes, for a bipartisan approach to energy policy so that we can be sure the lights will stay on and bill shock reduced while we transition to the new energy mix.

And when you do vote, make it count. The result locally could come down to how you number your preferences from 1 through to 9.



Cartoon by Glenn 'Grobb' Robinson.

Advertising message lacked respect, they say

I AM writing on behalf of the Inverloch RSL to express our disappointment with the recent political advertisement featuring local political candidate Deb Leonard in your ANZAC Day supplement.

While we understand and respect Ms Leonard's pride in her grandfather's war achievements, we strongly believe that using his war medals for political purposes is both tacky and of low standard.

ANZAC Day is a solemn occasion meant to honour the sacrifices and courage of our veterans. It is not an appropriate platform for political campaigning.

The use of war medals in this context detracts from the dignity and respect that should be afforded to our veterans and their families.

We urge Ms Leonard and other political candidates to consider the impact of their campaign strategies on the community and to refrain from using symbols of national remembrance in such a manner. Lest We Forget.

LJ Guerin, Secretary, Inverloch RSL

Editor's note: Three local Members of Parliament and a candidate, each of different political colours, supported a six-page feature in the Sentinel-Times last week where stories of personal sacrifice and service were highlighted alongside details of the times and locations for the general community wishing to come out and support our returned and serving military personnel. This week's newspaper carries comprehensive coverage of ANZAC Day locally, as we do every year, work that would not be possible without advertising support from the local business community and others.

From the heart of a Mum

AS DEB Leonard's mum, I couldn't be prouder of who she is, what she stands for, and her current journey as an independent for Monash. Deb has always had a huge heart for helping people and a practical drive to get things done.

Deb's commitment to serving our

community shines through in everything she does. I've watched her grow from a determined young girl into a dedicated community lawyer, successful small business owner, and above all, a devoted mum.

Deb's always been a fighter for what she believes in. At 12 years old, while president of the junior committee of the Phillip Island Pony Club she persuaded the senior committee (us parents) that we should hold an event for everyone to come to Phillip Island to compete. Much against our will we slowly succumbed and the Inaugural Phillip Island Pony Club Combined Training Day was held. It has been held every year since!

Throughout this campaign, I've seen Deb work tirelessly. She's been out in the community every day, listening to concerns and ideas, and coming up with practical solutions.

This is the same approach she'll take as Monash's representative. She won't be the kind of MP you are used to who does nothing and then shows up at election time.

Deb has had a lot of misinformation thrown around about her this campaign, but I believe the people of Monash can see Deb for who she is – a genuine independent and a hardworking, wonderful representative we can count on to fight for us.

Jenny Leonard, proud mum, Cape Woolamai

A refreshing change

I FIND it particularly concerning that in the lead-up to the coming election there appears to be a concerted attempt by the LNP to peddle disinformation about the Community Independent Deb Leonard in the seat of Monash.

Russell Broadbent has represented the seat of Monash since 2004 as part of the LNP up until the end of 2023, and currently as an Independent when he was not chosen for preselection by his own party.

During the time of Monash being regarded as a safe seat for the Liberals nothing much was done. We were ignored and taken for granted. Enter Community Independent Deb Leonard and suddenly in Monash we are being promised the 'long awaited' rebuilding

of Warragul Hospital where land has been set aside for years.

Suddenly we are being promised money towards a pool in Phillip Island, which they have been advocating for since 2012. Roads in Leongatha, bypass in Drouin, the list goes on. It would seem that the coalition are running scared that they may not be re-elected to the seat of Monash.

More recently I have received a spate of leaflets in the letterbox casting doubt on her Independence as a candidate and worse. I have forwarded one of these to the AEC as it was so factually incorrect. Several letters to the editor in various local papers are also continuing with this theme. In order for an election to be a fair and balanced representation of candidates it is a good idea for voters to look beyond the party hype and make clear decisions of whom you would like to represent your values and interests for the advancement of our Country.

Deb is an Independent, there is no “teal party”. Despite current disinformation, Deb is not aligned with any other party. She will consider each piece of legislation on its merits and how it aligns with her policies which are all formed from the feedback of our electorate. I encourage voters to visit her website to consider her policies and find out for themselves that as a community independent, she runs on integrity and transparency, something which is sadly lacking from the major parties.

Sadly, it is not illegal to lie in political advertising and that is why the Liberal Party can get away with these “fear and smear” campaigns. You will not find leaflets in your letterboxes from Deb spreading disinformation about other parties, she has risen above that kind of fear mongering and presents a positive and transparent campaign which I find refreshing.

Julianne Spithill, Inverloch

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.

Vox Pop

Being part of the agricultural sector, what is the most important issue for you in the upcoming Federal election?



Chris Fitzpatrick
Catani

"Mainly crime in our area as it is getting bad; my daughter's general store and post office has been robbed three times in the past six weeks."



Stuart Storr
Toora

"Fix the bloody roads. It's an ongoing saga and a constant battle to keep our 11 trucks roadworthy. Instead of giving money for the Suburban Rail Loop, the Federal Government should fund the Victorian Government to fix regional roads and mandate that."



Ross Svenson
South Gippsland

"The biggest issue is Donald Trump and his impact on exports but I don't know what the Australian Government can do as he's totally unpredictable."



Simon Henderson
Inverloch

"Cost of living is hurting most people, including energy prices which are way too high and will only get dearer with this renewables pipe dream the incumbent government has; if the nuclear issue is too hard, generate more power by extending the life of the current coal plants or opening up new ones like the rest of the developed world is."

Renewables stack up, nukes don't

WHILE cost-of-living seems to be the big buzzword for this election, stopping climate warming is more urgent because failure to deal with it will cause endless pain and suffering later.

And that is what makes Anton Gosselin's anti-renewables, pro nuclear, pro extending the use of coal and gas missive in your April 15 issue so disappointing; that decades of research by bodies like CSIRO and its fellow scientific organisations across the globe just hasn't penetrated the fossil industry sponsored haze that still surrounds this still vexed subject.

Gosselin cobbles together a farrago of mis and disinformation which looks authoritative until it is inspected more closely.

Finland's situation is completely different to ours. Yes, they are doing nukes but then it's dark a lot of the time over the long and very severe winter months and Russian gas is no longer an option for winter back-ups.

Australia has ridiculously abundant renewable resources all year round and a huge and diverse climate continental grid to run it through, from North Queensland to South Australia.

Nuclear plants can do enormous damage if people ever take their eye off the ball (Chernobyl) or if there is a natural disaster (Fukushima) or potentially as a result of war (Zaporozhye).

Wind farms, solar farms and batteries do not 'take up' huge tracts of land. Grazing of sheep within solar farms has proved to be particularly beneficial for the operator who doesn't have to mow, the sheep love the shade/rain cover and the pasture benefits from moisture retention.

Wind turbine bases represent a tiny fraction of the land they are placed on.

Wind turbine bird strike is an ongoing issue that is addressed in terms of siting the turbines. Wind farms are now never sited along major bird flock migration routes. It is still a problem, but in comparison with the damage that burning fossil fuels causes both as direct toxin pollution and indirect CO2 pollution and methane leaks, there is no comparison.

Renew Economy's quoted identification of endangered species in relation to a major offshore wind farm is part of a report on an environmental approval that has required considerable project redesign and additional conditions in relation to

boats and sea mammals, to get the project approved, so that it minimises risks to other species.

Recycling turbine blades and solar panels is a challenge, but the costs are coming down very rapidly, in the same way that turbine technology and particularly solar panel costs, which have been dropping like a stone.

While lithium batteries have proved difficult to recycle, new Chinese recycling technology has already reached 99 per cent recycling and recovery within some companies already.

Gosselin has used a very narrow pro-nuclear definition of carbon footprint that avoids the enormous embedded carbon in building the plant, the electricity necessary to energise it, then the decommissioning process and finally, providing the necessary infrastructure for secure long-term storage of nuclear wastes.

And no, like any other energy plant, nukes aren't 24/7 x 52 because there is both scheduled and unscheduled maintenance and repair downtime, which requires a lot of backup, because nuke plants are large, and if one is down, it's a big hole to fill.

And worse, nukes cannot vary output to gell in with renewables during the middle of the day when solar is maxing out at over 100 per cent of the grid on good day, even now in South Australia.

More, if there is a severe drought and the nuke plant is using river water for cooling, the plant has to be turned down or off because the water temperature gets too high to cool it effectively and additional waste heat causes massive bio-kills in the river.

All the stuff about fire risk is pure tosh. There is no connection at all between renewables and any major bushfire event. Gosselin is making it up.

This anti-renewables push is a beat-up to try and delay dealing with global warming as a result of burning fossil fuels, or worse, a barely concealed denial of the scientific facts of life.

Christopher Eastman-Nagle, Grantville

It's all part of politics

IT IS said that the first casualty of war is truth. It might also be said that the first casualty of an election campaign is logic.

I was puzzled when I saw a half page ad in last week's paper, which was telling us how to vote, headed "Don't let

anyone tell you how to vote!"

I was also struck by the lack of logic in Noel Maud's letter.

At the end of his letter, he states that, "Attacking a community supported candidate such as Deb Leonard is a new low in political activity."

I would have thought that all the candidates standing in Monash have community support. I don't think any candidate could run a campaign without support from one section of the community or other. Certainly, Deb Leonard doesn't have a monopoly on community support.

Also, to criticise the policies and behaviour of someone standing for election is not "a new low", it's part and parcel of our political system. Robust debate is what helps us to have a healthy political system. I don't think Deb Leonard is beyond criticism.

Also, Noel claims that Deb Leonard is supported by a multitude of community members, not just the multi-billion-dollar renewable energy industry. Well, the same can be said for the other candidates. I'm sure that Tully Fletcher is supported by ordinary branch members and supporters not just the powerful Union movement. Likewise, Mary Aldred is supported by local community members and supporters, not just big business.

I urge all the candidates to listen respectfully to your critics, as well as your friends, otherwise you might find yourself in a virtue signalling bubble.

Good luck to all of you and thank you for standing.

Patrick Kelly, Wonthaggi

More uses for government funds

CAN anyone explain why any State Government should consider, budget for and award grants of \$100,000 to \$5 million to private businesses catering to an upmarket clientele? ('Sentinel Times', 23.4.25.)

Surely there are more important things to spend taxpayers' money on than paying to improve a selection of small and large private businesses? Why should taxpayers foot the bill for expanding a small restaurant at a winery or adding more rooms, car parking or a new wastewater retention storage system at expensive holiday resorts most taxpayers could never afford to stay at?

If such expenditure could be seen as

acceptable, why, in the whole of Bass Coast, should only one winery and two expensive tourist resorts get taxpayer-funded improvements over other like tourist resorts or ventures, or non-like for that matter? Who decides who gets these windfalls, and how do they justify their decisions?

If the money must go to encourage tourism, here are suggestions benefiting far more people:

- Allow the division of the former Holden Proving Ground at Lang Lang into two – developed and undeveloped areas – and, with the help of the public, buy the undeveloped area to preserve our natural environment. Alternatively, buy it to use as part of the proposed treaty with First Nations' people.
- Put it towards building or supporting more budget-priced holiday villages, preferably State or Council-owned and run, to cater for all, not just the well-heeled. (Maybe, the whole of the former Proving Ground could be bought, and the developed area converted for this purpose.)
- Put it towards the Dinosaur Trail between San Remo and Inverloch.
- Put it towards developing the old Wonthaggi Technical School site for either tourism, social housing or whatever the community decides most appropriate.

Wider-ranging suggestions include putting it towards one of the following:

- House the homeless people living in Bass Coast and elsewhere in the State.
- Add dental and mental health services to Medicare.
- Employ more medical staff to meet local medical needs.
- Improve roads for all.
- Support those currently unable to afford or access solar energy to do so.

Meryl & Hartley Tobin, Grantville

A time for respect

ON SATURDAY I watched Sky News discussing the protests about Welcome to Country at the ANZAC Dawn service.

They all agreed that protests at the Dawn service were inappropriate and in poor taste. The host then went on to opine that the service men and women of World War I and II who fought for the British Empire would not support a Welcome to Country.

I agree the past is a foreign land and it certainly would be true that the attitudes and mores of most of the soldiers of 1945 were different from today and they probably would have struggled with the concept of a Welcome to Country.

However, we are not living in 1945 anymore.

In any case, ANZAC Day also honours service men and women of today and they are not exclusively of British heritage and often have different values.

Things change, for example, in my lifetime we had a referendum to change our National Anthem. It isn't God Save the King any more.

We live in a Constitutional Monarchy that is essentially a democracy.

First Nations peoples have fought to defend our common future in all our wars and are now recognised as Australian citizens with full rights which they often weren't given in 1945.

I believe in supporting the legal rights of all Australians whether they be of British heritage or not.

So, whilst I would be prepared to have a conversation as to when it is appropriate to have a Welcome to Country, for as long as our First Nations citizens express a desire to conduct such legally permitted services to meet their Cultural needs then I will have the courtesy to respectfully participate.

P.S. I accept the result of the referendum. I spent twenty years defending a Democratic Australia.

Kevin Walsh RFD, Major RAINF (Ret'd), Leader for the Yes Vote for the Voice Bass Coast



Wendy Elson, Albert Depares and Lynore Mercer are among those who will be helping those in need this Winter.

Bass Coast Winter Shelter calls on community

AS THE colder months approach, the Bass Coast Winter Shelter is preparing to open its doors – and your help is needed.

Run by the Interchurch Council of Phillip Island, this community initiative is seeking dedicated volunteers to support people experiencing homelessness in our region.

The shelter provides a warm meal, safe dormitory-style accommodation and, most importantly, a place of compassion, connection and care.

Set to operate across June, July and August this year, the shelter will offer up to three nights of accommodation each week in Cowes, thanks to the generosity of local churches opening their doors.

“Volunteers are truly at the heart of the Bass Coast Winter Shelter. The volunteers offer more than just shelter – they provide dignity, warmth and a sense of belonging. It’s about giving hope and community during the hardest time of the year,” said project coordinator Wendy Elson.

Volunteers are urgently needed now to help with essential preparation and behind-the-scenes roles, including volunteer coordinators, administration support, accounts and training support.

If you’re interested in volunteering for these positions, please email wintersheltervol@gmail.com or ring Wendy Elson on 0492 859 637.

When the shelter becomes operational, further support will be needed throughout June, July and August. Winter volunteer roles include minibus driver, trailer driver, and general volunteers for three key shifts:

- Evening (5.30pm – 10pm): Set up, welcome guests, serve dinner, socialise and clean up.
- Overnight (10pm – 6am): Ensure a safe, calm environment; stay awake through the night with another volunteer; and support guests as needed.
- Breakfast (6am – 9am): Prepare breakfast, interact with guests, clean and pack up the trailer.

Volunteer safety is a top priority. All volunteers will receive:

- A detailed volunteer handbook
- Video and face-to-face training covering key topics such as homelessness, trauma, mental health, shelter operations and safety protocols

Training sessions will be held at the Phillip Island Community and Learning Centre (PICAL), 16 Warley Avenue, Cowes:

- Monday, May 12 : 3pm – 5.30pm
- Tuesday, May 13: 10am – 12.30pm
- Wednesday, May 14: 6pm – 8.30pm

Now is the time to get involved and help create a more compassionate community this winter.

To register your interest in volunteering, go to basscoastwintershelter.wordpress.com and complete the online application form.

Alternatively, email wintersheltervol@gmail.com to request a volunteer application form. Completed application forms can be returned to wintersheltervol@gmail.com or handed into the Phillip Island Community and Learning Centre (PICAL), 16 Warley Avenue, Cowes, Monday to Friday, 9am to 3pm.

Short but powerful: Bass Coast hosts weekend of film

HOW do you begin to describe the utter devastation of losing your soulmate to illness, suicide or violent death?

Film maker, Jeremy Lindsay Taylor, knows what it must be like and with his short film ‘Dusty’ in the Open section of the Bass Coast Shorts Film Festival 2025 at the weekend he laid it bare for everyone to see.

Honestly, it was pretty tough to watch, seeing the festival’s best actor Travis Jeffery go through the self-destruction that such intense personal pain can trigger.

Thankfully (spoiler alert) there was some measure of resolution at the end.

But there was pride too, watching the silver screen at the Berninnet Cultural Centre last Saturday night, and being introduced to a different world just below our feet by Inverloch-based diver, film maker and expert in marine flora and fauna, Steve Dunn, who took out the Best Film (Local) for his worryingly beautiful documentary ‘Vanishing Seaweeds’.

What are we going to do about the invasion of the long-spined sea urchin (*Centrostephanus rodgersii*) which has already killed off the life-giving kelp and seaweed fields along the NSW coast and east coast of Tasmania and is heading towards Wilsons Promontory and the Bunurong Marine and Coastal Park?

The program of films, started at Archies Creek on Thursday night and continuing on Friday night at Berninnet, drawn from the entries to this year’s short film festival, all demanded a response.

- Loser (Open) USA, which won the Best Screenplay for Colleen McGuinness took us into the life of a young school leaver, disappointed with how things were turning out for her after the death of her mother.



Among the winners at the Bass Coast Shorts Film Festival 2025 held last weekend were, from left, Sarah Hegge-Taylor Best Film Open ‘Small’, Jessica McGuirk (Wonthaggi) Best Film (under 18) ‘Steel Reborn’, Nicky de Gruchy and Peter Michael Baird (Ryanston) Best Music Video ‘River’, January Jones and Karla Hillman (Sue Blainey Award) for Best Female Storyteller.

It would have been enough as a study of anthropology, sociology, and psychology but the spectre of US gun violence loomed drawing attention to the 128 lives lost daily (2023).

- Entropy, Open/Doc, Norway, Inuk Jørgensen asking the question ‘would you want to go on a journey, and take your kids with you, knowing it would end in catastrophe?’ The film produced chillingly beautiful images of the vanishing ice cap in Greenland.

- The Punt, Open, Vic, Rob La Terra, brought laughs for a clever twist.

- Vanishing Seaweeds, Local/Doc, Local Steve Dunn (Inverloch). Take the opportunity to see it locally if you can.

- Burnt Country, Open, UK, Kirsten Slemint, focused attention on the failure of Australia’s do-nothing forest management approach and the hope offered by cultural burning.

- Get Home Safe, Open, January Jones, slammed the shocking state of gender-based violence in Australia in our faces.

- Small, Open, Vic, Sarah Hegge-Taylor, describes the scene of settlers infected with smallpox.

- Dusty, Open, NSW, Jeremy Lindsay Taylor. Disturbing, dark, analogical.

- Hoeba!, a short animation, Netherland, Sem Assink.

A short awards presentation preceded the screening of a selection of the films.

The awards included the Sue Blainey Award for Best Female Storyteller taken out by January Jones and Karla Hillman for ‘Get Home Soon’. It’s the only award that includes a cash component (\$500) and highlights the importance for emerging filmmakers (or indeed anyone forging a path in the arts in Australia) to be supported in this way.

It’s the second Sue Blainey award provided in her memory by her sister Libby Blainey. The first was the Sue Blainey Award for Editing at the Canberra Short Film Festival, won by promising editor Sarah Panzetta for filmmaker Dylan Hare’s ‘Armstrong’.

Sue Blainey was an

acclaimed editor for film and television who started her film career in Australia and moved to New York in 1989. As TV started to overtake film as the preferred medium, she crossed the continent to work in the Los Angeles studios.

Her career took her from analogue editing on a Steinbeck with chinagraph pencils, razor blades and sticky tape – through early digital filmmaking on the Avid – to the introduction of high-speed internet that made it possible to work from anywhere.

She was invited to join the American Cinema Editors Guild and to put ACE behind her name on credits and was nominated for an Emmy and an Eddy for her work on Lost.

Libby says of her sister Sue was a strong feminist who loved filmmaking and storytelling. She went out of her way to help young creatives develop their projects and generously gave her time, intelligence and energy to mentor young and upcoming filmmakers and to share the secrets of her craft.

Inverloch Art Show sets new record for entries

A RECORD 480 entries were exhibited in the annual Inverloch Art Show over the Easter weekend, helping to raise funds for food boxes to support Bass Coast residents in need.

The art show was held at the Inverloch Community Hub by the Inverloch Art Show Auxiliary.

Proceeds are the only source of funds for the food box program of Bass Coast Health (BCH).

Social workers and support staff distribute these food boxes to vulnerable children, families and community members to ensure they do not go hungry. This is done in a respectful way that maintains their dignity and confidence.

Auxiliary president Deb Watson was pleased to see 30 entries from youth artists and 20 in the All Ability section.

“The art show is important for four main reasons – the funds we raise for the food boxes distributed by Bass Coast Health, the opportunity for artists to show their talents, an event for the local community and the contribution to the visitor economy in Bass Coast,”

she said.

BCH interim CEO Simone Alexander paid tribute to auxiliary members past and present for their support over nearly four decades.

“This year’s show was organised and run by a committee of 10 volunteers, some of whom have been involved for more than 30 years. Other volunteers also help to hang artworks and to run the show over the Easter weekend,” she said.

“This is a remarkable effort and an example of the outstanding community spirit that BCH is fortunate to enjoy. Every dollar raised goes towards helping BCH to care for our community.”

The 37th show attracted entries from South and West Gippsland, and further afield.

The winner of the Blair Art Prize for Best in Show, and valued at \$2500, was Kerry Spokes with her mixed media work.

This award is sponsored by the Bendigo Bank – Inverloch Community Bank.

The People’s Choice Award went to Luke Goldfinch for his pastel piece, Bambi.



Kerry Spokes’ mixed media work, Boy, won the Blair Art Prize for Best in Show.



Nissa Campbell Walker, playing Melpomene, and Matilda Russell (Erato) practice their make-up application during rehearsals.



Finn Campbell Walker, during dress rehearsals, getting into the spirit of his character Urania.

Newhaven College presents Xanadu, a story of dreams and courage

NEWHAVEN College's production of Xanadu is a glittering, tongue-in-cheek celebration of dreams, destiny and disco-drenched romance, captivating audiences with its outrageous charm and infectious energy. Inspired by the cult 1980 film, Xanadu was transformed into a dazzling Broadway musical that lovingly parodies both Greek mythology and roller-skating

'80s excess. The College cast and crew are thrilled to bring this whimsical and joyfully absurd journey to life.

Through the fantastical tale of Kira, a muse from Mount Olympus who descends to Earth to inspire a struggling artist, Xanadu explores themes of creative passion, the courage to follow one's heart, and the magic that can arise when we dare to

embrace the ridiculous. Equal parts satire and sincere celebration, this musical rollercoaster reminds us that sometimes, even the wildest dreams are worth chasing.

Newhaven College has a rich and vibrant history in the Performing Arts. The talented cast, musicians and crew draw from that established culture of excellence, adding their own unique energy and skills to

this school production.

Newhaven College's production of Xanadu could easily hold its own on a professional stage – every element, from the acting, music, to the set design, being exceptional.

There are four performances on May 2, 3 and 4. Bookings can be made via the Wonthaggi Union Community Arts Centre website or trybooking.com/CYNRA.



Through music and personal stories, Mitch Tambo is helping students navigate tough issues like bullying.

Mitch Tambo brings inspiring school tour to Welshpool

MUSIC Artist Mitch Tambo is bringing his 'I Am Me' Tour to the Welshpool and District Primary School on Thursday, May 1, and he's ready to inspire local students with an exciting mix of music and storytelling.

The event kicks off at 9.30am with Mitch performing some of his hit songs, including those in the Gamilaraay language, and showcasing his incredible didgeridoo skills. After the performance, Mitch will lead a workshop from 10.45 am to 11.30 am, where he'll talk to students about themes like positive mindsets, belonging, and the importance of supporting each other.

"The response has been incredible, especially considering this is important work," Mitch said.

"It's inspiring to see schools embrace this initiative so enthusiastically."

A big focus of Mitch's tour this year is tackling bullying – both online and in person. With the rise of tragic stories around bullying, Mitch is using his platform to help students understand how to deal with these issues.

"I personally experience bullying on social media, and it's tough, but I've learned how to cope, and I want to share these tools with students who might be going through tough times," Mitch shared.

His goal is to make students feel heard and help them know that it's okay to talk about their struggles.

Mitch's performances are always full of energy and fun, and students are encouraged to get involved, sing, and dance. He's also offering teacher workshops to help educators with strategies for fostering positive mindsets and creating safe, inclusive spaces for students.

It's shaping up to be a day of music, inspiration, and important conversations.



WONTHAGGI THEATRICAL GROUP PRESENTS

MAY 23 to JUNE 8

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A NEW MUSICAL

Book by Marshall Brickman and Rick Elice Music and Lyrics by Andrew Lippa

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Sentinel-Times

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WONTHAGGI BINGO

WEDNESDAY 1pm - 3pm
THURSDAY 7pm - 9pm

Wonthaggi Workmen's Club, 75 Graham Street
Come and join in the laughs at South Coast FM Bingo

★ RAFFLES ★ DOOR PRIZES ★



John and Ben Fisher, Tommy Brown and Shane McGrath look forward to hearing from Heath Shaw. A17_1725



Amy White, Marie Chapman and Stacey Fermanis at the Heath Shaw event in Korumburra. A18_1725



Andrew Newton, Neil Walker and Jaarl Enbom at the Heath Shaw event. A19_1725



Kaz Hopwood and Ashleigh Harper look forward to the function at Korumburra-Bena Football Netball Club. A20_1725



Discussing the selection of short films screening at the Bass Coast Shorts Film Festival 2025 at the weekend were Margaret Byrne, Elizabeth Mulhern and Stephen Urquhart.



Attending the Bass Coast Shorts film festival at Berninnet at the weekend were Lucian Hannon, Mel Lier, Justine McLaren, Amy Luke and Olive Foster.

Snapped Out

Pictures of you and your friends at Heath Shaw event at Korumburra-Bena Football Netball Club, Anzac Day services and Bass Coast Short Film Festival



Bass Coast Shire councillors Cr Mat Morgan and Cr Meg Edwards paid their respects at Inverloch's Anzac Day service. Tk01_1725



Liz Jacobs and Jenny Haydon laid a wreath on behalf of the Inverloch Bowling Club at Inverloch's Anzac Day service. Tk02_1725



John Diaper of Leongatha and Frank Krausz of Mirboo North await the Anzac Day Service in Leongatha, John having served in the navy and Frank with the Royal Australian Engineers. A13_1725



Bella Abriola, Pyper Wylie and Tanah Maloney enjoy a day out supporting the Magpies. A33_1725



Inverloch Football Netball Club's Adrian Laing, Bass Coast Shire Council Deputy Mayor Cr Brett Tessari and Community Bank Inverloch's Penelope Rowe attended the Anzac Day service in Inverloch. Tk03_1725



Faye and Noel Laing at the Anzac Commemoration Service in the Leongatha Memorial Hall. A14_1725



Dr Terence Shannon OAM and Lisa Shannon at the cenotaph following Inverloch's Anzac Day service. Tk04_1725



Karl and Isabelle Montgomery attend the Anzac Day service at the Leongatha Memorial Hall. A15_1725



Bass farmers Graham Wood and Faye Tuchtan attended the San Remo ANZAC Day service, Graham wearing his grandfather Hubert Wallman's WWI medals.



A regular at the San Remo ANZAC Day service, Squadron Leader (Ret) John Turner recited the Remembrance Ode, with Krishna Methven wearing her father Sonny Linder's medals.

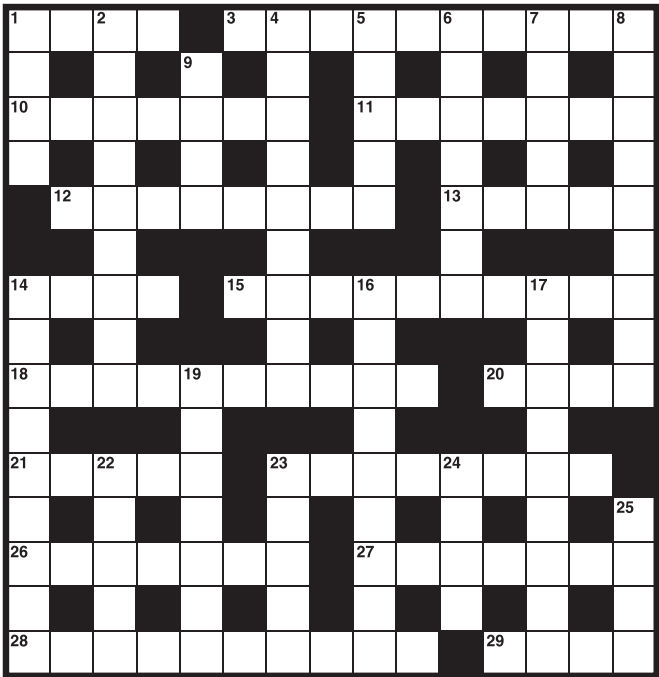


Guest speaker at the San Remo ANZAC Day service Bass Coast Mayor Cr Rochelle Halstead with MC John Methven OAM getting set for the day.



CROSSWORD

No. 278

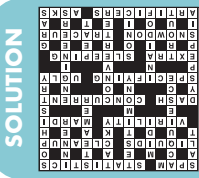


- ACROSS**
- 1** Tinned meat (4)
3 Collection and study of data (10)
10 Fluids (7)
11 Make a big profit (5,2)
12 Manliness (8)

- 13, 25-down** Carnival and parade (5,4)
14 Frustrate (4)
15 Synchronous (10)
18 Unnecessary (9)
20 Unattractive (4)
21 Bonus (5)

- 23** Dormant (8)
26 Whistleblower, Edward – (7)
27 One who does parkour (7)
28 Skilled craftsmen or inventors (10)
29 Requests (4)

- DOWN**
- 1** Old sailor (coll) (4)
2 Quietly comply (9)
4 Evidence (9)
5 In bad taste (5)
6 Kitchen utensil (7)
7 Part of a target (5)
8 Use of false, but clever arguments (9)
9 Woman's calf-length clothing (4)
14 Indigestion (9)
16 Transformer (9)
17 Designer of goods and structures (9)
19 In support of (2,3,2)
22 Fish (5)
23 Of sound waves (5)
24 Fuel cut from bogs (4)
25 See 13-across

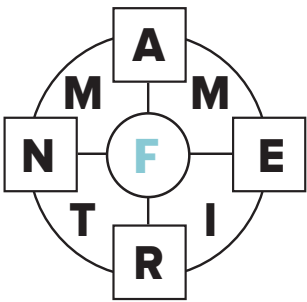


9-LETTER

No. 278

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:**
15 words: Good
23 words: Very good
31 words: Excellent

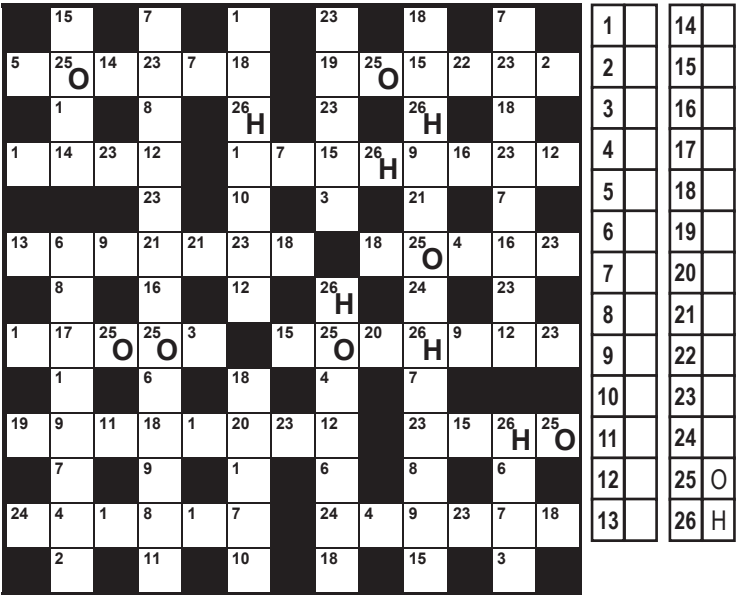


- afire, after, fair, faint, fainter, fair, fame, famine, fare, farm, fate, fear, feat, feint, feria, fern, flat, fine, finer, fire, fireman, firm, firmament, frame, free, infer, infra, raft, refit, rifle, rift

CODEWORD

No. 268

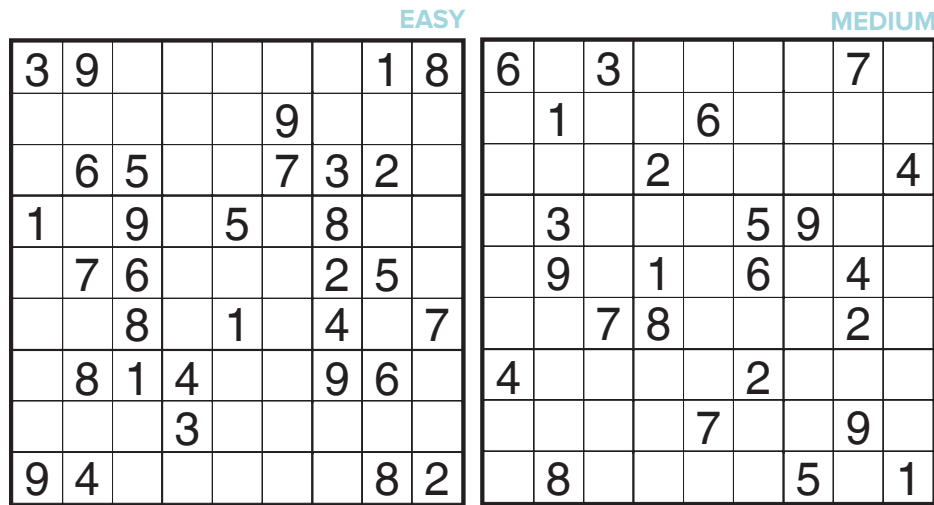
Each number corresponds to a letter of the alphabet. Two have been filled in for you, can you work out the rest?



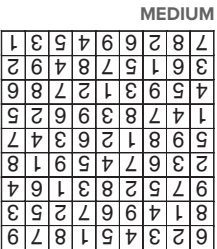
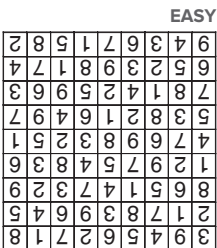
SUDOKU

No. 277

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every number from 1 to 9 must appear in: each of the nine vertical columns, each of the nine horizontal rows and each of the nine 3 x 3 boxes. Remember, no number can occur more than once in any row, column or box.



SOLUTIONS



QUICK QUIZ

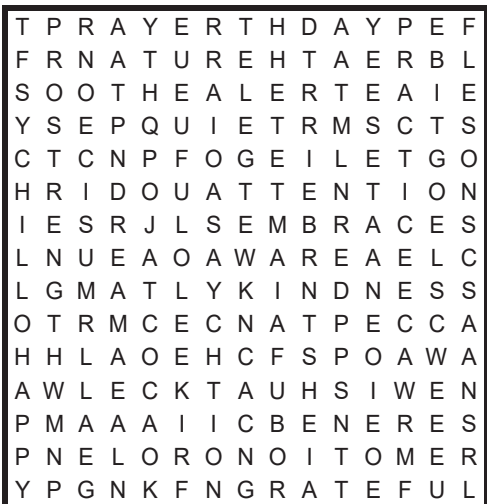
- What is the longest river entirely within the state of Queensland?
- Which 2008 movie did Matthew McConaughey and Kate Hudson (pictured) film in Queensland?
- What is the original national animal of Canada?
- Steinway is famous for selling which musical instrument?
- What shape is the national flag of Switzerland?
- In which fictional town did the characters of *Dawson's Creek* live?
- What season is coming, according to the Starks in *Game of Thrones*?
- Dushanbe is the capital city of which Central Asian country?
- What breed of dog did Queen Elizabeth II favour?
- Who created the characters Ali G and Bruno, among others?



WORD SEARCH

No. 188

Can you find all the words listed? The leftover letters will spell out a secret message.



- | | | |
|------------|----------|----------|
| ACCEPTANCE | EMBRACE | POWER |
| ACTION | EMOTION | PRACTICE |
| ALERT | FOCUS | PRAYER |
| ALONE | GRATEFUL | QUIET |
| ATTENTION | HABIT | SELF |
| AWARE | HAPPY | SERENE |
| BREATHE | JOY | SLEEP |
| CALM | KINDNESS | SOOTHE |
| CHILL | LEARN | STRENGTH |
| CLARITY | LET GO | SUPPORT |
| DAY | MUSIC | TIME |
| DREAM | NATURE | WALK |
| EGO | PEACE | WISH |

SECRET MESSAGE: The first factor of awakening



Local experts deliver prime dairy farm sale in Dumbalk

ALEX Scott & Staff Leongatha team are industry leaders when it comes to rural real estate sales, and are very pleased for the Vendors and Purchasers of their most recent dairy farm sale.

Pictured are Dane Perczyk – Alex Scott & Staff Leongatha Livestock Manager and Andrew Newton – Alex Scott & Staff Leongatha Real Estate Manager on the farm at Dumbalk.

Andrew and Dane are both multi-generational locals to the area, come from farming backgrounds and know the land well. South Gippsland is in their blood! Both started together with Alex Scott & Staff 23 years ago and have worked side by side with their clients over the last two decades.

They had the great honour of recently being appointed selling agents to one of Dane's first

dairy clients in Robert and Janet Auchterlonie. Dane knocked on Robert and Janet's door 20 something years ago, and they have been working together ever since along with their son Doug.

The Dumbalk Valley is one of Victoria's most prime rural land regions. With its first-class soils, high rainfall and gently undulating topography, the land is in high demand and rarely becomes available and the timely

result of this family farm sale is a credit to the strength of the region.

Dane now has his real estate agent representative licence and can offer you the full package, from selling the farm right through to clearing sale of machinery and livestock.

Working alongside with Andrew and the sales team at Leongatha (as well as all our agents in Alex Scott & Staff throughout

our 14 offices across Gippsland) we can offer the full package, with the backing of a privately owned company that had been in the region for close to 140 years.

If you are thinking of selling and would like a confidential appraisal or just a general discussion about the market, contact Dane or Andrew and the team on 5662 0922, or drop into the office at 41 Bair Street, Leongatha.

IN TOWN 'TREE CHANGE'

Hodges Wonthaggi/Bass Coast is proud to present a truly exceptional residence that redefines luxury living in one of Wonthaggi's most tightly held and picturesque court locations on almost 2 acres. Expertly crafted to the highest standard, this custom-built masterpiece is a rare fusion of design excellence, premium materials, and natural beauty – all within walking distance of the town centre and hospital.

- 6,350m² of Native Gardens, Bushland & Birdlife
- Quality Custom Built Home
- Lime Stone Tiles, Box Brush Timber Floorboards
- Energy Efficiency; 20 x 6kw Solar Panels, Premium Double Glazed Windows & In Ground Water Tanks
- 3 x Private decks/ Entertaining Area & Built In BBQ Area
- All Service Mains Available, Including Water, Sewer & Electrical
- Walking Distance to Baxter's Bushland Reserve and Beach Access

15 Grasstree Court, Wonthaggi
\$1,600,000

3 2 2



Excellent business opportunity!

THORNTONS Bakery is a well-established, flourishing business located in the heart of Leongatha with high traffic exposure.

The business is being offered on a “walk-in-walk-out” basis. The bakery is open five and a half days a week with the ability to expand trading hours if you wanted.

The bakery is supported heavily by local sporting clubs, passing tourists and the general public. It also offers good parking on the street with the rear supermarket carpark. The modern fit out is fully appointed with quality appliances, plant and equipment.

Included in the price is:

- An established regular clientele
- All the quality plant and equipment
- Fittings, fixtures, cool room, counters, electronic point of sale system and all cook-ware and crockery
- A great location, with high exposure
- A long term 3x3 lease with a further three-year option

Here is a wonderful opportunity to take advantage of what is already an established successful business and expand the business if you desire. You can alter the hours to suit yourself, and the opportunities are endless! For more information, or to arrange a private inspection, don't hesitate to give Kellie Thomas a call on 0438 647 449.



Business Opportunity

32-34 McCartin St, **Leongatha**
For Sale \$220,000
Agent Nutrien Harcourts
Kellie Thomas 0438 647 449
kellie.thomas@nh.com.au

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47 Bair Street (03) 5662 2292
nutrien.harcourts.net/au/office/leongatha



FOR SALE

LEONGATHA 3 2 3
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



FOR SALE

FISH CREEK 4 3 8
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



FOR SALE

ARAWATA 3 1 2
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



FOR SALE

FOSTER 3 2 2
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



FOR SALE

LEONGATHA 4 3 2
Family Living Done Right!

- 4 BRs upstairs, a study, 3 bathrooms and 3 living areas.
- Kitchen equipped with a gas stovetop and dishwasher.
- Double lock up garage with direct access into the house.

\$850,000-\$880,000



FOR SALE

LEONGATHA 2 2 2
Dual Living with Convenient Address!

- Light and bright, well maintained on approx. 788m².
- Modern kitchen, with spacious benchtops, gas cooktop.
- Great location close to Leongathas CBD.

\$550,000



Kellie Thomas
Licensed Estate Agent
0438 647 449



FOR SALE

BUFFALO 3 1 2
“Belle Crae” Outstanding Dairy Farm

- Well presented contemporary brick veneer home.
- Excellent fencing & shedding, strong fertiliser history.
- Great amenities for farming.

\$3,636,000



FOR SALE

LEONGATHA 4 2 2
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



FOR SALE

KOONWARRA 4 2 3
Ultimate Family Lifestyle Property!

- Renovated solid BV home on approx. 2.2 Acres.
- Stunning kitchen, featuring Quantam stone benchtops.
- Brilliant shedding and outdoor amenities.

\$1,100,000 - \$1,150,000



Monique Wightman
Marketing & Administration
(03) 5662 2292



Skye Clothier
Sales Associate
(03) 5662 2292



BERRYS CREEK CLEARING SALE

Farm Machinery, Tractors, Equipment & Sundries

Friday, May 9 at 10am

A/c L & J Murphy

155 Forresters Lane, Berrys Creek
Property sold

Farm Machinery, Tractors, Equipment and Sundries:

Iveco truck Acco 2350G 2002 model 300hp 514,000km new tray bed 5.9mt tipping tray; Cole Supa-Flo grouper 5.4mt; Stock crate 5.9mt three pens with side door access; Bulk bin 5.9mt with full width door or shute; Case Maxxum CVT 130hp tractor 2014 model 1694hrs with 4 in 1 bucket; Case MX 100C tractor with hay forks Quicke Q940 front end loader 3 hydraulic remotes 4WD; Case 2290 tractor 165hp 2WD 7687hrs working; Reese RH 2200 Euro hitch silage grab; Hustler CXR soft hands; Euro hitch forks; Euro hitch 2.4mt stick rake; Trimble GPS; Triolet solomix 1-1150 feed mixer with scales; Yanmar excavator 4444hrs with 1500mm mud bucket & other attachments; 400mm & 200mm Auger torque; Hydraulic log grab 45mm pins 260 centres; 120mm tilt bucket 45mm pins; 96 rolls of 4 x 4 '24 pasture silage; 30 rolls of 4 x 4 '23 pasture silage; Can-am HD8 2017 model side by side fully enclosed manual tip tray; Polaris ranger 570 EFI 4 x 4 side by side ADC '19 model 4WD manual tip tray; 100lt silvan spray unit; Mustang turbo 2076 skid steer 5570hrs 80hp standard & high flow hydraulics 1750mm 4 in 1 bucket; Wolverine hydraulic rotary hoe can attach to skid steer; Digga skid steer trencher with extra widening teeth; JCB Backhoe 2mt front end loader bucket; Taeger utility seed drill with RC300 monitor; Kuhn HRB302 3mt power harrow with seed box, roller & monitor; Claas disco 3500 mower 8 discs 3.5mt wide; Kuhn tedder rake; Ferris IS700Z zero turn lawn mower 643hrs 23hp Kawasaki motor; Husqvarna lawn mower LTH2038 238hrs; Amazon variable rate fertiliser spreader S500 ZA-M1501 with monitor; Hayes 2.4mt wide mulcher & roller with side shift; Munro side shift post driver with 4 augers; Celli Super Scorpio 2.8mt wide mulching mower; McHale RS4 bale splitter; Steel 3mt wide paddock roller; Folding hydraulic harrows 6mt wide; Kverneland UN7515 silawrap; Berends 8ft grader with 3 way hydraulic tilt adjustment; Croplands variable rate sprayer 7.5mt boom with monitor; Agrisread feeder with hydraulic & 3PL; 6mt Flexi Feeder; Paton cattle feeder 2.4mt; Silo; 800lt & 450lt diesel pod; Anderson stainless steel vat; Homemade feed out wagon; Old tip trailer 2.4 x 3.6mt need repair; Plastic culvert pipes; Portal shed frame; 15 concrete posts 2.3 x 120 x 120; 20 concrete blocks 1200 x 600 x 600; 112 x 45 x 2 cattle rail 6.1mt 3 packs of 21 brand new; Steel rack; 70mm gal light pipe 6.5mt 37 lengths; Pack of 180 x 65 8mt RHS; 8 packs of 150 x 50 8mt RHS; Large assortment of used treated pine posts mainly 8ft long; Concrete wacka plate 5hp; Able gasoline rotary hoe; Motorised 25 tonne log splitter; Millers Fall Worker bench saw; Herless 12 speed heavy duty drill machine; Aluminium loading ramps 3.4mt 4.5 tonne rated; and various other items too numerous to mention.

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Jersey world conference opens doors for exports

DAIRY farmers from around the world will be spreading the word about the quality of Australian Jersey cows after a successful World Conference tour.

Visitors from United States, Canada, New Zealand, Germany, France, England, Jersey Island, South Africa and Colombia took part in the tour across Victoria and New South Wales.

It was the first time since 2011 that the conference was based in Australia.

Jersey Australia general manager Glen Barrett said the conference, which started in Melbourne on April 6 and ended on April 21 at the Royal Sydney Show, had lived up to expectations.

"It has been a very successful world conference," Mr Barrett said.

"The guests have been very impressed with the cattle they've seen and we've had some great engagement with industry facilities and researchers."

Mr Barrett said positive feedback about the quality of cattle had already generated international sales interest for genetics export companies.

"People were impressed with the quality of the cows and the world-leading support of the dairy industry and we are confident this will lead to more sales of Australian Jersey genetics around the world," he said.

Mr Barrett said he was aware of a 5500-straw order and more sales were expected to be confirmed in response to the tour.

New Zealand visitors were particularly impressed with the quality of the Australian cows and the way the dairy industry functions.

"People have seen that Australia has high-quality cows and they will take the message home that they should be using more Australian Jersey genetics," Mr Barrett said.

Jersey Australia president Geoff Akers said he was proud to recommend Australian Jerseys to breeders across the world.

"Over the past 30 years, Australian



The world is watching Australian Jersey cows after a successful tour.

breeders sourced the best genetics from around the world and today we are very proud the Australian Jersey that is absolutely world-class," he said.

Genetics Australia was premium sponsor for the tour and export manager Rob Derksen said the conference was a real success.

"As premium sponsor, it was a great opportunity to showcase Australian Jerseys to visitors from around the world," Mr Derksen said.

"In my view, Australian breeders, through the use of the world's best Jersey bloodlines and cow families, now have the best population of Jerseys available," he said.

"As the need for sustainability puts pressure on current farming practices worldwide, the efficient Jersey breed will play

an important role in feeding the world in future."

Genetics Australia hosted several international visitors for the tour, including Edgar and Lynda Brotherton from Just Milk and Roy Dixon from CRV Xeed in South Africa.

"It was beneficial for them to see Australian Jersey herds, bull mothers, cow families, farming systems and the bulls," Mr Derksen said.

Jean Macky from STNZ as well as several New Zealand Jersey farmers also attended and said the Australian Jersey had a real role to play in NZ.

"Jean was confident that as more farmers see the results of Australian Jerseys in NZ sales will grow," Mr Derksen said.

Several of the NZ visitors ordered semen while in Australia.

Young Gippsland dairy farmers experience Tasmanian dairy industry

A GROUP of young dairy farmers from around Gippsland checked out what is happening in the industry during a Dairy Australia trip to Tasmania at the end of March, the adventure being the Don Campbell Memorial Tour.

That included seeing halter collars in action, the technology that relies on sound cues and electric pulses not yet in general use in Victoria due to current

animal cruelty laws.

Zac McRae who milks 330 cows in Middle Tarwin went on the trip mainly for networking reasons, noting that proved successful with the whole group still talking.

He is keen to establish relationships with other dairy farmers in his area and identified the Tasmanian trip as a great way of doing so.

Zac was interested to see the halter collar in action, seeing it as offering benefits but presenting some challenges.

"I think the halter looks good (but) it's expensive and for it to be cost-effective you have to be using every aspect of it," he said.

"It's very good when set up right and if you're using all the features of it."

Those features include monitoring herd health, when cows are on heat, as well as the various ways to move cattle and break them into groups.

"One of the drawbacks, when we were talking to farmers, was that you can't have a small mob of cows, you can't just have 10," Zac said.

He explained there are limitations on how small an area of paddock you can allocate with the technology, alluding to the ability to create virtual fences for strip grazing.

A research farm in Ellinbank is

currently using halter technology and reporting back to the Victorian Government to help inform its review of current animal cruelty laws.

There are varying views on the technology. Some argue the current cruelty laws are outdated, stemming from shock collars for dogs, while others have expressed concern that not all livestock will be able to learn the audio cues that enable them to stay within the required area, causing them to continue to receive electrical pulses.

As well as the use of halter collars and robotic dairy setups, the group of 14 participants from across Gippsland also saw research projects being undertaken.

One of those projects at the Tasmanian Institute of Agriculture research farm involved experimenting with various crop plantings to enable reduced use of nitrogen fertiliser.

Participants visited a number of farms, a corporate calf-raising centre that takes calves from various farms, and attended a Tasmanian Young Dairy Network dinner and a farm awards event, even squeezing in a little sightseeing.

While the trip won't prompt any immediate changes on Zac's farm, it has raised the possibility of putting in more irrigation in future.

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Farm's success attributed to Landcare and best practices

WITH deep roots in the South Gippsland region, Sam Stringer and his wife, Samantha Van Dort bought a small, rundown 120-acre property in Fish Creek in 2020, not looking for a lifestyle change but to build a future and a legacy for their children, Darcy and Ted.

Growing up on a farm on Cape Liptrap, Sam said he has been involved in Landcare for as long as he can remember and is a strong advocate for Landcare networks.

For the past five years, Sam has been an active member of the Fish Creek Landcare Group and has served on the board of the South Gippsland Landcare Network for the past four years.

In 2020, Sam introduced his wife, Samantha, to a life on the land.

"We purchased an entry-level property, that is essentially a hobby farm," said Sam.

"It was very run down, it had set stocking and was hilly, there were no trees, low fertility, and low soil carbon.

"We did a lot of testing, and Landcare was and still is a valuable resource for information. I was able to join a Landcare project called 'The Soil Biology Project', and through that, we ran multiple productivity trials and had access to a consultant – I was able to show her all my testing for free, and she then provided me with a soil fertility management plan."

In an interview with the Sentinel-Times, Sam shared that the biggest challenge was cash flow.

"We weren't able to buy the fertiliser and do it



Sam Stringer and Samantha Van Dort have entrusted Landcare Networks to help them shift their thinking and improve the carrying capacity on their beef property in Fish Creek.

conventionally, so what we've done is utilise Landcare grants to split paddocks and use rotational grazing as a tool to improve pastures. The other focus was to fence off sensitive areas," said Sam.

The Fish Creek beef property has gone from eight to 18 paddocks. Sam and Samantha have placed water troughs in the middle of them all, so they could then split them again with electric fences.

"What this means is that we've switched from a set stocking regime to a high-density, long rest period,

known as rotational grazing. Therefore, we have been able to go from running 20 steers on the farm, which equates, on average, to roughly 160 DSE, to 40 breeding cows and calves. We run them as one mob, so it works out to be about 500 DSE per hectare at peak.

"This has more than tripled the carrying capacity in five years."

With an agricultural background and growing up on land, Sam has the generous help of his parents, Noel and Jose Stringer, but it's the improvement of technology that

has made the day-to-day operation of the hobby farm see the success that it has.

"I'm lucky that in my line of work, I have access to best management practices, and it is technology that has enabled me to manage the farm remotely," said Sam.

A good example of this is Sam's AgTech Livestock Water Supplementation Technology system and productivity platform.

"Water is the number one priority for livestock, and this new technology gives me peace of mind. It is fully monitored through AgTech, which means that I can see on my device how much the cattle are drinking, the flow rate, the level of my tank, and what the pump is doing.

"The added benefit is the analytics, I can see how much the stock drinks at different times, on hot and cold days, and when they're in different paddocks. I can therefore make decisions based on data," said Sam.

This data can then help Sam and Samantha prepare for future growth.

"This is also where Landcare can help; they are there to help share their knowledge and improve the natural area," said Sam.

Rotational grazing was the cheapest tool to improve their farm, making it more resilient in a tough season, and with the introduction of affordable technologies, Sam said there is enjoyment in improving a piece of land in an area where he grew up, he feels connected to South Gippsland and can share this experience with his children.

Avoid dam failures

REGULAR inspection, monitoring, and maintenance of your gully dams can help prevent failures, including leaks and bank collapses.

Agriculture Victoria Land Management Extension Officer Clem Sturmfels said stock damage, soil erosion, siltation, and excessive vegetation growth can all contribute to the gradual deterioration of farm dams.

"A rapid rise in dam water levels following an extended dry period can also add pressure on dam banks, spillways, and pipelines. Gully dams fail regularly across Victoria due to poor or dry soils, poor construction, and lack of maintenance," said Clem.

"We estimate more than 20 per cent of gully dams in Victoria fail within a few years of being built. Regular inspection and monitoring of dams should be part of normal farming operations and is critical over the six to 12 months after an extended dry period as dams start to fill again," he added.

Mr Sturmfels encouraged landholders to carefully inspect and monitor their gully dams to pinpoint issues and act before the dam completely fails.

"Landholders need to focus mainly on the dam bank, looking for signs of bank reduction, cracking, or tunnelling."

Regular inspection should include:

- Monitoring water levels for signs of leaks.
- Checking the bank water line for unusual turbulence or whirlpools, indicating a possible leak.
- Checking the dam bank for signs of cracking, tunnelling, or settlement.
- Checking the dam bank, and immediately downstream, for signs of seepage, softness, or lush vegetation.
- Checking the bank to ensure it is stable, firm, free of soil erosion, has at least a metre of freeboard, a well-rounded crest, and has a good cover of topsoil and grass.
- Ensuring dam banks and adjacent areas are free of woody vegetation, including trees and shrubs.
- Checking the spillway is stable, has good capacity, and is free of debris and excessive vegetation.
- Checking the inlet area to ensure it is well grassed, stable, and free of soil erosion.
- Checking for rabbit or stock damage.

Reduce risks by having a reliable line of emergency communication and maintaining emergency procedures so help can arrive if something goes wrong.

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Jack Curtis	0427 762 670	Rob Ould - Livestock Manager	0408 595 183
WARRAGUL		David Holden	0428 749 390
Neil Darby - Livestock Manager	0418 595 265	Alan Bolding	0419 723 255
Terry Ahearn	0438 562 816	PAKENHAM	
Jordan Sim	0448 058 435	David Setches - Livestock Manager	0409 443 473
Mark Malacarne	0418 654 590	Glenn Barwick	0408 975 476
Georgie Snell	0417 100 657	Morgan Croucher	0457 001 877
		Tim Gibson	0420 306 599
		Imogen Price	0417 225 498

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WONTHAGGI		Peter Dwyer	0428 855 244	COWES	
Phillip Hanley	0417 140 508	Emily Hillberg	0422 622 299	Greg Price	0419 337 441
Cal Nation	0439 334 163	Tony Giles	0407 528 192	Brian Silver	0407 347 509
Mick Chambers	0418 349 783	Dan Huther	0418 334 801	Chase Watters	0423 272 819
GRANTVILLE		WARRAGUL		VENUS BAY	
Angus Hall	0466 326 487	Alan Steenholdt	0409 423 822	Daniel Lawrie	0417 631 252
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MARKET REPORT

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Smaller yarding for stores

By SGSAA

AGENTS yarded a smaller offering of 1650 cattle at the VLE Leongatha store sale last Thursday in another good offering.

There were a few more heavier feeder cattle on offer this week that sold to strong competition to be a little dearer in an improved offering.

The better end of the weaners held firm and a line of heifers consigned from Flinders Island sold very well.

Lighter types and secondary and xbred types sold a little easier.

Leongatha Store Sale on Thursday, Apr. 24, 2025

Steers			
Hurstdale 17 Angus	579kg	\$4.04	\$2340
Ds McIntosh 10 Angus	562kg	\$4.12	\$2320
Hurstdale 14 Angus	542kg	\$4.22	\$2290
F Harvey 10 Angus	485kg	\$4.23	\$2060
Warrambine 22 Angus	465kg	\$4.22	\$1970
R & H Harrison 16 Angus	446kg	\$4.20	\$1880
Ds McIntosh 10 Angus	462kg	\$4.00	\$1850
D Jelbart 22 Angus	404kg	\$4.16	\$1730
D Jelbart 22 Angus	404kg	\$4.25	\$1720
Jilliby 22 Angus	407kg	\$4.11	\$1680
Jilliby 13 Angus	387kg	\$3.97	\$1540
C Stockdale 14 BB	379kg	\$3.97	\$1510
B Wallace 20 Angus	382kg	\$3.94	\$1510
C Stockdale 21 Angus	380kg	\$3.91	\$1490
C Stockdale 22 Angus	348kg	\$4.21	\$1470
J & P Fleming 24 Angus	377kg	\$3.86	\$1460
C Stockdale 12 Hereford	385kg	\$3.76	\$1450
Jilliby 20 Angus	344kg	\$4.12	\$1420
Mirrabooka 23 Angus	373kg	\$3.79	\$1420
Tullaree 20 Angus	289kg	\$4.48	\$1300
C Stockdale 16 BB	343kg	\$3.75	\$1290
T & M Neesham 21 Angus	261kg	\$4.47	\$1170
Giliam Dairy 18 Angus x	295kg	\$3.17	\$940

Heifers			
Blackwood Grazing 12 Angus	461kg	\$3.03	\$1400
Mirrabooka 11 Angus	391kg	\$3.44	\$1340
Mirrabooka 11 Angus	340kg	\$3.59	\$1220
G & R Hall 24 Angus	324kg	\$3.60	\$1170
G & R Hall 30 Angus	309kg	\$3.65	\$1130
G & R Hall 19 Angus	306kg	\$3.61	\$1110
G & R Hall 27 Angus	298kg	\$3.72	\$1110
G & R Hall 25 Angus	298kg	\$3.72	\$1110
G & R Hall 20 Angus	298kg	\$3.72	\$1110
G & R Hall 20 Angus	289kg	\$3.45	\$1000
G & R Hall 20 Angus	282kg	\$3.54	\$1000

Lardner Park Calf Market Report

Tuesday, April 22, 2025

Jersey & Jersey x	\$15 to \$30
Friesian Bulls	\$35 to \$80
Friesian Heifers	\$35 to \$160
Beef Bulls	\$32 to \$335
Beef Heifers	\$25 to \$100

Number of Calves: 337

Number purchased to rear: 120

South African farmers look to Australia to boost herd quality

WITH 17,000 dairy cows across 15 farms under their Just Milk banner, South African farmers Edgar and Lynda Brotherton are looking to Australia to boost the quality of their herd.

With one of the largest herds in South Africa, Mr Brotherton wants to stabilise numbers but increase milk production through genomic testing and selective breeding.

Mr Brotherton was hosted by Genetics Australia to join the World Jersey Conference tour presented by Jersey Australia from April 6-21, and addressed a sponsors' breakfast in Warrnambool. He was joined by Roy Dixon from CRV Xseed Genetics, the exclusive distributor of Genetics Australia's Jersey semen in South Africa.

"The main purpose of our visit to Australia is to visit breeders of the bulls we've used," he said.

"It is our intention to use more Australian genetics and it has been fantastic to meet the breeders and put faces and names to the bulls we use."

Just Milk is a management company based in the Eastern Cape that manages dairies. The milking herd comprises 17,000 cows and the total herd size including calves is 25,500. Just Milk also has cheese processing facilities, partnerships with piggeries and runs a small beef operation.

Just Milk is a unifying brand, not a single corporate entity. It operates on farms with various land ownership and profit-sharing structures.

"We personally own some of the properties, 50 per cent share in some and 25 per cent share farmers in others," Mr Brotherton said. "This model allowed land investors an opportunity to gain exposure to dairy farming."

Very few animals have been brought into the herds from outside, resulting in selective breeding and an optimal animal suited to the Eastern Cape conditions.

Mr Brotherton says his



Edgar and Lynda Brotherton at TLG Camperdown as they toured down under tracing back the genetics of their herd.

interest in Australian genetics stems from the similarities between the two countries' farming conditions.

"We've got low rainfall areas with irrigation that can have temperatures up to 40 degrees for five-six days in a row, and we've got coastal farms like Gippsland with rolling hills and dryland farming."

During their growth phase, Just Milk reared about 1000 surplus heifers every year to be on standby for new projects.

"At that stage due to growth, we weren't able to be too selective with the heifers we put into the system," Mr Brotherton said.

"That's changing now because we've decided we've reached our cap."

"Although I enjoy building new dairies, at my age I don't think we will do any more and will probably cap numbers and look to process more of the milk we produce."

"We're looking at the option

of genomic testing our heifers and being more selective. The aim will be to get more milk out of the same number of cows, rather than add more and more cows."

The Just Milk cow originated from a black and white herd crossed to Jersey after Mr Brotherton toured New Zealand in 1995.

"We started using New Zealand bred Jersey bulls like Manhattan, Maunga, Murmur, Presley, Nucleus and Kingpin, especially Manhattan," he said.

"One of the reasons we chose the New Zealand bulls was that the black and whites we had been milking were too big. We figured the smaller New Zealand Jersey would bring them down quickly and they certainly did that and they bred us a very good cow."

They then moved to Genetics Australia through supplier CRV.

"Some of the older bulls

that worked very well for us included Badger, Tahbilk, Aussiegold and more recently Stark, Ventura, Goldband, Bedford and other genomic bulls.

"It has been very nice here in Australia to see some of the mothers and daughters of the bulls we're using and we were very impressed with what we've seen."

They have also used some USA genetics, Valentino, Matt, Lemonhead, Oliver P, Stoney, and Starlord, to get more milk into the cows and they have served that purpose.

"Now we will settle into more Australian genetics," Mr Brotherton said.

"What we've found is that the Australian system is about as close to our system as we can get. It is largely grass-based with supplement and concentrate in times of shortages."

The Just Milk farms have a 12-week calving period in spring, eight weeks in autumn. Heifers calve down at 24 months, mostly using sexed semen.

They sell some heifers because of a lack of space and also lease surplus heifers for a monthly rental.

The South African dairy industry has changed significantly since Mr Brotherton began farming in 1986. In 1997 there were 7000 dairy farmers, that has been reduced to 882, though farms are bigger and production has increased.

The total herd population is 30 per cent Holstein, 27 per cent Jersey, combined herds running both Holstein and Jersey 23 per cent, cross-breeds 16 per cent and Ayrshire four per cent.

Most of the 3.65 million litres of milk – 86.1 per cent – is produced around coastal regions and long-life UHT milk and cheese are the main markets, with the fresh milk market decreasing.

Genetics Australia was the premium sponsor of the World Jersey Conference.

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Flinders Island heifers popular at Leongatha Store Sale

FLINDERS Island Angus heifers around the 14-month age bracket formed the biggest run of cattle at Thursday's Leongatha Store Sale. Nutrien South Gippsland Livestock averaging close to \$1100 a head for animals weighing between 324 and 282 kilos on average, depending on the pen.

The cattle came from 'Four Winds', run by G L and R C Hall, having been agisted by Stuart Storr and his Toora neighbours since their arrival on the mainland.

The top three pens on a per kilo basis came in at \$3.72, those pens containing a total of 72 animals weighing an average 298 kilos and fetching \$1110 per head.

All up, the run of Flinders Island Angus heifers amounted to 185, with a pen of eight Black Baldy cattle from the same source attracting \$3.51 per kilo, going for \$1060 each and weighing an average of 301 kilos.



Stuart Storr, along with his neighbours, agisted Flinders Island heifers ahead of their strong performance at Thursday's Leongatha Store Sale. A07_1725

Autumn break prices at Leongatha VLE

SIMON Henderson of Phelan & Henderson & Co described the rise in prices at Leongatha Prime and Store Sales in recent weeks as "remarkable and unique".

"We've had an Autumn break in price, however, the rain fell in Western Queensland," he said, then addressing the dryness locally.

"Everyone's desperate for good rain, enabling runoff to fill dams, so for everyone that's running out of feed, there's someone else that's running out of water if they're relying on dams, particularly around the Bass Coast Hills."

There was some encouraging rain on Anzac Day afternoon and the following day.

"It was fairly widespread, however totals were mixed and a little bit lighter than what everyone was expecting," Simon said.

Inverloch and Kongwak got only 7mm each, Arawata 9mm, while Hedley had 17mm.

"It seems that the heavier falls, again, were East of the Prom and the country down at Hedley looks a lot greener than it does in South Gippsland," Simon observed.

Kongwak is particularly in need of water with people's dams running low, inches of rain needed quickly, something that is uncharacteristic for South Gippsland at the end of April.

Simon noted livestock have been holding condition quite well because the weather has been mild.

"However, the nights are starting to get cool and if we don't get rain soon, cattle will start losing weight and may need to be sold," Simon said after Thursday's

Steers from a variety of vendors performed strongly, many topping the \$4 per kilo mark, a pen of 21 Angus cattle from T&M Neesham attracting \$1170 a head, equating to \$4.47 a kilo at an average weight of 261 kilos.

That impressive result was marginally bettered on a per kilo basis by a pen of 20 Tullaree Angus steers that fetched \$4.48 per kilo, making \$1300 each and weighing an average of 289 kilos.

In the heavy steer bracket, Hurstdale cattle from Buffalo impressed, a pen of 14 20-month-old Angus weighing 542 kilos attracting \$2290 a head at \$4.22 per kilo, while another pen of 17 averaging 579 kilos went for \$340 a head or \$4.03 per kilo.

"The highlight was that under the seasonal conditions, everything's held up quite firm, probably just marginally dearer than last week," Nutrien's Brian McCormack said, noting there continued to be good feedlot competition.



Simon Henderson of Phelan & Henderson & Co is hoping there'll be plenty more rain soon to follow that on Anzac Day. A54_1725

Store Sale.

Northern competition at the Leongatha Store Sales, as well as cattle being bought at the VLE for East Gippsland where the season is better, are helping to keep prices healthy.

"We've seen the first run of Spring drop weaners here today, which is a little early, however, they have been weaned and sold due to the ongoing dry and there could be more of those Spring drop calves to come unless we get decent rain shortly," Simon said.

He pointed out that the weaners are making only about an extra 20 cents a kilo compared to grown cattle, that figure being close to \$1 a kilo extra in a normal season.



Jack Ginnane sells for Nutrien South Gippsland Livestock on Thursday. A08_1725

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THURSDAY, MAY 1, 2025 - Starting at 9am

PLEASE NOTE: 4PM WEDNESDAY CURFEW APPLIES

GROWN STEERS

A/c L McCormack, Caldermeade (ALEX SCOTT)
140 Angus steers 18-20 mths by Absolute Angus and Alpine Angus bulls
A/c B&T Dowling, "Bartrace Farm", Mirboo (ELDERS)
100 Murray Grey / Angus x steers, Woodbourn blood, 16-19 mths, 5 in 1 vaccinated. VB, GF & ABF, NE Accred, Annual draft
A/c P & L Link, Garfield North (ALEX SCOTT)
55 Angus steers, 20 mths, Euroa Dist. bred, 2 marks
A/c Eddington Holdings, Loch (ALEX SCOTT)
40 Angus steers, 14-16 mths, drenched, and multimed by stud Angus bulls
A/c G & L Prossor, Main Ridge (ESB)
34 Angus steers, 16 mths, Tiboburra Sires
A/c A Bawden, Tetoora Road (ALEX SCOTT)
31 Angus steers, 2 yo, Hamilton Dist bred, 1 mark
A/c M Attenborough, Poowong (ELDERS)
28 Angus steers, 22 mths
A/c Amanda Taylor, Loch (ESB)
28 Angus steers, 18 mths, One Mark, Western District bred
A/c M & J Dipnall, Jindivick (ALEX SCOTT)
25 Angus steers, 18 mths, Yea Dist. bred, 1 mark
A/c Breeder, Jorgensen Holdings (ALEX SCOTT)
25 Angus steers, 16-18 mths, By stud Angus, "Wattlewood" bulls
A/c G & J Darby, Neerim East (ALEX SCOTT)
22 Angus steers, 18 mths, Yea. Dist. bred, 1 mark
A/c A & K Knap, Tynong (ALEX SCOTT)
20 Angus steers, 18 mths
A/c D Hempel, Mirboo Nth (ELDERS)
19 Hereford steers, 16 mths, GF & ABF
A/c Allnut Family Trust, Walkerville (ELDERS)
18 Angus steers, 15 mths, West Creek Angus blood
A/c D & R Jones (ALEX SCOTT)
12 Angus steers, 20 mths, Monaro bred
A/c C Rawson (ALEX SCOTT)
11 Angus steers, 20 mths, GF & ABF
A/c Mrs V McNamee, Flinders (ESB)
10 Angus steers, One Mark
A/c JL Park, Steeles Creek (ALEX SCOTT)
9 Angus steers, 18 mths

GROWN HEIFERS

A/c B&T Dowling, "Bartrace Farm", Mirboo (ELDERS)
100 Murray Grey / Angus x Heifers, Woodbourn blood, 16-19 mths, 5 in 1 vaccinated. VB, GF & ABF, NE Accred
A/c G&J Tuckett, Woodside (ELDERS)
45 Angus heifers, 18-20 mths, NSM (unjoined), Landfall blood, VB, NE Accred, GF & ABF
A/c The Breeder, P&J Sibly, Archies Creek (ELDERS)
30 Angus heifers 18 mths, Fernleigh blood

WEANERS

A/c TM Costa, Newry (ELDERS)
100 Angus mix sex weaners, Leawood Angus blood
A/c Bennalong Livestock, Myrtlebank (ESB)
75 Angus mixed sex weaners, April/May 2024 drop, Table Top sires, Dectomax, Multimin and Prestivirus vaccinated
A/c CT Ferguson, Seaspray (ELDERS)
60 Angus heifer weaners, Pure Pinora blood
A/c Breeder, Powell & Summit, Moorooduc (ALEX SCOTT)
55 Angus mixed sex weaners, 10 mths, By Jones Family bulls
A/c JR & CA Gell, Seaton (ELDERS)
50 Angus mixed sex weaners
A/c Sars Investments, Ferntree Gully (ESB)
40 Angus mixed sex weaners, 12-14 mths, weaned, Pure Lawson blood
A/c B & L Rayner (ALEX SCOTT)
28 Angus weaners mixed sex, Kunuma blood
A/c 'Brimar Park' / Pullman Bay (ALEX SCOTT)
20 steers
10 heifers
by the registered bull Hicks Profitmaker R90 out of cows by the award winning bull Neerimveiv Langdon all are 2x 7in 1 vacc, NE Accred
A/c Breeder, Jennifer Woo, Guys Hill (ESB)
25 Angus mixed sex weaners, 11 mths
A/c 365 Grazing (ALEX SCOTT)
22 Hereford & B/B mixed sex weaners
A/c Whitshaw Farming, Phillip Island (ALEX SCOTT)
20 Angus mixed sex weaners by Te Mania stud bulls out of Te Mania blood cows
A/c Breeder, Zelco Cventnic, Nar Nar Goon (ALEX SCOTT)
15 Angus steers, 10-12 mths, by Eagle Rock Angus bulls
A/c Bayles River Ranch, Heath Hill (ALEX SCOTT)
15 x mixed sex Angus, 12 mths, GF, ABF
A/c Boxbank Pastoral, Woodside (ELDERS)
20 Murray Grey/Speckle x mixed sex weaners, 8 mths
A/c D & W Fleming (ALEX SCOTT)
20 limo x mixed sex weaners
A/c B & N Bannigan, Mountain View (ELDERS)
18 Speckle Park steers, 7 mths, VB, GF & ABF
A/c Vuiller Poll Shorthorn, Yanakie (ALEX SCOTT)
13 Poll Shorthorn steers, 12-14 mths, weaned, By Royalla and Vuiller Poll Shorthorn bulls

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A/c Seaton View Park, Seaton (ELDERS)
80 Angus/FF X steers, 12 mths

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DEATHS

BUTLER
(Painter), Glad:

02.07.1929 - 19.04.2025.

Passed away peacefully at Carinya Lodge. Aged 95.

Loved daughter of Perc and Olive, sister of Frank and Brian (all dec.).

Beloved wife of John (dec.).

Much loved mum and mother-in-law of Grant and Saeko, Gavan and Katrina, Kelvin, Paulina and Tony, Joanne and Bruce, Ashley and Wendi.

Loved nanna to 15 grandchildren and 12 great grandchildren.

Our hearts are broken.

**HODGES,
Geoffrey Reginald:**
15.07.1946 - 24.04.2025.

Passed away peacefully at Calvary Mirboo North, surrounded by his loving family.

Eldest son of Reginald and Marie Hodges (both dec.), brother of Lee (dec.), Gaye, and Blair (dec.).

Much loved husband and best friend of Lynne.

Devoted and treasured father and father-in-law of Emily and Rich, Eliza and Aaron, Nigel and Iryna, Lucy and Lindsay.

Adoring and cherished poppy of Ariella, Lilly, Alec, Viggio and Obi.

Honorary poppy of Rylie, Blake and Josslyn.

We will always remember his unwavering devotion to his family. He was our teacher and guiding hand, always present with a listening ear.

His passing leaves a void in the lives of those who knew and loved him. His legacy will live on in all of us.

Special thanks to all the staff at Calvary Mirboo North for their love, care and support of Geoff.

In the soil your spirit stays, in pastures of green in sunlit days.

DEATHS

HODGES, Geoffrey: Reginald:
Age 78 years.
Passed away
April 24, 2025.
Loving son to Reg and Marie Hodges (both dec.).
Much loved brother to Lee (dec.),
Gaye (Gayle) and Blair (dec.).
Beloved uncle to Andrew and Tori, Nathan and Daphne, Rylan and Benjamin
Our darling Geoff will be cherished forever

HODGES, Geoffrey Reginald:
Beloved brother of Blair and cherished brother-in-law of Lynette.
A wise and wonderful man devoted to his family and land.
Together again with dear Blair, in loving peace forever.

HODGES, Geoffrey:
Our sincere condolences to Lynne and family on the sad passing of Geoff.
Geoff was such a kind, lovely gentleman with a great sense of humor.
We are honored to call him our friend.
With love to all of Geoff's family, you are in our hearts and thoughts.
Doug and Toine Bovill and family.

OPRAY, Ed:
Will be sadly missed but great memories.
Love,
Susanne, Steve, Teagan, Milad, Iliya.

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DEATHS

PICKERSGILL (nee Jones), Mary Patricia:

Passed away peacefully on 21.04.2025. Aged 95 in Alchera House, Korumburra.

Dearly beloved wife of Herbert (Bert) Pickersgill (dec.).

Adored Mother of John (dec.), Anne, Helen, Barbara, David, Theresa, Kate (dec.), James, Margaret, Clare, Josephine, Martine, Matthew, Sian and Andrew and their partners.

Beloved grandmother, great grandmother and great-great grandmother to a multitude.

The family wishes to express their deep appreciation to the staff of Alchera House for their care and support of Mary during her residence there and, in particular, for their kindness during her final days.

A woman of great compassion who loved all creatures, great and small.

FUNERALS



GAGER:
A Memorial Service to Celebrate the Life of Mr Phil Gager will be held at Leongatha Seventh-Day Adventist Church, Cnr Hassett and A'Beckett Street, Leongatha on Sunday, May 4, 2025, commencing at 2pm. Afternoon tea will follow.
ALL WELCOME!

HODGES:
A Funeral Service to Celebrate the Life of Mr. Geoffrey Reginald Hodges will be held at St. Peter's Anglican Church, Bruce Street, Leongatha, on Monday, May 5, 2025, commencing 11am.
This Service will be livestreamed, to view please visit www.handleyfuneralservices.com.au

In lieu of flowers, donations to Dementia Australia would be appreciated.

Following refreshments, a Private Burial will be held.

The logo for Handley Funerals & Bereavement features a central emblem with a cross and a heart, flanked by two stylized figures. Below the emblem, the text "HANDLEY FUNERALS" is written in a bold, serif font, with "A SERVICE OF" in smaller text underneath. At the bottom, "LIDGEMOUTH & BENTHAM" is written in a smaller, sans-serif font.


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FUNERALS

PICKERSGILL:
A Funeral Service for
Mrs. Mary Patricia
Pickersgill will be
private at Mary's
request.

This Service will be
held on Thursday, May
1, 2025, commencing
11am and will be
livestreamed. To view
the livestream please
visit [www.handley
funeralservices.com.au](http://www.handleyfuneralservices.com.au)

The logo for Handley Funerals is centered. It features a blue diamond shape with a white cross inside. Below the diamond, the text "HANDLEY FUNERALS" is written in a bold, serif font. Underneath that, in a smaller, all-caps sans-serif font, is "LICHFIELD & MOUNTFRANKS".

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Richard Vaughan:**
09.07.1936 - 01.04.2025

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2025,
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Southern Hills Church,
85 Commercial Street,
Korumburra.

IN MEMORIAM



McLEAN, Wendy:
12.09.1971 - 03.05.2009.

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STORTI, Ida:
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 - If the motor car is unregistered, the engine number of the vehicle.

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SITUATIONS VACANT

Employment Opportunities

Infrastructure Maintenance Team Member

- Ongoing full time
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- Monday to Friday 7.00am to 4.00pm, 9 day fortnight
- Based at Foster depot

Enquiries to Peter Hollier, Supervisor Routine Maintenance on 5662 9126.

Closing date midnight
Wednesday 7 May, 2025.

Mechanic

- Ongoing full time
- Base Salary \$72,338 + 11.5% superannuation
- Monday to Friday 7.00am to 4.00pm, 9 day fortnight
- Based at Leongatha depot

Enquiries to Graham Pritchett, Supervisor Workshop on 0409 192545.

Applications close when a suitable candidate has been identified.

For more information and to apply, please visit:
www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/employment

Sentinel-Times Classifieds

SITUATIONS VACANT



Cleaners

Cleaners required for school cleaning in Mirboo North. Part time afternoon shifts Monday to Friday. Experience preferred but not essential, will train the right person. Must have or will obtain current police check and WWC. Federal award wages apply.

Send resume to customerservice@sebastiangroup.com.au

ADVERTISERS PLEASE NOTE:

Much hardship and difficulty is caused to jobseekers by misleading advertisements placed in the employment columns. Our Positions Vacant / Situations Vacant columns are reserved for advertisements which carry a specific and genuine offer of employment.

Ads for 'Business Opportunities', 'Commission Only/Sales', training courses and employment services should be submitted under those headings.

Placing misleading job ads is an offence against the ACL and all advertisements are subject to the publisher's approval. For further advice contact the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission on 1300 302 502 or Consumer Affairs Victoria.



Carpenters

Civil Construction company seeking motivated Carpenters (formwork experience is preferred but not a prerequisite) to join our team, work as part of an experienced crew on an upcoming Project in the area.

This is an excellent opportunity to work with an employer who values our strong team culture and rewards hard work and initiative.

Wages and employment conditions above award.

Please forward your resume to admin@ausforminfrastructure.com.au

McRae Engineering

Is currently seeking a

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To work in its sales division selling roofing and steel supplies.

This is a full time permanent position for immediate start and is an ideal opportunity for a hard working person to work as both part of team and individually in our steel and roofing sales division in Meeniyan.

Skills and Experiences

that are of an advantage:
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Work hours start from 7:30am Monday to Friday.
Wages negotiable.

To apply please email Shaun at shaun@mcraeengineering.net.au to arrange a time to meet and discuss further or to drop off a resumé.

SITUATIONS VACANT



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Positions Vacant

Registered Nurse, Grade 2

0.84 EFT part time,
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0.63 EFT, permanent part time

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<https://southgippslandhospital.com.au/employment-2/>

PUBLIC NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICE AIR SCOURING



Water mains cleaning

As part of our continuing program to improve the quality of your water supply, Westernport Water will be undertaking water mains cleaning across Phillip Island and some mainland townships from 29 April to 8 May 2025.

Air scouring is a proven method of cleaning water mains and involves injecting filtered pressurised air through the pipe.

Air scouring will take place in the following locations: **Cowes, Silverleaves, Tenby Point, Corinella, Grantville, Adams Estate and Pioneer Bay.**

- Affected customers will be directly notified up to 7 days prior to the water interruption.
- Impacted customers may be without water for a few hours.
- A schedule is available on our website.
- If your water appears milky or cloudy following the works, this is caused by small pressurised air bubbles. This will resolve over time as the water settles and is safe to drink.
- Contractor H&S Maintenance, who are cleaning the water mains, do not necessarily have to be in your street or at your property to carry out their work.

Please contact our Project Coordinator on 1300 720 711 if you have any questions
westernportwater.com.au



Advertise your job vacancy in the Sentinel-Times and get a FREE listing in our online and searchable directory at www.sgst.com.au

Email your job adverts to: ads@sgst.com.au

DEADLINE: Fridays 3.30pm

Sentinel-Times

DEADLINES

Classified single column

Mondays 12.00 noon

Classified double column

Fridays 3.30pm

Please note that double column advertisements requiring a proof must be received at least two hours prior to deadline and proofs will not be provided for single column advertisements.

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ads@sgst.com.au



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36 McCartin St, Leongatha



Mail:

47 McBride Ave, Wonthaggi

Office Hours:

9am-5pm Monday to Friday

Payments accepted:



Advertising conditions:

Full name and address of advertiser must be supplied even though not necessarily included in advertisement.

The publishers reserve the right to omit and alter any advertisement. Please check your ad is correct the first day it appears. While every care is taken to ensure your ad is correct, errors can occur. We regret that we cannot be responsible for any errors beyond the first day if you fail to bring it to our attention.

All advertisements must be prepaid unless client has an existing credit facility. Accounts are due and payable on the due date as shown on the account.

The Motor Car Traders Regulations:

States that from July 1, 1998 all advertisements for used vehicles including motorcycles must include the cash price of vehicle and registration number or engine number if not registered.

Sentinel-Times



CWA Wonthaggi Owl volunteers are holding a Mother's Day stall at the Wonthaggi Plaza on Saturday, May 10, from 9am until 1pm, or until sold out.

CWA Wonthaggi Owl Women's Mother's Day stall

THE CWA Wonthaggi Owl Women are holding a Mother's Day stall on Saturday, May 10, at the Wonthaggi Plaza (outside Kmart) from 9am to 1pm or until sold out.

Branch president Heidi Vanzet said all proceeds from the stall will go directly to support the Wonthaggi Owl Ute Community Pantry, which provides essential food, toiletries, and household items to local families, pensioners, individuals experiencing hardship, and members of the homeless community.

"Every cake, craft, and handmade good sold will help us continue this vital work."

The mobile community pantry is open to donations, including non-perishable items that can be dropped off in the Woolworths trolley, near the self-serve checkout, and fresh foods are welcome for donation at pantry sessions.

The mobile pantry will be at the Cheap as Chips carpark on Mondays from 9.30am until 11am and on Wednesdays from 1pm until 2pm at the Wonthaggi RSL Hall.

Updates and questions can be emailed to owlutepantry@gmail.com.

• FAITH FACTOR

Saved by grace through faith

By Pastor Sandro Schietroma

SALVATION is not something we can earn – it is a gift from God. The Bible says, "For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast" (Ephesians 2:8-9, NKJV).

Grace means God's undeserved favour. We were lost in sin, unable to save ourselves. Romans 3:23 tells us, "for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God." But in His mercy, God sent His Son, Jesus Christ, to die in our place. "But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us" (Romans 5:8, NKJV).

Faith is how we receive this gift. It means trusting in Jesus – believing that He died for our sins and rose again. When we place our faith in Him, we are forgiven, made new, and given eternal life. "That if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved" (Romans 10:9, NKJV).

Being saved by grace through faith means we can't take credit for our salvation. It humbles us and lifts up Jesus. It also gives us peace, knowing we are secure in His love – not because of what we do, but because of what He has done.

Salvation is a free gift. Will you receive it by faith today?



Connect with us

@sentineltimes

Have your say on travelling in Bass Coast

BASS Coast Shire Council is inviting the community to help shape the future of local transport by providing feedback on the draft Integrated Transport Strategy (ITS), now open for public consultation.

In July and August 2024, Council conducted community consultation to help develop the draft ITS, asking the community how they travel in and around Bass Coast and what improvements they'd like to see. Some of the feedback highlighted challenges, including limited public transport, gaps in walking and cycling paths, and accessibility. The community also shared their practical ideas, including building better walking and cycling paths and adding bike racks on buses for easier integration with public transport.

This feedback helped inform the priorities and actions in the draft strategy and guide transport investment and decision-making over the next 20 years. The draft ITS sets out a vision for a transport system that is connected, enhances the vibrancy of the townships and offers sustainable, safe and healthy transport choices to everyone.

With Bass Coast's population over 41,000, the population swells during the summer holiday periods, which can place pressure on the transport system. The ITS has been developed to respond to the unique challenges and opportunities of the region, from tourism peaks to climate resilience and inclusive access.

While the Council plays a key role in local-level transport development, many of the actions outlined in this strategy require advocacy at the state and federal levels. The final ITS will also serve as a critical advocacy document, calling for action from higher levels of government to address key transport needs in the region.

"We're excited to present this draft strategy, shaped by the ideas and experiences of our community," said Bass Coast Mayor, Cr Rochelle Halstead.

"This is our chance to design and advocate to other levels of government for a network that's safer, more sustainable, and easier to use – whether you're walking, cycling, driving, or catching public transport. We really want to hear what matters most to you."

The draft ITS is built on six guiding principles:

- Safety – Prioritising personal and community safety, especially for vulnerable groups.
- Climate-friendly communities – Supporting low-emission transport options to reduce our environmental footprint.
- Healthy and inclusive communities – Promoting wellbeing and access for everyone.
- Growing economy – Strengthening transport links that support tourism, local business, and the night-time economy.
- All abilities access – Ensuring equitable, inclusive design across all infrastructure.
- Integration – Seamless connections between active, public, and private transport options.

Council is keen to hear from residents, businesses, visitors, and anyone who moves around Bass Coast. Your input will help shape the final strategy and ensure it reflects the needs and aspirations of our diverse community. Feedback is now open and closes on Sunday, May 11, 2025.

Through the valley of harmony and unity

THE Conference of the Birds is returning to Boolarra for another stunning community arts event. Last year, Conference of the Birds – Valley of the Quest was presented by over 65 performers and artists to an audience of up to 400 people in Centenary Park, Boolarra. The event was vibrant and diverse with audience and performers uplifted and inspired by the experience. The Latrobe City Council nominated Conference of the Birds – Valley of the Quest in the Latrobe City Australia Day Awards category for Outstanding Community Event.

Conference of the Birds – Valley of Harmony and Unity promises to be even more impressive on Saturday, May 24 (from 3.45pm to 7pm). Conference of the Birds is a seasonal community pageant when we come together to celebrate the last days of Autumn, around a bonfire that heralds Winter.

The art walk and ceremony is based on a 12th century Sufi tale. The story tells of the gathering of the world's birds during a time of crisis. They search for answers during a journey through seven valleys to ultimately discover that it is the collective wisdom of a community that ensures survival.

Artistic Directors, Margie Mackay and Gilbert Douglas, have developed and presented epic-scale, accessible, site-specific collaborative works of art and ritual both in Australia and



Conference of the Birds returns to Boolarra on May 24 with Valley of Harmony and Unity – a large-scale community arts event celebrating storytelling, culture, and connection to Country. This year's event will again feature a ceremonial art walk, live performance, and a bonfire finale.

internationally. They are both passionate about cross-cultural artistic collaborations and committed to reconciliation, and the recognition of and respect for Indigenous cultures. For Conference of the Birds Douglas and Mackay have collaborated with Gunaikurnai Elders and the local community to foster new relationships and create a sense of pride in and care for Country and each other.

The audience is asked to gather at 3.45pm for a First Nations ceremony. Then the audience will be invited to make their way down the rail trail toward the meadows. Along the trail six of the valleys, described in the story, will be represented by installations interpreted and designed by local artists. Once the audience reaches the meadows, the seventh valley, the Fire Ceremony will take place. It will

feature music, dance, stories and a lantern parade followed by the lighting of the bonfire. The performers include the Boorun Boys, the Djeetgun girls, Mirboo North Secondary College and Boolarra Primary School students, the Trafalgar Bollywood dance group, Company D&M dancers, and many talented local artists. At the conclusion of the ceremony the audience will make their way back along the rail trail, now transformed by light.

Please wear warm clothes, bring a torch and something to sit on. There will be food and hot drinks available at the meadows.

All cultures, abilities, genders and ages welcome. There will be a shuttle bus available for the elderly and those with mobility needs. Registrations are essential at douglasandmackay.com/copy-of-contact-cofb

Conference of the Birds – Valley of Harmony and Unity gratefully acknowledges the support of Regional Arts Australia, Creative Latrobe, Mirboo North and District Community Foundation and The Boolarra Community Development Group.

Volunteers are needed for lantern making, set up and marshalling of the event. If you would like to be part of the team please make contact at douglasandmackay@iinet.net.au, 0417 370 179 or via the website douglasandmackay.com.

~ NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE & ADULT LEARNING NEWS ~

MILPARA COMMUNITY HOUSE

THERE'S something truly magical about the fresh mornings of Autumn, where the crisp air and golden hues of falling leaves create a perfect start to the day. As we enjoy the last of the warmth it is a reminder that it is time to prepare for the coming winter.

Mending Woollen's: Shake out your warm woollens and see what needs mending. Elena is hosting a mending day to be held in the Foyer on Saturday, May 3, 10am to 12 noon. Bring in your socks, jumpers and other woollen items which need a little repair and Elena will show you how. Visible or invisible darning techniques will be shown free of charge.

Mental Health First Aid Training: Wellways are offering Free Training over two days May 5 and 6. The course will teach you how to provide initial support to other adults who may be experiencing a mental health problem or mental health crisis until

appropriate professional help is received or the crisis resolves, using a practical, evidence-based Action Plan. This is sure to be a popular course, so get in quick to book your spot.

Move your body with Milpara's movement classes.

Monday morning Yoga at 10am to 11.15am. This class is suitable for those of a general level of fitness, all ages, and for beginners to those experienced in Yoga. Move your body through Yoga asana, vitalising energy, quietening the mind, balancing flexibility with stability, and enhancing the breath. Classes will also focus on deepening knowledge of anatomy and physiology through inquiry

Thursday morning Qi-gong, 9.30am to 10.30am. Starting May 8. Slower paced for inner harmony, Qi-gong is a practice that harnesses the power of breath, movement and intention to create health and

balance within. Similar to Tai Chi. Classes are suitable for all ages and fitness levels. Classes will consist of slow stretches, gentle flowing movements with a focus on alignment, breath awareness, and stances that help develop stamina and focused attention.

Milpara Language Classes. Do you know someone who would benefit from improving their English, or would you like to improve your French? Two very different language classes are on offer at Milpara. Let's Learn English on Wednesday evenings and Intermediate French on Thursday evenings. Term 2 classes started at the end of April. Bookings are essential. If you would like to know more, please contact Milpara or look it up online.

Milpara Mingler
Our regular classes and activities will be celebrating Neighbourhood House Week with

a special social gathering on Wednesday, May 14. Everyone is welcome. 3.30pm–4.30pm Come along for some afternoon tea and meet with other friendly folk who enjoy being part of the Milpara Community.

Our Emergency Food Bank and Services Australia Agents will be available over the break, except for public holidays when the Korumburra Community Hub is also closed.

The Emergency Food Bank is available Monday, Tuesday and Thursday 10am to 1pm or by appointment. Please bring your own bags.

Our Services Australia agent is at the house Mondays and Thursdays 10am to 1pm, Tuesdays and Wednesdays 9.30am to 2pm.



15 Little Commercial Street, Korumburra PH: (03) 5655 2524 www.milparacommunityhouse.org.au

BASS COAST ADULT LEARNING

IT WAS a nice way to ease into Term 2 with a three-day work week. English classes are back, as are adult literacy and numeracy. Some of the students in the latter course were asking for extra work, which is a wonderful sign.

The Hairdressing and Horticulture courses are also back and taking enrolments for a mid-year intake in June.

Last week, BCAL hosted a training by the Australian

Electoral Commission for poll workers in this Saturday's election. BCAL are grateful for their vital work.

And coming up next week will be the Responsible Service of Alcohol course on Thursday, May 8.

■ WONTHAGGI WOODCRAFTERS

The Woodies have been making a lot of Christmas trees and decorations recently.

You might be thinking, already? Easter has only just finished!

Well, it has, but Christmas decorations are one of the most popular items in the annual gift shop, and they don't just all appear in November. It takes many months to lovingly craft them.

Currently, the turning and scroll saw groups have been working on decorations since they never have enough to keep up with demand during the sales. And it keeps some of the festive

spirit going through the year.

For more information, visit wonthaggiwoodcrafters.com.au or pop into the workshop, or for more information on all BCALs courses and services, please visit bcal.vic.edu.au or call 5672 3115 to learn more.



239 White Rd, Wonthaggi PH: (03) 5672 3115 www.bcal.vic.edu.au



New Venus Bay Angling Club member Shane Cummings shows off his perch and prize-winning whiting.

Venus Bay Easter Fishing Competition fun

THE WEATHER played its part in a successful Easter fishing competition run by the Venus Bay Angling Club (VBAC), with sunny days and little wind.

“Quite a few fish were weighed in despite the tides not being kind to us,” club member Roslyn Shelly said.

A few new members have come on board, one of them, Shane Cummings taking out first prize with a 460 gram whiting, earning him a \$50 voucher for local hospitality venue the Cavity.

Proving it was no fluke, Shane also caught a beautiful perch.

Another new member, Nathan Gledhill won the Juniors trophy with the only pinky weighed in, and the youngster appears to be a threat outside his age group.

“Listening to Nathan, I think he might be outdoing the Seniors soon; he certainly is a keen fisherman,” Roslyn declared, clearly looking forward to the challenge and delighted with the recent boost to membership numbers.

There’s always room for more, members happy to share tips with those starting out.

Of course, it’s also important to be able to tell a convincing tale about the one that got away.

Bridge club remembers Paul

MEMBERS of the Phillip Island Bridge Club attended Paul Waylen’s memorial service at St John’s Uniting Church in Cowes on Thursday, April 24.

The Rev. Ian Turnnidge – who was a personal friend of Paul’s – led the service together with Rev. Jennie Gordon. Recordings from Paul’s family, including his sister in the UK, together with messages of support from many friends showed just how very loved this wonderful and generous man was throughout his life. He will be remembered and missed by a legion of friends and his family.

Results: Monday, April 21 (five tables): Winners: Deb Anglim and Shirley Stewart on 60.65 per cent.

Wednesday, April 23 (four and a half tables): Winners: Shirley Stewart and Jill Short on 65.18 per cent.



Ash, Nan, Alex, Sarah and Chloe started their weekend with the Invy Dip Club near the South Gippsland Yacht Club in Inverloch. B02_1725

Try the Invy Dip Club for a bracing start to the day

THERE’s the immersion by stealth method or dive straight in and hope for the best.

Whatever method you chose the result is always the same, a refreshing start to your weekend and the opportunity for a coffee afterwards with like-minded individuals.

If you enjoy a bracing wake-me-up as dawn breaks over the ocean, whatever the temperature the Invy Dip Club could be just the thing for you.

Gathering on the sand at 6.30am most Saturday mornings outside the South Gippsland Yacht Club the Invy Dip Club regularly attracts 15 to 20 dippers of all ages.

Yes, it is cold but only until you catch your breath.

The water temperature in Anderson Inlet can vary from a chilly 12 or 13 degrees in the middle of winter to a relatively balmy 18 or 19 degrees in summer.

Over Autumn this year the water at Inverloch remains around 17 degrees.

Everyone is welcome

according to convenor Chloe Yates no matter what your age, experience or fitness level.

“It is not a swim, more a gentle dip in the ocean,” said Chloe.

“Come as you are, embrace the morning and start your weekend feeling alive.”

Dipping their toes into the water for the first time during the Inverloch Equinox Festival the Invy Dip Club has since attracted a strong squad of ocean dippers keen to start their weekend with others who also enjoy an early morning catch-up on the beach.

Connection, community and cold water therapy is what it’s all about.

Lowering themselves into the clear waters of Anderson Inlet with the sun starting to appear over the horizon the Invy Dippers willingly allow the coldness to engulf them.

The short immersion of between three and ten minutes is followed by a towel-down, quick change into warm clothes then a leisurely coffee and chat at Bev’s Coffee afterwards,

next to the Inverloch library in A’Beckett Street.

Chloe Yates says the Invy Dip Club brings together a community of like-minded people.

Recently relocated from Melbourne’s eastern suburbs Chloe is a keen surfer and swimmer, and loves the ocean.

A dip club member for many years at Warrandyte on the Yarra River Chloe says the icy coldness can still be a challenge, particularly in winter.

“Wetsuits are not required, that would defeat the purpose,” said Chloe.

Just bring your bathers, a warm towel and a change of clothes.

“No pressure, no expectations just good vibes, cold water and a beautiful way to start the day for free.”

The Invy Dip Club can be found on the sand at the bottom of the ramp to the South Gippsland Yacht Club on The Esplanade, Inverloch.

Search for the Invy Dip Club on Instagram @Invy-DipClub.

Engaging youth fitness

BOOFIIT is excited to announce the launch of their latest program, TeenFIIT, specifically designed for teenagers (19 years and under). The program will be led by Stacey Briscoe, a newly qualified group fitness trainer who developed the concept after identifying a gap in fitness offerings for teens, other than sport. For more information on TeenFIIT visit mirboonorth.com/boofiit.



Group fitness trainer Stacey Briscoe will lead a TeenFIIT program designed for those 19 years and under.

Drownings rise despite hundreds of heroic rescues by lifesavers

LIFE Saving Victoria (LSV) is imploring the Victorian community to remain vigilant and keep themselves and loved ones safe around water, as the Volunteer Summer Patrol Season comes to an end.

The warning comes after a tragic incident at Punchbowl near San Remo, where three people were swept off rocks on Friday, April 18. This was one of multiple drowning incidents to occur across the country over the long weekend.

A woman in her late 30s was pulled unresponsive from the water and could not be revived, while a 41-year-old man has not been found despite days of searching by emergency services. A third woman made it safely back to shore.

According to Life Saving Victoria, incidents such as this are a heartbreaking reminder of the dangers of unintentional water entry when people are unexpectedly swept into the water by a large wave or accidentally fall due to slips or trips. These types of incidents account for over a third of all drowning fatalities in Victoria and are more likely to occur during the cooler months, increasing across autumn, winter and spring, when water safety risks are often underestimated.

LSV CEO Catherine Greaves said it is vital for Victorians to take care in, on and around water all year round.

“The long weekend (was) a tragedy of unfathomable proportions, both here in Victoria and across Australia. Our hearts and deepest condolences go out to everyone affected by these incidents,” Ms Greaves said.

“This is an extraordinarily sad reminder of the dangers of slips, trips and falls around water, particularly at areas like coastal rock platforms where conditions can be unpredictable. We encourage people to watch their footing on wet and unstable ground, stay well back from the edge, check conditions, read safety signs, and wear a lifejacket if they’re boating or rock fishing,” she added.

“With patrols now at an end, help is further away if you get into trouble, so it’s vital everyone takes personal responsibility and stays informed of the risks around water.”

Victoria’s volunteer lifesavers and paid lifeguards were thanked for their efforts over the 2024/25 patrol period, which officially ended with the red and yellow flags coming down at St Kilda Beach last week.

Volunteer lifesavers and paid lifeguards performed 1011 rescues over the 2024/25 summer patrol season from November to April – the highest number recorded in Victoria in over 20 years.

They also performed 1593 first aid interventions and 355,994 preventative actions over the period, which saw more than 6000 volunteer lifesavers and paid lifeguards log more than 250,000 patrol hours on Victorian beaches.

While hundreds of lives have been saved, there were 22 fatal drowning incidents across Victorian coastal, inland and home environments over summer (December to February). This is an increase compared to the five and ten-year averages for the summer period (21 and 19 respectively), and, along with record rescues, points to a concerning increase in people finding themselves in dangerous situations around water.

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 29
▲ 12.08am 1.50m
▼ 6.02am 0.30m
▲ 1.17pm 1.79m
▼ 6.47pm 0.77m

WEDNESDAY April 30
▲ 12.58am 1.55m
▼ 6.56am 0.21m
▲ 2.10pm 1.87m
▼ 7.37pm 0.75m

THURSDAY May 1
▲ 1.45am 1.59m
▼ 7.46am 0.16m
▲ 3.00pm 1.89m
▼ 8.23pm 0.73m

FRIDAY May 2
▲ 2.31am 1.60m
▼ 8.37am 0.17m
▲ 3.46pm 1.85m
▼ 9.08pm 0.71m

SATURDAY May 3
▲ 3.17am 1.59m
▼ 9.26am 0.22m
▲ 4.34pm 1.78m
▼ 9.52pm 0.71m

SUNDAY May 4
▲ 4.04am 1.55m
▼ 10.13am 0.30m
▲ 5.21pm 1.69m
▼ 10.38pm 0.72m

MONDAY May 5
▲ 4.52am 1.48m
▼ 10.59am 0.40m
▲ 6.11pm 1.60m
▼ 11.25pm 0.73m

Email us your fishing photos

news@sgst.com.au



The best last game winners were Sebastian Blancato, and Dino and Lucy Vinnocggi at the Fish Creek Bowls Club.



The winners of Fish Creek Bowls Club's last Turkey Triples until September were Ian Rogers, Don Lawson and Ray Lecher.



Runners-up for the South West Gippsland Midweek Bowls Group on Thursday were Max Williams (3), Aggie Gratton (L), Mark Hanrahan (S) and Bill Williams (2).



The Breakaway Bowls winners on Easter Monday were Pam Russell, Brian Newman and Jenny Bakker.



Peter Morgan, Linda Newman and John Stewart were the winners at Breakaway Bowls on Friday.



Steve Snelling, Ted Lee and Garry Scott were Inverloch Bowling Club's social bowls winners.



Runners-up at Fish Creek Bowls Club's Turkey Triples were Rob Poletti, Kevin Quale and John Chadwick.



Rob Jeffrey (3), Lou Magri (S) and Richard Kerr (L) were the South West Gippsland Midweek Bowls Group winners this week.



South West Gippsland Midweek Bowls Group's best one game winners were Pauline McWilliams (2), Lou Capsalis (L), Claire Sheers (S) and Enid Johnstone (3).



The winners of Leongatha Bowls Club's final Monthly Triples for the 2024/25 season were Bob Wylie, Greg Hogan and Nick Kelly, pictured with Rebecca from TTMI Machinery. The club thanked its sponsors TTMI and BRB Solicitors.



Wonthaggi Bowls Club's Wednesday winners were Ken Gage, Kathy Heaphy and John Hill.

BREAKAWAY BOWLS

THE Easter Bunny came and look at the results. Good numbers turned out to celebrate Easter Monday. The results are as follows Pam Russell, Brian Newman and Jenny Bakker with +15 – well done, guys. Anzac Day was a day everyone celebrated the sacrifices of many who went before us. Bowls went well with a touching reflection by Marj, who shared the story of her father. The winners were Peter Morgan, Linda Newman and John Stewart with + 11. Well done to all who bowled.

FISH CREEK

FISH Creek held its last Turkey Triples until September on Thursday. It has been a very successful year, thanks to all the supporters who turn up every month, the sponsors and the hard workers who make it happen. At presentations, the bowlers paid their respects to the Anzacs. Lest we forget. Results: Best last game went to Sebastian Blancato, and Dino and Lucy Vinnocggi. Runners up went to Rob Poletti, Kevin Quale and John Chadwick. The winners were Ian Rogers, Don Lawson and Ray Lecher. Thanks to everyone for supporting the club this year and look forward to seeing you in September.

INVERLOCH

THURSDAY social bowls saw 34 bowlers roll up to test their skills. Two games of 10 ends were played with a break for lunch. The winners on the day with two wins and 34 points were Garry Scott (skip), Steve Snelling and Ted Lee. Close behind with two wins and 31 points were the runners-up. They finished with two wins and 31 points. Names for next Thursday need to be in by 9.30am with play starting at 11am.

MIDWEEK

WHAT a beautiful autumn day it was at Corinella on Thursday, as 52 of the family of bowlers met up for the weekly challenge. As usual, the green was in excellent condition, as were all the facilities at the club. Pauline and John welcomed everyone to the club as Peter prepared the teams. It was great to have Peter and Pauline back after Peter's recent drama. Before the bowlers went out to play the game, they held a minute's silence for their friend Lindsay following his passing last week. Then it was down to business as always. Laughter could be heard from across the green as friends became foes for a brief period of time. But, all was in fun as everyone praised great bowling

from every rink. No wrong bias bowls were observed, but the club is sure the Royal Children's Hospital will forgive it if that is the case, following Peter's donation of \$500 to the hospital from the small group. The winners on a score of 36 were Rob Jeffrey (3), Lou Magri (S) and Richard Kerr (L). Runners-up on a score of 35 were Max Williams (3), Aggie Gratton (L), Mark Hanrahan (S) and Bill Williams (2). Best one game winners on a score of 19 were Pauline McWilliams (2), Lou Capsalis (L), Claire Sheers (S) and Enid Johnstone (3). A big call out to the volunteers from Corinella, including Phil, Mark, Rob and Claire. The club thanks these selfless volunteers who keep the challenge going week to week. Next week, the club will start its winter fixture, and it will be playing its first game for the season at San Remo. Please, be on time as the numbers are getting very close to a full house and if you are in after the books are full then you may have to miss out. Meanwhile, till then, have fun and stay safe.

WONTHAGGI

IT WAS another good week at the club. Wednesday saw 24 bowlers grace the greens on a fine day for two games of three-bowl triples over 10 ends. There were two teams that were two-game winners. The runners-up were Steve Bruynen, Stan Jackson, and Allan Ireland with a score of two wins and 33 points. The winners were Ken Gage, Kathy Heaphy, and John Hill with a score of two wins and 35 points. Thursday saw a good number of bowlers enjoy a game of social bowls before having lunch with the Golden Oldies. There is a good report on the Facebook page, plus some photos. Saturday saw 35 bowlers set out to play two games of two-bowl triples over 10 ends. The first game went according to plan, then the weather took a turn for the worse. The day was called off with the onset of steady rain. Winners on the day were Ken Gage, Rob Westbrook, Frank Seaton, and Rod Vawdon after the cards were fanned. Bowls this week: Wednesday: Social bowls at 12.30pm. Friday: Coaching at 10am. Saturday: Social bowls at 12.30pm. Friday night went off well with Norm, Jackie, and Rod being happy meat tray winners. This Friday night, the club has a spit roast with lamb and chicken after a bowl of soup. The cost is just \$25 per head. Put your name or names on the list so you don't miss out. Have a good week and good bowling.



B Grade winner Jeanne St Ellen, A Grade winner Heather Sullivan and C Grade winner Raelene Millsom at the Mirboo North-Woorayl Challenge.



Wonthaggi Golf Club's 2025 Singles Knockout winner Lisa Brusamarello with grade winners Catherine Bolding, Geraldine Prentice and Dawn Judkins.



Korumburra's second round Gloria Burgess winners Johanna van den Heiligenberg, Deb Wrigley and Colette Pearl.



The sponsors for the Mirboo North Challenge at the Woorayl Golf Club were Chris Gunn and Anne Poole.



Winner of the Par event at the Leongatha Golf Club with +6 Anne Gibson.



Brian Clasby was the B Grade winner in Korumburra's Stableford competition with 39 points.



Daily sponsor Athol Worthy with Korumburra's A Grade winner Ian Cash.

KORUMBURRA

RESULTS: Tuesday, April 22. Stableford: 49 players. A Grade: Steve Lau (11) 37 points. B Grade: Murray Webb (22) 35 C/B. Thursday, April 24: Stableford: 25 players. A Grade: Steve Rose (8) 36 points. B Grade: Athol Worthy (31) 35 points. NTPs: first Mat Wrigley, seventh Joseph Salvatore, 10th Steve Rose and 13th Ian Cash. Saturday, April 26: Sponsor: Athol Worthy. Stableford: 44 players. A Grade: Ian Cash (14) 38 points. B Grade: Brian Clasby (16) 39 C/B. NTPs: first Rob Gallagher, seventh Robert Litchfield, 10th Tim Morgan and 13th John Mills.

Ladies

THE club had the second round of its Gloria Burgess Memorial Event on Wednesday. Winds were strong all day, making play challenging for most. Congratulations to the winners and good luck in the third and final round to be played on May 14. A Grade's winner was Johanna van den Heiligenberg (12) with 36 points and runner up was Trudi Mantell (21) with 33 points. Deb Wrigley (23) won B Grade with 31 points and runner-up was Beryl Brown (27) on 29 points. C Grade's winner was Colette Pearl (33) having 35 points and Kath Welsh (33) was runner-up with 34 points. BDTL went to Lyn McIvor, Judy Webb, Kim Enbom and Heather Grist, all with 28 points. NTP on the first was Barb Twite (Kellys Bakery), 10th Johanna and 13th green Maree Witting-slow. The women played a Stableford game on Saturday. Jenny Blackmore (23) won with a lovely 37 points and Johanna van den Heiligenberg (11) came runner-up with 35 points. BDTL went to Kim Enbom 33 points and Kerri Besley 32 points.

NTP on the first was Johanna (Kelly's Bakery), 10th Kerri Besley and the closest on the 13th green was Jenny Blackmore.

LEONGATHA

TUESDAY, April 22: Stableford. Tuesday's event was a Stableford event with 71 members/guests taking to the course. Overall winner: Conor Hosking (16) with a high score of the day of 41 points. A Grade winner: Neale Gillin (12) with a score of 39 points. A Grade runner-up: Rod MacKenzie (9) with a score of 37 points on a countback. B Grade winner: Conor Hosking (16) with a score of 41 points. B Grade runner-up: Warren Dummett (17) with a score of 38 points. C Grade winner: Walter Hutton (18) with a score of 40 points. C Grade runner-up: Michael Snoxell (23) with a score of 37 points. NTP fifth second shot: Doug Clemann. NTP 14th: Bert Borg. NTP 16th: Michael Delaney. Thursday, April 24: J.P. Malone Bring a Mate 4BBB Stableford Event. Thursday was an opportunity to bring along a mate for the day with a 4BBB Stableford event for the field of 84 members/guests. It was another brilliant autumn day on the course. Overall and A Grade winners: Steve Foster (14) and Roy Kleverkamp (15) with a high score of the day of 44 points on a countback. A Grade runners up: Rebecca Thomas (7) and Daniel Carcour (9) with a score of 44 points. Place Getters: 3: Gordon Morrison (13) and Geoffrey McDonald (18) with a score of 43 points on a countback. 4: Ian Moorhouse (23) and Henry Sedelies (36) with a score of 43 points on a countback. NTP fifth second shot: Roy Kleverkamp. NTP 14th: Steve Foster. NTP 16th: Peter Waters at 1.73m. Saturday, April 26: Stableford. Saturday was a Stableford round from the blue tees with a field of 97 members/guests taking to the course. Overall winner: Doug Carter

(20) with a high score of the day of 41 points. A Grade winner: Mark Wilson (7) with a score of 38 points. A Grade runner-up: Nicholas Byrne (10) with a score of 37 points. B Grade winner: Steve Foster (16) with a score of 36 points on a countback. B Grade runner-up: Gary McGrath (15) with a score of 36 points. C Grade winner: Doug Carter (20) with a score of 41 points. C Grade runner-up: Colin Martin (17) with a score of 37 points. D Grade winner: Michael Delaney (25) with a score of 40 points. D Grade runner-up: Cameron McLean (25) with a score of 38 points on a countback. Great score on the day by Stuart Smith with an eagle three on the 18th hole. NTP fifth second shot: Alan Starkey. NTP 14th: John Moor. NTP 16th: Rebecca Thomas.

Ladies

ANOTHER large field this week competed in a Par event on a course that was in magnificent condition thanks to the hard-working ground staff and volunteers. A stunning score was recorded by the oldest and most active member who regularly plays twice a week. Anne Gibson (31 – her handicap, not her age!) finished the day with +6 to win B Grade. Lynda Bassett also had a good day out finishing with +4 to be the B Grade runner-up. A Grade was won by steady player Colleen Touzel (21) with +1 on a count back from runner-up Jenny Teasdale. Balls down the line went to -2: Jill Steer, Joy O'Sullivan, Janet Monk, Mel Willder, Anna de Bondt, Jan Brownlie, Jo McNaughton and Di Williams. The nearest the pin on the 16th was Jo McNaughton, Janet Monk on the 14th and Colleen Touzel was closest with her second shot on the fifth. Marie Sands had another win this week in the nine-hole competition with 17 points. Paula Cross earned a ball down the line.

MIRBOO NORTH

TUESDAY, April 22: Stableford. A Grade: S. Woodall (7) 41 points. B Grade: Tom Traill, (19) 39 points. C Grade: K. Wilburn (36) 39 points c/b. DTL: J. Woodall 40, P. Woodall 39, T. Whitelaw, C. Hogbin 38 and N. Casboults 36 c/b. NTP: fourth N. Whichello, sixth Tom Traill, 13th D. Woodall and 16th T. Whitelaw. Birdies: sixth Tom Traill, 13th D. Woodall and 16th D. Ellwood. Saturday, April 26: Par. A Grade: Tim Traill (three) two up. B Grade: J Robbins (13) one down. C Grade: J Hughes (19) six up. DTL: R. Felmingham, M. Payne two up, N. Bickerton and D. Woodall one up, and J. Smeriglio sq c/b. NTP: fourth R. Felmingham, sixth S. Mills, 13th N. Baker and 16th J. Woodall. Birdies: fourth Tim Traill and Tom Traill, sixth M. Payne, R. Clark, S. Mills, B. Bradshaw, J. Woodall, J. Kidd and D. Felmingham, and 16th J. Hughes, J. Smeriglio and J. Woodall.

WONTHAGGI

RESULTS: April 24, SR. 71. Competition: Stableford 18-hole. Winner: Frank Huber 39. Runner up: Chris Wilkinson 37. BDTL to 35: Philip McCrimmon 36, Robbie Baldry-Short 36, Peter Ali 36 and David Wille 35. Eagle: Keith Ridout 16th and Robbie Baldry-Short first. Results: April 24, SR. 36. Competition: Stableford nine-hole 10 to 18. Winner: Peter Ali 22. BDTL to 16: Mark Nicholson 20, Norm Burne 19 and Ken Cuman 16. Results: April 26, S.R 71. Competition: Stableford. A Grade: Mat Johnson 43. B Grade: Jonathon Clayton 36. C Grade: Bill Fennell 36. Balls down the line to 35: Jarrod Brusamarello 38, Peter Hanley 37, Stephen Kane 36, Hamish Burns 36, Inoke Baudromo 36, Trent Hamilton 36, Mark Nicholson 35, Ron Pennefather 35, Warwick Judkins 35 and Paul Brusamarello 35.

Eagle: Brad Andrew seventh. NTPs: Frank Loughran second, Ross Lovett fourth, Dale Burgess propin eighth, Kevin Nichol 13th and Kevin Jamieson money hole 17th. Ladies THE Wonthaggi wind arrived and stayed and for the 20 players on Wednesday – it was a battle all day. The grade winners were A Grade Catherine Bolding (16)34 points, B Grade Geraldine Prentice, and C Grade Dawn Judkins (30)30 points. NTP on second was Marg Ryan and eighth Jenny McRae. BDL went to Yvonne Everitt 32, Jenny McRae 32, Marg Ryan 30 and Irene Walsh 29. The 2025 Singles Knockout Final was played today with Lisa Brusamarello the winner over Anne Tschiderer.

WOORAYL

Ladies THE Mirboo North-Woorayl Challenge was held this week. There were 24 ladies – 12 from each club. The day was sponsored by Anne Poole (Woorayl) and her sister Chris Gunn (Mirboo North). Everyone enjoyed some lovely Easter Eggs before hit off. The game was Stableford, and it was a shotgun start. Cold, sprinkles of rain, sunshine and wind, were the conditions. The A Grade winner from Woorayl was Heather Sullivan 37 points. B Grade's winner from Mirboo North was Jeanne St Ellen 37 points. The C Grade winner from Mirboo North was Raelene Millsom 33 points. BDL: Rhonda Evans Mirboo North 34, Wendy Gervasi Mirboo North 34, Sherrill Winkler Woorayl 32, Mary Beruldsen Mirboo North 32, Maree Thompson Mirboo North 32 and Inge Giliam Woorayl 32. NTP: fourth Tricia Berryman Woorayl, sixth Anne Poole Woorayl, 13th Sherrill Winkler Woorayl and 16th Inge Giliam Woorayl. Mirboo North won the challenge 30.83 to Woorayl 28.42. A lovely day was enjoyed by all.

Podium finish for Eleanor Patterson in Xiamen China

FINISHING second in another world-class high jump contest in China, Leongatha Olympic medalist Eleanor Patterson has once again confirmed her podium pedigree status.

Competing in the opening leg of the Diamond League series in Xiamen Patterson took silver in the high jump with teammate Nicola Olyslagers settling for bronze on a countback after both Australians cleared 1.94m.

Neither athlete was able to clear 1.97m but the high-flying duo were able to maintain their consistent status among the world's best, with only world record holder and Olympic champion Yaroslava Mahuchikh (UKR) clearing 1.97m.

"It was a lot of fun out there, I've enjoyed my time in Xiamen," said Patterson.

"I would have loved to have jumped a bit higher though."

Competing on a fast track Eleanor Patterson said there was a huge clearance over 1.94m and she had lost her rhythm at 1.97m.

"It was so fast, I think a lot of the girls weren't quite ready for that."

Ready to jump a lot higher Patterson said Xiamen was a good stepping stone for that.

Eleanor Patterson now has a week to settle into China before the next round of the Diamond League competition next week.

"I'm really excited," she said.

The Diamond League is the world's premier athletics series crossing four continents over 15 meets with the tour travelling next to Shanghai on May 3.

Heath Shaw joins the Giants for the day

HEATH Shaw entertained the Korumburra-Bena faithful in the lead-up to pulling on a Giants jumper, interviewer Ricky Nixon asking an interesting array of questions.

Shaw's involvement with the Collingwood 'Rat Pack', eventual premiership success and substantial contribution to the Pies and Greater Western Sydney Giants all came up.

So did Shaw's initial fear of and ultimate respect for coach Mick Malthouse and scathing assessment of the coaching ability of Nathan Buckley.

The 'Rat Pack' was an invention of the Herald Sun, the often-in-trouble group consisting of Shaw, Dane Swan, Ben Johnson and Alan Didak.

"We were just consistently in the wrong place at the wrong time," Shaw reflected, saying all eventually grew up but admitting they were slow learners.

Nixon shifted the conversation to Anzac Day footy, Shaw having won an Anzac Medal while representing Collingwood, asking what it is like being part of the April 25 contests with Essendon.

Shaw spoke of Malthouse's passion for the



Heath Shaw ponders his answer as Ricky Nixon looks on. A16_1725

day and interest in military history and ability to motivate the players to support their mates, also noting the amazing crowd atmosphere and the jealousy of players from other clubs who don't experience Anzac footy.

He had a simple response when asked his thoughts on Nathan Buckley.

"I don't like him and he doesn't like me," Shaw said, acknowledging that prompted his move to the Sydney-based Giants.

"Bucks was an unbelievable player and an average coach, I thought."

The clash stemmed from Buckley's lack of flexibility regarding players' preparation, Shaw



Heath Shaw gets involved in the action during the first quarter. A31_1725

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Virginia Wheeler (right) receiving her certificate. Croquet success for Virginia

VIRGINIA Wheeler travelled to Cairnlea, the home of Victorian Croquet, on the weekend of April 5 and 6 to compete in the RNB Odd Socks Golf Croquet Singles event.

Playing in Block B, Virginia came up trumps, winning all of her six games – well played.

The Victorian Croquet Association Golf Croquet Singles Championships were held from April 11 to 13, also at Cairnlea.

Tom Lacey and Sue Baker attended this event in official capacities with Tom refereeing on the three days and Sue assisting with the scoring and general administration.

The members do get out and about.

The in-house Twilight competition concluded on Tuesday, April 22, with the top four decided.

In the semi-finals to be held on the April 29, Cool Cats will face the Offsiders and the Butternut Pumpkins will be up against the Wild Cards.

This should be a great day with the crowd to be expected in the 10s at least.

The final is to be held on May 6.

Tongue in cheek, a separate grandstand may need to be erected for this event.

The club days are Monday, Wednesday, Saturday from 10.

Anyone is very welcome to come and join us on any of these days.

SOCCER SEASON BEGINS



Leongatha Knights coaches Beth Milkins and Michelle Hackett with members of the new girls' teams Amy Pearce, Summer Manhal, Liberty Murdoch, Jess Pedlow, Iris Avery-Openshaw and Sophie Oosterlaak. Tk03

Knights recruit great numbers

LEONGATHA Knights Football Club is on track to have more members than ever before during its 2025 season.

Despite this wonderful milestone, the club is still actively recruiting new players for the girls' teams, as it aims to field U12s and U15s this season.

Across the club, the Knights are fielding a team in every section, including two mixed U17s sides.

The Knights are looking forward to what lies ahead after a thrilling 2024, in which the U14s won the premiership and the women's team was a premiership runner-up.

The new season brings a changing of the guard in the senior teams, with Beth stepping down as coach of the senior men's side after five successful years.

Beth will be kept busy in her role as club president alongside Stuart McNaughton, as well as coaching the U15 girls.

The senior men will be coached by Simon Harrison and Lorcan Heneghan, and the senior women's team will be coached by Luke Knights, assisted by Beth.

Michelle Hackett is also new to the coaching panel.

Michelle runs the all-abilities program and will also be coaching the U12 girls.

The Knights' home ground is at Mary Mackillop Catholic Regional College, and the school has worked hard to deliver upgrades to the soccer pitch.

"We're really excited about the pitch development. We are rapidly outgrowing our facilities and the school has done a good job helping us work on the pitch space to make it more durable," Beth said.

"We're excited to see the sport continuing to grow off the back of our Go Fives, and we are loving that so many people in our community are keen to play."



Teammates Summer Manhal and Sophie Oosterlaak focus on the ball during preseason training with the Leongatha Knights Football Club.



Maddie Strickland, Macy Bruce and Pippa Lurati are excited to be part of Inverloch Stars Soccer Club's new U12 girls team. tk09

Stars ready to take on the competition

INVERLOCH Stars Soccer Club is fired up for the new Gippsland Soccer League season with excellent numbers across the board.

The club is fielding an U17s mixed team for the first time in years, as well as introducing an U12 girls' side.

Female participation has risen with the introduction of the new girls' competition, and the Stars have seen ongoing interest in the women's side with 22 registrations this season.

"Registrations are looking good, and everyone is pretty excited about the upcoming season," club president David Settle said.

"We want to see everyone having fun and participating."

Michael McClean will be coaching the men's team, and the women's team will be coached by Lindsey Ritchie and Laura Burt.

The Stars are looking to see more success in 2025, following on from its U12B premiership and Cup win.

The club also thanked its new sponsors who will be backing the club this season.

"We've got a lot of new sponsors on board, which we haven't done for a while. It's exciting to see the sponsorship flags out at the ground," Settle said.

Whilst there have been no new works around the grounds at this stage, the club is still working towards developing a new clubroom.

In round one of the season, the Inverloch Stars faced Drouin at Drouin.

This was anticipated to be a challenging match, but Inverloch was looking forward to the competition, with the U12 girls coming away winners.

Wonthaggi United celebrates growth in junior numbers

KEEPING children engaged in sports is a priority for the Wonthaggi United Soccer Club.

To maximise opportunities for all junior players, Wonthaggi United has followed suit with the rest of the Gippsland Soccer League and introduced new U12 and U15 girls' sides.

These teams will be coached by Marion Bals and Glenn Moore.

The club will also be fielding two U12 mixed teams, and U14 mixed team, and U17 mixed team, a women's team and a men's team.

Pete Butters will be coaching the Senior men and the women's coach had not yet been announced at the time of writing.

Wonthaggi United has welcomed Dean Harvey to its coaching panel in the U14s and Chris Haig will be coaching the U12s.

Wonthaggi aims to go one better

in the competition this year, with its junior girls' side finishing runner up in the grand final and the women's team making the semi-final.

Around the grounds, the soccer club is continuing to upgrade its facility at the Wonthaggi Recreation Reserve.

Signage has gone up in recent weeks, and the 12-month-old clubrooms will continue to see refurbishment over time.

Grants coordinator Andrea Phillips said the club is looking forward to jumping into the season and is pleased to see children continuing to engage with sport, as it feeds into the growth and success of the senior sides.

Anyone looking to get involved with the Wonthaggi United Soccer Club is encouraged to check out the Facebook page or send an email through to wonthaggisoccerclub@gmail.com.



Wonthaggi United Soccer Club's U14 team is raring to kick off the 2025 season.

SOCCER SEASON BEGINS



Joss Geronimo and Annie Dempsey will be coaching the U12 girls and the U15 girls respectively for the Phillip Island Breakers this season.

Soccer stars give coaching a go

THE Phillip Island Breakers have introduced two first-time coaches to its coaching panel. With the Gippsland Soccer League introducing two new girls' divisions – U12s and U15s – the Breakers have brought on Annie Dempsey and Joss Geronimo to lead the future stars.

“Annie and Joss are two of our star female footballers. It's great to see more representation in coaching roles because it encourages more girls to play,” club president Gareth Kennedy said.

Returning coaches Darren Dempsey and Benita Russell will coach the Senior men and women. Both sides made the grand final last year, with the women winning the flag and the men coming in second.

The U12s also shared success, winning the U12A premiership.

This season, the Breakers will be fielding all sides from U6s to the Seniors.

The membership count includes 135 Minirooms, which is an increase on last year.

“We've got soccer on our pitch every night of the week now,” Gareth said. “We pride ourselves on being a community club, so our goals are to continue growing participation, making sure kids experiencing the game for the first time have an enjoyable experience and making sure we are growing our volunteer base.”

Gareth also congratulated the club on a successful Go Mums program over the summer.

“It has been a real highlight to see not only more girls joining the club, but full families enjoying sport on the weekend.”

Gippsland Soccer League

ROUND 1 Results – Sunday, April 27

Senior Mens: Drouin Maroon 1 d Inverloch Stars 0, Leongatha Knights 3 d Lang Lang United 0, Trafalgar Victory 12 d Wonthaggi United 0

Senior Womens: Drouin Maroon 2 d Inverloch Stars 1, Leongatha Knights 22 d Lang Lang United 0, Trafalgar Victory 3 d Wonthaggi United 0, MN United 2 drew Korumburra City 2

Mens Reserves: Drouin Maroon 2 d Inverloch Stars 0, PI Breakers 3 d Leongatha Knights 0, Korumburra City 3 d Trafalgar Victory 2

Under 17 Mixed: Drouin Dragons Maroon 6 d Inverloch Stars 0, PI Breakers 4 d Drouin Dragons Maroon Yellow 0, Leongatha Knights Blue 8 d Leongatha Knights White 2, Korumburra City 6 d MN United 0

Under 15 Girls: Drouin Dragons Maroon 3 d Wonthaggi United 0, PI Breakers 6 d Drouin Dragons Yellow 4

Under 14 Mixed: Drouin Dragons Maroon 7 d Inverloch Stars 3, Drouin Dragons Maroon Yellow 4 d PI Penguins 2, Leongatha Knights 6 d Lang Lang United 0, Wonthaggi United 6 d PI Stingrays 0, MN United 8 d Korumburra City 5

Under 12 Girls: Inverloch Stars 6 d Drouin Dragons Maroon 0, Lang Lang United 5 d Leongatha Knights 3

Under 12A Mixed: Drouin Dragons Maroon 4 d Inverloch Stars 2, Wonthaggi United 6 d Trafalgar Victory 0, MN United 7 d Korumburra City 1

Under 12B Mixed: Drouin Dragons Yellow 4 d Inverloch Stars 0, Drouin Dragons Maroon Yellow 6 d PI Penguins 0, Drouin White 6 d Leongatha Knights White 0, PI Stingrays 4 d Wonthaggi United 2



The Under 14's to Under 17's MNUFC teams training ahead of the season starting. ob07_1425

Mirboo North United Football Club adds Under 17's to their force

MIRBOO North United Football Club (MNUFC) is gaining strength in numbers this year, adding an under 17's mixed team for the first time, to their solid force of six sides, ranging from under 6's to senior women.

With the teams performing well last year and having more competitive score margins than the previous year; as well as the under 12's leading on points for most of the season, and making it to

the Grand Final, there is renewed energy at MNUFC.

“We haven't been in finals for many, many years. That was really good for the club. It really invigorated the club and inspired a whole lot of new coaches,” said President of the MNUFC, Russell Williams.

Russell puts some of the improvement down to a greater focus on skills training and coaching and having additional equipment.

“We bought a whole lot of equipment like rebound nets and rebound boards and stuff like that to help our coaches and our players work on their skills.”

Two new coaches have joined the club. Patrick Finnigan, who has a long history of playing and coaching soccer, and is a board member of the Gippsland Soccer League, will coach the Under 12's and Simon Brown will coach the Under 14's.

Russell mentioned that while they have good numbers overall, they would like a few more players for the Under 17's side and they would also ultimately like to add a men's senior team.

“The more players we get, the better,” said Russell.

“We've made a big effort to promote it in the last two years and try and get as many as we can. We're just battling to put a senior men's team together.”

Membership skyrockets at Korumburra City



Korumburra City Soccer Club's U10 players Sonny McGuinness, Avery Daniel and Elijah Sakala enjoyed a night at training.

KORUMBURRA City Soccer Club has put in the hard yards, resulting in a significant membership spike going into the 2025 season.

Membership numbers have doubled in the last two years, allowing the return of the women's team, an U17's team for the first time in six years, and the introduction of the junior girls' sides.

Both the female and junior competitions are looking very strong, and Korumburra City is looking forward to strong leadership in the Senior men's team with a new international signing.

Former Sri Lankan footballer Chathura Gunarathna – better known as Podi – will be joining Korumburra City Soccer Club as the men's coach and the club's technical support.

Korumburra City is looking forward to what the season will bring, coming off a successful 2024.

The U13 girls brought home

the flag, and the U14 mixed team came in second after finishing on top of the ladder.

Korumburra's Seniors were also represented in the finals, finishing fourth.

The excitement will continue off the field with the new State Government funded five-a-side pitch set to be built at the Korumburra Recreation Reserve this year.

This multi-functional facility will serve as an additional training pitch and will include cricket nets.

Funds towards this project were also contributed by the South Gippsland Shire Council, the Korumburra Cricket Club and the soccer club.

Korumburra City president Tony Gardner said the club is looking forward to getting the season underway and its core values will always remain at the heart of it all.

“Our core focus is on respect, fun and the social aspects of playing the game,” he said.



2025 GIPPSLAND SOCCER LEAGUE FIXTURE TO ROUND 12

ROUND 2 - SUNDAY, APRIL 4

Senior Women
Inverloch v Phillip Island
Leongatha v Drouin Maroon
Mirboo North v Trafalgar
Wonthaggi United v Korumburra City

Senior Men
Inverloch v Phillip Island
Leongatha v Drouin Maroon
Wonthaggi United v Korumburra City

Mens Reserves
Inverloch v Phillip Island
Leongatha v Drouin Maroon

Under 17 Mixed
Inverloch v Phillip Island
Leongatha Blue v Drouin Maroon
Drouin Maroon Yellow v Leongatha White
Wonthaggi United v Korumburra City

Under 15 Girls
Leongatha v Drouin Maroon
Wonthaggi United v Korumburra City

Under 14 Mixed
Inverloch v Phillip Island Penguins
Leongatha v Drouin Maroon
Drouin Maroon Yellow v Lang Lang
Mirboo North v Phillip Island Stingrays
Wonthaggi United v Korumburra City

Under 12 Girls
Leongatha Knights v Drouin Maroon
Wonthaggi United v Korumburra City

Under 12A Mixed
Inverloch v Phillip Island Breakers
Leongatha Blue v Drouin Maroon
Mirboo North United v Trafalgar Victory
Wonthaggi United v Korumburra City

Under 12B Mixed
Inverloch v Phillip Island Penguins
Leongatha White v Drouin Yellow
Drouin Maroon Yellow v Drouin White

ROUND 3 - SUNDAY, MAY 11

Senior Women
Wonthaggi v Inverloch
Drouin Maroon v Mirboo North
Trafalgar v Lang Lang
Korumburra v Phillip Island

Senior Men
Wonthaggi v Inverloch
Trafalgar v Lang Lang
Korumburra v Phillip Island

Mens Reserves
Leongatha v Drouin Maroon
Trafalgar v Inverloch
Korumburra v Phillip Island

Under 17 Mixed
Wonthaggi v Inverloch
Drouin Maroon v Mirboo North
Leongatha Blue v Drouin Maroon Yellow
Korumburra v Phillip Island

Under 15 Girls
Leongatha v Drouin Yellow
Korumburra v Phillip Island

Under 14 Mixed
Wonthaggi v Inverloch
Drouin Maroon v Mirboo North
Leongatha v Drouin Maroon Yellow
Phillip Island Stingrays v Lang Lang
Korumburra v Phillip Island Penguins

Under 12 Girls
Wonthaggi v Inverloch
Korumburra v Phillip Island

Under 12A Mixed
Wonthaggi v Inverloch
Drouin Maroon v Mirboo North
Korumburra v Phillip Island

Under 12B Mixed
Wonthaggi v Inverloch
Leongatha White v Drouin Maroon Yellow
Phillip Island Stingrays v Drouin White

ROUND 4 - SUNDAY, MAY 18

Senior Women
Inverloch v Leongatha
Phillip Island v Trafalgar
Mirboo North v Wonthaggi
Lang Lang v Korumburra

Senior Men
Inverloch v Leongatha
Phillip Island v Trafalgar
Lang Lang v Korumburra

Mens Reserves
Inverloch v Leongatha
Drouin Maroon v Korumburra

Phillip Island v Trafalgar

Under 17 Mixed
Inverloch v Leongatha Blue
Drouin Maroon Yellow v Drouin Maroon
Mirboo North v Wonthaggi
Leongatha White v Korumburra

Under 15 Girls
Drouin Yellow v Drouin Maroon
Phillip Island v Wonthaggi
Leongatha v Korumburra

Under 14 Mixed
Inverloch v Leongatha
Drouin Maroon Yellow v Drouin Maroon
Phillip Island Penguins v Phillip Island
Stingrays
Mirboo North v Wonthaggi
Lang Lang v Korumburra

Under 12 Girls
Inverloch v Leongatha
Lang Lang v Korumburra

Under 12A Mixed
Inverloch v Leongatha Blue
Phillip Island v Trafalgar
Mirboo North v Wonthaggi

Under 12B Mixed
Inverloch v Leongatha White
Drouin Maroon Yellow v Drouin Yellow
Phillip Island Penguins v Phillip Island
Stingrays

ROUND 5 - SUNDAY, MAY 25

Senior Women
Drouin Maroon v Trafalgar
Phillip Island v Leongatha
Lang Lang v Wonthaggi
Inverloch v Korumburra

Senior Men
Drouin Maroon v Trafalgar
Phillip Island v Leongatha
Lang Lang v Wonthaggi
Inverloch v Korumburra

Mens Reserves
Drouin Maroon v Trafalgar
Inverloch v Korumburra
Phillip Island v Leongatha

Under 17 Mixed
Drouin Maroon Yellow v Mirboo North
Phillip Island v Leongatha Blue
Leongatha White v Wonthaggi
Inverloch v Korumburra

Under 15 Girls
Drouin Maroon v Drouin Yellow
Wonthaggi v Korumburra
Phillip Island v Leongatha

Under 14 Mixed
Drouin Maroon v Phillip Island Stingrays
Drouin Maroon Yellow v Mirboo North
Phillip Island Penguins v Leongatha
Lang Lang v Wonthaggi
Inverloch v Korumburra

Under 12 Girls
Phillip Island v Leongatha
Lang Lang v Wonthaggi
Inverloch v Korumburra

Under 12A Mixed
Drouin Maroon v Trafalgar
Phillip Island v Leongatha Blue
Inverloch v Korumburra

Under 12B Mixed
Drouin Yellow v Phillip Island Stingrays
Phillip Island Penguins v Leongatha
White
Drouin White v Wonthaggi

ROUND 6 - SUNDAY, JUNE 1

Senior Women
Trafalgar v Inverloch
Drouin Maroon v Lang Lang
Wonthaggi v Phillip Island
Leongatha v Mirboo North

Senior Men
Trafalgar v Inverloch
Drouin Maroon v Lang Lang
Wonthaggi v Phillip Island

Mens Reserves
Trafalgar v Inverloch
Drouin Maroon v Phillip Island
Leongatha v Korumburra

Under 17 Mixed
Drouin Maroon v Leongatha White
Wonthaggi v Phillip Island
Leongatha Blue v Mirboo North

Korumburra v Drouin Maroon Yellow

Under 15 Girls
Wonthaggi v Phillip Island
Leongatha v Drouin Maroon
Korumburra v Drouin Yellow

Under 14 Mixed
Phillip Island Stingrays v Inverloch
Drouin Maroon v Lang Lang
Wonthaggi v Phillip Island Penguins
Leongatha v Mirboo North
Korumburra v Drouin Maroon Yellow

Under 12 Girls
Drouin Maroon v Lang Lang
Wonthaggi v Phillip Island

Under 12A Mixed
Trafalgar v Inverloch
Wonthaggi v Phillip Island
Leongatha Blue v Mirboo North

Under 12B Mixed
Phillip Island Stingrays v Inverloch
Drouin Yellow v Drouin White
Wonthaggi v Phillip Island Penguins

ROUND 7 - SUNDAY, JUNE 8

Senior Women
Phillip Island v Drouin Maroon
Wonthaggi v Leongatha
Mirboo North v Lang Lang
Korumburra v Trafalgar

Senior Men
Phillip Island v Drouin Maroon
Wonthaggi v Leongatha
Korumburra v Trafalgar

Mens Reserves
Inverloch v Leongatha
Phillip Island v Drouin Maroon
Korumburra v Trafalgar

Under 17 Mixed
Inverloch v Drouin Maroon Yellow
Phillip Island v Drouin Maroon
Wonthaggi v Leongatha Blue
Mirboo North v Leongatha White

Under 15 Girls
Phillip Island v Drouin Maroon
Wonthaggi v Leongatha
Korumburra v Drouin Yellow

Under 14 Mixed
Inverloch v Drouin Maroon Yellow
Phillip Island Penguins v Drouin Maroon
Wonthaggi v Leongatha
Mirboo North v Lang Lang
Korumburra v Phillip Island Stingrays

Under 12 Girls
Phillip Island v Drouin Maroon
Wonthaggi v Leongatha

Under 12A Mixed
Phillip Island v Drouin Maroon
Wonthaggi v Leongatha Blue
Korumburra v Trafalgar

Under 12B Mixed
Inverloch v Drouin Maroon Yellow
Phillip Island Penguins v Drouin Yellow
Wonthaggi v Leongatha White

ROUND 8 - SATURDAY, JUNE 15

Senior Women
Mirboo North v Inverloch
Leongatha v Trafalgar
Lang Lang v Phillip Island
Drouin Maroon v Korumburra

Senior Men
Leongatha v Trafalgar
Lang Lang v Phillip Island
Drouin Maroon v Korumburra

Mens Reserves
Leongatha v Trafalgar
Drouin Maroon v Korumburra

Under 17 Mixed
Mirboo North v Inverloch
Leongatha White v Phillip Island
Drouin Maroon Yellow v Wonthaggi
Drouin Maroon v Korumburra

Under 15 Girls
Leongatha v Phillip Island
Drouin Yellow v Wonthaggi
Drouin Maroon v Korumburra

Under 14 Mixed
Mirboo North v Inverloch
Leongatha v Phillip Island Stingrays
Lang Lang v Phillip Island Penguins
Drouin Maroon Yellow v Wonthaggi
Drouin Maroon v Korumburra

Under 12 Girls
Lang Lang v Phillip Island
Drouin Maroon v Korumburra

Under 12A Mixed
Mirboo North v Inverloch
Leongatha Blue v Trafalgar
Drouin Maroon v Korumburra

Under 12B Mixed
Leongatha White v Phillip Island Sting-
rays
Drouin White v Phillip Island Penguins
Drouin Maroon Yellow v Wonthaggi

ROUND 9 - SUNDAY, JUNE 29

Senior Women
Inverloch v Lang Lang
Wonthaggi v Drouin Maroon
Phillip Island v Mirboo North
Korumburra v Leongatha

Senior Men
Inverloch v Lang Lang
Wonthaggi v Drouin Maroon
Korumburra v Leongatha

Mens Reserves
Inverloch v Phillip Island
Korumburra v Leongatha
Trafalgar v Drouin Maroon
Under 17 Mixed
Inverloch v Leongatha White
Wonthaggi v Drouin Maroon
Phillip Island v Mirboo North
Korumburra v Leongatha Blue

Under 15 Girls
Wonthaggi v Drouin Maroon
Korumburra v Leongatha

Under 14 Mixed
Inverloch v Lang Lang
Wonthaggi v Drouin Maroon
Phillip Island Stingrays v Drouin Maroon
Yellow
Phillip Island Penguins v Mirboo North
Korumburra v Leongatha

Under 12 Girls
Inverloch v Lang Lang
Wonthaggi v Drouin Maroon
Korumburra v Leongatha

Under 12A Mixed
Wonthaggi v Drouin Maroon
Phillip Island v Mirboo North
Korumburra v Leongatha Blue

Under 12B Mixed
Inverloch v Drouin White
Wonthaggi v Drouin Yellow
Phillip Island Stingrays v Drouin Maroon
Yellow

ROUND 10 - SUNDAY, JULY 6

Senior Women
Inverloch v Drouin Maroon
Leongatha v Lang Lang
Wonthaggi v Trafalgar
Korumburra v Mirboo North

Senior Men
Inverloch v Drouin Maroon
Leongatha v Lang Lang
Wonthaggi v Trafalgar

Mens Reserves
Inverloch v Drouin Maroon
Korumburra v Phillip Island
Leongatha v Trafalgar

Under 17 Mixed
Inverloch v Drouin Maroon
Drouin Maroon Yellow v Phillip Island
Leongatha Blue v Leongatha White
Korumburra v Mirboo North

Under 15 Girls
Drouin Maroon v Phillip Island
Drouin Yellow v Leongatha

Under 14 Mixed
Inverloch v Drouin Maroon
Drouin Maroon Yellow v Phillip Island
Penguins
Leongatha v Lang Lang
Wonthaggi v Phillip Island Stingrays
Korumburra v Mirboo North

Under 12 Girls
Inverloch v Drouin Maroon
Leongatha v Lang Lang

Under 12A Mixed
Inverloch v Drouin Maroon
Wonthaggi v Trafalgar
Korumburra v Mirboo North

Under 12B Mixed
Inverloch v Drouin Yellow
Drouin Maroon Yellow v Phillip Island
Penguins
Leongatha White v Drouin White
Wonthaggi v Phillip Island Stingrays

ROUND 11 - SUNDAY, JULY 13

Senior Women
Phillip Island v Inverloch
Drouin Maroon v Leongatha
Trafalgar v Mirboo North
Korumburra v Wonthaggi

Senior Men
Phillip Island v Inverloch
Drouin Maroon v Leongatha
Korumburra v Wonthaggi

Mens Reserves
Phillip Island v Inverloch
Drouin Maroon v Leongatha

Under 17 Mixed
Phillip Island v Inverloch
Drouin Maroon v Leongatha Blue
Leongatha White v Drouin Maroon Yellow
Korumburra v Wonthaggi

Under 15 Girls
Drouin Maroon v Leongatha
Drouin Yellow v Phillip Island
Korumburra v Wonthaggi

Under 14 Mixed
Phillip Island Penguins v Inverloch
Drouin Maroon v Leongatha
Lang Lang v Drouin Maroon Yellow
Phillip Island Stingrays v Mirboo North
Korumburra v Wonthaggi

Under 12 Girls
Phillip Island v Inverloch
Drouin Maroon v Leongatha
Korumburra v Wonthaggi

Under 12A Mixed
Phillip Island v Inverloch
Drouin Maroon v Leongatha Blue
Trafalgar v Mirboo North
Korumburra v Wonthaggi

Under 12B Mixed
Phillip Island Penguins v Inverloch
Drouin Yellow v Leongatha White
Drouin White v Drouin Maroon Yellow

ROUND 12 - SUNDAY, JULY 20

Senior Women
Inverloch v Wonthaggi
Mirboo North v Drouin Maroon
Lang Lang v Trafalgar
Phillip Island v Korumburra

Senior Men
Inverloch v Wonthaggi
Lang Lang v Trafalgar
Phillip Island v Korumburra

Mens Reserves
Inverloch v Drouin Maroon
Phillip Island v Korumburra

Under 17 Mixed
Inverloch v Wonthaggi
Mirboo North v Drouin Maroon
Drouin Maroon Yellow v Leongatha Blue
Phillip Island v Korumburra

Under 15 Girls
Drouin Yellow v Leongatha
Phillip Island v Korumburra

Under 14 Mixed
Inverloch v Wonthaggi
Mirboo North v Drouin Maroon
Drouin Maroon Yellow v Leongatha
Lang Lang v Phillip Island Stingrays
Phillip Island Penguins v Korumburra

Under 12 Girls
Inverloch v Wonthaggi
Phillip Island v Korumburra

Under 12A Mixed
Inverloch v Wonthaggi
Mirboo North v Drouin Maroon
Phillip Island v Korumburra

Under 12B Mixed
Inverloch v Wonthaggi
Drouin Maroon Yellow v Leongatha White
Drouin White v Phillip Island Stingrays

CHECK EACH EDITION FOR THE COMING WEEKLY DRAWS



Justin Tran makes a slick move to get around his Drouin opponent in an entertaining Under 17s match won 4-0 by Phillip Island to get their season off to the ideal start.



Zavier Gilliland gets the ball moving Wonthaggi's way under pressure from Phillip Island's Harvey Deaton with Flynn Inglis running in support.



It was an ideal day for the start of the Gippsland Soccer League on Sunday with plenty of action for spectators at venues across the region.



Wonthaggi Under 12s player Jordan Aldred makes no mistake from close range in this first-round match against Wonthaggi at Newhaven on Sunday.



Hamish Farman gets set to bang this one deep into the Island's scoring zone in an entertaining match against Drouin at Newhaven on Saturday.



LKFC's U12 Girls team with coaches Beth & Michelle.

Leongatha Knights FC - U12 girls' first game

THE first round of the 2025 Gippsland Soccer League saw Leongatha's first-ever U12 Girls team head to Lang Lang to make their debut. Despite having low numbers, and with the support of some loaned players, the Junior Lady Knights put in a mighty effort on the pitch! Liberty went into goals for

the first half and made a few great saves with the support of Maddie in defence. Pocket rocket Katelyn scored her first goal to a cheering crowd. Iris moved well to put pressure on her opponents, clearing a great ball. In midfield, Summer and Sami both played magnificently as they worked hard up and

down the pitch. The Leongatha Knights U12 team are still looking for more players to join and promises a welcoming and supportive introduction to the sport. If you have a player interested in giving soccer a try, get in contact with Beth at 0409 698 989 or email lkfc.juniordevelopment@gmail.com.



U12 Girls - Iris, supported by her teammate Sami, clears the ball away from her opponent.



The Phillip Island Under 17s had a good win over Drouin 4-0 at the Newhaven Recreation Reserve on Sunday, April 27. The teams shake hands after the match.

Meadley earns her spot in the 17/U Victorian state netball team

GEMMA Meadley has taken a major leap in her netball journey, earning herself a spot in the Victorian 17 and under state team, and returning from the National Championships with bronze.

“Vic only lost one game prior to finals (to SA, the gold medal winners),” said Gemma.

“During the semi-final against NSW, the game went to overtime twice, with NSW coming away with the win. Vic U17’s finished bronze and we were very happy to get a medal after our hard work.”

Victorian 17/U state team head coach, Jacinta Todd, said, “Gemma has an ability to get so much hand to ball, from rebounds, to tips, to clean intercepts. Some balls you sit there wondering how she did it – her work rate in this is high, so no surprise she gets lots.”

“Gemma has grabbed it with two hands and has been a great role model in this area. A lot of the high-performance behaviours centre down to being organised, and as an athlete who travels a fair distance, she needs to be so has really done well in this space,” said Jacinta.

“Consistency is the key when you think of Gemma. She has had a great training phase, in terms of not only pushing herself but others as well and on top of this wants to learn and thrives off feedback.”

Gemma is completing state training two to three days per week, including court, gym and conditioning.

“The training was tailored around each athlete’s existing load with Victorian Netball League training and games, where state training took priority.

“My training now is VNL training on Monday, with games mostly on Wednesdays at Parkville, Parrots training on Thursdays and Parrots games on Saturdays,” said Gemma.

With this level of training, Gemma said she tries to balance

everything out as much as possible, but in the end, prioritises school when she can around training.

“Getting into the team was monumental for me, as last year I was a training partner and wanted to push myself and get a spot in the team. I was so happy when I got in because I had put in a lot of effort that year to improve my fitness and game, so it was very rewarding getting the email that I was in.”

At Nationals, Gemma was looking forward to the South Australia game, as she had played them twice earlier in the year at the Gippsland showcase, where her team had beaten them twice.

“I also thought it would be a great challenge for the team and me, given that we knew they would have improved and that they would come out firing, so we had to meet them there.

“Unfortunately, we lost, but I feel like it was a great team effort to play against the top team from last year and only lose by two.”

When it came to high-stakes games, Gemma stayed grounded by focusing on the basics.

“I try to remember to breathe and focus on the game and what I can control, rather than feeding into the intensity,” said Gemma.

“I didn’t give much thought to it being my first year, I just tried to play my hardest and focus on the result I was trying to achieve. I also found encouraging others helps me maintain my focus during high-intensity games, which also helps others by uplifting them and giving them confidence.”

With Nationals behind her, Gemma Meadley remains a name to watch in the Victorian netball circles, her relentless drive, composure under pressure and team-first mindset point to a bright future on and off the court.

Gemma has since been selected for the Australian U17 squad.



Meadley defending the circle against New South Wales at Nationals.



GS Amy Scott eyes off the ball down field for the Parrots. Photo: Bairnsdale Advertiser.



Joanne Duscher gets good separation from her opponent Kaylee Nalder as she looks to work the ball clear of the Drouin scoring zone in B Grade at Wonthaggi on Saturday.



Wonthaggi’s Ellie Bates makes a desperate lunge for the ball in an entertaining A Grade netball match against Drouin at Wonthaggi on Saturday.



Ellie Bates looks for a way through the Drouin midcourt traffic in a free-flowing A Grade match at Wonthaggi on Saturday.



Wonthaggi goaler Milly Jobe works into a better shooting position during an excellent second quarter by Wonthaggi Power’s B team against Drouin on Saturday.



Chloe Cengia gets in close for this shot on goal in the A Grade match between Wonthaggi and Drouin on Saturday.

GIPPSLAND		
RESULTS		
A GRADE		
Traralgon	40	It Morwell 50
Wonthaggi	34	It Drouin 62
Bairnsdale	37	It Leongatha 44
Moe	103	d Maffra 33
Sale	39	It Warragul 65
B GRADE		
Traralgon	44	d Morwell 31
Wonthaggi	59	d Drouin 33
B'dale	21	It Leongatha 67
Moe	63	d Maffra 32
Sale	41	It Warragul 54
C GRADE		
Traralgon	25	It Morwell 29
Wonthaggi	42	d Drouin 35
B'dale	27	It Leongatha 35
Moe	36	d Maffra 26
Sale	35	d Warragul 26
17 & UNDER		
Traralgon	61	d Morwell 9
Wonthaggi	28	It Drouin 39
B'dale	50	d Leongatha 22
Moe	35	It Maffra 39
Sale	40	d Warragul 33
15 & UNDER		
Traralgon	64	d Morwell 11
Wonthaggi	5	It Drouin 57
B'dale	27	d Leongatha 19
Sale	56	d Warragul 40
13 & UNDER		
Traralgon	31	d Morwell 26
Wonthaggi	16	It Drouin 31
B'dale	19	It Leongatha 23
Moe	21	d Maffra 15
Sale	51	d Warragul 1
LADDERS		
A GRADE		
Moe	247.27	12
Warragul	158.73	12
Leongatha	133.61	12
Morwell	101.99	8
Drouin	110.14	4
Wonthaggi	75.58	4
Bairnsdale	71.84	4
Sale	66.46	4
Traralgon	69.31	0
Maffra	54.77	0
B GRADE		
Leongatha	207.89	12
Wonthaggi	180.00	12
Moe	177.23	12
Drouin	92.76	8
Warragul	96.35	4
Traralgon	94.92	4
Morwell	87.88	4
Maffra	62.33	4
Sale	61.64	0
Bairnsdale	54.21	0
C GRADE		
Wonthaggi	234.85	12
Morwell	160.00	12
Leongatha	136.23	12
Sale	109.33	8
Moe	101.08	8
Bairnsdale	93.52	4
Drouin	90.24	4
Traralgon	83.33	0
Maffra	54.76	0
Warragul	41.54	0
17 & UNDER		
Traralgon	325.00	12
Bairnsdale	240.54	12
Sale	129.17	12
Warragul	101.98	8
Maffra	99.11	8
Drouin	88.00	8
Wonthaggi	82.91	0
Moe	54.73	0
Leongatha	51.09	0
Morwell	47.06	0
15 & UNDER		
Drouin	262.50	12
Traralgon	250.75	12
Sale	137.84	12
Warragul	174.16	8
Maffra	158.93	4
Bairnsdale	94.32	4
Moe	87.01	4
Leongatha	59.40	0
Morwell	38.81	0
Wonthaggi	11.52	0
13 & UNDER		
Leongatha	146.00	12
Sale	155.07	8
Morwell	144.07	8
Drouin	128.81	8
Moe	96.15	8
Maffra	156.72	4
Bairnsdale	109.26	4
Traralgon	90.16	4
Wonthaggi	41.84	4
Warragul	16.33	0

MIRBOO NORTH

OUR first home game of the season started with some rain during the junior matches, but it cleared beautifully just in time for D Grade and the senior games. It turned into a fantastic day of competitive, spirited netball, with plenty of highlights across all grades.

A Grade: Our A Grade girls were on fire, dominating from start to finish with strong teamwork and sharpshooting.

Best on Court: Louie (Lynette) Patten

Coach: Sienna Cheffers

B Grade: B Grade brought the intensity, pulling away early and controlling the game with great defensive pressure and smart plays.

Mirboo North 55 defeated Tarwin 26

Best on Court: Aleisha Kerr

Coaches Award: Chelsea Loh

Coach: Sienna Cheffers

C Grade: It was a real nail-biter for C Grade, who fought hard all game but just fell short in the final minutes. A special highlight saw coach Ash Hilliar take to the court for her first game of the season – and her 200th senior netball game! An amazing achievement – congratulations Ash!

Best on Court: Amy Symmons

Coach: Brooke Langerwey

D Grade: D Grade were all class, putting together a strong four quarters to claim a convincing win, showing off great ball movement and teamwork.

Best on Court: Katie Symmons

Coach: Ali Snell

Under 17s: Our Under 17s absolutely shone, dominating from the first whistle with fast-paced, confident netball.

Best on Court: Mia O'Brien

Coach: Holly Chila

Under 15s: A tight and exciting match for our Under 15s, who kept their cool under pressure and finished strong to take the win.

Best on Court: Charlotte Evans

Coach: Phoebe Goodman

Under 13s: A tough battle for our youngest team, but they never gave up and showed so much determination right to the final whistle.

Best on Court: Georgie Schaeche

Coach: Jorge Chila

A huge congratulations to all committee, players, officials and supporters for a great first home game.

Bring on Round 4 at Yinnar – let's keep the momentum going, Tigers!



Jessie Holland adds to her impressive goal stats. Photo: Annie Holland.



All eyes are on the ball for Livinia Mandemaker and Jess LePage. Photo: G. S. Bruning.



Chloe McRae started as wing attack but scored a goal as goal shooter, that proved to be the winning margin for Dalyston against A Grade adversary Korumburra Bena. A59_1725



There was plenty to celebrate for the Tigers with Ashlee Hilliar playing her 200th senior game on Saturday. Photo: Annie Holland.



Brittney Mitchell and Jaime Chilla wait for their chance to intercept the ball as Kayla Byrnes makes the catch from Bec Vagg. Photo: G. S. Bruning.



Gemma Dixon defends for Korumburra Bena during its narrow A Grade loss to Dalyston. A56_1725



Tigers' Mia O'Brien delivers a smooth pass in the B-grade defence. Photo: Annie Holland.



Bec Browne watches on as Claire Vagg and Claire Thornburn leap for the ball in A grade. Photo: G. S. Bruning.



Elisha Nicholas shoots for Korumburra Bena in the exciting A Grade clash with Dalyston. A57_1725

MID GIPPSLAND

RESULTS

A GRADE	B GRADE	C GRADE	D GRADE	17 & UNDER	15 & UNDER	13 & UNDER
Thorpdale 17 lt Foster 93	Thorpdale 29 lt Foster 54	Thorpdale 9 lt Foster 57	Thorpdale 6 lt Foster 47	Toora 52 d Fish Crk 31	Hill End 38 d MDU 17	Mirboo Nth 22 lt Tarwin 25
Stony Crk 40 lt Yinnar 41	Stony Crk 27 lt Yinnar 56	Stony Crk 29 lt Yinnar 44	Stony Crk 23 lt Yinnar 44	Stony Crk 16 lt Yinnar 47	Mirboo Nth 29 d Tarwin 23	Hill End 28 d MDU 9
Toora 20 lt Fish Crk 56	Toora 37 d Fish Crk 25	Toora 37 lt Fish Crk 47	Toora 30 d Fish Crk 29	Mirboo Nth 47 d Tarwin 6	Stony Crk 16 lt Yinnar 52	Toora 12 lt Fish Crk 39
Hill End 24 lt MDU 62	Hill End 23 lt MDU 45	Hill End 30 drew MDU 30	Hill End 36 d MDU 15	Hill End 19 lt MDU 39	Toora 37 d Fish Crk 8	Stony Crk 12 lt Yinnar 30
Mirboo Nth 79 d Tarwin 37	Mirboo Nth 55 d Tarwin 26	Mirboo Nth 46 lt Tarwin 51	Mirboo Nth 34 d Tarwin 15	Boolarra 65 d Morwell-E 9	Boolarra 46 d Morwell-E 16	Boolarra 39 d Morwell-E 4
Boolarra 41 lt Morwell-E 58	Boolarra 34 lt Morwell-E 59	Boolarra 42 d Morwell-E 29	Boolarra 22 lt Morwell-E 32			

LADDERS

A GRADE	%	pts	B GRADE	%	pts	C GRADE	%	pts	D GRADE	%	pts	17 & UNDER	%	pts	15 & UNDER	%	pts	13 & UNDER	%	pts
Foster	343.75	12	Mirboo North	198.90	12	Yinnar	200.00	12	Mirboo North	182.14	12	MDU	300.00	12	Hill End	361.11	12	Newborough	744.44	12
Morwell East	192.39	12	Foster	149.37	12	Boolarra	144.19	12	Yinnar	165.63	12	Boolarra	284.48	12	Boolarra	337.78	12	Yinnar	689.47	12
Mirboo North	186.67	12	Stony Creek	136.11	8	Tarwin	137.63	12	Newborough	126.23	12	Yinnar	195.83	12	Yinnar	257.14	12	Boolarra	254.84	12
MDU	169.16	12	Yinnar	133.98	8	Newborough	135.85	12	Morwell East	209.80	8	Toora	174.36	8	Foster	130.56	12	Tarwin	254.05	12
Yinnar	130.70	12	Morwell East	120.56	8	Hill End	124.68	10	Foster	192.31	8	Mirboo North	168.57	8	Toora	218.18	8	Hill End	163.16	8
Stony Creek	160.00	8	MDU	116.94	8	Foster	184.44	8	Hill End	123.19	8	Foster	96.15	8	MDU	95.92	8	Fish Creek	82.14	8
Fish Creek	146.48	8	Toora	110.38	8	Fish Creek	73.81	8	Tarwin	92.68	8	Newborough	45.36	8	Tarwin	76.71	4	Foster	17.86	8
Toora	64.71	4	Newborough	100.00	8	MDU	174.29	6	MDU	123.81	4	Hill End	85.57	4	Newborough	61.04	4	Mirboo North	98.33	4
Newborough	60.71	4	Fish Creek	87.88	8	Morwell East	120.24	4	Fish Creek	86.21	4	Fish Creek	56.60	4	Mirboo North	57.27	4	MDU	19.40	4
Boolarra	60.89	0	Hill End	70.50	4	Mirboo North	72.31	0	Toora	80.85	4	Stony Creek	49.61	4	Morwell East	26.09	4	Morwell East	19.35	4
Tarwin	58.25	0	Thorpdale	70.92	0	Toora	69.77	0	Stony Creek	77.78	4	Morwell East	30.10	4	Fish Creek	17.86	4	Stony Creek	39.02	0
Hill End	42.86	0	Tarwin	57.75	0	Stony Creek	64.66	0	Boolarra	65.35	0	Tarwin	22.63	0	Stony Creek	23.40	0	Toora	13.95	0
Thorpdale	34.52	0	Boolarra	45.41	0	Thorpdale	13.10	0	Thorpdale	7.74	0	Thorpdale	0.00	0	Thorpdale	0.00	0	Thorpdale	0.00	0

KILCUNDA BASS

A GRADE: It was a hard fought game for our A grade girls. Bass took control in the first half, however Phillip Island came out firing in the last quarter and capitalised on our turnovers. Some glimpses of great netball, however the girls couldn't come away with the win and went down by 4. Award: Emma Felsovary

B Grade: Both sides hit court firing, we had set our task to play our game and to back each other. There were some amazing plays down the court with each player playing their role. Our midcourt was held up strong with fantastic decision-making and feeds into the ring that allowed our goalers to work together. Award: Ciara Santorini. Anzac Medal: Esther Evans.

C Grade: C grade maintained control for the majority of the match, showcasing strong defensive pressure that kept Phillip Island on the back foot. However, a series of costly errors in the final quarter allowed Phillip Island to gain momentum and ultimately secure the win. Award: Ruby McGilivray.

D Grade: Both teams got off to an even start, with Kilcunda Bass trailing by one goal at the first break. In the second quarter, Bass showed great determination, fighting hard to establish a four-goal lead heading into halftime. However, Phillip Island demonstrated resilience in the second half, steadily working their way back into the game. Their persistence wore down Kilcunda Bass, and despite our efforts on the day, Phillip Island claimed a 4-goal victory late in the final quarter. Award: Gemma Tschiderer (ANZAC medal and Cape Pilates voucher)

17 & Under: Our girls started the game with nervous energy which was reflected with the ball passes and decisions on court. We had girls playing out of position to try to impact the game and keep the Island from scoring. Multiple players applied consistent defensive pressure throughout the game. Award: Sadie Davies.

15 & Under: The Island came out firing, we didn't have an answer for them and let them streak ahead which made the rest of the game extremely difficult for us. After a regroup and a huge reset at half time we were able to come out for the second half with the intensity and fight that we were lacking in the first half and to the credit of all the girls we won the second half. Awards: Isabella Stead (San Remo Hotel), Paige O'Brien (Canteen)

13 & Under: From the first quarter Phillip Island showed why they are one of the competition's top sides, displaying strong skills, clean ball movement, and relentless pressure around the court. Despite the scoreboard pressure, Kilcunda Bass battled hard all day, showing great determination and spirit. Anzac Medal: Ashley Burgess, Awards: Emily Vanderspek (Canteen) and Lexi Thompson (McDonalds)

11 & Under: Our kids took to a wet court for the first time this season and displayed no signs of slowing to the conditions. The on-court battle between our teams was a close one despite the scoreboard. Our kids continue to grow and develop every week, and as we progress through the season we strive for the success on scoreboard. Awards: Zoe Cartmel (Canteen), Kalani Knaap (McDonalds)



Ciara Santorini lines up her shot for Kilcunda Bass in the B grade match.



Mackenzie Fort Poowong A Grade leaps high. Photo: Jeff Tull.



Vanessa Rowe flies for the Magpies but Dalyston was brought to earth by Korumburra-Bena in the sides' D Grade battle. A23_1725



Emily Andrew and her Phillip Island opponent battle for possession in the A grade match.



Tamika DeNardis of Kilcunda bass takes the pass under defensive pressure from her opponent.



Nicole Elford has a look of determination as she represents Korumburra-Bena in its D Grade win over Dalyston. A24_1725

ELLINBANK

RESULTS

A GRADE

Catani 38 lt Yarragon 52
Poowong 26 lt Longwarry 52
Buln Buln 28 lt Bunyip 39
Nyora 33 lt Lang Lang 62
Nil-Darn 65 d Ellinbank 63
Trafalgar 31 lt Neerim Sth 61

B GRADE

Catani 47 d Yarragon 30
Poowong 39 d Longwarry 27
Buln Buln 46 lt Bunyip 53
Nyora 19 lt Lang Lang 76
Nil-Darn 18 d Ellinbank 39
Trafalgar 28 lt Neerim Sth 48

C GRADE

Catani 29 drew Yarragon 29
Poowong 29 lt Longwarry 35
Buln Buln 48 d Bunyip 21
Nyora 7 lt Lang Lang 44
Nil-Darn 37 lt Ellinbank 38
Trafalgar 33 d Neerim Sth 32

17 & UNDER

Catani 25 lt Yarragon 42
Poowong 28 lt Longwarry 42
Buln Buln 28 d Bunyip 23
Nyora 6 lt Lang Lang 51
Nil-Darn 53 d Ellinbank 10
Trafalgar 39 d Neerim Sth 35

15 & UNDER

Catani 44 d Yarragon 14
Poowong 25 d Longwarry 13
Trafalgar 14 lt Neerim Sth 39
Buln Buln 19 lt Bunyip 28
Nyora 3 lt Lang Lang 48
Nil-Darn 24 d Ellinbank 13

13 & UNDER

Catani 21 d Yarragon 12
Trafalgar 26 d Neerim Sth 15
Poowong 11 lt Longwarry 14
Nyora 0 lt Lang Lang 48
Buln Buln 17 lt Bunyip 18
Nil-Darn 25 d Ellinbank 12

LADDERS

A GRADE	%	pts
Longwarry	249.30	12
Neerim South	219.54	12
Ellinbank	156.45	8
Lang Lang	102.34	8
Nilma Darnum	100.00	8
Poowong	80.33	8
Catani	110.28	4
Yarragon	107.03	4
Trafalgar	82.31	4
Bunyip	71.63	4
Nyora	43.85	0
Buln Buln	40.00	0

B GRADE	%	pts
Lang Lang	193.33	12
Ellinbank	165.06	12
Poowong	117.53	12
Catani	182.14	8
Neerim South	139.53	8
Bunyip	111.57	8
Nilma Darnum	104.90	8
Longwarry	112.50	4
Yarragon	72.26	0
Buln Buln	68.35	0
Trafalgar	56.55	0
Nyora	27.50	0

C GRADE	%	pts
Longwarry	251.72	12
Trafalgar	143.24	12
Catani	206.45	10
Yarragon	154.55	10
Buln Buln	125.51	8
Ellinbank	119.79	8
Neerim South	113.33	8
Lang Lang	93.26	4
Nilma Darnum	80.00	0
Poowong	71.70	0
Bunyip	48.85	0
Nyora	11.49	0

17 & UNDER	%	pts
Longwarry	206.25	12
Nilma Darnum	185.90	12
Catani	167.74	8
Trafalgar	121.00	8
Lang Lang	139.08	6
Yarragon	112.38	6
Ellinbank	62.00	6
Neerim South	95.92	4
Buln Buln	75.64	4
Poowong	72.81	4
Bunyip	72.45	2
Nyora	11.89	0

15 & UNDER	%	pts
Lang Lang	396.30	12
Catani	393.10	12
Neerim South	208.51	12
Bunyip	182.00	2
Poowong	158.14	8
Nilma Darnum	126.32	8
Longwarry	132.69	4
Buln Buln	81.69	4
Ellinbank	58.67	0
Trafalgar	40.00	0
Yarragon	37.61	0
Nyora	5.44	0

13 & UNDER	%	pts
Lang Lang	1066.67	12
Catani	350.00	12
Trafalgar	192.68	12
Buln Buln	281.25	8
Bunyip	160.47	8
Nilma Darnum	114.04	8
Longwarry	111.11	8
Poowong	71.74	4
Yarragon	43.04	0
Neerim South	38.20	0
Ellinbank	25.00	0
Nyora	7.03	0

WEST GIPPSLAND

RESULTS

A GRADE

Warragul-I 41 lt Toor-Dal 63
Kor-Bena 39 lt Dalyston 40
KWR 32 lt NNG 52
Cora Lynn 31 lt IK 35
P-Island 52 d K-Bass 48

B GRADE

Warragul-I 12 lt Toor-Dal 84
Kor-Bena 33 lt Dalyston 61
KWR 43 lt NNG 52
Cora Lynn 35 drew IK 35
P-Island 33 lt K-Bass 45

C GRADE

Warragul-I 38 lt Toor-Dal 41
Kor-Bena 23 lt Dalyston 43
KWR 22 lt NNG 48
P-Island 23 d K-Bass 22
Cora Lynn 33 d IK 29

D GRADE

Warragul-I 18 lt Toor-Dal 50
Kor-Bena 36 d Dalyston 14
KWR 23 lt NNG 34
Cora Lynn 42 d IK 21
P-Island 30 d K-Bass 26

17 & UNDER

Warragul-I 36 lt Toor-Dal 39
Kor-Bena 28 lt Dalyston 29
KWR 31 lt NNG 44
Cora Lynn 49 d IK 20
P-Island 50 d K-Bass 3

15 & UNDER

Warragul-I 12 lt Toor-Dal 45
KWR 8 lt NNG 56
P-Island 31 d K-Bass 19
Cora Lynn 50 d IK 12

13 & UNDER

Warragul-I 16 lt Toor-Dal 38
KWR 8 lt NNG 36
Kor-Bena 40 d Dalyston 3
P-Island 28 d K-Bass 17
Cora Lynn 43 d IK 9

11 & UNDER

Warragul-I 6 lt Toor-Dal 37
Kor-Bena 25 d Dalyston 3
Cora Lynn 17 d IK 8
KWR 25 d NNG 6
P-Island 20 d K-Bass 8

LADDERS

A GRADE	%	pts
Nar Nar Goon	135.78	12
Inverloch-K	105.00	12
Garfield	118.92	10
Phillip Island	116.67	10
Tooradin-Dal.	122.05	8
Kor-Bena	121.05	8
Dalyston	108.18	8
Cora Lynn	101.30	8
Kilcunda Bass	97.96	4
Koo Wee Rup	67.12	0
Warragul Ind.	57.58	0

B GRADE	%	pts
Inverloch-K	161.04	14
Tooradin-Dal.	234.52	12
Dalyston	158.82	12
Kilcunda Bass	147.29	12
Garfield	128.95	8
Phillip Island	124.84	8
Nar Nar Goon	110.69	8
Cora Lynn	86.75	6
Koo Wee Rup	63.16	0
Kor-Bena	50.66	0
Warragul Ind.	28.62	0

C GRADE	%	pts
Nar Nar Goon	226.67	12
Warragul Ind.	135.04	12
Inverloch-K	133.33	12
Cora Lynn	113.21	12
Tooradin-Dal.	148.05	8
Garfield	108.57	8
Kilcunda Bass	82.91	4
Dalyston	77.14	4
Phillip Island	65.49	4
Koo Wee Rup	55.00	4
Kor-Bena	60.68	0

D GRADE	%	pts
Garfield	238.46	12
Nar Nar Goon	236.36	12
Cora Lynn	200.00	12
Kilcunda Bass	139.18	12
Koo Wee Rup	129.69	8
Phillip Island	82.22	8
Inverloch-K	70.37	8
Tooradin-Dal.	125.00	4
Kor-Bena	118.99	4
Warragul Ind	44.39	0
Dalyston	22.22	0

17 & UNDER	%	pts
Phillip Island	165.69	12
Cora Lynn	163.46	12
Nar Nar Goon	127.00	12
Inverloch-K	106.67	12
Warragul Ind.	161.32	8
Tooradin-Dal.	104.04	8
Kor-Bena	101.18	4
Dalyston	91.49	4
Koo Wee Rup	84.85	4
Garfield	45.16	4
Kilcunda Bass	31.38	0

15 & UNDER	%	pts
Nar Nar Goon	353.66	12
Cora Lynn	195.24	12
Tooradin-Dal.	200.00	8
Garfield Stars	107.89	8
Kilcunda Bass	101.15	8
Phillip Island	94.06	8
Warragul Ind	79.67	8
Inverloch-K	72.60	8
Koo Wee Rup	51.49	4
Dalyston	43.90	4
Kor-Bena	0.00	0

13 & UNDER	%	pts
Nar Nar Goon	500.00	12
Garfield	320.00	12
Kor-Bena	312.12	12
Cora Lynn	265.52	12
Tooradin-Dal.	142.19	8
Phillip Island	72.27	8
Koo Wee Rup	91.43	4
Kilcunda Bass	73.33	4
Warragul Ind.	50.77	4
Inverloch-K	40.63	4
Dalyston	12.28	0

11 & UNDER	%	pts
Garfield	2600.00	12
Inverloch-K	785.71	12
Koo Wee Rup	450.00	12
Phillip Island	182.86	10
Cora Lynn	218.18	8
Kor-Bena	175.00	8
Nar Nar Goon	102.00	6
Tooradin-Dal.	101.75	4
Warragul Ind.	23.96	4
Kilcunda Bass	24.71	0
Dalyston	12.00	0



39

BEN FISHER

North Melbourne
St Kilda
Western Bulldogs
Adelaide
Collingwood
Melbourne
GWS
Hawthorn
Brisbane

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 7



81 Commercial Street,
Korumburra
5655 1024



39

DANIEL CHETLAND

Essendon
St Kilda
Port Adelaide
Adelaide
Collingwood
Melbourne
Sydney
Hawthorn
Brisbane

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 6



119 Graham Street,
Wonthaggi
5672 1027



39

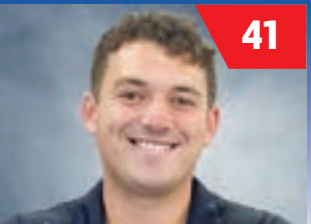
CARL LINDSAY

Essendon
St Kilda
Western Bulldogs
Adelaide
Collingwood
Melbourne
GWS
Hawthorn
Brisbane

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 6



145 Graham Street,
Wonthaggi
5672 1137



41

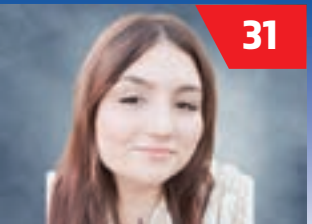
ALEX GEYER

Essendon
St Kilda
Western Bulldogs
Adelaide
Geelong
West Coast
GWS
Hawthorn
Brisbane

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 6



Wonthaggi 5672 5522
Leongatha 5662 2941



31

JAE DAVEY

Essendon
Fremantle
Western Bulldogs
Adelaide
Collingwood
Melbourne
GWS
Hawthorn
Brisbane

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 5



62-64 McBride Avenue,
Wonthaggi
7051 0720



43

DARRYL MCGANNON

Essendon
St Kilda
Western Bulldogs
Adelaide
Collingwood
Melbourne
GWS
Hawthorn
Brisbane

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 7



1 Roughead Street,
Leongatha
5662 2327

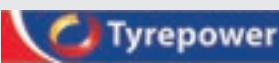


35

KRIS BAKER

North Melbourne
St Kilda
Western Bulldogs
Adelaide
Collingwood
Melbourne
GWS
Hawthorn
Brisbane

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 6



78-80 Watt Street,
Wonthaggi
5672 5760



35

RYAN SHANE

North Melbourne
St Kilda
Western Bulldogs
Adelaide
Geelong
West Coast
GWS
Hawthorn
Brisbane

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 5



Leongatha Toyota

7-13 Hughes Street,
Leongatha
5662 2302



39

**CRAIG FARRINGTON
DARREN TILE**

Essendon
St Kilda
Western Bulldogs
Adelaide
Geelong
West Coast
GWS
Hawthorn
Brisbane

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 7



6/5 Cyclone Street,
Wonthaggi
Darren 0405 603 569
Craig 0415 641 845



41

ADAM WARE

Essendon
Fremantle
Western Bulldogs
Adelaide
Geelong
Melbourne
GWS
Hawthorn
Brisbane

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 6



2/88-98 Watt Street,
Wonthaggi
1800 358 131



44

JUSTIN CAPORALE

Essendon
Fremantle
Western Bulldogs
Adelaide
Collingwood
Melbourne
GWS
Hawthorn
Brisbane

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 8



41 McCartin Street,
Leongatha
5662 2529



37

LEIGH DONOHUE

North Melbourne
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West Coast
GWS
Richmond
Gold Coast Suns

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 6



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Darryl McGannon	43
Peter Fort	43
Phil Hardy	43
Aaron McGregor	42
Liam Sawyer	42
Warren Stewart	42
Adam Ware	41
Alex Geyer	41
Dylan Clark	41
Ben Fisher	39
Carl Lindsay	39
Craig & Darren	39
Daniel Chetland	39
David England	39
Brad Hodson	38
Hayden Poppe	38
Keith & Eddie	38
Leigh Donohue	37
Kris Baker	35
Ryan Shane	35
Brett Jacobs	34
Jae Davey	31



42

WARREN STEWART

Essendon
Fremantle
Western Bulldogs
Adelaide
Collingwood
Melbourne
GWS
Hawthorn
Brisbane

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 7



Wonthaggi Toyota
346 Bass Highway,
Wonthaggi
5632 3503



43

PHIL HARDY

North Melbourne
Fremantle
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Adelaide
Collingwood
Melbourne
GWS
Hawthorn
Brisbane

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 5



Bass Coast **LIGHT ENGINES**
317 White Road,
Wonthaggi
5672 4017



41

DYLAN CLARK

Essendon
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Western Bulldogs
Adelaide
Collingwood
Melbourne
GWS
Hawthorn
Brisbane

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 7



1 A'Beckett Street
Inverloch
5674 1432



39

DAVID ENGLAND

Essendon
St Kilda
Western Bulldogs
Adelaide
Geelong
Melbourne
GWS
Hawthorn
Gold Coast Suns

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 5



3/45-61 McKenzie St,
Wonthaggi
5644 2080



43

PETER FORT

Essendon
St Kilda
Western Bulldogs
Adelaide
Geelong
West Coast
GWS
Hawthorn
Brisbane

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 6



47 Station Street,
Korumburra
0417 332 141



38

KEITH KELLY **EDDIE CHANDLER**

North Melbourne
Fremantle
Western Bulldogs
Carlton
Collingwood
Melbourne
GWS
Hawthorn
Brisbane

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 7



54 Graham Street,
Wonthaggi
5672 1311



42

LIAM SAWYER

Essendon
St Kilda
Western Bulldogs
Adelaide
Geelong
Melbourne
GWS
Hawthorn
Brisbane

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 7



16 McBride Avenue,
Wonthaggi
5672 1007



42

AARON MCGREGOR

Essendon
Fremantle
Western Bulldogs
Adelaide
Geelong
Melbourne
GWS
Hawthorn
Brisbane

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 7



24 Inverloch Road,
Wonthaggi
5672 5906



38

BRAD HODSON

Essendon
St Kilda
Port Adelaide
Adelaide
Geelong
West Coast
GWS
Hawthorn
Brisbane

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 6



15/17 Murray Street,
Wonthaggi
5672 5878



34

BRETT JACOBS

Essendon
St Kilda
Western Bulldogs
Adelaide
Collingwood
West Coast
GWS
Hawthorn
Gold Coast Suns

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 5



28 Inverloch Road,
Wonthaggi
5672 4770



38

HAYDEN POPPE

Essendon
St Kilda
Western Bulldogs
Adelaide
Geelong
West Coast
Sydney
Hawthorn
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Good to go



Borough overrun by Hawks



Port Melbourne's Nicola Davidson is under pressure as she looks to get her kick away. A41_172



Port Melbourne and Box Hill battle for possession during the VFLW match in Wonthaggi won by the Hawks. A42_1725



Paige Price wasn't only good in the air for Box Hill, displaying her willingness to tackle. A45_1725



Thomas Graham of Port Melbourne and Box Hill's Matthew Hill compete near the boundary line. A50_1725

Box Hill's aerial superiority against Borough reflected on the scoreboard

WHILE Box Hill's VFL side proved too big, strong and skilful for Port Melbourne in Wonthaggi, the Borough commendably stuck to its task ensuring a decent spectacle for local and visiting fans.

Box Hill's 38-point victory stemmed largely from aerial superiority, the Hawks excelling at finding marking targets around the ground and moving the ball directly, Port's backline struggling to contain an opposition enjoying high quality delivery.

The Hawks finished with 84 marks for the game to Port Melbourne's 66.

Whenever Port Melbourne had the footy, the player in possession was under fierce pressure from the Hawks, often forcing overuse of handballs, Box Hill's finishing proving too accomplished.

The Borough managed just four more kicks than handballs for the game, while Box Hill used the ball by foot 35 times more than by hand.

Current Leongatha player and former Essendon skipper Dyson Heppell racked up 30 disposals for Port Melbourne, being one of most prolific ball winners on the ground.

Hawthorn player Finn Maginness impressed for the winning team, having 17 kicks, 21 handballs and laying six tackles, the son of Scott Maginness putting his hand up for Senior Selection.

Box Hill led by 20 points at quarter time and although the Borough was first to goal in the second stanza, the margin increased to 28 points by halftime.

Pleased with the first term, Box Hill

coach Zane Littlejohn urged his players at the first break to "be really disciplined and not let them chip around and access the open side".

Such was the Hawks' overall discipline, Port Melbourne never hit the lead despite trimming the margin to 13 points at the last change.

Hawthorn key forward Jasper Scaife set the tone early as a marking target and goal scorer, managing six majors for the match.

Dashing Hawthorn defender and Gippsland Power product Jiath Changkuoth, known simply as CJ, was another Box Hill representative catching the eye, the athletic but sometimes injury hit player having 26 possessions.

Son of James Hird, Tom, worked hard for the beaten Borough as did tireless skipper Harvey Hooper.

After the match, Port Melbourne coach Brendan McCartney was pleased with his side's improvement, declaring it the Boroughs' best effort so far this season and telling the players there was joy in some of what they did but also times when they needed to man-up better.

He assured them the desired polish will come with continued work and development.

"The raw materials are there, he said," having stressed the relentless nature of the game and the need to maintain intensity for the full 120 minutes.

While Port had its moments, the Hawks were a lot closer to achieving that aspiration in a well-deserved win.

Dyson Heppell still loving footy after AFL retirement

WHILE proud club Port Melbourne is yet to savour victory in this season's VFL campaign, Dyson Heppell is relishing his involvement with the Borough.

"I'm really enjoying my time; we've got a lot of young guys who are passionate and really keen to improve their footy and be part of a competitive professional environment," he said after playing well against Box Hill in Wonthaggi.

Heppell observed that coach Brendan McCartney and director of coaching James Hird "are doing a great job steering the ship", describing his own role as being a mentor and onfield leader.

Heppell also hopes to continue representing his hometown Leongatha during Port Melbourne byes, having lined up for the Parrots for the first time since his junior days earlier this season, saying he had a ball.

"It's the first time I'd ever played with Azza," he said of lining up with brother Aaron, also enjoying playing alongside a couple of mates.

Dyson is unsure what lies ahead next year, waiting to see how his body is holding up after the current campaign.



Former Western Bulldogs representative Dominic Bedendo is enjoying playing alongside Dyson Heppell at the Borough. A53_1725

While he's confident he'll always be involved in footy in some capacity, he doesn't have coaching aspirations at this stage.

With Port Melbourne having a bye during Leongatha's Round 8 clash with local rival Wonthaggi, home fans at the Parrots' nest will be hoping to see Dyson line up for his first game at the venue in many years on Saturday, June 7.

Poowong shows heart

By Geoff Wyatt

POOWONG welcomed Longwarry players, members and supporters to Poowong for the local Anzac Day round in the Ellinbank League who have held an Anzac Service together for a number of years.

Ground conditions were good with a big crowd in attendance. Netballers, football players and administrators lined up for the Anzac Service before the Senior game and observed a minute's silence.

The day was overcast early with rain arriving for the second half, no wind and lights on at half time, and very dark in the last quarter.

Poowong was forced to make two changes Jett Blackwood with a broken ankle (work) and Patrick Dorian shoulder (training) both U18 players and Seniors were replaced by Alex Henshall and Blake Rout.

Poowong players wore black arm bands to honour reserves player Connor King's father Brendan, who tragically passed on Friday night, condolences to his family and friends.

The day started with the Poowong fourths having a good win remaining undefeated.

The thirds missing a couple with injuries suffered their first loss with Longwarry playing well. Unfortunately, there will be no juniors next weekend.

With Nyora having no juniors this was the second no-game in



Zac Gray was strong in defence for Poowong. Photo: Jeff Tull.

four weeks with Clubs having no thirds, a problem in this age group and something the AFL must address.

Tough day for the Reserves but they battled it out with Longwarry having a good win.

The Seniors also had a tough day with injuries and no bench in the last quarter.

This very young side battled it out and the scores did not reflect the contest. Poowong's young players holding their own in much of the play, then falling down in the final contest up forward.

Poowong kicked to the Drouin Road end however Longwarry were on the ball early following a mark in front. Poowong's de-

fence were working hard Joel Norton and Mitch Van't Hof leading the way.

Alex Henshall kicked the home side's first goal, quarter-time Longwarry 5.6.36 Poowong 1.2.8.

Poowong were first to score in the second quarter with a goal to Connor Isles from a hand ball, they then went forward from the bounce with Longwarry's defence clearing the ball.

The boys were working hard as Zac Gray kicked Poowong's third.

Joel Norton was a big loss to Poowong's defence with a hand injury as they struggled to contain Longwarry's full forward Jason Wells with his strong

leads and marking. Half-time Longwarry 13.10.88 to Poowong 3.3.21. The rain arrived for the third quarter Alex Henshall added a good running goal, went forward a few times only to have the kick fall short.

Longwarry kicked six goals at three-quarter time it was Longwarry 19.17.131 to Poowong 4.4.28.

The fourth quarter started with the light fading. Poowong adding two goals both to Connor Cunningham who was working hard, unfortunately the strong Longwarry side added nine to win 28.20.188 to Poowong 6.4.40.

The Anzac medal was awarded to Jason Wells with 13 goals.

The scoreboard showed a big win to Longwarry, to their credit the young Poowong team played some good football with no bench in the last quarter the lads were spent by the end of the game.

Best Players: Mitch Van't Hof, Alex Henshall, Zac Gray, Thomas Burgess, Mitch Molloy and Connor Isles.

Next week off to Nyora for the Demon Cup hopefully the injury list improves, the Reserves game approx. 12 o'clock kick-off.

Any players looking for a game of football or netball come along and support the various grades, a good family club with good facilities you will enjoy.

ELLINBANK & DISTRICT LEAGUE RESULTS

RND 3

POOWONG FOOTBALL CLUB

	40		188
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POOWONG	1.2	3.3	4.4	6.4 (40)
Longwarry	5.6	13.10	19.17	28.20 (188)

GOALS, Poowong: Conor Cunningham, Alex Henshall 2, Zac Gray, Connor Ives 1 each
BEST: Mitchell van't Hof, Alex Henshall, Zac Gray, Thomas Burgess, Mitch Molloy, Connor Ives
GOALS, Longwarry: Jason Wells 13, Braydon McHugh 6, Jedd Serong 3, Fintan Fox, Darren Granger 2, Angus Adamiak, Brad Martin 1 each
BEST: Jason Wells, Jedd Serong, Bailey Stephens, Fintan Fox, Angus Young, Bailey Werle

RESERVES

POOWONG	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1 (7)
Longwarry	7.5	12.8	18.14	27.16 (178)

GOALS, Poowong: Jerome Cawcutt 1
BEST: J Cawcutt, Zach Townley, Jordan Meredith, Daniel McDonald, Rohan Verma, Troy Smethurst
GOALS, Longwarry: Bradley Blazevic 6, Reece Asmus 4, Aidan Fazackerley, Jesse Walker 3, Janik De Silva, Charlie Dore, Liam Smith Butterworth, Casey Wells 2, Branden Cozens, Ben Cuckson, Josh Downes, Mitchell Young 1 each
BEST: L Smith Butterworth, J Downes, M Young, A Fazackerley, B Cuckson, C Wells

THIRDS

POOWONG	1.4	1.6	3.7	4.9 (33)
Longwarry	2.2	3.7	7.9	11.13 (79)

GOALS, Poowong: C Deal, L Moriarty, T Nieuwerth, J Wilson 1 each
BEST: Z Sherar, G Monson, T Nieuwerth, B Camp, L Wilson, J Wilson
GOALS, Longwarry: J Taylor 4, B Hill 3, J Doyule 2, C Bennett, G Morgan 1 each
BEST: T Hickford, J Doyle, J Taylor, J Cantwell, T Gilbert, T Koesemans

FOURTHS

POOWONG	3.4	7.6	8.6	12.8 (80)
Longwarry	0.1	1.1	4.4	5.6 (36)

GOALS, Poowong: C Deal 3, J Mackin, L Moriarty, K Zealley 2, D Canavan, L Nieuwerth, B Warren 1 each
BEST: J Wilson, T Nicholls, G Edwards, D Watson, B Warren, D Canavan
GOALS, Longwarry: V Wilson 2, L Child, R Collins, T Kent 1 each
BEST: A Butler, R Collins, T Kent, D Cannon, L Child, V Wilson

NYORA FOOTBALL CLUB

	45		122
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NYORA	2.0	5.2	6.3	7.3 (45)
Lang Lang	6.2	9.6	11.9	18.14 (122)

GOALS, Nyora: Paul Delaroche 4, Jordan Anderson, Dylan Heylen, Rex Lazaros 1 each
BEST: Paul Delaroche, Jordan Anderson, Lucas Lee, Dylan Heylen, William McGindie, Jesse Heylen
GOALS, Lang Lang: Marc Holt 8, Darcy Walls 6, Troy Dolan, Bailey Galante, Maxwell Gearon, Daniel Vela 1 each
BEST: Troy Dolan, Marc Holt, Darcy Walls, Kaden Finlay Smith, Bailey Galante, Riley Dolan

RESERVES

Nyora	0.3	0.3	0.5	1.6 (12)
Lang Lang	6.1	13.4	21.4	27.6 (168)

GOALS, Nyora: Logan Koffman 1
BEST: Luke Forscutt, Lachlan Roberts, Riely Powlesland, Brayden Smith, Ben Pugh, Shannon Gallagher
GOALS, Lang Lang: Tadhg O'Riordan 6, Rhyce Harvie 5, Jesse Hand 4, Rhys Simmons 3, Andrew Thompson 2, Noah Christensen, Brock Duggan, James Linder, Nick Mascadri, Sam Ward, Geordie Wells 1 each
BEST: Rhyce Harvie, Tadhg O'Riordan, Jesse Hand, Rhys Simmons, Andrew Thompson, Nick Mascadri

IN OTHER GAMES...

SENIORS					
Buln Buln	18.16.124	d	Bunyip	7.7.49	
Ellinbank	34.18.222	d	Nil-Darn	7.6.48	
Yarragon	13.17.95	d	Catani	10.6.66	
Neerim Sth	12.12.84	d	Trafalgar	8.4.52	

RESERVES					
Buln Buln	9.5.59	drew	Bunyip	9.5.59	
Ellinbank	15.15.105	d	Nil-Darn	1.3.9	
Catani	7.10.52	d	Yarragon	7.4.46	
Neerim Sth	11.7.73	d	Trafalgar	3.7.25	

HIRDS

Buln Buln	25.15.165	d	Bunyip	2.3.15
Ellinbank	12.4.76	d	Nil-Darn	9.2.56
Lang Lang	16.10.106	d	Yarragon	4.1.25
Neerim Sth	17.15.117	d T	rafalgar	3.2.20

FOURTHS					
Bunyip	11.11.77	d	Buln Buln	3.5.23	
Ellinbank	12.9.81	d	Nil-Darn	2.1.13	
Yarragon	10.10.70	d	Catani	4.10.34	
Trafalgar	15.21.111	d	Neerim Sth	2.4.16	

Nyora battles against tough Lang Lang side

ALTHOUGH a 100 per cent effort was delivered, the injury-stricken Nyora went down to a well-balanced Lang Lang side by 77 points.

Nyora went into Saturday's match carrying a few injuries and with five outs, who will hopefully be returning to the lineup for next week's local derby.

Playing at the Nyora Recreation Reserve, the conditions were perfect for footy, and the ground was in good nick.

Lang Lang got the jump in the first quarter with a six-goal haul, but Nyora held its own and answered with two goals from midfielder Paul Delaroche.

Delaroche played a superb game and kicked four goals while playing in the midfield for the game.

A level quarter took the match into halftime, but Lang Lang still held a



Lucas Lee avoids being tackled by his Lang Lang opponent and sets up another scoring opportunity for Nyora.

28-point lead.

The intensity continued through to the third quarter and Nyora was looking strong through the midfield.

The rotation of Delaroche, Dylan Heylen and Jordan Anderson provided excellent coverage across the midfield

and into the forward line.

"Our rotations have been working. Everyone is starting to link up well and we are getting to where we want to be as a club," coach Daryl Swinburne said.

Nyora was also backed by a number of Reserve players

who filled out the Seniors this week and held their own against a challenging opponent.

However, things began to fall apart in the fourth quarter.

Nyora found itself with no bench rotations to close the match and Lang Lang was able to demonstrate its fitness by kicking away at the end.

Lang Lang's seven goals in the final quarter blew out the score.

Next week, Nyora will come up against Poowong in the match of the round.

Nyora will be playing at home again and is looking forward to the match-up.

Both sides produced similar results when they played against Longwarry, so Nyora is hopeful the game will be on equal footing and will determine where the club sits within the league.

ELLINBANK & DISTRICT LEAGUE LADDERS										ROUND 3																									
SENIORS					W	L	%	pts	RESERVES					W	L	%	pts	THIRDS					W	L	%	MR	FOURTHS					W	L	%	MR
Longwarry	3	0	338.1	12	Longwarry	3	0	936.84	12	Lang Lang	3	0	359.46	100.0	Bunyip	3	0	325.00	100.0																
Neerim South	3	0	317.71	12	Ellinbank	3	0	928.57	12	Ellinbank	3	0	337.37	100.0	Poowong	3	0	206.78	100.0																
Ellinbank	3	0	265.27	12	Neerim South	3	0	758.7	12	Neerim South	2	1	195.58	66.66	Lang Lang	2	0	147.69	100.0																
Trafalgar	2	1	313.33	8	Catani	3	0	443.48	12	Nilma Darnum	2	1	93.83	66.66	Trafalgar	2	1	424.64	66.66																
Catani	2	1	172.41	8	Lang Lang	2	1	435.82	8	Longwarry	1	1	122.35	50.00	Ellinbank	2	1	101.52	66.66																
Lang Lang	2	1	142.7	8	Trafalgar	2	1	174.78	8	Poowong	1	1	105.88	50.00	Neerim South	1	2	99.47	33.33																
Yarragon	2	1	133.17	8	Yarragon	1	2	143.13	4	Buln Buln	1	2	195.49	33.33	Yarragon	1	2	86.71	33.33																
Buln Buln	1	2	94.9	4	Bunyip	0	2	58.95	2	Trafalgar	1	2	72.68	33.33	Buln Buln	1	2	64.29	33.33																
Nyora	0	3	34.56	0	Buln Buln	0	2	25.15	2	Yarragon	0	3	28.99	0.00	Catani	0	2	58.60	0.00																
Bunyip	0	3	31.35	0	Nyora	0	3	7.29	0	Bunyip	0	3	10.62	0.00	Longwarry	0	2	49.31	0.00																
Poowong	0	3	25.86	0	Nilma Darnum	0	3	5.8	0	Catani	0	0	0.00	0.00	Nilma Darnum	0	3	9.92	0.00																
Nilma Darnum	0	3	17.97	0	Poowong	0	3	5.51	0	Nyora	0	0	0.00	0.00	Nyora	0	0	0.00	0.00																
LEADING GOAL KICKERS					LEADING GOAL KICKERS					LEADING GOAL KICKERS					LEADING GOAL KICKERS																				
Jason Wells (Longwarry)					Toby Bayne (Neerim South)					Charlie Armour (Ellinbank)					Cruze Deal (Poowong)																				
Braydon McHugh (Longwarry)					Ben Cuckson (Longwarry)					Hugh Cunningham (Ellinbank)					Dylan Strating (Neerim South)																				
Marc Holt (Lang Lang)					Zack Brown (Trafalgar)																														

MID GIPPSLAND LEAGUE RESULTS

RND 3

FOSTER FOOTBALL CLUB

THORPDALE 45 FOSTER 120

Thorpdale	2.1	4.2	4.2	7.3 (45)
Foster	4.4	8.7	13.16	17.18 (120)

GOALS, Thorpdale: Cory Meloury 3, Hayden Britten, Haydn Edwards, Jeremiah Jones, Travis Patten 1 each
BEST: James De Virgilio, Shannon Pickering, Cory Meloury, Kayne O’Connell, Mitchell Gorman, Harrison Sinclair-Stanley
GOALS, Foster: Jake Best 4, Lachlan Rathjen 3, Michael Cooke, Jack Rathjen 2, Matthew Clark, Billy Flavelle, Jack Flavelle, Flynn Materiak, James Morris, Josh Toner 1 each
BEST: Lachlan Rathjen, Angus Norton, Jack Rathjen, Matthew Clark, Oliver Callcott, Cody Banbury

RESERVES
Thorpdale 1.1 3.5 5.6 6.6 (42)
Foster 1.5 2.7 4.8 6.13 (49)
GOALS, Thorpdale: Zach O’Connell 3, Zane Danger, Cooper Miles, Shaun Stanbridge 1 each
BEST: Anthony Parkin, Andy Maxwell, Cooper Miles, Darcy McMahon, Zane Danger, Cody Rudling
GOALS, Foster: Flynn Lomax 2, Caeleb Garlick, Nathan Gundrill, Josh Prior, Ben Smith 1 each
BEST: Caeleb Garlick, Jedd Davy, Alej Lacanaria, Angus Lomax, Flynn Lomax, Josh Prior

TOORA FOOTBALL CLUB

FISH CREEK FOOTBALL CLUB

TOORA 55 FISH CREEK 90

Toora	4.2	7.6	7.7	7.13(55)
Fish Creek	5.0	7.1	10.3	14.6 (90)

GOALS, Toora: Leigh Craig 3, Michael Bezzene, Lachlan Marr, Jake Smart, Jack Weston 1 each
BEST: Jordan French, Jack Weston, William Goosey, Lachlan Marr, Jake Smart, Jonathan Pintus
GOALS, Fish Crk: Thomas Cameron 4, Darcy Berryman, Timmothy Gavenlock, Jordan Shaw 2, Matthew McGannon, Brodie Shaw, Hudson Shaw, Luke Williams 1 each
BEST: Darcy Berryman, Lachlan Gale, Jacob Lamers, Luke Williams, Matthew McGannon, Thomas Vuillermin

RESERVES
Torra 6.2 11.6 16.12 20.17 (137)
Fish Creek 2.3 5.3 6.3 7.4 (46)
GOALS, Toora: Jordan Nicholls 4, James Maurilli-Pullin 3, Luke Anedda, Mark Glowrey, Josh Griffin, Jarryd Guganovic 2, Riley Barlow, Cooper Butinar, Leigh De Boer, Alex Deering, Zayne Lewis 1 each
BEST: Zayne Lewis, Cooper Butinar, Luke Anedda, Josh Griffin, Sam Bright, Jordan Nicholls
GOALS, Fish Crk: Adam Bright, Matthew Pocklington 2, Peter Mueller, Joseph Rysko, Mason Thomson 1 each
BEST: Alex Hutchins, Joseph Rysko, Lucas Buckland, Brandon Bell, Luke Southwell, Owen Schnoor

STONY CREEK FOOTBALL CLUB

STONY CREEK 30 YINNAR 77

Stony Creek	0.3	2.4	2.4	4.6 (30)
Yinnar	5.0	8.2	11.6	11.11 (77)

GOALS, Stony Crk: Kael Bergles, Zye Bergles-Brown, Jai Bright, Hayden Funnell 1 each
BEST: Darcy Atkins, Cameron Stone, Cody Loughridge, Jai Bright, Troy Sinclair, Matthew Portelli
GOALS, Yinnar: Kane Grinstead-Jones, Nixon Hall, Harvey McKay, William Robertson 2, Clancy Mills, Lucas Monacella, Blake Van Der Meer 1 each
BEST: Thomas Robertson, Nixon Hall, Clancy Mills, Brendan Chapman, Harvey McKay, Flynn Schill
RESERVES
Stony Creek 0.0 0.1 2.6 4.9 (33)
Yinnar 1.4 2.7 5.8 7.11 (53)
GOALS, Stony Crk: Lucas Byrnes, Matthew Coutts 2 each
BEST: Jason Riley, Andrew Logan, Angus Wright, Cade James, Callum McCaughan, Tyson Davies
GOALS, Yinnar: Noah McCafferty 3, Harry Bugeja, Peter Duncan, Mathew O’Toole, Daniel Yates 1 each
BEST: Noah McCafferty, Daniel Webster, James Shea, Gabe Olver, Bradley Watson, Ryan Mayo



Jake, Sam, and Lachi Smart. The three brothers are playing senior football together for the Toora Magpies this season. Photo: Jo de Boer.

Magpies show grit, but Roos prove too polished

By Rob Popplestone

AS TOUGH as Toora can sometimes be on their home deck, the opposition doesn’t come much tougher than what the Magpies faced on the weekend, in Fish Creek. The Kangaroos might not yet be playing at the level they plan to later in the season, but the quality of personnel means that they are a formidable opposition at any time of the year. “A tight contest all day, a real arm wrestle,” Jarrad Walker, Fish Creek coach said. “Toora moved the ball really well and made it hard for us to defend. We were able to get

the game on our terms toward the end of the third quarter and last quarter which was pleasing.” The scoreline indicated the Kangaroos finishing in front of goal played a major part, but the effort, tenacity and pressure applied by the Magpies shouldn’t be overlooked. “We played really good high-pressure football for a half against the competition’s best side and really took it up to them. Unfortunately, we couldn’t quite sustain this for the journey,” Jay Accardi, Toora coach said. “To Fish Creek’s credit, they just kept a better tempo for longer in the match. Whilst not pleased with the end result by a long way we are seeing signs of the team starting to gel which is positive. We now have another bye which will give us a chance to tweak a few things before we take on Stony Creek at their home ground where they are tough to beat.” Toora has already shown signs of significant improvement, even in losing. The Magpies still have a way to go, but the journey has started.

Yinnar signal an ominous statement

By Rob Popplestone

TAKING the scalp of a premiership contender is never an easy task and the Yinnar side had been the hunted for long enough in recent years to be well prepared for almost any encounter. The Lions with a win under their belt prior to the Easter break were keen to secure a victory against the odds, but it wasn’t to be on the weekend, as the visiting Magpies flexed and shook off comfortably the home side. “Very happy to come away with the four points. We’ve had trouble at Stony Creek in the past, so we were very conscious of that and put some time into making sure we started the game well,” Sam McCulloch, Yinnar coach said. “First half we played some good footy but dropped off in the latter stages of the half. Was a bit of a scrappy second half, which we did not capitalise on our opportunities in front of goal. But overall, glad to get another win on the board.” Yinnar are still a way from where they have planned to be from late last year, but already early in 2025, the signs are quite obvious that they are on track for bigger and better things. “Came up against a very well drilled Yinnar side who were much too good on the day, lads done very well to battle it out all day,” Troy Shepardson, Stony Creek coach said.



Michael Robertson and Tom Horsborough battle it out for the Sherrin. Photo: G. S. Bruning.

The Lions are a good side, and the fact that the Magpies could do what they did, should send shivers down most other sides in the competition. Last year’s runners up appear to be every bit as good as the season prior, but with an extra season of experience under their belt. It is however a long season, and all sorts of things, good and bad can happen in the next four months.

Tigers roar into contention

By Rob Popplestone

AN INTERRUPTED start to the season for Foster had made it hard for the Tigers to gain any real momentum. A round one bye, round two success, an Easter break and now Thorpdale on their home ground, was not an ideal way to start the year, but nevertheless, the Tigers did what they needed to do, and did it with class, 17-18-120, all over Thorpdale 7-3-45. “Really strong performance, especially in the second half,” Sam Davies, Foster coach said. “Thorpdale have plenty of strengths and we were able to break even in a lot of those areas which really helped us get the game on our terms. Going 6/6 for the club across football and netball is the most pleasing thing for the club, however.” Our man on the ground saw the match like this “Joel Monger was elite in the ruck and arguably best, Mick Allott and the fleet of Tiger on-ballers headed by boom recruit and star player Angus Norton saw ample supply for the star studded Foster front half to kick a winning score. Whilst huge in his efforts Kayne O’Connell was simply a victim of supply in his battle with Jake Best. Best finished with four majors but had at least twice as many gettable shots. Toner was huge across half forward as was Morris across half-back. As if the new recruits weren’t enough the usual suspects in Rathjen, the medal recipient for BOG, Clark and the cast of Flavelses will cause plenty of worry for opposition coaches across the season. Non-playing Thorpdale coach Daniel Taylor, forced to pull on the boots and didn’t shirk the issue playing at times, was on the last line of defence. Harrison Sinclair Stanley, Mitch Gorman and new recruit James De Virgilio have plenty but simply ran out of juice against a Foster mid-field that runs at least seven or eight deep. Cory Meloury, three goals, is a find for Thorpy but with so many of their best 21 missing the fact they kicked three last-quarter goals after going scoreless in the third term is perhaps the biggest takeaway for the Blues. “Completely outworked and comprehensively beaten by a very good side in Foster,” Daniel Taylor, Blue’s coach said. “We had too many lapses in concentration and too many basic skill errors which gifted Foster easy goals which was disappointing. Credit where credit’s due though, I thought Foster were fantastic and if Jake Best had his kicking boots on we would have lost by a lot more. It’s obviously only early but they’ll take some beating in my opinion.” In short, it’s safe to say Foster is no doubt a contender in 2025.

Low scoring but tight affair at Tigerland

MIRBOO North bravely defeated the Tarwin Sharks by one goal in a low-scoring, nip-and-tuck encounter, at Tigerland on Saturday.

Mirboo North's narrow victory was a tale of a battle won with grit, guts and determination through strict compliance with its game plan.

For spectators, there was tension in the air all afternoon, as both sides went hammer and tongs at each other, with hard bumps and heavy tackling aplenty, in and around the packs.

The visiting Sharks wore black armbands in memory of Val O'Loughlin, following her recent passing.

Taj Wilkins, who was playing his 50th club game for Mirboo North, led the mighty Tigers onto the field for their first home match of 2025.

After Mirboo North was seven points ahead at quarter-time, scores were level at the long break, with the Tigers one point clear going into the final quarter.

Both defences had been as tight as Fort Knox, with each allowing just four goals apiece to three-quarter time. Beau Peters, Jacob Blair, playing coach Damien Turner and Wilkins, had repeatedly turned back countless Shark attacks, with vision and precision.

Ben Chalmers, Lachie Jones, Mark McCall and Nathan McRae, were equally busy across all lines for the visitors.

Two minutes into the last term, a lovely long kick from Shane Peters found Clancy Snell, who brought up the Tigers' fifth goal and pushed their lead out to seven points.

As well as skipper Hudson

By Rover

Kerr's skill and determination in the midfield, Mirboo North was relying on its speedy younger brigade of Jesse Chila, Ethan Woodall, Archie Woodall and Harry Mahoney to run the ball at a rate of knots into its forward 50.

Plenty of fast hand passing became a key part of Mirboo North's quick ball movement.

Yeoman's work carried out at the stoppages by giant Mirboo North ruckman, Patrick Lewis, was also influential.

When Chila passed to Snell for his third major at the 11-minute mark, Mirboo North was 14 points clear.

However, it would be the Tigers' last score for the day.

Four minutes later, the Sharks found space and rushed the Sherrin downfield for their fifth and final major, that reduced the deficit to eight points.

As weariness set in, larger than normal packs were gathering, with more and more ball-ups occurring.

Mirboo North's forward thrusts had dried up, but strong defensive work from Beau and Shane Peters, Blair, Wilkins, Joe Brooks and Turner, continually repelled the Sharks' inside-50 advances.

Shortly before the final sounded, there were two narrow misses from Tarwin, that reduced Mirboo North's winning margin to six points.

In a game of dominant defences, Snell with his three majors for the Tigers, was the only multiple-goal kicker from either side.

This Saturday, Mirboo North travels to Yinnar to confront the Magpies on their home turf.



Luke Gervasi plays through the tackle against the Sharks.
Photos: Annie Holland.



Hudson Kerr and Samo Turner apply a tackle against the Sharks.

Demons demolish Hillsmen with team first attitude

AN EARLY season Easter break was a rare chance for a deep breath before a long season demands a physical and mental commitment that will soon start to separate the contenders from the rest of the pack.

At least that is what is supposed to happen, but you get the feeling this season, like last, will take a little longer to get some clarity as to who the major players might be.

MDU arrived at the home of Hill End with every intention of building on their round two success, and in doing so,

By Rob Popplestone

starting to make up for some early ground lost in round one.

The Rovers had shown that they could be competitive but had their work cut out from the very first bounce on the weekend, eventually going down to an impressive and more complete outfit.

"Solid performance from our boys today. We played another four quarter-game, which was great to see," Rhett Kelly, MDU coach said.

"Hill End came out firing after halftime, and we were able

to absorb the pressure and get it back on our terms for the remainder of the game. It's super positive to have all 21 players contributing and playing their roles."

The Demons certainly appear to have quickly progressed, and with each of the team contributing one can expect even bigger scalps to be taken in the weeks ahead.

As good as the win was for MDU, it was also a reality check for the valiant Hillsmen who, as much as they gave an honest performance, just found it hard to match it with

the class and big bodies of their opponents.

"They are a good side, and yes they do have some big bodies all over the ground, we tried so hard and have some really talented youngsters, and I need to make sure that even in losing these eighteen-year-olds keep positive," Adrian Burns, Hill End coach said.

The testing winter months lay ahead for Hill End, but if the group can hang tough through the testing times, there will be no doubt they will come out the other end much stronger.

MID GIPPSLAND LEAGUE LADDERS					ROUND 3				
SENIORS	W	L	%	pts	RESERVES	W	L	%	pts
Foster	2	0	257.14	12	Morwell East	3	0	1170.37	12
Yinnar	3	0	185.62	12	MDU	3	0	368.42	12
Boolarra	3	0	144.30	12	Yinnar	3	0	257.14	12
MDU	2	1	156.72	8	Tarwin	3	0	170.91	12
Fish Creek	1	1	119.23	8	Newborough	1	1	91.20	8
Mirboo North	2	1	106.52	8	Foster	1	1	82.44	8
Newborough	1	1	79.47	8	Toora	2	1	134.48	4
Tarwin	1	2	96.76	4	Stony Creek	1	2	108.00	4
Stony Creek	1	2	87.56	4	Mirboo North	1	2	66.67	4
Morwell East	1	2	75.86	4	Hill End	1	2	60.36	4
Thorpdale	1	2	68.42	4	Fish Creek	0	2	23.16	4
Toora	0	3	56.86	0	Boolarra	0	3	34.40	0
Hill End	0	3	51.18	0	Thorpdale	0	3	21.25	0
LEADING GOAL KICKERS					LEADING GOAL KICKERS				
Nick Nagel (MDU)				16	Jarryd Garlick (Yinnar)				13
Kane Grinstead-Jones (Yinnar)				14	Brendan Tomada (MDU)				9
THIRDS	W	L	%	pts	THIRDS	W	L	%	pts
Yinnar	2	0	289.74	12	Newborough	2	0	160.61	12
MDU	2	1	256.86	8	Hill End	1	1	52.27	8
Mirboo North	1	2	91.08	4	Tarwin	0	2	39.05	4
Fish Creek	0	2	29.32	4	Stony Creek	0	0	0.00	0
Toora	0	0	0.00	0	Boolarra	0	0	0.00	0
Thorpdale	0	0	0.00	0	Morwell East	0	0	0.00	0
Foster	0	0	0.00	0	Foster	0	0	0.00	0
LEADING GOAL KICKERS					LEADING GOAL KICKERS				
Tobias McDuffie (Mirboo North)				13	Angus McInnes (MDU)				11
Billy Durea (Yinnar)				9					9

MID GIPPSLAND LEAGUE RESULTS

RND3

MIRBOO NORTH FOOTBALL CLUB				
TARWIN FOOTBALL CLUB				
	43		37	
MIRBOO NORTH	TARWIN			
Mirboo North	2.2	3.4	4.6	6.7 (43)
Tarwin	1.1	3.4	4.5	5.7 (37)
GOALS, Mirboo Nth: Clancy Snell 3, Jacob Blair, Jesse Chila, Joshua Taylor 1 each				
BEST: Hudson Kerr, Jesse Chila, Clancy Snell, Beau Peters, Jacob Blair, Taj Wilkins				
GOALS, Tarwin: Flynn Brosnan, Jamie Cann, Ben Ellen, Ricky O'loughlin, Matthew Williams 1 each				
BEST: Ben Chalmers, Lachie Jones, Mark McCall, Nathan McRae, Travis Krause, Daniel Houston				
RESERVES				
Mirboo North	1.1	1.3	2.4	3.5 (23)
Tarwin	1.1	2.6	4.8	8.12 (60)
GOALS, Mirboo Nth: Tobias McDuffie 2, Billy Jennings 1				
BEST: Jasan Hysen, Mitchell Richardson, Tobias McDuffie, Luke Gervasi, William Jacka, Jonathan Conlan				
GOALS, Tarwin: Logan Anderson, Ethan Senior, Harrison Watt 2, George Bountris, Cooper Scott 1 each				
BEST: Luke Keily, Tomi Brosnan, Ethan Senior, Stuart Kilsby, Cooper Scott, Logan Anderson				
THIRDS				
Mirboo North	4.1	6.2	7.2	10.3 (63)
Tarwin	1.1	1.3	1.5	1.11 (17)
GOALS, Mirboo Nth: Tobias McDuffie 6, Charles Crutchfield, Thomas Heislars 2 each				
BEST: Tobias McDuffie, Lachlan Poljak, Charles Crutchfield, Ollie Mahoney, Mitchell Briscoe, Billy Jennings				
GOALS, Tarwin: Ky Gow 1				
BEST: Alec Francis, Indie Cameron, Ky Gow, Harrison Watt, Jett Tieman, Jake Andronaco				

MDU FOOTBALL CLUB				
	45		147	
HILL END	MDU			
Hill End	3.1	3.1	6.3	7.3 (45)
MDU	12.2	12.2	17.4	23.9 (147)
GOALS, Hill End: Liam Cumiskeyk Darcy Paul 2, Jesse Burns, Seth Calway, Dane Fawcett 1 each				
BEST: Amburupa Uliando, Harry Moore, Darcy Paul, Nic James, Joshua Hammond, Liam Cumiskey				
GOALS, MDU: Nick Nagel 6, Lachie Wright 4, Trent McRae, Wayne Stewart 3, Samuel Wilson 2, Timothy Harris, Jesse Hickey, Jason Kennedy, Joshua Schelling, Shaye Walsh 1 each				
BEST: Fraser Kelly, Shaye Walsh, Lachie Wright, Joshua Schelling, Samuel Wilson, Timothy Harris				
RESERVES				
Hill End	1.0	3.0	6.1	6.1 (37)
MDU	4.4	6.5	8.5	10.8 (68)
GOALS, Hill End: Seth Dawson 2, Harry Hopkins, Ariki Matwijkiw, Jake Schiavello, Shawn Sultana 1 each				
BEST: Ethan Calway, Joshua Coombs, Jared Dworznik, Damon Russell, Shawn Sultana, Rhys Matchett				
GOALS, MDU: Jacob Whiteside 3, Luke Harris 2, Tyson Harris, Kyra Helms, Raph Jefferis, Billy Trotman, Rhys Weaver 1 each				
BEST: Jack Ballagh, Jacob Whiteside, Alexander Battersby, Luke Harris, Raph Jefferis, Ben Cantwell				

THIRDS				
Hill End	0.2	0.2	1.2	1.3 (9)
MDU	3.4	6.14	8.17	11.26 (92)
GOALS, Hill End: Thomas Bastin 1				
BEST: Hamish Phoenix, Dylan van der Stoep, Hamish Russell, Bryson Stephens, Angus Cooper, Matthew Balfour				
GOALS, MDU: Angus Mcinnes 4, Aaron Bruce 2, Jordan Cleator, Lucas Duvoisin, Lincoln Hamilton, Edward Krazt, Lochlan Webb 1 each				
BEST: Timothy Hibberson, Aaron Bruce, Archie Casey, Will Campbell, Cameron Bruce, Lucas Duvoisin				

IN OTHER GAMES...				
SENIORS				
Boolarra	15.6.96	d	Morwell East	9.9.63
RESERVES				
Morwell East	21.5.131	d	Boolarra	1.2.8



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Wonthaggi PowerKick Coordinator Matt Coyne and Wonthaggi Power Snr Coach Jarryd Blair with Paige, Gus, Isla and Ziggy. B10_1725

Wonthaggi PowerKick goes from strength to strength

IT MAY be 20 years since Wonthaggi Rovers and Wonthaggi Blues merged to become Wonthaggi Power but former Rovers player and now Wonthaggi Power Kick Coordinator and Junior Club President Matt Coyne has fond memories of those times.

Launching the Wonthaggi PowerKick program for 2025, Matt Coyne and Wonthaggi Power Seniors coach and former Collingwood premiership and 150-game AFL veteran Jarryd Blair have together come up with an affordable program for local kids that will help develop basic ball and social skills in a safe and fun environment.

Consisting of eight sessions run by Wonthaggi Power's Junior and Senior coaching staff with additional help from Wonthaggi Power's senior players the weekly sessions will be jam packed with fun activities and helpful drills for developing basic skill sets.

Tailored towards children aged five to 12 the Wonthaggi PowerKick program is for those wanting to take their first step into the world of Australian Rules Football while also providing a development pathway for those keen to take the next step into junior football.

"It's all about getting the kids out there having fun and taking a break from TV and video games," said Matt Coyne.

As a home-grown junior football program Wonthaggi PowerKick is always looking for new sponsors and support from the local community to ensure the programs survival long-term.

Whilst being managed and run by Wonthaggi Power Football Netball Club, who are committed to its success, the PowerKick program still welcomes and encourages the involvement of parents.

"The kids love being introduced to the senior players and the opportunity to take part in a halftime game at a Wonthaggi Power senior home game," said Matt.

In its first year in 2024, the Wonthaggi PowerKick program attracted 36 young recruits, and Matt Coyne is hoping for even more boys and girls in 2025 with 29 already registered.

"Come and give it a go," said Matt. "Everyone is welcome."

PowerKick kids are eventually encouraged to move up to the U10 and U12 junior ranks.

Training sessions start on May 7 at 4pm and will run for approximately 45 minutes.

Each registered PowerKick junior receives a gift pack of an all-weather football, training top and drawstring bag.

Additional free football clinics are planned to be conducted at Wonthaggi primary schools, with the next being at the Wonthaggi North Primary School this coming Wednesday, April 30 at 3.30pm.

To register for the eight-week Wonthaggi PowerKick football program, go to play-hq.com/afl/register/8b54d0 or look for the Wonthaggi PowerKick Facebook page.

Leongatha defence stands up to Bairnsdale challenge

HOME side Bairnsdale threatened through almost the entire last quarter to punish Leongatha for its day of inaccuracy but the Parrots' backmen held off the threatened charge.

That combined with three Leongatha goals for the term set up a 17-point Leongatha win.

Cade Maskell's ability to sweep the Parrots out of defence saw him named the winner's best, Tim Sauvarin another crucial cog in the Leongatha defence and excelling in the final stanza pressure.

Aaron Heppell was right behind Maskell on the best players list, the only Parrot to kick multiple goals, finishing with a couple.

The second of those was the first major of the final term, the ball appearing to be headed straight for a goal post before taking a bounce St Kilda supporters could only dream of, and sparking Leongatha celebrations.

Luke Bowman was another catching the eye with his ball-winning ability and effective use of the Sher-rin.

Bairnsdale's Cooper Harvey competed hard around the ground, being his side's best, while his teammate Brayden McCarrey booted three majors.

They included his mark and accurate set shot to cap off an excellent passage of passes in the final stanza.

While that had the hosts just five points behind at the six-minute mark, it proved to be the final major the Parrots conceded.

A Justin Pellicano mark and goal enabled Leongatha to lead by more than a straight kick entering time on and a classy major on the run from skipper Tom Marriott 24 minutes in, after an accurate Sam Forrester pass, sealed the deal.

Leongatha led by just five points at the last change despite having scored 17 times to Bairnsdale's seven.

While the Parrots did enough to claim the four points, they'll need a more polished showing when third-placed Moe visits, the Lions entering the contest in Leongatha with confidence after thumping Maffra by 99 points.



Leongatha's Nick Argento fires off a handpass. Photo: Skewesme Photography.



Luke Bowman was in the thick of the contest all game for the Parrots.

Breakers play with spirit to outlast Frankston



Jenna Russo was awarded the ANZAC medal

AN EARLY morning start at Frankston didn't stop the Breakers from coming out firing. Tess Wingfield was a welcome inclusion and didn't take long to have an impact through the middle.

Great forward pressure kept the ball in the Breakers front half; however, it took until late in the quarter for the Breakers to break through with a goal to Tayla Stahl.

The second quarter was more even with Frankston creating some scoring opportunities however the Breakers backline didn't allow any easy shots.

Playing 16 a side opened the game up and Carly Heislars held her position well on the wing to provide a good avenue forward. While Ellen Williams and Grace Hope stepping into the ruck position competed well and provided great contests around the ground.

With all of the play in the third quarter but only able to

convert one goal the Breakers could have put the game away but left the margin within reach going into the last.

Frankston sensed that chance getting their first goal on the board early but smart play from the Breakers didn't allow the momentum shift.

Jenna Russo and Molly Conway continued their work rate through the middle and Immy Bradford and Ella Cargill remained active up forward, allowing the Breakers to slow the game down and maintain possession.

The ANZAC medal was awarded to Jenna Russo.

Final Score: Breakers 2.7-19 def Frankston 1.4-10

Goals: T. Stahl, E. Cargill

Best: Jenna Russo, Tess Wingfield, Tayla Stahl, Imogen Bradford, Katie Cornish

Next week the Breakers host Warragul at Dalyston. The match will be played at 4.30pm following the Dalyston Senior Mens match.

Power switches to wet weather footy

YOU'D like to have three Jakeb Thomas's in your team; one as a powerful lead-up forward, one as a key defender and one to pinch-hit in the ruck.

Wonthaggi had all that and more from their big-hearted onballer on Saturday as he led them through a rain-affected contest against Drouin, a team that seems to grow a leg, despite their lowly position on the ladder, whenever it rains.

Wonthaggi's reserves had the best of the conditions on Saturday as the rain held off while they piled 21 goals to one, led by their captain Adam Busana with five and a creative Tom Davey piling up the goal assists in a free-flowing display.

But, right on queue, as the footballers and netballers from both clubs lined up for a fitting ANZAC round observance, the rain came tumbling down and stayed around for much of the first half, proving to be something of a leveller between the teams until Wonthaggi ultimately broke away for a convincing victory, featuring a pleasing contribution right across the board.

Wonthaggi went into attack first, for a point, but Drouin was playing the short game well out of defence and returned fire in a competitive opening by the visitors. Jye Gilmour and Kyle Reid were quickly into their work in defence, Noah Anderson busy and Jarryd Blair creative but it was Drouin's Zayne Atkins who brought up the first goal of the match.

Ryan Sparkes was getting first hands on the ball as Jakeb Thomas competed hard in the ruck against Riley Wierzbicki and it wasn't long before Drouin put the hard tag of Atkins on the Power playmaker.

Finally, concentration and work ethic paid off for Power with Noah Anderson kicking low and straight for their first goal.

Both teams were rotating players through the midfield roles initially with Thomas, Anderson, Bates and Sparkes opposed to Wierzbicki, Marshall, Quirk and Atkins but also with Patterson and Shone taking a turn in there as well for Power.

Cooper McInnes was busy on the forward line and slipped a Drouin tackle before straightening up and putting the Power in front.

The home side had made the adjustment to wet weather footy and were outworking



Wonthaggi Power footballers and netballers, together with their Drouin counterparts lined up for an ANZAC round service, including the Remembrance Ode and the Last Post, as the rain tumbled down at the Wonthaggi Recreation Reserve.



Reeve Moresco gets his handpass away under plenty of pressure on the Wonthaggi Power backline with Kyle Reid in support.

Drouin at each contest but it was the visitors who got one against the run of play when onballer Kaiden Walmsley got out the back to kick an easy one.

It was two goals apiece at quarter time with plenty of feeling in the contest after some heated clashes and fierce tackling.

There were no goals either way after 10 minutes in a tight and tough second quarter, McInnes missing from the angle and a shot by Jasper Shone touched but finally Josh Bates kicked long and straight to stretch the lead.

Isaac Chugg was working

up and down the field, cutting down Drouin's attacking moves at one end and then linking up in transition. Noah Anderson, Jarvis Harvey, Reeve Moresco, Jye Gilmour and Kyle Reid in defence, Blake Cornelis, the Macmillan brothers, Jakeb Thomas... the Power didn't have a passenger, but Drouin was hanging in there.

Finally, a cheeky Kye Quirk let the Power defenders know all about it after he converted a free kick from the angle but it was immediately answered by a Cooper McInnes snap and it was all business in the lead up to half time by the home side as

they put on two more, one of them featuring a classy pass to the leading Thomas who slotted it through the round out the quarter.

Wonthaggi was 26 points up at the long break in a low-scoring, wet-weather affair but they'd already assumed obvious control over the game.

Defenders Reid, Gilmour and Jarvis Harvey were clear winners, Noah Anderson was having an impact up forward and on the ball, Ryan Sparkes was making light of the tag and both Thomas and Kay Patterson were competing well. Around the ground Chugg, Thomas Macmillan and Moresco were busy and Cooper McInnes was working hard up forward.

It wasn't a surprise to see them streak away from the opposition in the third quarter, kicking seven goals to two to ice the game; Ryan Sparkes started the ball rolling when he linked up with Thomas, Chugg and Shone. Drouin's Ben Brasier slid one through for the answer but Jaxon Willams and Noah Anderson combined for the answer. Thomas and McInnes were others to score goals in a strong quarter.

At the break, Power coach Jarryd Blair was pleased with the effort but he was equally determined to maintain focus on the contest, which they did, kicking five goals to one to run away with a percentage-boosting win against a team that will worry other sides this year on the form they showed on Saturday.

GIPPSLAND | SPORT

GIPPSLAND LEAGUE RESULTS

RND 3

LEONGATHA FOOTBALL CLUB

Rudlegs 35

52

BAIRNSDALE	LEONGATHA
Bairnsdale 1.0	3.2 4.3 5.5 (35)
Leongatha 0.3	2.8 3.14 6.16 (52)

GOALS, Bairnsdale: Brayden McCarrey 3, Lachlan Byrne-Jones, Byrne-Jones, Byron Vickery 1 each
BEST: Cooper Harvey, Will Mitchell, Ethan East, Damon O'Connor, Joshua Lando, Jesse Bills
GOALS, Leongatha: Aaron Heppell 2, Benjamin Harding, Jack Hume, Thomas Marriott, Justin Pellicano 1 each
BEST: Cade Maskell, Aaron Heppell, Luke Bowman, Timothy Sauvarin, Tallin Brill, Benjamin Harding

RESERVES
Bairnsdale 1.1 1.1 2.1 3.2 (20)
Leongatha 4.1 8.6 11.10 13.15 (93)

GOALS, Bairnsdale: Matthew Hamilton 2, Mat Falls 1
BEST: Paul Bills, Bryan Froud, Matthew Hamilton, Charlie Cook, Campbell Reed, Rohan Blandford
GOALS, Leongatha: Connor Watson 3, Jake Cochrane, Brok Davidson, Noah Fixter 2, Tadgh Gannon, Blake Van Rooy, Aydan Williams 1 each
BEST: Benjamin Willis, Noah Clark, Adam Trotto, Brok Davidson, Xavier Bolge, Klayton McGrath

THIRDS
Bairnsdale 3.0 5.4 5.5 6.5 (41)
Leongatha 1.1 2.2 3.3 5.5 (35)

BEST, Bairnsdale: C Cook, K Frith, J Farley, D Ashby, H McGuinn, C Reed
BEST, Leongatha: M Sheahan, A Logan, H Gill, A Fixter, F Donohue, J Brown

FOURTHS
Bairnsdale 4.0 4.3 7.5 7.10 (52)
Leongatha 2.3 4.3 5.3 7.3 (45)

BEST, Bairnsdale: H Young, Z Holley, L Desio, A Crawley, O Baylis, F Ashwood
BEST, Leongatha: N Bradley, F Livingstone, M Patton, C Bickerton, L Chila

WONTHAGGI FOOTBALL CLUB

128

42

WONTHAGGI		DROUIN		
Wonthaggi	6.9	7.10	14.11	19.14 (128)
Drouin	3.1	3.1	5.3	6.6 (42)

GOALS, Wonthaggi: Cooper McInnes 4, R Sparkes, Jaxon Williams 3, Noah Anderson, Jarryd Blair, Jakeb Thomas 2, Joshua Bates, Harry Dawson, Ethan Dickison 1 each
BEST: Ryan Sparkes, Kyle Reid, Jye Gilmour, Noah Anderson, Jakeb Thomas, Jaxon Williams
GOALS, Drouin: Kaiden Walmsley 2, Zayne Atkins, Benjamin Brasier, Kye Quirk, Riley Wierzbicki 1 each
BEST: Brodie Atkins, Zayne Atkins, Kaiden Walmsley, Kye Quirk, William Young, Sebastiano Amoroso

RESERVES
Wonthaggi 5.4 9.6 14.10 21.14 (140)
Drouin 1.1 1.3 1.3 1.3 (9)

GOALS, Wonthaggi: Adam Busana 5, Eddie Ridewood 4, Tom Davey, Jai Williamson 3, Emanuel Joma Keyva Kay-Darts, Chase Krause, Thomas Murray Beau Ransom, Josh Waters 1 each
BEST: Emanuel Joma, Kyle Yann, Beau Ransom, Adam Busana, Eddie Ridewood, Thomas Murray.
GOALS, Drouin: Arli Fleming 1
BEST: Cody Fleming, Peyton Saddington, Darcy Olivier, Charlie Stone, Bethune Flynn, Isaac Taylor

THIRDS
Wonthaggi 1.1 4.3 6.5 7.8 (50)
Drouin 3.2 7.2 10.2 10.4 (64)

BEST, Wonthaggi: J Kelly, L Lidstone, J Burns, S Carter, N Tack, M Ori
BEST, Drouin: E Croucher, B Rogers, J Etchell, J Huston, S Stark, W Virtue

FOURTHS
Wonthaggi 3.3 4.5 7.6 9.8 (62)
Drouin 1.0 4.0 6.0 10.2 (62)

BEST, Wonthaggi: J Glen, B Wyhoon, C Milner, A Jobe, R HULLICK, W Simmons
BEST, Drouin: R Vanderplight, S Stark, B Pitt, C Adamiak, J Ferguson, K McLeish

IN OTHER GAMES...

SENIORS
Traralgon 7.9.51 d Morwell 7.6.48
Moe 20.23.143 d Maffra 6.8.44
Warragul 19.15.129 d Sale 9.6.60

RESERVES
Traralgon 14.10.94 d Morwell 6.7.43
Moe 7.7.49 d Maffra 6.4.40
Sale 14.8.92 d Warragul 5.3.33

THIRDS
Traralgon 22.18.150 d Morwell 0.2.2
Moe 11.3.69 d Maffra 6.6.42
Warragul 13.10.88 d Sale 3.0.18

FOURTHS
Traralgon 26.25.181 d Morwell 0.0.0
Maffra 7.11.53 d Moe 8.2.50
Warragul 12.6.78 d Sale 8.7.55

GIPPSLAND LEAGUE LADDERS										ROUND 3									
SENIORS					RESERVES					THIRDS					FOURTHS				
W	L	%	pts		W	L	%	pts		W	L	%	pts		W	L	%	pts	
Leongatha	3	0	189.39	12	Leongatha	3	0	442.86	12	Warragul	3	0	662.50	12	Traralgon	3	0	1460.71	12
Morwell	2	1	185.71	8	Wonthaggi	2	1	210.53	8	Traralgon	2	1	294.81	8	Maffra	3	0	191.26	12
Moe	2	1	181.18	8	Maffra	2	1	193.15	8	Maffra	2	1	248.98	8	Warragul	3	0	184.44	12
Wonthaggi	2	1	160.00	8	Traralgon	2	1	182.81	8	Leongatha	2	1	174.70	8	Bairnsdale	3	0	121.74	12
Warragul	2	1	107.32	8	Moe	2	1	107.26	8	Drouin	2	1	158.94	8	Sale	1	2	80.11	4
Traralgon	2	1	95.81	8	Morwell	1	2	136.31	4	Moe	2	1	157.14	8	Morwell	1	2	24.51	4
Bairnsdale	1	2	93.55	4	Bairnsdale	1	2	90.87	4	Bairnsdale	2	1	100.62	8	Drouin	0	2	77.64	2
Maffra	1	2	63.44	4	Warragul	1	2	67.02	4	Sale	0	3	25.11	0	Wonthaggi	0	2	61.19	2
Sale	0	3	53.28	0	Sale	1	2	61.70	4	Wonthaggi	0	3	24.08	0	Moe	0	3	55.84	0
Drouin	0	3	43.69	0	Drouin	0	3	7.64	0	Morwell	0	3	3.54	0	Leongatha	0	3	43.61	0
LEADING GOAL KICKERS					LEADING GOAL KICKERS					LEADING GOAL KICKERS					LEADING GOAL KICKERS				
Brayden Fowler (Warragul)				8	Troy Brown (Bairnsdale)				8	Rylie Baker (Drouin)				15	Bill De Araugo (Warragul)				16
Brandon McDonald (Morwell)				8						Rory Nettle (Warragul)				10	Oscar Baylis (Bairnsdale)				10
Brayden McCarrey (Bairnsdale)				8															

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WEST GIPPSLAND COMPETITION	
Tooradin-Dalmore	15.9.99 d Warragul Industrials 10.8.68
Nar Nar Goon	13.12.90 d Koo Wee Rup 6.7.43
Phillip Island	14.10.94 d Kilcunda Bass 11.10.76
Cora Lynn	14.5.89 d Inverloch-Kongwak 10.6.66
Dalyston	13.12.90 d Korumburra-Bena 7.8.50

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WEST GIPPSLAND COMPETITION RESULTS

RND 3

PHILLIP ISLAND FOOTBALL CLUB

KILCUNDA BASS FOOTBALL CLUB

 94

 76

PHILLIP ISLAND		KILCUNDA-BASS			
P-Island	4.2	9.5	10.6	14.10	(94)
K-Bass	3.2	4.3	9.6	11.10	(76)

GOALS, P-Island: Billy Taylor 6, Nick Anderson, Finn O'Brien, Jack Taylor 2, Charlie Bruce, Jaymie Youle 1 each

BEST: Billy Taylor, Jaymie Youle, Yianni Caffieri, Hayden Bruce, Zak Vernon, Jordy Patullo

GOALS, K-Bass: Brody Connelly 4, Timothy Gunn, Dean McRae 2, Bradley Aldwell, Lochlan Scott, Travis Tuck 1 each

BEST: Travis Tuck, Dale Gawley, Dean Mcrae, Brody Connelly, Daniel Mock, Nathan Foote

RESERVES

P-Island	5.1	6.2	10.6	12.12	(84)
K-Bass	0.1	2.4	3.4	5.5	(35)

GOALS, P-Island: Brady Ross 3, Jack Huther, Max Mattock, Bryce Pewtress 2, Lucas Chicotski, Saxon Mau, Ben Taylor 1 each

BEST: Max Mattock, Alexander Officer, Jack Keating, Darcy Thompson, Kohen Beaumont, Ben Taylor

GOALS, K-Bass: Brodie Gudem, Angus McGillivray, Jonathan Rocotas, Dylan Susic 1 each

BEST: Dylan Susic, Brodie Gude, Angus McGillivray, Gavin Boyd, Brodie Simpson

FOURTHS

No results entered.

IN OTHER GAMES...

SENIORS

Tooradin-Dal	15.9.99	d Warragul Ind	10.8.68
Nar Nar Goon	13.12.90	d Koo Wee Rup	6.7.43

RESERVES

Tooradin-Dal	24.14.158	d Warragul Ind	0.0.0
Nar Nar Goon	13.15.93	d Koo Wee Rup	4.3.27

THIRDS

Warragul Ind	15.13.103	d Tooradin-Dal	4.2.26
Nar Nar Goon	15.9.99	d Koo Wee Rup	4.4.28

FOURTHS

Warragul Ind	16.4.100	d Tooradin-Dal	7.2.44
Nar Nar Goon	15.11.101	d Koo Wee Rup	1.4.10

THIS WEEKEND'S DRAW

SATURDAY, MAY 3

ELLINBANK

ROUND 4

Buln Buln v Trafalgar

Ellinbank v Neerim South

Bunyip v Nilma Darnum

Longwarry v Yarragon

Lang Lang v Catani

Nyora v Poowong

GIPPSLAND

ROUND 4

Warragul v Bairnsdale

Drouin v Sale

Leongatha v Moe

Morwell v Wonthaggi

Maffra v Traralgon

MID GIPPSLAND

ROUND 4

Fish Creek v Stony Creek

Foster v Hill End

MDU v Boolarra

Newborough v Thorpdale

Tarwin v Morwell East

Yinnar v Mirboo North

Toora - BYE

WEST GIPPSLAND

ROUND 4

Nar Nar Goon v Tooradin-Dalmore

Dalyston v Cora Lynn

Koo Wee Rup v Garfield

Korumburra-Bena - BYE

Tough and honest but not enough for Killy Bass



Dale Gawley (Kilcunda Bass) and Mikka Paulsen (Phillip Island) compete in the ruck contest. Photos: Carol Ratcliff.



Anzac Medal Winner Travis Tuck of Kilcunda-Bass.



Hayden Bruce used his sublime skills to assist the Bulldogs' winning efforts.

COMING off an unexpected win against Inverloch-Kongwak over Easter, the next challenge for Kilcunda Bass was taking on Phillip Island. It was always going to be a battle for the Panthers against one of the best teams in the side.

An intense and respectful Anzac Round clash unfolded at Cowes Recreational Reserve on Saturday, with Phillip Island Seniors securing an 18-point win over Kilcunda Bass in front of a strong and appreciative crowd.

The game was a true reflection of the Anzac spirit – tough, honest, and played in great spirit by both sides.

After an even first quarter, the Bulldogs lifted in the second, with their class across the ground and forward-line strength proving the difference.

Five goals to Kilcunda Bass' one was just the start of the run for the Bulldogs in the second quarter.

The Panthers showed fortitude in the second half coming back within six points at three-quarter time with Brody Connelly adding two goals and Dean McRae, Bradley Aldwell and Timothy Gunn taking a goal apiece, against the Dogs one goal to Jaymie Youle.

But it wasn't to be with the Bulldogs biting back like a fish out of water. Nick Anderson added a goal for the Bulldogs whilst Billy Taylor added three. The opening fourth quarter goal by Lochlan Scott was only matched by the last for the Panthers by Dean McRae.

Billy Taylor was a standout, booting six goals in a dominant performance. His efforts were rewarded with the Gary Todd Medal, awarded to the best Phillip Island player in the Anzac Round clash.

The Anzac Medal, recognising the player who best exemplified the qualities of courage, skill, teamwork, and fair play, was awarded to Travis Tuck of Kilcunda Bass, who led by example and was instrumental in keeping his side in the contest throughout the day.

Phillip Island's victory was built on a strong team effort, with key contributions from Jaymie Youle, Yianni Caffieri, Hayden Bruce, Zak Vernon, and Jordy Patullo.

While Kilcunda Bass fell short on the scoreboard, they earned full respect with their relentless pressure and competitive spirit.



Korumburra-Bena's Kye Benson applies pressure to Dalyston's Brad Tilley in the battle of the 23s. A28_1725



Dalyston's Kyle Hutchison attempts to bustle his way through despite close Korumburra-Bena attention. A32_1725

Magpies triumph in Anzac Round

DALYSTON found itself on the winners’ list in front of an Anzac round crowd at Korumburra on Saturday. The Magpies went into the game expecting Korumburra-Bena to be a dominant force with names like Heath Shaw in the lineup but delivered a consistent four quarters to claim a 39-point win. The game was played in front of a massive crowd with the grandstand chock-a-block to commemorate the Anzac Round. Dalyston was quick out of the gate and, under the captaincy of Hayden Wallis, put

four early goals on the board. Wallis played a hard edge and hit all his targets, demonstrating why he is an ideal captain for the Magpies. Dalyston continued its form into the second quarter. Korumburra-Bena kicked truly to add two goals to its tally, but the Magpies’ solid backline ensured the damage was limited. Dino Karamoshos played a brilliant game on half back flank and on the wing, showcasing his skills and delivering hard tackles. Ben Lewis and Tyson Andrightto were also strong in

the backline. The back line showed some excellent defence but also attacked the ball well to send it back to the forward line. After the halftime break, showers started, making it difficult to properly handle the ball. Dalyston pushed through, with onballer Kyle Hutchinson oozing class and controlling the play and Kurt Thomas continuing to dominate in the ruck. It was a tussle in the last quarter, but Dalyston went home proudly with the points, hopeful this win puts its season back on the right

track. Mitch Hallahan was awarded the Anzac Medal. Korumburra-Bena’s best players were Josh Hopkins, Kye Benson, Aidan Simmons, Kodie Walker, Rhys Dixon and Hugh Gordon. Dalyston will play Cora Lynn next week, which is coming off a win against rivals Inverloch-Kongwak. Dalyston feels Cora Lynn will be a handful, but could be gettable, especially with the momentum of this week’s win. Korumburra-Bena will have the bye.

Inverloch-Kongwak shows fight against classy Cora Lynn

ALTHOUGH beaten by the better team on the day, Inverloch-Kongwak’s young side left Cora Lynn with plenty of positives to reflect on after comfortably outscoring the Cobras in the second half. Cora Lynn finished up 23-point winners after having led by 47 at the major break. While the Cobras flew out of the blocks with six first-quarter goals and followed that up with five in the second term, the Sea Eagles held Cora Lynn to just three majors in the second half.

That was made all the more commendable by the fact the Sea Eagles had to throw Joseph Nowell into the ruck after a hamstring injury to Dylan Clark before halftime. Hard-at-it onballer Ethan Park was named the beaten team’s best, ahead of Nowell. Another onballer, Oscar Toussaint, also impressed for the Sea Eagles, finishing with a couple of majors, teammate William Turner matching that goal tally. Jayden Sullivan worked tirelessly in defence, described by

Inverloch-Kongwak president Peter Butcher as “like a rock down back”. Cora Lynn ball winner Jimmy Munro picked up the Anzac Medal, the umpires seeing something different to his club given he wasn’t listed in the side’s best, Lachlan Coverdale named the top performer by the Cobras. Cobras’ full forward Nathan Gardiner booted five goals, taking his tally for this campaign to seven after his two games, having kicked 100 goals plus in each of the last

couple of seasons. The game was played in lovely weather on a ground in good nick. While Cora Lynn thoroughly deserved its win, it was a commendable display by the Sea Eagles to battle it out after the Cobras flew out of the blocks with the game’s first six goals. Having played on the Easter weekend, Inverloch-Kongwak will enjoy a bye, using the break to freshen up for a tough trio of games against Tooradin-Dalmore, Nar Nar Goon and Phillip Island.

WEST GIPPSLAND COMPETITION RESULTS

RND 3

KORUMBURRA BENA FOOTBALL CLUB

DALYSTON FOOTBALL CLUB



	KOR-BENA		DALYSTON	
Kor-Bena	0.1	2.3	4.5	7.9 (51)
Dalyston	4.2	8.7	11.11	13.12 (90)

GOALS, Kor-Bena: Tom Crocker 2, Jye Celebrine, Rhys Dixon, Hugh Gordon, Jake McMillian, Private Player 1 each
BEST: Josh Hopkins, Kye Benson, Aidan Simmons, Kodie Walker, Rhys Dixon, Hugh Gordon
GOALS, Dalyston: Blake Carew, Hayden Wallis 5, Mitch Hallahan 2, Kyle Hutchison 1
BEST: Dino Karamoshos, Hayden Wallis, Ben Lewis, Kyle Hutchison, Kurt Thomas, Tyson Andrightto

RESERVES
Kor-Bena 1.1 4.3 6.3 9.5 (59)
Dalyston 1.1 2.2 2.6 4.7 (31)
GOALS, Kor-Bena: Jasper Macri, Boyde Robertson 2, Jake Fowles Matt Kennewell, Colin Terry, Luke Walker Tarkyn Walker 1 each
BEST: Boyd Robertson, Matt Kennewell, Luke Walker, Zachary Barrett, Bailey Nation, Jesse Harris
GOALS, Dalyston: Dean Wylie 2, Brad Hender, Wayne Luke 1 each
BEST: Brad Hender, Shannon Coldebella, Declan Kelly, Dean Wylie, Jacob Pedersen-Morris, Josh Truman

THIRDS
Kor-Bena 0.1 1.2 4.3 6.4 (40)
Dalyston 1.3 3.4 5.5 7.6 (48)
GOALS, Kor-Bena: Max Fowles 3, Chase De Grandi 2, Clayton Quaife 1
BEST: Max Fowles, Jesse Gollop, Clayton Quaife, Kade McGuinness, Evan Belvedere, Caleb Turton
GOALS, Dalyston: Bailey Anderson 3, Zach Hughes, Noah Shepherd 2 each
BEST: Bailey Anderson, Zack Hughes, Jack Howell, Cooper Shepherd, Ziggy Bowman Kissane, Lincoln Smith

FOURTHS
Kor-Bena 2.6 2.8 2.12 3.14 (32)
Dalyston 0.0 0.0 1.2 2.2 (14)
GOALS, Kor-Bena: Tyler Dole, Chad Hansch, Billie Wrigley 1 each
BEST: Chad Hansch, Ryder Skeen, Kurt Hansch, Billie Wrigley, Evan Belvedere, Jayden Douglas.
GOALS, Dalyston: Jojo Joma 2
BEST: Zack Hughes, Angus Benetti, Eamon O’Keefe, Reeve Weir, Finn McNally, Heath Hender

INVERLOCH-KONGWAK FOOTBALL CLUB



	CORA LYNN		INVERLOCH-K	
Cora Lynn	6.1	11.3	13.4	14.5 (89)
Inverloch-K	2.2	3.4	5.5	10.6 (66)

GOALS, Cora Lynn: Nathan Gardiner 5, Cory Machaya 3, Luke Hartley 2, Christopher Inverno, Harrison Paul, Matthew Ryan, Tristan Warkuss 1 each
BEST: Lachlan Coverdale, Jaxon Briggs, Heath Briggs, Tristan Warkuss, Mark Banham, Harrison Paul
GOALS, IK: Ocas Toussaint, William Turner 2, Lucas Allan, Nicholas Baltas, Dylan Clark, Jack Ginnane, Joseph Nowell, Lachlan Scott 1 each
BEST: Ethan Park, Joseph Nowell, Oscar Toussaint, Jayden Sullivan, Lachlan Scott, Lewis Rankin

RESERVES
Cora Lynn 2.2 2.3 2.4 2.4 (16)
Inverloch-K 1.2 1.4 1.8 5.12 (42)
GOALS, Cora Lynn: Chris Power 2
BEST: Nicholas Pastras, Corey Brook, Jake Boccari, Chris Power, Josh Black, Thomas Arnett
GOALS, IK: Harry McInnes 2, Dale Lawton, Clinton McCaughan, Barry Withers 1 each
BEST: No players selected

THIRDS
Cora Lynn 0.0 0.0 1.0 1.1 (7)
Inverloch-K 6.5 13.9 16.11 20.15 (135)
GOALS, Cora Lynn: Dominic Sabata 1
BEST: Jordan Tobar, Noah Cachado, Arou Akoi, Darcy Edwards, Asher Mitchell
GOALS, IK: Augustus Finsterer 9, Frolely Anderson, Hamish Gleesonk Mitchell Ward 2, Jacob Brown, Jesse Dugard, James Harman, Noah McLennan, Andrew Nowell 1 each
BEST: Augustus Finsterer, Andrew Nowell, Mitchell Ward, Harry Foster, Hamish Gleeson, Jesse Dugard

WEST GIPPSLAND COMPETITION LADDERS												ROUND 3			
SENIORS				W	L	%	pts	RESERVES				W	L	%	pts
Nar Nar Goon	3	0	326.36	12				Inverloch-K	3	0	1330.43	12			
Tooradin-Dal	3	0	130.84	12				Nar Nar Goon	3	0	422.67	12			
Warragul Ind	3	1	97.76	12				Phillip Island	3	1	242.31	12			
Kilcunda Bass	2	2	134.24	8				Tooradin-Dal	2	1	555.32	8			
Phillip Island	2	2	107.99	8				Garfield	1	1	75.76	4			
Cora Lynn	1	1	99.31	4				Cora Lynn	1	1	72.97	4			
Inverloch-K	1	2	87.61	4				Koo Wee Rup	1	2	67.60	4			
Koo Wee Rup	1	2	81.03	4				Kor-Bena	1	2	45.24	4			
Dalyston	1	2	55.29	4				Kilcunda Bass	1	3	39.67	4			
Garfield	0	2	59.47	0				Warragul Ind	1	3	34.11	4			
Kor-Bena	0	3	48.24	0				Dalyston	0	3	15.21	0			
LEADING GOAL KICKERS								LEADING GOAL KICKERS							
Billy Taylor (Phillip Island)				15				Brady Ross (Phillip Island)				11			
Brody Connelly (Kilcunda Bass)				13				Lauchlan Gregson (Tooradin-Dal)				11			
Jack Taylor (Phillip Island)				12											
THIRDS				W	L	%	pts av	THIRDS				W	L	%	pts av
Inverloch-K	2	0	1280.95	4.00				Inverloch-K	2	0	1280.95	4.00			
Nar Nar Goon	3	0	245.54	4.00				Nar Nar Goon	3	0	379.63	4.00			
Phillip Island	2	1	197.22	2.66				Phillip Island	2	1	197.22	2.66			
Warragul Ind	2	1	127.34	2.66				Warragul Ind	2	1	127.34	2.66			
Toordain-Dal	2	1	96.07	2.66				Toordain-Dal	2	1	96.07	2.66			
Koo Wee Rup	1	2	94.12	1.33				Koo Wee Rup	1	2	94.12	1.33			
Dalyston	1	2	36.27	1.33				Dalyston	1	2	36.27	1.33			
Garfield	0	2	45.53	0.00				Garfield	0	2	45.53	0.00			
Kor-Bena	0	2	29.67	0.00				Kor-Bena	0	2	29.67	0.00			
Cora Lynn	0	2	14.35	0.00				Cora Lynn	0	2	14.35	0.00			
Kilcunda-Bass	0	0	0.00	0.00				Kilcunda-Bass	0	0	0.00	0.00			
LEADING GOAL KICKERS								LEADING GOAL KICKERS							
Augustus Finsterer (Inverloch-K)				14				Augustus Finsterer (Inverloch-K)				14			
Chayse Campbell (Tooradin-Dal)				9				Chayse Campbell (Tooradin-Dal)				9			
Archer Shorey (Nar Nar Goon)				9				Archer Shorey (Nar Nar Goon)				9			
FOURTHS				W	L	%	pts av	FOURTHS				W	L	%	pts av
Warragul Ind	4	0	552.17	4.00				Warragul Ind	4	0	552.17	4.00			
Nar Nar Goon	3	0	379.63	4.00				Nar Nar Goon	3	0	379.63	4.00			
Kilcunda Bass	2	1	53.44	2.66				Kilcunda Bass	2	1	53.44	2.66			
Inverloch-K	1	1	157.58	2.00				Inverloch-K	1	1	157.58	2.00			
Toordain-Dal	1	1	108.94	2.00				Toordain-Dal	1	1	108.94	2.00			
Phillip Island	1	2	175.78	1.33				Phillip Island	1	2	175.78	1.33			
Kor-Bena	1	2	61.54	1.33				Kor-Bena	1	2	61.54	1.33			
Koo Wee Rup	1	2	40.87	1.33				Koo Wee Rup	1	2	40.87	1.33			
Dalyston	0	3	26.47	0.00				Dalyston	0	3	26.47	0.00			
Garfield	0	2	1.68	0.00				Garfield	0	2	1.68	0.00			
Cora Lynn	0	0	0.00	0.00				Cora Lynn	0	0	0.00	0.00			
LEADING GOAL KICKERS								LEADING GOAL KICKERS							
Ky Bannister (Warragul Ind)				18				Ky Bannister (Warragul Ind)				18			
Sam O'Garey (Phillip Island)				13				Sam O'Garey (Phillip Island)				13			



Box Hill's Tess Cattle gets set to kick under pressure. A46_1725

Borough overrun by Hawks

BOX HILL responded magnificently to a Port Melbourne second-quarter surge to pip the Borough in Wonthaggi by a goal.

Kicking with the breeze and having booted three majors in quick succession in the second term, Port Melbourne raced to a 22-point lead and there was no reason to think that when Courteney Bromage nailed the last of that hat trick it would be the Borough's final goal of the day.

Box Hill players had been urged at the first break to focus on better communication and improve their work rate, and while there didn't appear to be an immediate response there certainly was as the second term progressed.

The longer the game went, the more noticeable the influence of Box Hill ruck Paige Price, her bright orange helmet not only making her a noticeable marking target for her teammates but

drawing Borough kicks to her like moths to a flame.

She was named the Hawks' second-best behind Ellie McLinden.

Forward Mia Zielinski also became an increasingly powerful presence for the winning team, a highlight being her ability to outmanoeuvre an opponent to mark, leading to a set shot goal that helped peg back the Borough's second-quarter lead.

She continued to impress with her strong marking, taking six for the game.

Former St Kilda player Rosie Dillon worked hard charging out on leads and marking well.

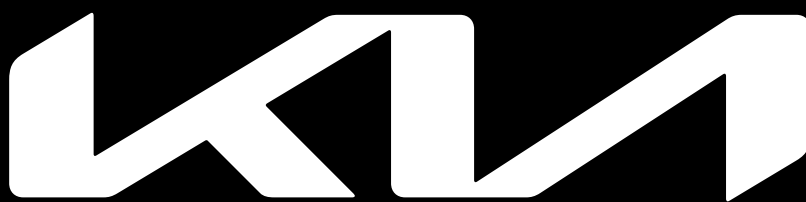
For the beaten Borough, Lauren Caruso was the biggest ball winner with 18 possessions, also laying six tackles and providing as many clearances.

Bromage was another Port Melbourne player applying tackling

pressure and looked threatening with the ball in hand, while teammate Ava Seton was named the Borough's best.

There were no multiple goal scorers for either side, each having five single goal kickers, Box Hill's six extra behinds the difference.

While the Hawks' comeback was commendable, there's no doubt it was a game Port Melbourne let escape its grasp.



Movement that inspires

Coming soon to Wonthaggi and Leongatha