

How sick was Erin Patterson?

Korumburra Baptist Pastor Ian Wilkinson leaves the Supreme Court in Morwell last week with members of his family after giving evidence in Erin Patterson's triple murder trial in Morwell. Following his evidence on Day 6 of the hearing last Tuesday, May 6, Mr Wilkinson returned each day to sit in the public gallery.

THERE was no doubt, according to Ian Wilkinson, the only other person to survive the poisonous mushroom lunch at Erin Patterson's Leongatha home on Saturday, July 29, 2023, besides the cook herself, that Erin was eating her Beef Wellington meal along with her four guests.

He told the Supreme Court as much at Morwell last week while giving evidence at Mrs Patterson's triple murder trial.

However, while three of her guests died less than a week later of multiple organ failure due to clinically diagnosed amanita mushroom poisoning, that is after eating death cap mushrooms at Erin's place that day, and Mr Wilkinson became gravely ill, spending 54 days in hospital, Erin Patterson spent a precautionary 24 hours in hospital.

How was it then that the other four guests became so violently ill overnight on Saturday into Sunday morning while Erin was able to drive her son to a flying lesson at Tyabb on Sunday afternoon, more than an hour each way from Leongatha, without going to the toilet?

These were among the issues probed during the second week of the trial which not only featured more evidence from the Patterson and Wilkinson families but also the testimony of health professionals who treated the five lunch guests.

Erin Patterson has pleaded not guilty to three counts of murder arising out of the Beef Wellington lunch in relation to her in-laws Don and Gail Patterson, and Gail's sister Heather Wilkinson, and one of attempted murder where Ian Wilkinson is the alleged victim. Her defence has claimed what happened that day was a tragedy and a terrible accident.

While her guests Don and Gail Patterson and Heather and Ian Wilkinson presented at the Korumburra and Leongatha hospitals on Sunday morning after a harrowing night of vomiting and diarrhoea, and needed to be transferred to tertiary hospitals in Melbourne on Sunday night and Monday morning respectively, Erin presented at the Leongatha hospital on Monday at 8.05am, a day and a half after the meal, reporting

generalised abdominal pain and some diarrhoea but no vomiting.

Cindy Munro, who was acting as a Deputy Director of Nursing at Leongatha Hospital from 7am on Monday, July 31, and assisting with the transfer of two of the gravely ill lunch guests, Ian Wilkinson and his wife Heather, to Dandenong Hospital, when Erin Patterson arrived at Leongatha Hospital, was in a position to make a comparison for the court.

Asked by counsel for the prosecution, Jane Warren, in court last Thursday, May 8 how Erin Patterson looked, after finally being admitted on Monday "just on a basic observation", Ms Munro said she didn't look sick.

"She didn't look unwell like Heather and Ian. I recall Ian being so unwell that he could barely lift his head off the pillow and Heather was a little bit unsteady on her feet, but Erin was sitting up in the bed, in the trolley, and she didn't look unwell to me," said Ms Munro.

Continued page 3

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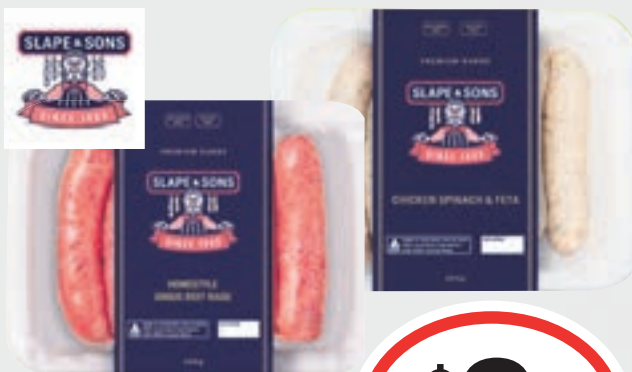
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PRICE FREEZE

Epic vote count as Monash goes down to the wire

By Bruce Wardley

THE final election result in Monash remains undecided as vote counting continued over the weekend with a break for Mother's Day.

Monash is now one of the few remaining seats across Australia where a result is yet to be determined on a two-candidate preferred (2CP) basis.

At last count (at time of print) Liberal candidate Mary Aldred had retained her primary vote lead and was also leading on a three-candidate preferred basis (3CP) with 44,340 votes or 46.36 per cent. Labor candidate Tully Fletcher (26,183 votes, 27.38 per cent) and Independent Deb Leonard (25,110 votes, 26.26 per cent) are locked in a close tussle for second and third place with Mr Fletcher retaining his lead with 85 polling places counted.

Ms Leonard said her volunteer scrutineers were working hard to oversee the counting of the votes with around 15,000 votes left to be counted.

"While we would need to see some very favourable preference flows to win, the fact that the count is so close in itself means this campaign has been a success.

"Never before has it been so long before a winner has been declared in Monash with it being assumed as a safe Liberal seat for the last two decades.



Mary Aldred with her mother Margaret as the vote count continues in the battle for Monash. B13_1825

"The close count has brought national attention to our region and sent a strong message to the major parties that our community cannot be taken for granted," said Ms Leonard.

Another notable issue from the count according to Ms Leonard was that preference flows were split unpredictably between candidates.

"What this means is that many voters decided not to follow a candidate's How to Vote card and chose for themselves where their preferences went.

"I am proud that through this campaign we have been able to empower and encourage voters to choose for themselves where their vote goes, that is how democracy should work."

Regardless of the outcome,

Ms Leonard said her team of volunteers are playing an important part in the democratic process ensuring each vote goes to the right candidate.

With none of the three leading candidates achieving 50.1 per cent of the vote so far, the AEC is yet to make a declaration on a two candidate preferred basis.

AEC Media Officer Alex Morris said counting was continuing on a 3CP basis but the Electoral Commission could decide over the coming days not to make a 2CP declaration and proceed to a full distribution of preferences.

The AEC said it had processed 400 postal votes over recent days, 2000 pre-poll votes from other states and overseas, and 1600 absentee votes.

It could take days or another week before a final decision is made on whether to proceed to a full distribution of preferences.

Mr Morris said the AEC's motto is 'right, not rushed'.

The AEC has until June 30 to declare a result and issue writs for the election.

Liberal frontrunner Mary Aldred was hopeful of an outcome soon.

"It is looking very promising but it is appropriate to give the AEC the opportunity to deliver their outcome," said Ms Aldred. "It has been a tough contest."

Independent incumbent and former Liberal Russell Broadbent was eliminated in the three-candidate preferred count along with Kuljeet Kaur Robinson (One Nation), Geoffrey Dethlefs (Family First), David O'Reilly (Legalise Cannabis Party), Terence Steele (Greens) and Alex Wehbe (Trumpet of Patriots).

As late as last Friday there had been a glimmer of hope for Deb Leonard when after 44 polling places had been counted on a 3CP basis the Teal Independent was within 760 votes of Labor's Tully Fletcher.

Should Deb Leonard move into second place ahead of Tully Fletcher, Labor's second preferences could quite possibly catapult the Teal Independent into first place. As the counting continues the chance of a major upset although remote is still possible.

How sick was Erin Patterson?

From page 1

Cindy Munro who is in her 25th year as a registered nurse, 11 of them at Leongatha, was one of a number of nurses, doctors, paramedics and other health care professionals to take the witness stand in Morwell during the first nine days of the trial.

One of them was Director of Nursing at Leongatha Kylie Ashton, who triaged Erin Patterson on arrival.

Mrs Patterson, she said, had a high heart rate and blood pressure "on the high side" but later under cross-examination by Colin Mandy SC for the defence she acknowledged she had told Dr Veronica Foote the heart rate was "dangerously fast".

Erin Patterson she said needed to be convinced about the importance of remaining in hospital for assessment and possible treatment given she was the fifth member of the lunch party.

Dr Foote, a registered specialist in general practice at the Leongatha Hospital, agreed under cross-examination by Mr Mandy that tachycardia (fast heart rate) and hypertension (high blood pressure) were consistent with symptoms of poisoning.

Dr Foote told the court that she had the opportunity to review Mrs Patterson's clinical observations at around 10.30am that day telling the court that her initial blood pressure was 130 over 90 which is within normal range. Her pulse was 140 which she described as high, and her temperature was in the middle of the 35.5 to 35.6 range which is also normal.

This was consistent with clinical details about Erin Patterson provided to the toxicology registrar at the Austin Hospital, Conor McDermott, who gave evidence by video link on Thursday last week.

"I was told the patient was stable apart from having a heart rate of 140 but they looked well and that their investigations so far were unremarkable," said Dr McDermott.

Results included pH, blood gas, bicarb, lactate and potassium levels, all within normal limits, he said, besides the pH which was slightly high and the potassium slightly low at 3.4 where 3.5 is the low side of normal.

"I was told that she complained of diarrhoea, like the other patients, but I was told also that this hadn't been observed while the patient was in the department (at Leongatha)."

The statement that he was "told by someone that Ms Patterson had not been observed to have diarrhoea in the hospital" was challenged under cross-examination by the defence, but Dr McDermott stuck to his statement, agreeing it was additional information added from his memory after contact with doctors at Leongatha on Monday, July 31, 2023.

During an exchange between defence counsel Colin Mandy and Simon Patterson earlier, on Day Four of the trial, Friday, May 2, Mr Mandy asked Mr Patterson if he could remember having a conversation with his wife Erin, back on December 20, 2021, about a sinus tachycardia issue with her heart some years earlier. Mr Patterson acknowledged he vaguely remembered the conversation.

Continued page 6

'Change for Sam' message burns bright in Cowes

DETERMINED to transform the deep impact of the loss of Samantha Fraser "into tangible and positive change", her friends and their supporters started the 'Change for Sam' initiative in pursuit of a community free from gendered violence.

Last Wednesday night, May 7, 2025, the group staged their annual vigil in Cowes to remember and honour those who have been killed by domestic and family violence. And, also, to remember Sam.

Speaking at the vigil, moved inside to the Berninneit Cultural Centre in Cowes due to the wet weather, Change for Sam coordinator Lija Matthews thanked everyone for coming and those who had contributed to the success of the night.

"Thanks for coming it means a lot, not only to me, but also to those of you who have lived through family violence. You are not alone," said Ms Matthews.

"Sam was a wonderful, talented person and we started Change for Sam because of the gaps in the support available."

Ms Matthews spoke about one of the group's main initiatives, the development of a personal safety device, which is available through the Change for Sam website.

"Thanks for coming. Thanks for remembering Sam and thanks for standing up for love, safety and change," said Ms Matthews, declaring the annual vigil would continue.

The Rotary Club of Phillip Island and San Remo presented a donation of \$2000 to the group.



Among those who supported the 'Change for Sam' vigil in the Berninneit Cultural Centre in Cowes were Cowes Primary School Principal Rod McKenzie, organiser Lija Matthews, Bree Rutherford and Sarah Tyrrell.

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CONTACT

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

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Wind PM: Light
10° 20°



WED | May 14
Shower or two.
Wind AM: Light
Wind PM: W 15-20km/h
9° 20°



THUR | May 15
Possible shower.
Wind AM: Light
Wind PM: Light
11° 19°



FRI | May 16
Shower or two.
Wind AM: NW 15-20km/h
Wind PM: W 15-20km/h
9° 18°



SAT | May 17
Shower or two.
Wind AM: Light
Wind PM: SW 15-20km/h
9° 17°



SUN | May 18
Mostly sunny.
Wind AM: Light
Wind PM: W-SW 15-20km/h
8° 17°

IN BRIEF

Electoral sign comes
crashing down

INDEPENDENT candidate, Deb Leonard's promotional activities came crashing down last week causing two cars to collide on the Bass Highway.

A trailer mounted with a large A-frame electoral sign for the candidate, tipped over in high winds last Wednesday night, near McKenzie Road in Bass.

The car pulling the trailer had stopped and pulled over on the side of the highway after the trailer and sign tipped over.

While the vehicle was stopped, a car coming through at speed hit the trailer and then crashed into another car. Fortunately, no one was seriously injured.

Ms Leonard confirmed details of the incident and said, "It was a really unfortunate incident and we're very, very glad no one got hurt. The police came – they said, no one's at fault."

Highlighting road
safety in South
Gippsland and beyond

SOUTH Gippsland Shire Council will 'shine a light on road safety' during National Road Safety Week, between May 11 and 18, to promote safe driving practices, with the aim of reducing accidents, injuries and fatalities.

Council's main office building at 9 Smith Street, Leongatha will be lit up in yellow.

In 2024, over 1300 people were killed and more than 40,000 were injured on roads across Australia.

"Safety on South Gippsland roads is extremely important to us and we want every community member and visitor to get home safely when they drive, walk or cycle on or around our roads," council stated.

Safe driving tips include removing distractions, keeping your phone out of sight, avoiding speeding, and ensuring you are not driving tired or under the influence of substances.

"When you're behind the wheel, put away your phone,

drive to the conditions and keep to a safe speed," South Gippsland Shire Mayor John Schelling said.

Animal cruelty
rocks Leongatha
Community Garden

CHICKENS at Leongatha Community Garden were killed overnight on Friday, May 9 in a shocking attack, the door of their coop having been smashed and wire ripped off, the horrifying discovery made on Saturday at about 7.30am.

"Sickening security footage of the incident has been provided to police and will be provided to the RSPCA," a post on the Leongatha Community Garden Facebook page stated on Saturday.

That followed an earlier post showing the scattered remains of some of the birds and equipment that had been removed from the coop. The attack was labelled as "an unbelievable senseless act of cruelty".

"We extend our sincere thanks to the police for their prompt response in attending the Garden this morning to inspect the site and gather evidence," those in charge of the Community Garden stated, expressing appreciation for the outpouring of community support since the incident.

Community members quickly expressed willingness to help replace the chickens, provide security systems, and assist with repairs and improvements to the coop.

The discovery of one chicken alive and hiding in the garden offered some solace.

Anyone with information is urged to contact Leongatha Police Station on 5662 2285 or call Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000.

Tourism opportunities
on the horizon

LAST week, Kim and Alisha of Destination Phillip Island went to Brisbane for the Australian Tourism Exchange (ATE) where they connected with glob-

al distribution partners through 94 pre-scheduled one-on-one appointments and key networking events. ATE is the Australian tourism industry's largest annual business-to-business event and brings together 726 global buyers and 640 Australian seller organisations.

Phillip Island, as the second most visited regional destination for international visitors to Victoria, has an important role in delivering hospitality and experiences.

The region was represented by Destination Phillip Island and the many international partners at the event, including Phillip Island Nature Parks, Local Way Tours, Sydney Melbourne Touring, Moonlit Sanctuary, Go Beyond Melbourne, Searoad Ferries, Visit Victoria and Tourism Australia.

Tarwin Lower P.S.
needs your help

TARWIN Lower Primary School is turning 100 and past students, teachers and family members have been invited to help celebrate this milestone event.

The school is currently collecting stories, photos and memorabilia from its history for celebrations planned later this year.

To find out more contact Vanessa on 0434 552 776 or email tpscentenary@gmail.com.

Dalyston caravan

A CARAVAN fire in the early hours of Saturday morning is under investigation.

Fire investigators attended the scene, and whilst the cause is yet to be determined, the fire is still being treated as suspicious. Anyone with information or who might have seen anyone in vicinity contact Crimestoppers or Bass Coast CIU.

Stolen vehicles recovered

TWO vehicles stolen on Sunday morning from Leongatha Primary School have been recovered. Whilst one vehicle was located in Carrum Downs later that day, the other vehicle caught the attention

of police in the Latrobe Valley.

It's understood police spotted the vehicle at 10am in Morwell CBD whereby they requested the assistance of the Air Wing.

The vehicle was tracked from the air during which time it entered the Princes Highway on the wrong side of the road and was subsequently involved in a collision with a Toyota Pajero near Trafalgar.

A number of people were injured, including a family in the Pajero. The offending driver was also taken to hospital where he remains in police custody. The collision was separate to a fatal collision in Trafalgar on Sunday evening.

Mystery surrounds
aircraft 'crash'

RESIDENTS of Phillip Island reported hearing loud aircraft sounds on Wednesday evening last week with two incidents briefly appearing on VicEmergency.

The first incident was around 7pm at Smiths Beach Road, Cowes, with a second incident, an 'aircraft crash', at Lynche Road in Bass around 8.30pm. Defence confirmed to the Sentinel-Times that on the evening of May 7, a Number 37 Squadron C-130J conducted a routine low-level training flight in the vicinity of Port Phillip. Neither of the mystery incidents was connected to the military.

Jeep stolen whilst
victim home

A 2015 silver Jeep Cherokee was stolen from Stewart Street in Wonthaggi at 11.30pm on Wednesday, May 7 during an aggravated burglary. It's believed the intruder entered the property via a laundry and stole keys from inside the home before taking off in the Jeep Cherokee.

It's understood the victim was awake in another part of the house at the time and the vehicle was parked in a driveway.

The vehicle is still outstanding.

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Russell Broadbent bids farewell to Monash

RUSSELL Broadbent said he wouldn't stand for the seat of Monash again, but he did, as an independent.

The Federal electorate of Monash was thrown wide open when Mr Broadbent failed to gain Liberal Party endorsement for the seat in November 2023 and chose to move to the crossbenches.

At the last election in 2022, Broadbent won the seat of Monash for the Liberal Party with 46 per cent of the primary vote and 57 per cent of the final vote after the distribution of preferences.

First elected to the House of Representatives for Corinella in 1990, Russell Broadbent was defeated at the general election in 1993, subsequently elected as the Member for McMillan in 1996 but again defeated in 1998.

Elected to represent McMillan in 2004, Mr Broadbent held the seat for the Liberals in 2007, 2010, 2013 and 2016 and after a redistribution was elected to represent Monash in 2019 and 2022.

Mr Broadbent's record of service was exhaustive most recently including Deputy Chair of the Human Rights Parliamentary Committee in 2023, and Deputy Chair of the Workforce Australia Employment Services Committee from 2022.

Born in Koo Wee Rup, Russell Broadbent was a

By Bruce Wardley

successful retailer with a small chain of stores, company director, Councillor and Shire President of the Shire of Pakenham.

With three adult children, three grandchildren and dog Caesar, Russell Broadbent and his wife Bronwyn are no doubt looking forward to spending more time relaxing between their homes in Pakenham and Cowes.

Mr Broadbent said what he found most fulfilling during his parliamentary career was meeting the people of Monash, hearing their personal stories and incorporating them in his contribution to the Federal Parliament.

"People remember stories and often play a powerful role in influencing policy development," said Mr Broadbent.

"My involvement across the small business, aged care and disability sectors for more than 50 years equipped me with the experience, compassion and drive to advocate strongly on these matters.

"In recent times I've taken a stand against independent assessments for those in the NDIS and the potential privatisation of the Aged Care Assessment Team (ACAT)."

Mr Broadbent also called for increased respect, safety and justice for women, and equitable financial

support for residents and businesses in regional Victoria affected by the pandemic lockdowns.

Passionate about speaking out for those who are most in need, Mr Broadbent described himself as nothing if not persistent, some might say determined.

Mr Broadbent was an outspoken critic of mandated COVID-19 vaccinations.

In November 2023, Mr Broadbent made the decision to resign from the Liberal Party and move to the crossbenches after failing to gain Liberal Party endorsement for Monash.

Mr Broadbent said it had been an honour to stand in the Parliament as the Liberal Member for Monash for 25 years.

Renominating for the seat of Monash as an independent Mr Broadbent said he had been asked many times to stand again and that's what he did.

Mr Broadbent acknowledged the need for a national coastal erosion policy with the Federal Government working closely with State Governments.

It was during Mr Broadbent's term of office in February 2022 that Inverloch was awarded \$3.3 million from the Australian Government's \$50 million Coastal and Estuarine Risk Mitigation Program for on-ground works outlined in the Cape to Cape Resilience

Project to reduce disaster risk to critical infrastructure and services for the Inverloch township and surrounding region.

A difference of opinion between Mr Broadbent and the Federal Parliamentary Liberal Party on the issue of taxation saw him lose the party's endorsement.

"That, and my age," said Mr Broadbent.

Mr Broadbent had favoured a complete overhaul of the Australian taxation system.

Among his extensive roles in the parliament, Mr Broadbent had been a member of the Speakers' Panel in recognition of the experience and respect he enjoyed on both sides of politics.

"I am not, and never have been, a yes man," said Mr Broadbent.

"I crossed the floor when I was a member of the Liberal Party and was prepared to take a stand when it matters, even when it put my career on the line."

Mr Broadbent said it had been an honour serving as the Member for Monash for the past 20 years.

"From the bottom of my heart, I thank each and every volunteer and supporter for their dedication and support, not only during this campaign but over the past four years.

"We fought the good fight," Mr Broadbent said in a release to his supporters on Wednesday.



We fought the good fight according to former Liberal Russell Broadbent.



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How sick was Erin Patterson?

From page 3

Erin initially resisted assessment and treatment at Leongatha, despite being told by Ms Ashton that she “would probably need to go on the NAC treatment (N-acetylcysteine) like everybody else, even as a prophylactic, to make sure we preserved her liver from toxins”.

Mrs Patterson discharged herself against medical advice at 8.10am on Monday, July 31, claiming she needed to make arrangements for her animals and children at home but returned to the hospital shortly before 10am and was ultimately transferred to Monash Clayton by ambulance at 1pm later that day.

In the evidence given last Thursday by Tanya Patterson, who is married to Simon Patterson’s brother Matt, she visited Erin at Monash Clayton on Tuesday morning after a text message exchange between the two on Monday night in which Erin said she was still feeling nauseous, dizzy and tired.

By the Tuesday morning around 9.30am however, Tanya was in the hospital room at Monash with Erin when a toxicologist came in to present her blood test results, saying Erin was “fine and well enough to go home”.

Erin asked about her potassium levels with the medico responding, according to Tanya, that the potassium levels were fine and “that for someone who has had diarrhoea as much, it really wasn’t as low as they would have expected it to be”.

Under cross-examination, Tanya Patterson was asked about her relationship with Erin, which she acknowledged had always been good, going on holidays together as families, to the point where Erin loaned Tanya and her husband Matt \$400,000 to build their home.

In the days leading up to her admission, allegedly while suffering from diarrhoea and nausea, Erin Patterson told her children she wouldn’t be able to attend church on Sunday morning because she was feeling unwell but insisted on taking one of her children to Tyabb for a flying lesson on Sunday afternoon that was ultimately cancelled just before they arrived, stopping for food at the doughnut van at Koo Wee Rup on the way home but not to going to the toilet.

She also expressed an intention to pick up her children from a school on Monday, more than an hour away from Leongatha, but ultimately agreed for Simon to collect the children instead.

“I’m glad that you’re feeling healthy enough to make that drive,” Simon Patterson told the court about his phone conversation with Erin on the Monday.

Four large plates, one smaller

During his evidence at the triple murder trial in the Supreme Court in Morwell last week, Korumburra Baptist Pastor Ian Wilkinson was clear in his recollections about who ate what and from which plate.

“Did every plate have the same food items on it?” he was asked by Crown

Prosecutor Dr Nanette Rogers SC last Tuesday, May 6.

“Yes,” said Mr Wilkinson, noting that everyone had an individual pastie on their plate, a pastry case fully enclosing steak and mushrooms, with green beans and mashed potato on the side.

“And that includes Erin’s plate?”

“Yes.”

While Mr Wilkinson said much of the conversation about the meal involved some good-natured banter about Don being willing to eat half of Gail’s Beef Wellington, he said he recalled that Erin was definitely eating her meal.

“I can’t say with certainty how much she ate, but she was definitely eating it. I don’t remember anyone saying ‘you didn’t eat much’ or anything like that.”

He went on to say that little if any of the cake that Gail had brought, or the fruit that Heather had contributed to the meal were eaten afterwards “because we were all fairly full from the main course”.

Questioned by both the prosecution and Colin Mandy SC for the defence over the type of plates used, Mr Wilkinson said Erin rejected an offer from Gail and Heather to help plate up the meal, which he said was served on “four large, grey dinner plates and one smaller plate of a different colour”.

While the four larger plates were taken to the table by Gail and Heather, according to Ian, Erin “picked up the odd plate”, a smaller and orangey-tan coloured plate, and carried it to her place at the table.

Erin alone had plated up the food, rejecting an offer of assistance from Heather and Gail.

During cross-examination Mr Mandy probed Mr Wilkinson over what he recalled about how much Erin had eaten at the table and his evidence that different coloured plates were used.

In fact, Mr Mandy put six similar questions to Mr Wilkinson about the colour and size of the plates.

“Let me suggest to you that there weren’t any grey or stone-coloured plates in Erin’s kitchen on that day?” asked Mr Mandy, also variously suggesting that there was no smaller plate, that all plates were the same size, that there might have been two or three plates the same, and two different.

“My memory is that there were four plates that were the same”, he said, going on to repeat that Erin’s plate was smaller and different in colour.

However, while the five people at the lunch, including the host Erin Patterson and four of her in-laws ate all or at least part of their meals, they had a significantly different impact on the guests and the woman accused of their murders or attempted murder.

The trial continues in the Supreme Court at Morwell on Tuesday, after a day’s break for administrative purposes.

Justice Beale told the jury last Thursday that the way the case was progressing he expected it to be concluded earlier than indicated.

Gastro delay was the clue, they say

DOCTOR Chris Webster was the doctor on call at the Leongatha Hospital on Sunday morning, July 30, 2023 when Ian and Heather Wilkson presented at 10.57am following a night of severe diarrhoea and vomiting after a meal of Beef Wellington at Erin Patterson’s house in Leongatha the night before.

Giving evidence in the triple murder trial of Erin Patterson last Wednesday, May 7, Dr Webster said he witnessed both patients vomit while they were in Urgent Care, noting that they were administered Maxolon for the vomiting and Pantoprazole to reduce acid in the stomach and saline, and managed some sleep in the middle of the day.

He said initial suspicion fell on the meat as “the most likely cause of the food poisoning”.

However, despite “mildly elevated” lactate levels, Dr Webster said he didn’t consider sending Ian and Heather to a tertiary hospital in Melbourne despite information from a doctor at the Korumburra Hospital that Don and Gail had been sent to Dandenong “because of high lactate levels”.

Dr Webster was asked why not by Prosecutor Sarah Lenthall.

“The heart rate, the temperature, the blood pressure, the vital signs were stable, intravenous fluid was being provided without complication and there were signs of responding well to the initial treatment, so there was no indication to transfer them,” he said.

The vomiting and diarrhoea continued overnight, although not as severely as before, and at 7.10am on Monday morning, July 31, 2023 he received a phone call from Dandenong Hospital’s Dr Beth Morgan who had been treating Don and Gail Patterson overnight.

“She informed me that Don and Gail Patterson both had grossly abnormal liver function tests and that they were



Dr Chris Webster of Leongatha, centre, leaves the Supreme Court in Morwell after giving evidence in the trial of the woman accused of the triple murder of three family members from Korumburra, Erin Patterson. Mrs Patterson has pleaded not guilty to all charges.

concerned about the possibility of death cap mushroom poisoning.”

At 7.26am Dr Morgan called again saying Dandenong would accept the transfer of Ian and Heather and arrangements were initiated at 7.30am. They departed for Dandenong shortly after 9am on Monday morning.

By then, the fifth person at the dinner table, Erin Patterson had presented at the Leongatha Hospital’s Urgent Care centre, initially at 8.05am, returning at 9.48am.

After introducing herself, Dr Webster said he recognised Erin Patterson as “the chef of the mushroom meal” and following reports she also experienced gastro-like symptoms, the doctor said there was concern about death cap mushroom poisoning and asked where she had got the mushrooms.

He said she gave a single-word answer “Woolworths”.

It was Dr Morgan who first linked the severe gastro-like symptoms with death cap mushrooms in consultation with the toxicology registrar at Monash Health Dr Mark Douglas during a late-night call on Sunday night, July 30, 2023.

“I was concerned that this wasn’t just a case of gastroenteritis caused by food poisoning, necessarily. I wanted to get some

more information from our toxicology team.” Dr Morgan told the court last Tuesday.

“There was a discussion about when the presentation was and how it was quite severe but that the onset of symptoms was quite delayed.”

“The lunch was consumed at lunchtime, and they didn’t have any symptoms until 12 hours later. This would be more indicative of serious toxin syndrome, as opposed to a food poisoning.”

She said Dr Douglas said the most likely cause of the illness was serious toxin syndrome.

“At that point, he suggested that if it was related to mushrooms, it was possibly caused by the ingestion of the amanita phalloides mushroom. In most cases of other food poisoning, we would see the onset of nausea and vomiting about two to four hours after the presentation, as opposed to the 12 hours, which was seen in Donald’s case.”

It was the same with the other three guests at Erin Patterson’s family lunch; Gail Patterson, Heather and Ian Wilkinson.

The trial continues in the Supreme Court at Morwell on Tuesday.

Erin Patterson has pleaded not guilty to all charges, her defence team saying what happened was a tragedy and a terrible accident.

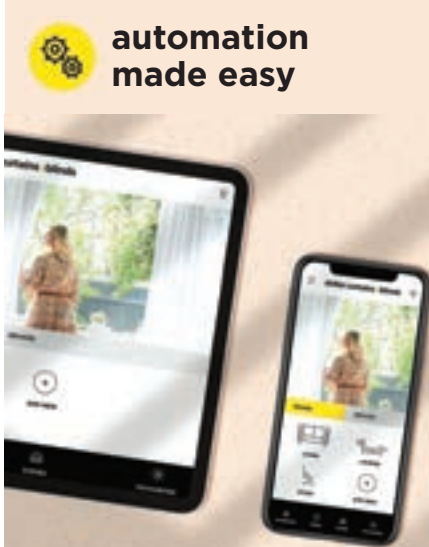


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Road map to murder charges

NAMES and places familiar to South Gippsland residents have been a feature of Erin Patterson's triple murder trial in the Supreme Court in Morwell during the first eight days of the trial.

From the Betta Home Living store in Leongatha where Erin Patterson purchased the Sunbeam Food Lab Electronic Dehydrator for \$229, at 12.17pm on April 28, 2023, which was allegedly found to contain death cap mushroom remnants when it was recovered from the Koonwarra Tip, to the wayside doughnut stop at Koo Wee Rup where Erin Patterson and her children stopped for dim sims, a hot dog and coffee on a trip to the Tyabb airport the day after the fateful lunch, to the location of the lunch itself in Gibson Street Leongatha, on Saturday, July 29, 2023.

The evidence from a steady stream of witnesses over the past week and a half is punctuated by well-known locations and names.

Here are a few of the local references:

- While the adults were having the meal at Erin's place that day in July 2023, Simon and Erin's children, together with a friend, went to the Leongatha Cinema to the Disney animated film *Elemental* and have lunch at Maccas in Leongatha.
- Erin took one of the children later on Saturday to get some dinner at Subway.
- About 11 to 12 hours after the lunch, four of the



Familiar local names, places and people from the Leongatha and Korumburra districts have been a feature of the triple murder trial in the Supreme Court in Morwell over the past two weeks.

guests, Gail and Don Patterson, and Heather and Ian Wilkinson had each developed severe gastroenteritis-like symptoms and presented themselves the next morning to the Korumburra and Leongatha hospitals respectively, Ian and Heather taken there by nephew Simon when they were told an ambulance would not be with them for an hour.

• Simon Patterson attended the Korumburra Baptist Church every Sunday, where he operated the audio-visual equipment, and since COVID, a livestream of the service. His wife Erin and children mostly attended fortnightly, Erin helping to connect the livestream comments.

• As well as Gibson Street in Leongatha, several street names in

Korumburra were mentioned where either Erin or Simon or both lived between their marriage in June 2007 and the present.

• It has been alleged by the Crown Prosecutor Dr Nanette Rogers in her opening remarks that two hours before Erin Patterson purchased her new food dehydrator from Hartley Wells in Leongatha, she travelled to and remained in the Loch area near where, Christine McKenzie, a retired pharmacist and senior poisons information specialist at the Victorian Poisons Information Centre had collected and posted photographs of death cap mushrooms growing under some oak trees on the iNaturalist website page.

• A similar incident has been alleged in relation to

a site at Outtrim.

• Woolworths in Leongatha where some of the fresh mushrooms were allegedly purchased, IGA in Leongatha, the schools attended by the Patterson children, and doctors and staff at the local hospitals.

They've all been referred to in evidence by witnesses and in allegations made by the prosecution.

Erin Patterson has pleaded not guilty to all charges, three of murder involving her in-laws Gail and Don Patterson, and Gail's sister Heather and one count of attempted murder where Heather's husband Ian was allegedly the intended victim, claiming that what happened was a tragedy and a terrible accident.

The trial continues at Morwell on Tuesday, May 13.

Patterson children heard in court

THERE is a suppression order on the names of the Patterson children, their friends and the names of the schools they attend.

Simon and Erin Patterson's children did not appear in person in the Supreme Court at Morwell last Thursday or Friday.

Their testimony was provided to the court via a video-taped interview they did in the child protection office at the Morwell Police Station on August 16, 2023, less than three weeks after the incident at their family home in Leongatha on Saturday, July 29, 2023.

The two videos were played for the court on Thursday afternoon and Friday morning, watched by the jury, the judge, the gallery and the children's mother Erin Patterson at the rear of the court.

The younger of the children said she thought her mother started to feel sick the next day.

"She just needed to go to the toilet a lot with diarrhea and her stomach was sore."

"Did you see her go to the toilet?" asked the police officer conducting the interview.

"I saw her go 10 times from the morning to the afternoon."

"We were going to go to church, but Mum was feeling too sick. I don't remember doing anything else."

Asked about what they had for dinner that night, the younger child said some leftover steak.

"What plates do you use at home?" he asked.

"They're just round plates."

The older of the Patterson children was also asked about the events surrounding the family lunch at their Leongatha home where his grandparents Gail and Don Patterson were guests, along

with his grandmother's sister Heather and her husband Ian.

"Simon didn't accept to go, why?" he was asked.

"I don't know."

Asked about his parents' split seven years earlier, the older of the children said his parents had a couple of arguments but they stayed married.

He said there had been a difference of opinion about where the two children should live, at his father's place in Korumburra or his mother's place in Leongatha.

"He never did anything with us on the weekends, so I didn't want to stay."

There was also conflict about Simon wanting to be authorised as a school contact person.

The older of the children was also asked about the decision to go to his flying lesson at Tyabb on Sunday afternoon. He said he told his mother they didn't have to go if she was feeling unwell, but Erin insisted.

They drove almost the whole way to Tyabb before the instructor called to say the weather wasn't suitable and the lesson was called off. They turned around and drove back to Leongatha, stopping at the doughnut van at Koo Wee Rup for a hot-dog and dim sims. Erin had only coffee.

The children had attended the new Disney film *'Elemental'* at the Leongatha Cinema and had lunch at Maccas while the family lunch was being held at Erin Patterson's Leongatha home on July 29, 2023. The older of the children returned just as the lunch guests were getting ready to go, but had time to share a moment with his grandparents about his interest in flying.



Tanya Patterson, second from left, visited Erin Patterson in hospital at Monash Clayton on the Tuesday after Saturday's family lunch of Beef Wellington in July 2023 when she was told she was well enough to go home. Erin had spent little more than a day in hospital.



After hours medical registrar at Dandenong Hospital, Dr Beth Morgan, was directly involved in the management of Gail and Donald Patterson after their arrival at the hospital at 6.30pm on Sunday, July 30. She said blood tests conducted soon after their arrival provided evidence of organ damage, including significant kidney and liver damage to Don Patterson.

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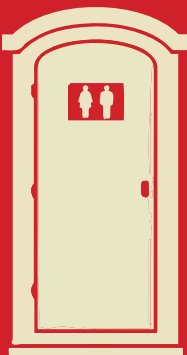
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Why stress and farming go hand in hand

STRESS and farming share similarities in their nature and impact. Both involve long-term challenges, potential for burnout, and the need for adaptation and resilience.

Like a farmer who must manage unpredictable weather, financial instability, and demanding workloads, individuals experiencing stress and anxiety grapple with various stressors and their consequences.

Farming and other high-stress situations can lead to physical and mental health issues if not managed effectively.

But help is at hand.

If you weren't milking cows last Thursday night, waiting for the new season price to come out, feeding out on dry paddocks, on the phone putting in a stock-water order or doing the accounts; you might have been able to attend the screening of 'Just A Farmer' and the panel discussion about farmers' mental health that followed.

About 200-plus farmers, men and women, took the opportunity presented by the Bass Coast Shire Council, the Victorian Farmers Federation and Landcare to come along, watch what is a pretty confronting film, it must be said, and take part in lively discussion afterwards, both panel-led on the stage and in the foyer of the Wonthaggi Union Theatre over sandwiches, cakes, tea and coffee.

It was a good initiative by the shire and their partners and aside from the work they do through the Bass Coast Rural Engagement Group (which is looking for members, especially young farmers), their long-standing partnership



Members of the discussion panel at the farmers' mental health night at the Wonthaggi Union Community Arts Centre were Amy Stark of NEX Business Farming Wellness, Paul Milne Bass Coast Shire Council emergency management team leader, Kellie Buissink a registered mental health nurse at Latrobe Regional Hospital and mental health promotion officer for the Gippsland region and Phillip Island farmer Luke Soussa.

with Landcare, their rural land management rates rebate opportunity and rate differential; it's an indication the shire should probably be doing more in the agriculture space.

Approximately 76 per cent of the land in Bass Coast is used for agricultural purposes. Agriculture contributes over \$200 million to the Bass Coast economy through a combination of traditional farming including dairy and meat production plus processing, as well as agricultural boutique enterprises including venison, olives, wine, and cheese to name a few.

And they might start by adding better, locally-based community mental health services to their Federal and State Government advocacy under the heading of

'Primary Prevention' alongside its other worthy call for more funding to support family violence prevention strategies.

One of the panel members was Phillip Island farmer Luke Soussa, who acknowledged that while he hasn't had much direct experience with a mental health crisis, he was aware of the stresses that most farmers have to deal with on an almost daily basis.

"I'm a member of the shire's Rural Engagement Group, and just a shout out there, they could do with a few more members, but they asked me along to provide the farmers' perspective," said Luke.

Another panel member was author and Bass Coast emergency management team leader Paul Milne, a debut author of a book

about trauma and emotional shutdown titled The Urgent Connection.

Speaking before the start of the movie, and the panel discussion facilitated by shire CEO Greg Box, Bass Coast Mayor Cr Rochelle Halstead said she empathised with the pressures faced by farmers following her own experience on a family farm in the Kiewa Valley in the state's northeast.

The panel discussion which followed offered valuable insights into mental health issues specific to regional and rural settings and provided information on available support resources.

Among those on the panel was Amy Stark, from the Rural Financial Counselling Service Gippsland, now known as NEX Business Farming Wellness. They provide farmers and small rural businesses with free, confidential and independent planning and support services. Call 1300 045 747 or visit their website at nexsolutions.org.au.

If you want to help someone else but don't know where to start, a new community-based initiative called 'Taking Stock' is a good starting point at taking-stock.community. There you'll find a section called: "Are you bogged mate?"

If you need immediate assistance call Triple 000 but if you would like to talk through some personal issues you can also contact:

- LIFELINE: 131114 or lifeline.org.au
- Beyond Blue: beyondblue.org.au
- Standbysupport after suicide at standbysupport.com.au

Mayor's Message



Cr Rochelle Halstead

FARMING has always been close to my heart. I grew up surrounded by farming families – including my own. I still carry with me the sounds and smells of early mornings, busy sheds, and the quiet pride that came with each season's work. But I also remember the tough times – the long dry spells, the stress, and the quiet, sometimes invisible toll it can take on people.

Seeing 'Just A Farmer' on screen this week at The Union in Wonthaggi was a powerful experience – and I know I wasn't the only one who left the theatre feeling emotional. There were moments during the film that were raw and confronting, but also moments that were beautifully familiar. I felt tears well up more than once – not just from sadness, but from recognition, empathy, and a deep respect for the story being told.

The panel discussion afterward added so much depth. Their insights and honesty opened up a space for reflection, connection, and healing – and I want to sincerely thank them for their generous contribution.

This film is more than just a story – it's a mirror held up to the realities of life on the land. I can't recommend it highly enough. If you ever get the chance to see Just a Farmer, do. It will stay with you. And it might just open up an important conversation with someone you care about.

Here in Bass Coast, where 76 per cent of our land is used for agriculture, we know how vital our farmers are. Whether milking cows, raising beef, or producing venison, olives, wine or cheese – they contribute more than \$200 million to our local economy each year. More than that, they help shape the identity and resilience of our region.

At Council, we remain committed to supporting our farming community – through our Rural Engagement Group and through every opportunity to keep the conversations going.

Leongatha vigil for lost and damaged lives by family violence

COUNCILLORS, council staff and members of the public gathered in Leongatha to commemorate those lost to family violence, the vigil moved indoors due to wet weather.

South Gippsland Shire Mayor John Schelling thanked all those who attended, commenting that "It saddens me we are gathered under such tragic circumstances."

He stressed that the gathering offers a chance to remember those who have lost their lives to family violence and stand in solidarity with those who have been impacted.

Describing family violence as "a national crisis", Cr Schelling proceeded to highlight the sharp rise in the Gippsland region.

"In 2024, family violence in Gippsland rose by an average of



Councillors Nathan Hersey, John Schelling, Bron Beach, with Xander Beach and Carmel Slater pay tribute to those lost to family violence. A14_1925

16.4 per cent; alarmingly, 3466 Gippslanders sought homelessness services as a direct result of family violence," he said.

The Mayor kept the focus on those impacted by family violence, stressing that while he could say much more about the

perpetrators of it, it is not the time or place to do so.

After sharing the stories of a couple of those whose lives were ended by family violence, Cr Schelling urged everyone to play their part in improving the situation.

"I want to emphasise that preventing family violence is a responsibility we all share," he said, adding it can affect anyone regardless of age, background or gender and comes in many forms, some of which are not immediately visible.

"Our greatest hope lies in awareness," Cr Schelling noted, concluding "We can do better, and we must."

Support service contact details:

Orange Door: phone 1800 319 354 (Leongatha office) or visit vic.gov.au/about-the-orange-door for other locations and details.

1800 Respect (1800 737 732)

Safe Steps Family Violence Response Centre: phone 1800 015 188.



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South Gippsland Shire Council News

North Poowong Road Upgrades

In line with Council’s initiative of *Connecting our People and Places*, North Poowong Road has been upgraded from gravel to seal.

These works complement the already sealed eastern portion of North Poowong Road. The road is now completely sealed between Mt Lyall Road and Drouin-Korumburra Road.

North Poowong Road was identified as a priority sealing project due to rising traffic volumes, particularly from heavy vehicles.

The road network at the western end of the Shire is experiencing increasing demand coinciding with regional growth.

Sure Constructions (VIC) were awarded the contract and began works in February of this year.

The road works are now complete, and the road is open to the public.

Council would like to thank the Australian Government for funding these works through the *Local Road and Community Infrastructure* program.

IDAHOBIT Day Flag Raising



South Gippsland Shire Council will be raising the Rainbow Flag in recognition of IDAHOBIT Day.

When: Wednesday 14 May from 11.00am.

Where: The flagpoles outside Council’s Main Office, 9 Smith Street Leongatha.

International Day Against Homophobia, Biphobia and Transphobia (or IDAHOBIT Day) is recognised on 17 May, marking the anniversary of the day homosexuality was removed from the World Health Organisation’s International Classification of Diseases.

COUNCIL MEETINGS

The next 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

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Looking for a new job? We might have the perfect position for you! Check out our current vacant positions here:
www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/vacantpositions

REQUEST FOR TENDERS

Council is seeking submissions from qualified companies/applications for the following:
RFT/443 - 25/26 Resheet Program
Tenders close 2.00pm AEDT on Tuesday 27 May 2025.
Documentation is available from Council’s e-Tendering Portal
www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/tenders

COMMUNITY TRAINING

Council’s May and June Community Training Calendar is now available. To see what’s on offer and to register for a session, visit:
www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/communitytraining

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

Council is seeking submissions from qualified companies/applications for the following:
RFI/438 - Waratah Bay Coastal Hazard Assessment
Proposals close 2.00pm AEDT on Tuesday 20 May 2025.
Documentation is available from Council’s e-Tendering Portal
www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/tenders

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Forum highlights Great Southern Rail Trail potential

MAXIMISING the tourism potential of the Great Southern Rail Trail (GSRT) was at the forefront of the minds of presenters and attendees at Gurneys Cider in Foster on Wednesday.

South Gippsland and Wellington Shire Councils, along with Rail Trails Australia combined to run the inaugural Great Southern Rail Trail Tourism forum, which, given the enthusiastic response, is unlikely to be the last.

Councillor Scott Rae kicked off proceedings, acknowledging his initial scepticism about the value of the GSRT, but saying he's been proven wrong and that it brings much greater returns than what council spends on it.

The trail now runs for 130 kilometres between Nyora and Yarram and is ideal for cycling, walking or horse riding, providing the opportunity to attract people to the region and explore its towns along the way.

Key issues raised were the need for more accommodation along the GSRT, and for it to be suited to cyclists and other trail users, along with the requirement for suitable transport to enable riders to access the trail.

Steven Kaye, vice president of Rail Trails Australia, spoke of his recent adventure along the GSRT as part of a group of 44 riders, noting they spent a substantial amount of money at local businesses, including Kelly's Bakery in Korumburra, and Coal Creek Motel.

While South Gippsland offers many attractions, it was the rail trail that drew the group to the area.

Steven stressed that overnight stays provide much better financial yield to communities than day-trippers,



Jess Johnson of Wilsons Prom Holiday Park, Lisa Lees of Prom Port Holiday Cottages, Alisa Mason of Long Jetty Caravan Park and Narelle Jones of Cooks Hill Views are among the tourism business representatives at Wednesday's rail trail forum. A06_1925

illustrating that it pays to accommodate the requirements of trail users.

"We need to have bike hotels," he said, highlighting important considerations such as proximity to the trail, keeping bikes secure overnight, offering charging facilities for ebikes, having early breakfast available, and providing clothes washing facilities.

James Morphet of Eurocycle Adventures spoke of the potential to establish cycling tours in the Gippsland region along trails such as the GSRT, being experienced in running off-road tours in Europe and New Zealand.

Like Steven, he said appropriate accommodation and transport are key factors.

"We want to bring holiday-makers from overseas and we want to give people experiences

but you need to have the facilities," James said, adding "I reckon there are huge opportunities here."

While riders on Eurocycle trips carry the gear they need on the ride, transportation of other travel luggage is required.

"We do it all and the only thing they have to do is get themselves there," James said of the tours and the fact riders can just enjoy the experience without having to organise accommodation and meals.

Neil Jeremiah of Yarram operates True Blue Bus Lines and has started running a service for rail trail users, picking them up and transporting them and their bikes, whether conventional or ebikes.

He's happy to transport large or small groups, or even

individuals, and enjoys showing people some of the sights along the way, such as the Toora Dog Tree.

Meeniyen Motel's Matt Campbell sees the GSRT as important to the business.

"The trail is a big part of our marketing," he said, noting one of the first connections he and partner Mel made after buying the business was with Rail Trails Australia.

After organising suitable insurance, the business now hires out good quality and reliable bikes for people to explore the GSRT.

Attendees enjoyed a delightful lunch prepared by the Gurneys Cider team before hearing from other local business operators and South Gippsland Shire Council in what was a rewarding day-long event.

Heritage review for selected townships in budget

PLANS to commence a heritage review in selected townships across South Gippsland has been announced as part of South Gippsland Shire Councils draft budget 2025/26 – 2028/29.

The document, which concluded its public feedback submissions last Wednesday, has been called conservative by the councillors, but with a shire wide approach to funding allocation.

Overall, capital works have been set at \$21 million, with smaller funding initiatives proposed for disaster recovery, community grants, developer contribution plans, open spaces, tackling weeds and mental health.

\$50,000 for a heritage review is among these funding initiatives.

"Compared to other Gippsland councils, South Gippsland has comparatively few heritage buildings protected by heritage controls. Protecting heritage buildings and high-value heritage precincts is increasingly important in supporting the local economic activity generated by tourism," said Tony



Built in 1939 in an Art Moderne style, is the iconic Fish Creek Hotel, which currently has no heritage overlay to protect it, like many other places of significance across South Gippsland.

Peterson, while acting as the Interim Chief Executive Officer for SGSC.

"The project will investigate if applying additional Heritage Overlay (HO) controls is warranted and where they may be applied. If the project outcomes recommend additional HO inclusions, this will occur as part of a separate project and involve extensive landowner and community engagement."

In 2004, the SGSC carried out an extensive study of places with potential heritage value, including those that were recognised on a local, state and or national level.

Over 1200 places were identified, detailed and recommended for inclusion in the Heritage Overlay, in the study.

This encompassed buildings, structures, monuments, trees, landscapes and sites of

aboriginal or archaeological significance.

More recently, in 2022, the South Gippsland Heritage Study by SGSC, showcased 144 places of significance, and stated in that document that only 106 sites across the shire are safeguarded through the local Heritage Overlay.

Nine state-registered places are listed through the Victorian Heritage Register, as of 2021, across South Gippsland and include:

Bell Point Lime Kiln in Tarwin Lower, Korumburra Railway Station Complex, Leongatha Secondary College, Mirboo on Tarwin Hall, Notched Log Cottage in Poowong, Refuge Cove, Sealers Cove Saw Mill and the Light station on Wilsons Promontory, and the Walkerville Lime Kilns.

Heritage Overlays exist to protect and preserve places of aesthetic, social or historical importance. The inclusion of properties in the Heritage Overlay aims to ensure that new development does not negatively impact on the heritage significance of a place or area.

Mayor's Message



Cr John Schelling



HELLO South Gippsland.

Candlelight Vigil

I would like to begin by reflecting on the Candlelight Vigil held last week and to thank those who attended. Talking about domestic and family violence isn't easy but it's important that we continue to have these discussions because unfortunately it happens in every region and in every community, including our own. As part of the event, we held candles to shine a light on family violence and gathered in unity to support survivors and remember those we have lost.

Feedback now closed for key Council documents

I want to extend my thanks to everyone who provided feedback on Council's Integrated Planning documents. Your input helps to inform our decision making and guide Council direction. Our next step is to review the feedback that has been provided.

Great Southern Rail Trail Tourism Forum

Last week, Councillor Rae attended the inaugural Great Southern Rail Trail Tourism Forum. It was a great event highlighting the Trail's multifaceted importance, from its recreational benefits to its economic impact on our local community. The Trail stimulates tourism, supports local businesses, and creates jobs, making it a vital asset for both South Gippsland and Wellington Shires.

North Poowong Road

I am pleased to share that works along North Poowong Road are now complete. The works sealed the previously gravel portion of North Poowong Road and our project team did a great job delivering within the timeframe and budget. We thank the Australian Government's Local Roads and Community Infrastructure program for funding these works.

Water Scarcity

We are currently facing potential drought conditions due to below average rainfall forecasted in our region for May and June. I urge our community to be mindful of their water usage and plan for the unseasonal conditions.

Go Girls Golf Day

Last Sunday, Councillor Rae and I attended the annual Go Girls Golf Day at the Leongatha Golf Club. The event was well-attended, and the foundation raised an impressive \$22,000. These funds will support the *Go Girls Empowering Program*, which is designed to help women at risk and will run in South Gippsland from August through to late November.

David Drane Award Nomination

I am pleased to congratulate one of South Gippsland's budding athletes, Gemma Cook. She was nominated for the prestigious David Drane Award which recognises individuals who show consistent improvement in their sport. Gemma is an impressive swimmer, and I am incredibly proud of her nomination.

Catching up with our local students

Lastly, I want to highlight the fantastic opportunities Councillor Beach and I have had to engage with our young people in South Gippsland. A couple of weeks ago, Councillor Beach spoke with students from St Joseph's Primary School in Korumburra, and yesterday I had the pleasure of chatting with students from ECG Secondary College in Leongatha. These interactions allow us to connect with the young people of South Gippsland and share the work of Council with them.

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Come along to our Demonstration Day on the 15th May At 38 Yarragon Rd, Leongatha. Representatives from SENIX power tools and Alpha onsite drills and cutting tools will be available from 10:00 am until 2:00 pm. Complimentary sausages in bread will be provided.

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Carmel Kennedy (nee O'Halloran) has a strong connection to Loch Football Club, her late husband Robbie being secretary there when the Saints won the 1965 premiership, and brought along the club's centenary booklet and other items.

A28_1925

Help commemorate 150 years of Loch

PEOPLE of Loch and District and those with connections to the area are encouraged to contribute their stories, family history, photos and anything else of interest to help update the book 'Loch and District 1876-2001', ahead of the town's 150-year celebrations in 2026.

A session is scheduled on Thursday, May 15 from 12-2pm at Loch Public Hall for the Loch & District Historical Group to scan photos, collect information and discuss what you may wish to contribute to the book.

Loch's 150-year celebration will take place over the Labour Day long weekend from Friday, March 6 through until Monday, March 9 inclusive, with activities to be organised in various Loch venues and clubs.

Members of the Loch & District Historical Group are working to bring the book, launched for the town's 125-year celebration, up to the present day.

"We need anyone who has a story to tell, some family history to record, a new business report, a club or sporting account, or a funny anecdote to share,"

Lorraine Knox of Loch & District Historical Group said.

A dedicated group of locals has been meeting regularly to coordinate next year's celebrations.

In 1876, arrangements were made to survey a town as part of the planning for the Great Southern Railway that would run between Dandenong and South Gippsland.

The town was ultimately named Loch in honour of the Governor of Victoria Sir Henry Loch, who served in that capacity between 1884 and 1889, the first 50 town allotments going up for sale on November 22, 1887.

Only nine of those lots failed to sell.

By the following year, Loch's first general store and the Anglican Church opened, soon followed by a school and a hotel and the railway line reaching town.

Please contact Paul Knox on 0428 592 248 or Kris Waters at kris.waters3945@gmail.com for further details or to provide information for the updated book on Loch's rich history.

Victoria's tiny towns to receive big funding

MINISTER for Regional Development Jaclyn Symes visited Waaia on Friday, May 9 to announce 159 successful projects worth over \$5.1 million in round two of the Tiny Towns Fund, selected in rural and regional towns of fewer than 5000 people.

From walking track upgrades to community centre renovations, grants of between \$5000 and \$50,000 will help regional communities flourish, boost tourism and support local workers during project development.

Waaia, in the State's north, will soon become part of Australia's largest outdoor gallery thanks to funding for a mural on the local grain silo, which is one of the tallest in Victoria.

An artist will be commissioned to complete the work, helping put the small town on the map as another destination on the renowned silo art trail.

In South Gippsland, \$50,000 in essential repairs will be provided to the Smiths Beach Rescue Base through the Tiny Towns Fund.

The base, serving as an observational tower for the Woolamai Beach Surf Life Saving Club, provides elevated viewing of the beach for lifesaver staff, and houses important first aid facilities.

The base has fallen into disrepair since its installation in 2018, damaged by harsh beach and weather conditions, and has been in desperate need of restoration, involving the replacement of its stairs, repairs to the wall panels, and mending of the accumulated decay and rust over the years.

The club, and surrounding community, have been calling for action to be taken, and for funding to be given so the appropriate repairs can be provided.

The Tiny Towns Fund will be investing \$50,000 in funds into the project and bringing the rescue base back to life.

The Outtrim Recreation Reserve will also be receiving \$40,000 through the Tiny Towns Fund to be put towards its ageing tennis courts.

The Reserve provides multiple recreational services to the community, such as cricket, soccer, pistol shooting and tennis, though its tennis courts are in need of repairs.

Members of the Outtrim Hall Committee had made previous attempts at repairing the courts themselves but recognised it would need to be professionally done.

A scavenger hunt will be held on May 18 to raise funds for its repair, with a further \$40,000 to be put towards it through the Tiny Towns Fund.

Other projects in the surrounding areas that will receive funding through the Tiny Towns Fund include the Boolara Memorial Hall, which will receive a new projector and screen priced at \$8380, the Yanakie Community Hall, which will receive \$50,000 in refurbishments through the Yanakie Progress Association, the Koonwarra Public Shelter, which will receive \$50,000 in funding through the Rotary Club of Leongatha, the Nerrena Cricket Club, who will receive \$29,365 to replace their cricket nets, the Coronet Bay Community Garden Room and Shelter, which will receive \$30,784 in funding and the Bass Coast Shire Council's Glen Alvie and Kernot Community Centre Activation and Resilience will receive \$37,500.

Almost 350 projects are being supported through both rounds of the Tiny Towns Fund across more than 300 towns.

The Tiny Towns Fund is a part of the Government's record \$45 billion investment over the past decade in projects and programs that support regional and rural Victoria. For more information, visit rdv.vic.gov.au/tiny-towns-fund.



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Growth of Nyora reflected in draft budget

THE township of Nyora is seeing progress in its residential development, with the South Gippsland Shire Council acknowledging this in their most recent draft Budget 2025/26–2028/29.

In April 2023, SGSC adopted a proposed Development Plan for a large-scale Nyora subdivision, set on four separate titles of land, with a total area of almost six hectares, bounded by Davis Street to the west and Grundy Avenue to the east. The Development Plan allows for approximately 60 residential lots, ranging in size from 510m2 to 937m2, and which are currently on the market.

While Councillors adopted the proposal, they have been criticised in the past for not allocating appropriate funds to facilitate the infrastructure for residential development to progress. This appears to be shifting, as, in the most recent draft budget, \$150,000 has been identified for the preparation of a development contributions plans in Nyora.

“The funding will be used primarily to identify road and drainage infrastructure upgrades required to support Nyora’s growth,” said Tony Peterson, while acting as Interim Chief Executive Officer for SGSC.

“As part of the project, key infrastructure items such as intersection upgrades, footpaths and drainage reserves will be costed. These costings will be used to prepare a development contributions plan that will identify how the infrastructure upgrades will be funded and what portion of the costs will be funded by land developers looking to subdivide land in Nyora.”

While this is a good start for Nyora, Mr Peterson does make it clear that the funds will not go directly towards infrastructure projects.

“Implementation of the development contributions plan into the planning scheme is not part of the project and will require separate funding in the future to be implemented.”

Nyora had a population of 1644 in 2021 and this number is projected to almost double over the next decade, making Nyora the third largest town in the South Gippsland Shire.

Developers, Wallis Watson, have proposed a total subdivision in the town of up to 730 lots.

Council shuts down cattery and kennels to the dismay of clients

ANITA Benn has owned and run the Leongatha Cattery and Kennels for the last six years and last week, to the dismay of her loyal and regular clients, the Council shut it down.

Two years ago, Anita had applied for the appropriate permits through Council to extend the cattery and kennels from ten to twenty bays. The Council subsequently approved the permit and Anita went ahead with the extension.

In December 2024, Council Officers came to check the build and also tested a nearby pond that is part of the yard, for contamination.

While the pond is man made, it receives water run off from a nearby paddock and from another South Gippsland Water drain. All sources collectively then run into Coal Creek and eventually the Tarwin River. They tested the pond in three spots.

“So, the middle came up as being contaminated, which could be ducks, birds, dogs, it can be all sorts of things,” said Anita.

However, Council Officers said they believed that the contamination was coming from the kennels, and insisted Anita upgrade all her plumbing from the original building and get new tanks with overflow alarms on them.

Then, two weeks ago Council officers informed Anita that the pond could lead to contamination of water processed for human consumption and subsequently demanded that she send all the animals back to their owners and cancel all



Anita Benn, owner of the Leongatha Cattery and Kennels stands near the pond which Council Officers say is contaminated because of the kennels. Ob03_1925

future bookings. Some of the animal owners were overseas, which made the demand impossible to comply with.

Despite having approved her building application two years ago, the officers informed Anita that she also needed further permits for a site plan showing plumbing for the new building.

“Now, that’s not my fault. That’s Council’s fault and \$200,000 later I’m the one coping their problems,” said Anita.

Anita is happy to comply with the Council demands, but according to her, miscommunication together with a lack of communication from the Council Officers is making that difficult, to the point that Anita (and her plumber) are unclear about what upgrades actually need to be undertaken.

Council have also gone

through the business and demanded upgrades of items within the kennels, some that don’t align with industry standards, according to Anita.

Anita has 2700 clients on the books and when they discovered that Council had closed down the business, were dismayed, with many offering help on the spot.

Anita expressed deep gratitude to all her clients for robustly supporting her through and offering their help – despite having to cancel their bookings.

“I want to thank the community. They’re standing by me. A couple rang me this morning and said, do you want us to pay for our Christmas four-week holiday now, so you’ve got money to continue with work? And that’s what’s keeping me positive and going,” said Anita.

Anita is doing everything she can to comply with Council’s demands and is hoping she will be able to reopen by June 1.

In responses to the Sentinel-Times, South Gippsland Shire stated on Monday: “Council has issued a Prohibition Notice and an Improvement Notice pursuant to the Environment Protection Act 2017 (Vic) to the landowner and business owner at 70 Hughes Street. These notices have been issued based on an investigation (including obtaining independent analysis) which revealed that wastewater disposal is not operating effectively and presents a risk to human health and the environment. Council has not taken this action lightly and is working with the landowner and business owner with the hope that the matter is resolved as soon as possible.”

You’re invited to Inverloch Community Connects

Community Bank Inverloch & District is bringing Inverloch & surrounds businesses, community groups and leaders together to connect and engage. Drinks and light refreshments will be served.

When Thursday, May 29
Time 5 – 6pm
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RSVP By Thursday, May 21 email to penelope.rowe@bendigoadelaide.com.au

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Relevant persons consultation

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For more information about our proposed projects, please see our consultation page via the QR code, or at <https://amplitudeenergy.com.au/consultation>.

The consultation process

For information about our offshore environment plans and the consultation process, including our obligations, please visit: <https://amplitudeenergy.com.au/consultation/why-we-consult>

Please contact us by May 31 2025 at stakeholder@amplitudeenergy.com.au or call 61 8 8100 4900 if you would like further information or to be consulted on these EPs.

*Amplitude Energy is the parent company name for Cooper Energy (CH) Pty Ltd.

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Labor's Re-Election

- Stability with Economic Hurdles

By David Caporale,
Chief Investment Officer of RELcapital

The Labor Party's decisive victory in the 2025 federal election, securing a second term with an expanded majority that was largely unexpected, underscores a public preference for continuity amid global uncertainties and domestic cost-of-living pressures. While the Albanese government has pledged to address key economic challenges, the path forward is fraught with complexities that will test its policy commitments.

Housing Initiatives and Market Implications

Labor's housing strategy aims to tackle affordability and supply issues. The "Help to Buy" scheme, allowing first-home buyers to purchase with a 5% deposit, and the commitment to construct 100,000 homes for first-time buyers are central to this plan. However, experts caution that such demand-driven measures may inadvertently inflate property prices. Affordability won't improve without significantly boosting supply.

Tax Reforms and Cost-of-Living Relief

To alleviate financial pressures, Labor has introduced modest tax cuts, including a \$1,000 standard deduction for work-related expenses starting in 2026. This initiative is designed to simplify tax returns and provide relief to approximately six million workers. While these measures offer short-term benefits, they may not address the underlying issues of wage stagnation and rising living costs.

Energy Policy and Renewable Commitments

Labor continues to prioritise renewable energy, with a goal of achieving 82% renewable electricity by 2030. Recent data indicates that renewables accounted for 43% of electricity in the first quarter of 2025, a significant increase from the previous year. Battery subsidies and ongoing investment incentives add to the sector's momentum, although uncertainties in the energy transition remain.

Immigration Policy Adjustments

In response to housing and infrastructure strains, Labor has proposed reducing net migration to 260,000 in the next year and 225,000 annually thereafter. The strategy focuses on skilled migration and regional development to balance economic needs with societal impacts. While this approach aims to ease pressure on urban centres, it may have implications for sectors reliant on migrant labor.

Fiscal Management and Economic Outlook

Labor's fiscal policy includes an \$8.5 billion investment in Medicare to enhance bulk-billing rates, aiming for nine out of ten GP visits to be bulk-billed by the decade's end. While these investments address immediate healthcare needs, they contribute to long-term budgetary pressures. Dr. Shane Oliver, Chief Economist at AMP, emphasises the necessity for the government to boost productivity, improve housing supply, and manage the budget effectively to sustain economic growth, with concerns about increasing budget deficits.

What It Means for Markets

Financial markets have reacted calmly to the election outcome. With no drastic changes in policy or fiscal direction, the Reserve Bank is still expected to lower interest rates soon -though slightly higher rates could linger due to increased government spending. Historically, shares tend to rise after elections as uncertainty clears, and this one appears to be no different.

Conclusion

Labor's re-election provides an opportunity to implement policies aimed at economic stability and growth. However, the effectiveness of these initiatives will depend on the government's ability to navigate complex challenges, including housing affordability, energy transition, immigration, and fiscal sustainability. The coming term will be pivotal in determining Australia's economic trajectory and the government's legacy.

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Gippsland Southern Health Service Dr Veronica Foote, registered nurse Sharon Smith, registered nurse and clinical nurse educator Shareen Bickerton and graduate registered nurse Emerald Aksenov.

Support for teen first responders at health sessions

OVER a 25-year career, Gippsland Southern Health Service (GSHS) nurse Shareen Bickerton has seen way too many examples of young people getting sick or injured.

Now as part of GSHS's community engagement program, she's trying to help the next generation of teenagers to be better prepared to help their friends when emergencies happen.

Ms Bickerton, an urgent care nurse and also one of GSHS's clinical nurse educators, will be part of the panel at a teen first aid education session in Korumburra on Tuesday, May 20.

GSHS, in partnership with Ambulance Victoria and Headspace, is presenting a free practical conversation starter to help young people make the most of the first five critical minutes after an emergency.

Ms Bickerton will outline some of the practical first aid options that young people can use if they come across an unwell patient or someone who has been injured.

"It's about what you need to do in emergency situations - remaining calm, how to stop bleeding, what to do if someone is unresponsive, being aware of the impact of drug and alcohol and the threat of overdose

and knowing your DRSABC (Danger, Response, Send for Help, Airway, Breathing, CPR and Defibrillation)," she said.

Ms Bickerton said it was vitally important for young people to have a basic understanding of first aid. "A lot of times they will be at parties or out with friends without an adult. They may have to be the first responders if a friend is injured when they're out camping, motorbike riding or at a party.

"We want to make sure everyone has got someone looking out for them. We don't expect teens to perform miracles, but it helps to know to remain calm, call 000 or a parent if needed, and what to do in different situations until help arrives."

Participants won't get a first aid certificate but they will get important information that could help them to save a life.

"It's important for parents to start a conversation with their children about what they would do in different situations," Ms Bickerton said.

Ms Bickerton said she had seen hundreds of young people present at urgent care after coming off their bikes, being injured at skate parks, or drinking so

much that they become unresponsive.

She has been a nurse for 25 years, including the past 15 at GSHS. Her roles have been varied, including about 10 years in Urgent Care.

Speaking in the lead-up to International Nurses Day 2025 on Monday, May 12, Ms Bickerton said she loved the versatility of nursing.

"No day is ever the same and it is constantly still challenging me," she said.

The first aid session from 7pm-8.30pm on May 20 will focus on common situations where young people may be first on the scene - including parties, skateparks, farms, or social gatherings - and aims to empower them to call for help, stay calm, and provide basic support until professionals arrive.

Presenters will include paramedics, youth mental health professionals, and Urgent Care Centre nurses who will discuss what to do when the unexpected happens.

The session is part of a series of life-saving first aid and healthcare support education sessions being hosted by GSHS this year.

Seating is capped and bookings are essential. People can save a seat at trybooking.com/DBGZX.

Yarram is on the map for tourism

MINISTER for Agriculture Ros Spence announced last Thursday a \$47,770 investment towards the Yarram and District Progress Association (Y&DPA) to develop a Tourism Economic Development Strategy as the governments looks to help transform Yarram and the surrounding region through the Forestry Transition Program's Community Development Fund.

The strategy's first phase will investigate activities that attract current visitors to the area and identify how the district can support a larger tourism economy. The process will start by seeking the community's view on how Yarram should define itself as a tourism destination.

"This is a terrific opportunity for Yarram and our local district to develop a tourism brand based on the unique knowledge and experiences of locals who live in and love this part of Victoria," Yarram and District Progress Association president Emily Spalding said.

"It gives us the chance to promote Yarram in a consistent and professional way that benefits businesses and locals alike."

The Future of Yarram has worked with communities in the district to develop ideas that could boost the local economy. They identified opportunities to expand the tourism offering in areas such as outdoor recreation, attracting more performative and creative

arts to the area, improving employment and training opportunities, and building eco-tourism experiences around the Strzelecki koala.

Yarram is one of 11 Victorian towns and communities receiving support to transition and implement new economic strategies in their local communities following the end of native timber harvesting.

"I encourage everyone to visit Yarram and the beautiful region surrounding it. It has so many things on offer for tourists and locals to see and do," Member for Eastern Victoria Tom McIntosh said.

For more information on the Future of Yarram, visit futureofyarram.com/iwg-overview.



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Internationally acclaimed artist Hiroyasu Tsuru, commonly known as TWOONE, who is responsible for this eye-catching work, will give South Gippsland Shire Council's ArtCubes a new look.

Mentorship opportunity for young local artists

YOUNG local creatives are encouraged to submit an Expression of Interest to participate in an arts-based mentorship program with internationally acclaimed artist Hiroyasu Tsuru, commonly known as TWOONE.

The Japanese artist's practice encompasses painting, sculpture, photography, video and sound installations, and performance.

Known for large-scale murals around the world, his works are also featured in institutions such as The National Gallery of Australia, the Straat Museum in Amsterdam, and the Museum of Urban and Contemporary Art (MUCA) in Munich.

The mentorship program is a key feature of South Gippsland Shire Council's ArtCubes Mural Project, enabled by the State

Government's FReeZA Youth Activation Fund.

This Project will see a new mural painted on the exterior of all three ArtCubes, as well as on-site mentorship for one or two local emerging or aspiring creatives.

TWOONE has been selected to complete the ArtCube mural and will provide mentorship during that process.

The exact dates of the mentorship will be decided by the artist and mentee/s, but will be at some stage between July 21 and August 3.

The mentorship program not only allows participants to observe and learn about the artistic process involved in creating a large-scale mural but also provides personalised guidance and feedback.

Council notes that the

program is designed to foster creativity, enhance artistic techniques, and inspire the next generation of artists.

If you are a South Gippsland artist, creative or someone who is interested in developing your skills in making large-scale artworks, and you are aged between 18 and 25, please apply at southgippsland.vic.gov.au/artcubes-mural

More information about the ArtCubes can be found at visitsouthgippsland.com.au/artcubes and you can explore hiroyasutsuri.com to learn more about the artist and his work.

"I look forward to seeing the reimagined ArtCubes and the positive impact this mentorship will have on our budding young artists," Mayor John Schelling said.

Have your say on a dog of a plan

ACCORDING to the Victorian Pet Census of October 2023, conducted for the Victorian Government by independent social and market research company ORIMA Research, 58 per cent of Victorians own a pet of which 41 per cent own dogs.

The percentage of people who own pets in Bass Coast is not clear, ahead of the development of the new Domestic Animal Management Plan (DAMP) for 2026-2029, currently in progress but it is believed to be higher than the state average.

Whatever the case, the number is significant which is why there is likely to be considerable interest in the community consultation, research and ultimately the draft plan to come out in July-August 2025 for final community engagement (August-September) and adoption by council (October 2025).

However, before the latest round in an ongoing process of consultation is concluded, the Philip Island Bass Coast Dog Owners Association (PIBCDOA) has alerted the council to the potential for an online survey on the council's Engage Bass

Coast Website to be compromised.

"They've got no cookies or limitations how many times people can fill out the survey," said PIBCDOA President Cheryl Owens.

"Someone could go on there every 10 minutes and try to skew the result," she said.

Ms Owens said her group would like to see the plan include a dog park in every town and she supported the efforts of the Inverloch Dog Owners Group to be the first cab off the rank.

"Inverloch hasn't got a dog park and they desperately need one," she said.

But, equally, Ms Owens said her group was adamant that there be no reduction in the opportunity to exercise dogs on the beach, either in existing on-leash or off-leash area but she believes the shire should do away with the restrictions at certain times of the year.

"According to Birdlife Australia there is no difference between a person walking on the beach and a person with a dog on a leash walking on a beach."

And far from losing the off-leash dog beach near Griffiths Point at San

Remo, Ms Owens says her group would like to see more opportunities to exercise dogs on the beach including an additional section of the beach in front of the Grollo Estate at Cape Woolamai.

"There's been some comment about wombats in the Griffiths Point area but we believe they've been pushed closer to the coast by development when living that close to the coast isn't their usual habitat. Some areas where housing development has encroached on wombat areas, they've relocated the wombats."

As well as the survey online, those interested in the shire's Domestic Animal Management Plan, and it extends to cats and other pets, can attend some drop-in events over the next few weeks:

- Tuesday, May 20, 12 noon to 2pm Berninnet Arts and Cultural Centre, Cowes
- Thursday, May 29, 3pm to 5pm Inverloch Community Centre
- Monday, June 2, 4pm to 6pm Wonthaggi Plaza
- Thursday June 5, 10am to 12 noon Corinella & District Community Centre.

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Esso Australia Resources Pty Ltd (Esso), a wholly owned subsidiary of ExxonMobil Australia Pty Ltd, is committed to operating and decommissioning its Gippsland and Bass Strait facilities safely and effectively. After delivering energy to Australia for over 50 years, many of the Bass Strait oil and gas fields are now reaching the end of their productive life. As planning for decommissioning progresses, Esso is focused on safely shutting-down non-producing facilities and ensuring they stay safe throughout the entire decommissioning process.

The Esso Consultation Team will also be available to discuss all current activities, including:

- Bass Strait State Waters Environment Plan
- Bass Strait Environment Plan
- Jack-Up-Rig Plug & Abandonment Revision 1 Environment Plan
- Turrum Phase 3 Drilling Environment Plan
- Decommissioning Planning Campaign 1A

Like to be consulted about these activities?

Esso is working to identify and consult with relevant persons [stakeholders] whose functions, interests, or activities may be affected by one or more of Esso's proposed activities.

Complete the [Esso Consultation Questionnaire \(sli.do\)](#) in the Esso Consultation Hub to let us know if you'd like to be consulted or have any questions or feedback.

Refer to the NOPSEMA brochure [Consultation on offshore petroleum environment plans brochure.pdf \(nopsema.gov.au\)](#) to understand more about consultation on offshore petroleum environment plans assessed under the Offshore Petroleum and Greenhouse Gas Storage (Environment) Regulations 2023.

Your feedback and our response will be included in the relevant regulatory application documentation and submitted to the regulator.

Please connect us with other interested people

If there is anyone you know who may be interested in our activities, we encourage you to share this information with them.

To find out more information

For more information about Esso's activities and other projects, please go to the Esso Consultation Hub at: <https://corporate.exxonmobil.com/locations/australia/our-approach>

Community Information Sessions

If you'd like to know more about **labour and logistics**, or any other topics related to the decommissioning of platforms and pipelines in Bass Strait, the Esso Consultation Team along with **presentations from CMA Contracting (Dismantling and Recycling Contractor) and Qube (Operators of Barry Beach Marine Terminal)**, will be hosting community information sessions at the following locations:

Monday 19 May 2025 - Welshpool Welshpool Memorial Hall 49 Main Street
Tuesday 20 May 2025 - Foster Foster War Memorial Arts Centre Main Street
Wednesday 21 May 2025 - Leongatha Leongatha Memorial Hall 6-8 McCartin Street
Monday 26 May 2025 - Yarram The Yarram Hub 156 Grant Street
Tuesday 27 May 2025 - Lakes Entrance The Bellevue Hotel 201 The Esplanade
Wednesday 28 May 2025 - Sale The Criterion Hotel 90 Macalister Street

All the above sessions will run from **5.00pm - 7.00pm** with a **presentation** about Esso's operations with a focus on decommissioning projects.

We encourage you to come along and ask questions or to raise any concerns you may have. Please **register your attendance** by emailing: consultation@exxonmobil.com

If these dates and times don't suit, please contact us at consultation@exxonmobil.com or by phone on 03 9261 0000.

PHM12501

Community connections in Leongatha

HAVE you recently moved to the Leongatha area? Are you finding yourself with some extra time on your hands? Is there a sense of being a little removed from your community? If so, or if you are just plain curious, come along to the free Community Connections event in Leongatha on May 28.

The Leongatha Citizens Advice Bureau and Information Centre (CAB) has been operating for over 40 years and provides information to the community on a wide range of topics. Staffed entirely by volunteers, the Bureau is aware of the value of pursuing and maintaining contacts within the community. Social isolation and loneliness can be a major risk for anyone who has had a change in circumstances whether it be a result of ageing, moving away from previous supports or a change in family dynamics.

To this end, the CAB is holding a free event titled "Community Connections".

This involves representatives from various groups including sporting, lifestyle and volunteer groups. Attendees are invited to spend time with these representatives to find out about their particular organisation and what they can offer to anyone interested. There are at least 10 groups who are keen to participate on the day.

This is a free event. Morning tea and a light lunch will be provided for all attendees.

When: Wednesday, May 28 May
Where: Meeting Room 1, Memorial Hall, Leongatha.
Time 10am – 2pm
RSVP by May 21 to Sue 0439 624 233 or Amanda 0410 105 664.

Opportunity and optimism with Beau Vernon

DUST off the evening gowns and suits, because the Bass Coast Community Foundation Gala Dinner is back and promises to be a spectacular evening on Saturday, July 26 from 7pm to 10pm.

An elegant evening of fine dining, inspiring conversation, and community giving will take place at Silverwater Resort at a fundraiser supporting the Bass Coast Community Foundation and all that they do in the Bass Coast community.

This special event will bring together local leaders, philanthropists and community members to celebrate the Foundation's shared mission of strengthening and supporting the Bass Coast community.

Guests will enjoy a gourmet dinner and an inspiring keynote speech from Beau Vernon, a champion whose journey has changed his life, the lives of his community and audiences who listen to his unbelievable story of opportunity and optimism.

At 23 years of age, in 2012, Beau's life changed forever. A freak accident during an AFL match left Beau a quadriplegic. Since then, Beau has won a bronze medal in the Paralympics in Paris representing Australian Wheelchair Rugby, led Leongatha Parrots to two premierships, as well as Phillip Island Bulldogs.

Throughout the evening, the Foundation's accomplishments will be showcased highlighting success stories, and present opportunities



Paralympian and multiple premierships coach Beau Vernon will be the keynote speaker at Silverwater Resort on July 26.

for guests to make a lasting difference through donations and sponsorships.

The funds raised at this event will be put towards extending the Foundation's support for a financial management basics program for teens called Centsible Teen Talk. Developed and delivered by local experts Rebecca Casey and Jackie Newman, the Centsible program teaches participants about budgeting and finan-

cial management through topics such as budgeting, how to buy a house, affluenza and the Diderot effect, money management, credit scores, banking, credit cards, resumes, cyber-crime, superannuation and insurance.

With time to network mixed amongst live entertainment and a gourmet two-course dinner with canapes and a complementary drink on arrival don't miss the number one

event for your diary this July.

Cost: \$130 per person or \$950 for a table of 8

Tickets: Reserve your seat via Trybooking trybooking.com/CZNQT

Sponsorship package available by contacting Deb Watson at info@bccf.org.au or 0493 110 802.

Your support will directly impact programs that ensure that our community thrives for generations to come.



Are you looking to feel more **connected** to your community?

Would you like to know more about **groups in the local area?**

Come and join us to meet new people at our **free community event!**

When: Wednesday 28th of May 10am - 2pm
Where: Meeting Room 1, Memorial Hall, Leongatha

Enjoy a delicious morning tea and lunch!
RSVP to Sue 0439 624 233 or Amanda 0410 105 664 by 21st May



Gala Dinner
with
Beau Vernon
Opportunity and Optimism



Beau Vernon is a champion whose journey has changed his life, the lives of his community and audiences who listen to his unbelievable story of opportunity and optimism

Join us for a night of inspiration.

Saturday 26 July 2025
Silverwater Resort
17 Potters Hill Rd, San Remo
7pm – 10pm
\$130 per person/\$950 per table of 8
Bookings via Trybooking
<https://www.trybooking.com/CZNQT>

Canapes & complimentary drink on arrival
Two course dinner – mains and desserts
Drinks at Bar Prices
Tea and Coffee





Colourful delights

THERE was a fantastic array of coloured Easter bunnies received last month at The Wonthaggi Club, with a number of young kids coming away winners. Each winner received a \$50 gift voucher.

Winners in each category were:

5 yrs and under: Tadgh Sheerin, Daisy Long and Edith Wallis.

6,7,8: Tate Pepperell, Matilda. C, Isabelle, Stuart, and Isabelle Magnussen.

9,10,11: Milli Ryle, Hannah Magnussen, Avary Sheerin, Zara Olden and Kaia Pepperell.

12 and over: Ruby Sheerin and Gilbert. Congratulations to the winners!

From Corner Inlet to Alaska in nine days: the amazing feats of migratory birds

A TINY bird the size and weight of a matchbox that flies thousands of kilometres from the Siberian tundra is just one of the amazing stories of Corner Inlet's migratory birds that West Gippsland Catchment Management Authority (CMA) is celebrating this World Migratory Bird Day.

Corner Inlet's migratory birds are busy preparing for their annual long-haul flight to summer breeding grounds in north-east Asia and Siberia. They are preening their feathers and feeding intensively to have enough fuel for the epic journey.

World Migratory Bird Day was on Saturday, May 10 with the theme of Shared Spaces. The day aims to raise awareness of the many challenges migratory birds face and how crucial it is to work together as a community to provide safe havens for these remarkable world travellers.

"Communities working together to enhance and protect Corner Inlet Ramsar site and the migratory birds that call it home is something we have been doing for decades," said Tanya Cowell, Waterways Project Officer for West Gippsland CMA.

"Our latest project focuses on monitoring and understanding the inlet's migratory bird populations."

Summer monitoring by BirdLife Australia staff and volunteers counted just over 27,000 shore and water



Red Knots fly further to the moon in their lifetime of migrations

birds including 9631 Bar-tailed Godwits and 9439 Red-necked Stints – two birds with incredible stories.

Red necked stints are the smallest of Australia's migratory birds, weighing just 30 grams and their annual 15,000-kilometre migration is a truly mighty effort. In their lifetime of about 20 years they travel further than the distance between the Earth and the Moon!

Bar-tailed Godwits are also remarkable with godwits making their 11,000-kilometre journey to Alaska non-stop in nine days!

There are 16 species of international migratory shorebirds that are regularly supported by the Corner Inlet

Ramsar site. Many travel to northeast Asia and Alaska along what is known as the East Asian Australasian Flyway with habitat destruction being one of their biggest threats.

Corner Inlet became an internationally recognised wetland through the Ramsar convention in 1982. The inlet's extensive intertidal mudflats provide food for migratory species.

"Rewards of a consistent and sustained effort to protect and enhance Corner Inlet by the CMA, Landcare, Greening Australia, GLaWAC Traditional Owners and partners Parks Victoria, Trust for Nature and BirdLife Australia are definitely paying off," said

Tanya.

"Ongoing monitoring is crucial to understanding the bird populations and threats they face. This can then guide effective management efforts and assist in community education and how special the inlet is and how lucky we are that these birds return each year."

As a community it is important to recognise and celebrate these amazing birds and how we are working together to protect the incredibly unique habitat that supports these special species," Tanya said.

"The Corner Inlet Ramsar Site Coordination project is supported by the Victorian Government."

"Burra's honest and direct, and they've always supported us as partners, not just suppliers."

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Tech neck time bomb for Australians

WITH over 5.3 million Australians suffering from neck pain including Tension Neck Syndrome, a musculoskeletal disorder (MSD) commonly known as 'tech neck' or 'text neck', national Spinal Health Week (May 26 to June 1, 2025) is dedicated to promoting spinal health and preventing the incidences of tech neck in Australians of all ages.

MSDs affect the joints, bones, muscles and multiple body areas (including the neck) and cost the Australian economy over \$55 billion annually through direct health costs, lost productivity and reduced quality of life.

Dr Billy Chow, President of the Australian Chiropractors Association (ACA), said, "With tech neck emerging as a growing global public health concern, together with the projected increase in MSDs over the next two decades, the health burden on Australians and our economy is and will continue to be significant."

Studies have shown that smartphone and computer use can have a significant impact on pain severity among tech neck sufferers, with the most prevalent symptoms of neck and back pain linked to the length of time spent using a device and the degree of discomfort experienced.

Caused by poor posture and the prolonged or incorrect use of digital devices, tech neck can lead to headaches, neck, shoulder and upper back pain that, over time, can lead to changes to the natural curve of the cervical spine.

"When it comes to smartphones, not only must we monitor the length of time we use our devices, but we must be cognisant that overuse and the way we use them can negatively impact our spinal health as well as our mental health," Dr Chow said.

Miners' Dispensary boosts BCH with generous \$13,000 donation

BASS Coast Health (BCH) has expressed its gratitude to the Miners' Dispensary in Wonthaggi for contributing \$13,277 towards new hospital equipment.

The Miners' Dispensary donated \$8277, which enabled BCH to purchase a jaundice meter for the Midwifery Department. This compact device allows midwives to assess a baby's skin for signs of jaundice without the need for a blood test via heel prick. The jaundice meter is also portable, allowing BCH midwives to use it during home visits in the community.

An additional \$5000 from the Miners' Dispensary was put towards the cost of a portable observation machine, enhancing the hospital's capacity to monitor patients effectively.

The remaining \$2160 was raised through community fundraising efforts led by Graduate Nurse Rachel Bott, who works in theatre at Wonthaggi Hospital. Rachel organised three barbecues, a raffle, and distributed donation tins across the local area to gather funds.

BCH Volunteer and Fundraising Manager Kerry Redmond thanked the Miners' Dispensary for their ongoing partnership and support.

"As a public health service, donations we receive from our community help us to provide a higher level of care and services to our community, close to home," she said.

"BCH appreciates the generosity of the Miners' Dispensary



Rachel Bott, Graduate Nurse at BCH, along with the Miners' Dispensary's Sally Cairnduff and Trevor Bowler, admiring the new personal observations machine their fundraising paid for.

in funding this equipment that will enable our nurses and midwifery team to perform their roles with greater efficiency and more convenience for our patients.

"We also value the time and effort Rachel put into organising her fundraisers and going the extra mile to support the community she cares for."

Trevor Bowler, Deputy Chair of the Board of the Miners' Dispensary, also acknowledged the collective effort behind the donation.

"On behalf of the Board of the

Miners' Dispensary, we sincerely acknowledge the loyal and generous support of our members and the dedication of our staff that enables us to make significant donations to the community, such as this equipment for Bass Coast Health," he said.

"This will greatly benefit patients in this fantastic facility, which we, as a community, are incredibly grateful to have."

Miners' Dispensary General Manager Sally Cairnduff echoed the sentiments.

"We are proud of our local hospital, and our not-for-profit

organisation, the Miners' Dispensary, is proud to support health services in our community," she said.

Rachel said her fundraising efforts were driven by a sense of pride in her community.

"Supporting my community is an investment in our shared future," she said.

"We have a wonderful, generous and kind community. Completing this fundraiser really warmed my heart, knowing that so many local people care about our hospital and our healthcare."

WONTHAGGI THEATRICAL GROUP

CELEBRATING 100 YEARS

THE ADDAMS FAMILY

THE ADDAMS FAMILY
23 MAY - 8 JUN

CHOOKAS

TO ALL THE CAST & CREW

We have seen the enormous work going into this incredible show! Tickets are selling quickly so grab yours now and support our leading theatre group Wonthaggi Theatrical Group as we celebrate 100 years of The Union Theatre!





BASSCOASTCULTURALVENUES.COM

UNION THEATRE

Join our Community Advisory Committee



Do you have strong community connections and a passion for local healthcare?

BCH is seeking Expressions of Interest for members of our Community Advisory Committee, to act as a conduit between the community and the Board and Executive.

You will convey community needs and expectations to the Board and share with our community our ever expanding services. You will provide feedback and advice, and represent the community on

committees that ensure consumer voice is central to the delivery of our services.

We seek members of all ages and backgrounds bringing lived experience and skills. See our committee members here: basscoasthealth.org.au/cac

This is an exciting time to join BCH, with significant growth in services and infrastructure. This is your opportunity to shape your sub-regional health service, now and for the future. Expressions of interest close Wednesday 28 May.



For more information, contact Kristen Yates-Matthews:
Kristen.Yates-Matthews@basscoasthealth.org.au

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33,990 DRIVE AWAY

25,487kms, 7 speed sports auto SUV
SN: W102075



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30,990 DRIVE AWAY

59,432kms, 7 speed sports auto SUV
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17,990 DRIVE AWAY

72,599kms, 6 speed sports auto hatch
SN: W102083



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2020 Toyota
Landcruiser Prado GXL

52,990 DRIVE AWAY

180,506kms, 6 speed sports auto 4x4
SUV SN: W102078



FINANCE
AVAILABLE

2015 Ford Ranger XLT PX Mk II

24,990 DRIVE AWAY

205,939kms, 6 speed sports auto 4x4
double cab SN: W102058



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AVAILABLE

2019 Toyota Camry Ascent

24,990 DRIVE AWAY

117,681kms, 6 speed sports auto
sedan SN: W102077



FINANCE
AVAILABLE

2014 Nissan Juke ST F15

18,990 DRIVE AWAY

124,173kms, CVT auto SUV
SN: W101928



PRICE
DROP

2016 Holden
Commodore Evoke VF Series II

14,990 DRIVE AWAY

170,284kms, 6 speed sports auto
wagon SN: W101645

Leongatha Toyota

USED VEHICLE SPECIALS



FINANCE
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2023 Mitsubishi Triton GSR MR

50,990 DRIVE AWAY

3,420kms, 6 speed CVT auto 4x4
double cab SN: L101324



FINANCE
AVAILABLE

2021 Toyota Hilux SR

43,990 DRIVE AWAY

90,719kms, 6 speed manual 4x4 cab
chassis SN: L101334



FINANCE
AVAILABLE

2018 Toyota RAV4 GX

22,990 DRIVE AWAY

162,765kms, 6 speed CVT auto SUV
SN: L101330



FINANCE
AVAILABLE

2019 Subaru Forester 2.5i-S S5

27,990 DRIVE AWAY

81,956kms, 7 speed CVT auto SUV
SN: L101340



FINANCE
AVAILABLE

2020 Toyota
Landcruiser Prado GXL

64,990 DRIVE AWAY

36,729kms, 6 speed CVT auto 4x4
SUV SN: L101339



DEMO

2024 Toyota
Landcruiser Prado Kakadu

112,990 DRIVE AWAY

3,087kms, 8 speed CVT auto 4x4
SUV SN: 11960338



FINANCE
AVAILABLE

2020 Toyota Landcruiser GXL

99,990 DRIVE AWAY

104,124kms, 6 speed CVT auto 4x4
SUV SN: L101318



FINANCE
AVAILABLE

2020 Ford Mustang GT FN

62,990 DRIVE AWAY

26,000kms, 6 speed CVT manual
coupe SN: L101345

Wonthaggi Toyota

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LMCT 8179
wonthaggitoyota.com.au

Leongatha Toyota

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OH WHAT A FEELING

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

Annie Walker honoured amongst the stars

THE International Astronomical Union (IAU) has officially named asteroid (5400) Anniewalker in honour of Annie Walker (1863-1940), a pioneering British astronomer whose remarkable career helped shape the early contributions of women in professional astronomy. The asteroid, located in the outer part of the main belt of the Themis group, is approximately 10.6 kilometres in diameter and orbits the Sun every 5.43 years at a speed of around 61,000 kilometres per hour.

This celestial tribute marks a long-overdue recognition for a woman who, despite the social constraints of her time, rose to become Britain's second professional female observing astronomer – after Caroline Herschel. Annie worked at the Cambridge Observatory for over two decades, beginning in 1879, first as a human “computer” performing complex mathematical calculations, and later as a skilled and reliable observer using the Observatory's transit telescope.

Her contribution was instrumental in the production of the Cambridge Zone Catalogue, an ambitious international effort to chart the positions of thousands of stars with precision. By 1884, Walker was taking independent observations and by the late 1880s, she had effectively become a de facto assistant astronomer, contributing both observational data and calculations.

Annie's quiet tenacity and precision earned her the trust of her mentors, Andrew Graham and Professor John Couch Adams. Unlike many women of the time who worked in the shadow of male relatives, Walker's achievements were her own – recognised in annual reports and ultimately, in the catalogues themselves.

In 1903, after 24 years at Cambridge, Walker emigrated to Australia to rejoin her family in Nyora, Victoria. Though it's understood she did not continue in professional astronomy, she was still listed as an “astronomer” in early Australian electoral rolls for the District of Flinders, proudly owning her identity despite the limited opportunities for women in the field.

Annie lived with her sister Ellen in Nyora until 1929-30 when they then moved to Glen Huntly.

Annie's incredible life and work will be published in The Antiquarian Astronomer in June 2025 by Roger Hutchins and Mark Hurn and this scribe, incredibly fortunate to read an early copy of the text, highly recommends the read!

It is also hoped that someone whether in the Nyora community or this greater South Gippsland/Bass Coast region may have a photo of Annie Walker and if so, authors of the piece would love to include it in publication.

Spindling Workshop

LEARN the art of Stick Spindling and Drop Spindling from expert Spinners in a hands-on workshop at Coal Creek.

These techniques, which predate written history and are thought to have been used for over 9000 years before the spinning wheel was invented, allow the spinning of wool or natural fibres into yarn without the need of a spinning wheel.

Participants will leave with raw wool and sticks to continue to practice their newfound skills.

The workshop will take place on Sunday, May 18 from 11am – 12.30pm at the Coal Creek Community Park and Museum, Korumburra. Suitable for those aged 15 and over.

Blessing and opening of new Specialist Learning Hub

STAFF and students of Our Lady Star of the Sea Primary School (OLSS) in Cowes celebrated the official blessing and opening of a new specialist learning area.

Parish Priest of St Mary's Parish Cowes Father Manny Lomagno officially blessed the new facilities joined by Martin Dixon Board Director Diocese of Sale Catholic Education Limited (DOSCEL), Paul Velten Director of Catholic Education for the Diocese of Sale, Cathy Blackford Principal of OLSS, invited guests and friends of the school, parish and wider community.

The official party unveiled a plaque to commemorate the occasion.

The modular building named Our Gathering Space serves as a dynamic multi-purpose hub to accommodate specialist learning including art, music, drama, digital technology and science.

Principal Catherine Blackford said the addition of this dedicated space was a wonderful asset to enhance the educational experiences of students.

“It includes two open learning areas, smaller break-out spaces, a kitchenette, and accessible amenities designed to foster creativity and collaborative learning.”

Director of Catholic Education



Students and Parish Priest of St Mary's Parish Cowes Father Manny Lomagno, Board Director Diocese of Sale Catholic Education Martin Dixon, Director of Catholic Education for the Diocese of Sale Paul Velten and Cathy Blackford Principal of Our Lady Star of the Sea P.S. at the opening of a new Specialist Learning Hub..

for the Diocese of Sale, Mr Paul Velten said the project involved relocation and refurbishment of an existing modular building previously used at St Peter's College.

“The building's refurbishment and adaptive reuse reflects DOSCEL's commitment to environmental sustainability,

aligning with the Church's call to Care for Creation.

“It is wonderful to see this building transformed to suit the specific needs of our Lady Star of the Sea Primary School.

“These new learning spaces will undoubtedly nurture creativity, engagement, and inclusive education for all students,”

he said.

Mr Velten extended gratitude to Crosier Scott Architects for their innovative design and to Kubale Constructions.

The building project which was completed in December 2024 ready for the 2025 new school year was self-funded by the school community.

Lisa Ireland set to delight at Biggest Morning Tea



Director of Deery Consulting Structural & Civil Engineers, Matt Cook and managing director Paul Deery with the team at last year's Biggest Morning Tea supporting the Cancer Council.

ACCLAIMED author and mentor, Lisa Ireland will this year be the special guest speaker at Deery Consulting Structural and Civil Engineers' fifth annual Biggest Morning Tea in support of Cancer Council research on Thursday, May 22, at 10 am.

Organiser Robyn Hodson said the event has already received enormous support from local businesses and organisations, who have donated over \$3000 in goods and services to be used as prizes and to help put on the day.

“Our fundraising tally sits at \$1713,” Robyn said.

To help support the cause and donate to the Cancer Council in support of those affected by cancer, visit Deery Consulting at 1/54 Dixon Street, Inverloch or donate online at Australia's Biggest Morning Tea – Deery Consulting.

Robyn and the team at Deery Consulting look forward to welcoming the public for this special event.

Ongoing childcare crisis continues in South Gippsland

A SEVERE lack of access to childcare across South Gippsland continues to significantly impact local families.

The Nationals Member for Gippsland South, Danny O'Brien said he continues to be contacted by desperate parents and carers seeking help to find childcare so they can get on with providing for their families.

“We have seen some improvement across Wellington Shire, largely due to new childcare centres opening in Maffra, Rosedale and Stratford, but it remains a large concern across South Gippsland, particularly in areas like Korumburra and

Foster,” Mr O'Brien said.

“Families in these areas, particularly those with children under three, are being wait-listed with no real way to know how long they will be waiting.

“Very recently I was contacted by a woman who is attempting to return from maternity leave and is understandably at wit's end.

“She has been advised by centres in Korumburra, Leonagatha, Wonthaggi, and Mirboo North that she will be waiting at least another nine months.”

Mr O'Brien said even the centres that are operating in South Gippsland are having to limit available places due to a lack

of qualified educators. This issue was highlighted in the most recent survey* of Early Childhood Education and Care providers (completed by Australian Childcare Alliance) which showed that half had had to cap enrolments due to staffing concerns.

“Gippsland families need to be able to access childcare when they need it so that they can return to work if and when they want to.

“This is a crucial issue that needs to be addressed at both state and federal levels of government.”

Speaking with facilities across Bass Coast and South

Gippsland, the Sentinel-Times understands that there are various challenges facing facilities and the ‘childcare crisis’, with some facilities limited due to the number of educators and others simply at capacity within the building and premise.

Cost-of-living challenges and families picking up additional work to cover increasing living expenses have also seen the requests for additional days for children under three years of age increase.

*<https://childcarealliance.org.au/media-publications/aca-media-releases/244-aca-enrolments-survey-report-november-2023/file>.

David Walsh opens Gippsland



DAVID has been a long-standing South Gippsland resident of Venus Bay since 1995. He is an iconic businessman, community member, and family man whose most recent local venture and passion project was 'Open Gippsland' in Leongatha.

The vibrant relaxed Lounge Bar, a gathering place for South Gippslanders and visitors alike that he and his friend/business partner/co-collaborator Shane Osborne opened together in 2024... quickly building up a thriving clientele of happy patrons.

Quite the name for itself with its sophisticated, yet relaxed energetic vibe, the team's professional, passionate, inspiring philosophy around quality, fresh, ethical, local, farm-to-plate produce... sourcing, supporting and showcasing local growers, farmers, and food artisans. Celebrating and enjoying the best of South Gippsland.

After David's sad unexpected passing recently his passionate fellow 'Open Gippsland' team members and family paused business focus to honour David and to contemplate, dream of where to from here.

In reflection, along with David's loving family and friends, the amazing man will always be remembered for his keen natural instincts, flair, talents and energy for creativity that he trusted and flowed into the many chapters of his fascinating life, businesses, and the inspiring legacy he leaves for us all in that remembrance of his great life story.

David's business career began early in his life in Melbourne, his birthplace, before expanding with the great move to South Gippsland in 1997, becoming a passionate local, business venturer of Venus Bay... then Inverloch... and eventually Leongatha.

David truly cared deeply for improving people and the community's quality of life!

That intent always drove his business dreams and successes.

In his late teens, David won a role working at well-known retail store Myers including David Jones and George's. Working his way up quickly to become head buyer, often being sent overseas to source, seek out, identify and bring home to the Australian public the latest and the best quality in homewares.

Eventually feeling his calling as an entrepreneur beyond the often cutthroat corporate world. David ventured into co-creating a successful window cleaning business, the 'Payne Brothers'.

In 1988, desiring to continue with his lifelong passion of bringing to the public the best he could for improving and enhancing people's lifestyle David and his business partner Steve Miller, purchased 'The Standard' in Melbourne, Fitzroy.

Becoming one of the first pubs in Melbourne to buy a quality cappuccino machine so David could offer all his valued patrons a good coffee, which was very important to David himself. Always his philosophy, integrity, intent, attention to detail, and customer care offering the best service to the people that he expected himself. Right alongside good food.

David and his team upped the 'standard' – pub meals, quality service, and hospitable atmosphere became the talk of local Fitzroyians and beyond.

After years of enjoying being a frontman at The Standard, a bit of a local icon, everyone's friend, David felt the itch for change again and to find new ways to express his creativity and passion. Dabbling in the denim business creating 'Route 66'.

In 1995 after discovering beautiful Venus Bay, he found inspiration in creating a seaside lifestyle for himself. Purchasing a block of land he and one of his best mates set into creating and building a beach house two years later which became his home.

Always on the lookout for an opportunity to enjoy expressing his entrepreneurial talents David enquired at the local general

store if any businesses might be coming up for sale and not long after that he became the proud owner of The Venus Bay General Store itself.

Supplying the necessities of bread, milk and papers to the locals, David's visions for the store, of course, were expanding by the moment. He set about to offer the community all that he could see they would love beyond the essentials. The store quickly grew as did the town and so further space being required the business overflowed into the building next door to include a liqueur department, and an ever-expanding delicatessen full of the hard to find in the country delicacies, 'foodie' items. Once again David only wanted to provide and serve the best for his customers.

David settled in as a local and being a keen fisherman could see there was a need to also honour and serve the 'oceans locals' – the 'pipi' population too!

So was inspired to begin a public petition to bring in 'bag limits' for the future sustainability of pipis. The petition was highly successful, David plastering the general store's windows with signed petitions helping pass increased protection for the pipis and for people's healthy pastime 'fishing fun' for generations of families to come.

Inspired by his love for his own beautiful family along with Vicki and their love for the beach and fishing another dream was born.

David decided to sell the general store business to focus solely on his new quest, a really cool fishing and beach family fun apparel shop. David's keen eye and sourcing talent set to hand picking all, including the yet-to-be-famous Croc's shoes in all the colours of the rainbow, which indeed became one of the highly successful bestselling stars of the shop.

As always David's charismatic, energy influenced his business and he chose to base the whole shop around a 'cool, fun, character' that he'd created in his

powerful imagination – Rod Bending. And so, the business was named and became well known as 'Rod Bending's World of Fishing and Beach Stuff'. And, as David's creativity continued to flow so did the character. David wrote and developed fun and informative children's picture story books and CDs all based around Rod Bending's fishing adventures, which later also came to life in magical animation.

With David's dream expanding that lead Vicki and David along with beloved inspirations from their girls Kiarra and Juanita opened up a new family addition in Inverloch. Eventually after many years of happy patronage, the two shops merged, relocated and transformed into the great Rod Bending's World of Hobbie Kayaks in Leongatha.

Rick, David's best mate of many years since the Fitzroy days added these words of sentiment to the mix.

"David always thought out of the box he was different, an entrepreneur always looking for ways to improve things, a quiet achiever who was always prepared to put in the hard yards for his pursuits to come to fruition and succeed.

"Never in it for the quick dollar, experience had taught him patience and business nous in ventures for the long haul, building reputation, quality in service and presentation, reinvesting in the business until it became its own beast. Seeing dividends of a dream ...and all the time, energy invested becomes worthy..."

Riding the ups and downs of business life, David's creativity never subdued. During COVID-19, he set about co-creating 'Open Gippsland' with his great mate Shane.

Working tirelessly over four years the pair eventually realised their creative dream spectacularly transforming the Leongatha business premises and opening the doors of the great Open Gippsland.

What a journey...

David's spirit lives on in our hearts and community.

CONVERSATION with Claire



Embracing Wattlebank Farm

By author Claire Chitty

WITH so much going on in the world, the distractions, elections, financial economy and the fight for supremacy, you'd be excused for thinking the world is a dark and depressing place.

When feelings of overwhelm and hopelessness strike, take a breath and rethink how you do life. There is countless activities and experiences to be enjoyed in the Bass Coast/South Gippsland region. From scenic ocean walks, impressive beaches, small businesses offerings, live music and events, there's plenty of opportunity to relax and enjoy.

One place I highly recommend is the stunning Wattlebank Farm, hosted by Beatrice and Peter. As part of the South Coast Community Leadership Program, the focus for the workshop was on emotional intelligence. Through personal and group reflections, the learning and the location were second to none as we engaged in horsemanship practices.

Refreshingly, the training wasn't in a soulless building; it was about getting outside, interacting with each other, the horses and experiencing firsthand how, through communication and encouragement, we can move beyond limiting thoughts and create positive outcomes.

Peter, an intrepid venturer and his wife, Beatrice, taught us how to approach the horses from their left side and never straight on, due to their eyes slightly turned out. After building trust and gently sliding halters over their noses, we encouraged them to follow our lead and complete various obstacles.

Then it was onto horse whispering, lifting the horse's legs to clean their hooves and the chance to ride bareback.

Fear and hesitation was replaced with relaxation and wellness, but more importantly, the underlying concept was about extending ourselves to overcome and heal past fears and limitations in life.

After a flavoursome and healthy lunch from homegrown produce, it was onto inner reflection, storytelling and gratitude journaling before a ritual burning and releasing around a fire.

However, the pièce de resistance, was sitting amongst the horses in quiet contemplation in awe, connection and trust as they grazed nearby.

The love, care and dedication by the owners, make this working farm an educational fun, eco-tourism destination. Equine therapy is available for schools, businesses and corporate groups.

Wattlebank is also a closed loop permaculture food production system that grows organic oyster mushrooms commercially. Kits are available through the farm shop, in addition to workshops and demonstrations.

An off grid tiny house farm stay is available to hire for an immersive experience, along with weekend trail rides events.

In these uncertain times, Wattlebank Farm offers hope, peace, well-being and empowerment to teach a better way of coexisting with each other and our animal friends.

Loch Hall Winter Market

LOCAL makers, bakers, growers and crafters showed off their talent and their wares at Loch's Winter Market on Sunday.

With freshly baked doughnuts, fresh produce and plants to buy before even getting in the door of the Loch Hall, late Mother's Day gifts were not a problem.

From home made jams, chutneys and sauces, to a wide range of knitted, crocheted and quilted items, jewellery and art work, the market was jam packed with one of a kind goods.

Small groups of families and friends languidly browsed the tables crammed with goods and the CWA were on hand dishing up their famous Devonshire tea with sweet treats.



Judy Alexander, selling a range of jams, sauces and other goods, all grown in her own patch or locally sourced, to create a range of delicious products. ob09_1925



Friends Margaret and Alison were enjoying browsing the market, buying themselves some new jewellery. ob12_1925

Sentinel-Times

COMMENT

It's be kind to Bass Coast Council week!

YOU probably don't see enough of it in this column, to be honest, but credit where credit is due when the Bass Coast Shire Council gets it right.

They probably get a lot of things right, which is what we are paying them to do, but a couple of standouts happened in the past week – the screening of 'Just A Farmer' at the Union Theatre Wonthaggi last Thursday night and their leadership on the issue of family violence.

It took a fair bit of processing after the hard-hitting nature of that film and its focus on the stress, isolation and mental health challenges faced by farmers, especially so locally at the moment given the terribly dry seasonal conditions.

And there's a stress peak coming with the announcement of the new season milk prices on June 1, while beef farmers are also under pressure at the moment as well with the dry.

But talking about it to others is good, and the night provided many contacts and strategies for addressing the root cause of the high farmer suicide rate.

For financial issues call Nex Business Farming Wellness, formerly the Gippsland Rural Financial Counselling Service 1300 045 747 or go to their new website at nexsolutions.org.au.

Also, call LIFELINE 13 11 14 or Beyond Blue at beyondblue.org.au and Standbysupport after suicide at standbysupport.com.au.

The other well done message is for the shire's support for the 'Change for Sam' vigil last Wednesday night at Berninnet in Cowes and for the on-going leadership they are showing on the scourge of family violence.

The total number of family violence incidents in Bass Coast was up by 12.3 per cent in the 12 months to December 2024. The rate of incidents per 100,000 across Victoria also increased by 8.8 per cent with 104,786 incidents in the past 12 months making it one of the most pressing issues for police.

New strategies are required there too if we are to bring those shocking numbers down and address problem behaviour.

And, well done on the successful Alison Lester book-signing event at the Cowes Myli Community Library.

So, maybe as suggested by the new council, the big ship that is the Bass Coast Shire Council is being turned around for the good of the general community. But a number of challenges remain, producing a budget with works and services that the community wants, and having regard for the 50 per cent of dog ownership in the shire when preparing the new Domestic Animal Management Plan (DAMP) for 2026-2029.

Dogs do a great job in the mental health space for us humans but their mental health is also important requiring more places for them to go on their wellness (sniffing) walks, both on leash and off-leash.

Go to engage.basscoast.vic.gov.au/DAMP to have your say.

You can't trust a person with a blower

THE invention of blowers may have been very good if only used with respect for other properties.

They are great for grass clippings on paths, they stay away from spoutings, but they are a curse for leaves like oaks, that block spouting gutters culverts.

If only these people would gather them up instead of blowing them onto other people's gardens etc.

Jean Morcet, Korumburra

Vox Pop

What do you think about the government's plan to lock up state parks and does it affect you?



Colin
Poowong

"I don't think it's a good idea. As long as people treat it properly, I think it should stay as it is."



Lauren
Poowong

"I don't think it's a good idea as the cattle need to get in there to help reduce the risk of bush fires."



Margaret
Loch

"I don't think they should lock them up. They should be available for everyone to use."



Molly
Leongatha

"I'm in the middle. I do a lot of recreational activities in the state forest and would love to see it protected and I would love to see it monitored, so people can still do activities, while preserving nature itself."

Expand the messaging on arrival

ANOTHER holiday weekend and more drownings on our beaches. Signage was updated across Bass Shire after the summer of 2023-24, but how many of our international visitors see or actually read them, especially when the vision of the beach they are approaching is much more interesting? Additionally, I know that the 'life jacket' sign at Kilcunda has been damaged and is unreadable.

As has been mentioned in some of the media, the incidence of near-miss drownings is vastly under-reported as the actions of local swimmers and surfers often helping out swimmers who find themselves in danger is an ongoing fact at our beaches.

This has been going on forever. My own family members and friends have been 'saving' people in the surf at Kilcunda – a beach which, in my childhood, never even had surfers in the water – for decades, and now I find myself watching beachgoers, and especially their children, in the water. Most really have no idea how dangerous our beaches at Kilcunda are regardless of how benign they look.

There is a cost to the locals of all this. A young man drowned early last year at Kilcunda Surf Beach and I did not know him but it cast a shadow for days over what should have been high summer fun times. Then there was a successful rescue at the same beach soon after with three people rescued by a man who was subsequently airlifted to hospital. Now any helicopters flying overhead bring a deep sense of dread.

Perhaps multi-lingual messages with beach-safe information on arrival into the country – on the plane, in buses, at hire car offices... the list is potentially endless – need to be displayed prominently to inform (the mostly) newcomers that our beaches are magnificent but they can be just as deadly as our diverse wildlife can be.

Louise Hillier, Kilcunda

It's not the budget we voted for

IN YOUR Sentinel-Times comment April 23, 2025, regarding the 2025-26 draft budget you quote the Council's projected underlying results as losses. This is totally misleading as it fails to show the Council's comprehensive result which is positive.

The Budgets are extremely conservative. For example, from the 2023-24 budget Council was forecasting net assets for 2025-26 of \$866 million.

And in this year's budget the Council forecasts net assets for 2025-26 of \$1.301 billion. This is an uplift of over 50 per cent and represents extremely bad budgeting!

To quote the Council, "The unmade roads

and inadequate drainage creates issues for the communities such as dust, mud, pot-holes, flooding, disconnected pedestrian networks and dynamic traffic safety."

The unmade footpaths lead to people having to walk on the road at a great risk to themselves. We have had pedestrians in the Bass Coast lose their life due to the lack of made footpaths.

We need to have the Sentinel-Times drive the need for urgent infrastructure spending.

We must address the infrastructure issues in the Bass Coast Shire Council Budgets. The Budgets need to be redone to reflect an increase in infrastructure spending.

Frank W Schooneveldt, Wonthaggi

A job well done

I WOULD like to congratulate the Shire's depot staff for their recent timely intervention.

Cheryl, Danny and the team responded promptly to a drainage problem at the front of a number of properties in Campbell Street, Wonthaggi.

They were helpful, friendly and happy to follow up when I thought there might be a further problem with my property.

Shire staff should be recognised when they provide such good service to residents.

Terence Gordon, Wonthaggi

Denied happiness

THERE is a large number of members of this community have been denied the right to be happy.

It's amazing how malicious gossip against another person is totally and utterly believed, and this is done because they can't accept the word no.

These kinds of people usually like to manipulate and control the victim when they get told no. Abusers who spread this relief on emotions and, like sheep, normal people believe it to be true and judge the victim and turn against them when they haven't done the wrong thing.

This happens in all levels of society. At least some of these victims have genuine friends who support them.

Thank God there is genuine sincere caring people. How many of you listen to both sides of the story to decide for yourself what the truth really is.

People should have the right to defend themselves. That's how these nasty people win and get so much joy out of being believed, whilst causing immense pain to the victim.

What has happened to consideration, respect, sincerity, appreciation and allowing people to feel happy.

I will always treat people right. It is very easy to show kindness and joy no matter how much pain is inflicted towards me. I will always do my best to bring happiness, even to

strangers who I come across, by saying hello how are you, I hope you have a lovely day because genuine sincerity, respect and consideration and hopefully happiness.

I do not do this for any gain whatsoever because I have love in my heart not hate or revenge.

I am amazed at the response I have received by these strangers. They now approach me and say hello sometimes we even chat.

I avoid people who are unfriendly and cause sadness.

Do what gives you joy, peace, comfort and happiness. Amazing how that can reduce any stress you might feel.

To detach yourself from social media, helps not to hear nasty gossip.

Everybody has the right to make their own choice.

I'm sorry if I appear to be telling you what to do, if I have, I give you my sincerest apology.

Name and address withheld.

Success in keeping Dutton out

THIS election, The Greens set out to "keep Dutton out and get Labor to act".

Mission accomplished.

While there's been plenty of commentary on Adam Bandt losing the seat of Melbourne, we've seen decidedly less media focus on Greens' results in the Senate and overall. With 11 Greens Senators representing all six states, the Greens hold the balance of power in their own right, making it impossible for Labor to get anything passed without their support. This will result in better outcomes for everyone (except maybe billionaires and fossil fuel corporations) and especially those who are disadvantaged by current systems that are skewed towards the rich and greedy.

With almost 8000 votes in Gippsland, the Greens polled as well as we ever have and AEC statistics demonstrate steady growth. As the Greens don't take political donations from fossil fuel giants or mining billionaires, our campaigns will always be grassroots and reliant on people power. This means we have rich conversations with locals and can influence Greens policies while adding our voices to local campaigns – the anti-nuclear movement in the Latrobe Valley being a prime example.

I would like to thank all of the Gippsland Greens voters for your support – and recognise that many of you are also volunteers, helping to get our messages out and envisioning a fairer world where compassion for people and the planet is at the heart of political decision making. I express my gratitude especially to the campaign team and everyone who handed out how to vote cards at polling booths. You have helped to give people hope and a progressive option to vote for. I look forward to ongoing inspirational conversations as we will continue to grow this movement across Gippsland and across Australia.

Rochelle Hine, Greens candidate, Gippsland

Celebrating mum at Newhaven College

NEWHAVEN College celebrated Mother's Day through many different events last week. Starting with the hugely popular Mother's Day stall run by the Parents and Friends Association (PFA), where students purchased lovely gifts for their mums, grandmothers and other special people in their lives. The PFA's Mother's Day raffle created a buzz as well, the prize being a hamper full of goodies, won by Year 4 student, Jennifer O'Connell.

On Friday morning, Junior School students welcomed their mums and special people with a hot coffee and muffin for the College's annual Mums and Muffins visit. Students welcomed their loved ones into their classroom to create some lovely artworks.

After the success of the Newhaven College Mother's Day lunch last year, over 80 mums, grandmas and friends converged on Phillip Island Winery to enjoy a delicious lunch. The atmosphere was one of happy congeniality, celebration and love for the special women in our lives.

The College thanks Phillip Island Winery, the PFA and everyone involved in making this such a special Mother's Day celebration.



Newhaven College Year 3 students are happy with their Mother's Day gift purchases. From left, Casey Felstead, Macie Oudshoorn, Eden Bennett, Milla Kirkhope and Sophie Clark.

Students put in the front seat with virtual reality road safety

STUDENTS from Foster and Korumburra Secondary Colleges came together on Tuesday, April 29 to watch the 3D virtual reality videos they filmed together in 2024.

The road safety videos focused on the dangers of in-car distractions while driving. The screening event was a culmination of two months' work, which took place a year earlier and included making storylines and scripts for the videos.

Virtual Reality was used for the development of the videos because of its immersive nature, placing viewers directly in the driver's seat.

"Driving safely is an essential skill for all young people to learn," said Tony Peterson, Acting CEO of the South Gippsland Shire Council.

"This project uses technology to immerse students

in the driving environment, showing first-hand how to reduce distractions in the car. It's fantastic that this program also supports conversations between young people about how they can contribute to staying safe on the road."

Traditional road safety campaigns are created by adults and often don't resonate with young people.

This project enables students to create peer-to-peer safety messages.

It also encourages young people to reflect on how they can personally reduce their chances of accident or injury on the road.

Funding for the program came from a grant from the Department of Transport and Planning's Community Road Safety Program and was facilitated by South Gippsland Shire Council and Mindflight7.



Students from Foster and Korumburra Secondary Colleges immersed themselves in the world of virtual reality to learn first-hand about road safety.

Newhaven College Mums and Muffins and Mother's Day afternoon



Newhaven College Year 1 student shares a muffin and drawing with her mum, Alycia.



Newhaven College Year 1 student Sophie Smith was proud to show off her classroom with her mum, Shally.



Newhaven College siblings Jonathan (Year 2) and Georgia Hill (Prep) welcomed their mum Alisha to the College for muffins and time together before school.



Jo Vohland and Angel Chambers from Newhaven College's Parents and Friends Association organised a raffle at the event, with wonderful prizes.



Newhaven College Board member, Rebecca Naughtin celebrated Mother's Day with her mum Denise.



Newhaven College Principal, Tony Corr, celebrated Mother's Day with Pam Cameron and his mum, Norma Corr.



Willy Zuidema couldn't be more comfortable at Melbourne's renowned Windsor Hotel than she is savouring High Tea at Woorayl Lodge in celebration of women. A21_1925



Helga Hannon and Shirley Gwyther take it easy at Thursday's High Tea. A22_1925



Irene Mannix and Floyd Smith enjoy the perfect mix of sunlight and tasty treats. A23_1925

Scrumptious afternoon tea at Woorayl Lodge

WOORAYL Lodge residents were treated to High Tea on Thursday in celebration of all women, in the leadup to Mother's Day. Sentinel-Times stopped in for a chat with residents and staff and captured a few photos, although uncharacteristically this scribe didn't sample a single treat, albeit they looked tasty.

Volunteers help keep Bass Coast healthy

THIS National Volunteer Week, Bass Coast Health (BCH) wishes to acknowledge the contribution of our valuable Volunteers.

Their extensive service, across many roles, helps our community to access public healthcare, both in Bass Coast and further afield.

BCH Interim CEO Simone Alexander said the service of around 160 volunteers was valued by BCH Board, Executive, staff and consumers.

"From helping in reception, wayfinding and driving patients to appointments, gardening, and visiting patients and aged care residents, they are important members of our team here at Bass Coast Health," she said.

"They also take part in our Community Advisory Committee, working with us to ensure we are meeting the needs of the community and enhancing our level of care. It's a truly remarkable gift for the organisation to have so many dedicated Volunteers."

"We're also fortunate to have volunteers across five auxiliaries: Inverloch Art Show Auxiliary, Inverloch Fundraising Auxiliary, BCH Ladies Auxiliary, San Remo Opportunity Shop Auxiliary and the Phillip Island Health Hub Auxiliary. They hold community events, sort and sell goods, conduct raffles and do other amazing work to raise funds so we can purchase medical equipment that benefits our patients."

"These are wonderful people, giving so freely of their time to help others. Individually they make a difference. Together they achieve so much."

Margie Robinson volunteers



San Remo Opportunity Shop Auxiliary President Sara Fleisner, volunteers Elaine Inglis and Rhonda Thorne, and Secretary Marj Wagland chat with BCH Interim CEO Simone Alexander.

as a concierge in reception at Wonthaggi Hospital, greeting members of the public and helping them to find the service they need.

"I enjoy meeting the nice people who come in and just helping people. It makes you feel really good," she said.

Faye Tuchan volunteers in wayfinding and administration at Wonthaggi Hospital, and has previously volunteered with our Community Advisory Committee.

"Volunteering gives me a purpose and I enjoy interacting with staff and patients," she said.

To express your interest in becoming a volunteer, phone 0439 367 129 or 5671 3372 or email volunteer.coordinator@basscoasthealth.org.au

More information is available at basscoasthealth.org.au/volunteer.



The Phillip Island Health Hub Auxiliary's Rob Jeffrey, Michelle Gaunt, Deb O'Donnell and Lyn Wadeson helped to run a successful Woolamai Race Day this year.

Vinnies stores in Gippsland celebrate National Volunteer Week

VINNIES stores in Wonthaggi, Leongatha, Korumburra and Cowes are celebrating the work of volunteers in their local communities as part of National Volunteer Week.

To be held from May 19 to 25, National Volunteer Week is Australia's largest annual celebration of volunteering highlighting the important role of volunteers in our community.

The St Vincent de Paul Society is the largest volunteer-based organisation in Australia and is proud to recognise the contribution of members and volunteers who work in Vinnies stores across the country to improve the lives of Australians in need.

Vinnies members and volunteers range from teenagers to volunteers aged ninety-plus, from cities and regional centres to small country towns all around Australia.

Volunteers are at the heart of everything we do according to the St Vincent de Paul Society in Victoria whether it's offering a friendly smile in our Vinnies Shops, sorting donations, or aiding people in need, our volunteers make a real and lasting difference to the lives of countless Victorians.



Vinnies Volunteer Johnny Waters, Store Manager Michelle Sims, volunteer Ellen Harvey and Assistant Manager Sharon Gordon at Vinnies in Wonthaggi. B02_1925

"Their generosity and selflessness embody the very essence of community spirit."

"We are proud to celebrate National Volunteer Week alongside our more than 11,000 volunteers who dedicate their time and energy to Vinnies right across Victoria."

"From Wonthaggi to Port Melbourne, Hoppers Crossing to Cowes, their efforts strengthen our communities and remind us of the power of kindness and solidarity."

"Our volunteers are a testament to the idea that small

acts of kindness can lead to big changes, and we are incredibly grateful for their support and proud to recognise their contributions."

"Volunteering creates lasting relationships that enrich lives and strengthen communities fostering community engagement, connection and belonging."

Established in 1989 National Volunteer Week is Australia's largest annual celebration of volunteering providing an opportunity to highlight the important role of volunteers

in our communities and invite people not currently volunteering to give it a go.

More than six million people in Australia volunteer through organisations across the nation with millions more volunteering informally in their local communities, helping neighbours and strangers, especially in times of crisis and adversity.

Volunteers are an essential workforce spanning major sectors including aged care and disability care, community welfare, sports and the arts, crisis preparedness, response, and recovery, and environmental sustainability and protection.

Research by Volunteering Australia shows most people volunteer for personal satisfaction and doing something worthwhile to help others.

Volunteering with Vinnies can be a rich and rewarding experience.

By donating your time to help deliver Vinnies services and projects you can be sure you're making a difference to people's lives.

For more information about volunteering with the St Vincent de Paul Society go to vinnies.org.au or email volunteer@svdp-vic.org.au



President of the Wonthaggi & District Historical Society, Fay Guilford has been a member since 1979.

Delivering a unique part of history

VOLUNTEER and former teacher, Fay Guilford describes herself as a "young 74" – a description well earned by her tireless dedication to the Wonthaggi and District Historical Society, where she currently serves as president. A member since 1979, Fay has been the heart behind the Society's growth and outreach, where she has shared a connection with the people and the town of Wonthaggi.

After retiring from teaching in 2005, where she spent her last 25 years at Wonthaggi Secondary College, Fay devoted herself to volunteer work. By 2006, she had become one of the most active members of the Historical Society, leading a major campaign to electronically catalogue the museum's extensive collection.

Thanks to her efforts, over 30,000 newspapers have been digitised and integrated into a searchable database – a vital resource for historians, students, and the wider community.

In 2017, Fay took on the role of president, a position she continues to enjoy today.

"I quite enjoy it," she said.

One of her most significant achievements in recent years has been the successful completion of a two-stage extension to the Railway Station Museum, which finished just last year.

"I've been actively working towards it for years," she said.

The expansion has allowed for the introduction of new programs, including a popular series of 15-minute history talks, featuring a different speaker and topic.

Attendance ranged from 27 to nearly 80 participants per talk, showing just how valued these community events have become. Fay shared that much of her volunteer role involves connecting with community groups – from local carers and Probus clubs to students studying the VCE history curriculum.

"Volunteering keeps you young," she said.

"It's the connections you make that give you a broad perspective."

Every Tuesday and Thursday, museum volunteers work for four hours, and Fay herself dedicates five to six hours per week to the museum.

"You get out as much as you put in," she said.

"It's about challenging yourself."

Fay's initial connection to the Wonthaggi and District Historical Society began after her father-in-law, Arthur Guilford was one of the founding members in 1959. She therefore found interest in continuing to help preserve the history of the old mining town. Taking on various administrative roles over the years, through her children's sporting clubs whilst working full-time, Fay always felt aligned to volunteering; her passion and perseverance have seen her a member of the Wonthaggi and District Historical Society for over four decades.

As a mother and grandparent, Fay appreciates the balance of giving back to the community while remaining present with her family.

"As well as the social benefit to volunteering, we're delivering a unique part of history."



Community College Gippsland celebrates 50 years of volunteer-powered education, honouring the dedicated individuals who have shaped its legacy across Warragul, Pakenham, and Leongatha.

Celebrating 50 Years of Volunteer-Powered Education

THIS National Volunteer Week, Community College Gippsland (CCG) proudly celebrates 50 years of volunteer-driven education and community impact.

In 1975, a passionate group of teachers from the Warragul district came together to establish the West Gippsland and Latrobe Valley Community Education Centre. With no funding for staffing, the Centre was built on voluntary labour and subscriptions, becoming a professional development hub

for educators and the broader community. That legacy lives on.

Today, volunteers remain at the heart of CCG, supporting programs across our Warragul, Pakenham, and Leongatha campuses. Whether assisting in classrooms or enhancing our learning spaces, our volunteers bring skills, dedication and heart to everything they do.

Our governance is also volunteer-led, with a Board made up of community-minded

members and cadet directors who generously guide the CCG mission. Over the years, many have served in this capacity or contributed in countless other ways, helping maintain the vibrant spirit that defines CCG.

“Our volunteers are the heart and soul of CCG,” said Dale Gemmell, CEO.

“We owe much of our success and growth to their unwavering commitment and support. Whether in the classroom or behind the scenes, their contributions are vital in ensuring

that we continue to meet the needs of our students and the community.”

As we mark our 50th anniversary in 2025, we extend our deepest thanks to every volunteer, past and present, who has helped CCG. From humble beginnings to a thriving regional education provider, CCG stands as a testament to the power of community, purpose and passion.

Explore your future at cgg.asn.au/courses or call 5622 6000.

The Jacksons happy to give their time to Korumburra RSL

DAVID and Maryanne Jackson are among the small but keen band of volunteers keeping the Korumburra RSL up and running to service the local community.

The pair met in 1969, the year before David was called up for National Service, and he went on to become part of the SAS.

Maryanne explained how his service motivated the pair to volunteer at their RSL Sub Branch.

“At the end of his training, when he was ready to be despatched overseas, the war came to an end, thankfully, and he was lucky enough not to have to go, so our deep interest is seeded in the fact that he didn’t go and we still need to serve because there are others who did go and who came back traumatised and scarred,” she said.

“We just cast out a general net in the hope that we might touch people who are affected.”

The pair, along with other volunteers, aim to provide a pleasant place for people to come for social gatherings, as well as helping with appeals and organising commemorative services.

While running Anzac Day



David and Maryanne Jackson continue to enjoy being part of the Korumburra RSL, happy to devote their time to its smooth running along with other volunteers.

and Remembrance Day services in a traditional fashion, David and Maryanne like to encourage youngsters to come along and be part of such occasions.

While David is president of Korumburra RSL, Maryanne describes herself as a “general dog’s body” but there’s no doubt she plays a major part.

As well as her connections to the RSL through David, Maryanne reflects on the loss of her mum’s brother Charles Edward Leigh who was killed at Allonville in France at the

end of May 1918 in the final year of WWI.

Her father was an American serviceman, being a belly gunner and a radio operator on B-17s.

He survived the shooting down of one plane on which he was a crewman as well as bailing out of another along with everyone but the pilot who ultimately made a successful crash landing.

David’s dad was involved in intelligence during WWII, listening to Japanese transmissions while based in

Canterbury, Melbourne.

Recalling his own service, David told the story of his accidental encounter with an ambulance when parachuting during training.

“We used to have an ambulance on the field just in case there was an accident,” he said, adding that one day he was coming down too fast in windy conditions.

“The red cross on the white background, I hit it fair square in the middle,” he said of his unceremonious landing on the ambulance, his response when asked if he was ok, after regaining consciousness, being “I’m not sure.”

An amusing aspect of David’s service was the regular arrival of Maryanne’s letters, recognisable by their bright envelopes that earned him plenty of stick from everyone else at base, the letters surviving to the current day and bringing back many memories.

Maryanne and David both expressed their appreciation for the efforts of other volunteers at Korumburra RSL, Maryanne describing them as “a core group of people you call on when you need help”, noting they are generous and give freely of their time.

Why do we volunteer?

VOLUNTEERS are the backbone of our community. They race to emergencies at all hours, they support young and mature alike, they raise funds for organisations and countless other things. We asked our community why they volunteer and this is what they said.

Chloe Shambrook

For the past year I have been doing a volunteer program Aged Care Volunteer Visitor Scheme (ACVVS). Where I visit an elderly person that is either at home or in care that doesn’t get many visitors to help them feel less lonely. MS runs it and I have a coordinator. Unfortunately, earlier this year I lost my aged care buddy that I was close with. Since then I got another and soon I will be ‘matched’ with another.

Michelle Dohnt

Volunteering is in my blood. My parents did it and were always involved in sporting and community groups throughout my childhood and now I do it. In fact, I’ve been volunteering since I was 16 years old. Now 53 years old so it’s been a few years!! Currently, I am involved in the committee as treasurer for the Bena Hall and also volunteer as a Board Director Secretary for Olivia’s Place which is an amazing not-for-profit organisation located in Drouin. I strongly believe that without volunteers, groups and organisations simply would not exist and the benefits and enjoyment would not be passed through to the community. It is so much fun being involved you get to make a difference and you get to meet people!!

Adrian Gale

I’ve been fortunate enough to volunteer as a track marshal at three WSBK and two MotoGP events at Phillip Island. As well as paddock marshalling at last year’s Sandown 500. I do it for the passion and the thrill of motorsport as without us the sport will cease to exist, (yes I know people think we’re crazy). Additionally, I’ve also volunteered as a performer in two (soon to be three shows) for Leongatha Lyric and one for Wonthaggi Theatre Group. Similarly to the above, I do it for the love, passion and to show people that you don’t need to go to the ‘big smoke’ to see a good show.

Maree Chambers

I make the time to volunteer, and I enjoy working with other like-minded volunteers, I see it as valuable community service. I volunteer at the Bunurong Environment Centre shop, which is managed by the South Gippsland Conservation Society, a not-for-profit organisation. What I love most about my volunteering at the Bunurong Environment Centre is helping to preserve the beautiful landscapes of Bass Coast and South Gippsland regions. I value the friendships and connections made while I volunteer my time, my philosophy personally aligns with the South Gippsland Conservation Society.

Call out for volunteers

LEONGATHA Community House is on the hunt for volunteers. Whilst there is a range of volunteer positions across the house and programmes there are two very special positions Rebecca and her team are trying to find the right people for!

The first is the personal bus program that collects residents from their homes and drops them into town to undertake shopping, visit family and friends, doctors' appointments, etc. between Leongatha and Korumburra.

Individuals only need a car licence to drive the 12-seater bus and relevant training is provided by the house.

The program is incredibly successful, however, can only run through the dedication and hard work of volunteers. One incredible lady is currently driving the bus, but the team are looking for more individuals who are able and willing to step up. There is also the potential for the program to increase should more volunteers become available.

Leongatha Community House are also looking for an individual to run the all-abilities women's group on a Tuesday morning between 9.30am and 11.30am.

To volunteer for either of the above or any of the many other positions at Leongatha Community House pop in and see the team today at 16 Bruce Street, Leongatha.

Woorayl Lodge Auxiliary members happy to volunteer their time

WOORAYL Lodge Auxiliary members continue to enhance the lives of residents through their contributions as volunteers, whether engaging with the residents and helping run activities or conducting fund raising initiatives.

After recently contributing \$10,000 for new furniture for residents and visitors, the auxiliary has just provided \$2800 to brighten up the Lodge throughout the year with floral decorations.

That allows those in charge of the Lodge to spend the money on other important projects instead.

The auxiliary has been funding flowers for the last four or five years.

Auxiliary members participate in Wednesday morning Knit and Natter sessions with residents, also providing Saturday morning teas, with both the activities and company appreciated.

They provide other entertaining experiences for residents such as an 'Everyone's a Winner' day in which residents are all guaranteed a prize.

"It's a lot of fun and a lot of banter," Pam Stevic said of



Woorayl Lodge Auxiliary member Heather Douglas, new president Jackie Horobin and treasurer Peter McAlpine display the volunteer group's latest contribution that will provide floral arrangements to brighten up the Lodge. A12_1925

being part of the auxiliary.

There's not only banter between those in the auxiliary but also with residents.

While there are currently 20 auxiliary members, more are always welcome, with a couple of prospective members joining the group for its May meeting.

"They're retired and they want to put something back into the community," auxiliary vice president Kaye Warren said of the pair.

"They do a lot for us," resident Shirley Gwyther said of those on the auxiliary, clearly appreciative of the contribution

of the volunteers.

Woorayl Lodge's lifestyle coordinator Christine Beck said that as well as offering extra sets of helping hands, the auxiliary members provide fresh faces and different voices for the residents.

Auxiliary treasurer Peter McAlpine also helps the residents get out and about, as the bus driver on monthly excursions to places such as the bakery in Korumburra or to Wonthaggi.

The contributions of the auxiliary team complement those of the staff such as Thursday's afternoon tea celebrating women in the lead up to Mother's Day and the general care provided, volunteers adding an extra facet to residents' lives.

The auxiliary is instrumental in running the Lodge's renowned annual Christmas Fete and recently held a Mother's Day raffle.

Those keen to join the Woorayl Lodge Auxiliary or to learn more about it are encouraged to call Jodie Bennett-Wood on 0400 553 902 or visit the Woorayl Lodge website.



Volunteering will make you smile too!

This National Volunteer Week, thank you to the Volunteers who help BCH care for our community through:

- Transport driving
- Auxiliaries
- Residential Aged Care visiting
- Gardening
- our Concierge service
- Ward visiting and more.

To learn more, contact Snezana Colley, 0439 367 129 or email volunteer.coordinator@basscoasthealth.org.au

Wonthaggi Hospital, 5671 3333
Phillip Island Health Hub, 5951 2100
basscoasthealth.org.au/volunteer



THANK YOU

TO OUR WONDERFUL VOLUNTEERS

During National Volunteer Week, we proudly recognise and celebrate the incredible individuals who give their time and hearts to support our residents and staff.

To each and every one of our volunteers – **thank you.**
Your kindness, companionship, and commitment make a real difference in the lives of those we care for every day.

Interested in becoming a volunteer?

We'd love to hear from you! Whether you have a few hours a week or just want to lend a hand at special events, there's a place for you at Woorayl Lodge.
Visit www.woorayllodge.com.au or call Jodie Bennett-Wood on 0400 553 902 to find out more.

Woorayl Lodge

From Life Saving to Lions, George Scott's volunteer legacy

AS NATIONAL Volunteer Week approaches, few local names embody the spirit of giving quite like George Scott OAM, a man whose dedication to the Wonthaggi community spans more than six decades.

Since moving from Sale in 1958, Mr Scott has been a big figure in the region's volunteer landscape. His impressive list of contributions includes the Wonthaggi Life Saving Club, the Wonthaggi Fire Brigade, Rotary Club, Apex Club, Lions Club, and various sporting and community organisations.

"I joined the Life Saving Club straight away after moving here," Mr Scott recalled.

"Then I spent nine years as a volunteer with the Fire Brigade, was a foundation member at the Western-port Pool Association and later the Wonthaggi Pool Association, where I was a member for 43 years and earned life membership."

Still affectionately called "the shark" by his pool mates, Mr Scott remains an active member of the community at 87 years old. Even after retiring in 2002 from Colden Homes – where he worked for 27 years – he never stopped volunteering.

Even today, Mr Scott continues to lend a hand through the Life Saving Club, Lions Club and, when needed, the Rotary Club. Whether it's running the Life Saving Club coffee shop, collecting goods, or making trips to Melbourne, he shows no signs of slowing down.

"It's just something I've always done," he said.

"If somebody wants a helping hand, I'm there to help. It's instinct."

His volunteer service hasn't gone unnoticed. In recognition of his decades-long commitment to the Wonthaggi community,



While wearing his prestigious Order of Australia Medal, Wonthaggi volunteer, George Scott shows just some of his impressive awards, including a Melvin Jones Fellowship from the Lions Club, and a Paul Harris Fellowship from Rotary International. w01_1925

Mr Scott was awarded the Order of Australia Medal (OAM) – something he described as a great honour.

"It was for service to the community of Wonthaggi," he said. "It shows the public what you can achieve by being community-minded."

For Mr Scott, the reward lies not in accolades but in the friendships formed and the difference made.

"I've always been community-minded, even as a junior helping out the Fire Brigade back in Sale," he said.

"You meet the public, and you get the support of the public if you do the right thing."

Even in undesirable situations, George's compassion continues to shine through, as he reflects on one of his many memories.

"In 1964, we were coming home from a life saving

carnival in Melbourne and a car ran into the back of us. My son was in my wife's lap at the time. The driver who hit us asked straight away, 'How's the baby?' That really stayed with me."

Whether behind the bar at The Wonthaggi Club, where he served for 27 years, or running barbecues for community drives, Mr Scott's approach has always been the same: help where help is needed.

His advice to those considering volunteering is simple: "Come and join the Lions Club – or any volunteer group. You'll enjoy it. Get involved and you'll get to know the community and its people. Have a go."

Together with his wife, who also volunteers, Mr Scott sums it up best: "It's been a part of my life. We both love volunteering."

There's more to volunteering at Rose Lodge

IT CAN be both easy and difficult for individuals to sum up why they volunteer, but the enthusiastic volunteers at Rose Lodge Opportunity Shop in McBride Avenue have their finger on the pulse, happily throwing words out there on Friday.

"Meeting nice people", "helping other people", "giving back directly to the local community" and the "social side" all rank high on the list, amongst many other heartfelt reasons.

Volunteering with Rose Lodge, whether it be the Opportunity shop or the Lodge itself can be truly rewarding, offering meaningful and fulfilling experiences.

At the Lodge volunteers bring both companionship and joy to the residents. Assisting with meals, organising and leading social activities, aiding with outings and group trips, engaging with residents through books and conversation or providing administrative support.

Most of us can recall the time spent isolated during the pandemic, where catching up with friends was off limits and even engaging in conversation down



The volunteers at Rose Lodge Opportunity Shop love what they do and look forward to welcoming new volunteers. c01_1925

the street was frowned upon. But imagine, making a new, special friend, someone who comes and spends time with you each week, whether rain, hail or shine.

It's a bit like reviving the long-lost tradition of pen pal writing – the joy when a new letter arrives, or in this case, a visit from someone who truly cares.

Whilst there is plenty on offer for residents of Rose Lodge, the list is almost exhausting to read(!), there is nothing more treasured than a friendly caller

dropping by just for you.

So, whether you want to learn a new skill, gain valuable experience, make new connections or simply give back to your community then volunteering at Rose Lodge is the perfect step to take.

No matter how much time you can commit, every contribution makes a world of difference in the lives of residents at Rose Lodge.

To learn more, reach out to the team at Rose Lodge or pop into the Rose Lodge Opportunity Shop.



ROSE LODGE
COMMUNITY AGED CARE

Thank you to our wonderful volunteers

Rose Lodge Management, Staff and Residents would like to thank our valued and wonderful volunteers at both our Aged Care Home and the Opportunity Shop for the support you provide in enhancing the lives of those who call Rose Lodge home.




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National
19-25 MAY 2025
Volunteer
Connecting Communities Week

2025 Bass Coast Volunteer Gathering

As part of National Volunteer Week, we are celebrating the 2025 theme of 'connecting communities' and bringing together volunteers from across the Bass Coast shire.

Date: Tuesday 20 May 2025

Time: 10.00 am to 12.00 pm

Where: Nobbies Centre

This event is proudly supported by PICAL, Bass Coast Health, Bass Coast Shire Council, Phillip Island Nature Parks and MYLI – My Community Libraries.



Register at www.trybooking.com/DAWMB or scan the QR code

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50 years on, our volunteers continue to support our students across Warragul, Pakenham, Dandenong and Leongatha campuses.

This National Volunteer Week, we say thank you to every volunteer, past and present.

Looking to get involved?
Join us as a volunteer and help us shape the next 50 years.

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Reducing shingles and cold sore pain

NEW treatments for shingles and cold sores could be developed following a discovery by scientists at La Trobe University and Melbourne drug company Wintermute Biomedical. Researchers have developed a new treatment formula – known as GS-1 – that could reduce the symptoms and contagiousness of the viruses behind shingles and cold sores.

Varicella-Zoster Virus (VZV) and Herpes Simplex Virus-1 (HSV) infect more than 66 per cent of the population, causing a significant global health concern. There is no vaccine for HSV and limited use of the shingles vaccine due to availability, awareness and cost. Existing antiviral drugs for each condition must be used early to be effective and are prone to drug resistance.

Lead researcher Dr Ebony Monson from the La Trobe Institute for Molecular Sciences (LIMS) said the GS-1 formula targeted the viruses before they began replicating through a novel mechanism of binding directly to viral particles and blocking viral entry into host cells.

The discovery, published in the journal *Antiviral Research*, showed GS-1 may reduce viral shedding, severity of infections and transmission, making the diseases less contagious.

"The impact of this research is significant, as GS-1 could offer an effective means of controlling the spread of these viral infections," Dr Monson said.

Current treatments for VSV and HSV primarily consist of oral or topical antivirals that target viral DNA replication. While these therapies can reduce symptom duration, they do little to decrease acute pain and discomfort, and must be started at the first signs of symptoms.

Senior researcher Professor Karla Helbig said these limitations highlighted critical gaps in treatments for the viruses.

Kim Sullivan has been managing shingles for about 20 years and breaks out up to three times a year. She has tried every treatment on the market, including vaccines and antivirals to help reduce the impact of the condition and improve her recovery time.

In the worst cases, a breakout can leave her bedridden for weeks and she feels like she has a bad flu. Kim, 55, says a new treatment to ease the symptoms would be a huge benefit for shingles sufferers.

"It's such a common illness now and people don't realise that if you start getting it in your 50s, it flares up and it can change your lifestyle. So if this treatment has the potential to ease the pain and symptoms that would be fantastic," she said.

The study showed GS-1 blocked viral entry in both tissue culture cells and on human skin samples, an important step in preclinical lab tests. GS-1 has now entered clinical trials to develop a topical treatment for shingles patients.

Wintermute Biomedical Chief Scientific Officer Dr Alyce Mayfosh said it was hoped the trial would strengthen the case for a new treatment to address the pain of shingles.

Thank a nurse this International Nurses Day

ON INTERNATIONAL Nurses Day, May 12, Bass Coast Health (BCH) honoured the many fabulous nurses who provide compassionate care to the community. The dedicated and hard-working nurses of BCH are the backbone of the health service, caring for patients when they are at their most vulnerable, and demonstrating a genuine interest in patients' health and wellbeing.

They are skilled in many ways and are constantly learning to ensure the care they provide is the best and most contemporary available.

Acting BCH CEO Chris Henderson began her career as a nurse. As chief nurse at BCH, she appreciates the empathy, patience, tenacity and skill they require to perform their roles.

"Our nurses treat every patient as though they were their own parent or child, and also extend this level of care to patients' families," she said.

"It's a role that brings a lot of joy and fulfilment, and while it's not without its challenges, nursing is a rewarding career.

"At BCH, we have such a wonderful nursing staff who work in clinical settings and in the community to help the people of the Bass Coast enjoy optimal



Rigby Cancer Centre patient Keith Barker chats with endorsed enrolled nurse Coral Haw, registered nurse Linda Tack, student nurse Ayla Fowler, and his daughter Jenene Sasin.

health.

"On International Nurses' Day, we invited everyone to say 'thanks' to our valued nurses."

The nurses of BCH share why they enjoy their work.

Theatre nurse Jodie Kilner said, "We have a lot of fun, and we work well together", a sentiment shared by theatre nurse Alyssa Hughes, who said, "It's like a big family. It's very inclusive and supportive."

Theatre nurse Meg Fitzgerald

added, "I like building relationships with the surgeons. It's a good variety and we're always learning, and there are a lot of development opportunities."

Kodowlinun Ward registered nurse Janessa McLean said nursing is a diverse career.

"I enjoy nursing because of the clinical skills I get to practise and the variety of them I get to experience at Bass Coast Health," she said.

Kodowlinun patient Gary

Lyon said the nurses at Wonthaggi Hospital were "fantastic".

"They actually care for you, and they want you to get better. They're my guardian angels," he said.

L. Rigby Cancer Centre endorsed enrolled nurse Coral Haw loves her work.

"Everyone in this unit is friendly and supportive of each other. We build a real rapport with our patients and their families," she said. "It brings me a lot of pride to help provide such a specialty service to a rural area."

Coral said nurses are able to make a difference at every stage of someone's life.

"Plus, it's a career in which you never stop learning, and you make life-long friends," she said.

Gemma Phillips is a registered nurse in the Emergency Department at Wonthaggi Hospital and relishes her role.

"I like the variety of presentations and the opportunities to upskill to do more caring of high acuity patients," she said.

Her patient, Geoff McKenzie, was grateful for the support he received during a recent stay.

"The nurses are marvellous, and they make you feel special," he said.

Counselling and hypnotherapy without the wait times

AS ANXIETY and depression rates continue to rise, mental health professional Danielle Aitken, Psychotherapist, Clinical Supervisor and National President of the Australian Hypnotherapists' Association, aims to raise greater awareness, even for those as young as five years.

Danielle is among the health professionals leading the change to provide early, effective mental health support without the lengthy waiting lists.

"I do my very best to continue to raise awareness regarding mental health issues," Danielle explained. "I even wrote a book: *The Ripples – What Lies Beyond*, on the topic of suicide because of the prevalence I noticed – not only in the local community but nationally and globally. It's an issue I'm passionate about."

"As the President of the Australian Hypnotherapists' Association, I utilise hypnotherapy in my practice, with research

showing that hypnotherapy can be incredibly helpful in managing the symptoms of anxiety and depression. I'm also a counsellor, so I see many people in my practice, including children."

With anxiety and depression affecting an estimated 280 million and 301 million people globally, Australia mirrors this concerning trend. Children, in particular, have become increasingly vulnerable, especially in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic.

"Since the pandemic, we've seen a sharp increase in childhood anxiety," said Danielle. "Even children as young as five are presenting with symptoms. They're facing social fears, anxiety, and deep uncertainty about the world. Collectively many age groups missed critical developmental milestones – isolation and even simple things like not seeing facial expressions because people were masked has had a profound effect."

Through her private practice,

Danielle offers a unique blend of counselling and hypnotherapy, providing evidence-based support without needing a GP referral.

"People can contact me directly, which eliminates wait times – something crucial for those in crisis. My sessions are very solution-focused, and in many cases, clients start to feel relief after just a few sessions," she said.

"Everything I teach is backed by science and research. I explain things in a way that even young children can understand – how the brain and body react together, and why certain tools help. That understanding alone can be very empowering."

While Danielle's services aren't covered by Medicare – a challenge she is actively working to address as the President of the AHA, she believes that feeling low or anxious is something that everybody experiences at times; people need to be able to talk about it and normalise those experiences.



Danielle Aitken, Psychotherapist, Clinical Supervisor, and National President Australian Hypnotherapists' Association, continues to raise awareness on mental health and suicide prevention.

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Community rallies for eye health at Lions Eye Health Night and Ride for Sight

"YOUR eyesight should never be taken for granted."

Those are the words from Sharon Oates, a passionate advocate for the Lions Ride for Sight fundraiser and a member of 'Team Sisters' (Willmott girls). After their third consecutive ride, they raised over \$40,000 for The Centre of Eye Research Australia (CERA).

In their 31st year, the Inverloch and District Lions Club participated in the annual Lions Ride for Sight, and this year's ride coincides with the highly anticipated Lions Eye Health Night on Wednesday, May 28, at the Wonthaggi Workmen's Club.

Organiser and eldest 'sister,' Sharon, said that the Willmott family's involvement is deeply personal.

"Our whole family is affected by macular degeneration," said Sharon.

"Dad is legally blind from Geographic Atrophy (GA), Mum receives eye injections every six to eight weeks for wet AMD, and my sisters and I are all showing early signs. It's genetic and worrying, but we're doing something about it."

Team Sisters aims to donate \$50,000 this year to The Centre of Eye Research Australia (CERA). Their impressive fundraising journey began three



Lions Ride for Sight is raising funds for The Centre of Eye Research Australia (CERA).

years ago, with a record-breaking \$30,000 in their first ride.

"We've already hit \$42,600," Sharon said proudly.

"The Eye Health Night will help us hit the \$50,000 goal. If we succeed, we'll have raised \$100,000 in just three years."

The Lions Eye Health Night will feature internationally renowned experts, including Professor Robyn Guymer AM, Deputy Director of the Centre for Eye Research Australia (CERA), and a world authority on age-related macular degeneration (AMD). Also presenting will be Associate Professor

Rick Lui, whose groundbreaking gene therapy research could eliminate the need for frequent eye injections.

"Rick is working on a treatment that will transform the treatment from injections into an eye drop. It's incredibly exciting for Mum," said Sharon.

Attendees will also view a powerful video shown to the Federal Government in 2024, highlighting the impact of Geographic Atrophy (GA) on the Willmott family.

The 31st Lions Ride for Sight took place over four days, covering 270 kilometres, with 36

riders aged 34 to 80.

"That means the average rider was 67 years old," Sharon said.

Among them were four visually impaired riders on tandem bikes – an emotional highlight for many.

"The tandem teams were inspiring," Sharon said.

"The front rider would describe the landscape to the blind partner, creating a visual picture for them. It's a reminder not to take sight for granted."

The ride concluded alongside the Lions Multi-District Convention, where Team Sisters were publicly recognised by CERA for their contributions.

All funds raised go directly to CERA, ranked among the top five ophthalmology research centres in the world and entirely reliant on donations.

"There's no government funding," said Sharon.

The Willmott sisters fundraise for CERA because they believe in the power of research and shared that if they can help stop someone else from losing their sight, it's worth every kilometre.

Lions Eye Health Night, Wednesday, May 28, 2025 from 6pm. Wonthaggi Workmen's Club, 75 Graham Street. Seats are limited – book now to support vital eye health research and hear from the world's leading experts.

A workshop on mastering menopause

A FREE, friendly workshop for those interested in learning more about perimenopause and menopause, and particularly for those who may be experiencing it, will be held in Korumburra this May.

The workshop will be led by community members with lived and living experience of perimenopause and menopause, who have participated in a Mastering Menopause enrichment and leadership program, designed and delivered by Women's Health in the South East (WHISE).

The sessions will cover: An understanding of menopause and post-menopausal health, including physical and mental health symptoms; Diagnosis, including monitoring symptoms; Lifestyle adaptations; Other symptom management strategies including herbal therapies, non-hormonal pharmaceutical interventions and Menopause Hormone Therapy (MHT); and Proactive and health-promoting behaviours to manage risks associated with the post-menopausal period.

"The workshops are vitally important because they provide community members with an opportunity to learn more about perimenopause and menopause with access to evidence-based information," said a spokesperson for WHISE. "These issues are stigmatised and poorly understood, so many women and people assigned female at birth are left to navigate their symptoms without adequate support. We are hoping to change this through accessible, community-based information and open discussions."

Mastering Menopause will be held on Saturday, May 17 from 10am to 12pm at the Korumburra Library, 15 Little Commercial Street, Korumburra.

Contact the library to book a spot, and for catering and accessibility purposes.

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Listen to the Centre of Eye Research Australia, Deputy Director and world renowned authority on Age-related Macular Degeneration **Professor Robyn Guymer AM**

Learn from **Associate Professor Guei-Sheung (Rick) Lui** how his research into gene therapy could potentially replace eye injections.

Learn about the **Lions Eye Health School Program**

View the video presented to the Federal Government in September 2024 that features the Willmott Family and the effects of Geographic Atrophy (GA) has had on the lives on the whole family.

Find out why **Team Sisters (Willmott Girls)** are so passionate about raising awareness about eye health and money for research through their participation in the annual Lions Ride for Sight.

When: Wednesday 28th May 2025
Time: 6pm
Where: Wonthaggi Workmens Club, 75 Graham St Wonthaggi

\$55 per ticket includes a 2 course meal (drinks at Bar prices).

RSVP Payment can be made through the QR Code below, please book to confirm your attendance by Thursday 22nd May

If you require anymore information please contact **Sharon Oates 0417 101 998**

Sponsored by The Community Bank Inverloch

Ripples of change at Mitchell House

WHICH ripples turn into waves of change? If only we could we predict? Well, here at Wonthaggi Neighbourhood Centre we believe that every action – no matter how small has the power to create that ripple effect. And we believe it because we see it every day.

Every day at Mitchell House people come together to learn new skills and to share their experiences and ideas. They share the things that they care about, they share their struggles and they share what it is that brings them joy. And we provide them with the safe and welcoming environment in which they can meet like-minded folk and build connections and friendships.

In response to local community needs, we provide a diverse range of programs and activities that support and connect individuals and groups in our community. And when those ripples start looking like waves, we can help build momentum and strength, creating waves of meaningful change that can extend far beyond our local neighbourhoods.

So if you like the sound of this, what can you do? Why not check out our program of activities or maybe even join our crew of wonderful volunteers? We have volunteers who donate their time to work at our reception desk and we have volunteers who help to look after our gardens. We also have volunteers donating their time in our Community Lunches and frozen meals programs.

If you want to find out more just give us a call on 5672 3731 or maybe you could just pop in to see us. Who knows, you walking through our front door might just start that first ripple...

Bass Coast celebrates the spirit of connection

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 6,000 individuals contributing across a wide range of sectors – from environmental conservation and health and wellbeing, to education, emergency services, animal welfare, and beyond,” said Kate Adams, Community Impact Manager, Phillip Island Nature Parks.

“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,” Michelle explains.

“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 Parks (PINP), Bass Coast Shire Council (BCS), Phillip Island Community and Adult Learning Centre (PICAL) and MYLI – My Community Libraries as part of National Volunteer Week, running from 19 to 25 May 2025. This year’s theme, “Connecting Communities,” highlights the spirit of connection and the incredible impact volunteers have in building inclusive and thriving communities.



Anderson Inlet and Inverloch Probus Clubs joined together for an exciting trip along the Murray in April.

Anderson Inlet and Inverloch’s Murray River delight

ANDERSON Inlet and Inverloch Probus Clubs joined together for an extended holiday to South Australia recently. We were picked up at the Inverloch Oval, transported to Tullamarine Airport for our flight to Adelaide, and taken on a tour of Adelaide. Later transferred to Murray Bridge to join a five-day cruise of the Murray River on the Proud Mary. We were welcomed aboard and introduced to the crew, we were served drinks and a hot dinner as we cruised upriver to our first overnight mooring at Woodlane, where we slept in our cosy, en-suite cabins.

Everyday we were served delicious breakfasts, lunches, and dinners as we sailed up the river. At Mannum, we visited the Lookout and Mannum Dock Museum. The towering cliffs were superb and provided a majestic backdrop to the tranquillity of cruising Australia’s most famous river.

Next day after breakfast our Captain joined us giving

us the story of Murray River including its history, current water usage practices and the ecology of this vital water source and watched a video about the famous 1956 floods that devastated the area.

Our offshore excursions took us to the Swan Reach Museum, and Costa Bros Almond Farm. We re-boarded for lunch, then cruised to Blanchetown to look at Loch 1, before setting off for our overnight mooring position at Sugar Shack, situated in the River Murray International Dark Sky Reserve. After more superbly presented food, we were tested on whether we had been taking notice of the commentaries with a trivia night, which brought many comments and much laughter.

Next morning, we cruised downstream towards Swan Reach, passing magnificent lagoons teeming with birdlife. A brief stop to look at the shops in Swan Reach, a magnificent seafood lunch, then onto our mooring at Big Bend, the cliffs here are 180

feet high and change colour as the sun sets. At night, we were entertained by a Country Music artist.

A surprise next morning when we awoke, surrounded by a thick fog, making the navigation downstream challenging for our Captain as we headed towards Ngaut Ngaut Aboriginal conservation site. Here we enjoyed another inspiring and informative talk as we walked with Sam, our aboriginal tour guide. His sharing of their culture and explanations of the rock art was well appreciated.

We cruised on to Mannum, before gathering in the dining room to enjoy a complimentary champagne or cocktail prior to the silver service Captain’s Dinner, a five-course menu of mouth-watering dishes.

Next morning many of us rose early to attend the Anzac Dawn Service at Mannum. The service was touching and well attended. After this we visited Aussie Apricots and Revolution Museum, to hear a very humorous talk on their

business of growing and processing 70 tonnes of fruit, primarily apricots.

We then moved to the Car Museum, where Paul talked about the various cars on display including a “Gordon” which is the only one in the world, also American Muscle Cars, Bikes and stationary engines are all on display.

We said goodbye to our crew and the friends we had met before being taken to our Adelaide accommodation for the night. We had a few hours to ourselves in Adelaide, before being taken to the airport for our journey home to Inverloch.

You are welcome to join our Probus clubs, to enjoy the friendship, take part in various activities like this trip, lunches, walking group or day outings.

Anderson Inlet Probus meets on the third Thursday at the RSL Hall Inverloch at 10am, for a short meeting, morning tea and a guest speaker each month.

For information please contact J. Widmer 0457 969 353.



Wonthaggi Inverloch Probus celebrates 40th birthday

MEMBERS of the Probus Club of Wonthaggi Inverloch recently celebrated the 40th birthday of their club at the Wonthaggi Workmen’s Club.

Formed on May 1, 1985, under the sponsorship of the Wonthaggi Rotary Club, the club has continued to

prosper since that date.

The club offers the opportunity for senior members of the community to enjoy the company of others from like backgrounds, or even from completely different walks of life, and in doing so, enhance their knowledge

of happenings in the region and/or increase their range of friendships.

Another feature of the Probus Club is that it is a chance for senior people to simply relax in the company of people their own age, enjoy their company

at meetings, participate in the regular monthly outings, listen to invited local speakers, and in doing so, make new friends and broaden their knowledge of local affairs.

For further information, please phone 0448 808 185.

Neighbourhood House Week

Something for everyone at LCH

LEONGATHA Community House is a vibrant hub nestled in the heart of Leongatha offering a diverse range of programs designed with our community in mind. Whether you're interested in educational workshops, social gatherings, fitness classes, or creative arts, there's something for everyone.

Leongatha Community House is more than just a physical space; it's a place where people of all abilities, backgrounds, and ages come together.

The Term 2, 2024 program is well and truly underway running until July 4.

One of the most exciting items on the weekly schedule is the Personal Day Wednesday LCH Community Bus program. Whether you are looking at doing some shopping, catching up with friends, visiting those in care, attending appointments or otherwise the dedicated drivers can drop you off and collect you from Leongatha, Korumburra and surrounds, giving you the freedom to get done what you need in a couple of hours.

From Tuesday's Women's Group to All Abilities Low Impact Self Defence and the NDIS Afterschool Social Group, to the Over 60's exercise classes and LCH Wednesday Walkers there is plenty on offer.

The community house offers a variety of craft groups. The Knitting and Crochet Group welcomes both beginners and experienced crafters to share their enjoyment of these crafts every first Sunday of the month. The Sewing and Patchworking Group is a place to design, sew, and finish off your projects with others, and it meets every Tuesday. The Craft in Company group invites you to bring along your works in progress or unfinished objects to progress them in good company over a cuppa every Thursday. For those who want to learn how to sew, alter, or make clothes, the Beginners Sewing class



Dawn Green relaxes after helping with High Tea. A27_1925



Carol Sheehan and Shahni Hance. Shahni catered a recent high tea for Mother's Day at Leongatha Community House. A26_1925

is available every Tuesday.

In addition to craft groups, there are also special interest groups. The Monthly Friendship Group meets every second Saturday of the month for fun, laughter, and support. The Ukulele Jam is a place for both beginners and experienced ukulele players to practice and have fun every Monday. The Beginners Conversation in Italiano offers an opportunity to learn, practice, and improve your Italian fluency every Friday during the school term.

The Leongatha Dungeons and Dragons Group invites you to join them for amazing adventures and to explore new worlds every Friday and Saturday. The LCH Photography Group meets every third Wednesday of the month for those interested in photography. Other groups include Mahjong, LCH Solo Card Group, Creative Writing and Story Telling, and Book Club/Book Chat.

There are many ways to get involved with your local Community House.

- Become a member where your membership supports our programs and activities.
- Attend our workshops, classes, and events, learn new skills, make friends, and engage with others.
- Contribute your time and skills by volunteering. Volunteering is a rewarding way to give back to the community.
- Pop by for a cuppa and a chat. Our friendly staff and volunteers are always ready to welcome you.

Join us as we celebrate Neighbourhood House Week, we invite you to explore what Leongatha Community House has to offer. Visit us at 16 Bruce Street, Leongatha or give us a call at 5662 3962. Let's build connections, learn, and thrive together!

Leongatha Community House – YOUR community house!

Milpara looking for new members

MILPARA means meeting place, and it has and will continue to do that name justice.

It's a wonderful space for friendships to bloom, smiles and laughter to be shared, and it's also a safe space where inclusivity is valued.

If you haven't been, we'd love to invite you to come along and check it out for yourself.

We are having a Milpara Mingler on Wednesday, May 14 at 3.30pm to celebrate all things Milpara.

Our friendly staff will be on hand to have a chat and answer any questions you may have.

Many people are surprised by just how much we have on offer.

This term alone we have six information talks, 23 regular activities and six special activities.

Did you know Milpara Community House, based in Korumburra, is a Learn Local, offering pre-accredited training?

The Learn Local sector believes every adult should have local access to the training and services they require to build their education capacity and develop the core skills they need for study, work and life.



Milpara Korumburra Community House offers services to help build computer skills, work skills and volunteer roles in the community.

Milpara offers a diverse and interesting variety of activities and courses to our community, and a portion of our courses are Learn Local and government-subsidised for eligible learners. These include computer, English as a second language, and courses around building your reading and writing skills.

For some community members this opportunity has played a vital role in them getting a job, doing more training, felling ready to take on volunteer roles and importantly build life-long skills and confidence.

Milpara is currently reviewing what Learn Local courses we offer our community.

We would really like your input.

Are you interested in building your computer skills?

Are you interested in building job-ready skills?

Working on your resume?

Learning how to use Point of Sales terminals?

Let us know.

You can contact our program coordinator Jess on programs@milpara.org.au or pop in and visit.

Milpara Korumburra's Community House is located at the Korumburra Community Hub.

Our office is located just inside the lower entry, along with the Services Australia Office, Consult Room and Foodbank.

Our training spaces are in the shared meeting rooms and Flexi Space.

Celebrating Neighbourhood House Week



**Together,
let's turn
little ripples
into big
waves of
change!**



Keep up to date with what's happening with us at:
www.wonthaggieneighbourhoodcentre.com

WNCatMitchellHouse For all enquiries call **5672 3731**



It's your Community House!

**Come in and be part of it.
Everybody is welcome.
Term 2 program OUT NOW!**

www.leongathacommunityhouse.org.au

16 Bruce Street, Leongatha P: 5662 3962

Join us to celebrate all things Milpara!

Find out what we do from courses, activities and support services. We're your Learn Local Organisation, find out how you can get involved. Free Afternoon Tea

Wed May 14, 3.30 pm

15 Little Commercial Street K'burra



Anita Harris and the Swingeroots at PI Jazz

SUNDAY, May 18 will see the return appearance of popular vocalist Anita Harris and the Swingeroots. With dad Kim Harris on keyboards, Phillip Island Jazz favourite Ron Anderson on reeds, Steve Temple on trumpet, Doug Kuhn on bass and Alan Richards on drums.

Anita always gives a quality performance and this will be no exception. This will be a great afternoon of music and wonderful vocals from Anita.

Anita was once described by Australian Jazz Scene as “one of those very rare vocal stylists who have a wide appeal to a range of age groups and jazz preferences in her audiences”.

Anita has a large repertoire of jazz gems, a growing catalogue of recordings and some of Melbourne’s finest musicians on hand to work by her side.

We recommend that you book early, if possible, which gives us an idea of how many tables and chairs we need for the day.

Anita Harris and the Swingeroots will perform at Phillip Island Bowling Club, 40 Dunsmore Road, Cowes from 2pm to 4.30pm, tickets are \$20 for members and \$25 for visitors. For more information please contact: Jill Boyce on 0417 416 300.

• FAITH FACTOR

You’ve got to have faith

By Pastor Karen Evans of Christian Life Centre Wonthaggi

DEFINITION of faith: complete trust or confidence in someone or something; strong belief in the doctrines of a religion, based on spiritual conviction rather than proof.

Christians have a strong faith/belief in Jesus Christ. We believe He created the heavens; the earth and He created the first man. Because we believe He created us we also believe that He will love and take care of us. This takes faith because not everything in life is easy and rarely turns out the way we plan.

But we put our trust and our confidence in the One who we believe in, Jesus Christ our Creator. I will give you a current example of how we are continually being taken care of.

Our church, Wonthaggi Christian Life Centre (formally Assembly of God), has been renting the premises at the corner of Hagelthorn and Bilson Streets since before 1997. The property has been up for sale off and on for multiple years but never sold due to various unknown reasons.

In the last few months, we, the church, after years of praying, decided to buy a house with some land. Hoping to rent out and save up just in case the church building sold one day.

Now you will hear about the loving kindness of our God. The Senior Pastor, Darren got a phone call on Monday from the landlord, and he informed us the building was sold, and we needed to be out by the end of May.

The government has bought the land the church building is on and is going to build social housing units on it. This could have been a crisis for us but God in His loving kindness already knew and made a way for us to buy a place for us to go to, and it settles on May 22.

Some may call it a coincidence but those who have faith call it “being taken care of”.

So Wonthaggi Christian Life Centre will no longer be residing on the corner. Many amazing memories, miracles, healing, worship, friends and faith have taken place in that old building, but our faith will continue to grow knowing that God really loves and takes care of us. We as a church family put our faith and trust in God, because of His love mercy and grace He has not left us homeless, God really cares for us. We also would like to thank our landlord who has been very generous and kind towards us over the many years. May God bless you for your kindness towards us.

God bless.

~ NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE & ADULT LEARNING NEWS ~

BASS COAST ADULT LEARNING

BCAL has begun presenting a new course at C2A Wonthaggi. The course is called Life Skills for People with a Disability.

The participants are a broad range of C2A clients with a variety of abilities and backgrounds. The aim is to help them all be more self-reliant in all aspects of life. Topics will include healthy eating and fitness, shopping, preparing meals, public transport and much more.

Already the group has worked on ambitions and goals, avoiding scams, filling in forms, and the first session included a very interesting explanation of the election.

This is in addition to BCAL’s ongoing Capacity Building sessions for NDIS clients.

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

■ WONTHAGGI WOODCRAFTERS

A regular theme of the

Woodies’ work is ornamental pieces which, while they can be also practical like bowls and trays, exist primarily for their beauty.

However, these works of art need to be stored somewhere, and that’s where the Joinery group comes in.

The Thursday sessions work on furniture, which can include tables, outdoor settings, and of course cabinets in which to display some of the beautiful work the other groups have made.

There are examples of these cabinets in the Woodie’s workshop, and also in the BCAL foyer which has a rotating display of what the Woodcrafters have been up to.

For more information, visit wonthaggiwoodcrafters.com.au or pop into the workshop.



239 White Rd, Wonthaggi PH: (03) 5672 3115 www.bcal.vic.edu.au



MILPARA COMMUNITY HOUSE

NEIGHBOURHOOD House Week is a fantastic opportunity to visit Milpara Community House and experience our many fun regular activities as well as the following free special events.

Wednesday, May 14, at 3.30 pm – 4.30 pm Social Gathering: Everyone is welcome to the Milpara Mingler. Participants of our regular classes and activities will be socialising. Come along for some afternoon tea and meet with other friendly folk who enjoy being part of the Milpara Community. Have a Cuppa and a chat and find out what Milpara has to offer.

Thursday, May 15, 11am – 12pm. NBN Information Session: Learn how to improve

your home internet. NBN Specialist, Devansh, is booked in to give you all the latest advice, one-on-one chats and trouble shootings, to get the most out of your home internet and take advantage of the recent upgrades to the network.

Saturday, May 17, 10am -11.30 am Mastering Menopause Information Session with WHISE and Myli: Are you going through perimenopause or menopause? Confused or want to learn more? Join Women’s Health in the South East (WHISE) for a free, friendly introduction to perimenopause and menopause. Covering: What perimenopause and menopause are. Common symptoms and how they af-

fect your body, mind, and daily life. Easy strategies to handle symptoms and treatment options. Where to get help and support.

Milpara is a Learn Local organisation and offers a variety of pre-accredited training we’re currently taking expressions of interest for Computer Skills and Job Ready Skills. We are also interested in hearing from people interested in training others with digital literacy.

If you are interested in attending any of these sessions, please contact Milpara to reserve your spot.

You can check out our Term Program online at milparacommunityhouse.org.au or pick one up at the Milpara

Community House Office, located at the Lower Level of the Korumburra Community Hub, 15 Little Commercial Street, Korumburra. You can also give us a call at 5655 2524.

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 on 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



WONTHAGGI NEIGHBOURHOOD CENTRE

SOME people are terribly interested in saving the world, while others are quite taken with developing their craft and needlework. We have two groups that top and tail our working week. Mondays is the Monday Needle Working Group. It’s here that you benefit from your fellow crafters’ knowledge and skills as well as having the opportunity to view some lovely examples from the group more broadly. Improve your skills on the art of embroidery, cross stitch, patchworking etc. The group meets on Mondays 10am to 12.20pm.

The other group is the Craft & Cuppa Group which meet on Fridays 10am to 12noon.

This friendly circle of friends will give you a warm greeting and share with you their ideas and skills. So just turn up with your current project and be ready for a chat!

Are you aware of the power of meditation and mindfulness? They can do wonderful things for your health. Belief is an important component to optimise the beneficial results. If you do, then that’s great. If you are wondering and perhaps hesitant, then take yourself by the hand and come on in and give it a try. There are many who would testify to their efficacy. There is Yoga with Linda on Tuesdays from 10.30am to 11.45am. Linda has extensive

training in yoga as well as relaxation and meditation.

Then there is Seated Yoga with Maree on Thursdays 2pm to 3.15pm, providing seated yoga, suitable for all abilities. You can stand using the chair for support or remain seated. Improve your flexibility, movement, concentration and strength. You are most welcome to come along and give these classes a try to determine if the practices will be of benefit to you.

The Fixit Café is on this Sunday the 18th, 10am to 12noon. While you may have something to be fixed, you could have fixit skills that you may consider offering the café. They are always

looking out for handy persons ~ welders, needlework repairers, electricians, mechanics etc..

If you would like to become a member of the Wonthaggi Neighbourhood Centre and get discounts on many activities, the quarterly Connections Newsletter and The Grapevine program which comes out each term. There are a few ways to get hold of us: by phone, email, Facebook or at our website: wonthaggi-neighbourhoodcentre.com



6 Murray St, Wonthaggi PH: (03) 5672 3731 www.wonthaggi-neighbourhoodcentre.com



LEONGATHA COMMUNITY HOUSE

LEONGATHA Community House is thrilled to announce a fantastic lineup of programs and workshops over the coming months, offering something for everyone in our community.

Join us to help Build Our Story, a project with the goal of preserving the history of Leongatha Community house by compiling stories, photos and memories from the community that future generations can cherish in the form of a book.

If you’re looking to stay active, we are introducing a new walking group, the Friday Walkers which is for all abilities and has shorter walks to encourage people of all demographics to get fit

and healthy. Why not also try our new Hatha Yoga class ran by Nicki on a Wednesday from 11.30am-12.30pm? Hatha Yoga involves a series of poses that help improve flexibility, strength, and balance, combined with controlled breathing to enhance concentration and relaxation. It’s suitable for all levels, as the pace is generally slow and steady, allowing practitioners to focus on alignment and mindfulness.

Participate in our hands-on sourdough bread-making workshop and learn to craft the perfect loaf from scratch with Nicky! Whether you’re a beginner or experienced baker, Nicky will guide you from feeding and maintaining your

starter to baking your own delicious sourdough.

Join our Pickling 101 workshop, an abridged pickling class for pickling enthusiasts, wanting to pickle their own pickles. You will learn simple, quick methods to pickle vegetables and fruits, perfect for anyone looking to try something new and delicious without the stress. It’s a fun and easy way to bring fresh homemade creations and flavours into your kitchen!

Additionally, we’re looking for new people to participate in our Book Club which meets on the second and fourth Wednesday from 1pm-2.30pm every month.

We also have some interesting Bus Trips coming up, including a visit to the HMAS Cerberus on May 20 as well as a trip to the Holden Museum on May 27. We are also heading to the Moonlit Sanctuary on June 6th. As usual, we offer a Personal Day Bus Service every Wednesday with a small fee for pick-up/drop-off you’re your home in Leongatha, Korumburra, and surrounding areas.



16 Bruce Street, Leongatha PH: (03) 5662 3962 www.leongathacommunityhouse.org.au



Queued out the door at Alison Lester's book signing

SUCH was the success of a 'Meet the Artist and Book Signing' event with Alison Lester, at the Berninnet cultural centre and Myli Library branch in Cowes on Friday, May 9, that it wouldn't have been a surprise to hear someone in the long, book-signing queue call out: "Are we there yet?"

After Ms Lester had chatted and answered questions for almost half an hour with upwards of 60 people in attendance, mostly adults but some with children as well, there was a mad stampede through the great hall of the cultural centre to the library at the other end, some with elbows raised looking to get a favourable position.

In line with handfuls of newly-bought books under their arms, including such titles as 'Magic Beach', 'Imagine' and the 20th-anniversary edition of 'Are We There Yet', also with some well-used, dog-eared editions from home; the queue snaked out the door of the library and into the foyer.

Ms Lester was on a tight schedule, needing to be gone to Melbourne for a plane flight by 1pm, but there looked to be more people and books to sign than the 25 minutes available.



Visitors to the Cowes library, Gretchen and Cadence got the chance to meet award-winning children's author Alison Lester at a 'Meet the Artist and Book Signing' event last Friday.

And it wasn't even the school holidays!

In the end, all were satisfied we're told, and Alison was on her way.

If you missed out, there's always Fish Creek.

Late in 2014, Alison opened her gallery and bookshop in the town, not far from the iconic rural and coastal

landscapes that inspired such classics as My Farm, Magic Beach and The Quicksand Pony, and near Waratah Bay which is home to Noni the Pony. The shop is open Thursday to Monday, 10am-3pm.

They can also organise signed books to be posted if you can't make it down, just call John at the shop and he

can arrange that for you on 5683 2352.

Alison spoke about Wilsons Promontory and other locations in the Fish Creek, Foster and Yanakie area which inspired her books and also about the writing process.

"I'll often get up at night if I think of an idea and write it down," said Alison.

Record breaking event for Speed Cubing in Inverloch

INVERLOCH was a hive of activity recently as the town played host to its second official Speed Cubing Australia tournament, drawing over 65 competitors from across Victoria, Queensland, and even international representatives from Japan, China, and Indonesia.

The vibrant event, held at the Inverloch Community Hub, attracted 11 enthusiastic first-time competitors eager to experience the thrill of an official speedcubing tournament in a supportive, inclusive, and fun-filled regional setting.

The air buzzed with the rhythmic clicking of cubes, cheers of encouragement, and animated conversations. Families, visitors, and curious locals dropped in to witness the impressive display of speed, precision, and concentration. Spectators were amazed not only by the variety of cube events and the skill of the competitors but also by the diversity of participants, ranging from primary school children to seasoned adult cubers.

The weekend was marked by an incredible highlight: Kyle Jones from Hervey Bay, Queensland, smashed the Australian record for the CLOCK event with a single solve of just 1.99 seconds. Kyle and his father travelled especially for this event, and the crowd erupted in applause as the record-breaking result was confirmed, officially placing Inverloch on the national speed cubing map.

Indonesia's Firstian Fushada, a national record holder in multiple events, dominated the competition, taking out the main 3x3x3 event



Kyle Jones from Hervey Bay, Queensland, travelled to Inverloch and smashed the Australian record for the CLOCK event with a single solve of just 1.99 seconds.

with a blistering single solve of 6.08 seconds and podiuming in the 4x4x4, Megaminx, 5x5x5 Blindfold, and Skewb events.

Gippsland locals also made their mark. Emmet Hobbs wowed with a Pyraminx single of 1.47 seconds, while Michael Tripodi continued to impress in blindfolded events, topping the podium in both 3x3x3 and 4x4x4 Blindfold.

Local members of the Inverloch Cubing Club achieved a string of personal records:

- Harvey Welsford (16), who first introduced speedcubing to Inverloch, set a new 10.58-second PR in the 3x3x3 and secured four additional personal bests.
- Mia Bangay, a regular visitor, claimed PRS in three events.
- Reef Metselaar and Jarrah Commadeur achieved

strong results in their second competitive appearance.

- Oliver Thomas of Wonthaggi notched six personal bests across multiple cube types.

The two-day event was made possible by a hard-working volunteer team and Speed Cubing Australia delegates. Co-organiser Monique Wilson, representing the Inverloch Tourism Association, was thrilled with the event's success and community engagement.

"We've had amazing feedback – competitors called it one of the friendliest and most relaxed events they've attended. The venue, the coastal vibe, and the walkable location were all huge hits. Having an Australian record broken here was the icing on the cake."

The Inverloch Visitor



Indonesia's Firstian Fushada, a national record holder, travelled to Inverloch and dominated the competition, taking out the main 3x3x3 event with a blistering single solve of 6.08 seconds.

Information Centre also played a vital role, helping manage foot traffic from locals voting in the weekend election, assisting with venue logistics, and creating the ideal environment for blindfolded events, which required complete silence.

One young competitor summed up the spirit of the event when they asked, "What do we need to do to help clean up and make sure we're invited back next year?"

For those interested in getting involved, the Inverloch Cubing Club runs every Thursday during school term from 4.30pm-6pm at the Inverloch Myli Library. The club welcomes all ages and skill levels – whether you're learning to solve, coming to watch, or just looking to hang out with fellow cubers. Cubes are provided, or you can bring your own.

Local writer Lucas Smith set to publish debut short story collection

INVERLOCH-BASED writer Lucas Smith will release his debut short story collection, Spare Us Yet and Other Stories, at the end of June through Wiseblood Books, a US-based independent publisher known for its literary and spiritually rich catalogue.

Lucas, whose work has appeared in Meanjin, Island, Australian Book Review, Gippslandia and more, has strong ties to the Gippsland region. "Several of the stories in the book are set locally," said Lucas, "including one during the Black Saturday fires in Inverloch and another – a long sequence – based on the historical mystery of the 'white woman of Gippsland' in the 1840s."

The 16-story collection is written on moments and experiences, some of which Lucas experienced himself, and others are fiction on what may have been. Lucas writes about rural Victoria, pandemic-era Melbourne, spiritual doubt, social isolation, and family dynamics.

"There's a thread of spiritual searching throughout," Lucas said.

"The stories are contemporary, apart from the historical ones, and many reflect the kind of spiritual vacuum people are living through – whether they know it or not."

The book's journey to publication has a story of its own. After submitting an early version to Wiseblood in 2023, the publisher offered Lucas a unique opportunity in their book residency, a program for promising manuscripts.

"They put me up in a cabin in Boolarra," he says, "and I worked one-on-one with their editor for 10 days. It was mostly structural editing – clarifying certain elements, cutting weaker stories, and shaping it into something tighter."

Wiseblood's alignment with the book was also important to Lucas. "They're Catholic-flavoured but not tied to the institutional church – it's more of a sensibility. They understood my work, which does touch on religious themes. It just felt like the right time."

The collection ranges in length and tone. Some stories span just a few pages, while others stretch longer. A standout piece is a fictional interpretation of the 19th-century "white woman of Gippsland" mystery. "It's told from three perspectives," Lucas said.

"One in the present day, one from the lost woman herself, and one from the colonial search party."

Another emotionally resonant story is set in Inverloch during Black Saturday. Lucas explained staying with older relatives who resisted offers of help during the extreme heat.

"There's this generational thing about not accepting assistance," he says.

"I wanted to capture that dynamic – the quiet kind of pride."

The pandemic looms large over several stories, too.

"There's one about a man who refuses to get vaccinated and just wanders around Sydney in this peaceful solitude," Lucas said.

"Others are about restricted funerals, COVID-sceptic gatherings, and tensions in small church communities over masks."

While Smith doesn't think he's ready to tackle a full COVID-era novel, another story collection is slowly in the works. In the meantime, he's also launched a Substack called The Sprawl of Quality, a play on the Les Murray poem "The Quality of Sprawl," where he writes on short fiction and literature.

"It's not necessarily for my fiction," he said, "but a platform for writing."

The book launch is booked for 3 pm, Saturday, August 2, at Dirty Three Winery, Inverloch.

"I'm grateful for the local support," he said.

"These stories are grounded in our landscape, in our people. I hope readers here see themselves in them."

Spare Us Yet and Other Stories will be available in print and online through Wiseblood Books in late June.



Golden Syrup Dumplings

By Meg Viney

SOMETHING to cook from what you have in the pantry – gorgeous on a Sunday night!

Ingredients

- 1 cup S.R. flour
- 40 gm butter
- 1 egg
- 1 tbsp milk

Syrup

- ½ cup sugar
- 40 gm butter
- 4 tbsp golden syrup
- ¼ cup lemon juice I(optional)

Method

Sift flour with a pinch of salt into a bowl.

Rub in the butter then make a well. Stir in the egg and milk to form a soft dough.

Put syrup ingredients into a pot with 2 cups water, bring to the boil to dissolve sugar, then drop spoonfuls of the dough into the syrup.

Cover, reduce the heat and cook about 20 minutes.

They are cooked when they rise to the top.

Serve with lots of whipped cream.

Friends of Inverloch Library present an evening with Hanna Assafiri OAM

ON FRIDAY, May 23 at 6pm, the Inverloch Library will host Hana Assafiri to share her journey in her memoir "From Lebanon to Australia" and her powerful new book "Hana: The audacity to be free".

Hana is a Melbourne-based social activist, feminist, and owner of the popular Moroccan Soup Bar restaurant.

Bookings are essential via trybooking.com/DBEEM. For more information, contact the Inverloch Library on 5674 1169.

The Bass Coast Chorale presents A Choral Potpourri this May

THE Bass Coast Chorale will present its annual mid-year concert, "A Choral Potpourri" in The Shed at the State Coal Mine in Wonthaggi on Saturday, May 31 at 2pm.

The Bass Coast Chorale has been entertaining audiences from the Bass Coast and South Gippsland since May 2006. During that time, it has presented numerous concerts, sometimes joining forces for major works with other Gippsland choirs, the Jonathan Welch Choir and the Australian Welsh Male Choir.

Profits from concerts have supported local community groups, in home aged care, medical research and on two occasions, African community projects.

This year's concert will support the Wonthaggi CFA.

"A Choral Potpourri", as the title suggests, will be showcasing a wide range of musical styles. Included in the program is music of Cole Porter, J.S. Bach, Bob Dylan, Gabriel Fauré, Brian Wilson, Karl Jenkins, Julian Lennon, Johannes Brahms... and the list goes on! There will be



Blending beloved classics with fresh arrangements Bass Coast Chorale brings 'A Choral Potpourri' to life this May at The Shed.

something for everyone!

Musical Director, Mr. Larry Hills, who has been leading the Chorale since its beginning, has arranged some of the music for this concert, specifically for the Bass Coast Chorale. After recently seeing

"A Complete Unknown" a film exploring Bob Dylan's arrival on the US folk music scene, Larry was moved to arrange three of Dylan's most well-known compositions for the Chorale.

"A Choral Potpourri" is a

one-off performance not to be missed.

Admission \$20 includes afternoon tea, children free.

For tickets contact 0402 727 364 (Wayne Moloney), Bass Coast Chorale members or purchase them at the door.

Lighten Up Theatre brings jungle adventure to life

JUNGLE Fever is a raunchy romp in the African Jungle, and not for the innocent or faint-hearted, presented by Lighten Up Theatre from May 16 at the Senior Citizens Hall in Cowes.

The story begins with two clumsy British army colonels stumbling across a bracelet at a stall in Casablanca. The bracelet belongs to a long-lost

missing heiress of Mumulgum Castle. The missing heiress is a niece of one of the colonels, so they decide upon a quest to find and rescue her.

They then venture into the jungle where they are joined by an array of interesting and weird characters, which with plenty of corny one-liners and hilarious "sometimes naughty" innuendos will have you

laughing in your seats or rolling your eyes! One way or the other, it's sure to be a night of fun, mayhem and in true "Lighten Up Theatre" style, uplifting feel energy! So, sit back and enjoy and remember you never know what can happen in the great jungle.

Performance dates: Friday, May 16, 8 pm, Saturday, May 17, 8 pm, Sunday, May 18, 2

pm matinee, Friday, May 23, 8 pm, Saturday, May 24, 8 pm and final performance on Sunday, May 25, 2 pm matinee.

Presented as a cabaret style, where audience members can enjoy sitting around tables with their family or friends and bring along some yummy nibbles or platters and purchase drinks from the licensed bar.

Send us your photos

If you're having a 21st, club function, wedding, or other social event, email photos to news@sgst.com.au

Sentinel-Times

WONTHAGGI



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THURSDAY 7pm - 9pm

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EVERY
\$30 ENTRY
REGO: 6PM | START: 7PM | LATE REGO: 8PM

11-15 RIVER DRIVE, TARWIN LOWER

Stumbling on the Holy Grail at The Union

By Chloe Kent

THE spiders need to get to work quick smart if they have any hope of transforming The Union into a spooky spectacular in time for The Addams Family on May 23.

Mark Seymour and The Undertow brought the house down on Friday evening, rocking the audience through four decades and leaving no room for cobwebs for a three-mile radius.

Raising all the corners of Wonthaggi, the audience would easily have spanned four generations as Mark Seymour, Cameron McKenzie, Richard Bradbeer and Ben Wiesner took to the stage and performed a collection of hits and recent releases.

Surprisingly the Holy Grail was number two off the top played by Mark and Cameron on stage without drums or bass, but it wasn't long before Richard and Ben took to the stage and the toe tapping, head nodding, clapping was well and truly underway, did we mention the cheers for the audience when the Grail started? It's definitely a downright Aussie anthem.

It was a journey through time, the classic Hunter and Collector hits right through to The Undertow's discography.

Master of Spin, Waiting On The Kid, Cherry Red, Stars of Fitzroy, The Dogs of Williamstown, Football Train it was all in there, and it would be remiss not to mention



Richard, Cameron, Mark and Ben post show on Saturday evening after delighting crowds with four decades of hits. C02_1925

Do You See What I See?, When The River Runs Dry, and Throw Your Arms Around Me.

It may only be Mark's second time on stage in Wonthaggi, Ben's second in Wonthaggi as part of a band (with a very interesting story behind a wedding gig) and Cameron and Richard's first, but if last night's performance was anything to go by, they've got an open ticket and are welcome back anytime to The Union, and we think the bloke down the front dancing at the end would be in heaven.

"It was fantastic," the band smiled after the performance noting they'd had a great time on stage with the audience.

And, whilst Mark commented during an interview the weekend

prior about being shocked at being on the stage with some of the biggest names in Australian music during Sound Relief, this writer certainly feels that he is underselling their talents – how many other musicians can bring together forty years of tunes and multiple generations in a country town?

So, as the dust settles, and the spiders stop a rockin' at The Union, what's next?

The Addams Family by Wonthaggi Theatrical Group opens on Friday, May 23 at 7.30pm, and runs for three weekends closing on Sunday, June 8 at 2pm.

If you've been living under a rock and haven't read any of the recent previews to the show, Wednesday Addams, now a young woman in

love with a 'normal' guy, invites her boyfriend Lucas and his parents for a dinner to introduce them to her unconventional family. Chaos ensues.

Dun dun, click click.

Power To The People Exhibition will replace Illuminating the Past: 100 Years of the Union Theatre Posters whilst South Gippsland Rural Australians for Refugees fundraising film screening will play Io Capitano on Sunday, June 22.

The Melbourne International Comedy Festival Roadshow will head to town on Thursday, July 3, and Running In The Shadows of Fleetwood Mac, the longest running tribute band, will appear on Friday, July 4, later in the year Nurse Georgie Carroll appears as

too the Victorian State Ballet performing Beauty and the Beast, Echos of Pink Floyd, Emma Memma and, of course, our favourite, the Wonthaggi Citizens' Band annual concert, plus loads more is happening as The Union Theatre celebrates 100 years!

Now Lynette may have dashed some hopes on Thursday winning tickets to see Mark Seymour and The Undertow and a Union Theatre centenary gift pack but that's just the start, as Bass Coast Shire Council and the Sentinel-Times team up to celebrate 100 years.

Win a family pass (four tickets) to see The Addams Family as they take to The Union Theatre, plus a centenary gift pack. To win, email your name and contact number to news@sgst.com.au, entries close Wednesday, May 21.

Don't want to wait a week, then secure your tickets for The Addams Family today, see links below to tickets.

Competition details: The winner of The Addams Family family pass and centenary gift pack will be drawn at random by the Sentinel-Times on May 22 and contacted by telephone and email. The winner's name will be published on social media. The tickets will be for use for shows from Friday, May 30, excluding sold out shows. Should the winner be uncontactable by May 26 a new winner will be drawn at random.



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MAY 23
to JUNE 8

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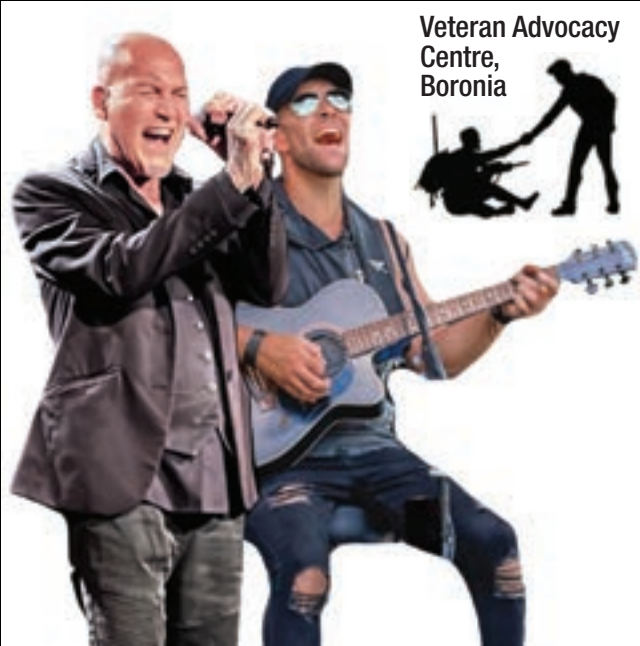
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Bookings - 03 56741481



Kathy Whelan of Friends of Agnes Falls and Alma Mattingley of Port Welshpool Working Group at the Great Southern Rail Trail Tourism Forum at Gurneys Cider. A16_1925



Bruce Beatson of the Men's Shed on Wheels group and Nick Stephens of South Gippsland Landcare Network attend the Great Southern Rail Trail Forum on Wednesday. A17_1925



Jenneke Kijlstra-Shone and Anda Banikos at Wednesday's Great Southern Rail Trail Tourism Forum, at which Anda of Prom Coast Ecolink commented that the trail provides a great biolink. A18_1925



Giulia Joyce of Koorooman and Jenefer Chitty of Leongatha celebrate an early Mother's Day at Leongatha Community House. A24_1925



Shaun Prestage and Nathan Laurens were busy fundraising at Bunning's Mother's Day event last week raising funds for their upcoming Shitbox Rally. The duo have raised nearly \$10,000 this year with a figure just shy of \$40k since they began years ago. C04_1925



Nex Business Farming Wellness' Amy Stark and Kylie Holmes were on hand and in conversation with Bass Coast Shire's Paul Milne. Nex is helping break the stigma with the duo noting that it's okay to have the conversation. C06_1925



Kilcunda farmers Jenny and Wayne Churchill popped along on Thursday evening with friends recommending the film. C07_1925



Farmers Andrea Dennis of Ventnor and Megan Dennis of Kilcunda headed along to the screening of Just a Farmer. Megan's husband's family has farmed the same property for 150 years. C08_1925



Phillip Island Movie Club's Marg Byrne and Liz Mulhern were keen to bring Just a Farmer to the community, bringing it to the attention of Bass Coast Shire's programming team. C09_1925

Snapped Out

Pictures of you and your friends at Just a Farmer event at The Union, out and about in Wonthaggi, Great Southern Rail Trail Tourism Forum and Leongatha Community House Mother's Day High Tea.



Corinella's Jill McIver joined Latrobe Regional Health's Kellie Buissink and Liz Pendrey for the screening of Just a Farmer, Liz noting she had wanted to see the picture for a while. C05_1925



Elaine and Gordon Allan joined by Pauline Wilkinson at the screening of Just a Farmer. C15_1925



John Hart of Wonthaggi had multiple interests in the Just a Farmer evening, as a documentary filmmaker and having also worked in mental health. C14_1925



Keith and Kaye from Phillip Island joined Liz Glab of Cape Paterson at the Just a Farmer screening - supporting friends in farming and raising awareness about mental health in the agricultural community. C13_1925



Bass Coast Shire Councillor Jon Temby was joined by his wife Robyn, keen to see the discussion and understand the broader picture within the local community. C12_1925



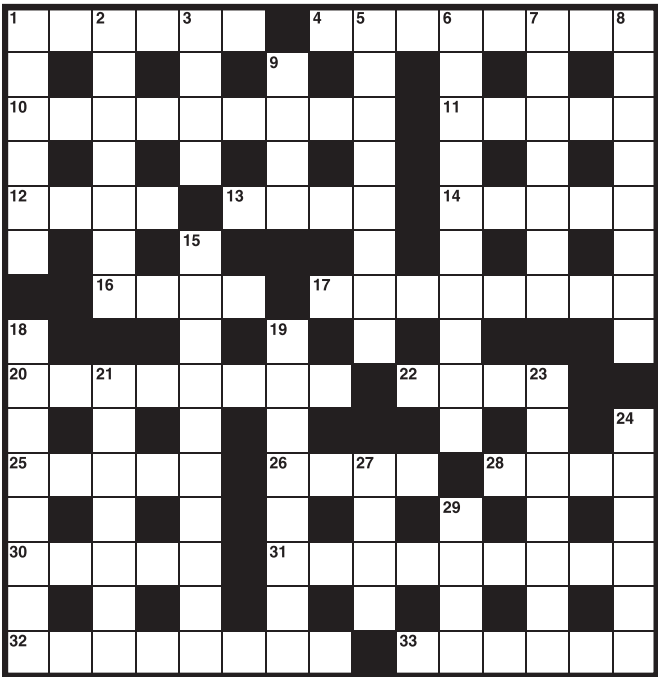
Max Richter attended Just a Farmer, highlighting the importance of the cause and his desire to gain a deeper understanding. C10_1925



Mandy and Doug were keen to see Just a Farmer, not expecting to have the opportunity so close to home. C11_1925

CROSSWORD

No. 280



- ACROSS
- 1

Assimilate (6)
- 4

Leads an orchestra (8)
- 10

Complementary item (9)
- 11

Throw (5)
- 12

Chits (abbr) (4)
- 13

Message (4)
- 14

Colouring matter (5)
- 16

Humming sound (4)
- 17

Musician, Jim – (8)
- 20

Provided (8)
- 22

Declare (4)
- 25

Beautiful maiden in Muslim paradise (5)

- 26

Web addresses (abbr) (4)
- 28

Black mineral (4)
- 30

Hat (5)
- 31

Harmony (9)
- 32

Gifted (8)
- 33

Large rope (6)
- DOWN
- 1

A Middle Eastern language (6)
- 2

Yield; submit (7)
- 3

Corrosion (4)
- 5

Contradictory or incongruous phrase (8)
- 6

Be full of censure (10)
- 7

Commentators (7)
- 8

An instance of seeing something (8)
- 9

Minute skin opening (4)
- 15

Central Asian nation (10)
- 18

Ban (8)
- 19

Embezzle money (8)
- 21

Unbiased (7)
- 23

Forest workers (7)
- 24

English city on the River Exe (6)
- 27

Old stringed instrument (4)
- 29

Self-referential (4)

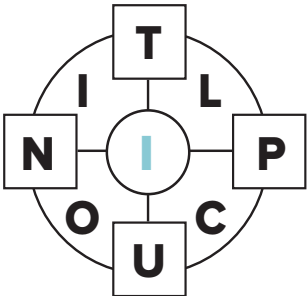


9-LETTER

No. 280

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:
- 17 words: **Good**
- 26 words: **Very good**
- 35 words: **Excellent**

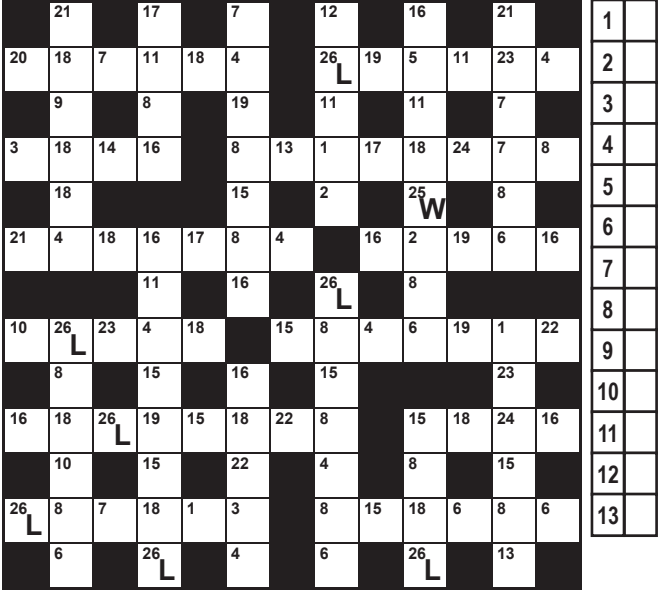


clint, clip, coil, coin,
collin, icon, input,
into, ionic, licit, lino,
lnt, lion, loci, loin,
lupin, optic, picot,
pilot, pint, pinto,
pion, point, pollic,
PUNCTILIOUS, toil,
tonic, topic, tulip,
tunic, unclip, uncoil,
unit, until,

CODEWORD

No. 270

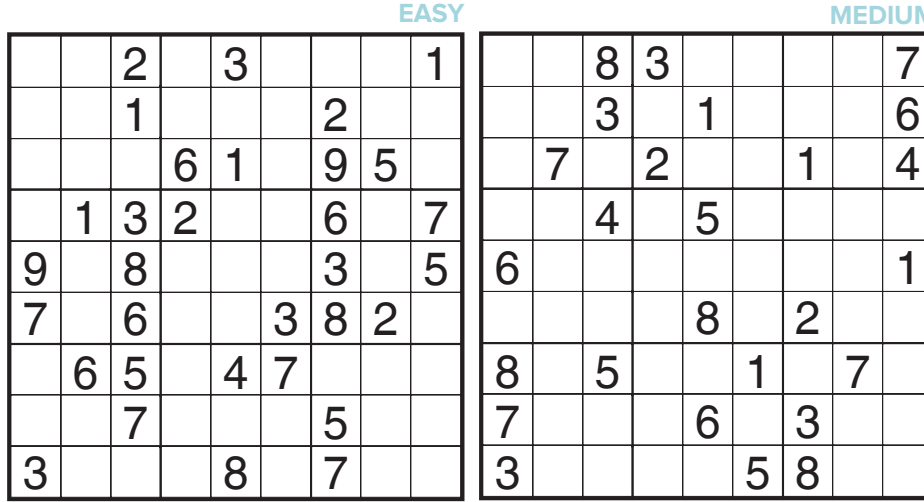
Each number corresponds to a letter of the alphabet. Two have been filled in for you, can you work out the rest?



SUDOKU

No. 279

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.



QUICK QUIZ

1.

What was the first successful contact lens made of?
2.

'Herbst' is German for which season?
3.

What astrological term is used to describe the apparent backwards movement of a planet through the sky?
4.

The legal drama series *The Good Fight* starring Christine Baranski (pictured) is a spin-off of which show?
5.

Name Taylor Swift's 2023-2024 concert tour.
6.

In which decade were the first Grammys awarded?
7.

In which ocean would you find The Bahamas?
8.

Jojo Rabbit, *Hunt for the Wilderpeople* and *Boy* were all directed by which filmmaker?
9.

What are homonyms?
10.

True or false: chickens can recognise up to 100 faces?



ANSWERS: 1. Glass 2. Autumn 3. Retrograde 4. *The Good Wife* 5. The Eras Tour 6. 1950s 7. Atlantic 8. Taika Waititi 9. Words with the same spelling or pronunciation but different meanings 10. True

WORDFIT

No. 189

- 3 LETTERS
- ACE

ALE

ANT

APE

EEL

EGO

END

HEN

INN

IRE

ODE

ONE

ORE

OWE

PAT

PEN

PEW

ROE

RUM

SUN

TUG

USE

UTE
- 5 LETTERS
- AGENT

AGREE

AISLE

ALTAR

ARENA

ARIAS

BEIGE

CLASP

CREPE

CRISP

CRUEL

DRAPE

EDGES

ENSUE

EVENT

FAUNA

GANGS

GHOUL

GOLFS

HEAVE

IDEAL

INANE

LEVEE

LOVES

MARRY

MEANS

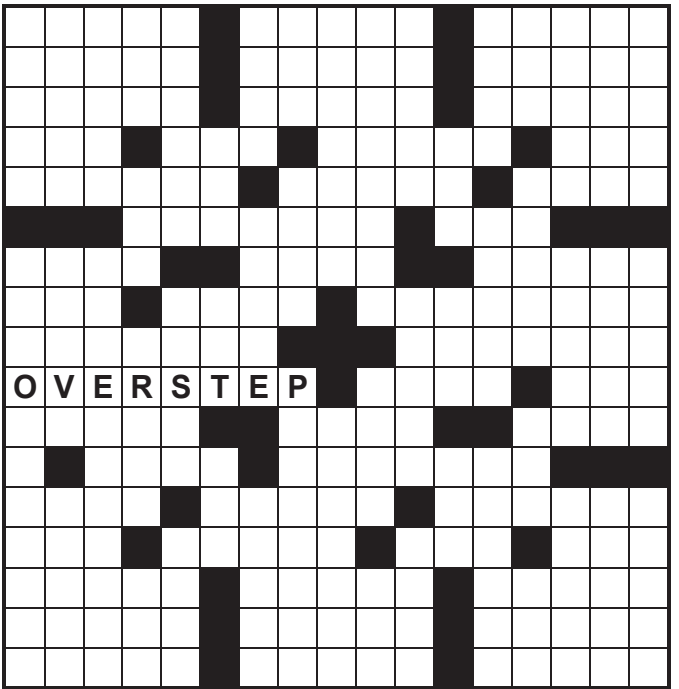
MERCY

MERIT

PENCE

POLAR

RAYON



- 6 LETTERS
- ALERTS

ELECTS

ESTATE

PETITE
- 8 LETTERS
- ENCHANTS

OVERSTEP

POWDERED

SCENARIO
- 11 LETTERS
- CHROMOSOMES

INTERPERSE
- 7 LETTERS
- FREEING

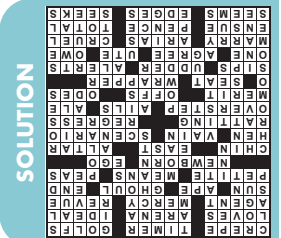
MERGERS

NEWBORN

RATTING

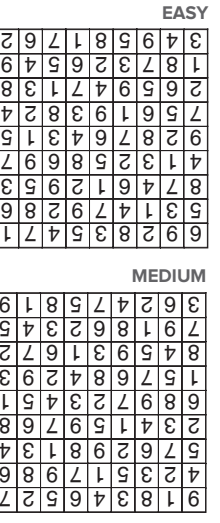
REGRESS

WRAPPER
- REVUE
- ROGUE
- ROSES
- ROUTE
- SEEKS
- SEEMS
- SELLS
- SLEDS
- TIMER
- TOTAL
- TREAD
- TRIES
- TWEAK
- UDDER
- VISTA



0905 | PUZZLES AND PAGINATION © **pagemasters.**

SOLUTIONS



WORD SEARCH

No. 190



- Can you find all the words listed?
The leftover letters will spell out a secret message.
- ALBION

ASCOT

BALMORAL

BEACH

BIRDSVILLE

BROLGA

BUNYA

CAIRNS

COOKTOWN

DALBY

DONNYBROOK

EDGE HILL

GAILES
- GIRU

GYMPIE

HUMID

INALA

IPSWICH

KOALA

MACKAY

MARINE

MAROON

MILES

MOUNT ISA

NEW FARM

NOOSA

PARKS
- QUILPIE

REEF

ROCKHAMPTON

ROMA

SCENIC RIM

WARWICK

WHALE

SECRET MESSAGE: State of tropical warmth and sunshine

Local farmland remains in high demand

FARMLAND in South and West Gippsland remains the most valuable in Victoria despite a slight dip in value in 2024, according to new data released by Bendigo Bank Agribusiness.

The median price per hectare in the South and West Gippsland region fell by 5.5 per cent last year, dropping to \$29,335/ha. Despite this, it remains the highest in the state and the second highest ever recorded for the region.

The findings are part of Bendigo Bank's latest agribusiness report, which revealed Australian farmland values rose nationally for the 11th consecutive year, hitting a record median price of \$10,231/ha – an increase of 6.9 per cent from 2023.

While Victoria recorded an overall decline in farmland value in 2024, the drop was very modest, sitting at just one per cent and still reflects the second highest statewide median on record at \$14,848/ha. The report shows that even with the minor fall, farmland prices in Victoria remain significantly above the five-year average.

The South and West Gippsland region continues to lead the state in value, outpacing other Victorian regions. The next most valuable farmland region in the state, Ovens Murray, fell to third place in 2024 with a median price of \$16,700/ha after a sharp 21.5 per cent decline.

Bendigo Bank Agribusiness

Senior Manager Industry Affairs Neil Burgess said farmland values steadied nationwide during 2024, with the growth rate easing compared to previous years.

“While this was the 11th consecutive year of growth, it represents a notable cooling in the rate of annual increases compared to 2018–2022,” Mr Burgess said.

In Victoria, the number of farmland transactions increased by seven per cent from 2023, breaking a two-year trend of declining sales.

However, rainfall deficits across southern Australia, including Victoria, were cited as a key factor limiting growth in farmland prices. In contrast, favourable weather conditions and a rebound in livestock prices supported stronger growth in Queensland and New South Wales.

Looking ahead, Mr Burgess noted that while anticipated interest rate cuts may provide some support, limited farmland availability, variable seasonal conditions and uncertainty in global commodity markets may keep growth rates moderate in 2025.

For local landowners and investors, the report reaffirms the long-term strength of South and West Gippsland's farmland market. With the region holding its place as Victoria's most valuable, the outlook remains strong for those invested in its agricultural future.



Cows graze on some of Victoria's most valuable farmland in South Gippsland. W04_1925

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Call for review of proposed new building legislation

MASTER Builders Victoria (MBV) and Housing Industry Association (HIA) have called for the Victorian government's new Building Legislation Amendment (Buyer Protections) Bill to be subject to a review by a Parliamentary Committee.

The Building Legislation Amendment (Buyer Protections) Bill, which is due to be debated in Parliament next week, is intended to better protect consumers.

While MBV and HIA both agree that consumer protections should be improved, they are concerned that many provisions in the Bill will unfairly penalise good builders and could drive them out of the industry.

They argue that while well-intentioned, it is also unlikely that the new laws will do much to protect vulnerable consumers from bad building practices.

MBV CEO Michaela Lihou said these new laws will frustrate builders being allowed to pursue legitimate claims to be paid.

“The current system for resolving disputes between builders and consumers is flawed and must be fixed. But effectively banning builders from being paid for their work until consumer concerns are addressed is a disproportionate response” she said.

“Many builders already have trouble getting paid for work they have completed. These new laws will only make that harder. It's hard to see how that's fair or reasonable.”

HIA Executive Director Keith Ryan said the legislation had been rushed, was poorly drafted and would have to be fixed before it started having effect.

“The Bill before Parliament has a number of flaws. It also seems the government has decided that the best way to protect consumers is to simply block builders from accessing the dispute resolution system,” he said.

“This is unfair and lazy and will only burn good builders. It is not obvious why the usual legal protections we all expect are being turned off just for one side of

the story.”

Ms Lihou added the Bill allows for builders to be forced to fix problems caused by poor designs and plans they are not responsible for, and that they cannot realistically challenge these rectification orders.

“The proposed laws allow rectification orders to be made against a builder regardless of whether the builder or an architect or draftsman is responsible for the fault.”

“Under these laws the builder is blamed immediately and then forced to pursue their legal rights using the existing flawed dispute resolution system. That will take months or years and often requires small builders to take on large insurance companies.”

Keith Ryan added “Consumers may feel aggrieved that the Bill could be delayed by a parliamentary review. And while that may be understandable, surely the government needs to get it right the first time, given the potential impact it will have.”

“And realistically, the need for new laws is far from clear.

“Over the past eighteen months the current regulator, the Victorian Building Authority, has become very active in enforcing existing laws. They have not only told the building industry that they will start using all their enforcement powers, but they have actually done so and should be commended for it.

“No builder can now be in doubt that existing laws can be used to punish bad behaviour and if necessary, expel them from the industry. Surely, we should be looking at using the existing laws and enforcement powers more effectively rather than coming in with a new legislative sledgehammer that will only hurt good builders.”

Both Ms Lihou and Mr Ryan are united in their call for an urgent review of the new Bill.

“This Bill needs to be reviewed so that consumer protections are appropriately improved without sending legitimate builders out of business,” they said.

Exceptional South Gippsland dairy farm opportunity: ‘Belle Crae’

SET in the heart of South Gippsland’s highly regarded dairying region, “Belle Crae” presents a rare chance to secure a premium 202-acre (approx.) dairy farm, offered in three titles. This well-established and meticulously maintained property combines productivity, strong infrastructure, and scenic rural charm.

Gently undulating and ideally set up for efficient operations, the farm is currently milking around 200 cows and is supported by a turnout block. It boasts excellent water security, sound infrastructure, and a long-standing fertiliser history – making it a true turnkey opportunity.

Property Highlights:

- A beautifully maintained three-bedroom brick veneer home featuring one bathroom, two living areas, and set within landscaped, low-maintenance gardens.
- High-quality 20-a-side swing-over dairy with an 8000L vat, auto feed system, jet yard wash, and 40-tonne grain silo.
- Secure water supply with a 19ML irrigation dam licence, additional dams, troughs in every paddock, and excess water storage tanks.
- A large undercover calving pad.
- Excellent outbuildings including:
- Versatile machinery/hay/calf-rearing shed with mezzanine storage or office space.
- Massive hay shed.
- 39 main paddocks, all easily accessed via central all-weather lane-ways.
- Fencing in excellent condition with electric wires and established shelter belts.
- Veterinary and A.I. facilities on-site.

Conveniently located just 11.5 kilometres from Foster, 8.3 kilometres from Fish Creek, and 32.7 kilometres from Leongatha, this is a tightly held area renowned for its reliable rainfall and productive soil.

“Belle Crae” is available on a walk-in walk-out basis, with cows and selected plant and equipment included by negotiation.

Inspections by appointment only.

For further details, please contact Barry Redmond on 0477 622 292.



3 1

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FOR SALE

LEONGATHA
‘Thorntons Bakery’ Business for Sale

- Thriving, well established baker with high exposure.
- WIWO sale includes all quality equipment and fit out.
- Flexible 5x5 lease, trading 5½ days with room to expand.

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FOR SALE

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4 2 2

- Spacious family home on large 871m² block.
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Family Living Done Right!

4 3 2

- 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

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3 2 1

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PH11631LV23



Biolinks mapping to understand how species move across the region

AS PART of South Gippsland Landcare Networks (SGLN) process in developing a Biolinks Map for the South Gippsland region, they are seeking feedback from people familiar with their local landscape.

Locals are invited to provide basic information about the vegetation, habitat, and wildlife seen at specific locations and add it to Biolinks Web Map on the SGLN website.

This information will help to improve the understanding of various areas and progress the map modelling process, and will be open until Wednesday, June 4, 2025.

The South Gippsland Biolinks Map is a key action of the Biodiversity Protection Plan and once complete will be an online tool to help understand how native species move through the region.

It will draw on a range of land cover and biodiversity datasets, as well as stakeholder input, to model areas of core habitat and the pathways species use to move between them.

The map will show key locations and movement corridors across the region, their relative importance and where opportunities exist to improve or establish pathways.

This in turn will help to inform where on-ground action will have the most impact, so SGLN and community stakeholders can focus their efforts in the most effective way.

SGLN have engaged James Garden of Ecology Systems, who will be supported by Yasmin Kelsall of Confluence Ecology and Community to develop the map.

Similar biolink plans have been developed for other municipalities, including in the Cardinia Shire region, who utilised the General Approach to Planning Connectivity from Local Scales to Regional (GAPCLoSR) method.

This GAPCLoSR method will also be used for the South Gippsland Biolinks Map.

The first two stages of the project are funded and due to be complete by mid-2025, resulting in detailed habitat and landcover mapping.

The SGLN and the community can then focus resources on the most effective actions to address gaps to ensure native species are able to maintain or increase their numbers.

The map may also provide a well-informed basis for regional planning processes and inspire more investment in the natural values of our landscape.

SGLN are continuing to seek funding for the remaining stages of the project, including species computer modelling work, and development of a consolidated Biolink Map for South Gippsland.

For more information go to sgln.net.au/biolinks-map.

Saputo lifts milk prices but not enough say local dairy farmers

By Bruce Wardley

SAPUTO Dairy Australia (SDA) has advised Gippsland milk suppliers of a step up in minimum milk price of \$0.15 per kgMS for the 2024/25 season but the United Dairy Farmers of Victoria (UDV) has claimed it is not enough.

The two per cent step up in milk price from Saputo comes just weeks after Fonterra increased its minimum milk price by 2.45 per cent or \$0.20 per kgMS.

UDV President Bernie Free said Gippsland farmers need at least a 10 per cent increase in the price of milk to compensate for the increased cost of production year-round.

"The government's irrigation water buy-back scheme has led to a dramatic drop in milk production out-of-season from Northern Victoria," said Mr Free.

"Over the past 10 years, there's been a dramatic reduction in milk supply from the northern irrigation areas."

Mr Free said the government needs to stop buying back water or compensate southern farmers for the increased cost of producing milk for the domestic market out-of-season.

"There's increased pressure to supplementary feed in early autumn," said Mr Free.

"Producing milk out of season increases our carbon footprint and increases risk to farmers."

"A two per cent lift in the farmgate price of milk from Saputo is not nearly enough," said Mr Free.

"Export prices have gone up a lot more."

"New Zealand milk prices have increased by 10 per cent to 15 per cent over the past year. Two years ago, it was all about the export market now domestic prices need to go up."

"Milk is cheaper than Coke," Mr Free said.

"Just look at the difference



Gippsland dairy farmers calling for a 10 per cent increase in the price of milk to compensate for the increased cost of production year-round. B04_1925

in nutritional benefits."

Bega Group has announced it is about to move its Strathmerton cheese processing and packaging operations from Strathmerton in northern Victoria to Bega in NSW.

Chief Executive Officer Pete Findlay said Bega will continue to have a strong presence in Victoria retaining five manufacturing facilities including Gippsland.

Bega Group said that as the business maintained its focus on delivering productivity improvement and growth, it would continue to look for opportunities to simplify the company's operational footprint to ensure Bega maintains a globally competitive infrastructure.

"We are doing our best to manage this transition, with care and respect for our Strathmerton employees and the local community," said Mr Findlay.

Mr Free said the United Dairy Farmers of Victoria was disappointed to see Bega closing its Strathmerton plant causing the loss of 300 jobs in a town with a population of 1000.

"It's not good for anyone," Mr Free said.

Kate Ryan Director of Milk Supply and Planning for Saputo Dairy Australia said SDA remained committed to paying a competitive milk price for milk supplies in Gippsland.

Saputo's price step up increases the weighted average farmgate milk price to \$8.30 to \$8.45 per kgMS for exclusive supply in all southern milk regions including Gippsland.

"The increased payment will be made with April proceeds during May and automatically apply to all qualifying milk supplied under SDA's published exclusive milk supply agreements from July 1, 2024," said Ms Ryan.

"During the current season we've seen continued stabilisation of commodity prices for the start of current calendar year however domestic market challenges persist as cost-of-living pressures impact the local trading environment."

"Consumers remain cost-sensitive and value-focused,"

said Ms Ryan.

"As we look to the 2025/26 season ahead, the outlook for domestic and global demand remains uncertain and volatile, with geopolitical tensions and inflationary pressures still impacting purchasing activity."

According to Saputo the quoted milk prices are a weighted average across SDA's supply base and milk prices achieved at individual farm level will vary with final milk prices likely to be influenced by a variety of on-farm factors.

Saputo Dairy Australia is a leading dairy processor in Australia marketing and distributing a wide range of high-quality dairy and non-dairy products for the domestic and international markets including cheese, dairy alternative cheese, fluid milk, extended shelf-life milk, cream products, cultured products and dairy ingredients.

Updated milk supply agreements will be published on Saputo Dairy Australia's website at saputodairyaustralia.com.au/milk-supply.

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\$5000 scholarship supporting mental health in rural communities

INVERLOCH local and aspiring mental health advocate Jorja Hughes is among nine recipients of the 2025 Supplier Scholarship Program, an initiative by Saputo Dairy Australia (SDA) supporting the future leaders of the dairy industry.

Jorja, 20, is currently studying a Bachelor of Social Work at Federation University while actively working on her family's dairy farm. The \$5000 scholarship will help support her ongoing education as she pursues a career dedicated to improving mental health services in rural communities.

The Hughes family has deep roots in farming, with Jorja's parents currently operating the family-run dairy farm in Inverloch and her brother working as a share farmer. Despite not initially feeling connected to the farming lifestyle, Jorja said her interest was reignited after finishing high school.

"I probably invested myself in the farm when I graduated," she said.

"I had a six-month break before starting university, where I was out on the farm every day – that's when my interest came back."

Jorja now balances her time between farm work – helping with milking, daily jobs, and calf-rearing – and a demanding



Jorja Hughes on her family's dairy farm in Inverloch, where she balances hands-on work with her university studies in social work. The 20-year-old hopes to use her experience to improve mental health services for rural communities.

university schedule of four to five classes a week, most of which are online.

Jorja originally began a Bachelor of Community and Human Services but switched to Social Work to broaden her career opportunities, particularly in the mental health sector.

"Certain states are tightening their regulations around what qualifications you need for mental health roles," she said.

"Social work just opens more doors – you can work in hospitals and access more services."

As part of her degree, Jorja will complete 1000 hours of

placement over the next two years. She hopes some of that time can be spent in local communities to strengthen her understanding of regional mental health needs.

"I'd love to eventually work with people aged 20 to 40," Jorja said.

"That range covers a few generations, each with different ways of thinking, and I think it would help me develop a diverse set of communication and counselling skills."

Despite growing demands from study and future placements, Jorja is committed to

remaining active on the family farm for as long as possible.

"I want to continue working on the farm while I study – as long as I can keep that balance."

Jorja's insight into both farming life and mental health gives her a unique perspective – one she believes could help bridge gaps in service delivery for regional Australians.

"I've seen both sides," she said.

"I know the pressures farmers face, and I understand the importance of mental health care."

The SDA Supplier Scholarship is aimed at individuals within the dairy supply chain who are looking to further their careers and support the industry in diverse ways. Jorja says the scholarship funds will help her reduce the financial burden of university studies.

"It's an incredible support. Uni fees can follow you for years, so having this helps ease that pressure and lets me focus more on my goals."

With a strong drive, hands-on farming experience, and a clear vision for mental health advocacy, Jorja Hughes is a rising leader in both the dairy industry and the community services sector – a true testament to the next generation of regional students.

Upcoming volunteer tree planting days with Phillip Island Landcare

PLANTING indigenous trees and shrubs is a key part of what Landcare do, and the group loves to welcome volunteers of all ages and abilities to participate. Phillip Island Landcare Group (PILG) work together to make Phillip Island a biodiverse, healthy landscape which provides shelter and food for native animals, as well as improving water quality and preventing land degradation.

Tree planting is not only beneficial to the land and wildlife but also to you! These planting days are a great way to spend time with your family and friends, to explore new areas which you normally wouldn't have access to (which can offer some spectacular views!), you'll get out in nature, get your hands dirty, work on your fitness, and, of course, enjoy that warm fuzzy feeling you get knowing what a difference your help has made to the land for future generations.

Phillip Island Landcare Group holds many tree planting days every year throughout late Autumn to early Spring. Most plantings run from 10am-1pm and finish with a delicious BBQ lunch with great company. This year's planting calendar includes:

- Saturday, June 7: Kate Darling and John Fields
- Saturday, July 12: Special Family planting - Whale festival 9.30 am start – Phillip Island Rec Reserve
- Thursday, July 24: Phillip Island Rec Reserve
- Sunday, July 27: Planet Ark's National Tree Day, Ventnor
- Saturday, August 2: Kate Darling and Johns Fields
- Saturday, August 16: Phillip Island Rec Reserve

Please see the full 2025 activity calendar at phillipislandlandcare.org.au.

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Livestock Sales

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David Ryan	0408 311 895	Dick Faulkner	0408 595 174
LEONGATHA		WONTHAGGI	
Dane Perczyk - Livestock Manager	0408 176 063	Brian Vuillermin	0429 436 040
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

Real Estate Sales

KORUMBURRA		LEONGATHA		MELBOURNE LAND	
Scott McKenzie	0427 552 898	Andrew Newton	0402 940 320	Matt Koster	0474 781 711
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
INVERLOCH		PAKENHAM		Sue Lawrie	0419 885 489
Marni Lee Redmond	0403 525 413	Tom Gibson	0438 574 472	KOO WEE RUP	
BERWICK		LANG LANG		Tom Gibson	0438 574 472
Tom Gibson	0438 574 472	Scott McKenzie	0427 552 898	Angus Hall	0466 326 487

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This event received funding from the Australian Government's Future Drought Fund



Opportunity for dairy and livestock producers interested in emissions measurement

ACCURATELY measuring methane emissions in livestock is critical to verifying emissions-reduction claims, unlocking carbon credits, managing animal health and enabling climate-smart farming.

Existing methods often rely on flawed or indirect models with limited commercial scalability or real-world accuracy.

Arcoflex's methane measurement solution enables direct, real-time measurement at the point of exhalation, providing reliable data for industry, accreditation schemes like Verra credits, and producers.

This technology helps address rising demands for sustainability in dairy and red meat sectors while enabling access to new revenue streams via carbon markets.

Arcoflex is seeking commercial partners and collaborators to deploy and scale its methane sensing technology in dairy and livestock environments.

Designed and manufactured in Australia, the system is already in production and delivering validated methane data.

The technology supports Verra accreditation requirements and offers the potential to unlock up to an average \$100k/year in carbon credits per farm.

This technology also supports genotyping herds for lower net emissions, improved health detection and monitoring milk production increases.



Arcoflex is seeking commercial partners and collaborators to deploy and scale its methane sensing technology in dairy and livestock environments.

Arcoflex is now looking for partners to assist with commercial deployment, research trials, and broader industry validation to accelerate adoption and credibility across the sector.

Arcoflex has spent over five years developing, testing and deploying its sensor technology across farms and labs in partnership with multiple Australian institutions.

The system is being used in

feed supplement trials and has been independently validated in lab and field conditions.

The equipment is being used by Latrobe University and Agricultural Services Victoria at the DEECA Ellinbank Dairy Research Farm.

While initially deployed in dairy, the technology has broad application potential across beef, feedlots, TMR barns, and even sheep.

There is also strong interest

in adapting the technology for greenhouse gas management, emissions reduction programs, and input validation in carbon farming initiatives.

Future applications may extend into global markets, offering a robust, empirical alternative to model-based methane estimation tools.

Expressions of interest are open until Thursday, 31 July 2025. To register go to: bit.ly/44LX5DL.

MARKET REPORT

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Prices ease for stores

By SGSAA

AGENTS yarded another good quality yarding of 4400 head at Thursday's VLE Leongatha store sale.

With ongoing seriously dry conditions affecting feed and water supplies in Victoria, SA and the Riverina prices have eased in all market centres, including our local market, with large yardings for store and fat cattle.

Prices mostly eased 5-15 cents for heavier types suitable to go straight onto feed and the better end of the weaners. Lighter and off-bred cattle are seeing the biggest falls with prices falling 20-40 cents and odd sales more from rates seen last month and with no rain in sight which will keep pressure on prices for anything that can't get into a feed yard.

Like recent sales feedlot and northern NSW orders dominated purchases with locals operating selectively.

Leongatha Store Sale on Thursday, May 8, 2025

Steers			
B Woodward 20 Angus	643kg	\$3.76	\$2420
B McLaren 23 Angus	616kg	\$3.59	\$2250
Ingeegoodbee P/L 28 Angus	613kg	\$3.82	\$2350
Nicholl Primary 21 Hereford	606kg	\$3.94	\$2390
R & K Minahan 11 Angus	583kg	\$3.98	\$2320
R & S Irvin 15 Angus	572kg	\$3.93	\$2250
Strzelecki Views 17 Angus	571kg	\$3.94	\$2250
Aquila Fields 17 Angus	571kg	\$4.02	\$2300
W & D Missen 13 Angus	556kg	\$4.04	\$2250
R & J Davies 25 Angus	544kg	\$4.13	\$2250
Chris Murphy 23 Angus	534kg	\$4.08	\$2174
D McKeown 8 Angus	534kg	\$4.02	\$2150
Mt Angus 16 Angus	533kg	\$4.12	\$2200
Homebush Past 17 Angus	532kg	\$4.30	\$2290
R & J Davies 26 Angus	519kg	\$3.89	\$2020
B Garrett 18 Angus	507kg	\$4.14	\$2100
J Wood 15 Angus	500kg	\$3.99	\$2000
D Thompson 11 Sp	498kg	\$3.41	\$1700
D Pickersgill 18 Angus	486kg	\$4.11	\$2000
Henderson Farms 17 Angus	486kg	\$4.00	\$1950
P & J Scott 14 Angus	482kg	\$4.17	\$2010
Behmer Past 14 Angus	480kg	\$3.95	\$1900
B Garrett 20 Angus	466kg	\$4.50	\$2100
RE Kelly 12 Angus	463kg	\$4.01	\$1860
A Faulkner 24 H/Ford	462kg	\$3.78	\$1750
D Thompson 17 Sp	455kg	\$3.64	\$1660
RM Mills 16 Angus	446kg	\$3.85	\$1720
K.D Opray 99 Angus	443kg	\$3.93	\$1744
Behmer Past 17 Angus	440kg	\$4.08	\$1800
A Faulkner 21 H/Ford	428kg	\$3.68	\$1580
JG Dorling 19 Angus	422kg	\$4.09	\$1730
RM Mills 22 Angus	400kg	\$4.07	\$1630
G & G Thompson 18 Angus	370kg	\$3.72	\$1380
C & S Corrigan 13 Angus	378kg	\$3.74	\$1420
J & P Fleming 13 Angus	373kg	\$3.73	\$1350
S Conway 12 Angus	370kg	\$3.64	\$1350
G & B Morrison 16 Angus	369kg	\$3.95	\$1460
J & S Kelly 19 Angus	359kg	\$4.05	\$1460
D&P Conn 208 Angus	339kg	\$3.70	\$1254
R & S Holt 17 Angus	336kg	\$3.68	\$1240
Von Pace 22 Angus	335kg	\$4.02	\$1350
P & S Joyce 12 Angus	324kg	\$3.63	\$1180
G & G Thompson 19 Angus	321kg	\$3.73	\$1200
M & K Hall 10 H/Ford	305kg	\$3.96	\$1210
Von Pace 20 Angus	298kg	\$4.21	\$1260
Tullaree 11 Angus	271kg	\$4.20	\$1140
R & C Donat 26 Angus	262kg	\$4.38	\$1150
G & H Foat 21 Angus	239kg	\$3.96	\$950

Heifers:			
Mt Angus 21 Angus	479kg	\$3.63	\$1740
Hopfields 15 Angus	476kg	\$3.54	\$1690
R&K Telling 26 Angus	422kg	\$3.80	\$1603
B&D Harrison 11 Angus	344kg	\$3.49	\$1200
J & P Fleming 18 Angus	341kg	\$3.22	\$1100
M Berry 11 Angus	328kg	\$2.89	\$9500
B & J Stockdale 18 Angus	288kg	\$2.94	\$850
C & S Vagg 16 Angus	271kg	\$2.98	\$810
R & C Donat 25 Angus	247kg	\$3.07	\$760
B & J Stockdale 18 Angus	288kg	\$2.94	\$850
BJ O'Loughlin 15 Angus	245kg	\$2.77	\$680
G & H Foat 21 Angus	230kg	\$2.82	\$650
U Kratzat 12 Angus	224kg	\$2.85	\$640
N & K Hansford 12 BB	217kg	\$2.75	\$600
B & K O'Bryan 19 Angus	211kg	\$2.97	\$630
R & C Donat 20 Angus	200kg	\$2.99	\$600

Lardner Park Calf Market Report

Monday, May 5, 2025

Jersey & Jersey x	\$10 to \$30
Friesian Bulls	\$26 to \$68
Beef Bulls	\$40 to \$110
Beef Heifers	\$32 to \$300
Friesian Heifers	\$30 to \$95

Number of Calves: 310

Number purchased to rear: 69

Steer & Heifer Store Sale

Steers	\$550 to \$1260
Heifers	\$150 to \$700

Number of Calves: 338

Put a flaming blow torch to the fire services levy says council

ATTEMPTS by the State Government to substantially increase the Emergency Services and Volunteer Fund collected by councils has raised the hackles of Bass Coast Council.

"I wish the Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) all strength to its arm as it puts a flaming blow torch to the municipal collection of this bush-fire levy," said Cr Bauer.

Cr Bauer said if the Emergency Services and Volunteer Fund is adopted by Spring Street it will be a classic case of cost shifting from the State

Government to Council.

By using rates notices to collect this levy the State Government is camouflaging who should be collecting it and hoping that the community thinks that this is a Bass Coast Shire initiative according to Cr Bauer.

"The Government has not offered to reimburse the Shire for the collection of the levy, or the costs involved for non-compliance, or chasing up the levy."

Recalling how many times he had been berated by a ratepayer complaining that Bass

Coast Shire had overvalued their property Cr Bauer said the same logic can be applied to the fire services levy.

"I know there are moves afoot through the MAV to have the levy or a better word for it tax to be collected by the State Government directly and that all municipalities should refuse to collect it.

"As Daenerys says in Game of Thrones when she wants her dragons to breathe fire, DRACARYS," said Cr Bauer.

Cr Mat Morgan said at the end of the day this feeds into

the much bigger issue of cost shifting, and fossil fuel polluters should pay for emergency fire services.

Cr Edwards said if the proposed tax goes through, the people it is going to hurt most is those who carry the most weight and risk in the region, and that is farmers.

Mayor Rochelle Halstead said the levy would have a significant impact on communities more than doubling in some cases for residents who are already doing it tough in a cost-of-living crisis.

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Price miracle continues at Leongatha VLE, now for the rain

JUST over 4400 head of cattle were available at Thursday's Leongatha Store Sale, with prices good for well-bred heavier cattle.

"It was a larger sale and that was on the back of Everitt Seeley and Bennetts now coming on our week, and they had a few cattle, plus there were some larger vendor consignments of a couple of hundred plus which bolstered numbers," Simon Henderson of Phelan & Henderson & Co said.

He indicated that any cattle suited to feedlots fetched good prices due to strong competition, while cross-breeds and animals under 300 kilos tended to be a little down in price.

While reasonably wide-spread rain of 5-15mm the night before the sale was appreciated, a lot more is needed to restore confidence in the market, particularly with colder nights setting in.

"I think it will keep going ok now if we keep getting a sprinkle," Simon said of grass growth, adding "We need significant runoff to fill dams", that being crucial to boosting farmer confidence.

He elaborated on Thursday's prices.

"We did see cattle going



Lindsay Treadwell and Danny Hayes of Warragul, who farm on a small scale, were looking to buy at Thursday's Leongatha Store Sale, Danny feeling prices have drifted down a bit as winter looms and feed and water have become issues for many farmers. A20_1925

to the bigger exporters and feedlotters up to about \$4.15 a kilo for heavy Angus steers, and cattle that suited domestic feedlots were firm," Simon said.

"The enormous beef exports and the strength of the export market is keeping prices at a fairly elevated level considering the season because normally good seasons bring good prices but we're getting good prices with a bad season."

Farmers, agents and everyone involved in the industry are grateful for that unusual positive

despite conditions.

"We'd like to thank Pope Leo," Simon said, agreeing that as well as the unexpectedly good prices more rain can now be anticipated as the new pontiff gets straight into working miracles.

With lighter animals relying on grass being a bit cheaper because of the current lack of it and the resultant reduction in market competition, he'd best get busy, ensuring at least one American in high office gives the Land Down Under a helping hand.



Acting managing director at Leongatha VLE Graham Osborne and livestock administrator Jayde James at Tuesday's Prime Sale. A11_1925

Big cattle numbers continue at Prime Sale

JUST over 4000 head of cattle were up for grabs at Leongatha's Prime Sale on Tuesday as dry conditions continue to impact many farmers' availability of water and feed.

Acting managing director of Leongatha VLE, Graham Osborne, said that with the high numbers it took a fair while to get the weighing done after the sale, noting that during the sale "There was great buyer support from virtually every significant abattoir in Victoria."

He described Tuesday's market as "marginally cheaper" than has been the case recently.

"The quality was down a bit and there was a limited supply of really prime cattle," Graham said, adding there were still a lot of good cattle available, attributing the reduced number of prime cattle to the season, with water and feed getting tight.

Fat cover, and condition of skin and coat are all considerations in determining the quality of cattle at Prime Sales.

"You're estimating how well they will hang up as a carcass," Graham said.

In contrast to Store Sales that are split into two groups of agents, with each

group selling fortnightly, all agents can participate in the weekly Prime Sales. Asked about why cattle are only weighed after a Prime Sale at Leongatha VLE, as opposed to the weighing that occurs ahead of Store Sales, Graham explained it comes down to achieving customer satisfaction.

"It's about selling the meat," he said, adding "You are actually weighing what the butcher's going to get."

That is because of the gut content of the cattle that would add extra weight if weighing was done ahead of the sale.

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A/c Malanik Farms (ELDERS) 50 Angus steers, rising 2 yo, GF, ABF & NE Accred
A/c Julie K Livestock (ELDERS) 45 Angus steers, 2 yo, GF & ABF
A/c White Past (ELDERS) 30 Angus steers, rising 2 yo
A/c R & P Davis (ALEX SCOTT) 30 Brangus steers, 18 mths
A/c J&C Triantafyllou, Woodside (ELDERS) 25 Poll Hereford steers, 2 yo, VB, GF & ABF
A/c S&L Storti (ELDERS) 18 Angus steers, 16-18 mths, VB, Harris blood
A/c M Harrison, Perry Bridge (ELDERS) 16 Angus steers, 17-18 mths, VB, GF & ABF, NE Accred, Hardhat bred
A/c Gibson Farm (ELDERS) 16 Speckle Park steers, 15 mths, GF & ABF
A/c G&J&R Foat, Woodside (ELDERS) 15 Angus steers, 20 mths, Landfall blood, VB, GF & ABF
A/c Breeder, Bass Coast Contracting (ELDERS) 15 Angus steers, 14-15 mths, Harris blood
A/c R&S Bluett-Boyd, Venus Bay (ALEX SCOTT) 15 Angus steers, 14 mths, VB, GF & ABF
A/c M Filtress, Allambee (ELDERS) 10 Angus steers, 16 mths, VB, GF & ABF
A/c Hazel Dell, Ryanston (ELDERS) 8 Black Simm Angus X steers, 2.5 yo
A/c L Dessent, Yarram (ELDERS) 8 Poll Hereford steers, 16 mths, GF & ABF

GROWN HEIFERS

A/c J&M Reid (ELDERS) 17 Angus heifers, 15-16 mths
A/c J&C Triantafyllou, Woodside (ELDERS) 15 Poll Hereford heifers, 2 yo, VB, GF & ABF
A/c Breeder, Bass Coast Contracting (ELDERS) 15 Angus heifers, 14-15 mths, Harris blood
A/c S&L Storti (ELDERS) 13 Angus heifers, 16-18 mths, VB, Harris blood
A/c Mirrawah P/L (ALEX SCOTT) 10 Angus heifers, 18 mths, Ultravac 5in 1Vacc

WEANERS

A/c Melissa Ainsworth, Stradbroke (ELDERS) 42 Angus steers 28 Angus heifers 9-10 mths, weaned, have had their 2 x '7 in 1' vaccinations, are by Innesdale Magnate, Innesdale Equity and Innesdale Premier. VB, NE Accred, GF, ABF & very quiet
A/c Kruber Nominees, Devon North (ELDERS) 70 Angus mix sex weaners, 8-9 mths, VB, GF & ABF
A/c K&S Eden (ELDERS) 50 Angus mixed sex weaners, spring drop 2024, Absolute Angus blood
A/c D.C. McGrath (ALEX SCOTT) 50 Angus steer weaners

A/c Mirrawah P/L (ALEX SCOTT) 50 Angus steer weaners, 8-10 mths, Ultravac 5 in 1, Dectomax, By Fernleigh Bulls
A/c B & R Cashin, Stony Creek (ELDERS) 40 Angus mixed sex weaners, 14 mths, Battersby blood VB, GF & ABF
A/c G&J Tuckett, Woodside (ELDERS) 40 Angus steers, 10 mths, Landfall blood, GF & ABF, NE Accred
A/c Blackwood Pastoral Co, Kilcunda (ALEX SCOTT) 10 Angus mixed sex, Temania blood, GF & ABF, 10 mths
10 Angus steers, VB, GF & ABF
10 Angus heifers, VB, GF & ABF
10 Speckle park mix sex, VB, GF & ABF
A/c G & P Wildes, Yannathan (ALEX SCOTT) 30 Angus mixed sex weaners, by Murdeduke bulls
A/c R Maund (ELDERS) 30 Angus mixed sex weaners, spring drop 2024, Euroa district bred
A/c D Crawford, Woolamai (ALEX SCOTT) 15 Angus steers, 13 mths
15 Angus heifers. 14 mths
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A/c Northside Pastoral, Inverloch (ALEX SCOTT) 15 x limo/charolais steers
15 x limo/charolais heifers
10 mths, NE Accred, VB, GF & ABF
A/c Leighwood Farms, Woodside (ELDERS) 25 Speckle mixed sex weaners, 8 mths, GF & ABF
A/c G Cummaudo (ALEX SCOTT) 25 Char X mixed sex weaners
A/c Ripplebrook Estate, Ripplebrook (ELDERS) 18 Angus mixed sex weaners, 8 mths, Leawood Angus blood, VB, GF & ABF
A/c B & N Bannigan, Mountain View (ELDERS) 18 Speckle Park steers, 7 mths, VB, GF & ABF
A/c G&J&R Foat, Woodside (ELDERS) 15 Angus steers, 10 mths, Landfall blood, weaned, VB, GF & ABF
A/c L&G VanBoxtel (ELDERS) 13 Angus mix sex weaners
A/c T Hart, Corinella (ALEX SCOTT) 5 Charolais steers, 10 mths, VB, GF & ABF, quiet

XBRED & DAIRY

A/c SJA AMC Holdings, Tenby Point (ALEX SCOTT) 50 Angus/Friesian steers, 20 -22 mths
50 Friesian steers, 20-22 mths
A/c M.A & M.J Rowe, Glen Alvie (ALEX SCOTT) 15 Beef cross steers
15 Beef x heifers beef
14 mths, VB, GF & ABF
A/c I Berry (ELDERS) 22 Friesian & Friesian X heifers, opportunity to Jersey bull for mid July calving, not preg tested

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A/c Vendor (ELDERS) 12 speckle cows (2nd) calvers, joined to a Speckle bull to calve June onwards



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DEATHS

ALLMAN (nee TICKNER), Wendy Joy:

Passed away peacefully at home surrounded by her family on May 8, 2025.

Loved partner of Jacko (dec).

Loving Mum and mother-in-law of Tim, Kristy & Jamie, Jake & Mel, Holly & Jordan, Zac & Courtney, and Bec.

Adored Nan to all her grandchildren.

Loving sister to Peter, Rodney, Garry, Steven, Kerry, Paul, Barry and their families.

Forever in our Hearts.

ATKINS, Donna:

12.03.1973 - 19.04.2025.

In our hearts forever.

Love, Jai, Myrell, Vicki, Ben, Ruby, Violet, Tamie, Willow and River.



YOUNG, Colin George:

Born on May 1, 1948.

Passed away May 5, 2025.

Passed away peacefully surrounded by family.

Loving husband of Desma for 56 years.

Loved father of Sheryl, Stephen (dec.), Sandra (dec.) and Rhys.

Loved by his 8 grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren.

Loved and remembered.

FUNERALS

ALLMAN:

The Funeral Service for Mrs. Wendy Allman will be held at the graveside, Korumburra Cemetery FRIDAY WEEK (May 23, 2025) commencing at 1pm.

Handley & Anderson Wonthaggi 5672 1074

PARKER:

The Funeral Service for Mrs. Joanne Evelyn Parker will be held at Handley and Anderson Chapel, 3085 Loch-Wonthaggi Road, Wonthaggi on Wednesday, May 14, 2025, commencing at 11am.

A private cremation will follow.

Joanne's service will be live streamed.

For details, please go to www.handleyandersonfunerals.com.au

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SUCKLING:

Requiem Mass for the Repose of the Soul of Mrs. Fay Margaret Suckling will be offered at Our Lady Star of the Sea Catholic Church, Scarborough Street, Inverloch next Tuesday, May 20, 2025, commencing at 10am.

At the conclusion of Mass the funeral will leave for the Inverloch Cemetery.

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FUNERALS

YOUNG:

The Funeral Service and Committal for Cremation for Mr. Colin Young will be held at the Recreation Reserve - Stony Creek, Dollar-Stony Creek Road, Stony Creek, on Wednesday, May 14, 2025, commencing at 1pm.

In honor of Colin's love for the Collingwood Football Club, the family invite you to wear Collingwood themed clothing or neat casual attire.

At the families request in lieu of flowers, donations to South Gippsland Hospital would be appreciated for their compassion and dedication to Colin.

This Service will be livestreamed, to view please go to www.handleyfuneralservices.com.au

Handley Funerals Leongatha & Wonthaggi

MEMORIAL SERVICES

BUTLER, Glad:

A memorial service to celebrate the life of Glad Butler, will take place at the Korumburra Anglican Parish Hall, commencing at 2pm, Thursday, May 15, 2025.

IN MEMORIAM

BARNES, Michael Eric:

Passed away 19.05.2024 aged 87 years.

I would give the world to take you home, to hold your hand and to kiss your lips once more.

As the lonely days pass my love for you grows.

Your ever loving wife Doreen.

BARNES, Michael Eric:

A year has passed since you left this earth, but the memories can never fade.

We miss you every day.

Your love, guidance and compassion keep us strong.

Fondest love.

--Ian and Marian.

HODGSON, William

'Uncle Bill'

May 18, 2002

The special years will not return when we are all together.

But with the love in our hearts, you walk with us forever.

Kristine (Bub) and family.

THANKS

OPRAY Edward James (Ed)

Annette, Michael, Brendan and family wish to thank everyone for the love, support, cards and flowers given at this sad time.

Thank you to Scott and Sharon of Handley and Anderson for their kindness and organisation; to Bryan Sharp for his thoughtfulness and understanding.

A special thank you to all staff at Koorooman House for their wonderful care and friendship shown to Ed and his family.

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VO284

PUBLIC NOTICES

Planning and Environment Act 1987

SOUTH GIPPSLAND PLANNING SCHEME

Notice of the preparation of an amendment to a planning scheme

Amendment C133SGIP

Overview:

The amendment proposes to rezone part of the land at 14 Radovick Street, Korumburra (1\TP535165, 2\TP535165) from the Public Use Zone to Commercial 1 Zone and part of the Victoria Street road reserve to General Residential Zone 1 and part of Mechanics Lane road reserve to Commercial 1 Zone. This is to facilitate the sale of Council owned surplus land and allow the land to be used for commercial uses.

For further details, refer to the explanatory report about the amendment.

Details of the amendment:

The South Gippsland Shire Council planning authority has prepared Amendment C133sgip to the South Gippsland Planning Scheme.

The land affected by the amendment is 14 Radovick Street, Korumburra (1\TP535165, 2\TP535165), and adjacent road reserves of Victoria Street and Mechanics Lane.

The amendment proposes to rezone part of the land at 14 Radovick Street, Korumburra (1\TP535165, 2\TP535165) from the Public Use Zone to Commercial 1 Zone and part of the Victoria Street road reserve to General Residential Zone 1 and part of Mechanics Lane road reserve to Commercial 1 Zone. This is to facilitate the sale of Council owned surplus land and allow the land to be used for commercial uses.

You may inspect the amendment, any documents that support the amendment and the explanatory report about the amendment, free of charge, at:

- the Department of Transport and Planning website <https://www.planning.vic.gov.au/planning-schemes/amendments/amendments-on-exhibition> or by contacting 1800 789 386 to arrange a time to view the amendment documentation.
- the South Gippsland Shire Council website at <https://yoursay.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/amendment-c133sgip-radovick-street-korumburra>; or
- during office hours, at the office of the planning authority,
 - Leongatha Council Offices, 9 Smith Street, Leongatha, Monday and Wednesday 10.00am to 3.00pm
 - Korumburra Hub, 15 Little Commercial Street, Korumburra, Tuesday and Thursday 10.00am to 3.00pm

Any person may make a submission to the planning authority about the amendment. Submissions must be made in writing giving the submitter's name and contact address, clearly stating the grounds on which the amendment is supported or opposed and indicating what changes (if any) the submitter wishes to make.

Name and contact details of submitters are required for the planning authority to consider submissions and to notify such persons of the opportunity to attend planning authority meetings and any public hearing held to consider submissions.

The closing date for submissions is 17 June 2025. A submission must be sent to the South Gippsland Shire Council by either:

- Survey at <https://yoursay.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/amendment-c133sgip-radovick-streetkorumburra>;
- Email to council@southgippsland.vic.gov.au; or
- Post to Private Bag 4, Leongatha, Victoria 3953.

The planning authority must make a copy of every submission available at its office and/or its website for any person to inspect free of charge until the end of the two months after the amendment comes into operation or lapses.

NICK MOORE
Manager Planning and Building Services



South Gippsland
Shire Council

VO285



Scarlett Rennie surged from behind, unleashing a massive backhand sloop into a powerful snap that earned her an 8.33-point ride and the lead for the U14 Girls. Photo: Noah Clifford (moshxmmedia)

Surfing Vic Junior Titles on Phillip Island

AFTER a thrilling weekend, Ava Holland (Dromana) and Jerry Kelly (Barwon Heads) took out Round 3 in the Under 18 No TXT No Wrecks Victorian Junior Surfing Titles divisions, with Holland also claiming the Under 18 State Title alongside Jarvis Barrow (Jan Juc).

Day 1 of the competition brought plenty of excitement in quick succession, with both Under 14 divisions running through to the finals. It was a clean day down at Smiths Beach, with the sun shining and two-foot peaks rolling through the lineup.

Heading into the Under 14 Boys Final, it was a tight battle for the 2025 No TXT No Wrecks Victorian Junior Surfing Title, with all four finalists in contention, adding extra weight to the heat ahead. Harlem Pec (Jan Juc) came out firing, opening his account with a dynamic 4.67-point ride for a crisp forehand snap full of energy. He quickly backed it up with a strong 5.83-point ride for two tight backhand snaps, establishing early dominance. Alby O'Day (Torquay) chipped away at his scoreline with several one-turn hits, while Teddy Robertson (Torquay) found momentum mid-heat, locking in a pair of mid-range scores – a 4.00 point ride and a 4.20 point ride – to climb into second place. As the final heated up, all surfers were still within striking distance, but Pec stayed in the lead, extending his advantage with a 6.17-point ride. Refusing to back down, Robertson answered with a powerful two-turn combo, earning him a 6.77-point ride and needed just a 5.23-point ride to overtake. Pec responded with a huge fin blow, raising the requirement once more. In a dramatic final-minute twist, Robertson launched into a massive aerial off a steep lip, landing in the whitewater – a jaw-dropping maneuver that secured him the win for Round 3, with a 6.97 point ride, and the overall State Title.

In the Under 14 Girls Final, Estella Carbonelli (Jan Juc) opened strong with a 5.33-point ride, setting the early pace. Her fellow competitors stayed close, all logging mid-range scores in the first half of the heat. With six minutes remaining, Carbonelli improved her position with a stylish wrap into a quick slash, scoring a 7.17-point ride. However, Scarlett Rennie (Cape Woolamai) surged from behind, unleashing a massive backhand sloop into a powerful snap that earned her an 8.33-point ride and the lead. Carbonelli had one final attempt to reclaim the top spot, but the wave failed to deliver the scoring potential she needed. With the ocean slowing and the clock winding down, Rennie held on for the Round 3 win. Still, Carbonelli's consistent performances across the season – winning the previous two rounds – were enough to crown her the 2025 Victorian State Champion.

Day 2 of the competition was moved to Cape Woolamai as the swell dropped at Smiths Beach, offering more consistent waves and better conditions for the highly anticipated Under 16 and Under 18 divisions. In the Under 16 Girls Final, Rose Holland (Dromana) broke from the norm

by opting for the left-handers while most stuck to the right-handers. Her strategy paid off early with a 7.33-point ride for a series of smooth carves and a strong forehand snap. Chloe Muscroft (Jan Juc) briefly took the lead with two mid-range scores, but Holland struck again with an impressive 8.67-point ride for a powerful re-entry on another left, locking in the win. This result not only gave her the Round 3 victory but also the overall series title.

Moving onto the Under 16 Boys Final, George Everest (Bittern) came out strong with sharp backhand snaps for a 6.33-point ride, followed by a smart inside backup. Kato Mogi (Belmont) stayed close with solid rail work and mid-range scores, while Angus Kennedy (Cowes) showed flashes of brilliance with a 5.17-point ride on a steep right. Mogi briefly overtook the lead with a 5.40, but Everest answered with another clean backhand attack. In a dramatic final-minute finish, Mogi used his priority to catch a key wave, delivering a clutch 7.17-point ride to take out the round win – and with it, the overall series title.

The Under 18 Girls Final at Cape Woolamai was nothing short of spectacular, with the competitors attacking the powerful, open walls from the outset. Sara Hickson (Rye) struck first, smashing out a series of backhand snaps on a left to score a 7.67-point ride. But it was Ava Holland who lit up the beach with a jaw-dropping 10.00 point ride, linking together four massive backhand re-entries on the right. Despite the perfect score, Hickson's strong backup ride kept her in the lead, with Holland needing just a 1.94 to overtake. She soon found a clean right and delivered multiple critical hits for a 6.83-point ride, jumping into first with five minutes remaining. As the ocean pulsed again, Holland paddled into a set wave and unleashed another flurry of powerful snaps, scoring an 8.17-point ride and putting the entire field into a combination situation. That dominant performance gave her the Round 3 victory – and the overall series win.

The Under 18 Boys Final was a back-and-forth battle with momentum swinging between several standouts. Remy Filer (Jan Juc) opened strong with a 6.83-point ride for a powerful forehand gouge, but Tarvi Woods (Fingal) responded with a pair of solid scores, taking the early lead. Jerry Kelly (Barwon Heads) stayed within striking distance after posting a 5.50-point ride and then turned the heat on with an 8.17-point ride for three critical turns on a set wave. Filer quickly answered, attacking three key sections with speed and power to earn a 7.27-point ride and reclaim the lead. But the momentum shifted again as Kelly found another set and laid into a powerful forehand layback, scoring an 8.50-point ride and solidifying his position out front. With most of the field in a combination situation, Kelly locked in the Round 3 win. However, in the points battle across the season, consistency paid off for Jarvis Barrow (Jan Juc), who – thanks to strong results in the earlier rounds – was crowned the Under 18 Boys State Champion.

Lyrebirds claim victory over the Raiders

THE Leongatha and District Cricket Association Lyrebirds headed up the highway on Sunday, May 4, to take on the Raiders in the inaugural Women's Master's Winter Competition at Endeavour Hills.

Captain Jackie Newman (Inverloch) lost the toss and was sent into bat, and it was openers Newman and Megan Krause (Wonthaggi Club) who got the Lyrebirds off to a flyer.

Newman and Krause would go on to make an outstanding opening partnership of 78 before retiring at drinks, which bought Liza Burrows (Inverloch) and Kate Williams (Phillip Island) to the crease.

These two ran hard to keep the score ticking over but eventually Williams was dismissed with the team score at 1/108.

Enter Jess McDonald (Inverloch) and the big-hitting master class continued until Burrows eventually retired, playing an outstanding innings which included five fours.

Next to the crease was Elyse Fisher (Kilcunda-Bass) and the theme continue with smart stroke play and hard running before McDonald was dismissed caught and bowled at 2/150.

Fisher and Nicole Creaser (Inverloch) would go on to add another 35 runs before Fisher was dismissed bowled, and the team score was 3/185.

Tarryn Boden (Koonwarra L/RSL) was next to the crease and combined with Creaser pushed the ball into gaps safely and ran at every opportunity.

At the end of the 35 overs,



The Leongatha and District Cricket Association's Lyrebirds team consists of, back from left, Megan Krause, Tarryn Boden, Jessica McDonald, Katrina Slidders, Sarah Tyrrell, Elyse Fisher, front from left, Liza Burrows, Kate Williams (vice captain), Jackie Newman (captain), Amy McRobert and Nicole Creaser (wicketkeeper).

the Lyrebirds posted a strong total of 3/205.

It was the Lyrebirds' turn to bowl, and it was speedster Kate Williams who opened the attack with Sarah Tyrrell (Kilcunda-Bass).

The pair combined their bowling attack well and reward was received when the first wicket fell, a peach delivered by Williams clipping the top of off stump, and the Raiders were off to a rough start at 1/4.

Williams finished her first spell with figures of 1/9 (3).

The next bowling partnership of Katrina Slidders (Inverloch) and Megan Krause continued to deliver wicket balls with Slidders dismissing the Raiders' number three batter clean bowled.

Slidders would then go on to take another wicket, thanks to a skilful catch by Krause at mid-off, and the

Raiders were at 3/31.

Krause would then strike with the next two wickets and finishing with figures of 2/6 (3).

Slidders was also an outstanding contributor with the ball finishing with figures of 2/12 (3).

The relentless Lyrebirds bowling continued when Amy McRobert (Inverloch) and Tarryn Boden came on to bowl, and these girls would go on to each take valuable wickets.

Boden with a caught and bowled combined with a great catch by Fisher at point, and McRobert's wicket came via a great catch at midwicket by Burrows.

The Raiders at this stage were 7/42, and had seemed to steady, but an amazing run out by wicket keeper Nicole Creaser saw the Raiders most dangerous batter

dismissed and the Lyrebirds were well in control.

Burrows then came into the bowling attack to claim the last wicket and it was a victory to the Lyrebirds in their first-ever game as a team.

The highlight being the strength of the whole team effort by everyone with the bat, ball and in the field.

Megan Krause was named the player of the match in a well-deserved all-round effort.

The Lyrebirds next match is Sunday, May 18, at Endeavour Hills against the Dragons.

Lyrebirds 3/205 defeated Raiders 10/62.

Liza Burrows 35*, Jackie Newman 28*, Megan Krause 28*

Tarryn Boden 2/2 (3), Megan Krause 2/6 (3), Katrina Slidders 2/12 (3)



Jack Gay received the B Grade bowling award for the Foster Cricket Club.



Foster Cricket Club's B Grade batting award went to Neil Henry.

Foster celebrates top cricketers

FOSTER Cricket Club recently held its presentation day, marking the end of a successful 2024/25 season.

The club extended its gratitude to local businesses and services for their ongoing support throughout the year.

Special thanks were given to the Bendigo Community Bank for its sponsorship in 2025, and to all club members for their dedication, effort, and contributions to another outstanding season of cricket and camaraderie.

Award winners for the season were:
Junior awards: Batting: Tex Dyson, Bowling: Max Johnston.

Achievement Award: Mason Caldwell, Best in Finals: Cohen Harrison, Most Improved: Ryan Jorgensen, Coaches Award: Jackadam Caldwell.

Senior awards: Dan McGlead Club Person: Davie Bradsworth, Barry Soderland Club Champion: Ollie Rook, 2025 Duck Award: Josh Toner.

B Grade: Bowling: Jack Gay, Batting award: Neil Henry.

A Grade: Bruce Richards A Grade Cricketer of the Year: Ollie Rook, Bowling: Josh Toner, Batting award: Ollie Rook.



Tex Dyson was presented with the junior batting award for the Foster Cricket Club.



The junior bowling award for the Foster Cricket Club was received by Max Johnston.

Young basketballers take competition to new heights

KORUMBURRA Basketball Association is getting behind its five teams entered in the 2025 Victorian Junior Basketball League.

This season, the Korumburra Basketball Association have 56 players competing in the Victorian Junior Basketball League (VJBL).

These players represent the association, but are from across South Gippsland and Bass Coast, from Phillip Island to Foster.

A huge achievement this year was the U16 girls' selection into the VC competition – the highest competition in the VJBL.

Having just played round seven, the U16s are sitting seventh on the ladder in a very tight competition.

"After nine rounds in VC – once you've played all the teams – the competition splits into two and becomes VC and VC Reserve," Korumburra's VJBL coordinator Shelley Whelan said.

"At the moment, they look like they might be in VC Reserve – which is still the best teams in the competition – but with two games to go, there may still be a chance to qualify."

Grading for VJBL started in November and January, and



Korumburra Basketball Association's U16 girls are competing in the VC competition in 2025 – the highest division of the Victorian Junior Basketball League (VJBL). Pictured back from left, coach Andrew McFarland, Anika Edwards, Kate McCausland, Ashlee Spark, Abby Derham, Lacy Fennell, Katrina Spark, front from left, Billie Peterson and Ruby Ogilvy. Absent: Hazel Stone, Evie Stone and Willow Butinar. Tk01_1925

the season has been under-way since March.

The U16s have won three games and lost four so far.

They were selected for VC after being deemed amongst the state's best during the competition grading.

Amongst the team is Ruby Ogilvy, Ashlee Spark and Billie Peterson, who were also selected for the U16 Vic Country side.

The girls also participate in special development programs with Basketball Victoria.

They usually train together once a week, working around their commitments to the state programs.

"They were just a really good team. Some of them have been playing together for a couple of years now," Shelley said.

The girls are coached by

Andrew McFarland, who came to the association from Phillip Island.

Andrew has been coaching the VJBL side for three years and was recently named the association's Coach of the Year for the Rep Season.

Korumburra Basketball Association have also entered the U12 boys, U14 boys, U14 girls and U16 boys in the VJBL competition.



Peter Novak, Linda Newman, Janet Elsworth, John Stewart, Rhonda Rattenbury, Pat Novak and Marj Ford shared the glory at Breakaway Bowls on Friday.



Jenny Smith (L), Trevor Loughridge (S) and Wendy Pownall (3) were this week's South West Gippsland Midweek Bowls Group winners.



The best one-game winners for the South West Gippsland Midweek Bowls Group on Thursday were Michael Saunders (3) Jenny Harding (L) and Bill Sherrieff (S).



The winners of the Monthly Triples at the Korumburra Bowls Club were Guilio Marcolongo, Peter Shaw and Ron Burge. Thank you to sponsors Burra Automotive and South Gippsland Air Conditioning.



The Green 1 winners at the Inverloch Bowling Club were Martin Hannaford and Kevin Jones.



Rhonda Rattenbury and Jan Clark were Monday's Breakaway Bowls winners.



The South West Gippsland Midweek Bowls Group runners-up were Raff Merante (3), Steve Muhi (S) and Bob Arnold (L).



The Thursday social bowls winners at the Inverloch Bowling Club were Shaun Lee, Terry Seaward (skip) and Darryl Floyd.



Runners-up at Korumburra Bowls Club's Monthly Triples were Mark Baensch, Judith Nicholl and Keith March. Thank you to sponsors Burra Automotive and South Gippsland Air Conditioning.



Wonthaggi Bowls Club's Saturday winners were Rob Aitken, Rob Westbrook and Tony Marotta.



Inverloch Bowling Club's Green 2 winners were Terry Seaward and Trevor Streer.

BREAKAWAY BOWLS

BACK into bowls after an eventful weekend with the election.

It was a great turnout as usual, with everyone enjoying the social get-together.

The winners were the long and the short of bowls Rhonda Rattenbury and Jan Clark.

They won with +11 – well-done ladies.

On Friday, the members saw two teams tie for the win on +8 – great bowling from all involved.

The teams were Peter Novak, Linda Newman, Janet Elsworth, John Stewart, Rhonda Rattenbury, Pat Novak and Marj Ford.

Well done to all involved.

FOSTER

LAST Thursday was the start of the Monthly Winter Triples.

It started off a bit daunting with early morning rain interrupting play a little, but the afternoon came out nice and the bowlers even had some sun.

As usual, a serve of yummy hot soup at lunch kept them perked up for the last game and the afternoon tea just topped off the day.

The sponsors for the day were Foster Lotto, Linen and More (Col Pulham) and Foster Pharmacy.

As always, a big thank you to them both.

At the end of the day, there were six teams with two wins, so it came down to points.

The winners were the Foster/Meeniyen combination team of Maureen Taylor, Lorraine Warren and Mark Taylor.

The runner-up was the Foster team of Kelvin Park, Sue Waugh and Ian Park.

Best last game winner, claiming the wine prizes sponsored by Foster IGA, was the Foster/Fish Creek team of Col Pulham, Malcolm Ellis and Ray Spokes.

It was a great start to the winter competition.

See you all next month.

INVERLOCH

INVERLOCH Bowling Club had another successful night bowls competition on Tuesday.

Green 1 winners were Martin Hannaford and Kevin Jones.

Green 2 winners were Terry Seaward and Trevor Steer.

With three weeks to go in the competition, the ladder leaders are Peter Shaw and Keith Cousins in Group 1, and Shirley Turton with Marg Griffin in Group 2.

There are a number of contenders in hot pursuit in both groups, so the next three week's competition promises to be keen.

Thursday's social bowls saw 30 bowlers split into 10 teams of Triples playing two games of 10 ends.

Winners on the day were Terry Seaward (skip), Shaun Lee and Darryl Floyd.

They finished with two wins, 33 points and 14 shots up.

The runners-up were close behind with two wins, 33 points and 12 shots up.

This team consisted of Reg Varty (skip), Rob Howard and Harry Dunn.

The hard luck story of the day was the team of Di Selby (skip), Carol Thorn and Betty Anderson.

The annual Bowl Over Cancer Day is scheduled for June 12.

Please put this in your diary.

MIDWEEK

WHAT a difference a week makes.

The family of bowlers attended Loch and District Bowls Club to once again fight it out for team of the week.

They were greeted by Pauline, Vern and John while Peter, David and Claire prepared the teams.

The club was very happy to get 50 bowlers on such a bleak day.

The weather was bleak with rain, hail and snow beating down on everyone.

Well, maybe not quite that bad, but quite a few showers of icy cold rain being the order of the day.

Somehow, they all managed to get through the day without reducing the ends played.

Loch is such a pleasure to play on.

It always plays true, and it is just so smooth.

There were one or two wrong bias bowls to keep the Royal Children's Hospital jar filling.

Keep up the good work all.

Bad weather or not, it was a magnificent fun day for all and sundry. How could it not be with the lovely members of the bowls group?

The winners on a great score of 36 points were Jenny Smith (L), Trevor Loughridge (S) and Wendy Pownall (3).

Runners-up on a score of 34 were Raff Merante (3), Steve Muhi (S) and Bob Arnold (L).

Best one game winners this week on a score of 19 were Michael Saunders (3) Jenny Harding (L) and Bill Sherrieff (S).

The volunteers were once again thanked for their tireless work, including Trevor behind the bar and Andrea in the kitchen.

Next week, the bowlers will be playing at Lang Lang Bowls Club.

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 was not so good, with showers off and on during the day.

Bowls were called off not only due to the showers but also because of a strong wind.

Saturday saw a perfect sunny day, greeting 37 bowlers on the green for two games of 10 ends.

Teams of three, plus one team of four, were the order of the day.

Three teams were two-game winners.

The unlucky team of Kathy Heaphy, Lyn Tagell, Frank Tagell, and Ray Hin – missed second place on countback.

Runners-up were Trevor Teer, Ken Webb, and John Migliorisi with a score of two wins and 32 points.

The winners were Rob Aitken, Rob Westbrook, and Tony Marotta with a score of two wins and 33 points.

Once again, Friday night went off well with good numbers enjoying the night.

Tony, Mal, and Amanda were happy meat tray winners.

Bowls this week:

Wednesday: Social bowls at 12.30pm.

Thursday: Coaching at 10am.

Saturday: Social bowls at 12.30pm.

Friday night: Members draw plus raffles, including meat trays.

The member's draw this week is \$100.

Have a good week and good bowling.



Everyone was all smiles at the conclusion of the South Gippsland Hospital Auxiliary Charity Day when a cheque for \$12889.80 was handed over at the Foster Golf Club. Pictured from left, Carol Barker, Owen Kindellan, James Freeman, Amy Kindellan, Judy Bacon, Leigh Roberts and Prue Fleming

FOSTER

UNDER blue skies, 136 players formed 34 teams to play in the 2025 edition of the South Gippsland Hospital Auxiliary Charity Day.

The event was held on Easter Sunday with people coming from far and wide for their chance to try and take home the chocolates.

As every year, the event is well supported with “The Chameleon” lads sponsoring all the trophies.

A vast array of auction items were donated by businesses and organisations alike with all proceeds of the day going directly back to the hospital.

When the trophies were handed out, the team of Shaun Chaseling, Sam Davies, Angus Norton and Nick Goss were the winners of the men’s event with an exceptional 51.25 net.

Tom Cameron, Levi Cocksedge, Jack Curtis and Eamon Berryman came in with 52.125 net and were runners-up in the net event.

There were four balls down the line for the men, Terry Jewson, Jamie Freeman, Greg Cox and Oliver Cox on 52.25, Craig Buckland, Ricky Benis, Danny Jenkins and Josh Sing with 52.375, Nicholas Connellan, Tim Fountain, Taigue Fountain and Matt Hynz on 52.875, and Jake Pilkington, Eoghan Lawler, Fred Cooper and Rob Cartledge with 53.5.

The grouping of Mal Davis, Owen Kindellan, Stephen Paragreen and Kevin Smith were the strongest team and held up the entire leaderboard with the lowest overall score and won the NAGA award.

In the mixed event, Jeffry White, Susan Phillips, James Marks and Pam Erving bolted home to win with 52.125.

Rachel Brown, Andrew Brown, Lachlan Duncan and Alice Duncan were the runners-up with 54.5.

Nearest to pins were active for both men and women and were well spread out.

Jim Freeman and Rachel Brown were nearest on the fourth, and Justin Dubignon was the sole winner on the sixth.

Lachie Durken shared the honours with Barb Warren on the 13th.

Barb was again nearest in the 15th along with Taigue Fountain.

The money hole for the day was the 17th.

Moon booted president Ryan Williams spent the day at the 17th, offering the golfers a chance to win the raffle.

The closer you get, the more entries you received.

Andrew Kent and Elisa Nudelman were the two closest for the day and both earned extra entries into the draw for an air fryer that was generously donated by Betta Electrical in Leongatha.

At the conclusion of what was an action-packed day, a cheque for \$12899.80 was made out and handed over from the club to a very thankful Hospital Auxiliary.

The club would like to thank everyone who was involved in creating such a fabulous day.

From the ground staff to the committee, from the staff to all those who participated, the club thanks you.

KORUMBURRA

LAST Wednesday women played for the May Monthly Medal kindly sponsored by Tiny Teapot Cafe.

The weather gods weren’t on our side, but we are thankful for the much-needed rain!

Congrats to Pam Eyers winning the medal with a handy 73nett.

Winner of A Grade was Trudi Mantell with 100(21)7, R/Up was Barb Twite with 101(21)80 on a c/b.

B Grade winner was Pam Eyers with 110(37)73, R/Up Kim Enbom with 100(24)76.

BDTL went to Deb Wrigley, Maree Wittingslow both with 77nett and Chris Rickard with 78nett.

Best Scratch Score was had by Merrissa Cosson with 90 of the stick. Well done to Johanna van den Heiligenberg who eagled out on the 17th hole.

NTPs on the first (Kellys Bakery) and 13th (Burra Garden Supplies) went to Barb Twite and on the seventh Trudi Mantell was awarded the sleeve on golf balls.

A group of players were also playing off for the Silver Spoon. Congrats to Barb Twite for being our finalist. Barb will now go on to play at a Metro Course and represent our club later this year, good luck!

Saturday our women played a two-person Ambrose game, kindly sponsored by Trudi Mantell and we thank her for the lovely prizes. Congratulations to our winning pair, Lyn McIvor and Johanna van den Heiligenberg, scoring a nice 65.25nett.

Runners-up were Deb and Aliasha Wrigley with 79.25nett.

NTP’s on the first and 10th went to Colette Pearl and Johanna was closest on the 13th green.

LEONGATHA

TUESDAY, May 6: Stableford Event 06/05/2025

Tuesday’s event was a Stableford event with 63 members/guests taking to the course.

Overall winner: Peter Waters (21) with a high score of the day of 36 points.

A Grade winner: Alan Starkey (10) with a score of 35 points on a countback. A Grade runner-up: Christopher Leaver (7) with a score of 35 points.

B Grade winner: Michael



Winners of the Leongatha Ambrose Shield were Leesa Matthews, Deanna Hargreaves. Kylie Hoghton and Sandra Argentaro from Garfield Golf Club. Absent: sponsor Evelyn Indian.

Byrne (16) from the Commonwealth Golf Club with a score of 33 points. B Grade runner-up: Dave Brownnett (15) with a score of 31 points.

C Grade winner: Peter Waters (21) with a score of 36 points. C Grade runner-up: Neil MacKenzie (26) with a score of 31 points on a countback.

NTP fifth second shot: Bert Borg at 3.06m. NTP 14th: Christopher Leaver at 2.40m. NTP 16th: Doug Clemann at 1.32m.

Thursday, May 8: South Gippsland Homes Par Event.

Thursday’s event was a Par event with a field of 69 members/guests with a much-appreciated and excellent sponsorship of the day by SG Homes.

Overall winner: Gary McGrath (15) with a high score of the day of +6, his best round ever at the Leongatha Golf Club. A Grade winner: Malcolm Gin (7) with a score of +2. A Grade runner-up: Winton Knop (8) with a score of 0.

B Grade winner: Gary McGrath (15) with a score of +6. B Grade runner-up: Andrew Hamilton (15) from the Meeniyian Golf Club with a score of 0.

C Grade winner: Trevor Moss (30) with a score of +1. C Grade runner up: Hugh Goodman (20) with a score of 0 on a countback.

NTP fifth second shot: Ian Barlow. NTP 14th: Philip Edwards. NTP 16th: Michael Street.

Saturday, May 10: Stableford.

Saturday was a Stableford round with a field of 83 members/guests taking to the course.

Overall winner: Andrew Smith (15) with a high score of the day of 38 points.

A Grade winner: Alan Starkey (10) with a score of 34 points on a countback. A Grade runner-up: Rebecca Thomas (7) with a score of 34 on a countback.

B Grade winner: Andrew Smith (15) with a score of 38 points. B Grade runner-up: Bruce Christison (14) with a score of 37 points.

C Grade winner: Stephen Lacy (22) with a score of 35 points. C Grade runner-up: Ken Lay (18) with a score of 34 points.

D Grade winner: Susan Bowler (24) with a score of 35 points. D Grade runner-up: Ian Moorhouse (23) with a score of 34 points on a countback.

NTP fifth second shot: Daniel Jolley. NTP 14th: Peter Clingin. NTP 16th: Martin Fuller.

Sadly, Evelyn announced yesterday that this would be her last sponsorship of the Ambrose Shield.

Congratulations go to the team from Garfield Golf Club, Kylie Hoghton, Sandra Argentaro, Leesa Matthews and Deanna Hargreaves with 60.75.

They will now have to play again next year to ensure that the trophy is returned.

The team of Jenny McRae, Lisa Brusamarello, Simone Lindsay and Donna Brosnan from Wonthaggi Golf Club were the runners-up with 61.25.

Two Leongatha teams took out the next two prizes – Viv French, Sue Woods, Jenny Fraser and Michelle Roberts with 62.375, and Cheryl Borg, Janet Monk, Robin Smith and Chris Lay on 62.875.

A delightful lunch, enjoyed by everyone, was prepared by Brett Sinclair Catering.

There was just a smallish field this week for the May Monthly Medal.

Unfortunately, a few players succumbed to the unexpected cool change.

Sue Bowler had the best score on the day, finishing with an excellent 96/24 /72 net.

Jan Brownlie, runner-up, also had a good day with 109/33 76 net.

Rebecca Thomas was the May Monthly Medal winner, having played on Saturday. Bec finished with 80/7 73 net.

Rebecca also played in the metropolitan pennant final the day before, with her team, Yarra Yarra coming out victors.

Balls down the line went to 85 net Leanne Costello. Bronwyn Debenham, Anne Gibson, Glenyce McRobert, Anna de Bondt, Cheryl Borg, Colleen Touzel, Maryanne Gartner and Joc Howson.

Nearest the pin on the 16th went to Karen Orford.

Anne Gibson won the putting competition with 34 putts.

Karen Orford had another win this week in the nine-hole competition, finishing with 21 points.

Marie Sands earned a ball down the line with 17 points.

MIRBOO NORTH

TUESDAY, May 6: Stableford.

A Grade: N. Whichello (15) 34 points c/b.

B Grade: N. Baker, (20) 34 points.

DTL: M. Tethington 34, C. James and S. Evans 32 c/b.

NTP: fourth S. McKenzie, sixth G. Shandley, 13th M. Tethington and 16th C. James.

Saturday, May 10: Stableford.

Captain’s Trophy first round Play Off:

A Grade: R. Scurlock (9) 34 points. B Grade: N. Whichello, (14) 36 points. C Grade: S. McK-

enzie, (20) 38 points.

DTL: S. Jordan and J. Hughes 36, Tom Traill 35, and N. Bracecamp, M. Snell and J. Smeriglio 34.

NTP: fourth L. Wright, sixth J. McFarlane, 13th R. Scurlock and 16th J. Hughes.

Birdies: fourth J. Kidd and R. Clark, sixth J. Woodall and J. McFarlane, and 16th J. Hughes, M. Snell and M. Payne.

Round two Captain’s Trophy Play Off: J. Hughes v Tim Traill, and R. Scurlock v P. Smart.

RESULTS: May 8, SR. 71.

Competition: Stableford 18-hole.

Winner: Rod McBride 36.

Runner up: Keith Ridout 36.

Ball sweep: Warwick Judkins 35, Doug Putt 32 and Stephen Kane 32.

Results: May 8, SR. 34.5.

Competition: Stableford front nine-hole.

Winner: Keith Ridout 19.

Ball sweep: Andrew Hooton-Shandley 17, Rod Walker 12 and Bill Howard 12.

Results: May 10, S.R 71.

Competition: 4BBB round one Ken Chisholm.

Overall winners: Alan Jones and Simon O’Halloran +7.

Runner up: Michael Scott and Daniel Crellin +7.

Ball sweep: Russell Parker and Simon O’Halloran +7, Bill Blanch and Rod McBride +7, Peter Dell and Ray Hender +6, Secondo and Mark Tizani +5, and Robby Geyer and Steven Brann +5.

Eagle: Peter Dell ninth hole.

NTPs: Glenn Rielly second, Harrison Jays fourth, John Walsh propin eighth, Kevin Jamieson 13th and Michael Scott money hole 17th.

Ladies

WEDNESDAY was the May Monthly Medal, and the day started windy and overcast but soon turned wet.

This caught some players unprepared for rain who decided that nine holes was enough and time for hot shower and change to dry clothes.

Kudos to the 17 players who persevered.

Grade winners were A Grade and scratch Catherine Bolding 97(18)79 on c/b Merryn Dear, B Grade Patsy Britt 102(28)74 on c/b Jenny McRae, and C Grade and medal Karen Sheerin 106(34)72.

BDL went to Jenny McRae 74, Layla Robertson 76, Irene Walsh 77 and Heather Wintle 78.

NTP on second was Marg Johnson, fourth Jan Beaumont and eighth Layla Robertson.

WOORAYL

Ladies

THE May Monthly Medal was a Stroke event sponsored with thanks by Jareth and Melissa Hume.

Sixteen players competed on a cold, wet and windy day.

A Grade’s winner and Monthly Medallist on a count back from Linda Forrester was Pauline Lancaster 75 net.

B Grade’s winner was captain and the injured player Janet Thompson 76 net.

BDL: Linda Forrester 75 net on a count back, Jean Hayes 76 net and Barb James 77 net.

NTP: eighth Jean Hayes, and 11th and 17th Elly Berryman.

Putting: Linda Forrester 29 putts.



Aiden Cook soared to new heights while competing for St Laurence O’Toole Primary School in Wednesday’s Woorayl District Athletics competition.

Aiden flies high at Leongatha Velodrome

REPRESENTING Leongatha’s St Laurence O’Toole Primary School, Aiden Cook broke a long-standing record for the 12/13 boys high jump during Wednesday’s Woorayl District Athletics competition at Leongatha Velodrome.

The record had been held by Wes Graeme from Mirboo North Primary School since 2010 with his clearance of 1.43m but Aiden jumped a massive 1.56m to smash that mark and set a new personal best.

Aiden also won equal age champion for his age group.

Surprise outcomes at Wonthaggi Table Tennis

DOUBLE Fish defeated Stiga four to one.

Jack “Duffman” Duff’s cameo performance oscillated from the duff-free subliminal to funky folly.

Fortunately for Double Fish, the sublime outweighed the folly of carrying the team against Stiga’s tenacious Tim and Luke.

Butterfly def Donic three to two.

Butterfly’s Jolly Kimmins rocked and shocked the hall when he defeated the undefeated Justin.

Fellow tables wondered and worried if the world had descended into disorder, had the equator fallen off its axis or had gravity reversed?

It wasn’t until the coal mine lunch-time horn hooted at 12 bells the next day that everyone knew the world was okay and they could believe their eyes.

They hadn’t seen such joy since Augustus Gloop belly-flopped into Wonka’s choccy river.

Well played, David.

Nittaku defeated Radak three to two.

When bottom-of-the-table Nittaku were confronted by top-of-the-table Radak, bookmakers suspended betting, quipping that the Harlem Globetrotter’s perennial whipping boys, the Washington Generals, had higher hopes.

However, Nittaku’s Braden and Charley found their rhythm and melody to notch their first win of the season in incredible fashion.

Andrew, now known as Charley’s father, looked depleted but not so displeased across the net.

A Grade ladder: Radak 20, Butterfly 20, Double Fish 16, Donic 16, Stiga 8 and Nittaku 4.

Leading players: Justin 13, David 11 and Braden 9.

Thursday night:

B Grade: Ball defeated Edge four to one; Serve defeated Smash three to two.

Ladder: Serve 21, Bat 20, Ball 16, Smash 9 and Edge 4.

Leading players: Yeti 10, Trish 9, and Shane, Vicki and Jay 8.

Schools battle it out in track and field

ELEVEN local primary schools were represented in a successful and competitive Woorayl District athletics meeting at Leongatha Velodrome oval on Tuesday, participants handling the unseasonably hot conditions and wind gusts well.

Leongatha Primary School came out on top, finishing with 253 points, ahead of Inverloch Kongwak Primary School’s combined campuses on 234 points.

St Laurence O’Toole Primary School, in Leongatha, won the Ian Brewster Handicap shield.

Event organiser Kate Sperling of Mirboo North Primary School expressed her appreciation for the support provided by Ben Cruickshank and his Leongatha Little Athletics committee members who helped run the carnival.

Four records fell on the day, Aiden Cook of St Laurence O’Toole Primary School setting a new mark of 1.56m in the boys high jump for those in the 12/13 year age bracket and Nathan Moore recording a time of 5:36:97 in the 1500m for boys aged 11 and earning the Rick Walters Medallion for running the fastest time for a male out of all the age groups, representing Inverloch Kongwak Primary School.

Leongatha Primary School’s Arya O’Malley, competing in the 12/13 year age category for girls, accounted for the other two records, throwing 25.77m in the discus and recording a



Nathan Moore still looks in good shape after comfortably winning his 800m race for Inverloch Kongwak Primary School in a time of 2 minutes and 48 seconds, six seconds off his personal best.



Grade 6 Inverloch Kongwak Primary School student Milly Barton proudly displays her ribbon after winning the long jump for her age group, with her mum Sarah Egan there in support.



Robyn Kewming came to the Leongatha Velodrome to support her grandson Seb, the Grade 6 Inverloch Kongwak Primary School student placing fifth in his hurdles race and looking forward to the relays.

Strong start to May for Wonthaggi Croquet Club



The winners of the in-house twilight competition at the Wonthaggi Croquet Club were Sue Priller and Philip Bool.

MAY has started on a busy note with six of members playing in the Warragul Level Play Singles tournament on the weekend of May 3 and 4.

Three players competed in Section 1 with Tom Lacey winning three games, Neil Warburton three games and Virginia Wheeler two games.

Good efforts but no cigars.

In Section 2, the club had Kathy Ross with four games, Sue Priller two games and John Priller unfortunately not winning any.

Whilst this was going on, a number of members were slaving over a hot barbecue at Bunnings on Saturday.

The election and the fine weather had a lot of folks out and about and it turned out to be a massive fundraising day for the club.

Thank you to Bunnings and all those who bought a snag, or

in one instance nine, to make this a success.

The in-house twilight competition final was held on Tuesday, May 6, between the Offsiders (Marj Prendergast and Kathy Ross) and Wild Cards (Philip Bool and Sue Priller).

With all the tournament competitors looking on, it turned out to be a thrilling encounter.

Starting at 1.30pm, it was two all after the four singles matches.

The doubles, starting late afternoon, was fascinating to watch and finished after sunset.

Tom Lacey, refereeing, was out there with his phone/torch to enable the players to negotiate the last couple of hoops.

A strong case for floodlights to allow evening play.

That doubles match saw the Wild Cards pip the Offsiders on the 13th hoop, winning 7/6.

Congratulations.

Perfect score for Paul in Thrilling Night of Darts

THE darts were flying, and the scores were soaring as the Phillip Island and District Darts League returned to action on Monday night with a full house and electric atmosphere for round seven of the regular season.

With 10 teams, five matches, and more than 40 players packing out the darts centre, it was a night full of camaraderie, competition, and classic arrows action.

The season ladder is now taking shape and every point counts as we edge closer to finals.

The highlight of the night came during the team’s leg when Paul Gleeson stepped up and delivered a sensational 180 – the holy grail of darts – bringing the crowd to its feet and setting the tone for an unforgettable evening.

Paul’s precision and poise under pressure showed exactly what this league is all about: skill, passion, and a bit of magic.

The good vibes didn’t stop there.

Long-time member Laurie Jones finally had his moment in the spotlight, taking home the coveted San Remo Butchers

meat tray in the raffle.

It was a well-deserved win for one of the league’s most loyal players – proof that persistence pays off.

Looking ahead, next week brings one of the most anticipated events on the calendar: the John Stewart Memorial Singles Championship – a drawn 501 knockout tournament that honours one of the club’s greats.

RIGHT: Laurie Jones won the San Remo Butchers meat tray raffle after round seven of the Phillip Island and District Darts League.



SOUTH GIPPSLAND
BRIDGE CLUB

MAY 6 at Leongatha RSL:
The intra club competition with Traralgon Bridge Club ended in a near draw, with three pairs from each club filling the top six places.
North/South master point winners:
First: Rob Graham and Glenis Lohr with a 59.75 per cent average board score – Traralgon Bridge Club. Second: Peter Lowie and Heather Henley 58.28 – Traralgon Bridge Club. Third: Greg Nicholson and Jean Barbour 57.44 – South Gippsland Bridge Club.
East/West winners:
First: Hannah Martin and Maureen Stiles 60.61 – South Gippsland Bridge Club. Second: Kaye Douglas and Roshni Chand 60 30 – Traralgon Bridge Club. Third: Alan Johnston and Lois Dwyer 55.83 – South Gippsland Bridge Club.
A most convivial day and a scrumptious afternoon was enjoyed by all.
May 9 at Inverloch Angling Club:
After week one of the club's two-week four person teams event, the clear leader is the Martin team with 60.61 points, followed by the Kudekla team on 41 and the Stiles team on 35.
Next week, teams will need to be bidding and playing at their best to have any hope of catching the leaders.

PAIRS CHAMPIONSHIP
UNDERWAY FOR PHILLIP
ISLAND BRIDGE CLUB

IT'S Club Pairs Championship month at the Phillip Island Bridge Club and the first round was played on Monday.
The winners will be the best aggregate score over three weekly sessions.
Eleven pairs competed in round one and 62.50 per cent was best score of the day for Jean Barbour and Greg Nicholson. Currently in second place are Lorrie Read and Neville Chapman with 58.80 per cent.
Not in the winner's circle, but not last either, the club welcomed brand new member Jenny Johnston.
Jenny has been playing Tuesday afternoon supervised sessions for a few weeks and has now advanced to full club membership.
Jenny partnered with Brigid Sanders, a relative newcomer, who has also been taking supervised lessons at the club.
The future looks bright.
Wednesday saw Duplicate Bridge played by eight pairs and winners were Anne Hodgson and Caroline Shaw on 63.10 per cent.

FORTY TAKE PART IN
MIRBOO NORTH PARKRUN

IT WAS a brisk autumn morning, but the skies were clear, and the smiles were bright for the 242nd parkrun at Mirboo North. In fine weather, 40 parkrunners made their way along the trail, with plenty of encouragement and good vibes all around.
A big shoutout to Andrew Gamble who crossed the line first in a speedy 20:48, and to Sarah Lewis, the first female finisher, not far behind in 20:57.
Personal bests were flying – congratulations to Nathan Castle, Paul Krausz, Stephanie Collins, Darryl Sinclair and Madeleine Vuzem.
A massive thank you to the volunteers who made it all happen – Tim Buckley, Dave Knowles, Deidre Kruse, Peter Kruse, Leon McDonald, Cameron McIlwaine, Georgia McIlwaine, Laura McIlwaine, and Marissa Shields.
The parkrunners truly appreciate your time and energy.
After the event, many warmed up and caught up over a great coffee at Jimmy Jams – a lovely way to wrap up the morning.
Whether you ran, walked, or volunteered – thanks for being part of the wonderful community.



Leongatha's Patch dominated in the midfield with composed play.

Knights secure hard
fought win over Drouin

ROUND 3 of the Gippsland Soccer League saw Leongatha Knights FC's U17 Blue team host Drouin's second U17s team at Mary MacKillop College, the home team coming out on top in a high-scoring affair.
Unseasonably warm weather ensured the players worked hard from the start to maintain momentum under the morning sun.
Leongatha's consistently strong midfielder Patch started the scoring for the Knights with a beautiful volley.
He also converted the second goal from an excellent cross from the right wing from Daniel.
A late tackle in the box saw a penalty granted Leongatha's way with Daniel calmly slotting home the goal.
Despite consistent pressure from the visitors, Leongatha led 4-0 at halftime.
Drouin came out strong in the second half with their left winger scoring three goals in quick succession.
Caught slightly off balance, the Knights were forced to work hard to regain their footing in the game.
Bede was instrumental in shutting down the Drouin goal scorer.
Though Drouin continued to work hard at consistently pressing, it was Leongatha's DJ who slotted another home to see the Knights win 5-3.



Knights player Bede was instrumental in shutting down Drouin's goal scorer.

Grants to support more women and girls in sport

THE State Government is supporting more women and girls across Victoria to get involved in sports with a new round of grants announced for community sports clubs.
Member for Bass Jordan Crugnale congratulated Cowes Yacht Club and GippSport, who were successful recipients amongst 130 grants as part of The Change Our Game Community Activation Grants program, benefitting more than 11,500 individuals.
"These grants support the work our wonderful clubs and community sport

organisations are doing to create positive change, whether it is in participation or leadership programs for women and girls.
"I want to thank Cowes Yacht Club and GippSport, who are active, devising programs, putting in the time, dedication and energy to create a level playing field and breaking down barriers."
Cowes Yacht Club will receive \$2400 for a female sailing program to provide a forum for women and girls to both develop or reactivate their sailing skills to better participate in the club's sailing program. Their training

will be provided by female instructors over four sessions.
GippSport will facilitate leadership and governance training to encourage young women to step into leadership roles in community sport across Gippsland. The \$9980 also goes towards creating a network of peer support and intergenerational mentoring in connection with their Changing Gippsland's Game Professional Network.
For more information about Change Our Game programs, visit changeourgame.vic.gov.au.

Gippsland
Soccer League

ROUND 3 Results –
Sunday, May 11

Senior Mens: Wonthaggi United 2 drew Inverloch Stars 2, Trafalgar Victory 8 d Lang Lang United 0, Korumburra City 4 d Phillip Island Breakers 1
Senior Womens: Drouin Dragons Maroon 13 d Mirboo North United 0, Trafalgar Victory 3 d Lang Lang United 0, Inverloch Stars 2 d Wonthaggi United 1, Phillip Island Breakers 16 d Korumburra City 0
Mens Reserves: Drouin Dragons Maroon 8 d Leongatha Knights 2, Inverloch Stars 1 d Trafalgar Victory 0, Phillip Island Breakers 7 d Korumburra City 3
Under 17 Mixed: Wonthaggi United 4 d Inverloch Stars 1, Drouin Dragons Maroon 3 d Mirboo North United 0, Leongatha Knights Blue 5 d Drouin Dragons Maroon Yellow 4, Phillip Island Breakers 5 d Korumburra City 0
Under 15 Girls: Drouin Dragons Yellow 9 d Leongatha Knights 3, Phillip Island Breakers 1 d Korumburra City 0
Under 14 Mixed: Wonthaggi United 6 d Inverloch Stars 2, Drouin Dragons Maroon 4 drew Mirboo North United 4, Drouin Dragons Maroon Yellow 9 d Leongatha Knights 3, Phillip Island Stingrays 6 d Lang Lang United 0, Phillip Island Penguins 6 d Korumburra City 0
Under 12 Girls: Phillip Island Breakers 6 d Korumburra City 0, Wonthaggi United 2 drew Inverloch Stars 2
Under 12A Mixed: Drouin Dragons Maroon 10 d Mirboo North United 4, Inverloch Stars 6 d Wonthaggi United 4, Phillip Island Breakers 7 d Korumburra City 1
Under 12B Mixed: Wonthaggi United 6 d Inverloch Stars 0, Drouin Dragons Maroon Yellow 8 d Leongatha Knights White 2, Drouin Dragons White 7 d Phillip Island Stingrays 1
Round 4 Fixtures – Sunday, May 18
Senior Mens: Inverloch Stars v Leongatha Knights, Phillip Island Breakers v Trafalgar Victory, Lang Lang United v Korumburra City
Senior Womens: Inverloch Stars v Leongatha Knights, Phillip Island Breakers v Trafalgar Victory, Mirboo North United v Wonthaggi United, Lang Lang United v Korumburra City
Mens Reserves: Inverloch Stars v Leongatha Knights, Drouin Dragons Maroon v Korumburra City, Phillip Island Breakers v Trafalgar Victory
Under 17 Mixed: Inverloch Stars v Leongatha Knights Blue, Drouin Dragons Maroon Yellow v Drouin Dragons Maroon, Mirboo North United v Wonthaggi United, Leongatha Knights White v Korumburra City
Under 15 Girls: Drouin Dragons Yellow v Drouin Dragons Maroon, Phillip Island Breakers v Wonthaggi United, Leongatha Knights v Korumburra City
Under 14 Mixed: Inverloch Stars v Leongatha Knights, Drouin Dragons Maroon Yellow v Drouin Dragons Maroon, Phillip Island Penguins v Phillip Island Stingrays, Mirboo North United v Wonthaggi United, Lang Lang United v Korumburra City
Under 12 Girls: Inverloch Stars v Leongatha Knights, Lang Lang United v Korumburra City
Under 12A Mixed: Inverloch Stars v Leongatha Knights Blue, Phillip Island Breakers v Trafalgar Victory, Mirboo North United v Wonthaggi United
Under 12B Mixed: Inverloch Stars v Leongatha Knights White, Drouin Dragons Maroon Yellow v Drouin Dragons Yellow, Phillip Island Penguins v Phillip Island Stingrays



Joe Platt gets ready to handball during his 200th club game for Toora, the Magpies unable to celebrate the occasion with a win against Stony Creek. Picture: Tarley Elmore.

Competition brings more opportunity for girls' footy

THE inaugural season of the South West Gippsland U16 Girls is well underway.

Round three was played last weekend, with local teams Phillip Island and Inverloch taking on Nar Nar Goon and the Warragul Industrials respectively.

Six teams – also including Warranor Junior Football Club and Hill End – are taking part in this 12-round competition.

Female Football Gippsland devised the new competition to bridge the age gap from the U14s to the women's competitions.

"We are thrilled to have these teams competing and closing the age gap that can offer deter young footballers from continuing to play the game," Southern and West

Gippsland Junior Football Competition operations manager Bobbie-Lee Blay said.

"Often that jump from U14s into the women's competition is a bit intimidating, and we find girls will walk away from the game because they don't want to be playing against 18-year-olds. This new competition brings the age gap back down to two years, offering girls an extra pathway."

Phillip Island and Inverloch were given the opportunity to compete against each other in round one, which saw Phillip Island claim an 81-point win.

Female Football Gippsland wished all participating clubs the best of luck at the beginning of the season, thrilled to have successfully launched another history-making competition for girls' footy.

WorkSafe Country Club Series coming to Foster

THE end of the season clash between Foster and Fish Creek will be part of the WorkSafe Country Club Series, AFL Victoria has announced.

The game will be played at Foster on Saturday, August 16.

This season, the series has returned with WorkSafe Victoria partnering with AFL Victoria to celebrate country footy clubs with six marquee games.

The series supports country football clubs, providing them a week of activations and events, culminating in a traditional WorkSafe Country Club game and matchday experience.

For Foster, guest speakers are anticipated to give a presentation after Thursday night training the week of the big game.

"We're very excited to be involved in the series," club president Deb Allott said.

"It's always a big game against Fish Creek, and at this stage both teams are

looking like finals contenders, so it's certainly going to be a round to look forward to.

"The WorkSafe Mental Health Workshop is always very important. Country people sometimes have limited access to mental health support, so it will be good to let everyone know what is available."

Activities and experiences for the involved clubs include a WorkSafe Mental Health Workshop, a country club footy and netball training night with WorkSafe ambassador Tom Boyd, and a Country Club Match Day, featuring giveaways, activations, awards and a range of guests.

The program celebrates and recognises the important role footy and netball clubs play in the community, helping to highlight the unsung volunteers who selflessly donate many hours of their own time to supporting their local football and netball club.

A win for the breakers before their fourth Annual Pride Round

THE Breakers started slowly, taking a little while to adjust to playing on the 'chip'. Red Hill scored the first goal, but after that, the contest evened up.

A late goal came for the Breakers from a ruck clearance from Ellen Williams to Jenna Russo, who found Ella Cargill in the goal square. A pack mark from Cloe Booth stopped an attempt from Red Hill in the dying seconds of the quarter, leaving it one goal apiece at quarter time.

The Breakers had most of the play in the second quarter. A contested mark and long goal from Tess Angarane gave them the lead for the first time in the match.

When Red Hill did go forward, Brooke McKean didn't let it advance past half back.

Adjustments at halftime saw the Breakers get on top around the stoppages and create more run-off half back. Good decisions across the field resulted in a brilliant goal by Jenna Russo from the pocket.

Through the middle, Grace Hope was giving a good contest



Cayli Lane finds some space.

with Ellen Williams getting in a great position to mark both offensively and defensively.

The Breakers maintained the high work rate in the last quarter, evidenced by a great run-down tackle by Immy Bradford and a mark by Molly Conroy, running back.

There were some great linkages, including a

passage from Carly Heislars to Immy Bradford and then Tess Angarane leading to her second goal.

Final score: Breakers 4.6-30 def Red Hill 1.7-13

Goals: Tess Angarane 2, Ella Cargill, Jenna Russo

Best: Molly Conroy, Ellen Williams, Brooke McKean, Tess Angarane, and Immy Bradford.

The Breakers host their fourth Annual Pride Round, taking on Tyabb this Friday, 7pm at Dalyston. Bigger and more colourful than ever, the team are excited to unveil their new Pride Jumpers. The celebration will continue after the match with live entertainment – check out the Breakers socials for more details.



Georgia Bell launched her field umpire career during a recent U14 girls' match. She was supported by junior umpire coordinator Michael Dillon. More young women are encouraged to get involved in umpiring local games.

Umpires inspired

GEORGIA Bell is inspiring more young women to take on the challenge of umpiring football.

Officials of the Southern Gippsland Junior Football Competition are appealing for its female members to get involved in the umpiring aspect of the game they love to secure the future of the league.

Georgia launched her umpiring career recently when she stepped up to officiate an U14 girls' match as a field umpire.

The competition congratulated Georgia on her exemplary efforts.

Gratitude was also extended to junior umpire coordinator Michael Dillon for his ongoing support, which ensures field umpires are readily available for both the mixed and girls' matches each

week.

The competition is committed to creating pathways for female footballers and is thrilled to be able to extend its support to encourage opportunities for young women to develop their skills as umpires.

The competition aims to see female umpires officiating female matches to increase exposure and inspiration to empower the next generation to achieve their goals.

It is critical for the competition and local clubs to continue to support developing umpires to ensure a strong future.

Aspiring umpires can start to build their knowledge and confidence by getting in contact with the South Gippsland Umpire Association via social media.

Funds back future of female football

SOUTHERN Gippsland Junior Football Competition was thrilled to receive a grant from 'Change Our Game'.

This grant will support the Southern Gippsland Girls Futures program, which has already delivered two sessions.

The funding will assist the promotion of junior girls' football by enabling participation, building capabilities and fostering leadership.

The Southern Gippsland Girls Futures

Program provides a safe and supportive environment for young girls to learn the fundamentals of football and develop new friendships.

Whether participants are novices or seeking to advance their skills, the program offers growth and development opportunities tailored to each girl's needs.

"The program for all girls interested in football, whether they are associated with a club or not," Southern and West

Gippsland Junior Football Competition operations manager Bobbie-Lee Blay said.

"It's an opportunity to give football a go without having to make a commitment. It is all about driving participation and experiencing the sport before registering for a structured season."

Georgia Sharp is the program coordinator.

She will be sharing her love for the game and inspiring participants to build on their skills.

The program runs on a Monday night from 5pm to 6pm at the Wonthaggi Recreation Reserve.

Venues may change later in the season, depending on where participants are travelling from.

There is no cost associated with the program, which is intended to run through the whole junior football season.

To register for the Southern Gippsland Girls Futures Program, head to playhq.com/afl/register.



Jayde Hall (GK) stands tall to defend the Tigers goalie. ob35_1925



Wonthaggi Power A Grade goal attack Charlie Berry (12 goals) combined well with shooter Chelsea Bowman (30 goals) in an impressive display in the goal ring at Sale on Saturday.



Yvette O'Brien surveys her options down court.



Wonthaggi's Olivia Gilmour was named best on court for the Power during a tough and tight win by A Grade over Sale at Sale, when narrow wins in each quarter added up to a 46-38 victory at the end.



Nyora's Shannon Heylen takes her shot.



Nicola Marriott leaps up to take a flying catch. ob37_1925



Tanika Noble flies for the Magpies during Poowong's three-goal win against Lang Lang in 17 & Under competition. Photos: Jeff Tull.



Poowong's Elsie Henshall has possession for Poowong during its 17 & Under win over Lang Lang. Photos: Jeff Tull.

ELLINBANK	
RESULTS	
A GRADE Catani 52 d Longwarry 48 Yarragon 49 d Nyora 36 Neerim Sth 51 d Bunyip 29 Trafalgar 38 lt Ellinbank 40 Nil-Darn 75 d Buln Buln 29 Poowong 55 d Lang Lang 32	17 & UNDER Catani 22 lt Longwarry 42 Yarragon 50 d Nyora 13 Neerim Sth 34 d Bunyip 20 Trafalgar 45 d Ellinbank 17 Nil-Darn 35 d Buln Buln 27 Poowong 40 d Lang Lang 37
B GRADE Catani 46 d Longwarry 32 Yarragon 60 d Nyora 34 Neerim Sth 46 d Bunyip 29 Trafalgar 33 lt Ellinbank 47 Nil-Darn 47 d Buln Buln 25 Poowong 42 lt Lang Lang 43	15 & UNDER Catani 34 d Longwarry 17 Neerim Sth 32 d Bunyip 17 Yarragon 44 d Nyora 4 Trafalgar 12 lt Ellinbank 24 Poowong 24 d Lang Lang 20 Nil-Darn 20 d Buln Buln 19
C GRADE Catani 26 lt Longwarry 32 Neerim Sth 26 d Bunyip 25 Yarragon 48 d Nyora 8 Trafalgar 32 lt Ellinbank 37 Nil-Darn 33 lt Buln Buln 41 Poowong 25 lt Lang Lang 34	13 & UNDER Catani 12 lt Longwarry 25 Yarragon 31 d Nyora 2 Neerim Sth 9 lt Bunyip 45 Trafalgar 32 d Ellinbank 8 Nil-Darn 12 lt Buln Buln 24 Poowong 8 lt Lang Lang 43

LADDERS	
A GRADE	% pts
Neerim South	187.92 20
Longwarry	181.82 20
Nilma Darnum	138.01 16
Poowong	109.19 16
Ellinbank	133.50 12
Lang Lang	100.46 12
Trafalgar	101.86 8
Yarragon	99.09 8
Catani	97.14 8
Bunyip	61.83 4
Nyora	52.28 0
Buln Buln	40.95 0
B GRADE	
Lang Lang	149.71 20
Ellinbank	144.81 20
Poowong	157.69 16
Catani	151.90 12
Neerim South	132.47 12
Nilma Darnum	112.35 12
Bunyip	102.05 12
Yarragon	95.26 8
Buln Buln	75.22 4
Longwarry	84.38 0
Trafalgar	64.90 0
Nyora	34.30 0
C GRADE	
Yarragon	179.81 18
Longwarry	171.90 16
Ellinbank	131.58 16
Buln Buln	123.49 16
Catani	165.25 14
Trafalgar	113.82 12
Neerim South	94.94 12
Lang Lang	90.97 8
Poowong	100.00 4
Nilma Darnum	95.51 4
Bunyip	54.95 0
Nyora	12.41 0
17 & UNDER	
Longwarry	175.21 20
Nilma Darnum	174.22 20
Trafalgar	141.78 16
Neerim South	119.29 12
Catani	118.57 12
Poowong	107.50 12
Yarragon	130.13 10
Lang Lang	116.17 6
Ellinbank	54.89 6
Buln Buln	74.68 4
Bunyip	65.14 2
Nyora	16.12 0
15 & UNDER	
Catani	284.62 20
Neerim South	207.79 20
Poowong	219.40 16
Bunyip	125.47 16
Lang Lang	165.91 12
Nilma Darnum	114.85 12
Longwarry	106.86 8
Buln Buln	88.99 8
Yarragon	69.23 4
Ellinbank	54.29 4
Trafalgar	48.32 0
Nyora	6.50 0

GIPPSLAND	
RESULTS	
A GRADE Sale 39 lt Wonthaggi 46 Traralgon 35 lt Warragul 75 Bairnsdale 59 d Maffra 31 Moe 74 d Drouin 57 Morwell 61 d Leongatha 43	17 & UNDER Sale 45 d Wonthaggi 37 Traralgon 62 d Warragul 21 Bairnsdale 53 d Maffra 35 Moe 43 d Drouin 42 Morwell 22 lt Leongatha 36
B GRADE Sale 27 lt Wonthaggi 43 Traralgon 56 d Warragul 36 Bairnsdale 34 lt Maffra 37 Moe 76 d Drouin 38 Morwell 40 lt Leongatha 66	15 & UNDER Sale 62 d Wonthaggi 5 Traralgon 54 d Warragul 34 Bairnsdale 40 d Maffra 25 Moe 36 d Drouin 31 Morwell 13 lt Leongatha 35
C GRADE Sale 20 lt Wonthaggi 45 Traralgon 41 d Warragul 25 Bairnsdale 40 d Maffra 22 Moe 35 lt Drouin 40 Morwell 33 drew L'gatha 33	13 & UNDER Sale 50 d Wonthaggi 11 Traralgon 46 d Warragul 4 Bairnsdale 31 drew Maffra 31 Moe 26 d Drouin 15 Morwell 11 lt Leongatha 57

LADDERS	
A GRADE	% pts
Moe	197.20 20
Warragul	172.77 20
Morwell	119.09 16
Leongatha	97.68 12
Drouin	121.12 8
Bairnsdale	80.65 8
Wonthaggi	78.80 8
Traralgon	73.04 4
Sale	59.57 4
Maffra	60.00 0
B GRADE	
Leongatha	178.34 20
Wonthaggi	171.34 20
Moe	151.79 16
Traralgon	117.44 12
Drouin	90.12 12
Warragul	102.21 8
Maffra	70.12 8
Morwell	75.49 4
Sale	59.66 0
Bairnsdale	58.62 0
C GRADE	
Leongatha	136.07 18
Morwell	135.66 18
Wonthaggi	185.04 16
Bairnsdale	130.52 12
Drouin	100.00 12
Traralgon	124.81 8
Moe	86.63 8
Sale	84.28 8
Maffra	49.76 0
Warragul	44.59 0
17 & UNDER	% pts
Traralgon	292.22 20
Bairnsdale	220.90 20
Sale	123.84 20
Drouin	90.09 8
Maffra	79.52 8
Moe	71.82 8
Warragul	65.35 8
Wonthaggi	90.58 4
Leongatha	70.47 4
Morwell	54.50 0
15 & UNDER	
Traralgon	242.28 20
Sale	178.91 20
Drouin	142.42 12
Warragul	130.34 12
Moe	103.76 12
Bairnsdale	101.28 8
Maffra	79.07 4
Leongatha	76.80 4
Morwell	58.24 4
Wonthaggi	9.76 0
13 & UNDER	
Leongatha	211.69 20
Sale	200.00 16
Traralgon	140.86 12
Morwell	93.18 12
Moe	92.00 12
Bairnsdale	159.55 10
Drouin	87.90 8
Maffra	128.13 6
Wonthaggi	38.86 4
Warragul	12.24 0



Kate McCracken leaps for the rebound for the Sharks. Photo: Bec Casey Sports Photography.



Alahna Arnason passes the shot to her centre counterpart. Photo: Bec Casey Sports Photography.



Leongatha & District Netball Association home town derby

HOW lucky were we to have another beautiful day for netball. We are so lucky to have all our courts full with 62 teams playing each Saturday, plus Net Set Go and All Abilities. On Saturday the Town Open teams played each other in a goal for goal game. Town White ended up victorious winning by three points. What a great town derby.



Kaitlin Funnell has it in the hand as she pushes it away from goal. Photo: G. S. Bruning.



A race to get it first for centres Maddy Platt and Jessica Brown. Photo: G. S. Bruning.



Amy Roberston looks for a opening as Kirra Jones attempts to intercept. Photo: Bec Casey Sports Photography.



Evie Stone watches on as Jessica Brown and Maddy Platt go for the ball. Photo: G. S. Bruning.

MID GIPPSLAND

RESULTS

A GRADE			B GRADE			C GRADE			D GRADE			17 & UNDER			15 & UNDER			13 & UNDER		
Hill End 35	It N-borough 50		Hill End 28	It N-borough 43		Hill End 26	It N-borough 31		Hill End 23	It N-borough 24		Hill End 48	d N-borough 26		Hill End 23	It N-borough 24		Mirboo Nth 24	It Fish Crk 25	
Stony Crk 42	d Toora 32		Stony Crk 43	It Toora 61		Stony Crk 42	d Toora 30		Stony Crk 32	It Toora 35		Stony Crk 26	It Toora 48		Stony Crk 32	It Toora 35		Tarwin 48	d MDU 4	
Tarwin 43	It MDU 55		Tarwin 34	It MDU 40		Tarwin 37	It MDU 42		Tarwin 30	d MDU 21		Tarwin 15	It MDU 68		Tarwin 30	d MDU 21		Stony Crk 35	d Toora 10	
Mirboo Nth 49	It Fish Crk 62		Mirboo Nth 44	It Fish Crk 49		Mirboo Nth 34	It Fish Crk 48		Mirboo Nth 39	d Fish Crk 26		Mirboo Nth 36	d Fish Crk 15		Mirboo Nth 39	d Fish Crk 26		Hill End 13	It N-borough 35	
Morwell-E 30	It Yinnar 50		Morwell-E 22	It Yinnar 49		Morwell-E 15	It Yinnar 39		Morwell-E 13	It Yinnar 45		Morwell-E 13	It Yinnar 51		Morwell-E 13	It Yinnar 45		Boolarra 29	d Foster 23	
Boolarra 36	It Foster 76		Boolarra 27	It Foster 88		Boolarra 26	It Foster 39		Boolarra 31	d Foster 27		Boolarra 62	d Foster 9		Boolarra 31	d Foster 27		Morwell-E 4	It Yinnar 44	

LADDERS

A GRADE			B GRADE			C GRADE			D GRADE			17 & UNDER			15 & UNDER			13 & UNDER		
Foster	300.00	20	Foster	189.51	20	Newborough	220.24	20	Newborough	159.78	20	Boolarra	257.55	20	Yinnar	274.39	20	Yinnar	485.00	20
MDU	171.91	20	Yinnar	141.82	16	Yinnar	189.72	20	Mirboo North	157.27	20	Yinnar	194.69	18	Boolarra	252.22	20	Newborough	463.64	20
Yinnar	171.91	20	MDU	132.78	16	Foster	162.11	16	Yinnar	165.63	16	MDU	222.45	16	Toora	252.63	16	Tarwin	440.91	20
Fish Creek	140.00	16	Newborough	128.65	16	Tarwin	126.09	16	Tarwin	164.22	16	Toora	176.92	16	Hill End	217.24	16	Boolarra	258.06	20
Mirboo North	135.71	12	Toora	119.46	16	MDU	148.59	14	Hill End	169.88	12	Mirboo North	161.06	14	MDU	88.35	12	Fish Creek	99.00	16
Morwell East	131.77	12	Fish Creek	112.41	16	Boolarra	107.56	12	Toora	88.10	12	Hill End	137.12	12	Foster	82.86	12	Foster	60.56	12
Stony Creek	131.09	12	Mirboo North	141.71	12	Fish Creek	92.16	12	Morwell East	116.26	8	Newborough	48.28	12	Newborough	74.77	12	Hill End	101.14	8
Newborough	101.47	12	Morwell East	106.15	12	Hill End	104.29	10	MDU	111.11	8	Fish Creek	66.27	8	Tarwin	95.45	8	Mirboo North	96.15	4
Toora	67.18	8	Stony Creek	100.46	8	Stony Creek	85.88	8	Foster	109.71	8	Morwell East	38.29	8	Mirboo North	75.60	8	Stony Creek	72.50	4
Tarwin	69.83	4	Hill End	65.71	4	Morwell East	88.20	4	Fish Creek	106.14	8	Foster	31.16	8	Fish Creek	40.00	8	Toora	17.07	4
Thorpdale	36.06	4	Thorpdale	63.94	4	Toora	70.18	4	Boolarra	77.12	4	Stony Creek	53.81	4	Morwell East	28.33	4	MDU	14.97	4
Boolarra	53.74	0	Tarwin	62.90	0	Thorpdale	10.80	4	Stony Creek	70.39	4	Tarwin	29.39	0	Stony Creek	34.25	0	Morwell East	12.03	4
Hill End	43.10	0	Boolarra	40.83	0	Mirboo North	73.33	0	Thorpdale	9.01	4	Thorpdale	0.00	0	Thorpdale	0.00	0	Thorpdale	0.00	0



Brittany Thomas receives the pass in the Dalyston goal circle as Danielle Hanley attempts an intercept for Kilcunda Bass.



Eva Garnham receives a pass on the circle edge as Panthers' Caitlin Egan attempts to deflect.



Sienna Cruikshank (GD) takes a flying catch. ob19_1925



Madeline Smith (WD) intercepts the ball and looks for an option. ob18_1925



Dalyston's Jarney Thomas was everywhere during the B grade match, attempting to swoop in on this pass to Kilcunda Bass WA Ciara Santorini.



Dalyston's Jade Ray-Angarane releases the pass as Ally Carter prepares to pounce for Kilcunda Bass.



Annalise O'Halloran (C) throws it across court to her teammate. ob16_1925

KILCUNDA BASS

A GRADE: The team came out hoping for redemption after a tough loss in the previous round. There were patches of solid netball throughout the game. A dominant final quarter allowed Bass to get within four goals, Dalyston came away with the four points in the end. Award: Caity Egan.

C Grade: It was a slow start, with both teams struggling to find their rhythm early. At the end of the first quarter, the score was tied. Kilcunda Bass quickly adjusted to their opposition and gradually took control of the game. Award: Juliette Townsend.

D Grade: Despite missing players due to injury and unavailability, the group adapted to new positions, maintaining their focus and determination. Kilcunda Bass came out firing, executing set plays with precision – just as practiced at training – resulting in a strong 8–3 lead at the end of the first quarter. The team's hard work, persistence, and teamwork were evident throughout the match as they continued to build momentum and extend the margin. Award: Charlotte Adam.

17 & Under: Focusing on voice on the court, supporting each other and effort, We had a consistent four quarters, with everyone putting in effort and contributing to the team. Our goalers had a tough job, but handled the extra pressure well. We had players and coaches missing, resulting in players being shuffled around, however that didn't faze anyone. Shout out to Charlotte for coaching her first game. Award: Hope Oats.

15 & Under: The girls went into this weekend's game with a newfound confidence and reconnected team. Putting what we've been working on at training out onto the court and seeing it come to life makes all the hard work worth it. Dalyston didn't let us have it all our own way and they did apply the pressure which made us have to work harder to keep the scoreboard ticking over. To the credit of all the girls when the pressure was on they were able to adjust their game, lift the intensity which saw them come away with a pretty convincing win at the end.

Award: Ciara Santorini.

13 & Under: Our Under 13s took to the court with determination, energy, and great team spirit, and it paid off with a well-deserved win. From the first whistle, the team showed fantastic communication and movement, with strong passes and clever play down the court. Our defence worked so hard making it tough for Dalyston, while our shooters stayed cool under pressure and nailed some impressive goals. It was great to see the teamwork and sportsmanship shining through. Award: Frankie Leary and Emily Vanderspek.

11 & Under: With our full team on board, we were able to give the kids a turn in a few positions. The team being made up of a few newbies, was good to see them having a go and trying to implement some things we've been working on at training. Our focus each week is on fun. We want to instil the love of the sport first and foremost. Dalyston, in their usual form always bring a good brand of netball and were a little too strong and ran away to a nine goal win.

Award: Molly Ritchie & Ebony Boce.

WEST GIPPSLAND

RESULTS				LADDERS			
A GRADE Garfield 44 lt NNG 78 Tooradin-Dal 42 lt IK 47 K-Bass 31 lt Dalyston 41 Warragul-I 30 lt Kor-Bena 67 Cora Lynn 50 d KWR 24				A GRADE Nar Nar Goon 145.18 20 Kor-Bena 142.36 16 Cora Lynn 123.53 16 Inverloch-K 106.79 16 Phillip Island 116.67 14 Garfield 92.42 14 Dalyston 107.73 12 Tooradin-Dal. 102.99 8 Kilcunda Bass 94.09 4 Koo Wee Rup 68.02 0 Warragul Ind. 54.70 0			
B GRADE Garfield 38 lt NNG 60 Tooradin-Dal 62 d IK 31 K-Bass 28 lt Dalyston 47 Warragul-I 32 lt Kor-Bena 62 Cora Lynn 45 d KWR 43				B GRADE Tooradin-Dal. 185.71 18 Dalyston 143.53 16 Nar Nar Goon 116.22 14 Inverloch-K 111.51 14 Cora Lynn 97.52 14 Phillip Island 124.84 12 Kilcunda Bass 123.86 12 Garfield 99.46 8 Kor-Bena 75.54 8 Koo Wee Rup 75.67 4 Warragul Ind. 32.67 0			
C GRADE Tooradin-Dal 30 drew IK 30 Garfield 38 d NNG 37 K-Bass 33 d Dalyston 17 Warragul-I 48 d Kor-Bena 21 Cora Lynn 33 d KWR 14				C GRADE Cora Lynn 165.38 20 Warragul Ind. 149.28 16 Garfield 125.58 16 Tooradin-Dal. 127.59 14 Inverloch-K 124.07 14 Nar Nar Goon 151.80 12 Kilcunda Bass 97.01 8 Phillip Island 65.49 8 Dalyston 62.64 4 Kor-Bena 55.76 4 Koo Wee Rup 50.75 4			
D GRADE Garfield 33 lt NNG 49 Tooradin-Dal 36 d IK 29 K-Bass 33 d Dalyston 20 Warragul-I 28 lt Kor-Bena 49 Cora Lynn 26 d KWR 13				D GRADE Cora Lynn 201.47 20 Nar Nar Goon 184.30 20 Kilcunda Bass 143.59 16 Garfield 136.28 16 Kor-Bena 133.64 12 Phillip Island 82.22 12 Tooradin-Dal. 110.07 8 Koo Wee Rup 102.54 8 Inverloch-K 72.92 8 Warragul Ind 47.03 0 Dalyston 31.75 0			
17 & UNDER Tooradin-Dal 45 d IK 15 K-Bass 12 lt Dalyston 34 Cora Lynn 43 d KWR 29 Garfield 27 lt NNG 44 Warragul-I 60 d Kor-Bena 20				17 & UNDER Cora Lynn 150.00 20 Nar Nar Goon 133.96 20 Phillip Island 165.69 16 Warragul Ind. 183.33 12 Tooradin-Dal. 115.38 12 Inverloch-K 82.22 12 Dalyston 105.84 8 Koo Wee Rup 94.38 8 Kor-Bena 73.10 8 Garfield 49.71 4 Kilcunda Bass 31.98 0			
15 & UNDER Tooradin-Dal 48 d IK 13 K-Bass 33 d Dalyston 22 Cora Lynn 23 d KWR 17 Garfield 12 lt NNG 53				15 & UNDER Nar Nar Goon 275.90 20 Cora Lynn 228.77 20 Tooradin-Dal. 190.20 12 Kilcunda Bass 111.01 12 Phillip Island 94.06 12 Warragul Ind 79.67 12 Koo Wee Rup 62.58 8 Garfield Stars 56.30 8 Inverloch-K 54.55 8 Dalyston 45.00 4 Kor-Bena 0.00 0			
13 & UNDER Tooradin-Dal 39 d IK 7 K-Bass 40 d Dalyston 8 Cora Lynn 39 d KWR 16 Garfield 12 lt NNG 19 Warragul-I 9 lt Kor-Bena 21				13 & UNDER Cora Lynn 363.83 20 Kor-Bena 295.24 20 Nar Nar Goon 282.69 18 Tooradin-Dal. 166.29 14 Garfield 152.44 12 Phillip Island 72.27 12 Kilcunda Bass 103.54 8 Koo Wee Rup 83.10 8 Warragul Ind. 49.67 4 Inverloch-K 34.07 4 Dalyston 11.48 0			
11 & UNDER Tooradin-Dal 14 lt IK 36 K-Bass 3 lt Dalyston 12 Cora Lynn 23 d KWR 12 Garfield 31 d NNG 15 Warragul-I 1 lt Kor-Bena 26				11 & UNDER Cora Lynn 243.24 20 Garfield 296.97 16 Inverloch-K 260.53 16 Kor-Bena 258.62 16 Koo Wee Rup 185.19 16 Phillip Island 182.86 14 Tooradin-Dal. 88.35 8 Nar Nar Goon 76.00 6 Dalyston 38.89 4 Warragul Ind. 19.67 4 Kilcunda Bass 24.74 0			



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BEN FISHER

Gold Coast Suns
Sydney
Collingwood
Geelong
GWS
Western Bulldogs
North Melbourne
Brisbane
St Kilda

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 7



81 Commercial Street,
Korumburra
5655 1024



52

DANIEL CHETLAND

Gold Coast Suns
Sydney
Collingwood
Geelong
GWS
Western Bulldogs
Richmond
Brisbane
St Kilda

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 6



119 Graham Street,
Wonthaggi
5672 1027



53

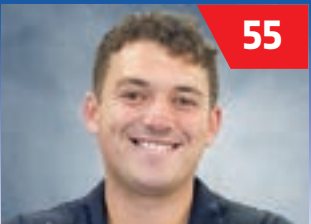
CARL LINDSAY

Hawthorn
Sydney
Collingwood
Geelong
GWS
Western Bulldogs
North Melbourne
Brisbane
St Kilda

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 7



145 Graham Street,
Wonthaggi
5672 1137



55

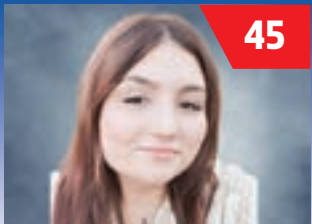
ALEX GEYER

Gold Coast Suns
Sydney
Collingwood
Port Adelaide
GWS
Western Bulldogs
North Melbourne
Brisbane
St Kilda

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 7



Wonthaggi 5672 5522
Leongatha 5662 2941



45

JAE DAVEY

Gold Coast Suns
Sydney
Collingwood
Port Adelaide
GWS
Essendon
Richmond
Brisbane
St Kilda

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 8



62-64 McBride Avenue,
Wonthaggi
7051 0720



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DARRYL MCGANNON

Gold Coast Suns
Sydney
Collingwood
Geelong
GWS
Western Bulldogs
North Melbourne
Brisbane
St Kilda

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 8



1 Roughead Street,
Leongatha
5662 2327

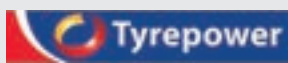


48

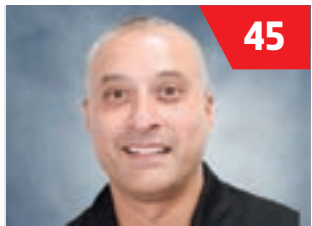
KRIS BAKER

Gold Coast Suns
Sydney
Collingwood
Geelong
GWS
Western Bulldogs
North Melbourne
Brisbane
St Kilda

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 7



78-80 Watt Street,
Wonthaggi
5672 5760



45

RYAN SHANE

Hawthorn
Sydney
Collingwood
Port Adelaide
GWS
Western Bulldogs
North Melbourne
Brisbane
West Coast

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 4



Leongatha Toyota

7-13 Hughes Street,
Leongatha
5662 2302



51

**CRAIG FARRINGTON
DARREN TILE**

Gold Coast Suns
Sydney
Collingwood
Port Adelaide
GWS
Western Bulldogs
Richmond
Brisbane
St Kilda

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 5



6/5 Cyclone Street,
Wonthaggi
Darren 0405 603 569
Craig 0415 641 845



55

ADAM WARE

Gold Coast Suns
Sydney
Collingwood
Geelong
GWS
Essendon
North Melbourne
Brisbane
St Kilda

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 7



2/88-98 Watt Street,
Wonthaggi
1800 358 131



57

JUSTIN CAPORALE

Gold Coast Suns
Carlton
Collingwood
Geelong
GWS
Western Bulldogs
North Melbourne
Brisbane
St Kilda

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 7



41 McCartin Street,
Leongatha
5662 2529



46

LEIGH DONOHUE

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GWS
Western Bulldogs
Richmond
Brisbane
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LAST WEEK'S TIPS 6



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AFTER ROUND 9

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Justin Caporale	57
Aaron McGregor	56
Peter Fort	56
Adam Ware	55
Alex Geyer	55
Liam Sawyer	55
Phil Hardy	55
David England	54
Warren Stewart	54
Carl Lindsay	53
Dylan Clark	53
Ben Fisher	52
Brad Hodson	52
Daniel Chetland	52
Craig & Darren	51
Hayden Poppe	50
Keith & Eddie	49
Kris Baker	48
Brett Jacobs	46
Leigh Donohue	46
Jae Davey	45
Ryan Shane	45



54

WARREN STEWART

Hawthorn
Sydney
Collingwood
Port Adelaide
GWS
Western Bulldogs
North Melbourne
Brisbane
St Kilda

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 6



Wonthaggi Toyota
346 Bass Highway,
Wonthaggi
5632 3503



55

PHIL HARDY

Gold Coast Suns
Sydney
Collingwood
Geelong
GWS
Western Bulldogs
North Melbourne
Brisbane
St Kilda

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 7



Bass Coast **LIGHT ENGINES**
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Wonthaggi
5672 4017



53

DYLAN CLARK

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Geelong
GWS
Western Bulldogs
North Melbourne
Brisbane
St Kilda

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 6



1 A'Beckett Street
Inverloch
5674 1432



54

DAVID ENGLAND

Gold Coast Suns
Sydney
Collingwood
Geelong
GWS
Western Bulldogs
North Melbourne
Brisbane
St Kilda

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 8



3/45-61 McKenzie St,
Wonthaggi
5644 2080



56

PETER FORT

Gold Coast Suns
Sydney
Collingwood
Geelong
GWS
Essendon
North Melbourne
Brisbane
St Kilda

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 6



47 Station Street,
Korumburra
0417 332 141



49

KEITH KELLY **EDDIE CHANDLER**

Hawthorn
Sydney
Adelaide
Geelong
GWS
Western Bulldogs
North Melbourne
Brisbane
St Kilda

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 7



54 Graham Street,
Wonthaggi
5672 1311



55

LIAM SAWYER

Hawthorn
Sydney
Collingwood
Geelong
GWS
Western Bulldogs
North Melbourne
Brisbane
St Kilda

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 5



16 McBride Avenue,
Wonthaggi
5672 1007



56

AARON MCGREGOR

Gold Coast Suns
Sydney
Collingwood
Geelong
GWS
Western Bulldogs
Richmond
Brisbane
St Kilda

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 7



24 Inverloch Road,
Wonthaggi
5672 5906



52

BRAD HODSON

Hawthorn
Sydney
Collingwood
Geelong
GWS
Essendon
North Melbourne
Brisbane
St Kilda

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 8



15/17 Murray Street,
Wonthaggi
5672 5878



46

BRETT JACOBS

Gold Coast Suns
Sydney
Collingwood
Geelong
GWS
Western Bulldogs
North Melbourne
Brisbane
St Kilda

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 7



28 Inverloch Road,
Wonthaggi
5672 4770



50

HAYDEN POPPE

Gold Coast Suns
Carlton
Collingwood
Port Adelaide
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Brisbane
West Coast

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 4



6/6 Cyclone Street,
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MID GIPPSLAND LEAGUE RESULTS

RND 5

TARWIN FOOTBALL CLUB

MDU FOOTBALL CLUB

68 101

TARWIN	MDU
Tarwin	2.1 9.1 10.2 11.2 (68)
MDU	3.0 8.0 11.1 16.5 (101)

GOALS, Tarwin: Jordan Staley 4, Luke Keily 2, Darcy Brosnan, Corey Casey, Ben Chalmers, Thomas Francis, Lachie Jones 1 each
BEST: Jordan Staley, Ben Chalmers, Ben Ellen, Luke Keily, Lachie Jones, Callum McLeod
GOALS, MDU: Nick Nagel 5, Trent McRae 3, Lachie Wright 2, Thomas Corry, Steve Forrester, Jess Hickey, Jason Kennedy, Wayne Stewart, Shaye Walsh 1 each
BEST: Shaye Walsh, Joshua Schelling, Fraser Kelly, Jess Hickey, Steve Forrester, Kieran Bohn

RESERVES

Tarwin	3.0 5.0 6.0 6.1 (37)
MDU	4.3 5.4 8.6 9.11 (65)

GOALS, Tarwin: Cooper Scott 2, Zak Bright, Daniel Cardy, John Kilsby, Brodie Senior-Gibson 1 each
BEST: Nick Tucker, Cooper Scott, Matthew Chalmers, George Bountris, Darcy O'Halloran, Logan Anderson
GOALS, MDU: Brendan Tomada 3, Luke Harris 2, Rylie Checkley, Tyson Harris, Kyra Helms, Aaron Trease 1 each
BEST: Aaron Trease, Stuart Bright, Michael Smith, Rylie Checkley, Bailey Martin, Jacob Whiteside.

THIRDS

Tarwin	1.2 2.3 5.6 5.9 (39)
MDU	4.2 9.5 12.6 13.8 (86)

GOALS, Tarwin: Jake Andronaco, Lachlan Cann 2, Lucan Jones 1
BEST: Jake Andronaco, Lachlan Cann, Harrison Watt, Indie Cameron, Jett Tieman, Lucas Jones
GOALS, MDU: Angus McInnes 6, Jordan Cleator 3, Lincoln Hamilton, Archie Hulshof, Edward Kratz, Harry Scrimshaw 1 each
BEST: Archie Casey, Angus Mcinnes, Brayden Sellings, Timothy Hibberson, Jordan Cleator, Harry Scrimshaw

FOSTER FOOTBALL CLUB

40 98

BOOLARRA	FOSTER
Boolarra	2.0 2.2 3.2 6.4 (40)
Foster	5.1 10.3 13.6 15.8 (98)

GOALS, Boolarra: Tristan Salerno 2, Bailey Flanigan, James Holmes, Brendan Mason, Joel Mason 1 each
BEST: Simon Noy, Bailey Flanigan, James Holmes, Timothy Potter, Brendan Mason, Joel Mason
GOALS, Foster: Jake Best 6, Shaun Chaseling 3, Jack Rathjen 2, Cody Banbury, Michael Cooke, Jack Flavelle, James Morris 1 each
BEST: Craig Wray, Jack Rathjen, James Morris, Lachlan Rathjen, Jake Best, Angus Norton

RESERVES

Boolarra	2.2 5.6 5.6 8.6 (54)
Foster	0.5 1.6 3.10 7.12 (54)

GOALS, Boolarra: Glen Richards 2, Reese Adams, Thomas Beamish, Jedd Felmingham, Ben McCormack, Eddy Stanton 1 each
BEST: Corey Meers, Eddy Stanton, Glen Smith, Ben McCormack, Jamie Maggs, Jedd Felmingham
GOALS, Foster: Shawn Brett, Nathan Gundrill 2, Alej Lacanaria, Will Roffey, Ben Smith 1 each
BEST: Caeleb Garlick, Josh Pryor, Aaron Buttigieg, Will Roffey, Jedd Davy, Simon Gibson

THIS WEEKEND'S DRAW

SATURDAY, MAY 17

ELLINBANK ROUND 6

Buln Buln v Longwarry
Lang Lang v Ellinbank
Yarragon v Neerim South
Poowong v Nilma Darnum
Catani v Trafalgar
Nyora v Bunyip

MID GIPPSLAND ROUND 6

Fish Creek v Morwell East
Foster v Tarwin
Newborough v Boolarra
Thorpdale v Hill End
Toora v Mirboo North
Yinnar v MDU
Stony Creek - BYE

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Demons withstand Shark attack in bruising four-quarter battle

By Rob Popplestone

AS HAPPY as Tarwin were with their home ground success over Morwell East just seven days prior, the real test was their weekend match up with the might of a classy MDU.

The Demons arrived at Shark Park as one of the in-form teams of the competition, and one from which the home side could get a real good gauge of just where they are. The answer is not far off!

"I knew from the first contest that it was going to be a great game of footy," Rhett Kelly, MDU coach stated.

"Both teams going in hard at the footy with great intensity. It was a high-quality game with both teams making the most of their opportunities going forward, which meant for a close game on the scoreboard. We were able to continue with that in the last quarter and just got on top of Tarwin, who suffered a few late injuries. I am super proud of the boys for continuing to stick to our style of play even when we were challenged throughout the game."

The Demons have been super impressive and appear to have no fear of any side in the competition.

"A really tough contest today for both sides," Lachie Jones, Tarwin coach said.

"I was very proud of our effort. We finished the game with three significant injuries and it was a pretty brutal game. We were competitive for three quarters but ran out of gas but still, I give full credit to Rhett and MDU, they play a strong brand and were the better side on the day."

There is no doubt the Sharks are starting to run a little thin due to injuries, and the "next man up" philosophy is noble, but at some stage the talent is tested and Tarwin would dearly love to have more players available than they currently have.



Tom Van der Kolk looks for an opening for the handpass and his opponents surround him. Photos: Bec Casey Sports Photography.



Ben Perry looks to handball the Sherrin as his Sharks opponent tackles from behind.

Foster flex muscle as Demons' fortress falls

By Rob Popplestone

Boolarra found themselves in the enviable position of having to defend at least two of those previously mentioned goals, one being not losing two matches in succession and the other not losing on their home ground.

The biggest problem they had came in the shape of an in-form and classy Foster football team that not only brought but maintained their unbeaten season at the home of the Demons, winning 15-8-98 to 6-4-40.

"Our first half was really, really good – defensively we were the best we've been and really limited their ball movement and capitalised on turnovers," Sam Davies,

Foster coach said.

"Our backline were our strongest group all game and our shape behind the ball has been fantastic. Second half Boolarra really brought an energy, we dropped away a bit and probably overcorrected on a few things we've been working on."

Make no mistake, Foster are a good side, better than 2024, and certainly in the very top few of the competition, but Boolarra too are slowly building a quality team and culture.

"Another week where we welcomed two new players to the club as part of six changes made to the senior side," Brendan Mason, Boolarra coach said.

"Foster played a clinical

brand of high-speed footy using the corridor well and switching the ball at every opportunity.

"With a star studded from half the back six toiled manfully all day with Bailey Flanagan again to the fire down back and then up front.

"Club president James Holmes wound back the clock and was terrific all day as an undersized centre half-forward.

"Simon Noy battled well all day but in the end, the superior side walked away with the points and we take on board some lessons from the last two weeks."

They say you only ever lose if you don't learn and to that end, the Demons are improving even in their losses.

Lions roar to victory

By Rob Popplestone

IT SEEMS really early to be calling a round-five clash a “season-defining game”, but you can’t help but feel the result of this one between two teams wanting to be part of the league’s top six when there is a case to be made that there is possibly only room for just one, was a match that could have more to it than just the premiership points, with that in mind the opportunity was grabbed by the scruff of the neck by the Lions.

“Our boys played the footy I know they are capable of, and with getting a few key personnel back we’re able to get on the winners list. Looking very forward to a bye, to freshen up.” Troy Shephardson, Stony Creek coach said.

The Lions are looming as a “Smokey” to upset a few teams in the mid and late part of the season, their effort on the weekend even impressing the Sharks.

“We came up against a red-hot Stony outfit and simply couldn’t go with them” Jay Accardi, Toora coach said.

“We now reset and get back to work on the things we are good at.”

The Magpies themselves have been showing improved and more consistent performances this year but were no match for the home side.



Jack Stuart, Will Cashin and Jake Smart contest the ball. Photo: G. S. Bruning.

Roos outplay the Tigers in Mahoney’s milestone match

REIGNING premier, Fish Creek, accounted for Mirboo North by 60 points in round five of Mid Gippsland football, at Tigerland on Saturday.

Harry Mahoney led the mighty Tigers into battle in his 50th senior game for Mirboo North.

As is customary with the current back-to-back premiership Kangaroos, they employed an easy-on-the-eye game plan, that most opposition sides find nigh-on-impossible to negate.

In a fast start, both teams quickly jumped into action, and each had a goal on the board within three minutes of play.

With two majors from spearhead Riley Gillian, the mighty Tigers matched the visitors

By Rover

for most of the opening term – before Brady Mitchell’s two goals in time-on, gave Fish Creek a 13-point advantage at the first break.

Thereafter, the further the game went, the more Fish Creek progressed directly down the corridor and the less it digressed around the boundary line.

No one else in the competition moves the Sherrin like the Kangaroos do, and the time for Mirboo North to hesitate, was through.

Unfortunately, from all of the Tigers’ hard work, came scant rewards on the scoreboard.

Mirboo North only managed three behinds for the second quarter, whilst the

free-wheeling, hard-running Kangaroos added 3.5 to lead by 34 points at the main break.

Those featuring prominently for Fish Creek included Brodie Shaw, Jordan Shaw, Thomas Vuillermin and Roland De Biase.

The marking power of Fish Creek’s key forwards, Darcy Berryman and Jordan Shaw – who finished with four and three goals respectively – fully stretched the resources of the Tigers’ defence.

Mirboo North was well served in the back 50 by Rhys Kratzat, Beau Peters and Taj Wilkins, who barely had time to catch their breaths, combating Fish Creek’s repeated forward line entries.

Other Tigers taking it right up to their opposite numbers

were ruckman, Joe Brooks and teenagers, Archie Woodall and Jesse Chila.

Although Jacob Blair kicked two goals for the Tigers in the third quarter, Fish Creek had extended its lead to 60 points by three-quarter time.

Encouraged by playing coach, Damien Turner, not to wilt, Mirboo North refused to allow the Kangaroos to dominate the last quarter.

Despite losing Gillian to a leg injury, goals from Brandon Watson and Beau Peters ensured Fish Creek’s winning margin remained at 60 points – after both sides recorded 2.2 in the final term.

Mirboo North travels to Toora this Saturday, where it will be hoping to win its third game of the season.

MID GIPPSLAND LEAGUE RESULTS

RND5

STONY CREEK FOOTBALL CLUB

TOORA FOOTBALL CLUB

10649

STONY CREEK	TOORA
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Stony Creek	4.3	8.6	13.9	15.16 (106)
Toora	3.0	3.3	6.7	7.7 (49)

GOALS, Stony Crk: Kael Bergles, Hayden Bull 3, Tully Bernaldo, Jack Stuart 2, Kurt Newton, Troy Sinclair, Cameron Stone, Tom Stone, Nathan Trotto 1 each

BEST: Tylah O’Connor Linke, Tully Bernaldo, Darcy Atkins, Hayden Bull, Hayden Funnell, Kurt Newton

GOALS, Toora: Michael Bezzene 3, Jack Weston 2, Leigh Craig, Lachi Smart 1 each

BEST: Sam Frawley, Jack Weston, Michael Bezzene, Zac Clavarino, Josh Griffin, William Cashin

RESERVES

Stony Creek	3.0	8.0	9.5	11.9 (75)
Toora	4.2	5.3	5.7	7.10 (52)

GOALS, Stony Crk: Glenn Gray, Colby Michael 3, Anthony Dyke 2, George Batten, Lucas Byrnes, Callum McCaughan 1 each

BEST: Glenn Gray, Anthony Dyke, Andrew Logan, Joel F Brann, Charlie Batten, Colby Michael

GOALS, Toora: Jarryd Guganovic 2, Jordyn Coulthard, Leigh de Boer, Mark Glowrey, Zayne Lewis 1 each

BEST: Sam Bright, Zayne Lewis, Leigh de Boer, Cooper Butinar, Jaxon Cripps, Tommy Bartels

MIRBOO NORTH FOOTBALL CLUB

FISH CREEK FOOTBALL CLUB

41101

MIRBOO NORTH	FISH CREEK
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Mirboo Nth	2.0	2.3	4.3	6.5 (41)
Fish Creek	4.2	7.7	13.9	15.11 (101)

GOALS, Mirboo Nth: Jacob Blair, Riley Gillian 2, Beau Peters, Brandon Watson 1 each

BEST: Rhys Kratzat, Beau Peters, Joe Brooks, Archie Woodall, Jesse Chila, Taj Wilkins

GOALS, Fish Creek: Darcy Berryman 4, Jordan Shaw 3, Brady Mitchell, Luke Williams 2, Thomas Cameron, Jacob Lamers, Tom Valenta, Thomas Vuillermin 1 each

BEST: Brodie Shaw, Jordan Shaw, Thomas Vuillermin, Roland De Biase, Luke Williams, Tom Valenta

RESERVES

Mirboo Nth	2.2	4.3	8.4	9.4 (58)
Fish Creek	2.1	4.5	6.10	9.13 (67)

GOALS, Mirboo Nth: William Lewis 3, Tim McAllister 2, Thomas Heislars, William Jacka, Stuart Jennings, Trent Taylor 1 each

BEST: Luke Gervasi, Tim McAllister, William Lewis, Thomas Harris, William Jacka, Tom Kelly

GOALS, Fish Creek: Nicholas Buckland, Colin Mcphee 2, Adam Bright, Alby Edgelow, Liam Edgelow, Rhys Staley, Mason Thomson 1 each

BEST: Owen Schnoor, Josh Harry, Lane Bowman, Colin Mcphee, Owen Straw, Brandon Bell

THIRDS

Mirboo Nth	7.2	11.8	15.11	19.12 (126)
Fish Creek	2.1	2.2	2.3	5.6 (36)

GOALS, Mirboo Nth: Tobias McDuffie 8, Charles Crutchfield 4, Gus Rutjens 3, Thomas Williams 2, Ollie Mahoney, Lachlan Poljak 1 each

BEST: Ryan Filtness, Thomas Williams, Tobias McDuffie, Charles Crutchfield, Lachlan Poljak, Tom McGrath

GOALS, Fish Creek: Matthew Chapman 2, Riley Morgan, Joseph rysko, Sebastien Berquez 1 each

BEST: Mason Thomson, Joseph Rysko, Bodhi Thomson, Oscar Bright, Riley Morgan, Jackson Morgan

IN OTHER GAMES...

SENIORS

Newborough	8.7.55	d Hill End	5.12.42
Yinnar	25.13.163	d Morwell East	7.4.46

RESERVES

Newborough	12.9.81	d Hill End	7.4.46
Yinnar	12.7.79	d Morwell East	7.3.45

THIRDS

Hill End	12.12.84	d Newborough	6.8.44
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MID GIPPSLAND LEAGUE LADDERS					ROUND 5				
SENIORS					RESERVES				
	W	L	%	pts		W	L	%	pts
Foster.....	4	0	296.15	20	MDU.....	5	0	428.57	20
Yinnar.....	5	0	203.82	20	Yinnar.....	5	0	265.43	20
Fish Creek.....	3	1	181.50	16	Morwell East.....	4	1	270.97	16
MDU.....	4	1	167.81	16	Newborough.....	3	1	172.58	16
Boolarra.....	3	2	84.62	12	Tarwin.....	3	2	117.09	12
Newborough.....	2	2	84.43	12	Fish Creek.....	2	2	54.52	12
Thorpdale.....	2	2	82.99	12	Foster.....	1	2	72.40	10
Tarwin.....	2	3	98.50	8	Toora.....	1	3	114.86	8
Stony Creek.....	2	3	87.11	8	Stony Creek.....	2	3	98.54	8
Mirboo North.....	2	3	76.11	8	Hill End.....	2	3	79.88	8
Morwell East.....	1	4	56.60	4	Mirboo North.....	1	4	58.45	4
Toora.....	0	4	54.07	4	Thorpdale.....	0	4	18.30	4
Hill End.....	0	5	45.20	0	Boolarra.....	0	4	31.34	0
LEADING GOAL KICKERS					LEADING GOAL KICKERS				
Nick Nagel (MDU)				27	Jarryd Garlick (Yinnar)				22
Kane Grinstead-Jones (Yinnar)				25	Brendan Tomada (MDU)				19
Jake Best (Foster)				16	Ethan Hubbard (Hill End)				12
THIRDS					LEADING GOAL KICKERS				
Yinnar.....	3	0	340.20	20	Tobias McDuffie (Mirboo North)				24
MDU.....	3	1	246.81	16	Angus Mcinnes (MDU)				17
Newborough.....	3	1	120.99	16	Billy Durea (Yinnar)				11
Hill End.....	2	2	79.78	12					
Mirboo North.....	2	3	93.31	8					
Tarwin.....	1	3	69.77	8					
Fish Creek.....	0	4	32.19	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					

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ELLINBANK & DISTRICT LEAGUE RESULTS

RND 5

POOWONG FOOTBALL CLUB

18 164

POOWONG	0.0	1.0	2.0	3.0 (18)
Lang Lang	9.6	17.10	19.17	24.20 (164)

GOALS, Poowong: Zac Gray, Josh Hall, Mitch Malloy 1 each
BEST: Joshua Chiavaroli, Zac Gray, Mitch Molloy, Matthew Cozzio, Thomas Burgess, Rhys Schulz
GOALS, Lang Lang: Marc Holt 8, Bailey Galante, Brodie Kiss 3, Troy Dolan, Darcy Walls 2, Cameron Brown, Joshua Brown, Mitchell Davey, Tyler Falzon, Dylan Gallasch, Robi Issac Nooy 1 each
BEST: Bailey Galante, Kyle Van der pluym, Marc Holt, Troy Dolan, Joshua Brown, Brody Leitch

RESERVES
Poowong 0.2 0.2 0.4 0.5 (5)
Lang Lang 9.5 20.8 29.12 38.17 (245)
BEST, Poowong: Jerome Cawcutt, Connor King, Private player, Cooper Smith, Rohan Verma, David O'Neill
GOALS, Lang Lang: Mitchell Tribuzi 8, Tadhg O'Riordan, Rhys Simmons 6, Kurt Batt 5, Jesse Hand, Geordie Wells 3, Andrew Lawless 2, Rhyce Harvie, Lincoln King, Brent Miller, Devlin Parker 1 each
BEST: Rhys Simmons, Mitchell Tribuzi, Liam Casey, Mark Penn, Nick Mascadri, Tadhg O'Riordan

THIRDS
Poowong 3.1 4.2 8.3 9.4 (58)
Lang Lang 3.4 5.7 7.8 8.9 (57)
GOALS, Poowong: Cruze Deal 5, Gavin Monson 3, Henri Bott 1
BEST: Gavin Monson, Hayden Hessels, Henri Bott, Aaron Damon, Nathan Halliday, Cruze Deal
GOALS, Lang Lang: Cooper Davey 3, Tim Dyal, Robi Issac Nooy, Joshua Sparks, Ty Thom, Archie Thompson 1 each
BEST: Harry Herbert, Cooper Phommaxaysy, Blake Wright, Cooper Davey, Jaeden Ward, Nicholas Slavovic

FOURTHS
Poowong 2.2 4.2 4.4 6.6 (42)
Lang Lang 0.0 0.0 0.0 2.1 (13)
BEST Poowong: Dylan Watson, Kohen Gilliatte, Dylan Canavan, Karun Verma, Chase Deal, Oscar Patterson
BEST Lang Lang: Blake Wright, Ryder Kenneth, Boadi Williams, Lachlan Casey, Jai Kennedy, Kooper Herbert

NYORA FOOTBALL CLUB

90 59

YARRAGON	3.5	7.8	11.11	13.12 (90)
Nyora	2.2	4.3	6.3	9.5 (59)

GOALS, Yarragon: Draydon Preuss 2, Dan Clebney, James Harvey, William Kemp Riley Kop, Sam van der Zalm 1 each
BEST: Braydon Preuss, Devin Pollock, Jesse Hayhow, Sam Clebney, William Kemp, Sam van der Zalm
GOALS, Nyora: Paul Delaroche 5, Jordan Anderson, Dylan Heylen, Jesse Heylen, Callum McNiff 1 each
BEST: Tyler Kirkbride, Jesse Heylen, Dante Di Pietro, Jordan Anderson, Lucas Lee, Dylan Heylen

RESERVES
Yarragon 6.1 13.6 18.9 21.13 (139)
Nyora 2.1 2.2 4.2 5.2 (32)
GOALS, Yarragon: Jack Jenkins 7, David Bates 3, Daniel Burke, Mitchel Dubbeld, Michael Price 2, Luke Armstrong, Kristian Carroll, Rhys Fairlie, Leroy Kidd, Lachlan McWhinney 1 each
BEST: Jack Jenkins, David Bates, Zak Keeble, Nate White, Luke Armstrong, Ryan Young
GOALS, Nyora: Tyler Campbell 2, Dakota Boswell, Indiana Boswell, Tane White 1 each
BEST: Andrew Dike, Lincoln Brock, Luke Forscutt, Indiana Boswell, Tane White, Tyler Campbell

IN OTHER GAMES...

SENIORS
Buln Buln 16.11.107 d Nilma-Dar 6.3.39
Trafalgar 13.8.86 d Ellinbank 7.11.53
Neerim Sth 31.19.205 d Bunyip 3.4.22
Longwarry 18.14.122 d Catani 12.6.78
RESERVES
Buln Buln 19.17.131 d Nilma-Dar 3.2.20
Ellinbank 7.10.52 d Trafalgar 2.3.15
Neerim Sth 21.21.147 d Bunyip 0.1.1
Longwarry 20.18.138 d Catani 3.1.19
THIRDS
Buln Buln 12.9.81 d Nilma-Dar 5.9.39
Ellinbank 22.14.146 d Trafalgar 4.6.30
Neerim Sth 13.8.86 d Bunyip 0.5.5
FOURTHS
Buln Buln 4.7.31 d Nilma-Dar 2.1.13
Ellinbank 8.2.50 d Trafalgar 6.8.44
Bunyip 10.9.69 d Neerim Sth 0.3.3
Catani 7.9.51 d Longwarry 7.2.44

Lang Lang proves too strong in senior clash

By Geoff Wyatt

POOWONG welcomed Lang Lang players and supporters Saturday – a big crowd in attendance. Good to see families supporting local football.

The Sponsors and Past Players lunch with guest speaker Dustin Fletcher a well-known Bomber was a success. The club giving something back to our valuable sponsors. Well done to all involved in the day.

Congratulations to Jake Lewis for his 200 club games and Georgia Chiavaroli for her 200 senior netball games, great commitment to the club.

Conditions were great for football, the result was two wins each in football and three wins each in netball, all games were played in good spirit and umpiring was good, great to see the umpires after the game.

The Poowong Fourths winning 6.6.42 to 2.1.13, the U/18s winning 9.4 58 to 8.9.57 defeating the ladder leaders, fourths are second, thirds are fourth, great efforts, The reserves are struggling on the scoreboard but the reserves had extra players on Saturday, no thirds and fourth needed, the tide will turn.

The senior side were forced to make two changes coming in Joel Norton and Connor Ives out Mitch van't Hof (ankle) and Micah Williamses (corky) two of their most experienced



Poowong vice captain George refuses to give up on the contest despite being outnumbered, the Magpies recording a 29-point win over Lang Lang in the Under 16 game. Photos: Jeff Tull.

players hopefully both back next week with another couple of players as well. There is some great football talent in the senior ranks, players just need a bit of confidence in their game and their teammates and also to lift their concentration to get to the next level.

Poowong kicked to the New Estate end but Lang Lang

a great goal.

Poowong were letting themselves down with dropped marks when in the position to score, and this even led to a Lang Lang goal.

Half time Lang Lang 17.10.112 to Poowong 1.0.6.

The third quarter started with the Poowong boys lifting after some stern words, they were more committed and added the first goal thanks to Zac Gray who was playing his heart out, Poowong had the ball up forward, again dropped marks and some poor decision making let them down.

The defence was working hard keeping Lang Lang to 2.4 for the quarter.

Three quarter Time Lang Lang 19.17 131 to Poowong 2.0.12

In the last quarter Poowong kept Lang Lang to 5.3 while Poowong's Josh Hall kicked his first goal in senior footy in his second game. Lang Lang boys played some good football and will play a part in the finals.

This Saturday we welcome Nilma Darnum in all grades, looking forward to some even games. The seniors hopefully will have a couple back, players be positive, work hard at training and show us your skills. Thanks to all the volunteers, canteen workers, medical staff your support is invaluable for the club.

Competitive Saints go to battle with Yarragon

NYORA held its ground against a strong Yarragon side but yielded a 31-point win at the final siren.

Nyora hosted Nyora at Downton Park on Saturday.

The home side took an early lead, but Nyora was hot on its heels.

The Saints had a chance to make their mark on the game with the first entry into the forward 50, but a missed opportunity saw a point added to the scoreboard within the first minute of the game.

Robert Hermann kicked the first goal of the game for Yarragon at the two-minute mark.

This livened up Nyora's defence and Yarragon only managed behinds for its next three opportunities.

Yarragon kicked three goals

in the first quarter.

Nyora kicked its first goal 14 minutes in and limited Yarragon to three more behinds thereafter.

The Saints saw the quarter out with a quick snap, reducing the margin to nine points.

Nyora once again came out of the gate strong to kick the first goal of the second quarter in just 36 seconds.

Nyora was allowed another behind, which ramped up Yarragon's efforts to hit the scoreboard.

Four goals were kicked by Yarragon within the quarter, with Nyora kicking two.

Nyora's goalkicking efforts were led by Paul Delaroche, who kicked five for the game.

The third quarter saw Yarragon kick away with three more goals before Nyora

could get an opportunity.

Seventeen minutes in, Nyora was able to hit the scoreboard and kicked a second goal to see the quarter out.

By this point, Nyora had its work cut out for it, but it didn't let up.

A tussle in the fourth quarter saw a quiet scoreboard until the seven-minute mark when Nyora finally recorded another goal.

It was an even quarter with Nyora kicking three goals to Yarragon's two, but the damage had been done.

Nyora's best players were Tyler Kirkbride, Jesse Heylen, Dante Di Pietro, Jordan Anderson, Lucas Lee and Dylan Heylen.

Nyora will take on new to the Ellinbank league Bunyip at home this Saturday.



Jesse Heylen leaps in for the Sherrin.

ELLINBANK & DISTRICT LEAGUE LADDERS

ROUND 5

SENIORS	W	L	%	pts	RESERVES	W	L	%	pts	THIRDS	W	L	%	MR	FOURTHS	W	L	%	MR
Neerim South	5	0	338.25	20	Longwarry	5	0	945.31	20	Ellinbank	5	0	310.40	100.0	Bunyip	5	0	457.14	100.0
Longwarry	5	0	260.69	20	Ellinbank	5	0	564.10	20	Lang Lang	3	1	244.70	75.00	Poowong	4	0	218.32	100.0
Trafalgar	4	1	246.19	16	Lang Lang	4	1	835.00	16	Longwarry	2	1	146.36	66.66	Ellinbank	4	1	117.62	80.00
Lang Lang	4	1	182.93	16	Neerim South	4	1	476.36	16	Poowong	2	1	104.55	66.66	Lang Lang	3	1	107.38	75.00
Ellinbank	3	2	154.97	12	Trafalgar	3	2	142.11	12	Buln Buln	3	2	219.37	60.00	Trafalgar	3	2	241.72	60.00
Yarragon	3	2	105.30	12	Catani	3	2	98.52	12	Neerim South	3	2	200.57	60.00	Yarragon	2	2	129.11	50.00
Catani	2	3	117.56	8	Yarragon	2	3	123.76	8	Nilma Darnum	3	2	121.15	60.00	Buln Buln	2	3	76.89	40.00
Buln Buln	2	3	113.79	8	Buln Buln	1	3	59.72	6	Trafalgar	1	4	46.152	0.00	Catani	1	3	73.41	25.00
Nyora	1	4	55.68	4	Bunyip	1	3	49.01	6	Yarragon	0	4	31.32	0.00	Neerim South	1	4	70.19	20.00
Nilma Darnum	1	4	37.84	4	Nyora	1	4	21.74	4	Bunyip	0	5	10.57	0.00	Longwarry	0	4	47.27	0.00
Bunyip	0	5	30.38	0	Nilma Darnum	0	5	10.18	0	Catani	0	0	0.00	0.00	Nilma Darnum	0	5	12.11	0.00
Poowong	0	5	26.95	0	Poowong	0	5	5.91	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) 40					Bradley Blazevic (Longwarry) 22					Charlie Armour (Ellinbank) 16					Hudson Grujic (Trafalgar) 17				
Marc Holt (Lang Lang) 27					Toby Bayne (Neerim South) 18					Charles Kilmartin (Buln Buln) 14					Cruze Deal (Poowong) 16				
Braydon McHugh (Longwarry) 23					Kurt Batt (Lang Lang) 16										Dylan Strating (Neerim South) 15				

Powerful defence the secret at Sale

SALE was up for the fight when second-placed Wonthaggi Power came to town last Saturday and there was only two points separating the teams at half time as on-ballers broke even and both defences were on top.

Big Jack Leslie was doing well in the ruck for Sale, coach Jack Johnstone was a looming presence up forward and Sale playmaker Shannen Lange was getting first hands on the ball.

Out of the Wonthaggi side that won a season-defining match at Morwell the previous week were Jye Gilmour, Tom Macmillan and Jarvis Harvey and in came Tom Murray, Reeve Moresco and Andrew McNeal.

It was tight and tough in the opening 10 minutes with no goals scored despite the lightning-fast conditions at Sale but ultimately it was Sale coach Johnstone who broke through after what looked to be a soft free kick.

Lange continued to provide drive, but his efforts were curbed by Andrew McNeal who put him on notice with a crunching tackle on the wing. But equally, Issac Chugg and Kyle Reid were putting their stamp on the Power defence.

Chugg was a dynamo around the flanks where he forced a stoppage, Tom Murray swept the ball away and Brodie Mabilia ran onto the loose ball for the Power's belated first goal at the 18-minute mark.

Fergus O'Connor, Reid, Josh Schulz, Jaxon Williams and Ethan Dickison were holding up well in defence, but Sale's defenders were also rebounding strongly, and the scoring remained low through to the first break.

The output of Wonthaggi's Ryan Sparkes was being pressured somewhat by Sale's Lachie Ronchi with Kaj Patterson picking up some of the slack but ultimately it was Cooper McInnes who marked in the goal square with only



Wonthaggi forward Brodie Mabilia had a good contest with Sale fullback Jack Hutchins but still provided a contest throughout, kicking one goal.

seconds to go in the quarter and Wonthaggi had the lead as the siren sounded.

It was the same again at the start of the second quarter until Jasper Shone drove it forward 10 minutes in where Sparks received front and centre to kick the Power's third goal from close range.

A minute later, though, Tom Campbell responded for Sale and it was an absorbing contest.

Sale's Leslie got the tap in the centre but Shone sharked the ball only to see Jake Hutchins out-mark Wonthaggi key forward Mabilia. Those two were having a really good contest in the Power scoring zone.

A goal saving tackle by Schulz and a mark on the last line by Reid stopped Sale equalising initially but ultimately Bohdi Walker made it three each at half time.

However, in workmanlike fashion, rather than with

flashy play, it was Wonthaggi which came out after the break full of intent, Cooper McInnes setting the tone with a long bomb for goal from 50 metres and Isaac Chugg continuing to show the way in transition.

Ryan Sparkes won a possession the hard way at half back, was awarded a free and 50 metres before finding Chugg on the move and then Hunter Tiziani whose second effort and tackle produced a free at half forward and a team-lifting goal.

When Chugg, Connor Macmillan and Jai Williams combined for another goal soon after, Wonthaggi had cleared out to a 21-point lead and had assumed control in the contest, which they maintained to the last break after a goal-saving mark on the line by Jaxon Williams.

The Power was now in complete control at the defensive end and had doubled Sale's



Wonthaggi's Ethan Dickison contributed to a strong performance by the team's defence at Sale on Saturday.

score, 23 to 46 with a quarter to go.

Andrew McNeal still had an arm across Lange at the stoppages as the last quarter started and was burrowing in when the ball hit the deck, but he had plenty of mates as Power kicked into gear in the last quarter.

Superb running play by Chugg, giving and receiving from Josh Bates produced as good a goal as you'd ever want to see, with Jai Williams capping it off from long range followed by another to Mabilia, the result of an overhead hand pass by Jakeb Thomas.

A coast-to-coast goal starting with Kyle Reid on to Jaxon Williams and then Jai Williams, who took a contested mark, before kicking truly was a sign for the future from Wonthaggi and while Sale's Walker pulled a couple back at the end, it was all Wonthaggi in the second half

Wonthaggi Power celebrates its 20th anniversary – you're invited

THE way is now clear for Wonthaggi Power to celebrate its 20th anniversary on Saturday, after a strong showing against Sale at Sale.

The Power hosts Bairnsdale this Saturday, May 17 but their visitors will be no easy-beats after they despatched Maffra's challenge last weekend by 25 points.

So, it's going to take some effort on the day before

Powers' supporters, past players and officials can pop the cork on the champagne to celebrate such an auspicious milestone.

The club is reaching out to the community to contribute any memorabilia, jerseys, trophies, photos, newspaper clippings and videos they may have to help recall the journey so far.

No doubt there are many

stories to tell about how it all started and how we got this far but it's highly likely that the best is yet to come... so get on board and come along and celebrate this Saturday at the Wonthaggi Recreation Reserve.

Then later on Saturday, May 17, head down to The Wonthaggi Club on McBride Avenue from 7pm for a night of fun, memories, and music.

The evening will feature live entertainment, a display of club memorabilia, limited-edition merchandise, exciting raffle prizes, and more.

Entry is just \$30, which includes a generous spread of gourmet platters to keep you well fed while you mingle with past and present members of the WPFNC family.

The whole community is invited to join the celebration!

GIPPSLAND LEAGUE RESULTS

RND 5

LEONGATHA FOOTBALL CLUB

	74		83
MORWELL		LEONGATHA	

Morwell 2.4 5.7 8.8 11.8 (74)
Leongatha 2.4 4.5 8.7 12.11 (83)
GOALS, Morwell: Tom Gray, Brandon McDonald 3, Boyd Bailey, Tyler Hillier 2, Anthony Rosato 1
BEST: Harrison McColl, Joshua Galea, Boyd Bailey, Burkeley Macfarlane, Isaac Abas, Anthony Rosato
GOALS, Leongatha: Jenson Garnham, Justin Pellicano 3, Tallin Brill 2, Kim Drew, Ty Hall, Aaron Heppell, Xavier Lamers 1 each
BEST: Cade Maskell, Timothy Sauvarin, Thomas Marriott, Aaron Heppell, Nicholas Argento, Benjamin Harding

RESERVES
Morwell 1.0 1.1 2.2 2.4 (16)
Leongatha 2.6 4.10 8.14 12.18 (90)
GOALS, Morwell: Riley Loprese, Tarkyn Shankland 1 each
BEST: Lachlan Patterson, Ben Williams, Callum Bailey, Maclan McInnes, Campbell Blewett, Zac Cantrill
GOALS, Leongatha: Jake Cochrane 5, Rhys Butler, Brok Davidson, Noah Fixter, Ben Fort, Jarrod Stewart, Adam Trotto, Connor Watson 1 each
BEST: Mitch De Kleuver, Xavier Bolge, Isaak Fox, Levi Hickey, Noah Fixter, Ben Fort

THIRDS
Morwell 1.3 3.5 4.5 4.8 (32)
Leongatha 3.0 4.6 9.8 14.10 (94)
BEST, Morwell: O Kalan, M Blewett, T James, J Mooney, S Cheffers, D Rosato
BEST, Leongatha: A Fixter, A Williams, L Hall, M Sheahan, S Hogarth, M Croatto

FOURTHS
Morwell 0.1 0.3 0.7 3.10 (28)
Leongatha 4.2 7.5 8.8 9.11 (65)
BEST, Morwell: H Gaunt, K Riseley, L Kalan, R Ades, L Ainsworth, S Makepeace
BEST, Leongatha: E Reardon, F Livingstone, E Berryman, L Mackie, L Chila

WONTHAGGI FOOTBALL CLUB

	41		72
SALE		WONTHAGGI	

Sale 1.4 3.5 3.5 6.5 (41)
Wonthaggi 2.3 3.7 6.10 10.12 (72)
GOALS, Sale: Bohdi Walker 3, Thomas Campbell, Jack Johnstone, Thomas Wrigglesworth 1 each
BEST: Tyson Dobson, Will Leslie, Jack Leslie, Lachie Ronchi, Shannen Lange, Benjamin Hall
GOALS, Wonthaggi: Jai Williams 2, Ethan Dickison, Brodie Mabilia, Kaj Patterson, Ryan Sparkes 1 each
BEST: Isaac Chugg, Fergus O'Connor, Jai Williams, Kaj Patterson, Jasper Shone, Noah Anderson

RESERVES
Sale 1.1 1.5 2.6 2.6 (18)
Wonthaggi 3.1 4.3 7.5 11.6 (72)
GOALS, Sale: Cooper Lett, Kai McDonald 1 each.
BEST: Archer Gerrand, Maddix Malone, Kai McDonald, Will Moon, Daniel Byron
GOALS, Wonthaggi: Kyle Yann 3, Adam Busana, Finn Wilkinson 2, Blake Cornelis, Tom Davey, Eddie Ridewood 1 each
BEST: Cooper Lindsay, Kyle Yann, Ryan Cornell, James Lewis, Riley Lindsay, Chase Krause

THIRDS
Sale 3.2 3.4 5.6 8.10 (58)
Wonthaggi 0.3 4.5 4.6 5.8 (38)
BEST, Sale: No players have been selected
BEST, Wonthaggi: J Burns, O Feather, L Ton, J Kelly, L Lidstone, S McBean

FOURTHS
Sale 4.1 8.4 10.7 14.9 (93)
Wonthaggi 0.4 0.7 2.8 3.8 (26)
BEST, Sale: C Rand, O Centra, P Centra, J McDonald, M Mayman, H Wynd
BEST, Wonthaggi: A Luke, R Hullick, H Bowen, L Laub, J Glen, W Simmons

IN OTHER GAMES...

SENIORS
Traralgon 17.16.118 d Warragul 8.12.60
Bairnsdale 11.9.75 d Maffra 6.14.50
Moe 28.16.184 d Drouin 8.6.54
RESERVES
Traralgon 25.18.168 d Warragul 1.2.8
Maffra 13.7.85 d Bairnsdale 6.4.40
Moe 22.13.145 d Drouin 2.1.13
THIRDS
Traralgon 7.13.55 d Warragul 7.7.49
Bairnsdale 10.8.68 d Maffra 6.10.46
Moe 12.16.88 d Drouin 1.1.7
FOURTHS
Traralgon 15.17.107 d Warragul 2.1.13
Maffra 9.14.68 d Bairnsdale 7.5.47
Moe 10.10.70 d Drouin 2.6.18

GIPPSLAND LEAGUE LADDERS

ROUND 5

SENIORS	W	L	%	pts
Moe	4	1	212.50	16
Wonthaggi	4	1	154.70	16
Leongatha	4	1	125.89	16
Traralgon	3	2	110.03	12
Bairnsdale	3	2	108.36	12
Morwell	2	3	137.50	8
Warragul	2	3	87.31	8
Maffra	2	3	71.66	8
Sale	1	4	66.73	4
Drouin	0	5	43.92	0

LEADING GOAL KICKERS	
Ben Crocker (Moe)	27
Brandon McDonald (Morwell)	15
Jenson Garnham (Leongatha)	13

RESERVES	W	L	%	pts
Leongatha	4	1	290.15	16
Traralgon	4	1	254.10	16
Wonthaggi	4	1	223.78	16
Moe	4	1	167.51	16
Maffra	3	2	155.11	12
Sale	2	3	110.11	8
Bairnsdale	2	3	88.53	8
Morwell	1	4	88.14	4
Warragul	1	4	40.67	4
Drouin	0	5	7.18	0

LEADING GOAL KICKERS	
Caleb Crofts (Bairnsdale)	13

THIRDS	W	L	%	pts
Leongatha	4	1	184.46	16
Warragul	3	1	271.43	14
Traralgon	3	1	191.23	14
Bairnsdale	3	1	108.91	14
Moe	3	2	194.12	12
Maffra	2	2	158.77	10
Drouin	2	3	94.56	8
Sale	2	3	57.00	8
Wonthaggi	1	4	51.01	4
Morwell	0	5	14.60	0

LEADING GOAL KICKERS	
Rylie Baker (Drouin)	16
Mitchell Croatto (Leongatha)	12

FOURTHS	W	L	%	pts
Traralgon	5	0	985.48	20
Warragul	4	1	125.46	16
Maffra	4	1	116.73	16
Sale	3	2	114.12	12
Bairnsdale	3	2	85.92	12
Moe	2	3	108.85	8
Wonthaggi	1	3	64.27	6
Leongatha	1	4	51.62	4
Morwell	1	4	34.31	4
Drouin	0	4	67.01	2

LEADING GOAL KICKERS	
Bill De Araugo (Warragul)	20
Ford Gore (Traralgon)	16
Fraser Aubrey (Warragul)	13

WEST GIPPSLAND COMPETITION RESULTS

RND 5

KILCUNDA BASS FOOTBALL CLUB				
DALYSTON FOOTBALL CLUB				
	103		69	
KILCUNDA-BASS	DALYSTON			
K-Bass	2.2	6.5	9.6	16.7 (103)
Dalyston	4.4	5.8	7.13	9.15 (69)
GOALS, K-Bass: Trent Cartmel 6, Timothy Gunn, Dean McRae 3, Nathan Foote, Sam Watson 1 each				
BEST: Trent Cartmel, Sam Watson, Steven Scott, Lochlan Scott, Timothy Gunn, Jed Rosenow				
GOALS, Dalyston: Cale Love-Linay 3, Jaxon Foon, Brady O'Toole 2, Jack Legione, Hayden Wallis 1 each				
BEST: Kyle Hutchison, Kurt Thomas, Brady O'Toole, William Clarke, Bradley Tilley, Mitch Hallahan				
RESERVES				
K-Bass	1.1	2.2	6.4	11.7 (73)
Dalyston	0.3	4.4	5.7	6.8 (44)
GOALS, K-Bass: Callan Brinkmann, Cooper Simpson 3, Gavin Boyd, Ashden Grenness, Jai Jose, Kurt Lane Dylan Susic 1 each				
BEST: Angus McGillivray, Ashden Grenness, Callan Brinkmann, Dale Crawford, Gavin Boyd, Cooper Simpson				
GOALS, Dalyston: Trevor Douglas Braid, Robert Davey 2, Stewart Beaumont, Wayne Luke 1 each				
BEST: Robert Davey, Stewart Beaumont, Owen Luff, Joe Ray-Angarane, Shannon Coldebella, Declan Kelly				
FOURTHS				
K-Bass	4.3	7.5	10.7	14.9 (93)
Dalyston	0.1	1.2	2.3	3.3 (21)
GOALS, K-Bass: Blake Eden 3, Justin Braumann-Hall, Cruz Maund, Noahh Tuite 2, Cooper Brown, Charlie Burgess, Tyler Duell, Harvey Leary, Elijah McDonald 1 each				
BEST: Perry McKay, Blake Eden, Angus Oats, Charlie Burgess, Hayden Fenwick, Saya Logan				
GOALS, Dalyston: Hamish Bell 2				
BEST: Archie Moore, Luke Franks, Finn McNally, Jojo Joma, Eamon O'Keefe, Jerome Morgan				

IN OTHER GAMES...				
SENIORS				
Nar Nar Goon	20.14.134	d	Garfield	3.5.23
Cora Lynn	15.11.101	d	Koo Wee Rup	9.7.61
RESERVES				
Nar Nar Goon	8.9.57	d	Garfield	4.4.28
Cora Lynn	1.0.6	d	Koo Wee Rup	0.0.0
THIRDS				
Nar Nar Goon	9.12.66	d	Garfield	2.4.16
Koo Wee Rup	20.14.134	d	Cora Lynn	1.2.8
FOURTHS				
Nar Nar Goon	11.13.79	d	Garfield	2.2.14

THIS WEEKEND'S DRAW	
SATURDAY, MAY 17	
GIPPSLAND	ROUND 6
Warragul v Leongatha	
Moe v Sale	
Wonthaggi v Bairnsdale	
Maffra v Morwell	
Drouin v Traralgon	
WEST GIPPSLAND	ROUND 6
Inverloch-Kongwak v Nar Nar Goon	
Tooradin-Dalmore v Phillip Island	
Kilcunda Bass v Cora Lynn	
Korumburra-Bena v Koo Wee Rup	
Dalyston v Garfield	
Warragul Industrials - BYE	

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Panthers win in close tussle

IT WAS a close clash between local rivals Kilcunda-Bass and Dalyston, but ultimately the Panthers' fitness led to a 34-point win.

In front of a decent crowd at the Bass Recreation Reserve, it was an arm wrestle from the first bounce, which often seems to be the case for this matchup.

Dalyston went into the match with the adrenaline pumping, Hayden Wallis kicking a goal within the first minute of play.

Kilcunda-Bass showed its maturity and did not let Dalyston's early domination rattle it.

Instead, the Panthers worked hard to make sense of the situation and adjusted to Dalyston's style of play, resigned to the fact this game would likely not be played on their terms.

Kurt Thomas was a standout for Dalyston in the ruck, winning plenty of hit outs – a couple of which resulted in goals.

Dalyston kicked four goals in the first quarter and went into the break with a 14-point lead.

Without any panic, the Panthers were able to resurrect themselves and win the second quarter.

Kilcunda-Bass coach Lee Rowe credited the Panthers' backline for standing strong against Dalyston's forwards.

Steven and Lochlan Scott were once again an unstoppable duo down back, with Daniel Mock also creating a strong presence and Sam Watson playing efficiently with some impressive intercept marks.

For Dalyston, intelligent footballer Kyle Hutchinson played another strong game through the middle alongside Brad Tilley, who is always an undeniable presence.

Brady O'Toole was shuffled back into the forward line and provided a solid target for the Magpies and William Clarke returned for his first game of the season and contributed a high-quality effort.

With a mere few points in it at halftime, the game could still go either way.

Dalyston continued to win the clearances, so Kilcunda-Bass had to find other ways to win the footy.

Small forward Trent Cartmel kept the Panthers in it by kicking a few crucial goals.

Kicking six goals for the

game, the 17-year-old was right there whenever the Panthers were in a pinch.

Cartmel has played a total of nine Senior games and has continued to show impressive improvement.

A crucial goal was missed by Dalyston just before the halftime siren, which could have seen an almost level score going into the second half.

Kilcunda-Bass' backline continued to work hard, forcing Dalyston to kick from a distance, resulting in a haul of behinds that would've been game-changing goals.

Up forward Panthers' McRae and Cartmel were constant threats and while Foon and Love-Linay kicked majors for Dalyston K-B kept coming.

Five points was the difference between a win and a loss going into the last quarter, and Kilcunda-Bass adopted a wheel-and-go attitude to outrun Dalyston to the finish.

The crowd were fully involved as both teams traded goals in the first ten minutes of the term.

Dalyston started to suffer injuries with Wallis a casualty, leaving a big hole.

The Magpies felt the pressure building and seemingly everything fell in Kilcunda-Bass' favour with the Panthers scoring the final five goals to be rewarded by their 34-point winning margin.

Kilcunda-Bass will play Cora Lynn this weekend in a third versus fourth showdown.

This is set to be a huge match and Kilcunda-Bass will be focusing on the positives taken from the match against Dalyston to deliver another quality performance.

With Kilcunda-Bass sitting on a healthy percentage, this game may cause a shuffle on the ladder.

Dalyston is set to play Garfield at home.

Saturday will also be Dalyston's Freeze MND Day and the club is looking forward to seeing local personalities – including West Gippsland Football Netball Competition's operations manager Brett Tessari and netball coordinator Ricky McNaughton – go down the slide for a great cause.

To donate to Dalyston's Freeze MND Day, head to Dalyston Football Netball Club's website or Facebook page.



Daniel Mock applies the tackle to Kyle Hutchison. Photos: Anna Carson.



Lleyton Cartmel and Louis Armstrong go to ground in an attempt to win the football.

Giants valiant as the Dusties clean up

KORUMBURRA-Bena gritted its teeth and delivered a full four quarters only allowing Warragul to come away with a 31-point win.

The Seniors ran out onto the field after the Reserves won their second game in a row – a feat that hasn't been accomplished by the Giants' Reserves in seven years.

With everyone in high spirits, the Giants ran out of the gate quickly and recorded the first two goals of the game.

The conditions in Warragul were excellent for footy and the Giants took advantage of the stellar ground.

Warragul fought back to ensure it had the lead going into the quarter-time break, kicking four goals.

However, the Giants demonstrated effective defensive skills and stifled a blowout, forcing Warragul to kick six behinds.

The intensity continued into the second quarter, which proved to be a bit more of a tussle.

Coach Josh Hopkins has been implementing a strategy to really utilise the speed in the Giants' lineup.

Rebounding out of the defence, the Giants were able to successfully make three or four lovely forays into their forward half.

However, skill errors hindered the Giants' capacity to kick away, as they were unable to convert their opportunities.

The Giants also went into the half time break a man down, after Jye Celebrine came off the ground with a head injury.

Celebrine will miss next week's game, as per concussion regulations.

Time and time again, the third quarter has been where the Giants have fallen over.

Keen to not see it happen again, Hopkins addressed his



Aiden Simmons works hard for the ball. ob26_1925

team in the huddle, reminding them to respond, and maintain focus and momentum.

Guy Dickson delivered in the backline, leading the charge to limit Warragul to just four points.

Zach Walker also performed well in defence, creating opportunities to get the ball back into Korumburra-Bena's forward 50.

With one quarter to go, Korumburra-Bena showed it was unwilling to give up and inched within seven points of Warragul in the first 10 minutes.

Whilst the pressure from the Giants didn't let up, Warragul powered through and pulled away to claim the victory.

Korumburra-Bena is now gearing up to face Koo Wee Rup this weekend.

Seventh-placed Koo Wee Rup is a similar side to the Giants, which is sure to create an interesting matchup.

Saturday will also be Korumburra-Bena's Past Players and Sponsors' Day.

This will be a big day for club, with many guests coming along to enjoy the festivities, and the Giants will be looking to serve up a quality game of football.



Evan Allaway flies up to contest the ball against the Dusties. ob20_1925

Sea Eagles surrender to Tooradin Dalmore in final term

A SOLID three-quarters had Inverloch-Kongwak right in it, but Tooradin Dalmore managed to pull away for a 39-point victory.

Sea Eagles coach Leigh Cole had the boys focused on starting strong and gaining early territory, which was a message they took on board in the first quarter.

Lucas Allen – playing his fifth Senior game – kicked the Sea Eagles' first goal off the first centre bounce to get the game underway.

Inverloch-Kongwak's backline, led by Jayden Sullivan, Lewis Rankin and Zak Box,

worked hard to keep Tooradin Dalmore off the scoreboard early.

The Sea Eagles added two more goals to their tally for a three-goal lead at the first siren.

The game continued to be a battle into the second quarter with a lot of stoppages.

This time, Tooradin Dalmore stepped it up to put five goals on the board, but Inverloch-Kongwak kept pace and only allowed the opposition a nine-point lead at halftime.

The third quarter was another equal matchup that left just three points in it.

Inverloch-Kongwak adjusted its game to really threaten Tooradin Dalmore, despite the opposition's strong midfield and dominant ruckman.

Oscar Toussaint and Ethan Park were Inverloch-Kongwak's answer to a strong midfield, providing plenty of entries into the forward line.

However, the fourth quarter presented Tooradin Dalmore with the chance to pull away.

A few turnovers really hurt Inverloch-Kongwak and shook its confidence, deflating any sense of momentum.

During eight to 10 minutes of the last quarter, Tooradin

Dalmore took control and added six goals to its score, confirming the win.

Inverloch-Kongwak is scheduled to play Nar Nar Goon on Saturday.

Nar Nar Goon appears to be in a league of its own at this stage and will pose another significant challenge for the Sea Eagles.

Inverloch-Kongwak is still battling through a number of injuries with around seven out.

Their return later in the season will hopefully deliver a big difference in outcomes for the Sea Eagles.

WEST GIPPSLAND COMPETITION RESULTS

RND 5

KORUMBURRA BENA FOOTBALL CLUB

WFC 83 52

WARRAGUL IND KORUMBURRA BENA

Warragul Ind. 4.6 7.12 7.16 11.17 (83)
Kor-Bena 2.0 4.1 6.3 8.4 (52)

GOALS, Warragul Ind: Todd Beck 2, Bailey Beck, Joshua Bradley, Thomas Cornwall, Michael Debenham, Timothy Hancock, Damian Leslie, Robert McCallum, Sam Russell, Nic Visser 1 each
BEST: Nic Visser, Jeremy Monckton, Todd Beck, Bailey Beck, Will Gibson

GOALS, Kor-Bena: Josh Hopkins 3, Tom Crocker 2, Jordan Ceppi, Joel Cuman, Aidan Simmons 1 each
BEST: Josh Hopkins, Jordan Ceppi, Bailey Nation, Guy Dickson, Tom Crocker, Luke Walker

RESERVES

Warragul Ind. 3.1 4.3 5.3 5.6 (36)
Kor-Bena 2.1 2.2 3.6 8.10 (58)

GOALS, Warragul Ind: Mitchel Jameson 2, Jack Commadeur, Riley Delaney, Russ Ware 1 each
BEST: Antony Nicolli, Oakley Walsh, Aaron Mitchell, Jack Commadeur

GOALS, Kor-Bena: Alessi Green, Jasper Macri 2, Codie Anderson, Curtis Bailey, Bryce Riddell, Boyd Robertson 1 each
BEST: Codie Anderson, Matt Kennewell, Jasper Macri, Boyd Robertson, Nick Moore, Alessi Green

THIRDS

Warragul Ind. 3.4 10.9 16.10 21.12 (138)
Kor-Bena 0.1 0.1 0.1 1.2 (8)

GOALS, Warragul Ind: R Butler 6, S Oling, Z Tepper 3, A Borg, G Morgan 2, K Bannister, O Hilton, J Lee, T Vickery, J West 1 each
BEST: Z Tepper, R Butler, S Oling, T Vickery, O Hilton, J Lee

GOALS, Kor-Bena: Bailey Fowles 1
BEST: C Quaife, C Turton, H Simcock, B Fowles, N Belvedere, K McGuinness

FOURTHS

Warragul Ind. 3.2 5.5 10.8 13.13 (91)
Kor-Bena 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 (0)

GOALS, Warragul Ind: C Dent 4, K Bannister, J Morgan 2, R Buck, O Ireland, C Moore, C Vickery, T Youngman 1 each
BEST: K Bannister, J Morgan, O Ireland, C Dent, A Ingham, C Belsham

BEST, Kor-Bena: J Douglas, K Tucker, E Belvedere, B Swain, B Hopwood, D Walker

INVERLOCH-KONGWAK FOOTBALL CLUB

V 82 43

TOORADIN-DAL INVERLOCH-K

Tooradin-Dal 0.2 5.5 6.7 12.10 (82)
Inverloch-K 3.1 4.2 6.4 6.7 (43)

GOALS, Tooradin-D: Lewis Hill 4, Logan Downe 2, Liam Adams, Trav Davis, Andrew Dean, Jack Flannery, Panos Papas, Piva Wright 1 each
BEST: Lewis Hill, Piva Wright, Jack Flannery, Brad Lenders, Logan Downe, Matthew Buntine

GOALS, IK: Jack Ginnane, Toby Mahoney, Lachlan Scott, Tate Short, Oscar Toussaint 1 each
BEST: Jayden Sullivan, Oscar Toussaint, Lucas Allen, Ethan Park, Lewis Rankin, Zak Box

RESERVES

Tooradin-Dal 3.3 4.3 5.5 7.5 (47)
Inverloch-K 3.0 4.2 6.2 7.2 (44)

GOALS, Tooradin-D: Ray Lengyel 3, Blair Robinson 2, Jake O'Donnell, Jake Sheeran 1 each
BEST: Ray Lengyel, Blair Robinson, Jack Grist, Justin Smaluch, Jake O'Donnell, Danyon Blew.

GOALS, IK: Clinton McCaughan 2, Jasper Kempster, Dale Lawton, Tyler Leonard, Jasper Long, Liam O'Neill 1 each
BEST: Harry Butcher, Ashton Hewitson, Patrick Jobling, Jasper Kempster, Clinton McCaughan, Barry Withers

THIRDS

Tooradin-Dal 8.5 (53)
Inverloch-K 6.7 (43)

GOALS, Tooradin-D: Will Setford 2, Chayse Campbell, Reece Cooper Jack Gillespie, Harrison Hetherington, Luke Lombard, Huydson Rogers 1 each
BEST: Taj Darose, Mason Sorenson, Kasy Deren, Jack Brearley, Vasili Papas, Koby Peck

GOALS, IK: James Harman 2, Jasper Cousins, Augustus Finsterer, James Martin, Cooper Newman 1 each
BEST: Frederick Soumilas, Froley Anderson, Rhys Newman, Patrick Dwyer, Cooper Newman, Mitchell Ward

FOURTHS

Tooradin-Dal 2.0 4.1 6.2 6.3 (39)
Inverloch-K 1.0 2.3 5.4 6.7 (43)

GOALS, Tooradin-D: J Alexander, B Howlett, J Rudeforth, W Setford, A Swinburne, C Webb 1 each
BEST: D Freeman, W Setford, J Alexander, K Angleton, M Penny, R Kinna.

GOALS, IK: Z Anderson, T Debono 2, A Jeeves, M Tonkin 1 each
BEST: C Newman, C Bergmeier, N McLennan, J Brown, F O'Halloran, J Martin

WEST GIPPSLAND COMPETITION LADDERS														ROUND 5					
SENIORS					RESERVES					THIRDS					FOURTHS				
	W	L	%	pts		W	L	%	pts		W	L	%	pts av		W	L	%	pts av
Nar Nar Goon	5	0	275.70	20	Tooradin-Dal	4	1	286.82	16	Nar Nar Goon	5	0	271.03	4.00	Warragul Ind	5	0	651.09	4.00
Tooradin-Dal	4	1	117.01	16	Nar Nar Goon	4	1	249.70	16	Warragul Ind	3	1	214.29	3.00	Nar Nar Goon	4	1	261.67	3.20
Warragul Ind	4	1	105.62	16	Inverloch-K	3	1	500.00	12	Inverloch-K	2	1	421.62	2.66	Inverloch-K	2	1	140.00	2.66
Cora Lynn	3	1	145.45	12	Phillip Island	3	1	242.31	12	Phillip Island	2	1	197.22	2.66	Kilcunda Bass	3	2	72.38	2.40
Kilcunda Bass	3	2	137.09	12	Cora Lynn	3	1	161.02	12	Koo Wee Rup	3	2	166.34	2.40	Phillip Island	2	2	213.48	2.00
Phillip Island	2	2	107.99	8	Koo Wee Rup	2	3	72.82	8	Tooradin-Dal	3	2	84.00	2.40	Tooradin-Dal	2	2	114.80	2.00
Koo Wee Rup	2	3	83.25	8	Kor-Bena	2	2	62.20	8	Dalyston	2	2	75.00	2.00	Koo Wee Rup	2	2	48.26	2.00
Inverloch-K	1	3	78.48	4	Kilcunda Bass	2	3	53.32	8	Garfield	0	4	46.03	0.00	Kor-Bena	1	3	36.20	1.00
Dalyston	1	4	53.67	4	Garfield	1	3	72.52	4	Kor-Bena	0	3	19.38	0.00	Dalyston	0	4	24.89	0.00
Kor-Bena	0	4	51.52	0	Warragul Ind	1	4	38.15	4	Cora Lynn	0	4	14.10	0.00	Garfield	0	4	9.07	0.00
Garfield	0	4	50.11	0	Dalyston	0	5	22.98	0	Kilcunda-Bass	0	0	0.00	0.00	Cora Lynn	0	0	0.00	0.00
LEADING GOAL KICKERS					LEADING GOAL KICKERS					LEADING GOAL KICKERS					LEADING GOAL KICKERS				
Nathan Gardiner (Cora Lynn)				20	Lauchlan Gregson (Tooradin-Dal)				14	Augustus Finsterer (Inverloch-K)				15	Ky Bannister (Warragul Ind)				20
Billy Taylor (Phillip Island)				15	Brady Ross (Phillip Island)				11	Tarrant Millar (Nar Nar Goon)				12	Sam O'Garey (Phillip Island)				13
Dermott Yawney (Nar Nar Goon)				14															



Zavier Lamers runs down and catches his Morwell opponent. ob32_1925

Leongatha stands tall against Morwell

AWAY from home and with two defenders injured and out of the game early in the second term, Leongatha displayed tenacity to beat Morwell in a thrilling contest, having tasted defeat against the Tigers in both encounters last season.

While the final margin was nine points, Morwell was in the hunt deep in the last term, Jenson Garnham booting a major after marking just prior to the final siren.

Cade Maskell impressed from the outset.

He rose to the challenge after experienced fellow backman Sean Westaway was forced out of the action with a first term hamstring injury, Mitch Bentveltzen, who was impressing in defence, hurting his knee not long into the second quarter.

Maskell continued to take crucial marks as Morwell drove the ball into attack, teammate

Tim Sauvarin's composure in defence, positivity and accurate passing helping get the Parrots out of danger and applying pressure to Morwell.

Ben Harding handled his injury-enforced shift into the backline with aplomb and Travis Nash was another helping contain Morwell.

A third-term shoulder injury to Tiger Zachary Anderson forced him from the ground and prevented him from having much impact when he returned to the field but Leongatha remained at a disadvantage in terms of rotation options.

The Parrots defied that adversity to dominate much of the final term and appeared in command when Zavier Lamers booted his first Senior goal for Leongatha to put it 14 points ahead at the 15-minute mark.

Brandon McDonald then

sparked the Tigers back into life, goaling from point-blank-range after a 50-metre penalty on the cusp of time on, and a Tom Gray major at the 27-minute mark ensured a nail-biting finish by cutting the Leongatha lead to just three points.

Morwell surged forward again but the Parrots held firm to force repeated ball ups just outside the Tigers' forward 50 arc, the physicality of Ben Willis proving important as he laid a tackle and worked hard in the ruck during the game's frantic final minutes.

A free kick to Lamers eventually allowed Leongatha to clear the danger zone, working its way forward for Garnham to finish the day in style.

While this scribe had Maskell as a clear best on ground, the TRFM radio crew saw it differently, bestowing that honour on his defensive sidekick Sauvarin,

but really all the Parrots deserve praise after a brave display.

"We did really well with having our two backs down and we just rallied together as a team and it was good team defence from all of us," Sauvarin said postgame when chatting on the radio.

It was his attack from halfback that caught the eyes of the commentary team.

Justin Pellicano's physicality up forward was an important element of the Parrots' win and he finished with three majors, including a terrific effort in the opening quarter when he punished an errant Morwell pass to kick Leongatha's second goal.

While Garnham had a reasonably quiet day, he matched Pellicano's goal tally, Tallin Brill managing a couple of majors.

The ball winning efforts and effective disposal of skipper Tom Marriott, Aaron Heppell and Nick

Argento saw that trio among the best Parrots.

McDonald and Gray each managed three goals for the beaten side, coach Boyd Bailey and Tyler Hillier both snavelling a couple.

Bailey won plenty of the footy to rate highly in the beaten side's best with only Harrison McColl and Josh Galea rated ahead of him.

While Anthony Rosato was another strong performer for the Tigers, Luke Bowman worked hard to contain his impact.

The win has Leongatha sitting third on the ladder, behind Moe and Wonthaggi on percentage, while Morwell tumbled to its third loss in a row after starting the season brightly with a couple of wins.

Leongatha faces another away challenge, a test it should pass against Warragul, the Gulls looking to bounce back after a couple of consecutive losses.

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