



SAN REMO PRIMARY CELEBRATES \$5.3M FOR MAJOR UPGRADES

San Remo Primary School have finally received their promised funding of \$5.3 million for the upgrade of their portables and grounds in this year's state budget. Full story on page 3.

STORM SURGE ALERT ISSUED

INVERLOCH has been included in a coastal hazard warning issued by the Bureau of Meteorology ahead of a long-anticipated convergence of a major storm and high tides.

The warning is for all parts of East Gippsland, South West, West and South Gippsland and Central Forecast Districts.

The bureau has warned of abnormally high tides which may lead to sea water flooding of low-lying areas along the Victorian coast including Bass Coast and South Gippsland.

Tides are likely to rise well above the normal high tide mark with the highest tides expected during the afternoon and evening high tides on Tuesday.

Whether the storm surge and high tides will be of sufficient strength to cause major damage is not known at this stage, but the

Inverloch Foreshore Action Group (IFAG) has renewed calls for immediate, transparent and decisive action to address the escalating erosion crisis along the Inverloch foreshore.

IFAG has urged the State Government to take responsibility for a lack of permanent protective measures on the Inverloch surf beach and the breakdown in meaningful community engagement.

The Inverloch community group says it is increasingly alarmed over the lack of real long-term, permanent solutions from the government to address foreshore erosion.

Local MP Jordan Crugnale acknowledged in recent communications to local residents that they have watched with alarm for the past 10 years.

"No one watches with alarm for 10 years,"

said Kim White, Chair of IFAG.

Regional and rural Victoria including Inverloch is being sacrificed for the much troubled Big Build according to IFAG and despite a \$3.3 million commitment from the former Federal Government more than three years ago to support on-ground works, no permanent works have yet been delivered.

The only monies expended so far have been on consultants according to IFAG and the only works delivered have been by Bass Coast Shire Council.

"We cannot get a clear answer on any financial question put forward," said IFAG.

The recent announcement of additional funds for erosion works funding has been equally nebulous according to IFAG.

Continued page 3

State Budget

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Emergency Services Levy

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Erin Patterson Trial

Page 16

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Storm surge alert issued for Inverloch

From page 1

Exact amounts for specific project works “are still being worked out”.

Equally concerning to the community is the continued failure of the State Government to deliver on promises of genuine and transparent community consultation.

“The original consultation process was widely regarded as inadequate, some would say contrived to reach a pre-determined result, lacking transparency and failing to reflect the depth of local knowledge and concern.

“Since then, multiple commitments to re-engage the community including in early 2025 and again in mid-May 2025 have not been honoured,” said Kim White.

The Action Group is also questioning the long-term effectiveness of proposed sand renourishment efforts citing local experience that has shown sand placed along the foreshore is rapidly washed away, offering little enduring protection.

“Without a comprehensive and engineering-led approach, the threat to public infrastructure and community assets will only intensify,” said Ms White.



Dan Smith on geotextile sandbags at the Inverloch surf beach as coastal areas are put on alert for abnormally high tides and possible storm surges. B55_2125

“The proposed 110,000 cubic metres of sand replacement is less than half of what the consulting groups estimate has been lost from the surf beach.”

“Clearly what is being proposed is inadequate, both now and certainly into the future,” Ms White said.

The Action Group is particularly troubled by ongoing reliance on the adapt and retreat policy which it believes places an unfair burden on the local community to accept

gradual loss of land and infrastructure without adequate government intervention.

The Inverloch Foreshore Action Group has called on the State Government to clarify the balance of the committed funds and release the money immediately, invest in lasting protective works based on sound coastal engineering advice, not the artificially constrained current version, and initiate genuine and transparent community consultation as promised.

“Inverloch residents remain ready to work with all levels of government to secure the future of their foreshore, but they need true leadership, not further delays and certainly no further political spin.”

The Victoria State Emergency Service and Life Saving Victoria has advised that over the next few days people should not walk, ride or drive through flood waters, stay away from beaches, tidal rivers and creeks, and if you have a boat or water craft, haul it out of the water if possible, or check the moorings are secure.

The bureau is predicting north-westerly winds for the local coast on Tuesday of 25km/h to 30 km/h increasing to 35 km/h before turning south-westerly at 25km/h to 30 km/h in the early afternoon.

Abnormally high tides will impact Inverloch and surrounding waters this week rising from 2.8 metres on Tuesday, May 27 at 11.30am to three metres on Thursday (1.30pm) and Friday (2.22pm) this week.

For more information on the latest storm warnings go to bom.gov.au/vic/warnings.

San Remo Primary celebrates \$5.3M for major upgrades

THE students at San Remo Primary School, along with their community of parents and teaching staff are celebrating \$5.3 million in funding from this year's state budget for a long-awaited redevelopment project. Principal Karen Bowker greeted the announcement with enthusiasm, commending the commitment of both students and the wider school community in advocating for these improvements.

“This is something our students and families truly deserve,” Ms Bowker remarked. “It's not just about bricks and mortar – it's about creating contemporary, quality learning environments that reflect 21st-century education.”

The comprehensive upgrade, which has now been fully designed and costed, will feature a new administration area, two modern classrooms, student restrooms, and a dedicated staff space.

This project aims to significantly change the campus layout, especially along Thomas Grove, where the current library and the existing Grade 5/6 building will be removed to make room for the new facilities.

To facilitate the construction, the current administration building and several classrooms will need to be temporarily relocated.

“There will be some initial rearrangements,” Ms Bowker explained. “We'll have to vacate the current admin building and relocate a few classrooms to accommodate the new Grade 5/6 learning space.”

Having completed all the design work and displayed it for community feedback since last year, the project is now ready for tendering. A final cost review will take place before contracts are finalised.

This upgrade holds special significance for the school's Grade 6 students, who wrote heartfelt letters to the Premier before the budget announcement, addressing the need for modern learning environments and expressing their desire to leave a legacy for their younger “prep buddies.”

“They wrote some remarkable things,” Ms Bowker shared.

“They conveyed that our school deserves facilities that support quality education and that our preps, their buddies, should have spaces that help them learn and thrive. They're so proud to know they played a role in making this happen.”

The redevelopment is also viewed as a benefit for the broader San Remo community. As the town experiences consistent growth, modern school facilities are becoming increasingly crucial for attracting new families.

“One of the first questions new families ask is about our buildings,” Ms Bowker noted. “Now we can confidently say that the upgrade is happening – and they will witness it unfold during their children's time here.”

Additionally, the government has announced they are increasing the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund to help families with a Health Care Card or concession card from January 1, 2026.

Off-duty fire officer swings into action as smoke billows through Wonthaggi CBD

QUICK thinking by off-duty fire officer Lieutenant Jamie Moresco quickly had a bin fire in a smouldering stack of cardboard well under control as smoke billowed from the carpark of Wonthaggi IGA on Monday afternoon.

With curious shoppers looking on and two cars parked within metres of the small blaze Lt Moresco grabbed a nearby hose and almost had the flames doused before two fire units from the Wonthaggi Fire Brigade arrived on the scene.

Firefighters moved quickly to declare the area safe.

The cause of the fire is still unknown.



RIGHT: Lieutenant Jamie Moresco contained a bin fire in cardboard waste threatening parked cars at the rear of Wonthaggi IGA.

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ADVERTISING DEADLINES

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

The South Gippsland Sentinel-Times is published on Tuesdays.
*Please note changes occur as a result of public holidays.

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

AC0757-V21

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TUE May 27	WED May 28	THUR May 29	FRI May 30	SAT May 31	SUN Jun 1
Showers.	Shower or two.	Shower or two.	Possible shower.	Partly cloudy.	Partly cloudy.
Wind AM: NW 25-30 km/h Wind PM: SW 25-30km/h	Wind AM: SW 25-35km/h Wind PM: SW 15-20km/h	Wind AM: SW 15-25km/h Wind PM: SW 15-25km/h	Wind AM: SW 15-20km/h Wind PM: SW 15-20km/h	Wind AM: Light Wind PM: Light	Wind AM: Light Wind PM: Light
8° 17°	9° 17°	9° 18°	10° 18°	9° 18°	6° 19°

IN BRIEF

Council watchers,
don't miss out in
South Gippsland

SOUTH Gippsland Shire Council's June meeting will now take place on Wednesday, June 18 at 2pm, having initially been scheduled for a week later. Councillors formalised that change at the May council meeting. Cr Sarah Gilligan explained the reason for the change of date. "Three of us are heading up to Canberra to advocate for our communities and attend the national gathering of local government, which meant three of us wouldn't have been here for a really important Budget and Plan passing," she said. Cr Nathan Hersey commented that the shift in date ties in with council's usual public meeting days on the third Wednesday of the month.

The Middle Korumburra
Hotel does it again

THE Middle Korumburra Hotel have done it again and celebrated taking home an award for 2025, presented at the Australian Hotels Association event at Crown last Monday night. The popular pub won the Best Non-alcoholic Beverage Menu and was a finalist in six other categories, including Chef of the year – Mark Smith, Emerging Leader of the Year – Paras Chopra, Best Casual Dining – Regional, Best Family Dining, Best Cocktail List of the Year and Best Outdoor Experience – Regional.

This year's award follows on from the hotel's success last year, where they won no less than three different awards: Best Parma, Overall Hotel of the Year, and Best Outdoor Experience.

The AHA State Awards for Excellence are Victoria's biggest and most prestigious hospitality awards of the year.

Awards are given to pubs and hotels that truly are a cut above the rest when it comes to top tier service and providing an exceptional customer experience.

A total of thirty-nine award categories celebrate Victoria's top pubs, hotels and venue staff.

Local health heroes
among finalists in
rural health awards

THE finalists for the 2025 Victorian Rural Health Awards have been announced. Among this year's outstanding nominees are Dr Hugh Chisholm of Leongatha Healthcare and Gippsland Southern Health Service and Dr Paul Cotton of Gippsland Southern Health Service (Leongatha and Korumburra campuses), who are finalists in the Outstanding Contribution by a Rural GP or Rural Generalist category. Dr Chisholm is also recognised in the Length of Service Award for his remarkable contribution to healthcare spanning over 35 years.

Foster's South Gippsland Hospital Allied Health Team is a finalist in the Outstanding Contribution by a Rural Multi-disciplinary Team category.

Mr Kevin James of Balance Health Phillip Island is a finalist in the Outstanding Contribution to Rural Allied Health category. The winners will be announced at a virtual awards ceremony on Thursday, June 19, from 6pm–7pm.

Slight mortgage relief
for homeowners

THE rate cut decision will deliver a "well-deserved boost" to Aussie homeowners who have carried the country over the inflation-busting threshold, according to Compare the Market's Economic Director, David Koch. The 0.25 per cent reduction will translate to \$106 in monthly repayment savings – more than \$1200 a year – for borrowers with an average loan of \$666,000, assuming banks pass on the discount.

Mr Koch said it was time for homeowners to be rewarded for bearing the brunt of the Reserve Bank's war on inflation.

More hooded plover
parents become
empty nesters

THE hard work to protect and monitor Victoria's hooded plovers by the Conservation Regulator, Parks Victoria and BirdLife Australia has continued, with 52 chicks fledged from the 133 breeding pairs monitored over the beach nesting season along our coast.

Survival of the chicks has been the focus of Operation Save our Hoodies (SoHo) over the past four years, supporting breeding hooded plovers with targeted education and enforcement patrols.

Virtual ED expansion
to take pressure off
the health system

THE State Government is expanding access to free health care with a permanent expansion to the Victorian Virtual Emergency Department.

Currently, the Virtual ED delivers care to more than 600 callers every day.

The Government's expansion of Australia's first-ever virtual emergency department means the service will support more than 1750 Victorians every day by 2028/29.

The expansion will also support more direct referrals from aged care, paramedics in the field, primary health networks, and Nurse on Call.

Road Policing Forum

POLICE will host a Road Policing Forum at Wonthaggi Town Hall on June 5, from 1pm to 3pm, which will be open to the public.

The forum will cover key topics such as road policing initiatives, local road trauma

statistics, and the main causes contributing to serious collisions in the area.

The forum will feature a panel from Victoria Police, supported by key stakeholders, and questions will be taken from the audience throughout the event. To attend, please register by sending your details to ED5-HWP-MGR@police.vic.gov.au.

Gippsland recyclers'
chance to win \$10,000

WIN A Million! Cents competition offers five lucky recyclers across the state a \$10,000 cash prize each for returning their empty drink containers through the scheme.

Running from May 5 to June 15, 2025, the competition automatically rewards customers with one entry for every 50 eligible containers they return in a single transaction, regardless of whether they keep the refund amount or donate it to one of the registered donation partners. The competition is open to Victorian residents only. Entry details, Terms and Conditions, and the entry form are available at winamillioncents.com.au. To learn more about CDS Vic and locate your nearest refund collection point, visit cdsvic.org.au.

Warreeny Ngulu
heads to Berninneit

"WARREENY Ngulu (Ocean Voice)", a compelling new exhibition by Millowl artist Steven Ulula Parker will open soon at Berninneit Art Gallery.

Everyone is welcome to attend the free opening on Saturday, May 31, 2025 from 4-6pm. The exhibition will showcase Parker's latest works, featuring a blend of paintings, traditional objects, and songline audio recordings that reflect his ceremonial and contemporary practices.

A descendant of the Boonwurrung, Yorta Yorta, and Erub peoples, Uncle Steve Parker is not only an accomplished artist but also a respected cultural educator and surfer.

Through "Warreeny Ngulu", Parker invites audiences to engage with the healing nature of Millowl, exploring themes that resonate deeply with his ancestral roots.

"People need to tune into their own murrnan marrup (body and spirit). The land has been walked on for thousands of years and the more you connect in a deeper way to Country, the more Country and the Ancestors will show you. I believe our songlines are still here, it's about bringing them back in this part of Country where they have been lost."

The exhibition opening event will commence with a traditional smoking ceremony.

Attendees are invited to immerse themselves in Parker's artistic journey, which embodies both tradition and innovation.

Rainbow shoutout to
LGBTQIA+ community

BASS Councillors reported on a busy month of meetings and community events at last week's Bass Coast Shire Council meeting.

Bass Coast Mayor Cr Rochelle Halstead hosted Session Four of the 45-member Community Panel, helping council to formulate its strategic plans for the next four years, while also attending an MAV Board Meeting and delegates induction session, a budget pop-up session at the Corinella and District Community Centre and the final Bass Coast Community Awards meeting.

Cr Matt Morgan gave a "big shoutout to Bass Coast's LGBTQIA+ community" after joining them for the IDAHOBIT event last week.

"It was fantastic to see the Bass Coast Breakers women's footy club take a win in their annual pride round match," said Cr Morgan.

He also attended a "fabulous" production of Xanadu by Newhaven College, spoke at a May Day rally in Wonthaggi, the 'Change for Sam' candlelight vigil highlighting violence against women and 'Just a Farmer' night focusing on mental health challenges for farmers.

Students encouraged
to have their say in
Parliament Prize

MEMBER for Gippsland South, Danny O'Brien is encouraging local students to get involved in the 2025 Parliament Prize competition, which gives young Victorians the chance to share their views on the issues that matter to them most.

"This is a fantastic opportunity for Gippsland South students to speak directly to Parliament as if they were an MP and highlight what's important to them in their community," Mr O'Brien said.

Now in its ninth year, the annual Parliament Prize invites Victorian students to submit a 90-second Member's Statement video answering the question: What would you say to Parliament if you were an MP?

The competition is open to students in three categories: Grades 5 and 6, Years 7-9 and Years 10-12. Cash prizes are awarded to both students and their schools.

Mr O'Brien said he strongly encourages students, teachers and parents across Gippsland South to get involved and showcase the voices of our next generation of leaders.

Entries close at 5pm, Friday, June 13, 2025. Full details, along with resources to help promote the competition, are available at vicparl.news/parl-prize.

"We've already heard from over 4500 students across Victoria in recent years and I look forward to seeing strong participation from Gippsland South this year."

Firefighters fired up to fight new fire levy

HUNDREDS of red fire trucks and yellow uniforms descended on Spring Street and parliament steps again last Tuesday morning in a continuing protest over the recently passed emergency services levy.

Firefighters from South Gippsland, many of whom are farmers as well as CFA volunteers, joined politicians, union members, business owners and members of the general public calling on the State Government to 'scrap the tax', which will see levy charges double or triple for some.

Mark Bourke has been a volunteer firefighter for nearly 45 years with Mirboo North, and he travelled to Melbourne on the Al-lambee tanker, alongside many other Gippsland volunteers.

"CFA under this particular government has gone downhill, and whilst we're there for the community they've really kicked us from pillar to post and they don't care," said Mark.

Mark applied for a new CFA station for Mirboo North over ten years ago, still with no result and now he is worried that regional crews will get even less.

"It's going to go and pay for Melbourne projects, not funding fire trucks and equipment as they say, but it's a tax on volunteers who are going and fighting fires. We're going to pay now to go and fight fires.

"For the townies, that's probably not so bad. For the farmers, it is going to break them, particularly in the drought that we're in and those farmers, a lot of those farmers are volunteers as well."

During the rally, Peter Mar-



Hundreds of firefighters turned out on the steps of parliament for the second week in a row to fight the new fire levy.

shall, Secretary of the United Firefighters Union addressed the crowd stating the State Government needs "to help the people that help protect you and your assets, and together we can make this a way more equitable solution to provide much needed emergency services".

Although Mark said he will continue to fight fires to protect the community, he will refuse to go to fires on public land, which he confirmed is also the consensus among many of the volunteers.

"I'm personally starting that from now, and bear in mind too, that most of the fires that do start on public land are the ones that end up getting out

(of control) and creating major bushfires. So, we'll still look after the private property, however, government, public land, that's a different kettle of fish."

According to Mark, more meetings among brigades will occur and protests will continue in the wake of this new levy.

"We'll continue until the election unless they withdraw the tax," he said.

"Even when a state election is called, if they haven't repealed it, we will go down to Melbourne and work alongside the United Firefighters Union to campaign against the government in marginal seats, or the crossbench members too, that voted for the tax."

Sister rallies were held in re-

gional towns across the state, with many Gippslanders turning up to Morwell to also protest locally.

The emergency services levy was originally forecast to raise an extra \$2.14 billion over the next three years to cover more emergency and disaster organisations rather than just the CFA and Fire Services Victoria.

Many of the CFA units vital to communities across Victoria have gone offline in protest, however, most South Gippsland units will continue to stay online to protect our communities.

A protest against the new levy is set for 1pm today (May 27) outside Jordan Crugnale MP office, 9 McBride Avenue, Wonthaggi.

State Budget fails to deliver for Gippsland

THE NATIONALS Member for Gippsland South Danny O'Brien says there is very little in the State Budget for Gippslanders despite claims from the State Government that this Budget tackles cost of living pressures for regional Victorians.

Mr O'Brien said he was disappointed to see Gippsland South largely overlooked again.

"I was relieved to see that the State Government has finally committed the \$11.7 million to Leongatha Secondary College that was promised back in 2022 but I'm disappointed for the students, families and staff at Sale College who have missed out on funding for its new consolidated campus once again," Mr O'Brien said.

"There is also no money yet again for Mirboo North Secondary which desperately needs to upgrade its sports stadium that is used by the whole community."

Mr O'Brien said he was also appalled to see that no funds were committed to the much-needed Stage 2 works of the Leongatha Heavy Vehicle Bypass or for new fire stations at Mirboo North and Foster.

"To see local families, particularly farming families, slugged with huge tax increases due to the new emergency services tax and then not even receive funding to replace unsafe, outdated fire stations beggars' belief."

"This is extremely disappointing for our regional communities that simply want a fair share."

Mr O'Brien highlighted that the Government's decision to offer free public transport for kids provides little for most families in Gippsland with little access to public transport.

Mr O'Brien said he did however find some solace in seeing that the State Government appears to have accepted that its disastrous "free camping" program is a complete failure.

"The Budget indicates that the free camping program will be replaced by a half-price camping program, hopefully ending the disastrous approach that left some of our most popular national park locations half empty due to 'ghost camping' and our local economies suffering as a result."

Mr O'Brien said while he was aware there are many local sporting clubs with huge wish lists, he extends his congratulations to the two local clubs that were successful in receiving funding from this Budget.

"Poowong-Loch Junior Football Club will be using its funds to purchase an electronic scoreboard while Nyora Football Netball Club will be installing new lights."

"These are well-deserving projects, and I am happy that these clubs have been successful in securing this commitment."

One Gippsland's welcomes budget boost but flags gaps

ONE Gippsland has acknowledged the Victorian Government's funding for road maintenance, schools and public transport in this week's State Budget as additional investment in Gippsland.

One Gippsland Chair Cr Nathan Hersey also acknowledged the significant State Government funding allocated in the budget to run more train services to Traralgon, maintain the San Remo bridge and open the Phillip Island Community Hospital to its first patients.

Cr Hersey said funding to fix

potholes and resurface roads, undertake capital works at local schools, and operate urgent care clinics, including one each in Baw Baw and Latrobe, was needed.

However, Cr Hersey said the lack of investment in critical road upgrades, skills and tertiary education, and tourism was disappointing.

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

supported," Cr Hersey said.

"For Gippsland to thrive, we need government investment in education, roads, ports, better digital and telecommunications and tourism."

"We understand the state's finances are under significant strain and we want to continue to work with the Victorian Government so that Gippsland's needs are front and centre of the government's investment decisions as our region supports Victoria through a once-in-a-generation energy transition."

"Our funding priorities focus on what Gippsland needs to ensure the energy transition is smooth and brings ongoing benefits to our communities, while also ensuring our region remains an attractive place to live, work and enjoy."

"We will continue to listen to the community and our member organisations about what is important to our region."

"We look forward to continuing to work with the Victorian Government to ensure our priority needs are realised," Cr Hersey concluded.

Danny O'BRIEN_{MP}
State Member for Gippsland South

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Myli team member Anneli with author Robyn Howarth will be presenting an author talk at Wonthaggi Library on Saturday, June 21.

What's on at your local library

THERE'S plenty happening at your local libraries in the coming weeks, with a variety of programs across the Bass Coast and South Gippsland regions. Here's a look at what's on!

At Wonthaggi Library, don't miss the author talk with Robyn Howarth on Saturday, June 21. Robyn's book *Faraday* shares the gripping true story of the 1972 school kidnapping that shocked the nation. The Art Expo by Headway Gippsland Inc. will also be on display from June 7 to 19, showcasing the creativity of local artists.

Inverloch Library is hosting a cosy Winter Warmer movie screening of *A Stitch in Time* in June. The Fluffy Book Club returns on Friday, May 30 with relaxed discussion and light-hearted reads.

At Phillip Island Library At Phillip Island Library, join us for Bloomsday — a celebration of James Joyce's iconic novel *Ulysses*, set entirely on June 16, 1904. Actor Maggie Millar will bring the text to life with a special reading from the book.

Foster Library will host an encore screening of the popular online Liane Moriarty author talk on Tuesday, June 3, with a cuppa and conversation. Seniors can learn about government-funded support at the Living at Home for Longer sessions in Leongatha and Korumburra on June 4, and Wonthaggi on June 11. Need a hand with your phone or tablet? Pop into Mirboo North Library on Thursday, May 29 for Device Advice and Afternoon Tea – friendly support and a cuppa included.

Libraries will also mark National Reconciliation Week (May 27 to June 3) with Storytimes and activities celebrating culture, history and connection. In June, select Myli libraries will join in the fun of Worldwide Knit in Public Day, a social celebration of all things yarn.

In addition to these events, Myli libraries continue to offer regular sessions such as StoryTime, Baby Rhyme Time and social groups each week. For more details and to book your spot, visit myli.org.au/events or drop into your local library.

53% rate hike for ESVF strikes at the heart of our farming community

By Bruce Wardley

BASS Coast Council has been put on notice that collections for the Emergency Services and Volunteers Fund (ESVF) will push up rates by \$5.52 million or 53 per cent across the shire.

The state-imposed levy will be passed on to Bass Coast homeowners, property investors and farmers through their next rates bill.

"My blood boils on this," said Bass Coast Councillor Meg Edwards.

"Over \$16 million out of our local economy is the direct impact of this tax, directly targeted at hurting our farmers most, not calculated on income, nor equity but on the rateable value of a property, with no full exemptions being offered.

"It is centralised control by the State Government with zero consultation, zero listening."

"To hide their hideous tax through council collection rather than doing their own dirty work is a cowardly act," said Cr Edwards.

"They are literally ripping the food out of farming families' mouths to buy votes in the city.

"It is salt into the wounds of those who sit at the end of early mornings and long days at farming tables.



Tax less, do less and get out of people's way said Bass Coast Shire Councillor Meg Edwards in a passionate attack on the State Government's ESVF. B06_2125

"It's about whether government should be in these spaces at all. Tax less, do less, get out of people's way. It is unfair, it is unjust, and we need to continue to advocate for it to be abolished."

ESFV fees are anticipated to be significantly higher than the current Fire Services Protection Levy (FSPL), particularly for Bass Coast farmers and will be calculated by applying a fixed charge that varies by property type and a variable charge based on property value.

Cr Jan Thompson predicted rates could go up by 150 per cent for farmers.

"A lot of CFA volunteers in the country are farmers and

we are taxing them to do something they already do for free," said Cr Thompson. "I don't call it a levy, it's an actual tax."

The ESVF has attracted significant criticism and concern from local government, farmers and peak bodies such as the Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) and Victorian Farmers Federation (VFF).

Levy collections in Bass Coast will increase from \$10.56 million to \$16.08 million annually, representing a \$5.52 million (53 per cent) increase.

Bass Coast farmers will pay an estimated \$0.955 million more in their rates equating to \$956 per farm or 50 per cent

more than the state-wide average of \$600.

Appalled by the levy Cr Tim O'Brien said more small business farmers would be swallowed up by larger agribusinesses.

"As costs rise, only the very large will survive. It changes schools, it changes communities," said Cr O'Brien.

"One less family, one less teacher in the school, it really is a thoughtless impost."

To date there has been no information on how much of the additional \$5.52 million collected locally will be returned to the Bass Coast Shire in the form of funding for emergency services, volunteer support, or infrastructure.

Cr Edwards said it was very clear the State Government was not listening to country Victorians and the stories she had been hearing from people firsthand were absolutely heartbreaking.

"This a callous act by a cold and cruel government, and we need to stand against it," said Cr Edwards.

According to Bass Coast Council the role of local government as a state tax collector is inefficient, burdensome and reputationally risky.

Read the full story at sgst.com.au

Cool your jets, Rochelle's not running for parliament, yet!

BASS Coast Mayor Cr Rochelle Halstead, a former Liberal Party candidate for the seat of Frankston in the 2006 state election, has been linked with a tilt at the Electorate of Bass, the most marginal seat in the State, at the 2026 Victorian Election.

Speaking to the Sentinel-Times, Cr Halstead said that while she wouldn't rule it out, she was loving her role as mayor.

"I've always said I wouldn't go for state, but Victoria is in real trouble with this government," Cr Halstead said this week.

"I feel strongly for the pain our farmers are being subjected to and the impacts of this new tax on all communities.

"They are treating regional Victoria and our CFA volunteers like fools and I have no doubt they will feel it at the polls.

"It's a tough one," she said in answer to a question if she would consider nominating.

"I love the role of mayor but I'd have to say I'm tempted but I am not a member of any

political party."

Speculation locally that Cr Halstead would be a candidate for the 2026 State Election follows comments she has made in recent weeks, critical of the State Government over the Emergency Services Levy, and encouraging people to attend last Tuesday's rally.

"Wake up Victorian Government! This is what you have caused! Disgraceful!" Cr Halstead while sharing a Drivetime interview with 3AW's Jacqui Felgate titled "Farmer breaks down on air detailing 'bloody hard' working conditions" in the days after the rally.

While promoting last week's Emergency Services Levy rally she also said: "You don't have to be a firefighter to be there. Our volunteers give every season to keep our communities safe. Now they're fighting for us again to scrap the unfair tax! Please make the trip to stand with them in solidarity! Victorians need to band together! Enough is enough!"

Cr Halstead said she feels

strongly about the impact of state policy on farmers and small business operators.

"My husband and I have been to hell and back with a small hospitality business. I also have dairy farmers in my family and I have seen firsthand the manipulations of this government on local communities through the local government sector," said Cr Halstead this week.

"Victorians, particularly in regional Victoria, have been ripped off and no matter who chooses to stand, we need change. This new tax and it is a tax, not a levy, will decimate our agricultural industry – our food producers for goodness' sake..."

"We've been fighting this for weeks. And as a Director with the MAV, I can tell you there is widespread anger across regional Victoria," she said suggesting we check out the MAV State Council Notices of Motions on the issue.

The consolidated motion, reads in part:

"That the MAV expresses the

local government sector's disappointment with State Government's approach to levy collection and implementation of the Emergency Services and Volunteers Fund (ESVF) and opposes Local Government being a collector on behalf of State Government, and calls on the Victorian Government that if Local Government is to administer the funding then (various measures need to be put in place)."

Cr Halstead has also been directly critical of Bass MP Jordan Crugnale in recent weeks, specifically around celebrating 15 years of the Small Business Bus initiative which has undertaken 3300 visits in Casey, Cardinia and Bass Coast alone.

"This does not help small business one bit. Sorry, Jordan but as a small business owner and a mayor representing many small businesses for Bass Coast, this does not cut it!" said Cr Halstead.

Will she be a candidate on Saturday, November 28, 2026?

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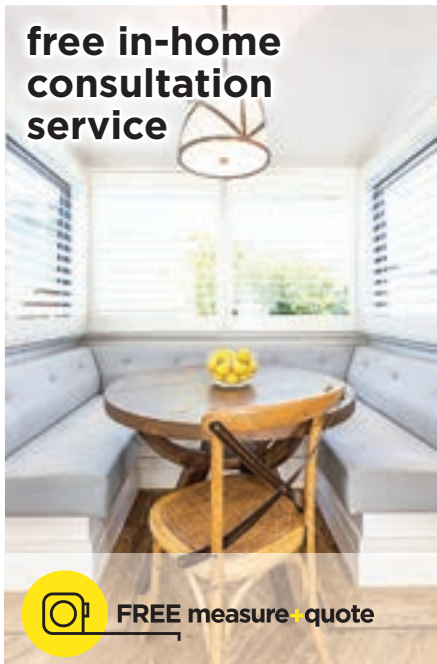
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Local landowners alarmed over proposed 43-tonne upgrade to Kernot Bridge

KERNOT farmers have warned Bass Coast Council of serious safety concerns over a plan to upgrade the Kernot Bridge on Stewart Road from its original 20-tonne load limit to 43 tonnes.

The Kernot Bridge over the Bass River has been closed for months since an articulated tanker lost control on the approach to the bridge causing the trailer to jackknife.

A petition containing 476 signatures was received by Bass Coast Council this month calling on the shire to urgently prioritise the repair and reopening of Kernot Bridge.

"The bolts on the bridge have been sheared off because of overweight vehicles going over the bridge," claimed landholder Janice Orchard.

Local farmers said the bridge's closure is having a significant impact on daily life, transport logistics, and access to essential services.

"Closure of the bridge adds an extra seven kilometres and 10 to 15 minutes travelling time on a round trip," said Ms Orchard.

Manager of the Kernot Store Leanne Hayes said she had noticed an increase in last minute cancellations of table bookings since the Kernot Bridge was closed.

"Stewart Road is the main access road to the Kernot Store," said Ms Hayes.

While welcoming Council's commitment to rebuilding the bridge local residents, farmers and landholders are unclear



Local residents Rob Parsons and Janice Orchard meeting with Bass Coast Shire Cr Jan Thompson want the load limit on Kernot Bridge restricted to 20 tonnes. B35_2125

why such a significant upgrade was being pursued when Stewart Road itself was not suitable for high-mass vehicles.

Meeting with local residents at the Kernot Store, Bass Coast councillors Cr Jan Thompson and Cr Meg Edwards acknowledged the concerns of locals over the safety of the bridge and the need to get traffic moving again.

Sympathising with local residents over the delay in re-opening the bridge and the time taken to traverse around Stewart Road, Cr Thompson said there was no easy solution.

Rob Parsons said the very real risk posed by large vehicles on this narrow, rural route was clearly demonstrated when the articulated tanker jack-knifed.

"We don't want trucks

coming down this road," said Mr Parsons.

Upgrading the bridge to 43-tonne capacity would significantly increase the cost of designing and constructing a replacement bridge, and delay access to Stewart Road at a time when funding was already uncertain.

Local CFA volunteers have expressed deep concern about upgrading the bridge to heavy load capacity warning of the potential danger of encountering large B-double and articulated trucks while responding to emergency callouts.

"Stewart Road is not designed for such vehicles," said Mr Parsons.

The prospect of navigating around heavy transports on a narrow road during the fire season or medical emergencies

puts both emergency crews and the public at risk.

Residents told Cr Thompson and Cr Edwards that if council proceeds with a 43-tonne upgrade to the bridge it must also consider the significant cost and works required to widen, strengthen, and upgrade Stewart Road particularly the sharp bend leading onto the bridge.

Local residents were particularly troubled by engineering work that was proceeding without genuine consultation and apparently against the express wishes of the local community.

Locals claim alternate routes already exist for large heavy vehicles via Loch-Kernot Road and Nyora - St Helier Road which were more appropriate for that purpose.

Replacing the Stewart Road Bridge at Kernot has been estimated to cost \$2 million.

Locals want the design process paused pending proper community consultation and have suggested a bar over the bridge to stop high tonnage vehicles continuing through.

"An upgraded bridge would require realignment of Stewart Road," they said.

"We don't want a Westgate Bridge.

"We want to ensure that restoring local connectivity as soon as possible, is not lost in the pursuit of an over-engineered solution.

"Every delay, every added cost, and every unconsulted change undermines that goal."

Planners unite for MAV conference

LAST Thursday and Friday, over 160 planning professionals, councillors, consultants and government advisers from across Victoria gathered at Silverwater Resort in San Remo to talk strategy, reform, and best practice in rural and regional planning as part of the 2025 Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) Rural and Regional Planning Conference.

In opening, Deputy Mayor Brett Tessari welcomed guests to Bass Coast.

"It's a real pleasure to welcome you all to beautiful Bass Coast for this year's MAV Rural and Regional Planning Conference," said Cr Tessari. "I hope the fresh coastal air and stunning views here at Silverwater Resort help set the tone for what promises to be an engaging and thought-provoking couple of days."

Cr Tessari went on to acknowledge having diverse voices from across the state as a valuable opportunity to share ideas and strengthen practice

"Planning is hard. Let's be honest, it's one of the most complex and challenging areas of local government," Cr Tessari continued. "Whether you're dealing with competing interests, navigating ever changing policy landscapes, or translating vision into built form, the work you do is vital and it's not easy."

After lunch, attendees joined a walking tour of Cowes to see the Activity Centre Plan ahead of upcoming streetscape works. The Cowes Streetscape project, which secured \$8 million from the Federal Government's Regional Precincts and Partnerships Program, was showcased by Jodi Kennedy, Ramsay Jurdi, and Austin Cram, highlighting its 10-year journey to transform Cowes into a more connected, welcoming, and accessible destination.

Bass Coast Shire Council noted they were "also proud to see our own Donna Taylor speak on the "Charting the Course" panel, tackling the planning reform process and sharing how Bass Coast and other Gippsland Councils are navigating shifting responsibilities and new pathways forward."

Barrithbarrith Gathering Place – First Nations Community Yarn

Please join us for a yarn about our project to help establish a Gathering Place for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community members living on the Bass Coast. This will be a safe place to have your say. Our independent consultants Karen and Wendy from Karen Milward Consulting Services will facilitate the conversation.

Karen and Wendy want to explore with you why a Gathering Place is important, what it could look like, what types of programs, services and events could be held there and where it should be located.

Who should come along? If you are a First Nations person currently living on the Bass Coast, we'd love to see you there.

We will be holding two sessions, so you have a choice to come along to the one that best suits you. Refreshments provided. Please let us know if you have any dietary requirements.

Thursday, May 29

4:00pm – 6:00pm

Venue:
Wonthaggi Town Hall Foyer
14 Baillieu Street East, Wonthaggi

RSVP:
[CommunityYarn29May](#)
by Friday, May 23

Saturday, May 31

10:00am – 1:00pm

Venue: Koala Conservation Centre
Gurrborra Bik Bik Room
1810 Phillip Island Road, Rhyll

RSVP:
[CommunityYarn31May](#)
by Monday, May 26

Enquiries: Karen Milward: kmilward9497@gmail.com: 0407 867 863
Deb Blaber: barrithbarrith@gmail.com: 0447 303 249
Bev Munro: brumby56@outlook.com: 0420 311 676

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Making parking central to the transport strategy

THE quiet revolution of pragmatism is continuing at the Bass Coast Shire Council.

At last week’s council meeting, Cr Ron Bauer took aim at the Bass Coast Shire’s futuristic Integrated Transport Strategy 2025–2045, helping to make sure it addresses the problems of transport today, including a lack of car parking, as much as the challenges of tomorrow.

“Unfortunately, we are not at the point like the Jetsons where you arrive at your destination and press a button and your car folds up into a briefcase,” said Cr Bauer.

Cr Bauer said he was constantly stopped in the street and asked when the shire was going to address the parking problem, which, while his main concern is transport problems and parking on Phillip Island, there were parking issues shire wide.

Cr Bauer successfully moved the following motion:

“That a report be prepared by council officers addressing the parking arrangements for the shire for both high season times and off-season times to be incorporated as part of the Integrated Transport Study (ITS).

“The report shall consider but not be limited to: (1.) Identify suitable council-owned sites where parking bays can be made available. (2.) That the cars with trailers usage at the various boat ramp car parks be reviewed for cars without trailers outside of the peak season and that the signage be altered accordingly. (3.) That streets outside of the main “CBD” of the main townships have measures put in place to stop illegal parking. (4.) That extra disability parking places to accommodate people with wheelchairs be made available.

There was some pushback from Cr Tracey Bell who said she wouldn’t like to see a two-storey carpark in the centre of town that efforts should be made to reduce the amount of traffic coming into tourist towns including Cowes by initiatives like trialling community buses during the holidays and making it safer for people to walk and ride into town.

“People do like the idea of parking at their accommodation and taking a leisurely walk into town rather than driving the car and we need to be making it safer for them to walk and ride,” said Cr Bell.

She said addressing alternative transport options aligned with the image of Bass Coast, and Phillip Island, in particular, being an eco-friendly destination.

Cr Meg Edwards said she believed addressing the parking issues and trialling community buses weren’t mutually exclusive initiatives and could both be addressed in the transport study which was presently in development.

While the vision of the ITS includes making Bass Coast’s key towns more “people centric places”, and developing a comprehensive walking and cycling network within and between townships, with less through traffic in the heart of townships, it is also prioritising better car parking management.

The draft report notes that while one in four people who use a car would prefer to use another mode of transport, the reality now is that 87 per cent of short trips in Bass Coast, under 2.5 kilometres, are still completed by car.

Cr Edwards challenged councillors and shire administrators who championed planning for alternative methods of transport to reflect on how they used transport and to “walk the talk” around reducing car usage.

Cr Bauer said he had tried to address Phillip Island’s parking problems unsuccessfully during the last council but could see the benefits of making parking a central feature of the Integrated Transport Study across the whole shire.

Interconnected pathway linking Bass Coast more than just a dream

ALMOST the entire Bass Coast region including San Remo, Anderson, Kilcunda and Wonthaggi will soon be connected to Phillip Island by a continuous off-road pathway stretching from Ventnor, Rhyll and Cowes to Inverloch.

Work is well underway on the Wonthaggi to Inverloch shared pathway and construction is about to start on the design and construction of a shared pathway on Guy Road.

Stages two and three of the Cowes to Rhyll trail are finished, a feasibility study has been completed for the Woolamai to Nyora bike path, and stages four and five of the Cowes to Rhyll trail are currently in the design phase.

The Wonthaggi to Inverloch pathway is costing \$3.7 million with the State Government’s Growing Suburbs Fund (GSF) contributing \$3 million, the design and construction of the Cowes to Ventnor path will cost council \$1.5 million out of a total cost of \$3 million, and the construction of stages four and five of the Cowes to Rhyll pathway \$0.7 million.

At this month’s Bass Coast Council meeting, Cr Mat Morgan described tracks and trails as his favourite kind of transport.

“It is really great to see these quite extensive plans in action,” said Cr Morgan.

As a Bunurong Ward Councillor Cr Morgan said he was absolutely thrilled that the Wonthaggi to Inverloch shared path is happening.

“I can’t wait to ride on it,” said Cr Morgan.

“I’ll be getting on my bike to rock up to council.”

Cr Meg Edwards asked about potential implications for the Wonthaggi to Nyora track.

Council was advised the



Bass Coast Shire Councillor Mat Morgan commended progress on the shared pathway between Wonthaggi and Inverloch while Cr Meg Edwards asked about implications for Wonthaggi to Nyora. B08_2125



Work is well underway on the Wonthaggi to Inverloch shared pathway.

tracks and trails plan did not provide any future allocation for the design or delivery of the Woolamai to Nyora shared path.

Bass Coast Shire has committed \$7 million over seven years to fund the dream of an interconnected shared pathway linking most of Bass Coast’s coastal townships.

The Wonthaggi to Inverloch trail project is progressing well according to contractors

and is scheduled to be completed as planned in the 2025-2026 financial year.

When completed the Wonthaggi to Inverloch pathway will connect to a much greater network of off-road shared pathways leading to the Gippsland Odyssey a 700 kilometre pathway linking Gippsland.

The shared Wonthaggi to Inverloch trail will consist of gravel and concrete footpaths including the widening and

replacement of existing concrete footpaths, boardwalks using mesh grating decking, fibre-reinforced plastic substructure and handrails where required, a pedestrian crossing with refuge island on Toorak Road in Inverloch, installation of bollards, rest area seats and signs, and plantings within the road reserve.

Funding has been secured for the design and construction of the Cowes to Ventnor shared path through the Active Transport Fund (ATF) with final designs due to be completed by next financial year (2025-2026) and construction completed in 2029.

Bass Coast Council and the Active Transport Fund will each contribute \$1 million towards the Cowes to Ventnor shared pathway.

Although supporting the tracks and trails progress report to Bass Coast Council Cr O’Brien was not sure there was strong community support.

“We need to look at how our roads are used,” said Cr O’Brien.

“Why are we perhaps not just making the roads safer?”

“I don’t believe roads are just for cars.

“I question the amount of money we are putting towards tracks and trails.”

The connected pathway network between Ventnor, Cowes and Rhyll and onwards to Wonthaggi and Inverloch is anticipated to enhance the liveability of local communities and benefit the health and wellbeing of visitors to Bass.

With a quick trip on the Phillip Island ferry Bass Coast’s network of trails and shared pathways will link to Stony Point on the Mornington Peninsula.

Piece by piece they’re bringing peace to Surf Beach

THE Bass Coast Shire Council’s decision to start the process of declaring a special charge scheme for a section of The Esplanade, Surf Beach, between Sunderland Bay Road and Batman Street, is nothing if not scientific.

The bottom line is council intends picking up the tab for 73.64 per cent of an estimated total cost of \$1.6 million to seal, drain and add footpaths in the area with council paying about \$1.2 million, an additional \$48,672 for drainage and leaving \$409,391 to be covered by the 17 property owners along The Esplanade.

The council is agreeing to pay such a hefty share of the cost because most of the traffic along this section is generated by those from outside the adjoining private properties and also because of the overall community benefit.

In peak periods of traffic, it is estimated that there are 406 vehicle trips per day along this section of which 83 are generated from properties within the proposed scheme boundaries.

In off-peak periods of traffic, it is estimated that there are 227 vehicle trips per day along this section of The Esplanade of which 111 are generated from properties within the proposed scheme boundaries.



Finally, some relief from the dust on The Esplanade at Surf Beach on Phillip Island is in sight.

Community benefit includes:

1. The use of The Esplanade for tourist traffic, accessing beach carparks and other properties in Surf Beach and Sunderland Bay.
 2. Cutting back on surface and stormwater discharge to outfalls
 3. Use of The Esplanade as an emergency route
 4. Reduced risk of sewerage overflows to the environment
 5. Benefit to uses of Phillip Island Nature Parks and DEECA-managed reserves
- Typically, the owners of the

properties to be included in the scheme will pay between \$20,000 and \$29,000 but with the owner of one of the properties up for between \$40,000 and \$53,000.

However, while there’s a reprieve for the owners of homes along this section of The Esplanade from the dustbowl conditions over the summer, and the mud of winter, not so the users of Surfies’ Point Carpark.

In answer to a question from Susie Wickes about whether council was going to seal the carpark as part of the construction the section between

Sunderland Bay Road and Batman Street, council said ‘no’ but left the door open.

“The carpark is not included as part of the scheme area. Council may consider sealing the carpark through its budget process in the future.”

Council plans to declare the scheme at its council meeting on September 17, 2025 council meeting.

Crs Ron Bauer and Tim O’Brien welcomed the initiative, Cr Bauer congratulating the shire’s administration on taking a section by section approach after the failure of the overall project.

“I think it’s really well done that these residents, according to reports, are looking forward to it and I hope it is then gradually rolled out across the whole estate,” said Cr Bauer.

Cr O’Brien said that by showing how the improvement would add to property values and the amenity of the area, he hoped it might convince those who had previously been holding out to join in.

How the awarding of such a high level of subsidy to property owners along The Esplanade affects other residents in the Surf Beach and Sunderland Bay estates, who might also like to see their roads sealed is yet to be seen.

Destination Gippsland and Destination Phillip Island to collaborate regardless

THE GIPPSLAND Tourism Forum brought together tourism professionals, business owners, and industry stakeholders from across the region last Tuesday, to talk about strategies for success.

The forum highlighted the importance of resilience, adaptability, and innovation in Gippsland's dynamic tourism landscape and encouraged operators to embrace change through a growth mindset, agile decision-making, and the strategic use of technology.

Terry Robinson, CEO of Destination Gippsland (DG) said talking to government and advocating for Gippsland businesses about what can impact visitor numbers, such as ghost camping, short stay accommodation levies, and investment into crown land infrastructure, is part of their role.

"Things that industry not only bring to us, but what we see happening, and government policy," he said.

The forum was held the same day the Victorian State budget was released, with free camping being rescinded – to the relief of many Gippsland tourism operators.

At the time Mr Robinson spoke with The Sentinel-Times, DG were waiting on the budget to be released, and he stated that funding would dictate how the organisation would go forward.

"Hopefully, they invest in tourism, they see the importance of tourism. That's probably the higher level matter, and then



Destination Gippsland board members Adam Vardy, Jan Fitzgerald, Michelle Nicholson with CEO Terry Robinson, who is happy for DG to continue to collaborate with Destination Phillip Island regardless of their position within the tourism sector. ob01_2125

we want them to be investing in nature-based assets. So, looking after the national parks, invest in Parks Victoria and invest in state forest trails and tracks and all the outdoor rec' stuff that makes Gippsland what it is."

The State Government subsequently stated that spending by international travellers in regional Victoria is at record levels and has since allocated \$11 million for regional tourism broadly.

Mr Robinson mentioned that DG would continue to work closely and collaboratively with Destination Phillip Island, regardless of where they align themselves in the industry.

"The relationship is really strong and we collaborate on a number of things like the Ken Hore Tourism Mentoring program, and so there's things that we work closely together on and we always have."

In 2024 three merger proposals were put forward to DPI by the Department of Jobs, Skills Industry and Regions (DJSIR) as part of a statewide reform of regional tourism promotion.

However, the Bass Coast Shire and Destination Phillip Island rejected all three options and want the government to consider supporting a fourth way given the significance of the visitor economy in the area, called 'One Bass Coast', effectively a standalone 'regional' tourism association with Bass Coast as its only member.

According to the State Government, Phillip Island doesn't warrant having a stand-alone regional tourism board and prior funding approvals could be rescinded.

As further discussions occur and the finer details of the budget emerge, it is yet unknown how Destination Phillip Island will be permitted to proceed.

"This is where, from a Destination Gippsland point of view we're waiting on what Bass Coast does, what Destination Phillip Island does and they're all waiting on what the State Government ultimately turns toward," said Mr Robinson.

"In the end, there's a lot of similarities and the relationships are in place, so it is frustrating that it's unclear what the future direction is, but we're hoping, the state budget will provide some direction and then we can plan accordingly and we'll just keep doing what we've done – talk and share things with Phillip Island – whether they come in with Gippsland, then we'll make that work, or if they go to Mornington or stay as Bass Coast, we'll make that work.

"Because in the end, there's all the government side of it, but then the industry and the businesses kind of choose to partner where they see the benefit."

ITA calls for action in council's animal plan

'PET friendly' is now one of the most commonly used search filters on accommodation booking platforms and the Inverloch Tourism Association (ITA) is urging Bass Coast Shire Council to recognise the economic, wellbeing and environmental opportunity in supporting dog-friendly tourism as part of its new Domestic Animal Management Plan (DAMP).

In its official submission to the council, ITA is advocating for stronger collaboration and targeted investment in Inverloch, where local businesses report a significant increase in visitors travelling with dogs.

Accommodation providers have seen growing demand for pet-friendly options, while cafes and eateries are receiving more requests for outdoor seating and dog-friendly menus.

"Dog owners are choosing destinations that welcome them – and their pets," ITA president Glenn Morris said.

"This isn't just a trend – it's an opportunity to build a more inclusive, sustainable tourism offering that supports our local economy and community wellbeing."

Key actions outlined in the ITA submission include:

- Delivering a long-promised fenced off-leash dog park in Inverloch.
 - Protecting existing off-leash and on-leash beach access for responsible dog walkers.
 - Partnering with ITA on strategic visitor communications, including a 'Dog-Friendly Inverloch' campaign.
 - Deploying seasonal ambassadors, focused on education and assistance to help visitors understand local regulations and respect sensitive wildlife areas.
- "Being with pets has proven benefits for mental health, physical activity and social connection," Glenn said.

"We want to ensure that Inverloch continues to be a welcoming destination while protecting the natural environment we all love."

Community members are encouraged to have their say by completing council's DAMP survey before it closes on June 9 via engage.basscoast.vic.gov.au/DAMP.

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South Gippsland Shire Council News

Winter Weed Management

As the colder weather returns, it's time to think about the challenge of managing invasive weeds which thrive in cooler temperatures and can spread quickly if not controlled.

These weeds not only harm local ecosystems but can threaten agriculture production by overcrowding native plants that are important for healthy farms. By using the right control methods, we can protect our valuable agricultural land and keep our environment healthy.

Weed species to look out for include:

- Gorse – a highly invasive, spiny, yellow flowered shrub that grows 1 to 3m tall.
- Broom species, such as Cape Broom - a highly invasive, yellow pea flowered shrub, that grows 3 to 5m tall.

- Wild Tobacco Tree – a highly invasive woody shrub, up to 4m tall with hairy leaves and blue flowers (toxic to livestock and humans if eaten in sufficient quantities).
- Inkweed – a shrub up to 2m tall, with purple/black berries that have a red juice (all parts of the plant are toxic).

Weeds can be controlled chemically (using herbicide), mechanically/manually (pulled out by hand if there are only a few small plants), and in some cases biologically.

An integrated long term weed control plan should be developed to ensure long term control of the target weed species.

Further weed information can be found on the South Gippsland Landcare Network website: www.sgln.net.au

Expression of Interest ArtCubes in Leongatha



South Gippsland Shire Council's trio of portable creative spaces, the ArtCubes, are coming to Leongatha from July 18 to October 29.

Throughout this time, Council is excited to offer month-long creative residencies for each ArtCube over three months. If you are a visual or sound artist, a performance artist, writer, photographer, or maker of any kind, we invite you to apply for an ArtCubes residency.

For more information, visit:

www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/leongatha_artcubes_eoi

COUNCIL MEETINGS

UPDATE: CHANGE OF MEETING DATE

The next Council Meeting will be held on Wednesday 18 June 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

RECONCILITATION WEEK

This week recognises National Reconciliation Week 2025.

This years theme 'Bridging Now to Next' reflects on the ongoing connection between past, present and future.

South Gippsland Shire Council will be hosting a flag raising ceremony and we welcome everyone to attend.

When: Thursday 29 May at 10.30am

Where: 9 Smith Street, Leongatha

To see details of other events happening in South Gippsland, visit:

www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/reconciliation_week

COMMUNITY IMMUNISATION SESSIONS

Protect your family and community through the free, government-funded National Immunisation Program.

Upcoming Community Immunisations Session:

When: Tuesday 3 June

Where: Korumburra

For more information on other sessions or to book, visit:

www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/immunisation

CONTACT US

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

www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au

Council and local Landcare Network strengthen relationship

WHILE a Memorandum of Understanding between South Gippsland Shire Council and South Gippsland Landcare Network was endorsed at Wednesday's council meeting, that only occurred by the narrowest of margins, Mayor John Schelling casting the deciding vote.

Councillors Sarah Gilligan, Bron Beach, Brad Snell and Clare Williams also supported the establishment of the MOU, with Cr Gilligan the most outspoken, arguing it is an opportunity for council to start doing better in partnering with community groups.

She highlighted the aim of protecting and enhancing the environment, stressing that it is outlined in Council's Vision and plans, and spoke of the willingness of the many members of the various landcare groups belonging to the Network to help council with its enormous weed and pest control responsibilities along the Great Southern Rail Trail.

Cr Gilligan argued the MOU is aligned to council's strategies.

"I do not see, when they're aligning everything they're planning on doing, and saying they're going to check it over with us, how this can suddenly be something we're feeling blindsided by," she said, in response to comments from other councillors.

Cr Scott Rae was the fiercest critic of the proposed arrangement, arguing the associated costs to council and ratepayers is an example of cost shifting from State Government, and expressing concerns about the impact on farmland that the partnership between council and South



Cr Scott Rae opposed South Gippsland Shire Council establishing a Memorandum of Understanding with South Gippsland Landcare Network but the MOU arrangement was narrowly approved by a vote of councillors. A05_2125

Gippsland Landcare Network would have.

Cr Nathan Hersey argued more details of the benefits of the arrangement are needed, she also voted against establishing the MOU at this stage, suggesting further discussions be held.

Councillors Steve Findlay and John Kennedy also opposed the MOU arrangement.

Cr Rae argued the \$50,000 a year budgeted towards the partnership between council and the local Landcare Network could be better spent on required sporting facilities, footpaths, roadside weed

management and other requirements.

Noting South Gippsland Shire's strong reliance on agriculture, he stated "I cannot see ratepayers' money funnelled to an organisation that has openly promoted and encouraged revegetation of farmland with no scope to ever farm that land again; this organisation enables this to happen and I can't support it."

"Landcare is a State and Federally funded organisation," he stressed, adding he can't back such a cost shift to ratepayers.

He argued the MOU won't improve on the existing partnership between council and South Gippsland Landcare Network, towards which council contributes \$5000 annually for Pedal and Plant activities.

Cr Hersey noted the motion before councillors was to determine the suitability of the proposed MOU arrangement, not to debate the value of Landcare, adding the organisation does great things for the community and contributes to the local area, but questioning the need for an MOU.

"Just as Landcare does great things in our community, so do a heap of other local groups, therefore, why is it that we're entering into a formal MOU with one organisation, yet not others?"

He said councillors had been told they would be presented with a business case demonstrating good return for investment in relation to the MOU agreement with the local Landcare Network, but that hasn't happened.

However, Cr Williams argued that establishing the MOU would build on council's existing relationship with the South Gippsland Landcare Network, praising its volunteers and the services they provide.

"I value our volunteers and we should be giving back to them," she said, explaining the \$50,000 annual amount would create certainty, enabling plans to be made and a budget to be prepared for the projects required, and can help take Landcare's already valuable activities to the next level.

Mayor's Message



Cr John Schelling



HELLO South Gippsland.

May Council Meeting

Last Wednesday, Council held its May Meeting, where we covered a range of important topics that reflect our ongoing commitment to the South Gippsland community and environment.

One of the key highlights was the endorsement of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the South Gippsland Landcare Network. This agreement formalises a long-standing and productive partnership that has already delivered management education programs and revegetation events.

By working together and sharing resources, Council and Landcare can continue to achieve good results as we care for South Gippsland's precious natural assets.

Naming of Poowong Roads

We also endorsed the proposed commemorative naming of two new roads in Poowong – Beckett Street and Horsley Street – for community consultation. These names were proposed in line with the *Geographic Place Names Act 1998* and the *Naming Rules for Places in Victoria*, reflecting principles of commemorative naming, gender equality, and strong historical ties to the Poowong community. Community feedback is open until Monday 23 June, and I encourage everyone to have their say. <https://yoursay.southgippsland.vic.gov.au>

ArtCubes are coming to Leongatha

In the arts space, the ArtCubes are on the move to Leongatha, and we're calling on local artists to bring their creativity to the Cubes. Expressions of Interest are now open for our local creatives to showcase and use the Cubes as their very own gallery/exhibition space. We're also inviting young emerging artists from South Gippsland to apply for a creative mentorship with internationally renowned artist TWOON – a fantastic opportunity to learn and grow under expert guidance.

Volunteer Week 2025

Last week, we proudly celebrated National Volunteer Week. It was heartening to see so many events and social media posts recognising the incredible contributions of our volunteers. On Wednesday, Council's external lighting was turned orange for WOW Day (Wear Orange Wednesday) – a national day of thanks to the thousands of SES volunteers who serve our communities. I extend my heartfelt gratitude to all emergency service volunteers for their dedication and service.

Parliamentary Inquiry

Finally, on Friday, Councillor Nathan Hersey and our CEO Tony Peterson, represented South Gippsland at the One Gippsland presentation during the public hearing into the supply of homes in regional Victoria. This is a vital issue for our region, and we're committed to advocating for sustainable and affordable housing solutions.

Drought Support

Finally, I was pleased to hear the news that the South Gippsland region has been included as an eligible area in the Victoria Government's new \$15.9 million drought support package. This support will be needed if the current dry conditions continue.

New dispute resolution procedure adopted for South Gippsland councillors

NIPPING disputes between councillors in the bud and minimising the cost and disruption of such disputes by preventing them from escalating and stopping them from becoming the subject of external arbitration, are among the aims of a new policy adopted by South Gippsland Shire Council.

Councillors voted to endorse the Internal Resolution Procedure at Wednesday's council meeting.

While council previously had a dispute resolution section included in the Councillor Code of Conduct, changes made late last year to the Local Government Act 2020 make it a requirement for councils to create and adopt an Internal Resolution Procedure, with that having to be done before the start of July this year.

The Internal Resolution Procedure outlines what needs to happen when dealing with alleged breaches of the Model Councillor Code of Conduct, the procedure being intended to provide both parties to a dispute with support, and resolve a dispute in a manner that enables councillors to move forward and maintain effective working relationships.

Importantly, it is noted the



Deputy Mayor Sarah Gilligan spoke in favour of South Gippsland Shire Council's newly adopted Internal Resolution Procedure, stating the dispute resolution approach it outlines has already proved effective.

new policy deals only with alleged breaches of the Model Councillor Code of Conduct and not any other disputes between councillors.

In South Gippsland Shire, the new Procedure outlines

three possible steps.

Discussion between councillors is the starting point, with a 'complainant councillor' encouraged to raise their issue directly with the 'respondent councillor'

in a respectful and courteous manner, either in person or in writing, should the complainant feel comfortable doing so.

If discussion between the councillors concerned fails to resolve the dispute, or a councillor doesn't feel comfortable communicating directly with another councillor, the second stage of the procedure is conciliation with the mayor.

Should the mayor be a party to the dispute or otherwise be unavailable to conduct the conciliation, the deputy mayor will do so unless also a party to the dispute in which case the parties can choose another councillor to take charge of the conciliation process.

If that also fails to resolve the dispute, the councillors involved can seek an external independent mediator to achieve that goal.

Deputy Mayor Sarah Gilligan described the approach of preventing disputes between councillors from escalating as "important".

"I've seen us put this into practice in terms of moving through the processes of dispute resolution and I'm happy to say it's never moved to any external resolution," the second-term councillor said.

Who's next?

By Daniel Prior, Partner, Prior Law

THERE comes a time in parent's life when all they seem to do is to be a taxi driver for kids activities.

My wife and I are well and truly in that space currently. Four kids, 11, 10, 8 and 6 – life on weeknights and weekends is one constant flurry of activity – often exchanging one kid for someone else's to take to the next activity.

Footy is a constant. Footy training for different kids on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday nights. Auskick on Saturday mornings. Club footy consumes most of Sunday.

I love it.

My son, 11, has had a footy in his hands since he could walk. The last two seasons he has had interrupted seasons because of injuries sustained off the footy field. Jumping off swings is always fun, but can sometimes lead to a broken arm, as he found out last year.

This year, I pleaded with him to take it easy with the horsing around. Let's try and have a season without off field injuries, I implored him. *The team needs its players to actually be able to play.*

So when he hobbled in a couple of weeks ago, I was, admittedly, not amused. A bag of frozen peas might have been the cure "in my day" but did nothing to mend his broken toe in 2025. The culprit? – a scooter trick gone awry.

As he walked around in his moonboot, we let the team know on one of the many Whatsapp chats on my phone that he won't be available on the weekend – or for another four weeks.

The persons I was most afraid to tell was the Coach and the Team Manager. For, whilst my son was just one of 22 players in the team – he was the 5th player that had broken a bone and was unavailable to play.

Who's the backup?

Sometimes sitting with clients it is necessary to run scenarios whereby most of their extended family has "kicked the bucket" (I can't stop using this phrase). But a lot of the time it will be the more mundane scenario where the person put in charge of a Will, or a Power of Attorney, can't do the job at the time they are required to.

Thinking about who is next in line is important and can save a huge amount of delay and heartache when the appointed person isn't up the task – through death or otherwise.

I have written before about thinking about insurance and wills generally, but before you have kicked the bucket, your power of attorney can have a massive impact. Often couples wish to appoint each other and no one else. This is ok, but what happens when they both aren't up to the task – who is going to look after everything then?

The State Trustees can always step in and assist people that are alive, don't have a power of attorney but can't make decisions anymore. But having the State Trustees manage your affairs can't be the primary game plan.

People can also apply to the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (VCAT) to be appointed as an administrator for someone's affairs – but this is onerous, delayed and also can't be the primary game plan.

So what is the game plan?

Well, if you were the Coach of my son's football team you would say: no climbing cricket nets, no slides when it is pouring rain and no scooter tricks whilst in bare feet (amongst other injury prone activities).

But if you are everyone else, the plan should be to appoint your powers of attorney and appoint a backup or two, or three. Behave as though you are going to make old bones and appoint people accordingly, because even if you have lost your marbles, part of you will still want a say in who's next.



The new rescue truck for Loch CFA Fire and Rescue comes with emission free stowage, battery operated tools, increased capacity for heavy vehicle response with a rescue work platform and increased ability to carry a full steep angle cache.

New state of the art rescue truck at Loch

A BRAND new rescue truck is now in the hands of Loch CFA Fire and Rescue and online, making it easier for the crew to continue responding to road accidents and rescues in the community.

Funded through the Transport Accident Commission (TAC), the new state-of-the-art rescue truck is worth about \$850,000.

Len Wyhoon, Captain of Loch CFA Fire and Rescue said while the old truck was still able to do the job, it was becoming outdated and unreliable.

The new truck is much more ergonomic, much more efficient, with stowage compartments that are more streamlined, Len explained.

"They're all excited (the crew)," he said.

"The classic point is that we don't want to have to use it, but we have already."

Additional features on the vehicle include emission free stowage, battery operated tools, increased

capacity for heavy vehicle response with a rescue work platform and increased ability to carry a full steep angle cache.

Len explained they no longer need to use a petrol powered generator, because of the battery operated tools, so it's much quieter now and the emergency lighting is also much brighter, creating improved working conditions.

The truck also has the capacity to carry a Mule Wheel as part of standard rescue stowage, which hasn't been available to them before.

"The SES in Victoria have been using them for a long time now, but we've never been able to use them because we haven't anywhere to carry it," explained Len.

"The purpose of that is for transporting patients in stretchers across rough terrain, such as paddocks and beaches."

The Mule Wheel will help to save crew members from difficult and awkward

manual handling of patients, creating safer physical conditions and less strain on their bodies.

The Loch brigade responds to hundreds of call-outs a year, over a large area, both fire and rescue, so the up-to-date equipment will enable the crew to continue providing a high-quality service to the community for a wide range of incidents.

Amidst the ongoing controversy with the emergency services and volunteers levy, Len said the crew will continue to stay online.

"We don't agree with the tax however, it's not as serious as we think for our members. However, we do have some members that are going to double their taxes on their farms which are going to go up significantly, but we decided that if we have an issue with it, we still need to serve the community as our number one priority, especially because we do rescue too – there's no one else around to do it."

PRIOR LAW

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Call (03) 5662 3401

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info@priorlaw.com.au
www.priorlaw.com.au

Have your say

Visit engage.basscoast.vic.gov.au to give your feedback on:

Draft Property Strategy 2025-29

Council's draft Property Strategy provides strategic direction for the management of its property portfolio for the long-term best interest of the community, whilst aligning to the Community Vision 2041. The Strategy identifies the four guiding principles, strategic guidance and objectives for the retention, acquisition, disposal, use and development of Council owned or managed property to achieve optimum financial and community benefit.

Cape Paterson Local Area Traffic Management

Council has developed a draft Local Area Traffic Management (LATM) Plan for Cape Paterson, focusing on road safety, walking, cycling, and parking. Your feedback from Stage 1 helped shape the draft plan, and now it's time for the final round of input.

If you have any questions please contact Council on 1300 BCOAST (226 278) or (03) 5671 2211.

After-hours pet emergency care

GIPPSLAND Pet Emergency (GPE) is proud to be providing after-hours veterinary care to the pets of Gippsland. Since opening our doors, we have been committed to delivering expert emergency care when it matters most.

Located in Warragul, GPE was established to address a critical gap in emergency veterinary services in the region, ensuring pets and their families have access to reliable, high-quality care during evenings, weekends, and public holidays.

For years, the veterinarians of West Gippsland have worked tirelessly to meet the needs of their communities, but the after-hours workload has been a growing challenge. GPE was founded to support these dedicated professionals while ensuring pets receive timely emergency treatment when their regular vet is unavailable.

Our clinic operates exclusively as an emergency service, open from Saturday 8am through Monday 8am, as well as on Public Holidays. During these hours, our skilled emergency vets and nurses are here to provide compassionate, expert care for a wide range of urgent medical needs, from trauma and acute illnesses to emergency surgeries.

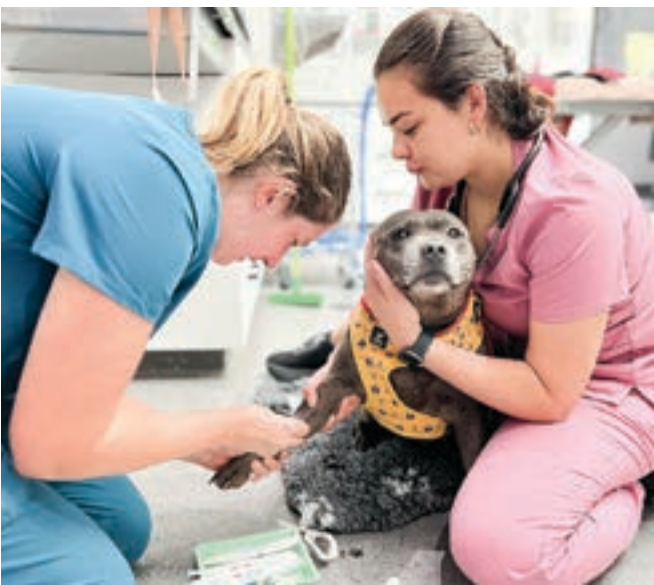
Equipped with state-of-the-art facilities and an experienced team, GPE is committed to making a difference in the lives of animals and their families. We work closely with your regular veterinarian to ensure a seamless transition of care once the immediate crisis has passed.

At Gippsland Pet Emergency, we believe that every pet deserves exceptional care, even when the unexpected happens. We are proud to be a trusted resource for the Gippsland community and look forward to continuing to serve pet owners in their time of need.

To learn more about our services, visit us at gippslandpetemergency.com.au, call 03 5623 4421, or visit our clinic at 1 Bona Vista Road, Warragul. When your pet faces an emergency, Gippsland Pet Emergency is ready to help.



Gippsland Pet Emergency's skilled veterinary team delivers expert care during critical moments.



Compassion meets expertise at Gippsland Pet Emergency.



A new mural depicting life in Poowong for the past 100 years now adorns the exterior of the Poowong Public Hall, with Stephen Halliday pictured, a member of the PCCC who assisted in organising the artworks. ob08_2125

New mural celebrates town's 150 years

A MURAL depicting the town of Poowong now adorns the external wall of the Poowong Public Hall in recognition of the town's 150th anniversary celebrations in 2024.

The mural is made up of three separate works.

The first is a depiction from a photo taken about 100 years ago of a farm scene, the second work is of the iconic Poowong Butter Factory about 50 years ago, when it was at its peak, and the third work represents the town of Poowong as it is today.

The first two works are based on photographs from the Poowong Historical Groups collection and the third is from a photo taken by local retired photographer, Paul Robinson.

The artworks were organised by the Poowong Community Consultative Committee (PCCC) for the towns celebrations, with two of the works being unveiled during the event in 2024.

"We just wanted a piece of

artwork to commemorate the celebration and we were looking for something that was reasonably durable too," said PCCC member Stephen Halliday.

"We thought of (painted) murals and things like that, but they are expensive and they also don't last too long, so hopefully we'll get a good lifespan out of these."

The PCCC were able to commission Beyond CNC to create the images using metal work, as well as powder coat them, through a private donation and a grant from the South Gippsland Shire Council.

Drouin Signs then mounted the works onto sturdy colour bond backgrounds and volunteers from Allchin Builders mounted the works to the exterior of the Hall.

The public can now see the works as they pass through Poowong – or stop to admire them – for another 100 years at least hopes the PCCC.

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2025

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Wonthaggi Medical Group expands with Icarus Skin Cancer Clinic



Icarus Skin Cancer Clinic manager Emily Yeilds, Dr Tom Solano and Wonthaggi Medical Group Practice Manager Gayle Bloch are excited to be welcoming patients into the new Wonthaggi clinic.



THE Wonthaggi Medical Group is expanding its healthcare offering with the opening of a dedicated skin cancer clinic – the sister clinic to the highly regarded Icarus Skin Cancer Clinic in Koo Wee Rup.

Opening on Monday, May 26, the new Wonthaggi-based clinic will offer the Bass Coast community expert, local access to vital skin checks and skin cancer treatments without the need for a referral.

Wonthaggi Medical Group Practice Manager Gayle Bloch says the decision to open the clinic had been in the works for some time, but the timing finally felt right.

“Skin cancer management is a big part of the care we provide, and we’ve seen an increase in the need for this service from our community,” she said.

“We’ve seen just how well Icarus is serving the Koo Wee Rup community and now feels like the right time to bring that same level of care and service to Wonthaggi.”

Dr Thomas Solano, a rural GP with a Masters in Skin Cancer Medicine from the University of Queensland, will be consulting at the new clinic three days a week. He brings with him a wealth of experience, having previously worked in various skin cancer clinics across Australia, and alongside dermatologists and plastic surgeons.

“I’m really excited to be part of the new Wonthaggi clinic,” Dr Solano said.

“We’re establishing it to operate exactly like Icarus in Koo Wee Rup – with a clear focus on skin, streamlined patient care, and a holistic view of skin cancer management and prevention.”

Australia has the highest rates of melanoma in the world, with two out of three Australians likely to develop

some form of skin cancer in their lifetime.

“Early detection is crucial,” Dr Solano explained.

“Regular skin checks with your doctor can save lives. Most melanomas actually appear as new lesions on the skin, not necessarily in areas with sun exposure.”

A typical skin check at the new clinic involves taking a medical history, assessing risk factors, and performing a thorough examination using a dermatoscope.

“It’s all about making patients feel safe, comfortable and informed. We’ll talk prevention, check the skin, and tailor a treatment plan if needed – whether surgical or non-surgical.”

Dr Solano encourages anyone over the age of 20 to start getting their skin checked regularly, even if they’ve never had skin cancer before. “It’s not just about a full-body check. If you have one mole or spot that you’re unsure about, our door is always open.”

Patients don’t need a referral to book a skin check – appointments can be made directly by phone or online.

Icarus Skin Cancer Clinic Manager and qualified nurse Emily Yeilds says having a dedicated clinic allows for faster diagnosis and treatment, as well as enhanced post-operative care.

“It provides the community with a facility focused solely on skin health,” she said.

“Our goal is better patient outcomes and shorter wait times for surgery. We’re also looking to expand the service with a dermal clinician who can offer laser and light therapies to improve skin health and appearance.

“Our mission is to ensure patients feel supported throughout their entire skin journey – from diagnosis through to recovery and ongoing care.”



ICARUS SKIN CANCER CLINIC

Wonthaggi branch NOW OPEN

(03) 5671 6439

www.icarusskincancerclinic.com.au

Side Entry, 42 Murray Street, Wonthaggi

Public notice of intention to declare a special charge for the purpose of constructing and improving roads and drainage along The Esplanade (Sunderland Bay Road to Batman Street), Surf Beach



In accordance with a resolution of Bass Coast Shire Council (Council) made at the 21 May 2025 Council Meeting, notice is given that at the 17 September 2025 Council Meeting, Council proposes to declare a Special Charge (Special Charge) under section 163(1) of the Local Government Act 1989 (Act), and otherwise according to law, for the purpose of defraying costs and expenses incurred and/or to be incurred by Council in relation to the construction and improvement of roads and drainage along The Esplanade (Sunderland Bay Road to Batman Street), Surf Beach situated within the municipal district of the Council (Street), such works involving the full upgrade of roads and drainage, including the provision of road pavement and sealing works, the provision of underground surface and storm water drainage in the Street, the provision of kerb and channelling, nature strip works, road narrowings for local traffic management, a pedestrian pathway and other ancillary works necessary to complete the construction of the project known as the 'The Esplanade (Sunderland Bay Road to Batman Street) Special Charge Scheme' otherwise in accordance with the concept plans approved by Council at the 21 May 2025 Council Meeting (Scheme). So far as can be reasonably ascertained from available records of the Council and can reasonably be concluded, Council has ascertained that the roads or any component of the roads for which it is proposed the Special Charge will be declared have not previously been constructed by way of a special rate or charge.

The criteria which form the basis of the Special Charge are the ownership of rateable land in the Scheme area based on equally sharing the costs of some portions, front or side boundaries of the properties in the Scheme (modified where appropriate) for some portions and the area of the properties in the scheme (discounted where appropriate) for some portions which abut the roads to be constructed or upgraded and which rateable land is situated within the geographical area of the proposed declaration are included.

Council considers that each rateable property included in the Scheme area that is liable to pay the Special Charge will receive a special benefit through the provision of proper, safe and suitable roads, drainage and property services; and there will be a special benefit to the persons liable to pay the Special Charge because there will be a benefit over and above, or greater than, the benefit to persons who are not subject to the Special Charge and, directly and indirectly, the works to be provided will enhance or maintain the value and the use, occupation and enjoyment of the properties included in the Scheme, through the provision of proper, safe and suitable roads and drainage and property services.

In proposing the declaration of the Special Charge, Council is performing functions and exercising powers in relation to the peace, order and good government of the municipal district of the Council, in particular the provision of proper, safe and suitable roads, drainage and property services in the area for which it is proposed the Special Charge will be declared.

The total cost of the performance of the functions and the exercise of the powers referable to the Scheme (and the amount which the Council intends to declare and levy) is an amount of \$1,553,076 (being the estimated cost of the Scheme works to be undertaken) with Council intending to declare and levy by way of the Special Charge an amount of \$409,391, but excluding other related costs (which will be borne solely by Council) totalling \$48,672 for the contribution towards footpaths.

The Special Charge will commence on and from the making of any Council decision to declare the Special Charge and will remain in force until such time as the Special Charge has been paid in full.

The Special Charge will be declared and assessed in accordance with the amounts which have been calculated and appear alongside each property in the Schedule attached to and forming a part of the proposed declaration of Special Charge (being Schedule 2), such amounts having been calculated based on both a road component cost and a drainage component cost as referable to a combined method of sharing some costs equally and to the length of the frontage and/or sideage of each property included in the Scheme (for the road component) and the area of each property included in the Scheme (for the drainage component).

The Special Charge will be levied by Council sending a notice of levy to the persons who are liable to pay the Special Charge. Incentives will be given for payment before the due date for payment as set out below. The levy notice to be sent will include four options for payment which are as follows –

- (a) Payment Option 1: Lump Sum Payment – upfront payment of the Special Charge in full within 30 days of the date of issue of an invoice, with a 5% discount and no interest.
- (b) Payment Option 2: Lump Sum Payment – upfront payment of the Special Charge in full within 90 days of issue of an invoice, with no discount and no interest.
- (c) Payment Option 3: Instalment Payment Plan – payment of the Special Charge in 40 quarterly instalments over 10 years, with interest. Interest will be charged on the reducing balance of the principal each quarter at the rate of 1% above the estimated borrowing costs of the Council. If a ratepayer is late with payment of an instalment, penalty interest will be charged on the balance of principal due each quarter.
- (d) Payment Option 4: Instalment Payment Plan – payment of the Special Charge in 80 quarterly instalments over 20 years, with interest. Interest will be charged on the reducing balance of the principal each quarter at the rate of 1% above the estimated borrowing costs of the Council. If a ratepayer is late with payment of an instalment, penalty interest will be charged on the balance of principal due each quarter. This option is subject to Council assessing the property owner as experiencing financial hardship, in accordance with Council's Hardship and Financial Hardship Policy.

Ratepayers who elect to pay by instalments will receive subsequent quarterly instalment notices.

Because the performance of the functions and exercise of the powers in respect of which the Special Charge is to be declared and levied relates substantially to capital works, the Special Charge will be levied on the basis of an instalment plan being available to ratepayers (being the 'Payment Option 3: Instalment Payment Plan' or the 'Payment Option 4: Instalment Payment Plan'). Quarterly instalments will include a component for reasonable interest costs, which will be charged at the rate of 1% above the estimated borrowing costs of Council in respect of the construction of the roads and the provision of the drainage works by more than 1%.

Council will consider cases of financial and other hardship and may negotiate other payment options for the Special Charge, in accordance with the Council's Hardship and Financial Hardship Policy.

For the purposes of having determined the total amount of the Special Charge to be levied under the Scheme, the Council considers and formally determines for the purposes of sections 163(2)(a), (2A) and (2B) of the Act (and in accordance with the Benefit Ratio Statement adopted by Council) that the estimated proportion of the total benefits of the Scheme to which the performance of the functions and exercise of powers relate (including all special benefits and community benefits) that will accrue as special benefits to all of the persons who are liable to pay the Special Charge is in a ratio of 0.2636 or 26.36%.

Any declaration of the Special Charge will expire if the Special Charge is not levied to each person liable to pay it within 12 months after the day on which the declaration which relates to the Special Charge is made.

Copies of the proposed declaration of Special Charge, a detailed plan of the Scheme area, a list of the rateable properties included in the Scheme and the amount of the Special Charge payable by each property included in the Scheme are available for inspection at the offices of Bass Coast Shire Council, 76 McBride Avenue, Wonthaggi during normal business hours and on the internet website of Council until 5pm on 16 July 2025.

Any person may make a submission about the proposed declaration to the Council under sections 163A and 223 of the Act. In addition, any person who will be required to pay the Special Charge to be imposed by the proposed declaration has a right to object to the proposed declaration under section 163B of the Act. Submissions and/or objections must be received by the Council by 5pm on 16 July 2025. Submissions and/or objections must be in writing and addressed and sent by mail to the Chief Executive Officer, Bass Coast Shire Council, PO Box 118, Wonthaggi VIC 3995. In accordance with sections 163A, 163B and 223 of the Act, Council will consider all written submissions and take into account all objections that are received by the closing date.

Any person who has made a submission under section 223 of the Act may request to be heard in support of their written submission. If such a request is made, the person is entitled to appear in person or to be represented by a person specified in the submission before a Committee appointed by Council to hear submissions under section 223 of the Act. The day, time and place of the Committee hearing will be advised in writing.

Council will treat all submissions and objections received (and any personal information contained therein) in accordance with its Privacy Policy and with applicable legislation, including the Privacy and Data Protection Act 2014.

Any person requiring further information about the proposed declaration of Special Charge should contact Council's Sustainable Transport and Movement Team on 1300 BCOAST (226 278) or (03) 5671 2211 or email roadupgrades@basscoast.vic.gov.au.

Greg Box
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Described husband’s behaviour as ‘unconscionable’

ON DAY 16 of the Erin Patterson murder trial in the Supreme Court in Morwell on Thursday last week, the depth of the breakdown in Ms Patterson’s relationship with her husband Simon and his family was revealed in a series of Facebook messages early in December 2022.

This was seven months prior to Erin Patterson hosting a family lunch on Saturday, July 29, 2023, where a meal of poisonous Beef Wellington was served to Simon’s parents Don and Gail Patterson and Gail’s sister Heather Wilkinson and her husband Ian.

Three of them died as a result of eating the meal which contained death cap mushrooms while Ian Wilkinson recovered after 54 days in hospital.

During the evidence provided to the court on Thursday, May 22 by Shamen Fox-Henry, a senior digital forensic officer with the Victoria Police, some excerpts from the contents of a Samsung mobile phone, seized from Erin Patterson’s Leongatha home on Saturday, August 5, 2023 were presented to the court.

The alleged exchange between Erin Patterson on December 6 and 7, 2022 via Facebook Messenger, under her social media name of ‘Erin Erin Erin’, with several of her friends, some of whom have previously appeared in the witness box as Facebook friends of Mrs Patterson’s, reveal her frustration with Simon and his parents Gail and Don Patterson.

“Simon’s dad contacted me this morning to say that he and Gail had tried to talk to Simon about the matters I raised and to get his side, but he refused to talk about it other than to signal he disagreed with what I said. Beyond that he won’t talk about it. So, Don said they can’t adjudicate if they don’t know both sides and Simon won’t give his side,” Erin Patterson is alleged to have said during an exchange on Tuesday morning, December 6, 2022.

“So, he said all that he can ask is that Simon and I get together to pray for the children. This family, I swear to fucking God,” said Erin Erin Erin.

The exchange with her Facebook Messenger friends continued in a similar vein, Erin Patterson describing her husband’s behaviour as being “unconscionable” for wanting her to withdraw her child support claim, also going on to discuss issues about where the children went to school and who paid the bill.

“Maybe it’s easier if he’s not involved in even paying their school fees. It means I can choose their school all by myself and don’t have to refer to him.”

Erin said she was “sick of this shit” and wanted nothing more to do with Simon or his parents.

Next, the forensic analysis of a Samsung tablet, seized by police from the accused’s home on August 5, 2023, was probed by counsel for the prosecution Jane Warren.

The focus of her questions to Mr Fox-Henry was a report on the images taken from the tablet which included shots of a dehydrator, mushrooms on a set of digital scales (dated April 30, 2023), information about ovarian cancer (May 10, 2023) and more images of mushrooms and cancer details.

A third device, a second Samsung mobile phone, provided to police on August 5 by Erin Patterson yielded little.

Mr Fox-Henry revealed that no user data was extracted from the phone however it retained records of four factory resets, on February 12, on August 2, and August 5 in 2023 all wiped locally by the user and a fourth factory reset on August 7, 2023 wiped remotely by user.

Colin Mandy SC cross-examined Mr Fox-Henry about his evidence on Monday this week.

He put it to the witness that despite being factory reset, there was no indication that the phone retained any data, other than the factory reset record, Mr Fox-Henry agreed.

It has also been alleged by prosecution that the accused’s primary mobile phone, which she was allegedly still using during the time a search warrant was executed at her home on August 5, 2023, was never recovered.

How the Austin Hospital tried to save them

By Michael Giles

MEDICAL details surrounding the deaths of three Korumburra family members, and the miraculous survival of a fourth, were publicly aired for the first time last Friday, May 23.

Under normal circumstances, the general community would never hear such intensely private matters.

These, however, are not normal circumstances.

All relevant events leading up to the deaths of retired Korumburra high school teacher Don Patterson and his wife Gail, formerly an office administrator at the school, and Gail’s sister Heather Wilkinson, who taught English to adult migrants locally, are being made public, including medical records, as part of the triple murder trial in the Supreme Court in Morwell.

The three family members and Heather Wilkinson’s husband Ian all fell ill after eating a meal which included death cap mushrooms at Leongatha on July 29, 2023.

On Day 18 last Friday of the trial, the court heard from Associate Professor Dr Stephen Warrillow, the director of intensive care at Austin Health.

He was responding to questions about the clinical presentation and care of four patients; Don and Gail Patterson, and Heather and Ian Wilkinson, who were treated at the Austin Hospital in July and August 2023.

Don Patterson was the first to arrive, then Gail, then Heather and finally Ian.

Don arrived at the Austin Hospital on Monday, July 31, 2023 at 2.30pm by ambulance from Dandenong. He had displayed acute onset vomiting with hematemesis, that is vomit with blood, and profuse bloody diarrhoea from the previous Saturday evening, before being diagnosed with acute liver failure after transfer from Korumburra Hospital to Dandenong.

By the time he arrived at the Austin, Professor Warrillow said Mr Patterson was critically ill and in multiple organ failure, with extremely high measurements of substances in the blood consistent with massive liver injury, grossly abnormal blood clotting and a range of other abnormalities.

He was in an induced coma with a life support ventilation tube down into his windpipe while receiving medication to assist his comfort.

The next to arrive at the Austin was Gail Patterson. She arrived at 8pm, also on July 31.

“She was also critically ill and in multiple organ failure,” according to Dr Warrillow.

She was intubated and receiving a number of treatments similar to those being received by her husband Don.

Heather Wilkinson arrived at the Austin next, on Tuesday, August 1, 2023 at about 1.30pm. She was also critically ill in a state of multiple organ failure and being in-



The only person to survive the meal containing death cap mushrooms at Erin Patterson’s Leongatha home on July 29, 2023, besides Mrs Patterson herself, Ian Wilkinson, right, leaves the court in Morwell last week where he endured a detailed account of his wife Heather’s illness and death and of his friends Don and Gail Patterson, as well as how close he also came to dying. Erin Patterson’s murder trial continues in Morwell on this week. Mrs Patterson has pleaded not guilty to all charges.

tubated. She was receiving a number of therapies, like the others, to target the amanita poisoning from the death cap mushrooms she had ingested including silibinin and multidosed activated charcoal but due to the rapid progression of her multiple organ failure she was considered too unwell to undergo the complex and extensive surgery required for a liver transplant.

Ian Wilkinson also arrived at the Austin Hospital on August 1 at 4.25pm.

At Dandenong Hospital it became apparent that he too had acute liver failure and was therefore transferred to the Austin which hosts the State Liver Transplant service and has experience treating patients with amanita mushroom poisoning.

“He was already intubated and on mechanical ventilation and he was critically ill with acute liver failure,” said Dr Warrillow.

Among the treatments that they received were multi-doses of activated charcoal and also intravenous silibinin, a specific antidote to amanita mushroom poisoning.

As explained by Professor Warrillow, a feature of death cap mushroom poisoning is that the toxins can continue to circulate in the body.

“Once the amanita poison is within the body, unfortunately, the body tends to recycle it internally, and that can actually cause persisting injury to the liver,” he said.

He said they use activated charcoal in an attempt to remove the amanita poison from the bowel and have it excreted from the body to interrupt the recycling process.

Despite the very intense treatments Don was receiving in the ICU at the Austin, by August 1, he was getting worse, according to Dr Warrillow.

“Really the measures that we were observing, both clinically and on investigations were moving in the wrong direction. We were very, very worried about his progress.”

They added plasma exchange and Vitamin C but the following day his condition was worsening, with his circulation in particular increasingly compromised and requiring further support, with the normal function of the bowel also ceasing.

By Friday, August 4 there appeared only one course of action.

“After extensive consultation with a range of senior specialists, it was thought that the only possibility of saving his life was through a liver transplant,” said Dr Warrillow.

However, after the transplant, Don got relentlessly worse and he ultimately passed away at 11.30pm on Saturday, August 5 due to refractory multiple organ failure secondary to acute liver failure, due to clinically diagnosed amanita mushroom poisoning.

The day after her arrival at the Austin Hospital, Gail’s health was rapidly deteriorating with her organs essentially shutting down and her body in a state of advanced shock.

By August 2, according to Dr Warrillow, she remained extremely unwell, to the point that from a clinical perspective, her liver essentially was not working at all. She was considered too unwell for a liver transplant.

An abdominal X-ray revealed she was likely suffering from gut ischemia which Dr Warrillow said was an extremely grave prognosis essentially meaning the blood supply to the bowel had stopped flowing.

Gail Patterson passed away at 5.55pm on August 4, 2023.

Heather Wilkinson’s condition followed a similar path to her sister Gail’s but declined more rapidly. She was also ruled out of a liver transplant, and despite a broad range of therapies, Heather died at 2.05am, earlier on the same day, August 4, 2023.

These must have been hard reports for Ian Wilkinson to

hear, seated in the public gallery in Court Room 4.

Mr Wilkinson was also extremely unwell by August 2, and worse on August 3 when his circulation required considerably more support, and August 4 when he developed an abnormal heart rhythm.

“We were worried there might be an evolving intra-abdominal catastrophe such as ischemic bowel and a laparotomy was undertaken to assess for that,” said the doctor.

No significant bowel problem was found and over the next few days, the 5th, the 6th, the 7th of August, there was slow but important improvement, according to Dr Warrillow.

“It was very slow because he was coming from a situation of extreme critical illness, but he did slightly improve over that time.”

Ultimately, the breathing tube was removed on August 14 and Ian Wilkinson was discharged from ICU at the Austin on August 21 and moved to the rehabilitation ward at Heidelberg Repatriation Hospital on September 11.

“How close did Ian Wilkinson come to dying?” asked counsel for the prosecution, Sarah Lenthall.

“We thought he was going to die. He was very close,” said Professor Warrillow.

Ms Lenthall also asked Dr Warrillow about the clinical diagnosis of amanita mushroom poisoning, other than the reports the four patients had all eaten the same meal of mushrooms.

He said that while there was no test in clinical practice that specifically identified amanita toxin, the symptoms were highly consistent.

“From the time of initial ingestion, there’s a period between that point and the later development of gastrointestinal symptoms such as severe diarrhoea and often very severe diarrhoea, sometimes with blood in it and vomiting.

“That can persist for a period of time, many hours often, followed by what may feel like some improvement for the patient, then, after that, over a relentlessly progressive and quite frightening rapid deterioration into multiple organ failure,” he said with a very high risk of dying.

Even with optimal care, there is a high rate of mortality, referring to the patients admitted to ICU at the Austin.

The defence had no questions for Professor Warrillow.

The four patients, three of whom died and one very close to dying, all fell ill after eating a meal of Beef Wellington and death cap mushrooms at Erin Patterson’s Leongatha home on Saturday, July 29.

Erin Patterson has been charged with three counts of murder and one of attempted murder as a result. She has pleaded not guilty to all changes, maintaining that what happened on the day was a tragedy and a terrible accident.

The trial continues into its fifth week at Morwell this week.

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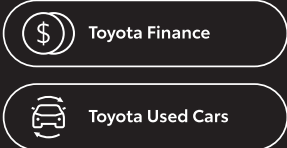


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OH WHAT A FEELING

* 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.

Gippsland to be included in 2026 HILDA report

GIPPSLAND is to be included in the University of Melbourne Household, Income and Labour Dynamics in Australia (HILDA) reports on economic and personal wellbeing, jobs and family life.

Selected Gippsland families will be interviewed from July through to October in 2025 by field workers on behalf of the University of Melbourne's Institute of Applied Economic and Social Research.

The annual HILDA survey allows researchers to analyse how families, incomes, and other aspects of life change over time as well as exploring how different factors contribute to household wealth.

A select group of Gippsland families will join 20,000 Australians in 9000 households to be studied all through their lives, in a longitudinal study similar to Granada Television's popular documentary series Seven Up.

Seven Up followed the lives of a group of English boys and girls from when they were seven years old, returning every seven years year after year for an update on their lives.

The HILDA Survey collects information on a wide range of aspects of life including household and family relationships, childcare, employment, education, income, expenditure, health and wellbeing, attitudes and values, and various life events and experiences.

The most recent HILDA survey revealed inequality in Australia was at its highest level since the survey began particularly for single parents.

Single-parent families were found to be significantly more likely to experience poverty (25 per cent) and most likely to suffer from poor mental health.

Earlier this year HILDA researchers found economic inequality had reached a 20-year high with more than half (51.2 per cent) of survey respondents reporting that their real income had decreased.

The report found higher incomes had grown faster relative to middle and lower incomes driving up inequality and making it harder for poorer Australians to earn more.

Gippsland men will now be included in the survey which in 2025 found males are not doing any more housework than they were 20 years ago.

On average men were found to be spending 30 minutes a week caring for children or loved ones (5.5 hours a week) while women were spending twice that amount of time (10.7 hours a week) caring for others.

"We found that women take over a greater share of housework and care than their male partner in almost every employment scenario," said report author Dr Inga Lass.

"Most women feel that they do more than their fair share at home."

The risk of problem gambling is increasing according to HILDA researchers with 12.9 per cent of surveyed men being classified as 'at-risk' gamblers.

The proportion of men involved in sports betting was shown to have increased by 66 per cent in the seven-year period between 2015 and 2022.

Fewer people in Australia are betting with poker machines but those that are using them are spending significantly more than they were seven years ago according to HILDA.

Being a smoker was found to reduce wealth accumulation over four years by \$90,400 but the same effect was not observed for the regular consumption of alcohol.

The HILDA survey is funded by the Australian Government Department of Social Services and is managed by the Melbourne Institute of Applied Economic and Social Research at the University of Melbourne.

Labor gives up the ghost: Disastrous free camping program ends

THE State Government has ditched its disastrous free camping in national parks initiative after the program backfired.

The program was spruiked as a way to ease cost-of-living pressures, but the brutal reality was the complete opposite.

The poorly designed program financially cruelled regional small businesses and left families disappointed by a lack of camping spots.

The policy resulted in people deliberately booking multiple camping sites and then failing to show up, knowing there were no consequences.

It led to low occupancy rates in popular national park campgrounds that would normally be fully booked.

Campsites sat empty during regional Victoria's peak tourist season, leading to the phrase 'ghost camping' being penned.

Practical solutions to fix the multiple problems put forward by the Liberals and Nationals were dismissed by

the State Government which backed in its flawed program.

Shadow Minister for Public Land Management, Melina Bath, said the failed free camping in national parks program has quietly been scrapped and instead replaced with 'half price' camping fees in the state budget.

"From inception, Labor's policy was systematically flawed and did enormous damage to small businesses and the regional economy that relies on the peak tourism season for survival.

"The Allan Government said free camping in national parks would create more Victorians holidaying in the regions, but it did the opposite.

"In a cost-of-living crisis, the program hurt regional sales and services and charged Victorian taxpayers \$9 million to deliver it.

"Free camping in national parks should have been abolished when the problems were first identified, yet the Labor Allan Government refused to listen."



Mark Chapman, Linton Chapman, Melina Bath with Brett Beaumont and Mark's children. Brett Beaumont runs Prom Outdoor Cinemas and his business was deeply impacted by the free camping program.

Array of activities raising money for Red Shield Appeal

LOCAL performers will band together for an afternoon of music to help raise money for the Leongatha Salvos and the Red Shield Appeal, which supports local families in need.

This Saturday the South Gippsland Shire Brass Band will join forces with the Waragul Municipal Band and the Wonthaggi Citizens, Youth and Training bands will all perform pieces along with songs from singing group Serenity.

"We're just looking at different ways to raise funds," said Amanda 'Suri' Hart, Corps Officer, South Coast Gippsland Salvos, who has organised an array of events and activities to reach their target of \$14,000.

"We're seeing a lot of new people coming in for assistance." "In the last month or so, at least, we've probably seen double the amount of people coming in to what we usually have," explained Amanda.

"So, you can just see the pinch and the cost of living, it's just really starting to have an impact on people, and they're having to put aside their pride and ask for help, and it's a really tough thing for a lot of people



Amanda Hart and Russell Spencer from the South Gippsland Salvation Army collecting donations at Leongatha IGA for the Red Shield Appeal. A201_2125

to do. So, we're doing what we can to try and raise money to keep our programs running to be able to support people."

There are also limited offer red shield soaps available, with the mold being donated by a company called Hawthorne Bay from Bendigo and local business Kricklewood Soaps making the bars from all natural

ingredients with a lemon myrtle scent.

They're \$5 each, or \$20 for five.

Following on from the success of the sale of kokedama plants for the Red Shield Appeal last year, there is demand for a hands-on kokedama workshop, and one will be held on Thursday, May 29 from

7pm - 8.30pm.

Participants will learn how to create and care for a kokedama and all materials and tools will be included with two kokedama plants to take home at the end of what will be a fun and creative night out with others in the community.

Tickets are \$65. Register at: forms.office.com/r/V0MsyPeX-ev.

Salvos staff and volunteers will also be collecting donations at the local supermarkets and at the Leongatha Long Street intersection over the weekend.

The annual Salvos Sleepout will be held on Saturday, May 31 and a Market will be held on Saturday, June 21.

Leongatha Salvos are also holding a Business Challenge where they're asking businesses to get on board and organise a fundraiser which will be running until Saturday, June 14.

Hartley Wells (Betta) have donated a 32 inch TV which will be a prize for the business that raises the most money.

For more information on any of these activities, events or products give the Leongatha Salvos a call on 5667 5200.

Aldred acts promptly to keep Yanakie Weather Station open

NEWLY appointed Member for Monash Mary Aldred hasn't wasted a moment of time supporting the community and writing to the Minister regarding the Bureau of Meteorology's (BOM) recent announcement of its intention to cease receiving data from the Yanakie Weather Station, with the closure scheduled to take effect from July 1, 2025.

"The potential closure of the Yanakie Weather Station is unacceptable to our community," said Mary.

"And I have taken immediate action by making a representation to the new minister responsible for the Bureau of Meteorology. My representation includes requesting that the Federal Government overturn the decision and ensure the continued

operation of the weather station. I have spoken with farmers, fishermen, emergency service volunteers and local tourism operators about their concerns and am determined to stand up on their behalf."

Mary wrote to the minister that this station is incredibly important to our local community. The volunteers and recreational users rely on its accurate and localised data to make decisions that keep people safe and support local livelihoods.

Stating that the local boating and fishing industry is reliant on the weather station for both important safety and tourism opportunities. The weather station provides accurate information about impending adverse weather in the surroundings of

communities like Port Welshpool, which can turn suddenly and unexpectedly. The local tourism economy also benefits from visitors from the region being able to access reliable weather information before making the trip to specific areas in South Gippsland that benefit from their presence.

Mary continued by stating that the next closest weather station is in Wilsons Promontory, which has significantly different weather conditions in the local area from those of Yanakie.

"I understand the variance can be as much as triple the wind readings between the two areas, and this alone would deter boating and recreational visitors from visiting the area on some days.

"I understand the yearly upkeep of the weather station to be in the vicinity of around \$20,000. South Gippsland Shire Council has said that it is not in a financial position to be able to provide the ongoing funding. The funding for this weather station was originally provided in 2012 through the Australian government's Advancing Country Town's Program," said Mary.

"Given the adverse impacts presented to not just the local, but broader visitor economy and fishing industry in South Gippsland by the impending closure of the Yanakie Weather Station, I ask that you consider making available the small amount of funding needed to keep it going."

Biggest Morning Tea raises over \$3,000 for Cancer Council Victoria

ALEX Scott & Staff Cowes hosted their first Biggest Morning Tea last Thursday, May 22 outside their offices at 12pm at 113a Thompson Avenue.

And the public response, the weather, the delicious treats, tea and coffee, together with an inspiring address by Bass Coast Councillor Tim O'Brien could not have been better.

Every dollar raised, upwards of \$3200, went to the Cancer Council's vital work including the proceeds of an auction of the remaining goodies afterwards, which was well bought by Andrew Newton of the Alex Scott office at Leongatha.

"Alex Scott and Staff Phillip Island proudly hosted a successful Biggest Morning Tea last week in support of the Cancer Council of Victoria, drawing over 100 attendees to the event held between 10am and 12 noon," said Greg Price of Alex Scott Cowes.

The highlight of the morning

was a heartfelt and inspiring address from Cr Tim O'Brien of the Bass Coast Shire, who shared his personal journey as he bravely battles his own health issues. His moving words highlighted the importance of early detection and resonated deeply with those in attendance.

The event raised just on \$3200 through generous donations, both financial and culinary, with an impressive spread of scones and morning tea delights contributed by community members.

Greg Price, Director of Alex Scott and Staff, extended his sincere thanks to the local community for their overwhelming support and generosity.

"This event wasn't just about raising money, but about raising awareness," Mr Price said.

"We're incredibly grateful to everyone who took part, donated, or simply came along to show their support."



Speaker at a Cancer Council 'Biggest Morning Tea' fundraiser at Cowes last Thursday, Cr Tim O'Brien, is thanked for his stirring words by Alex Scott director Greg Price of Phillip Island Alex Scott.



Despite the public fight and the community protest on the steps of Parliament with clear messaging to protect fisheries that protect Victorian waters, 44 per cent of Fisheries Officers have been cut.

Cowes remains open despite the VFA's fisheries cut

ON TUESDAY, May 20, the Victorian Fisheries Authority (VFA) cut the state's Fisheries Officers by 44 per cent (30 FTE positions) from the present total of 69, despite the public outcry to retain these positions to protect marine life and enforce fishing regulations.

This leaves just 39 Fisheries Officers to patrol Victoria's 2512-kilometre coastline, 10,000 square kilometres of marine waters and 170,000 kilometres of inland water frontage along 85,000 kilometres of rivers and creeks.

A Victorian Fisheries Authority (VFA) spokesperson confirmed, following extensive consultation, VFA have reached an outcome that will allow it to modernise its approach to fisheries management, including an increased focus on community engagement.

"The outcome allows us to continue protecting our fisheries while focusing more on education and engagement with the recreational fishing community in a way that positions the VFA for long-term success.

"These changes will strengthen our capacity to engage with recreational fishers across Victoria and to focus on major fisheries crime," said the VFA spokesperson.

"We have consulted with employees and the union on changes being made within the organisation and have a range of support services for impacted employees through this transition."

VFA said most people in the fishing community are doing the right thing – currently, there is 90 per cent compliance in the community, and the Major Fisheries Crime Unit will target organised illegal fishing – this unit will be given additional resources so they can focus on those deliberately doing the wrong thing.

However, consultation adjustments have been made to the VFA's operating model, and there are now 35 fewer positions within the VFA, including 15 Fisheries Officer positions.

The Cowes, Mornington, and Queenscliff stations will remain open, and four Fisheries Officers will work from each of these locations. All four positions at each station will be filled through an Expression of Interest process.

Fisheries Officer stations at Braeside and Altona North will close.

Staffing arrangements will be finalised in the coming weeks.

Fisheries Officers will still be Authorised Officers who carry a badge and can issue fines and undertake inspections.

The Victorian Fisheries Authority confirmed that they will continue to provide the resources, services and education the fishing community needs, as required by legislation.

Have your say on a new First Nations gathering place for Bass Coast

ABORIGINAL and Torres Strait Islander community members living on the Bass Coast are invited to come along and have a yarn about an exciting new project – the creation of a local gathering place.

Two community sessions will be held at the end of May, giving people the chance to share their ideas, hopes and priorities for what this space could become. Whether it's cultural events, health and wellbeing support, or simply a safe and welcoming place to connect – the organisers would love to hear from you.

The first will be held on Thursday, May 29, from 4pm–6pm at the Wonthaggi Town Hall Foyer, 14 Baillieu Street East, Wonthaggi.

The second, on Saturday, May 31, from 10am–1pm at the Koala Conservation Centre – Gurrborra Bik Bik Room, 1810 Phillip Island Road, Rhyll.

Light refreshments will be provided, and everyone is encouraged to let organisers know of any dietary requirements in advance.

The sessions are being run by independent consultants Karen Milward and Wendy Hastrich, who are leading a feasibility study for the proposed gathering place. It's all about making sure this project is shaped by the voices of those it's meant for.



Interim Chair of the Barrithbarrith Gathering Place Steering Committee, Brian Stevens, pictured with Uncle Anthony Egan, also a member of the Steering Committee.

The idea for the Barrithbarrith Gathering Place has been growing for years. Local Elders and community members have long dreamed of a space where First Nations people can come together, celebrate culture, and feel a sense of belonging.

"We want a place for our community to gather, celebrate and strengthen cultural identity and sense of belonging," said Dr Bev Munro, Interim Secretary of the Barrithbarrith Steering Committee.

"It's also somewhere people can be supported to access the services they need to improve their overall health and wellbeing."

There are currently no Aboriginal community-controlled organisations in the Bass Coast region. This project aims to change that, with a locally-driven space for programs, services, activities and cultural events – guided by the community, for the community.

The project is being steered

by a group of Elders and volunteers, supported by Bass Coast Shire Council, Bass Coast Health, Phillip Island Nature Parks and Westernport Water. These partners are providing valuable in-kind support, including venues, advice, and advocacy.

Bass Coast Shire is also acting as the project's auspicing body while the steering committee works toward becoming an incorporated organisation.

Community input from the two yarning sessions will help shape everything from the design of the space to the kinds of services and events it could offer, and even where it will be located.

The name Barrithbarrith means plover in the Boonwurrung language. The logo features the hooded plover, a small, local bird found here on Bunurong country. Like the community it represents, this bird is small, sometimes hard to see, and at risk – but also deeply resilient, and a lasting part of this land.

By getting involved now, First Nations people living on the Bass Coast can help shape a project that will serve generations to come. As Dr Munro puts it, "The gathering place is for the First Nations community, and it's important that the community shapes it and has ownership of it."

Weather station and road safety addressed in South Gippsland petitions

THE FIGHT to save the Yanakie Weather Station and a call to implement road safety measures in Venus Bay will both come before South Gippsland Shire councillors at their July meeting, with reports to be prepared in response to petitions on those subjects.

Councillors voted at their May meeting to note the petitions and receive reports on the matters.

Cr Sarah Gilligan presented the Venus Bay petition, which attracted 339 signatures, on behalf of lead

petitioner Mark Radley.

The prayer of that petition is:

1. Lees Road, Venus Bay, between the bend east of Merkani Ave and 30 metres east of Game Street on the bend.
2. 'The Mad Mile' (Lees Road, Venus Bay) entry to the second estate, on the bend just before Anita Crescent.
3. Drop the 80km an hour speed limit on Lees Road, Venus Bay, in the third estate to 50km an hour so there is a consistent speed limit

across the peninsula or at least consider traffic calming measures.

Cr Gilligan labelled the number of signatures received as "a significant proportion of the population".

"I've been speaking with this lead petitioner for over three years now and noting that people fly around Lees Road and the need for traffic calming measures in general," she said.

Cr Gilligan believes concerns about local wildlife helped drive the strong community response in support

of the Venus Bay petition.

Yanakie Progress Association is the lead petitioner in the call for the Yanakie Weather Station to remain in service, Cr Scott Rae presenting the document that attracted 30 signatures.

"Although there are 30 signatures there, that's probably not a good indication of how many people are in support of it; it's used extensively through the marine and agriculture networks and there's no other weather station between Pound Creek and Yarram," he said.

Wonthaggi citizenship ceremony welcomes 29 new Australians



DC Mae with her sister, new Australian citizen Daisy Joy Gumban, and their mother, Delia Gumban. w14_2125

TWENTY-NINE people from across the region officially became Australian citizens during a moving citizenship ceremony held in Wonthaggi on Thursday 22 May.

Hosted in the Kirrak Room at the Wonthaggi Workmen's Club, the ceremony marked the final step in the citizenship process and was officiated by Deputy Mayor Cr Brett Tessari.

The evening opened with a Welcome to Country, delivered through a video from the Bunurong Land Council.

Cr Tessari then welcomed the group, referring to them as the region's "newest Australians".

"Thank you for bringing your culture and interweaving it with our own," he said. "We believe in treating people equally, and we ask you to represent your

country, Australia, with pride."

Cr Tessari then introduced Eastern Victoria MP Renee Heath, who praised Australia's multicultural strength and spirit of opportunity.

"Australia, in my opinion, is the best place on Earth," Ms Heath said. She highlighted the vital role immigrants play in the country's economy, noting that one-third of Australian small businesses are started by people born overseas. She also reflected on the national coat of arms, featuring the emu and the kangaroo. Two animals chosen for their inability to move backwards.

"They can only move forward," she said.

"In Australia, we are absolutely committed to moving forward. Despite any point of difference, Australia is a place

where if you have a go, you will get a go. I hope you will all continue to move forward and see your dreams come true here."

A special video message from Federal Minister for Immigration and Citizenship, Tony Burke MP, followed. In it, Mr Burke warmly welcomed the newest citizens "home".

The evening concluded with each recipient being called forward to take their pledge, receive their certificate, and accept a gift commemorating the occasion. A particularly heart-warming moment came when a local family of three stood side by side to receive their citizenship. Gurvinder Panesar was joined by his wife, Manpreet Kaur-Panesar, and their daughter, Avneet Kaur-Panesar, as all three officially became Australian citizens together.

Financial Advice

Meet Wonthaggi's lending expert

ROB Lee is a proud Gippsland resident, having lived in Wonthaggi/Bass Coast since 2012, and is committed to continue supporting locals with their lending goals.

With more than 23 years of industry experience, Rob has the knowledge and understanding to help make the borrowing process stress-free.

Rob takes great pride in supporting customers at every stage of their journey and creating holistic solutions to match their needs.

"I love getting to know each customer and tailoring a lending solution to their unique goals and situation," Rob explained.

Rob has a free-thinking approach and is passionate about making his customers feel relaxed and excited about the process of finding a loan.

"I'm here to guide you through the whole process, help you understand your options, and support you to make your dreams a reality."

As a Liberty Adviser, Rob is more than a mortgage broker and can help with home, business, SMSF, personal, and car loan needs.

So, whether you're looking to buy your first home, invest in property or grow your business, Rob is the go-to expert who can help explore your options.

Contact Rob today on 0419 177 407 or email rlee@libertynetwork.com.au.

Approved applicants only. Lending criteria apply. Rob Lee has access to a panel of lenders through Liberty Network Services Pty Ltd (ABN 65 151 158 628 | Australian Credit Licence 408042) (LNS). LNS may offer products funded by related companies under the Liberty Financial and MoneyPlace brands.

Got retirement sorted? Think again

ONE of the key focus points of the past week has been interest rates.

As expected last Tuesday, May 20, with inflation back in its target range, the RBA lowered the cash rate by 25 basis points to 3.85 per cent.

Another quarter of a per cent drop could be coming up on Tuesday, July 8 at 2.30pm when the Reserve Bank meets again to consider monetary policy settings.

Of course, a drop in interest cuts both ways, not only improving the position for mortgagees, while potentially boosting interest in property, it also puts pressure on retirement investment, highlighting not only the risk of reduced returns for fixed investments but also the changing landscape for retirees.

Last week, financial advisory and accounting firm, with offices in Gippsland, Findex, put out a new report entitled the 'Retirement Sandwich - Stretched by Age, Squeezed by Family' where it highlighted a new challenge for retirees.

"Australia's retirement landscape is being reshaped by longer life expectancies, persistent cost-of-living challenges, and changing family dynamics," they said in the executive summary.

New research from Findex reveals that while Australians



Looking at retirement? Here's another couple of responsibilities you might need to consider.

hold strong aspirations for their later years, many will juggle the added responsibility of financially supporting loved ones, a factor frequently overlooked when estimating the amount of money required for a comfortable retirement.

"One of the most striking findings is that 43 per cent of Aussies anticipate they will need to help one or more family members in their retirement. Younger generations feel this burden most acutely with half of Gen Z (50 per cent) and Millennials (51 per cent) foreseeing multi-generational support obligations in retirement.

"In particular, Millennials anticipate being sandwiched

between two cohorts of dependents with one-third expecting they will need to help older parents while still supporting their own kids). Despite these added pressures, supporting dependents ranks relatively low as a concern with one in five ranking it among the top retirement worries.

"Gen X/Baby Boomers (16 per cent) are less troubled by it than Gen Z (21 per cent) or Millennials (22 per cent), suggesting older Aussies consider family assistance an accepted, if not fully funded, reality.

"Yet there's a confidence gap: more than two in five (42 per cent) Gen X/ Baby Boomers aren't sure they can afford to help. Even one in

five Millennials remain "not particularly confident" or "not confident at all."

"Financially supporting dependents in retirement tends to be a hidden expenditure - one that seldom appears in official guidelines like the ASFA Retirement Standard, which stands at \$73,077 per year for couples, \$51,805 for singles but doesn't account for family overheads. Findex sees three critical takeaways:

1. Transparent conversations: Aussies must discuss potential support needs (helping children buy homes, aged care for parents) early, so these costs don't blindsides them mid-retirement.
2. Be realistic: Aussies that plan on providing support to family should recognise what is within their means and only commit to what they can afford.
3. Plan for it: People of every generation - especially Gen X and Baby Boomers nearing retirement - stand to benefit from a thorough, realistic assessment of their finances. With the proper help, just about every retirement scenario can be planned for.

We thank Findex for their timely input - it's just another scenario to be planned for in retirement.



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Pillar Insurance offers expert guidance

PILLAR Insurance Solutions is ready to meet your general insurance needs and while the business has just opened, it provides the expertise of experienced insurance broker Kelly Buntine who is already well known to many through her involvement in MTSE Accountants & Business Advisors.

The insurance business will share the MTSE offices in Leongatha, Yarram and Pakenham.

With the accounting business well established, Kelly is excited to draw on her insurance broking expertise built over at least 15 years in the industry, having noticed there aren't a lot of insurance brokers in Leongatha or Yarram.

She's confident in the demand for face-to-face insurance advice in those towns.

"We'll do all general insurance, so anything from house and contents, cars, businesses, farms," Kelly said, life insurance being an entirely separate area that Pillar won't deal with.

"As an advisor, I've got access to a lot of different insurance companies, so it won't just be one quote, it'll be having a look at the market and working out the best policy for each person's individual circumstances."

Some are price-conscious while others are more focused on ensuring specific things are covered, with Kelly happy to chat with anyone interested in insurance to establish their needs.

While people usually think about insurance for items, there are other things to consider covering.



Kelly Buntine looks forward to assisting people to find insurance suited to their needs. A12_2125

"You can cover the contents, the slips and falls, but there are things like business interruption; what happens if there are storm events and the office can't open, you can't operate, the loss of income," Kelly said.

Cyber insurance is another consideration in case a cyber incident such as hacking impacts your business.

While Kelly will move between offices, other staff know what information to gather to get the ball rolling for those popping in to enquire about insurance when she isn't present.

She'll continue to oversee the accounting business with partner Sean Buntine but doesn't need to be as hands-on with that due to the

strong team MTSE has built.

"I understand how businesses run and what it's like to run a business," Kelly said, adding the experience has given her a different perspective.

MTSE continues to provide services in bookkeeping, payroll, management reporting, taxation for individuals and businesses, along with tax planning and budgeting, also helping people manage their NDIS plans.

"We're trying to do a bit more on the advisory side, helping people deep dive into understanding their businesses," Kelly said, the Leongatha branch having become well-established after opening last June.



Accountant Cade Zun of Zun and Associates in Wonthaggi provides tax and accounting advice and services to small to medium businesses as well individuals.

Line up financials ahead of tax time

WITH the end of the Financial Year fast approaching, there's an opportunity to be prepared and ensure you understand your tax situation while you can still do something about it, with Wonthaggi's Zun & Associates ready to provide valuable advice.

Principal Accountant and Tax Agent Cade Zun spoke of the fact many people are selling assets now, be that property, shares or businesses.

That presents an opportunity to manage tax and other implications of sales.

Cade outlined the personal approach Zun & Associates takes to help achieve the best outcomes for clients.

"It's getting an understanding of people's individual circumstances and what possibilities there are," he said.

"Whether it's insurance or capital gains tax planning, superannuation, just these different potential levers you

can still utilise before June 30."

Cade said that with so much going on in people's lives these days, the business is becoming more involved in planning and preparation, noting the importance of putting strategies in place.

"This time of year, the timing of income and expenses can have an impact," he said of businesses, highlighting possibilities such as bringing forward expenditure or deferring receipt of income to improve your tax situation.

Cade established Zun & Associates with Mairead Taylor, who is the business development manager.

Cade is an expert in developing and supporting small to medium-sized businesses, helping streamline their processes, and is passionate about helping businesses improve their outcomes.



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TAFE Gippsland apprentices shine at Master Painters Awards

TAFE Gippsland is proud to celebrate the outstanding achievements of four Painting and Decorating apprentices who were recognised at the 2025 Master Painters Association of Victoria/Tasmania (MPAV) Awards for Excellence, held on Saturday evening at the RACV City Club in Melbourne.

The annual event, attended by over 350 industry professionals, employers and educators, highlighted excellence across the painting and decorating trade. TAFE Gippsland stood out as a leader in developing skilled, job-ready apprentices.

Four of the institute's apprentices were recognised for their talent, dedication and high-quality workmanship, including two from Leongatha:

- Tegan Wilson – Runner-Up, First Year Apprentice Employer: Marcus Luscombe, Vivid Coats Painting (Leongatha)
- Callum Buckland – Runner-Up, Third Year Apprentice Employer: Lenny and Jenny Buckland, Buckland Painting (Leongatha)

TAFE Gippsland's success at this year's awards is a testament to the strength of its hands-on training and strong partnerships with local employers. Two of the award-winning apprentices – Tegan Wilson and Leni Gliponeo – began their journey through TAFE Gippsland's Certificate II in Construction (Pre-Apprenticeship) program, highlighting the important role foundational training plays in setting students up for long-term success.

Marcus Luscombe of Vivid Coats Painting not only employs Tegan Wilson but personally nominated her for the award, demonstrating the high regard in which employers hold TAFE Gippsland's apprenticeship training.

TAFE Gippsland's Head of Department for Emerging Trades and Industries, Alex Terranova, said the awards highlight the institute's strong focus on student achievement and meaningful industry engagement.

"These results are a true reflection of the dedication and talent of our apprentices, the strength of the department's partnerships with local employers and the exceptional work of our painting and decorating teaching team – Davin Nicholas, Mick Wardle and Sam Reid," Alex said.

"We're incredibly proud to be shaping the next generation of skilled tradespeople right here in Gippsland."

First responder session empowers youth

A TEEN first responder education session has empowered South Gippsland youth with skills to better respond to emergencies.

Gippsland Southern Health Service (GSHS), in partnership with Ambulance Victoria and Headspace, presented the free practical conversation starter in Korumburra to equip adolescents with life-saving emergency response skills.

Despite a chilly Tuesday evening, about 30 young people and their families gathered at the Korumburra Showgrounds for the session, a vital initiative aimed at equipping adolescents with life-saving emergency response skills.

GSHS Transformation Lead Kate Ginnivan, who coordinated the event, said it highlighted the importance of calling 000 in emergencies.

Topics included how to respond to bleeding injuries, snake bites, asthma attacks, intoxication, and mental health crises.

GSHS clinical educator Shareen Bickerton presented the session with the support of Executive Director of Medical Services Dr Angela Williams. The conversation was further strengthened by the support of Dr Paul Cotton from GSHS's urgent care centre, Tom Pamon of headspace, and Ambulance Victoria paramedic Bhavjeet Saxena.

"By educating our young people today, we're building a safer and more resilient South Gippsland tomorrow," Dr Williams said.

The session not only provided practical tools for handling emergencies but also reinforced GSHS's commitment to community engagement, health literacy, and empowering the next generation to act with confidence and care in critical moments.

CUC Bass Coast hits 200 student milestone

SINCE opening in March 2021, the Country Universities Centre (CUC) Bass Coast in Wonthaggi has reached a major milestone – 200 registered students, the most in its history.

Centre Manager Sarah Bourke said the record number reflects the community's growing recognition of the value the centre provides.

"To be at 200 students is really exciting," she said.

"It affirms that the centre is needed. We're sitting 50 students up from the same time last year, and most pleasing is that students are referring other students."

The CUC Bass Coast provides study spaces and support for anyone studying a university degree, diploma, or Certificate IV from any Australian institution. Facilities include high-speed internet, quiet study areas, and personalised academic support.

Founding Board Director and Treasurer Danny Luna said the increase is a turning point. "Enrolments have really skyrocketed. Early on, we struggled with awareness that this facility exists. The fact we've reached 200 means the message is getting out and people are seeing the value."

A key contributor to the growth is the FutureBound widening participation program, which engages local high schools.

"We've seen the number of students under 25 double," Bourke said.

"That tells us the work we're doing with schools is effective."

Addressing barriers to higher education was a key reason for establishing the centre.

"Bass Coast has some of the lowest tertiary participation rates in the state," Luna said.

"We have a lot of students who are first in family to go to university."

Bourke added, "Over 50 per cent of our students are first in family. The centre



Staff and students from the Country Universities Centre Bass Coast celebrated their 200 registrations milestone. W09_2125

gives them an option to pursue higher education without having to move away."

With many students working full-time or raising families, the ability to stay local while studying is critical.

"A large majority of our students are balancing work, family, or other commitments," Bourke said.

"We even have students coming from as far as Foster and near Koo Wee Rup to use our services."

The centre offers more than just facilities. It creates a focused, supportive environment.

"I've heard from students that spending three hours here is more productive than a full day studying at home," Luna said.

"It's quiet, friendly, well-equipped, and removes home distractions."

Students also benefit from a sense of community.

"They connect with others doing similar courses, even if through different universities," he said.

"It builds a peer network they wouldn't get studying alone."

Bourke said the centre acts as a "third space" between home and work, providing structure and accountability.

"Over 60 per cent of our students are working. This gives them a dedicated study space where they're connected to other learners."

Luna also praised the support from local council.

"This building is owned by Bass Coast Shire Council and provided to us virtually rent-free," he said.

Student ambassadors Ryan Sparkes and Grace McRae have both benefited from the centre's services.

Sparkes, a qualified plumber studying teaching, said the centre allows him to stay local while retraining for a career in education.

"I didn't have to move to Melbourne," he said.

"It works well with how I want to live and takes away home distractions. A few mates are teachers, and I like the lifestyle. I enjoy teaching the apprentices at work and it's something I would love to do."

McRae, who returned to

study after a break, said the centre has helped her reconnect with learning.

"I studied in Melbourne but moved back," she said.

"CUC allows me to connect with people doing similar courses, like Ryan. You even find out others in your community are doing the same degree."

"It's a good place to focus without distractions. The facilities are unreal and it's a great spot to connect with others."

Looking ahead, the centre hopes to build partnerships with local employers to support student placement and employment.

"We're not stopping here," Bourke said.

"We want to continue working with universities, training providers, and service organisations to help address local workforce needs."

CUC Bass Coast continues to provide an essential pathway to higher education for people of all ages and backgrounds across the region.

For more information, visit cucbasscoast.edu.au or call 0472 741 451.

Wonthaggi North PS joins National Simultaneous Storytime

NOT a whisper could be heard from the students from Wonthaggi North Primary School on their first community excursion to take part in National Simultaneous Storytime at the Wonthaggi Library.

The Prep and Grades 1 and 2 students were on their very best behaviour for the reading of the picture book 'The Truck Cat' written by Deborah Frenkel and illustrated by Danny Snell.

The reading session started with a well-rehearsed and enjoyable Acknowledgement of Country.

"Our students are eager readers," said WNPS Prep Teacher Michelle Inness.

"They love looking at the pictures and saying the words in the books they read."

"They have a love of books and enjoy their time reading



Prep and Grades 1 and 2 from Wonthaggi North Primary School listening to Jye Clouten read The Truck Cat for National Simultaneous Storytime at the Wonthaggi library. B01_2125

a diverse range of texts."

Every year a picture book written and illustrated by an Australian author is chosen by the Australian Library and Information Association (ALIA)

to be read simultaneously in libraries, schools, preschools, family day cares, childcare centres, bookshops and family homes around Australia.

According to author Deborah Frenkel The Truck Cat is a story that touches on some big themes including identity and community, loneliness and kindness.

Now in its 25th year, National Simultaneous Storytime is a colourful, vibrant, fun event that aims to promote the value of reading and literacy using an Australian children's book that explores age-appropriate themes and addresses key learning areas of the national curriculum for students from Prep to Year 6.

Mrs Inness said the students from Wonthaggi North Primary School were really proud to represent the school in their community for Simultaneous Storytime.

"They learn how to be safe and uphold the values of our school," said Mrs Inness.

Bass Coast Specialist School hosts Biggest Morning Tea event

BASS Coast Specialist School was buzzing with community spirit on Wednesday, May 21, as it hosted its annual Biggest Morning Tea fundraiser for the Cancer Council.

The event, a long-standing tradition at the school, saw students, families, and community members gather to support a worthy cause through food, entertainment and a shared sense of connection.

Nicole Reed, the school's careers and pathways coordinator, said the morning tea is always a special day on the calendar.

"It's a great event to raise money for the Cancer Council," she said.

"Our senior students, those aged 16 to 18, have been in the kitchen making coffees, sandwiches and scones."

Entry to the event was by gold coin donation, with a raffle also held to help boost the school's fundraising total. All proceeds went directly to the Cancer Council.

"We do this every year. We've done it for the past 10 years, but this definitely feels like the biggest one," Ms Reed said.

A host of local organisations came along to show their support, including the Bass Coast Historical Car Club, Rose Lodge Aged Care, C2A and Interchange.

From 10am to 11am, the Bass Coast Historical Car Club showcased a selection of vintage vehicles, much to the delight of guests and students alike. Visitors were also treated to a concert featuring student



Education Support and Music Teacher, Stuart Hutchison checks out some historical cars with Bass Coast Specialist School students Oliver and Teleah. W01_2125

performances, adding a joyful atmosphere to the morning.

Ross Chapman, a member of the car club, said it was a day he and his wife always looked forward to.

"Our daughter works here. We love bringing the cars here for the kids, they get so much happiness out of it," he said.

The club boasts 250 members and a collection of 180 cars. President Keith Tonkin said the school has become a regular destination for the club's events. "We've been involved with the

school for about 10 years, and we've brought the cars here on six different occasions," Mr Tonkin said.

Senior classroom teacher Natalie Giliam praised the event's impact on both student development and community involvement.

"It's an opportunity to bring the community into the school and raise money for a great charity," she said. "The students get a chance to see the cars and interact with the community. The senior students doing the catering as well – it's so great for their

development and social skills."

Ms Reed said the school is hoping to build stronger connections with aged care homes such as Rose Lodge in the future, through more frequent visits and shared activities.

While the final fundraising total was still being counted, Ms Reed said the school usually raises between \$500 and \$600 each year.

"We love having everyone in and showing them what we do. I just love working here. The kids are so beautiful."

Exploring career opportunities at FLOW campus

STUDENTS at the FLOW campus of Bass Coast College in Wonthaggi heard about the opportunities, challenges and rewards of working in various industries during Tuesday's career session, run by Maxima Joblink with the support of local employers and police who volunteered their time.

As part of the career development initiative, students engaged in sessions focused on identifying their personal strengths, skills and career interests, the highlight of the program being Tuesday's mini careers expo.

At the expo, local employers and members of the Bass Coast Proactive Policing Unit provided valuable insights into their industries, offered practical advice, and answered student questions in an open and engaging forum.

Their involvement not only broadened students' understanding of local employment opportunities but also helped build their confidence as they consider future paths beyond school.

The Cape Tavern, Rotaret Hydraulic Engineering, The Wanderlust Chefs, Bass Coast Adult Learning (BCAL) and Donohue Plumbing were all represented at the expo, along with Maxima Joblink's Mollie Bloch and Caitlin Hender.

Cass Wheeler of The Wanderlust Chefs in Wonthaggi highlighted the opportunities hospitality can provide for young people such as flexibility in terms of hours, pay increases in recent years and a wide range of



Senior Constable Megan Krause of the Bass Coast Proactive Policing Unit and Claudine Evans of Bass Coast Adult Learning were among those sharing careers advice with students at the Bass Coast College FLOW campus. A01_2125

work including front of house, kitchen positions and administrative support.

She outlined her start in the hospitality industry, aged just 15, her eventual purchase of a Phillip Island café while still in her twenties, and a return to study to gain formal qualifications as a chef, the latter achieved through Chisholm TAFE locally.

Cass spoke of the differences between working in a café or restaurant in terms of hours, and explained the uniform requirements and broader expectations in the industry, along with higher pay rates for working after 7pm and on weekends.

She explained her preference for cafes sprang from her dislike of split shifts and the fact daytime work suits her.

Students heard that face-to-face approaches to hospitality business operators tend to be the most effective way of getting into the industry.

Senior Constable Megan Krause and Leading Senior Constable Nick Carlson described their roles in the Proactive Policing Unit, Megan telling the Sentinel-Times of the importance of building relationships with young people and letting them see police are normal people.

"It's a hard gig but it's very rewarding," Megan said of policing.

She explained everyone starts out on the van, which can be quite intense at times, perhaps going from dealing with a stolen vehicle report to an assault at a pub.

After at least four years in that capacity, other possibilities open up.

In Megan's case, she discovered her ability to relate well to young people, finding that was not hard for her like other aspects of policing were, leading her into her current role with the Proactive Policing Unit.

Matt Donohue of Donohue Plumbing on the Bass Coast suggested that young people don't always need to know immediately what they want to do.

"You can find out what you don't like to do," he said.

He explained that in his industry, the initial weeks can be tough and those starting out need to look after themselves, but if the role proves suitable, you'll find your groove.

Matt made it clear there is no shame in having a crack at something and realising it's not your thing, saying from his point of view "concreting sucks".

Claudine Evans of Bass Coast Adult Learning detailed her role as Partnerships Coordinator and her background in administration, as well as learning opportunities at BCAL.

She highlighted the importance of following up on conversations, tailoring services to customer needs and establishing professional relationships, also stressing business administration roles can lead to positions in project management and community engagement.

There's no doubt the students left with plenty to think about as they contemplate their futures.

Becoming a mentor can make the world of difference

MAKING a difference in the lives of local kids can be done through mentorship programs and Kids First is looking for volunteers to positively impact young people's lives.

Volunteer mentors receive training before being matched with a young person aged between 10 and 17, through a process that considers their own personal attributes and interests.

One of the main roles of the mentor is to provide consistent, regular and positive support and guidance to the young person and help them to access and pursue positive interests, hobbies or activities within their community.

"They (the children) might have been in foster care placements or in residential care, so not living with their parents. They might have been in a kinship placement with other family members potentially," said Emily Scott, volunteer manager at Kids First.

"So often those young people have had really challenging childhoods. They've had lots of different circumstances they've had to overcome, and so having a mentor, an adult who can really provide consistent and supportive and positive role model support and guidance is really fantastic."

A mentor generally meets with their young person for two to three hours each fortnight in the community, with a minimum commitment of 12 months.

Depending on the age of the young person, this may involve supporting them to access opportunities or create connections in the community, explore work experience or education, learn new skills or participate in social or recreational activities.

"A lot of times, young people don't have very much an opportunity to explore those things, or even to explore what they might be interested in doing, new hobbies, that kind of thing. Or if they're kind of in an older age group, they might be wanting to explore looking for a first job or furthering their education," explained Emily.

The guidance mentors provide help to increase their social confidence, reduce feelings of isolation and advance the young person's capacity to develop diverse, positive and sustainable connections.

"Mentors are always really different, and it's quite a flexible role."

"It's about having that consistent and non-judgmental and really positive support from an adult in their life, who's going to be there as a consistent person because often that's been a bit lacking," said Emily.

There are also opportunities for mentors to be matched with a young person who is also a young parent, who is either enrolled in the Kurnai Young Parents Program (KYPP) or was a previous student at KYPP in Morwell, with mentorship taking place on-site.

For more information about mentoring a young person and or a young parent go to kidsfirstaustralia.org.au/volunteer.

Sentinel-Times

COMMENT

Message was right not the delivery method

REGARDLESS of what you think about Jacinta Allan, Anthony Albanese or any of our political leaders, even our elected local government representatives, you've got to respect the office, right?

And putting a package of manure, cryovaced or otherwise, on the premier's doorstep is definitely overstepping the boundaries of respect and decency in that regard.

That's not what Foster North farmer and South Gippsland Shire Councillor Scott Rae did.

Yes, he took the package to the steps of State Parliament last week, "as a prop" instead of a poster, in support of the rally against the Emergency Services Levy and a wider dissatisfaction with government over its attitude to farming and rural communities in general.

And according to Cr Rae, he would have been happy enough just to get a bit of publicity for the cause.

He certainly got that, but he also told the Sentinel-Times last week, contrary to media reports he was involved in taking it to the premier's office – he wasn't.

It is understood that two Liberal Party MPs placed the box at Ms Allan's office and that the Premier subsequently expressed her outrage, on behalf of staff, that they felt the safety of the workplace had been compromised.

"It's not funny, it's not a joke, it's not larrikin... it's violated a workplace," Ms Allan is reported to have said.

Honestly, the Premier was right to call it out.

And the MPs who ultimately took the package to her office should be rapped over the knuckles for it. Hopefully, the incident also redraws the line in the sand about the right to protest, within the bounds of respect.

But it shouldn't take away from the fact that there's something seriously wrong with the affairs of state in Victoria at the moment.

And it must be said that the Opposition hasn't exactly covered themselves in glory either.

We're all aware that the State Government's finances are in a parlous state and that the cost-overruns and waste on major projects in Melbourne is costing us in the regions with a lack of funding for much-needed major projects here including the West Gippsland Hospital, necessary services including Fisheries officers, a proper response to the drought and threats to food production, and the escalation in land-based taxes.

The next debacle that's looming is the timeline laid out by the Victorian Government to achieve "at least two gigawatts of offshore generation capacity by 2032", then 4GW by 2035 and 9GW by 2040, along the way closing the Yallourn Power Station in mid-2028 – that's just three years away!

And when government hits the panic button in Melbourne, you know where the hammer is going to fall.

It's time the State Government came clean on the success or otherwise of its energy policy and the state of its finances and for the Opposition to start producing some alternative policies, well ahead of next year's state election.

Vox Pop

What is your view of the economy and the outlook for jobs?



Brad

"People are not buying much at the moment, traditionally people need a bit more infrastructure, we have a long way to go until it catches up with the cost of living."



Sue

"Upwards. Interest rates are coming down, it's not perfect but we're heading in the right direction."



Helen

"I think it is a difficult time and not getting any better. I feel for young families, it must be difficult to feed a house full of teenagers."



Rafid

"It's getting better for jobs right now. Midway the outlook is good, we're turning the corner, looking forward to a good year."

We are not your cash cow

LABOR'S claim they understand what country communities in drought are going through is disingenuous at best and if you truly consider the impact of the ongoing emotional cost drought has on morale it is cruel.

They are increasing spending on mental health but in regional areas, Labor are increasing the chances of suicides.

Poor battling farmers are going to pay more land tax than a billionaire in the city. How is this fair Labor are treating us like second-class citizens.

The surplus Labor announced in the budget is exactly the amount the new land tax is raising. Labor has put us in this financial hole so don't try and drag money from people to cover your stuff ups.

If we did this on our farms banks would sell us up. We haven't caused this so why do we have to pay?

All these cost blowouts on major projects will never be used by regional people so why are we the worst hurt by the land tax? Charge the people in the city who will benefit.

On top of all this, we are missing out on regional road funding while city areas seem to have no funding limits.

What about some proper funding for drought relief in South Gippsland? Have heard nothing from our local member the silence is deafening.

Wayne Churchill, Kilcunda

Security is not a joke.

BEV McArthur who facilitated the violation of Parliamentary security could easily have been played. Did she stick her hand in the cow manure to ensure it didn't contain a bomb. When it comes to protest there simply must be limits and potentially putting the lives of politicians at risk for me is a bridge too far.

Kevin Walsh RFD, Cape Paterson

Share your bowel screening story

BOWEL cancer is the second biggest cause of cancer death in Australia. But if detected early, more than 90 per cent of bowel cancers can be successfully treated.

Bowel screening is one of the most effective ways to detect the early signs of bowel cancer, but unfortunately, only 42.6 per cent of eligible Victorians are participating in the National Bowel Cancer Screening Program.

Australians aged 45-74 are eligible to do a free bowel screening test every two years through the National Bowel Cancer Screening Program. People aged 50-74 get the bowel screening kit in the mail every two years, while people aged 45-49 can request their first bowel screening kit through the National Cancer Screening Register.

Since 2017, Cancer Council Victoria has led statewide campaigns to encourage Victorians to participate in bowel screening. Our research shows that having a real person's story at the heart of our campaigns encourages others to do their bowel screening test and can start important conversations between loved ones about the importance of screening. That's why we're looking for new individuals to share their bowel screening story in 2025.

Bowel cancer survivor Laurie shared his cancer screening story with us in 2023 as part of a statewide bowel screening awareness campaign. Laurie talked about how doing the bowel screening test saved his life, ensuring he could be around for important everyday moments with family and friends.

Laurie's story and the 2023 campaign led to more than 25,000 bowel screening tests being completed. It is estimated this will help save an estimated 115 Victorians lives over the next 40 years.

If you have a bowel cancer story, we'd like to hear it. Your story could help raise awareness about the importance of doing bowel screening and encourage others to participate through the National Bowel Cancer Screening Program.

Do you want to make a difference and help save lives? Head to cancervic.org.au/screening-story for more information.

To learn more about bowel screening and the National Bowel Cancer Screening Program, visit cancervic.org.au/bowel.

Kate Broun, Cancer Council Victoria

A waste of monies

A LAYMAN'S definition of insanity is to repeat a course of action and to expect a different result. With this in mind, ask yourself what happened at the surf beach the last time large quantities of unprotected sand were put in front of the life saving club rooms. Now ask yourself how you would describe a suggestion to put \$3 million worth of unprotected sand on the same beach?

Neville Drummond, Inverloch

Take a look in the mirror

IT'S to be praised the stand taken and comments made by the South Gippsland Shire Council in relation to the Emergency Services Levy. You can see the pride they take in opposition to the levy as a grab for money to balance the budget.

The same councillors quickly shut down discussion and stifle debate when the council action to sell the Senior Citizens Centre in Korumburra to raise money for the council comes up. Councillor John Kennedy's attempts to raise the issue frequently are immediately shut down without explanation.

A money grab by the state government, evil, a money grab by council, good. That's like a thief lecturing on honesty.

I suggest they take a good look in the mirror and behave in the manner they preach towards the state government. Return the Senior Citizens Centre to those who paid for it and built it, the citizens of Korumburra.

Harry Prosser, Korumburra

This tax hurts the people who protect us

I WENT with a friend to the Emergency Services Levy tax protest, and it was incredibly moving to be there. High integrity CFA members and farmers, some getting up at 1am or 3am, so inspiring and so needed.

We all need to be educated about this tax, I needed to be educated about what it means, and I hope to spend some time outside our Wonthaggi MP's office at some stage over next few days with a sign and info.

This huge tax not only shockingly affects the selfless people who protect us, and the farmers who grow our food (who may be ruined by this off the charts tax), but also the knock-on effect of this tax. It will increase our own rates by huge amounts. One lady of a small farm said she pays nearly \$2000 Emergency Services Levy each year, but this may go up to between \$4600 to \$5000 per year and that is a mild estimate.

There will be farmers having to leave the land and of course their firefighting. This tax is huge and totally uncompassionate and unrealistic, slugging the people of high integrity and community mindedness in our Victorian state. The instigators of this tax show they are out of touch with the people of the land who grow our food.

The speakers were very informative and wonderful. Victorians need to show this tax must be repealed or great tragedy will happen.

50,000 CFA members in Victoria, 1200 units all over Vic. At least 200 hours a year given freely by these selfless men and women, over Christmas and holidays putting their own personal lives aside.

One man told a heartbreaking story, about a mother in the middle of a huge fire alone with three children. When everything got worse, she wrapped the three little children in wet towels and carried them in her arms out of the house trying to find a way out of the fire, she eventually got trapped in the fire and lay the children down and covered them all with her own body. Not too long after the fire truck arrived and got them in the truck and to hospital. The children had third degree burns, not sure what happened to the poor mother.

The speaker said, "I was one of those children".

So heartbreaking, he looked like a very thin, hardworking farmer. He said when he fights the fires, he has to push through huge resistance to doing this, but always pushes through as he thinks of this firetruck coming to rescue them all in his childhood.

Name and address supplied

Empowering Women in Bass Coast through tools, yoga and connection

WOMEN in the Bass Coast community are continuing to connect, learn and grow thanks to a \$5000 grant from the Bass Coast Community Foundation to the Phillip Island Community and Learning Centre (PICAL).

The funding has played a key role in sustaining the popular Girls on Tools program and launching a new wellbeing initiative – Chair Yoga – designed to promote inclusivity, self-care, and community connection.

Deb Watson, Executive Officer of the Bass Coast Community Foundation, said the Foundation's focus on women stems from a community needs assessment conducted several years ago.

"The research highlighted the need to better support women in our region. In response, we made women one of our three strategic priorities, investing in initiatives that promote equality and opportunity," explained Deb.

Women volunteer at higher rates than men and are central to the social fabric of the Bass Coast. Yet, despite their contributions, many feel undervalued and overextended.

"The idea for Chair Yoga was inspired by a desire not only to thank the incredible female volunteers who support our work, but also to promote their ongoing wellbeing," said David Rooks, Centre Manager at PICAL. "We're extremely grateful to the Bass Coast Community Foundation for their financial support, which has enabled us to enhance the support we



Girls on Tools participant Lucille Liberts enjoys the garden chair she built.

offer to women in our community, especially those who are vital to the work we do at PICAL."

Chair Yoga is now running twice weekly at PICAL and offers a gentle, accessible form of exercise to support both mental and physical health. Other forms of yoga have also been added to the program off-site. The classes are open to all women, with a reduced cost for volunteers as a gesture of appreciation.

Alison, a PICAL volunteer and participant in the inaugural Chair Yoga session, shared, "Chair Yoga is a moment in the week just for us – to slow down, breathe and feel connected. It's exactly what we didn't know we

needed."

Meanwhile, Girls on Tools has become one of PICAL's most in-demand courses.

Designed to build skills and confidence in women wanting to work with tools, the program covers a range of DIY projects, from building shoe racks and plant stands to creating shelving units. The sessions have earned rave reviews from participants for the practical and knowledgeable approach taken.

Testament to this is the waitlist for term three.

Since 2002, the Bass Coast Community Foundation has been delivering grassroots solutions to local challenges. With

100 per cent of funds distributed within the region, the foundation partners with donors and community organisations to build a stronger, more equitable Bass Coast.

The Foundation's upcoming Gala Dinner will be held on Saturday, July 26, at Silverwater Resort, celebrating community achievements and recognising the generous donors who make the work of the Foundation possible. To book a ticket, go to trybooking.com/CZNQT.

For more information about Girls on Tools or Chair Yoga, visit pical.org.au or find Phillip Island Community and Learning Centre – PICAL on Facebook.



Former research dog Tai has found a new life in Korumburra.

Research dog finds a new life in Korumburra

FORMER research dog Tai has found a new life in Korumburra, and the residents of Gippsland Southern Health Service's Hillside Lodge couldn't be happier.

For the first eight years of his life, Tai, a nine-year-old Foxhound, was used as a testing dog in a research facility.

After being rescued through Beagle Freedom Australia, Tai has helped new owner Nerida Fearnley-Gill return to her love of providing pet therapy in aged care facilities.

Before moving to South Gippsland, she made weekly volunteer visits to a residential aged care facility in Melbourne with her rescue dog, Bastien, as part of the Lort Smith Pet Therapy program.

"The volunteer work we did together was something quite special and truly rewarding," she said.

Nerida thought that her pet therapy days had ended when Bastien died in August last year, not long after her move to South Gippsland – but then along came Tai.

Tai is another rescue dog and was quite shy and anxious before settling into his new safe and loving environment.

"Few people are aware that dogs – especially scent hounds – are used as subjects in research and testing here in Australia," Nerida said.

Beagle Freedom Australia works with research facilities to release and re-home retiring dogs. Without BFA's efforts, most of these dogs would face euthanasia and would never have the opportunity to enjoy a normal dog's life.

Tai has been with Nerida for almost nine months, and his gentle, affectionate and often goofy company has been the best medicine since losing Bastien.

"We've all been good for each other," she said.

People often comment on Tai's friendly, calming presence when they meet him. While on a regular walk past Hillside Lodge they formed a connection with one of the residents. Staff members encouraged Nerida to consider volunteering to visit Hillside Lodge with Tai, which ultimately led her to connect with the GSHS volunteer program.

Nerida says she is thrilled to make regular pet therapy visits to the residents of Hillside Lodge.

"It's especially wonderful that Tai and I are the first official pet therapy team for the organisation," she said.

"This is something I never thought I would have the opportunity to do again. Considering where and how he spent the first eight years of his life as a research dog, it's truly amazing to see him bringing gentle joy to those living out their days in aged care."

People interested in volunteering at GSHS can contact volunteer coordinator Vicki Riley on Vicki.Riley@gshs.com.au or 5667 5664.

Community Bank Cowes sponsors lifesaving public defibrillator

WHAT started as a frightening emergency has turned into a lifesaving moment thanks to the generous support of Community Bank Cowes.

Last week, PI Tenpin Bowling and Entertainment Centre proudly received a brand-new publicly accessible defibrillator and outdoor alarmed cabinet, fully funded and donated by Community Bank Cowes. The lifesaving equipment will be installed between PI Tenpin and the adjacent 24-hour gym, where it will be available to the public 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

The new lifesaving equipment comes in response to a traumatic incident just weeks ago when an 86-year-old local man and much-loved regular bowler, went into sudden cardiac arrest while playing at PI Tenpin.

In those critical first moments, fellow patrons rushed to his aid and performed CPR until paramedics arrived.

Over the proceeding two hours, more than ten emergency responders, including an air ambulance crew, worked tirelessly to stabilise him. He was eventually airlifted to hospital. Remarkably, he has since made an incredible recovery, discharged from hospital just last week, and even returned to PI Tenpin to watch his team bowl on Thursday night.

The situation was a wake-up call.

"It was one of those moments that stays with you forever," said Craig Holmes, managing director of PI Tenpin.

"We all did everything we



Phillip Island Tenpin Bowling and Entertainment Centre (PI Tenpin) managing director Craig Holmes, vice chair of the Board of Community Banks of San Remo, Cowes and Grantville John Matthews, PI Tenpin managing director Jeremy Westaway, Community Bank Cowes customer relationship manager Leonie Brown and company secretary to the Community Bank Board Vanessa Verzaci.

could, but there's no doubt that having a defibrillator on hand could have made a huge difference. We knew we had to act, not just for our venue, but for the whole community."

A proposal was quickly drafted and shared with local organisations, and Community Bank Cowes was the first to respond with open hearts.

Thanks to the support of the bank's board of directors, including vice chair John Matthews, the full cost of the defibrillator, outdoor alarmed cabinet, and delivery was covered. The unit will soon be installed and clearly signposted, bridging a critical gap in local emergency preparedness.

"We were proud to support this life-saving device in this accessible location," John

Matthews, vice chair of the Board of Community Banks of San Remo, Cowes and Grantville commented.

"This defib can make such a difference in a life-or-death situation and gives the Cowes community peace of mind as well."

Vanessa Verzaci, company secretary to the Community Bank Board, commented: "This is the 68th defibrillator we have placed in the community since 2013 – from Grantville to Dalyston, San Remo to Cowes and many places in between. We're honoured to be able to do this – and it's all thanks to the support of our wonderful customers and their everyday banking – we couldn't do it without them."

PI Tenpin will take responsibility for ongoing maintenance,

ensuring the AED remains ready for use with monthly checks and timely replacement of pads and batteries. It will also be registered with Ambulance Victoria, making it visible to GoodSAM responders and Triple Zero operators during emergencies.

"This is a gift that will never stop giving," said Jeremy Westaway, managing director of PI Tenpin.

"It's not about ticking a box – it's about knowing that someone walking by at midnight, or a young family visiting us on the weekend, could get the help they need in seconds. We're beyond grateful to John, the board, and everyone at Community Bank Cowes for making this possible. This defibrillator is for all of us."

Orchestra Victoria's 2025 regional tour underway

ORCHESTRA Victoria is touring regional Victoria in 2025 with a captivating series of performances, community workshops and education programs across Gippsland. Supported by the Victorian Government through Creative Victoria's Touring Victoria program, the tour promises to inspire audiences of all ages with a dynamic blend of orchestral concerts, educational initiatives, and interactive musical storytelling.

With an orchestral performance at the Gippsland Performing Arts Centre on June 14, featuring a powerful program of *La Forza del Destino* Overture by Verdi, *Release* by Ella Macens, Arturo Márquez's *Danzón No. 2*, and Vaughan Williams' *Symphony No. 5*.

Orchestra Victoria's Artistic Advisor "Bringing Orchestra Victoria's performances to regional Victoria is an incredible opportunity to share the power and beauty of live music with communities. These concerts are not just performances; they're a chance to experience the magic of the orchestra right in your own backyard," Jessica Gethin said.

"It's all about connecting with audiences, inspiring the next generation and creating lasting relationships with music lovers of all ages."

Beyond the stage, the



Orchestra Victoria is delivering an enriching experience across Gippsland from June 10 until June 14.

orchestra's outreach initiatives will bring music into schools, libraries, and aged care facilities across the region. The Connect Program will enrich the lives of aged care residents through intimate live performances delivered directly to their communities.

In schools, the innovative education program *What Noise Do Numbers Make?* will reveal the fascinating connection between music and mathematics. Students will join Orchestra Victoria in a vibrant, curriculum-aligned concert experience, exploring how numbers

shape the music we love and even creating an original composition for the orchestra guided by the beauty and logic of maths.

As part of Orchestra Victoria's community outreach initiatives, workshops are taking place in collaboration

with regional orchestras and bands, supporting their ongoing programs and providing local ensembles with opportunities to engage with Orchestra Victoria's professional players through tailored mentorship and skill development.

For tickets and more information, please visit: orchestravictoria.com.au/whats-on

Performance & Community Engagement Details:

Gippsland Orchestral Concert

Gippsland Performing Arts Centre | Saturday, June 14, 6pm

What Noise Do Numbers Make? (Public Performances)

What Noise Do Numbers Make? (Education Program – School Concerts)

What Noise Do Numbers Make? (Education Program)

The Wedge Performing Arts Centre | Wednesday, June 11, 2pm

What Noise Do Numbers Make? (Education Program)

South Gippsland Schools Music Program | Thursday, June 12, 12.30pm

Community Workshop with La Trobe Orchestra | Thursday, June 12.

What Noise Do Numbers Make? Gippsland Performing Arts Centre | Friday, June 13

Connect Program – Various aged care facilities.

The Gippsland tour is supported by Dr Peter Kingsbury.

ORCHESTRA VICTORIA

An evening with
Jacinta Parsons and Orchestra Victoria



The vivacious and thoughtful **Jacinta Parsons** (host of *Friday Revue* and *Saturday Mornings* on ABC Radio Melbourne) will guide you through the music and introduce you to the people and stories behind the music you hear.

Orchestra Victoria are proud to be taking centre stage in Gippsland to help you experience the full spectrum of musical expression. Conducted by the dynamic **Carlo Antonioli**, don't miss an unforgettable evening of music making.



Gippsland Performing Arts Centre

**Saturday 14 June 2025
6:00pm**

Tickets: Adult \$39 / Concession \$29

Berninneit calls for 2026 exhibition proposals

BASS Coast Shire Council is excited to announce that *Expressions of Interest (EOIs)* for 2026 gallery exhibitions at Berninneit are now open. Artists and curators are invited to submit proposals for a unique opportunity to showcase their work in the professional visual arts space. EOIs will remain open for six weeks, until Sunday, June 29.

The Shire is proud to offer successful applicants the chance to present their exhibitions in the state-of-the-art gallery. Each selected exhibition will be scheduled for a six-week run between July and December 2026.

The Visual Arts Officer will collaborate closely with exhibitors, providing professional support to ensure the best outcomes for each exhibition. From curating the space to coordinating logistics, the team is dedicated to making any artistic vision a reality. Additionally, day-to-day operations and sales will be expertly managed by the Bass Coast Shire's customer service staff, ensuring a seamless experience for both exhibitors and visitors.

In its first year of operation, Berninneit has already showcased an exciting range of exhibitions that highlight the calibre and diversity of



Expressions of Interest (EOIs) for 2026 gallery exhibitions at its cultural heart, Berninneit, are now open, and close on Sunday, June 29.

artists in the region, including:

Floor is Lava, by artist Dr Emma Jackson, explored the volcanic origins of Australian islands – including Phillip Island – through large-scale knotted rugs that captivated visitors with their texture and story.

Unseen, by internationally acclaimed local photographer Matthew Bagley, used ultraviolet photography to transform discarded ocean debris from free diving adventures on the San Remo coastline into hauntingly beautiful imagery, sparking conversation around conservation and the hidden depths of our coastal waters.

Berninneit also recently welcomed beloved Australian author and illustrator Alison Lester for

a community artist talk that attracted more than 60 attendees, with interactive activities and a book signing hosted in partnership with Myli – My Community Library.

The Shire also looking forward to welcoming Millowl artist Steven Ulula Parker for Warreeny Ngulu (Ocean Voice). Painting on canvas, as well as contemporary objects such as surfboards and skateboards, Parker makes his work accessible to diverse audiences and communities.

EOIs are open now and close on Sunday, June 29. To learn more about how to apply for an exhibition at Berninneit, please read the Exhibitors Information Pack available at basscoast.vic.gov.au/berninneitEOI.

It's creepy, it's kooky... and they're dying to see you!

THE mansion of mayhem came to life last weekend as Wonthaggi Theatrical Group transformed The Union into an Addams family pandemonium filled with spooktacular fun in a performance that was bone-a-fide brilliant.

"It's the best show for a long time," one audience member stated, noting the staging and effects were fantastic.

"There were different twists to another recent production of the Addams Family and we couldn't recommend it highly enough – we're waiting to go again!"

And they weren't wrong.

The hair and make-up, the sets, the music awakened the senses and took on a life of it's own as cast filled the stage in high energy performances.

"The cast are fantastic," Carol Cox (props department) stated explaining the reception the first two nights was terrific.

"There is so much talent (both on stage and backstage)."

"It's great to see all the elements come together," props manager Sara Skate added.

"There were a lot of hours of painting and getting all the props ready."

For makeup artist and head of department, Jess Purtle there may have been a lot of white makeup backstage, however, it was nice seeing it all come together on stage.

"Everyone worked together, and it all complemented," Jess smiled.

"Everyone is enthusiastic and loving the characters and costumes," head of wigs and hair Kerrin Barker added.

Ghastly props, gothic glamour, spooky vocals and haunting elegance The Addams Family musical is a show not to be missed.

So, what are you waiting for? Snap to it! Tickets are vanishing fast – trybooking.com/events/landing/1331814.

Photo: Mark Durey.



Brad Gilmour and Carol Cox in the props department.



Tonya Hackett (violin) pictured with Leisel Burrows (bass guitar) was gearing up for the third show on Sunday.



Sara Skate (props manager) and Jess Purtle (head of makeup) backstage ahead of the show.

BACK - BY POPULAR DEMAND

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Students Hope Tyrone and Alex Laughton were busy serving coffees and making scones at Bass Coast Specialist School's Biggest Morning Tea event. W04_2125



MYLI People and Culture Assistant Manager Jye Cloutena with Library Program Office Sabine Aeschlimann at the Wonthaggi Library for National Simultaneous Storytime. B05_2125



Work experience students Tyler and Blake assist with storytime reading at the Wonthaggi library. B04_2125



Amanda Jeeves and Jess Rigby at National Simultaneous Storytime in the Wonthaggi library. B03_2125



Rose Lodge residents Daphne Nelson and Joan Clarke enjoying a sandwich with Bass Coast College work experience student, Hayley Campbell at the Bass Coast Specialist School's Biggest Morning Tea. W07_2125



Senior Teacher, Lea Buchel was selling raffle tickets at Bass Coast Specialist School's Biggest Morning Tea event, helping raise money for the Cancer Council. W08_2125



Jo Brusamarello, Janette Davis and Lynette Hodges at the Deery Consulting Biggest Morning Tea in Inverloch. B13_2125



Brad Hodson, Dan Courtney and Ross Lovett were part of Australia's Biggest Morning Tea at Deery Consulting. B16_2125



Catherine Mahoney and Heather Wright participating in Australia's Biggest Morning Tea. B15_2125



Pictures of you and your friends at Storytime at the Wonthaggi Library, Country Universities Centre Bass Coast celebrations, Bass Coast Specialist School and Deery Consulting Australia's Biggest Morning Tea.



Chatting about the formation of the Wonthaggi Power Football Netball Club back in 2005 are former president Rob Tesoriero, Carl Lindsay for 10 years a committee man and Russell Thomas.

Sentinel-Times

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Education Program Coordinator, Rhett McLennan with students Ryan Sparkes and Grace McRae as CUC Bass Coast celebrated 200 registered students. W10_2125



Celebrating 200 registrations still didn't stop CUC student Dot Foon from studying, soon to be progressing to psychology. W12_2125



Emma Gibson, Angela Hogan and Berni Bradley raised a cuppa for Australia's Biggest Morning Tea at Inverloch. B18_2125



Catherine Mahoney, Robyn Smith and Di Wise were part of Australia's Biggest Morning Tea at Deery Consulting in Inverloch helping to raise funds for those impacted by cancer. B20_2125



Troy Hemming (BizIT), Sandy Norton and Vanessa Bostock at Deery Consulting for Australia's Biggest Morning Tea. B17_2125



Clare Dowling and Fiona Kennedy enjoying Australia's Biggest Morning Tea in Inverloch. B19_2125



Bass Coast Shire Cr Meg Edwards with Mark Withers, Group Leader of Inverloch Scouts, at Deery Consulting helping to raise funds for the Cancer Council of Australia at Australia's Biggest Morning Tea. B21_2125

Best-selling Gippsland author at Inverloch's Biggest Morning Tea

AUSTRALIA's Biggest Morning Tea at Deery Consulting in Inverloch just keeps getting bigger every year with this year's event pushing the total raised over five years to \$30,000.

Guest speaker at this year's annual fundraiser for the Cancer Council of Australia was best-selling Gippsland author, writer and podcaster Lisa Ireland.

In her eleventh year as a writer Lisa Ireland has published eight novels to date including her latest book *The Studio Girls*, *The Secret Life of Shirley Sullivan*, *The One and Only Dolly Jamieson*, *The Shape of Us*, and bestselling rural romance novel *Feels Like Home*.

Lisa Ireland's first book *Breaking the Drought* called on Lisa's experience as a young, city girl posted to a small country school in rural Gippsland.

"It's hard to get now," said Lisa.

Sick of wasting her time in the dating pool the central character in *Breaking the Drought*, Jenna has a strict criteria to help her assess a man's 'marriage material' potential.

Shearers and farmhands need not apply.

Sheep grazer Luke Tanner has enough on his plate, crippled by guilt over his brother's accidental death Luke is

focused on keeping the family farm afloat.

The pace quickens when both attend a small country town ball, Jenna holding no illusion of meeting the man of her dreams and Luke absolutely sure he wouldn't find a match with a spoilt city girl like Jenna.

It's been a long, dry season, but everyone knows when it rains, it pours.

Biggest Morning Tea Convenor Robyn Hodson said what started as a small event in the Deery Consulting warehouse in Dixon Street during COVID has grown each year.

With support from local businesses donating raffle and silent auction prizes, and snacks and cakes supplied by Paul the Pieman, the Deery Consulting Biggest Morning Tea has been able to reach out to the local community.

"Cancer has touched many lives," said Ms Hodson.

This year's event was attended by around 80 people and raised \$7910.

More information on the Deery Consulting Biggest Morning Tea can be found on Facebook or cash donations can be made at the Deery Consulting office in Dixon Street or online at biggestmorningtea.com.au/fundraisers/DeeryConsulting.



Best-selling Gippsland author and writer Lisa Ireland guest speaker for Australia's Biggest Morning Tea at Deery Consulting in Inverloch. B12_2125



Lynette Hodge, Mary Aldred (Monash MHR elect) and Trevor Bowler at Deery Consulting in Inverloch participating in Australia's Biggest Morning Tea. B31_2125

SJD named Australia's Major Builder of the Year

FOLLOWING SJD Homes 2024 Victorian win, the builders have been awarded the 2025 HIA Australian Professional Major Builder of the Year.

"This national recognition is a powerful affirmation of who we are, what we stand for, and how we continue to redefine what it means to be a home builder in Australia," a spokesperson for SJD Homes said.

"We're a proudly local builder, operating solely within the communities of South East Melbourne, Gippsland, and the Bass Coast. We don't build nationwide, simply focusing on doing things exceptionally well in our own backyard. And yet, from this small corner of Victoria, we've taken out the highest honour in our industry: HIA Australian Professional Major Builder of the Year. To receive national recognition as a builder with local foundations is something truly special.

"We have never aimed to be the biggest builder, but we've always aimed to be the best."

According to SJD, the latest recognition acknowledges their 'unwavering commitment to our clients, our people, and our purpose'.

"We've built a company anchored in transparency, trust, community, innovation, and care. The moment a client walks into one of our display homes, they are welcomed into something far greater than a transaction – they become part of a journey where their vision matters, their voice is heard, and their investment is respected."

What sets SJD Homes apart isn't just the homes they build,



SJD Homes started as a small, family-owned company and has grown to become one of Victoria's most respected builders.

but how they build them.

"Our clients are supported from start to finish by experienced consultants who stay with them every step of the way. We're flexible, responsive, and focused on making each home a true reflection of the people who live in it. Whether it's adapting a floorplan, navigating a challenging block, or making changes along the way, we work with our clients, not around them. We're a builder that listens and cares."

SJD Homes is also one of only a few certified carbon-neutral builders, with the company contributing over \$400,000 to charitable and community causes.

"As a carbon-neutral, community-minded business, we've embedded sustainability in

every layer of our operations. From our sustainable building practices to our long-standing partnerships with local charities, we show that business success and doing good can – and should – go hand in hand.

"Our award-winning submission reflected everything we do to ensure our clients experience not only a quality home but an exceptional build journey.

"It also reflected the heart of our business – our people. From wellbeing initiatives to leadership that empowers every team member, we've built a culture that values support, growth, and collaboration. Our team shows up with purpose, knowing that every home we build has a lasting impact on the families who live in it."

SJD has proudly built over

3000 homes in Victoria using local trades and suppliers, including many throughout the Bass Coast region with four display homes now open in Wonthaggi.

"We are deeply honoured to have been named among the finest home builders in the country. We extend our heartfelt thanks to the Housing Industry Association for this recognition and for championing excellence in our industry. To our peers and fellow finalists – we are proud to stand alongside you, and we celebrate your achievements too.

"To our clients, our team, and our community – thank you for believing in us.

"This is only the beginning for SJD Homes. The future is strong."

Beachside is baking 4 Brain Cancer

HELPING those affected by brain cancer, Emily and Steven Bell of Beachside Bakehouse have jumped behind this year's Baking for Brain Cancer which supports the Brain Cancer Centre.

Baking for Brain Cancer was initiated by Phillip Dalton of Phil's Pies and Pastries in Berwick when his wife was diagnosed with the highly aggressive brain cancer glioblastoma.

According to the pair, compared with incredible progress in other forms of cancer, the survival of patients with GBM has not improved in 30 years. Shockingly, brain cancer kills more children than any other disease and more people under the age of 40 die from it than any other form of cancer in Australia.

The husband-and-wife duo wanted to find a way to rally the community to support brain cancer research and as such Baking for Brain Cancer was born, supporting the very centre founded by Carrie's Beanies 4 Brain Cancer.

In its inaugural year, the baking event has now seen more than 60 bakeries and cafes nationwide jump on board ahead of the May 31 date.

"We decided to support this cause as it is about supporting other businesses like ours, and to help spread the word," Steven and Emily explained.

"We know that if one of our family members were affected, we would want as many people on board with us as possible, not only raising funds but more importantly raising awareness."

Beachside Bakehouse are not only raising funds on the day itself but also the week either side offering individual cookies (donated by a supplier) for \$2 with all proceeds going to the cause, as well as \$1 from every vanilla slice or French vanilla sold between Sunday, May 25 and Saturday, May 31.

"On Saturday, May 31 – available by pre-order only – we will have 'Breaky and Brunch Boxes for Brain Cancer' with a delicious array of hand selected treats that you can share with your family and friends, whilst raising awareness and supporting the cause."

With \$15 from each Brunch box purchased donated to the cause.

"Come and visit us this week, grab a vanilla slice, or a cookie, or pre order a box (available to pre order until 3pm Thursday, May 29)."

For more information and to order email beachsidebh@outlook.com or call 5678 5087.

Riding for the Disabled Woolamai calling for riders

THE Riding for the Disabled Woolamai group has proudly increased their stable of horses suitable for riders with a disability. The latest addition is Cheyenne, an experienced pony club mount who has spent years building confidence of her riders.

The Woolamai Riding for Disabled group has been gaining momentum since its launch two years ago.

"There is a fantastic group of volunteers, each with their differing skills and interests, which are the backbone to the growth of RDA Woolamai," according to Bruce Spiden, President of the group.

The ongoing growth is a continual process of finding suitable horses, more riders and more volunteers. The horses are put through a rigorous testing process before they are admitted to the program. Cheyenne has passed with flying colours.

"We are also fortunate to have the assistance of Kelly van Der Berg, a respected local equestrian, who has a special knack for striking up a relationship with the riders and building their confidence," Bruce said.

The group has programs to suit both mounted and unmounted riders. Cheyenne will be able to be used both in the arena and for unmounted riders.

There is availability for riders of all ages with a disability to join the group.

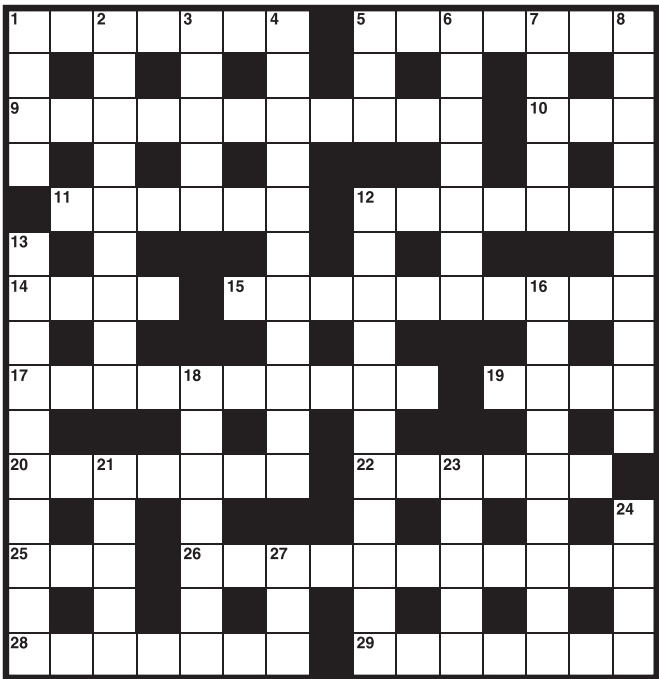
Anyone interested can contact Deb Morris on rdawoolamai@gmail.com, or Bruce Spiden on 0419 372 581.

The group meets throughout the school term on Thursday mornings at their home grounds located at Woolamai Racecourse.



CROSSWORD

No. 282



- ACROSS**
- 1 Refrain; pass (7)
5 Social dance (5-2)
9 Young adulthood (11)
10 Reverential wonder (3)
11 Value (6)
12 Sound of wood burning (7)
- 14 Poke (4)
15 Normal or conventional (10)
17 Rival (10)
19 Book ID (1,1,1,1)
20 Fixed sum of money paid each year (7)
22 Willful (6)

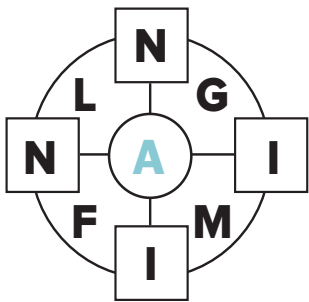
- 25 Bedridden (3)
26 Combined whole (11)
28 Leather factory (7)
29 Kings and queens (7)
- DOWN**
- 1 Partly open (4)
2 Blizzard (9)
3 *Rolling in the Deep* singer (5)
4 Unavoidably (11)
5 Knowledge (3)
6 Tastefully fine (7)
7 Predator (5)
8 Promotion (10)
12 Aficionado (11)
13 Doctor with superior knowledge in a specific field (10)
16 Vital, indispensable (9)
18 Territory ruled by an Islamic monarch (7)
21 Synthetic fibre (5)
23 Prepared (5)
24 Just (4)
27 Lively (3)

9-LETTER

No. 282

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:
13 words: **Good**
19 words: **Very good**
26 words: **Excellent**



SOLUTION

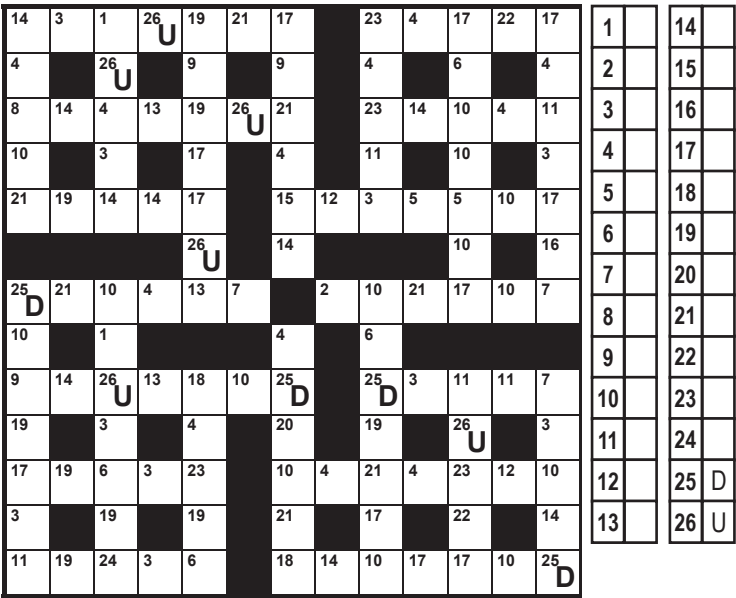


ailing, aiming, align, fail, failing, fair, fang, final, final, flag, flaming, fan, gain, gamine, INFAMING, lain, lang, mag, mail, mailing, main, mailing, namine, nailing, nailing

CODEWORD

No. 272

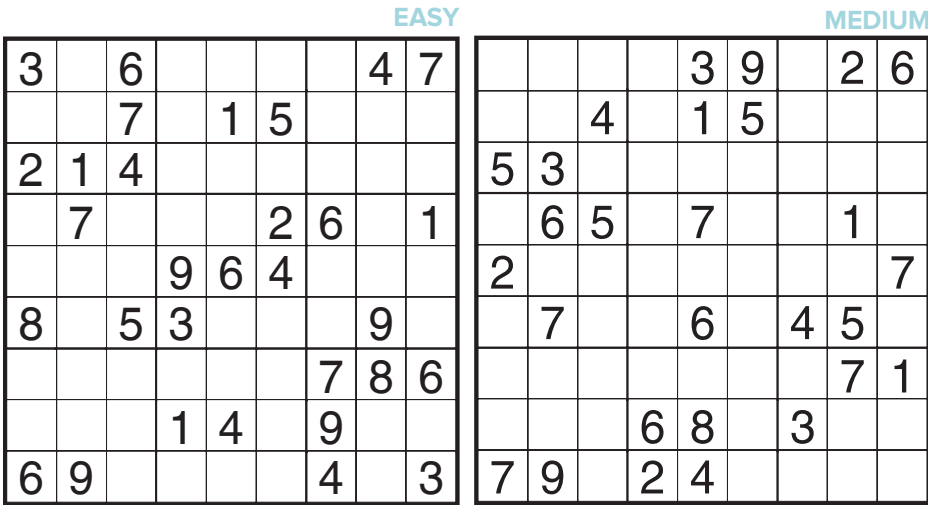
Each number corresponds to a letter of the alphabet. Two have been filled in for you, can you work out the rest?



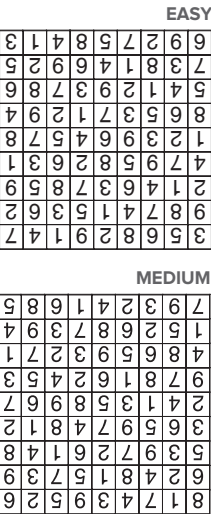
SUDOKU

No. 281

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every number from 1 to 9 must appear in: each of the nine vertical columns, each of the nine horizontal rows and each of the nine 3 x 3 boxes. Remember, no number can occur more than once in any row, column or box.



SOLUTIONS



QUICK QUIZ

- Who wrote the 1868 novel *Little Women*?
- What was the name of the tropical cyclone that caused severe damage to northern Queensland in 2011?
- Who was the keyboard player for The Doors?
- What was the name of the ship on which Charles Darwin sailed to the Galápagos Islands?
- Which 1950s poem begins with the line, 'I saw the best minds of my generation destroyed by madness, starving hysterical naked'?
- And who wrote the poem?
- One day on the planet Mercury is closest to how many days on Earth: 19, 32 or 59?
- My Sharona* was an international success for which US rock band?
- Joseph Gordon-Levitt (pictured) played Tommy in which sitcom?
- In Judaism, what is the name for the seven days of mourning that take place after a funeral?



WORD SEARCH

No. 192

Can you find all the words listed? The leftover letters will spell out a secret message.



- ALFRED
BARKLEY
BARROW
BARRYMORE
BERTUCCIO
BRUNTON
BULLIMORE
CADBURY
CARSON
EDGAR
FIGARO
GILES
HUDSON
JARVIS
- JEEVES
JENKINS
LEPORELLO
LURCH
MERRIMAN
NESTOR
NILES
PASSEPARTOUT
PENNYWORTH
POOLE
RIFF RAFF
SIMONIDES
WADSWORTH
WOODHOUSE

SECRET MESSAGE: Serving wealthy households with much style

Lifestyle and location on acreage

TUCKED away between Leongatha and Korumburra, is this gorgeous, elevated three-bedroom lifestyle property on approximately 8.4 acres. Surrounded by manicured gardens, additional paddocks for the animals, excellent shedding and a stunning view, you will love the ambience and tranquillity!

- Features of the property include:
- Massive master bedroom with built in robes and a stunning ensuite
 - Remaining two bedrooms are generous in size
 - Functional country style kitchen with magnificent views from the expansive windows
 - Cosy lounge/dining area with a solid fuel heater and RC/AC
 - French doors opening onto the sweeping veranda
 - Stunning central bathroom
 - Approximately 8.4 acres of land with excellent shedding
 - Paddocks with two dams and shelter belts are perfect for grazing animals
 - Mature gardens, gorgeous established trees, citrus and fruit trees, veggie garden and a chook house
 - Current owners have also planted an additional 100 native tress throughout the property

If you're looking for some space around you, shedding, peace and tranquillity with views to die for, then this is for you! Relax on the veranda, soak up the atmosphere and watch the sunset – how perfect does that sound!

Call Kellie Thomas on 0438 647 449 to arrange an inspection and make this gorgeous property yours.



 3  2  3 8.4 Acres*

195 Barnes Road, **Kardella South**
For Sale \$1,100,000 - \$1,150,000
Agent Nutrien Harcourts
Kellie Thomas 0438 647 449
kellie.thomas@nh.com.au
**Approximately*



 **Nutrien Harcourts** Leongatha

We make it possible

47 Bair Street (03) 5662 2292
nutrien.harcourts.net/au/office/leongatha



FOR SALE

LEONGATHA  3  2  3

Country Living on the edge of Leongatha!

- Lovely family home on approx. 2.47 acre block.
- Master bedroom with walk in robe and ensuite.
- Low maintenance gardens, good shedding & fencing.

\$895,000



FOR SALE

FISH CREEK  4  3  8

Idyllic Country Living on 28 Acres!

- Beautiful home with stunning fittings & fixtures.
- U/cover alfresco, double lock up garage, great shedding.
- Large dam, shelter belts, elec. Fencing, large water tank.

\$1,385,000



FOR SALE

TARWIN LOWER  3  1  2

A Rural Gem on Approx. 199 Acres

- 199 acres of productive farmland, Tarwin River frontage.
- Charming 1930s homestead with scenic views.
- Minutes to Tarwin Lower & Inverloch, 2 hrs to Melbourne.

\$2,900,000



Barry Redmond
Director / Estate Agent
0477 622 292



FOR SALE

FOSTER  3  2  2

Family Home with an Elevated Outlook!

- Modern brick veneer home on 604m² block.
- Master BR with an Ensuite and a generous walk in robe.
- 2 car-lock up garage, great location.

\$690,000



FOR SALE

TARWIN LOWER  4  3  2

Family Living Done Right!

- Modern 4 BR on 106 acres with horse facilities and arena.
- 8 horse paddocks, 5 dams, stockyards, 24m x 12m shed.
- Views over Andersons Inlet, minutes to Inverloch.

\$850,000-\$880,000



FOR SALE

LEONGATHA  2  2  2

Dual Living with Convenient Address!

- Light and bright, well maintained on approx. 788m².
- Modern kitchen, with spacious benchtops.
- Great location close to Leongatha's CBD.

\$550,000



Kellie Thomas
Licensed Estate Agent
0438 647 449



FOR SALE

LEONGATHA  3  1  2

Charming Renovated Home

- Beautifully renovated home on approx. 2.8 Acres.
- Spacious modern kitchen, new flooring, wood heater.
- Huge 14x12m shed, peaceful location.

\$810,000



FOR SALE

LEONGATHA  3  1  1

Excellent Opportunity!

- Solid brick home with two living areas, reverse cycle A/C.
- Spacious kitchen/dining, garage with electric roller door.
- Low-maintenance yard with veggie garden and shed.

\$549,000



FOR SALE

RUBY  4  2  2

Unique and Bespoke!

- Unique family home on approx. 3.3 acres.
- Heated lap pool, cinema room & renovated kitchen.
- Excellent shedding, solar, and lovely gardens.

\$1,250,000



Monique Wightman
Marketing & Administration
(03) 5662 2292



Skye Clothier
Sales Associate
(03) 5662 2292

HM11813-V24



Dairy farmers doing all they can to deal with sustained dry period

By Andrew Palocz

DAIRY farmers from across the region attended Dairy Australia's 'Tactics for Dry Times' session in Inverloch, an event organisers hoped wouldn't become necessary, but which the ongoing lack of rain made essential.

About 80 farmers heard about the uncertainty regarding rainfall forecasts for coming months, along with advice on herd management, feeding strategies and information on what possibilities are being explored to make water available to those most in need.

Gipps Dairy Regional Manager Karen McLennan spoke of emergency water supply points managed by councils and water authorities, as well as public and private bores across the region, with efforts being made to help farmers get access to their nearest water supply point where possible.

Before the session, Karen told the Sentinel-Times of farmers' worries about their animals.

"The biggest concern we're starting to hear now is 'We're worried about animal welfare' because farmers last week and the week before were trying to get cattle to the local sale yards and they couldn't get cattle in because everybody was doing the same, in terms of trying to offload stock," she said.

"That started to get us worried; you've got no feed, no water and you can't get rid of your stock, there's definitely going to be animal welfare concerns," she said.

She encourages creative solutions where possible, such as a local farmer having an arrangement to harvest water from the large shed roof of a local business.

During the session, Matt Harms of ONFARM Consulting said farmers have reason to be concerned and need to look after each other, stressing that indecision is not an option given current conditions and the risk of ongoing dry weather.



Extension Coordinator at Dairy Australia Trish Hammond and Gipps Dairy Board Farmer Director Mick Hughes are ready to chat to dairy farmers about tactics for dry times. A08_2125

"Get rid of passenger cows; they are sucking the feed out of your system for no value," he stressed, telling his audience they are not beef farmers.

"Don't just assume you can send them on the truck; speak to your agent," he advised, given the high numbers of cattle being sold currently.

Establishing trigger points to determine how many cattle you need to move on according to your situation at set points in time is a way to ensure you make timely decisions.

As for the cattle being fed, fibre was labelled as key, Matt highlighting the need to ration it by using grain to stretch out what hay and silage you have available, explaining that if you run out of fibre and can't source any, which is becoming increasingly difficult, the only option is to sell cows.

Matt spoke of high evaporation over Summer that has continued during Autumn, believing the situation is worse than that in 2016/17.

Andrew McLean from the Bureau of Meteorology appeared via video link from Melbourne, noting that green vegetation in Bass Coast, Baw

and South Gippsland Shires is close to the lowest level recorded since 2001.

Unfortunately, he couldn't offer any definitive weather forecasts for the region, particularly regarding rain, as the relevant weather models are not giving strong indicators either way.

Indicators for a warmer winter are stronger but there is still no certainty.

Gipps Dairy Board Farmer Director Mick Hughes, whose dairy farm is just out of Inverloch, was another of Wednesday's speakers.

He has observed more evaporation at his place than ever recently, and spoke about some of the tactics he has used to get as much water in his dams as possible.

That includes creating spoon drains through paddocks leading into a dam, a tactic that enabled him to fill one dam overnight.

He also cleans out all his existing drains, enlarges his dams and removes silt.

Using recycled water in the yard is one of the water-saving measures he employs.

Farmers attending the



Matt Harms of ONFARM Consulting speaks during Wednesday's 'Tactics for Dry Times' gathering in Inverloch. A07_2125

session were encouraged to respond to an email asking what more Gipps Dairy can do to support them through the current tough conditions, Tuesday's session being prompted by feedback from farmers, particularly those running out of water.

Representatives of a couple of water authorities were present for the Inverloch Community Hub gathering.

ELECTRIC FENCE ENERGIZER REPAIRS

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(Formerly Vassil Electronics)
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JA21217

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Looking for a farm suitable of milking 300 plus cows.
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VV0290

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PROPERTY SOLD 200 COWS & REPLACEMENTS

130 AI Medium/Large framed Friesian Cows in milk
PTIC for last week July/Aug/early Sept calving to AI Sires inc Davinci, Murand, King Dot, Arrow, First Grade. Cows In Calf to AI 6 weeks-sires include DaVinci, Float, Harpy, Yarrowood, Legendary, Racial PSG, then followed by Friesian bull, Son of King Dot. Cows 3-8 YO
\$2200 + \$220 GST
Vendor prepared to sell in smaller lots of 30 or more

30 Friesian Cows
Predominantly 1st & 2nd calvers, last spring calving, not IC. Same breeding as 130 Cows
\$1800 + \$180 GST

40 Friesian AI Heifers - Spring 23 drop
Synchronised Aug to AI sexed semen-Harpy, followed by Jersey bulls
This herd represents 50 years of AI breeding quality Friesian Dairy Cows.
Breeding by Orchards Genetics
23/24 production details-8184 ltrs, 580kg solids, BMCC 130k, 3.5 kg bale fed
\$2000 + \$200 GST



For further details contact:
Stuart Jenkin 0447 602 302
Nutrien Leongatha
South Gippsland Livestock

JA23083

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MARKET REPORT

Brought to you by...

CLAAS Harvest Centre



Prices lift for heavy feeders

By SGSAA

AGENTS yarded another good quality offering of 3000 head at Thursday's VLE Leongatha store sale.

With less cattle on offer across the state and a bit of rain in NSW along with an additional couple orders in play helped lift prices for good heavy feeders by 10-20 cents with feedlot orders securing the majority of them again.

Lighter cattle continue to head north into northern NSW and further with prices firm to dearer.

Leongatha Store Sale on Thursday, May 22, 2025 Steers

Street Farms 10 Angus	621kg	\$4.02	\$2500
AG Adamo 12 Angus	598kg	\$4.01	\$2400
P & A Van Kuyk 13 Angus	564kg	\$4.21	\$2380
Briarsview Beef 12 Angus	563kg	\$4.26	\$2400
P & A Van Kuyk 18 Angus	535kg	\$4.21	\$2260
D & M Morton 11 Angus	517kg	\$4.22	\$2190
Melaleuca Past 20 Angus	506kg	\$4.22	\$2140
P & A Van Kuyk 11 Angus	490kg	\$3.97	\$1950
P Doyle 12 Angus	475kg	\$4.41	\$2100
G Fox 12 Angus	463kg	\$4.22	\$1960
White Stag Past 14 Angus	450kg	\$4.32	\$1950
Hunt & Grant 21 Hereford	439kg	\$3.86	\$1700
Vere Investments 19 Angus	436 kg	\$4.28	\$1870
D & M Morton 14 Angus	428 kg	\$4.21	\$1810
White Stag Past 13 Angus	411kg	\$3.98	\$1640
G & J Turner 12 Angus	391kg	\$3.98	\$1560
Narrang 12 Angus	390kg	\$3.97	\$1550
McRae Past 21 Angus	389kg	\$4.34	\$1730
McRae Past 22 Angus	384kg	\$4.49	\$1730
P & T Harris 10 Angus	382kg	\$4.13	\$1580
Satra 22 Angus	372kg	\$4.05	\$1510
Mcrae Past 13 Angus	367kg	\$4.10	\$1510
G Wallis 11 Angus	361kg	\$4.14	\$1500
Stonewarra Rural 12 Angus	387kg	\$4.09	\$1590
J & S Kelly 17 Angus	357kg	\$4.19	\$1500
Burfield Partners 14 Angus	341kg	\$4.04	\$1380
KH Perry 12 Angus	354kg	\$4.12	\$1460
AW & CM O'Mara 11 Angus	352kg	\$4.02	\$1420
P O'Mara 13 Hereford	348kg	\$3.72	\$1300
R & C Jennings 13 Angus	338kg	\$3.98	\$1350
J & S Kelly 17 Angus	328kg	\$4.29	\$1410
Burfield 21 Angus	328kg	\$4.02	\$1320
J & S Kelly 21 Angus	308kg	\$4.47	\$1380
T & J Donchi 16 Angus	292kg	\$3.92	\$1150
Burfield Partners 22 Angus	285kg	\$4.41	\$1260
Stonewarra Rural 23 Angus	284kg	\$4.18	\$1190
Stonewarra Rural 14 Angus	256kg	\$4.09	\$1050
T & R Browne 21 Angus	247kg	\$4.12	\$1020
Warrambine 17 Angus	230kg	\$3.82	\$880

Heifers

N & K Hansford 17 Hfd	424kg	\$3.41	\$1450
Hunt & Grant 17 Angus	422kg	\$3.71	\$1570
Jaroka P/L 19 Angus	409kg	\$3.66	\$1500
B Vagg 20 Angus	385kg	\$3.68	\$1420
P & T Harris 19 Angus	381kg	\$3.61	\$1380
Narrang 15 Angus	359kg	\$3.62	\$1300
Stonewarra Rural 14 Angus	352kg	\$3.40	\$1200
B Vagg 25 Angus	351kg	\$3.53	\$1240
Narrang 15 Angus	326kg	\$3.49	\$1140
T & J Donchi 18 Angus	294kg	\$3.51	\$1000
Stonewarra 17 Angus	291kg	\$3.43	\$1000
Stonewarra 19 Angus	245kg	\$3.38	\$830
Warrambine 23 Angus	208kg	\$3.30	\$690

This isn't just a tax, it's the last straw

By Sallie Jones, co-founder, Gippsland Jersey

TODAY, I marched. Not for headlines. Not for politics.

I marched because I know what it feels like to lose someone when they found the burden too hard, and I truly feel this "levy" will make the burden too hard for some.

In 2016, I lost my dad to suicide.

He was my hero. A proud dairy farmer. A man who often pulled 18-hour days. He was big in frame, big in heart – passionate, logical, brave, entrepreneurial, and kind. He loved a good story, was hugely empathetic, and always generous. But when it came to government overreach? He saw red.

There are many stories when my dad saw injustices and he had no choice but to act. Some he won, others he lost. But he had no regrets.

Back then, I didn't fully understand the weight he was carrying. I probably didn't show much support. We'd roll our eyes at his passionate phone calls and conversations or the way he'd sometimes give it to the people in ivory towers.

Now that I'm in my 40s, I get it... I really get it.

All those years of fighting to keep the farm going, dealing with red tape, battling isolation, family pressures... it wore him down. He didn't have a tribe or hobbies to burn off the stress.

And in the end, the burden got too much for him and it took him.

If Dad were here today, he would've been front and centre at the protest. Loud, fueled with passion and a want to correct the injustice and ease the burden unfairly put on his fellow farmers. He would've had the biggest sign and likely even grabbed the megaphone!

And he would've been proud – proud to see farmers rise up together. No more quiet suffering. No more just accepting a decision made without consulting all the stakeholders.



Max and Tameeka Vera, David Johnson, Neerim South. David has never protested in his life!

This isn't just about another levy/tax.

It's about what that levy/tax does to people who are already stretched to their breaking point.

We're in a drought.

Feed is scarce and very expensive if you can get it.

Costs are through the roof. Milk prices don't stack up (although Gippsland Jersey is paying farmers more for milk!).

And now – on top of it all – a brutal land tax hike of more than 150 per cent.

Thousands of us turned up – outside Parliament, in regional towns, and all over social media.

Many farmers had never held a protest sign in their life.

These are the doers. The

providers. The ones who keep this country fed without ever asking for thanks. The ones who leave the dinner table to fight fires in their CFA gear. Who pull strangers from floodwater. Who show up – always.

Now they need someone to show up for them.

Let's call this levy/tax what it is: a cash grab.

The government says the Emergency Services Volunteer Fund (ESVF) is about supporting the SES.

This is disguised as supporting the Emergency Services but in reality it's plugging holes in a busted state budget.

And once again, it's farmers and regional people being handed the bill –and it's a slap in the face.

Farmers and regional people are the SES. We are the CFA. We're the ones volunteering, showing up, and protecting others in our communities and beyond.

And now, they want to charge us to be the very volunteers we already are?

This isn't just a rate rise. At Gippsland Jersey, this hits home.

Our farmers and our families are tired, sore, carrying the full burden of budgets that are stretched and won't add up and stock that need constant feeding, but rarely do they complain. Most farmers don't.

But I see it. I feel it.

I know how heavy it gets when there's no light at the end of the tunnel and the burden is getting heavier.

This levy/tax isn't just a number on a notice.

It's a final blow.

We're done being quiet

To everyone who marched, spoke up, or took time off the farm – THANK YOU.

We know what that costs to get off the farm or off the treadmill of life.

But this isn't the end.

It's the beginning.

Go to scrapthetax.com.au and Emergency Services and Volunteers Fund - Petitions – Parliament of Victoria

Add your voice. Share your story.

Be loud.

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- SuicideLine Victoria 1300 651 251. www.suicideline.org.au offers free professional, confidential support, 24 hours a day, seven days a week across Victoria.

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Farmers are struggling to find food, water and now face the new levy

FIFTH generation farmer from Kilcunda, Wayne Churchill is concerned about the impact the emergency services levy will have on all Victorian farmers, especially those who are doing it tough.

Wayne used to run a Limousine Stud and then Speckle Parks on the 75 acres he owns with his sister, before transitioning to just buying and selling stock nowadays.

While the emergency services levy won't impact Wayne himself too much, as someone who carted stud stock all over Victoria and Australia, he has a solid amount of contacts in the industry and is hearing about the impact it's having.

"It's a big blow to the battler," he stated.

"Last week, we were up around Stawell, Horsham, Halls Gap, where the fires were and they've had it worse than us and now have to face this levy.

"I've got an uncle down in Portland, and I know people down there with property, they are going into their second year of drought, and hay is worth \$200 a roll – if you can get it."

The scarcity of water is also becoming an issue for farmers and Wayne recounts a time in the 1960s when there was a drought and his mum would milk the cows and he would take them on the road from Kilcunda to Woolamai every day for food.

"But we always had water, and this time we've had no winter rain so we've got no water.

"The fella next door to me, he's so far spent about \$12,000 on water for his stock."

The increasing scarcity of food and water for stock, together with increasing costs to access these, is forcing farmers to destock, but there are issues with that too.

"I've sold virtually everything I can. I've got another seven to go on the market next

Thursday, and I'm hoping to hang on to the rest; and like, I'm only a little bloke," said Wayne.

"There's a three-week wait to get cows into abattoirs and the markets are stopping farmers from sending them in. I know it happened at Koonwarra the week before last.

"And in the Western District, it's all their dairy cows.

"I worry about the grandkids who will be importing milk from overseas within the next 25 years, and she (Premier Jacinta Allan) doesn't care and I don't know what's going to happen to Victoria," laments Wayne, who also believes there will be a ripple effect on large and small businesses across the state.

"Every big business will go under, and especially the small businesses. There's not going to be anyone left working in Victoria."

Ultimately, like many others, Wayne would like to see the new tax abolished.



Kilcunda farmer Wayne Churchill fears the emergency services levy will cripple struggling farmers across Victoria.

Bull's manure package 'not funny' she says

FOSTER North beef farmer Scott Rae stands behind his decision to take a cryovaced package of bull's manure to the steps of State Parliament on Tuesday last week to effectively call "bull shit" at the introduction of the Emergency Services and Volunteers Fund (ESVF).

Bemused by the reaction of the Premier Jacinta Allan but buoyed by the hundreds of messages of support he has received, Mr Rae said the government had completely misread the depth of feeling over the introduction of levy.

"I could have made a poster, but I vacuum packed a pile Brutus' best and thought it might get photographed by a journo or two and help send a message to the government," said Mr Rae this week.

"If it highlights the fact that the government is ripping hundreds of millions of dollars out of the farmers' pockets and out of rural communities at a time when they can least afford it then bruising a few sensitivities is the least of my concerns."

Mr Rae, who is also a South Gippsland Shire Councillor, denies he delivered the package to the Premier's office, and claims CCTV cameras inside State Parliament will confirm it.

"It's not funny, it's not a joke, it's not larrikin... it's violated a workplace," Premier Allan is reported to have said.

More details online at sgst.com.au

Prices recover as Prime Sale numbers drop

By Andrew Paloczi

NUMBERS at Tuesday's Leongatha Prime Sale dipped dramatically following the substantial decrease in prices at the May 13 sale, dropping from close to 4000 head to a bit over 1500. Those lower prices prompted some farmers to hold out a little longer despite current tough conditions, hoping for better prices, with the 'chopper cow' season also nearing an end and numbers, therefore, lower anyway.

Brendan Fletcher of Meat & Livestock Australia observed in his report that most of the usual buyers were operating in a dearer market in places.

Simon Henderson of Phelan & Henderson & Co. spoke about the contrast between Tuesday's sale and that of the week before.

"That was the week where cows were flooding in all up the Eastern Seaboard



Simon Henderson of Phelan & Henderson & Co. commented on the lower numbers and improved prices at Tuesday's Prime Sale at Leongatha VLE.

because there was no sign of rain, the nights are getting cold and vendors needed to unload," he said, noting the fodder shortage and high prices as major contributing factors to that need.

He observed that with huge numbers of cows selling through places such as Wagga Wagga there were too many for processors to

absorb. That prompted a drop of 45 to 90 cents per kilo on cows at the May 13 Leongatha Prime Sale. Simon noted that at the May 20 Prime Sale prices recovered somewhat, being 20 or 30 cents a kilo dearer, particularly on lighter and medium-weight cows, that being attributable to reduced numbers.

Northern buyers continue to help Store Sale prices

By Andrew Paloczi

QUALITY improved at Thursday's Leongatha Store Sale, with Brendan Fletcher of Meat & Livestock Australia recording a larger offering of heavy Angus Steers and a smaller proportion of dairy cattle and their crosses, and good feedlot competition taking place. Brendan commented that a large proportion of the light-weight calves sold to orders in New South Wales and Queensland.

Commission buyer Campbell Ross was busy again, helping fill many of those orders, having been a volume buyer right through Autumn, including when there was little local competition, helping to keep the market ticking along.



Commission buyer Campbell Ross was again busy at Thursday's Leongatha Store Sale. A38_2125

While commenting that most local agencies were represented, Brendan said local demand remained soft.

However, Simon Henderson of Phelan & Henderson & Co. was pleased to see improvement on that front.

"The last Store Sale was dearer, particularly for weaner

calves and we saw local competition re-enter the market, and really it was on the back of the weather forecast," he said.

"The rain hadn't eventuated yet but people were confident it was going to happen and because it had been so cheap, it was time to buy and start trading again."

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THURSDAY, MAY 29, 2025 - Starting at 9am

PLEASE NOTE: 4PM WEDNESDAY CURFEW APPLIES

GROWN STEERS

A/c P Halstead "Tarwin Meadows" (ELDERS)
40 Hereford Shorthorn steers, rising 2 yo
A/c Sha-Valley, Krowera (ALEX SCOTT)
25 Angus steers, 20 mths VB, NE Accred, GF, ABF
10 x Limo steers, 20 mths, VB, NE Accred, GF, ABF
A/c White Past (ELDERS)
30 Angus steers, 2 yo, Te Mania blood
A/c J Bishop, Korumburra (ALEX SCOTT)
25 Angus steers, 18 mths, very quiet, GF, ABF
A/c Kardella Ridge Farm, Kardella (ALEX SCOTT)
25 Angus steers, 15-16 mths, Merridale blood, NE Accred, GF & ABF
A/c IC&RA Ripper (ALEX SCOTT)
9 Angus & Angus/Hereford steers, 15 mths
6 Red Angus & Hereford/Angus steers, 2 yo
7 Charolais steers, 18 mths
NE Accred, VB, GF & ABF
A/c B & S Neilson, Bunyip (ELDERS)
18 Angus steers, 18 mths, GF & ABF
A/c Walker Family Trust, Glen Alvie (ELDERS)
18 Angus steers, 20 mths, GF & ABF
A/c Breeder, Bass Coast Contracting (ELDERS)
15 Angus steers, 15-16 mths, Harris blood
A/c Breeder, S&L Storti (ELDERS)
15 Angus steers, 14-15 mths, Battersby blood
A/c Heyden Pastures (ELDERS)
11 Poll Hereford steers, 18 mths, very quiet
A/c M Denereaz, Tooradin (ELDERS)
8 Angus steers, rising 2 yo
A/c Cattleman Shahin, Loch (ELDERS)
8 Angus steers, 20 mths, GF & ABF

GROWN HEIFERS

A/c IC&RA Ripper (ALEX SCOTT)
15 Angus & Angus/Hereford heifers, 20 mths
17 Angus & Angus/Hereford heifers, 14 mths
NE Accred, VB, GF & ABF
A/c Breeder, S Bridger, Glen Forbes (ELDERS)
18 Angus heifers, 18 mths, Wattlewood blood
A/c Breeder, Bass Coast Contracting (ELDERS)
15 Angus heifers, 15-16 mths, Harris blood
A/c Breeder, S&L Storti (ELDERS)
15 Angus heifers, 14-15 mths, Battersby blood

A/c Breeder, P & J Sibily (ELDERS)
14 Angus heifers, 14 mths, Fernleigh & Bowman blood

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A/c Breeder, Belgrano P/L, Glen Alvie (ELDERS)
"Annual draft"
70 Angus steer weaners, yard weaned, Banquet blood, NE Accredited
A/c G.S Past (ELDERS)
60 Angus heifers 10-12 mths, Western district bred
A/c B&R Cashin, Stony Creek (ELDERS)
40 Angus mix sex yearlings, 12 mths, Batterby blood, VB, GF & ABF
A/c Boxbank, Woodside (ELDERS)
36 Speckle/Murray Grey mix sex weaners, VB, GF & ABF
A/c P Milne, Ryanston (ALEX SCOTT)
15 Angus steers, 14 mths
15 Angus heifers, 14 mths
Bachelor Creek & Bowman blood, bulls out of Te Mania cows, VB, GF & ABF
A/c D & J Holt, Boolarra (ELDERS)
30 Angus mixed sex weaners, 9-10 mths, Te Mania blood, VB, GF & ABF
A/c Maybrook Pastoral (ALEX SCOTT)
30 Charolais mixed sex weaners
A/c D Young, Ensay (ELDERS)
27 Hereford steers, 13 mths, Weeroona blood, NE Accred, drenched
A/c B & N Bannigan, Mountain View (ELDERS)
19 Speckle Park heifers, 7-8 mths, VB, GF, ABF
A/c G&L Vale (ELDERS)
18 Angus steers, 14 mths
A/c Chester Shorthorns, Krowera (ELDERS)
12 Shorthorn heifers, 12-14 mths, VB, GF, ABF, NE Accred

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A/c P&G Haymes (ELDERS)
83 Angus X mix sexes, 12-18 mths, VB
A/c G&L Vale (ELDERS)
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CRICKET CLUB

AGM

**Sunday, June 1
at 2.00pm**

San Remo Hotel
145 Marine Parade

**SITUATIONS
VACANT**

MODELS NEEDED:
Male and female
models needed for
busy studio.
Ph: Susi 0484 352 122.

SITUATIONS VACANT



**CASUAL RELIEF
TEACHERS
2025**

For immediate start.

All enquiries to Tara Cross
5667 2200

Please submit your application,
including a cover letter and resume
to: dailyorg@leonsec.vic.edu.au

SITUATIONS VACANT

ADVERTISERS PLEASE NOTE:

Much hardship and difficulty is caused to jobseekers by misleading advertisements placed in the employment columns.

Our Positions Vacant / Situations Vacant columns are reserved for advertisements which carry a specific and genuine offer of employment.

Ads for 'Business Opportunities', 'Commission Only/Sales,' training courses and employment services should be submitted under those headings.

Placing misleading job ads is an offence against the ACL and all advertisements are subject to the publisher's approval. For further advice contact the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission on 1300 302 502 or Consumer Affairs Victoria.

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Classified single column

Mondays 12.00 noon

Classified double column

Fridays 3.30pm

Please note that double column advertisements requiring a proof must be received at least two hours prior to deadline and proofs will not be provided for single column advertisements.

TO ADVERTISE



Phone:
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Email:
ads@sgst.com.au



In person:
**47 McBride Ave, Wonthaggi
36 McCartin St, Leongatha**



Mail:
47 McBride Ave, Wonthaggi

Office Hours:
9am-5pm Monday to Friday

Payments accepted:



Advertising conditions:

Full name and address of advertiser must be supplied even though not necessarily included in advertisement.

The publishers reserve the right to omit and alter any advertisement. Please check your ad is correct the first day it appears. While every care is taken to ensure your ad is correct, errors can occur. We regret that we cannot be responsible for any errors beyond the first day if you fail to bring it to our attention.

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Sentinel-Times



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

If you can give, please give where you live.

www.bccf.org.au

HM077

SITUATIONS VACANT

Shallow Inlet Camping and Rec Reserve require Caretakers for season 2025 – 2026

Starting November 2025 to April 2026.

For more information contact committee on 0428 514 393.

JEN2338



Connect with us
@sentineltimes

Opening night of Emerald City brings the joy of live theatre back to the stage

THERE is nothing an audience enjoys more than raw and real live theatre and Offshore Theatre delivered just that for the opening night of David Williamson's legendary stage play Emerald City at the Black Box Theatre at Newhaven College.

Relishing their roles as part of Sydney's 80s film and publishing clique the talented Offshore Theatre cast not only delivered their lines superbly but added more than a touch of introspective humour when and where it was needed.

The audience reviews were glowing.

"The cast has outdone themselves in capturing the true glam of the 1980s."

"Serious shoulder pads and big hair."

"I cannot tell you how clever and funny this show is."

"I think David Williamson would be thrilled."

Director Marni Johnston had her hands full not only directing the David Williamson classic for Offshore Theatre but also playing Helen the energetic girlfriend of Mike.

"It is a really interesting set comedy," said Marni.

With undeniable links to David Williamson's own life, the lead character in Emerald City Colin is a talented screenwriter seeking recognition in Sydney the Emerald City of Oz.



Nina Prideaux preparing for the role of Elaine with make-up artist Ursula Evans on opening night of Emerald City at the Black Box Theatre on Phillip Island. B45_2125

Leaving behind their cultured friends in Melbourne, Colin and his wife Kate pack their bags for Sydney introducing more than a little inter-city rivalry between the two cities.

"I lived in Sydney," said Marni.

"It is so superbly written that the topical references are still as relevant today as they were then."

Trained professionally at the National Theatre Drama School in Melbourne Marni's television credits include

Broken Shore for ABC TV.

Familiar faces for Offshore Theatre audiences include Ashley Reed playing the role of Mike, and drama and music teacher Nina Prideaux as Elaine.

Relative newcomer, local primary school teacher Adam Gooderham has a big job in the lead role of Colin and never fails to miss a beat.

Melissa McMillan makes a welcome return to the stage as Denise.

Offshore Theatre Inc. was formed in the winter of 1995



South Coast FM weekday drive-time host Doc White composer and sound designer for the Offshore Theatre production of Emerald City. B51_2125

when six friends decided that a theatre company on the Island would not only be viable but was necessary.

Shows are regularly sold out as the company continues to deliver quality theatre that has entertained audiences for almost twenty years.

Remaining performance dates for Emerald City are Thursday, May 29, Friday, May 30, Saturday, May 31 and a matinee on Sunday, June 1.

For bookings go to trybooking.com/events/land-ing/1380060.

SITUATIONS VACANT



REGISTERED NURSE

Team Coordinator

Permanent full-time

Interested in a Rewarding Career?

Salary: 100K to 120K

We pay above the award, dependant on your qualifications and experience.

Join a great team in Venus Bay, South Gippsland

Co-ordinate a team of Registered Nurses and Disability Support Workers to assist a local gentleman with complex disabilities in maintaining an interesting and fulfilling life.

The successful applicant will be competent in supporting the gentleman to maintain his independence within his home and the community, passionate about community inclusion and confident in taking the initiative.

You will be a team player, competent in quality control and dedicated to coordinating and working collaboratively and constructively with the support team. The role also involves working hands on in the holistic care of the gentleman.

We are a small organisation providing direct support for the gentleman to assist him to live in his own home, access his community and follow his dreams and interests.

For more information, or to apply, contact:

- General Manager Alex on 0400 753 502 email: alex@adamssupport.org.au or
- President Les on 0417 572 475 email: admin@adamssupport.org.au



SITUATIONS VACANT

STRATEGIC ADVISOR SKILLS BASS COAST REGION

- Fixed term contract role (6 months)
- Reporting to the Chief Executive Officer
- Based at any of TAFE Gippsland's main campus locations (with flexibility to work remotely)
- Remuneration commensurate with experience
- Job Reference No. 2561

About the role

TAFE Gippsland is seeking a dynamic and experienced Strategic Advisor to lead a region-wide initiative aimed at identifying and addressing current and emerging skills needs across the Bass Coast community.

In this pivotal role, you will drive engagement across government, education providers, industry leaders and community stakeholders to uncover insights and co-develop actionable responses to skills challenges in the region. Your contribution will directly support economic and workforce resilience, and inclusive growth in Bass Coast.

The key responsibilities of the role include:

- Lead the design and delivery of a comprehensive regional skills assessment initiative
- Facilitate meaningful engagement with key stakeholders to gather insights, identify gaps and explore opportunities
- Deliver a stakeholder engagement report summarising consultations, outlining key themes and recommending future considerations
- Produce a detailed strategic report presenting a list of skills and training development solutions, delivery models and infrastructure requirements backed by data and stakeholder input
- Collaborate with local and regional partners to champion initiatives that strengthen local workforce capabilities and align with future economic needs

About you

You're a strategic and solutions focussed professional with a strong foundation in areas such as public policy, workforce development or economic strategy. Your experience includes designing and delivering initiatives that bring together diverse stakeholders to address complex regional or sector-wide challenges. You have a proven ability to engage meaningfully with government, education providers and industry partners drawing on your deep understanding of the education, training or regional development landscape. Your analytical mindset enables you to cut through complexity, identify key trends and translate insights into clear, actionable recommendations. Your exceptional communication and reporting skills mean you're just as comfortable facilitating consultations as you are preparing detailed, high-impact reports. With tertiary qualifications in Public Policy, Business, Education, Economics or a related field along with practical experience working with government, TAFE or industry bodies you bring both credibility and a collaborative approach to every project you lead.

How to apply

For specific enquiries relating to this position or for a copy of the Job Description, please contact Jenna Langley, Manager People and Culture Business Operations on 0459 023 510 or jlangle@tafegippsland.edu.au.

To apply for this position please visit the TAFE Gippsland website. Applications are to be submitted online and must include;

- a cover letter addressing the key requirements of the role (see Job Description)
- a current resume

Applications close 2pm on Thursday 5 June 2025

TAFE GIPPSLAND

VV0292



WONTHAGGI NEIGHBOURHOOD CENTRE

WE'RE closing in on the halfway point of term two, so things are well underway here at the Wonthaggi Neighbourhood Centre. You can find out exactly what's happening by checking out our program which is on our website: wonthaggi-neighbourhoodcentre.com or come on in and pick up a hard copy. We change the program every term so if you haven't seen one for a while you'll find that there are a few new things on offer. For example, the Weight Management Group is back. They meet at

Mitchell House on Thursday afternoons from 2.15pm-3.15pm. Come along, you'll be warmly welcomed.

Something to also note is that the WMS Fixit Café have changed their booking system. From now on bookings should be made online using the Fixit Café QR code that you'll find on their Facebook page – or come into WNC as we also have a copy.

If you're feeling like you need to speak with someone about any aspect of your rights as a tenant, give us a call to book in

for the next for the next Renters' Rights session which will be here at Mitchell house on June 12.

And of course, it was Volunteer Week. With assistance from the Bass Coast Shire Council, we were able to hold an afternoon tea earlier this week to show our appreciation to those who go above and beyond to make sure we can continue to work in our community. WNC is not just a place that has classes, groups and events. We are a place for people. Of course, you can come

along and join in any of the activities, but you can also come along to help create a space that is warm and welcoming. If you think there might be a place here for you – get in touch. We'd love to have a chat about how you can join our team of caring and committed volunteers – where would any of us be without them?!



6 Murray St, Wonthaggi PH: (03) 5672 3731 www.wonthaggi-neighbourhoodcentre.com

MILPARA COMMUNITY HOUSE

MILPARA works with Health Service Educators to bring a range of Free Information Sessions to the community. Last weekend, Milpara partnered with Myli to host a free information session on "Mastering Menopause", presented by Women's Health in the South East (WHISE).

The session, led by the awesome Michala, was interactive, thought-provoking, and provided participants with excellent resources and links. There was also an opportunity for the participants to share their experiences within the supportive group. It is likely that this session will be repeated later in the year, so keep your eyes out for the date.

We have sessions for the blokes too. On Wednesday, June 4 at 9.30am at the Men's

Shed, toolbox meeting "The Life Force Program" will be shared by the Prostate Cancer Foundation of Australia. Did you know that prostate cancer is the leading cause of cancer in Australia today? One in five men are likely to be diagnosed in their lifetime. Come along to the Men's Shed to find out more and check out their renovation progress at the Old Loco Shed.

For the seniors and their carers, on Thursday, May 29, 11.30am – 12.30pm, Milpara will be hosting a free information session, "Living at Home for Longer" delivered by Latrobe Community Health Service. Their service experts will explain how you can access government funding to help you continue living in your own home, well into your senior years.

The seminar also provides advice on navigating the 'My Aged Care' system. Covering eligibility, Available programs, and costs. There will be an opportunity to ask questions and receive assistance if required to help you access these programs. This is sure to be an invaluable session.

Laura Corbert from Latrobe Community Health Service will be available at Milpara Community House one day each month to personally guide you through the My Aged Care registration process. Making it easier than ever to get the help you need, when you need it. The first session will be on Tuesday, June 10, 10am to 2pm. Bookings are essential. Phone Milpara on 5655 2524.

"Food Relief" If you are struggling to put food on the

table, Milpara provides a free, respectful, safe, and supportive environment for the provision of emergency relief through our Emergency Food Bank. Preferred Hours are Monday, Tuesday and Thursday, 10am to 1pm or by appointment. Please bring your own bags. We also have a food produce table, if you have surplus homegrown fruit and vegetables, they are gratefully received. Donations are the lifeblood of the food bank.

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

BASS COAST ADULT LEARNING

BASS Coast Adult Learning (BCAL) has a brand-new website. Launched last Friday, the site features a user-friendly look and feel, as well as new pictures of BCAL's happy students, teachers and volunteers.

There's also a new page of staff profiles so you can get to know the team, their backgrounds and experience. Plus, there's a handy list of answers to frequently asked questions, but don't let that stop you getting in touch.

New content will be added over the coming weeks, so keep checking in.

The address is the same, so all your existing bookmarks and searches will still work.

For more information on all

BCAL's courses and services, please visit the new-look bcal.vic.edu.au or call 5672 3115 to learn more.

■ WONTHAGGI COMMUNITY GARDEN

Most of the garden's fruit trees will be getting a trim, shape and cut back over the next few weeks. Volunteers started the annual prune last week, with the aim of increasing fruit yields and managing bird and pest problems.

A handful of hard-working volunteers maintain the community garden for all members and visitors, making manageability a top priority.

Which is why volunteers also tackled weedy areas around the garden's

perimeter, last Thursday, using sheet mulching, i.e. layers of cardboard topped with woodchip mulch, to suppress regrowth.

For more on the garden's activities, contact tgordon@westnet.com.au or BCAL on 56723115. Visitors are also welcome on Thursdays between 10am and noon.

■ WONTHAGGI WOODCRAFTERS

The Wonthaggi Woodcrafters have been going for over 35 years to give people with an interest in woodworking the tools and space to hone their skills, regardless of their level of experience.

There is something on every weekday at the workshop.

There are also woodturning sessions on Monday evenings for people who can't come during the daytime. All ages are welcome to join.

All achievements are celebrated. If you're a novice, there's no need to feel intimidated by those with more experience, because one of the joys of woodworking is sharing skills and helping someone turn their ideas into a finished piece.

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

Lifeline Gippsland volunteers help fund the crisis support line

LIFELINE Gippsland kicked off Volunteer Week celebrations with a combined morning tea. Lifeline Gippsland engages over 160 volunteers across Gippsland. The volunteers provide vital support to the organisation across multiple roles such as warehousing, op-shops, administration and the 24/7 crisis support line 13 11 14.

"Lifeline Gippsland receives approximately six per cent of funding from the State Government. Our efforts in our warehouse and five Op-Shops across the region help fund the crisis support line. Our volunteers are the foundation of the organisation. Without them we would not be able to continue our vital work and vision of an Australia free of suicide," said CEO Cindy Pullar.

"We employ less than 20 staff, showing how important the support of our volunteers is. Due to the generosity and compassion of our volunteers, our staff have the capacity to deliver suicide prevention strategies in the region. Thank you does not describe the gratitude we hold for all our volunteers."

In a region where the age-standardisation rate for death by suicide exceeds the State average, the work of Lifeline Gippsland is paramount.

Boasting 160 volunteers, the organisation continues to be in desperate need for more, especially volunteers for the crisis support line.

• FAITH FACTOR

Stabbed in the back!

By Assistant Pastor, Karen Thorp of Grace Chapel, Archies Creek

HAVE you ever been betrayed? Of course, you have!

If you breathe oxygen, you certainly have!

Seriously now, if you have a brother? Yes, of course! A spouse? Certainly! A colleague will betray, and a friend will too.

I have lived long enough to know that everyone in close proximity will betray us. Ouch! That's quite a statement. To betray is to break a trust, not deliver on a promise or to hurt in some way.

So, what do we do about it?

First, we need to acknowledge that we are not so special; people will hurt us. Then, our response will determine whether we have good judgment, self-respect, and dignity.

People hurt people! There is an incalculable number of marriages on the rocks everywhere and this is because either one or both refuses to forgive the other.

I've been married 35 years and worked in a number of jobs, and I have learned to be slow to anger, patient, long-suffering and apply a good measure of self-control. I don't endorse people becoming a doormat for others for abuse, instead, one must have boundaries. Before shutting down totally with that person, see if you can recover from a bad event by building back trust. And educate yourselves on extensive wisdom penned by King Solomon in the Bible.

Your family will appreciate the new calmness you bring to the home. And it's entirely possible to set a better mood for the whole office/factory/worksite by showing everyone a better way. Here are some examples of Solomon's words to wet your appetite.

- Proverbs 27:6 Wounds from a sincere friend are better than many kisses from an enemy.
 - Proverbs 17:9. Love prospers when a fault is forgiven, but dwelling on it separates close friends.
 - Proverbs 15:1. A gentle answer deflects anger, but harsh words make tempers flare.
 - Proverbs 22:1. Choose a good reputation over great riches; being held in high esteem is better than silver or gold.
- Next time you are betrayed, try the wisdom of Solomon. You will find that in a lot of cases, giving someone another chance will build a stronger bond than you had before. God bless you.



Powlett River Primary School Grade 5 and 6 students took part in the Project Rockit session last week, an engaging, realistic program addressing online behaviour without shaming screen time.



Wonthaggi North Primary School joined the movement, Project Rockit, a digital literacy program focused on navigating the online world with confidence.

Project Rockit is empowering young students in online safety

IN A groundbreaking initiative, Project Rockit has launched a face-to-face educational program aimed at teaching young students crucial online safety skills. The program effectively engages young students by addressing realistic online behaviours and potential dangers without resorting to shaming tactics.

Powlett River Primary School teacher and well-being officer, Carla Golden, introduced the program to the Grade five and six students and was impressed that the Project Rockit facilitators, Larise Jones and Laurence Williams helped engage with the students by using examples of familiar platforms such as text messaging, Messenger, Instagram, and Snapchat.

“These are the online platforms that some of them may have already been introduced to, and it was great to not shame online usage but instead educate them on safety,” said Carla.

The program is designed to educate children on essential practices like reporting inappropriate content, restricting access, and maintaining responsible online conduct.

Carla said it was great to have the conversation about being an upstander, “something that we are focusing on in class, which encourages children to take action against the spread of harmful rumours and messages.

“A program like this encourages open communication between parents and their children regarding online activities, it aims to reduce the taboo of screentime.”

In today’s world, there is a stigma associated with children’s internet usage, and this conversation will help Carla introduce a workshop for parents, providing them with resources for ongoing education and support.

At Wonthaggi North Primary School, Grade 5/6 teacher Melissa Carbone said the engaging and humorous presenters made the sessions enjoyable and meaningful for the students.

“The participants explored the causes and impacts of online miscommunication and learned how to manage conflict effectively. Furthermore, they discovered methods to stay safe online through privacy settings and reporting tools.”

Jackie Coates, CEO of Telstra Foundation, said, “Young people use connectivity to access and learn information, develop critical skills, connect with friends and family, and relax, have fun and express themselves. However, we know from our Index research that access to digital education is not yet equal across Australia, and this affects future opportunity. The Digital Futures workshops run by Project Rockit are one of a number of initiatives supported by Telstra Foundation to ensure that all Australians, including those in regional and rural communities, can thrive in an online world.”

By the end of the sessions at Powlett River Primary School and Wonthaggi North Primary School, students reported feeling more empowered to use social media responsibly and to take a stand against harmful behaviour online.



Jarvis Cininas (Phillip Island) takes out Over 30s Open Shortboard Division. Photo: Ange Zorica / Surfing Victoria

Island champions crowned at Shortboard Masters

VICTORIAN State Titles in both Shortboard Masters and SUP Surfing divisions have been wrapped up on the Surf Coast over the weekend with the Victorian Masters and SUP Surfing Titles presented by Kieser Australia running at Point Impossible and Jan Juc.

Surfing in the inaugural Over 30s Open Shortboard Division, Jarvis Cininas (Phillip Island) was in top form making the most of the head-high clean conditions at Jan Juc.

Cininas finished the heat with a heat total of 14.67 (out of a possible 20), beating locals Tim Birnie and Cahill Bell-Warren who finished in second and third respectively.

Luke Breeling (Dromana) and Ross Dart (Torquay) finished in third and fourth respectively.

Other champions across the day included Johnny Hawken (O40 Open, Jan Juc), Andrew Hyde (O50 Open, McCrae), Craig Lloyd (O55 Open, Armstrong Creek), Michelle Fincher (O55 Women, Phillip Island), Rowan Sapwell (O60 Open, Torquay) and Kim Shannon (O65 Open, Melbourne).

On the Saturday, the best SUP Surfers from across the state competed in perfect reeling waves at Point Impossible.

Taking out his fifth Open Men SUP Surfing Titles in a row, Matt Takle (Torquay) was unstoppable.

Locking in an excellent 9.50 ride on his first wave, Takle dominated the final finishing on a heat total of 16.33. Finishing in second was Sandy Ryan (Phillip Island) who returned to competition after a multi-year

break. Rick Pettifer and Steve Toy finished third and fourth respectively.

Other event champions on Saturday included Sandy Ryan (O40 Open, Phillip Island), Lucy Bell (O40 Women, Sandringham), Brendan Ryan (O50 Open, Port Campbell), John Takle (O60 Open & 9ft O60 Open, Torquay), Gwen Carbone (O60 Women, Ocean Grove), Liam McCafferty (9ft Open and 9ft O50 Open, McCrae) and Emma Webb (9ft Open Women, Torquay).

Full results from the weekend can be found at liveheats.com/surfingvictoria.

The Victorian SUP and Masters Titles are presented by Kieser Australia and supported by VicRoads Community Safety Grants, Cancer Council Sunscreen and Surfing Victoria.

SPORTS BRIEFS

Phillip Island Tenpin Bowling

2sCompany: First place on 26pts King Pins, second place on 22.5pts Him & Her and third place on 21pts The Hounds

ABL:First place on 172.5pts Dreamers, second place on 171pts Storm and third place on 155pts The Fireballs.

Business Early: First place on 9pts Happy Hour, second place on 8pts The Redundants, third place on 7pts Woolly Rollers and fourth place on 7pts Old Timers.

Business Late: First place on 10pts The Squeezers, second place on 10pts 3 Blind Mice, third place on 8pts Island

Invaders and fourth place on 6pts Balls of Fury.

Phantom: First place on 88.5pts Hawks, second place on 83pts Tafkas and third place on 79pts Nookie

Top scores: Men: Jason Bence 189, Raff Merante 187 and Rob Wilkinson 186.

Woman: Jenny-Anne Sciore 150, Tricia Niessink 150 and Penny Wolswinkel 149.

Nicholson and Barbour named Club Champions

THE Club Pairs Championship third session was run on Monday, May 19, with 12 pairs taking part.

Greg Nicholson and Jean Barbour won the day with a

score of 62.67 per cent and were overall winners – congratulations to the Club Champions.

Shirley Stewart and Deb Anglim were second overall, with Neville Chapman and Lorrie Read coming in third.

Wednesday’s Duplicate, contested by eight pairs, was won by Caroline Shaw and Anne Hodgson with 72.02 per cent.

On Monday, May 26, Paul Hill will lecture on ‘Leads’ from 10am to 12pm. Please bring your own lunch. Duplicate starts at 12.30pm.

For anyone interested in joining the club to play Bridge or take lessons, please contact Caroline on 0418 369 557.

TIDE GUIDE

TIDAL PREDICTIONS FROM PORT PHILLIP HEADS

Approx. Tide Variations: Seal Rocks, Venus Bay, Waratah Bay and Cape Woolamai (Same), Tooradin +2hrs 45, Cowes Pier +50, Stony Point +40

TUESDAY May 27	WEDNESDAY May 28	THURSDAY May 29	FRIDAY May 30	SATURDAY May 31	SUNDAY June 1	MONDAY June 2
4.29am 0.37m	5.32am 0.29m	12.24am 1.54m	1.18am 1.57m	2.10am 1.58m	3.00am 1.57m	3.50am 1.53m
11.59am 1.73m	12.58pm 1.82m	6.30am 0.24m	7.24am 0.23m	8.16am 0.26m	9.07am 0.33m	9.55am 0.41m
5.16pm 0.95m	6.19pm 0.91m	1.52pm 1.86m	2.43pm 1.86m	3.31pm 1.83m	4.18pm 1.78m	5.03pm 1.71m
11.25pm 1.50m		7.13pm 0.87m	8.02pm 0.82m	8.51pm 0.78m	9.40pm 0.74m	10.30pm 0.72m

Email us your fishing photos

news@sgst.com.au

BREAKAWAY

THE bowlers were back into it after not being able to bowl last Friday, as Bass Coast Shire Council had to use the hall.

This Friday, it's having solar fitted, so the club can't bowl then.

The winners on Monday were Janet Murphy and Marg Morgan.

They were +7 – well done, ladies.

INVERLOCH

FIFTY-TWO bowlers took to the greens this week in very cold conditions on the penultimate night of the Tuesday night bowls competition.

Most of the bowlers were suitably rugged up for the chilly weather except for Big K's team, who braved the cold conditions in their shorts.

On Green 1, it was a very competitive night.

There were two, two game winners with Martin Hannaford and his partner Glen Davis from the Blackburn Bowling Club taking home the winner's prize.

Over on Green 2, the club had four two game winners with the consistent team of David Murfin and Pat Bowd coming out on top.

The final week of the competition is scheduled for next Tuesday night, and it promises to be an exciting finish to the eight-week season.

Many thanks go to the volunteers that make this night competition possible.

Forty-three bowlers were split into 12 teams of Fours and Triples at Thursday's social bowls.

Some excellent shorts were played on the six rinks over two games.

There were only two, two game winners. The winners for the day on 35 points were Reg Varty (skip), Gary Scott, Rob Dowling and Mean Price.

Only two points behind was the team of Terry Orford (skip), Steve Snelling, Joan McStravick and Ross Henderson.

The hard luck story team was Laurel Lee (skip), Joyce Arnold and Darryl Floyd.

Lunchtime was enjoyed by all with homemade soup crafted by Jim Haydon, eagerly consumed.

June 12 is the Bowl Over Cancer Day.

Please register your name.

The playing format will be slightly different from the normal routine.

Bring a plate to share for afternoon tea. Homemade soup will be available on that day. Wear pink if you dare.

MIDWEEK

IT WAS another beautiful day for the family of bowlers on Thursday.

The bowlers were welcomed and signed in by John, while Rob and David prepared the teams for the challenge.

Once the teams were selected, they headed for the green.

The weather looked promising for the day with no wind to speak of and the occasional break in the clouds allowing the sun to shine down.

As usual, the bowlers excelled themselves with some wonderful bowling. This, however, did not stop the players from helping to fill the Royal Children's Hospital tin.

Lots of laughter and friendly banter on most of the rinks.

Always good to see so any people enjoying themselves and having a bit of laughter.

This week's well-deserved winners on 36 points were Mark Hanrahan (S), Gwen Jeffrey (2), Gillian Harper (3), Tony Morris (L).

Runners-up on 36 points were Michael Saunders (2), Rob Paganoni (S), Robyn Coulson (3) and Bob Arnold (L).

Best one game winners on a score of 20 were Lou Capsalis (L), Mark Andreatta (S) and David Talbot (3).

A quick "get well soon" to both Elaine and Peter.

Both of these wonderful people have been in the wars health wise, and the club looks forward to their speedy return.

Next week, the group will be playing at San Remo 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.

WONTHAGGI

AS WINTER approaches and the weather starts to cool, the bowlers continue to show great enthusiasm.

Here's a recap of the latest events:

Wednesday saw perfect weather for 34 bowlers.

Despite the great conditions, only one team managed two game wins.

The winners were Teresa Davidson, Syd Gostling, and Denise Silver, with two wins and 32 points.

The runners up, on countback, were Geoff Tinkler, Charlie Wright, and Trevor Teer – the best of the rest.

Friday night was another success. Although the temperature began to cool, we had a very good turnout.

Verona, Allan, and Rob were the lucky meat tray winners.

A special congratulations goes to Hans Bischofberger, who won the slab raffle.

Hans now has the choice of \$50 or a slab.

The members' draw this week stands at \$60.00, so don't miss your chance to win.

Saturday was a fine day, though gusty winds greeted 16 bowlers.

A smaller crowd, as 10 regular bowlers were away for an event at a nearby club.

With pairs as the format, the winners of the day were Rod Vawdon and George Stein, with two wins and 37 points.

Rod Aitken, Sheila Ormerod, Colin Ormerod, and John Hill were all equal runners-up.

Looking ahead, here are the events for this week:

Wednesday: Social bowls at 12:30 pm.

Friday: Coaching at 10am.

Saturday: Social bowls at 12:30pm.

Don't forget about Friday night with the meat trays and other great prizes.

The members' draw is at \$60 this week. Also, the Pennant nomination sheets are now on the board.

Be sure to put your name (or names) down for the upcoming Pennant season.

Indoor

THERE were good numbers this week with a total of 46 players.

Tuesday's winners with a plus eight were Helen Rook, Pam Russell and Mary Spooner – go girls.

Runners up on plus four were Jenny Bakker, Betty Huitema, Fred Demenech and Steve Kenny.

Friday's winners on plus 14 were Fred Demenech, Sylvia Mattock, Ray McCurry and Jim Wilson.

Runners-up on plus eight were Elaine Grabham, Lia Smith, Philip Fowler and Laurie Culp.

A reminder that the Singles are on Tuesday.

Please be there by 10am for a 10.30am start.



Janet Murphy and Marg Morgan were the Monday winners at Breakaway Bowls.



Inverloch's Green 2 winners at Tuesday night bowls were Pat Bowd and David Murfin.



The best one game winners for the South West Gippsland Midweek Bowls Group were Lou Capsalis (L), Mark Andreatta (S) and David Talbot (3).



Martin Hannaford and Glen Davis were Inverloch Bowling Club's Tuesday night bowls winners on Green 1.



The social bowls winners at the Inverloch Bowling Club were Mean Price, Reg Varty (skip), Gary Scott and Rob Dowling.



The Saturday winners at the Wonthaggi Bowls Club were Rod Vawdon and George Stein.



Wonthaggi Bowls Club's Wednesday winners were Teresa Davidson, Syd Gostling and Denise Silver.



Michael Saunders (2), Rob Paganoni (S), Robyn Coulson (3) and Bob Arnold (L) were the runners-up for the South West Gippsland Midweek Bowls Group.



South West Gippsland Midweek Bowls Group's winners on Thursday were Mark Hanrahan (S), Gwen Jeffrey (2), Gillian Harper (3) and Tony Morris (L).



Fred Demenech, Sylvia Mattock, Ray McCurry and Jim Wilson were the Wonthaggi Senior Indoor Bowls on Friday.



Back from left, Anne Briner, Cathy McDermott, Kris Roney, Beryl Brown, Patsy Britt, Trish Jamieson, front from left, Andrea Thorson, Dot Christie, Anne Walker, Marg Ryan, Lisa Brusamarello and Elly Berryman shared the honours at Wonthaggi Golf Club's recent Wonthaggi Friendship Day.



Winners of the Evans Petroleum Stableford event were Leanne Costello, Marianne Leaver and Jill Steer at the Leongatha Golf Club.



Woorayl Golf Club's runners-up Elly Berryman and Pauline Lancaster with winners Bev Bridge and Barb James.



Irene Walsh, Marg Johnson and Pam Hanley were the grade winners at the Wonthaggi Golf Club on Wednesday.



Leongatha Golf Club's Invy Espy Stableford A Grade runner-up Colin Bear, C Grade runner-up Russell Pentland and C Grade winners Alan Briggs with sponsor Dylan Clark.

KORUMBURRA

RESULTS: Tuesday, May 20.
Stableford: 31 players.
A Grade: Greg Wilson (13) 37 C/B. B Grade: Joseph Salvatore (26) 33 points. NTPs: first Chris McConnell, seventh Ray Lude-
nia, 10th Joseph Salvatore and 13th Wayne Knights.
Thursday, May 22:
Stableford: 18 players.
A Grade: Iain Riddell (13) 36 C/B. B Grade: Dale Wyhoon (19) 36 points. NTPs: first Shayne Harland, seventh Shayne Harland, 10th Murray Fowles and 13th Shayne Harland.
Saturday, May 24:
Sponsor: Charlotte Varley.
Varley Memorial Stableford: 30 players.
A Grade: Richard Johnson (15) 37 points. B Grade: Peter McMaster (27) 38 points. NTPs: first Bob Newton, 10th Peter Wallace and 13th Rob Gallagher.

Ladies

TWENTY women played a Stableford game in nice autumn sunshine on Wednesday.
Congratulations to Jenny Blackmore (24), winning A Grade with 31 points.
Runner-up was Lyn McIvor (20) with 30 points.
B Grade's winner was Diarne Maskell (34) with 29 points and close behind was Leanne Thomson (39) with 28 points.
BDTL went to Julie Bran-naghan 28 points, and Kath Welsh and Julie Cole 27 points.
NTP on the first went to Trudy Olden (Kelly's Bakery), 10th Lyn McIvor and Jenny Blackmore was closest on the 13th green.
The nine-hole competition had four players, and the club wel-come back Lyn Perks after be-ing out with an injury.
Winning with 14 points on a c/b from Lyn was Barb Walker – well done.
Six women played a Stableford game in windy conditions on Sat-urday.
Well done to all and congratula-tions to Lyn McIvor (20), winning with 34 points.
The runner-up was Shelley Snooks (15) with 33 points.
BDTL went to Merrissa Cosson (8) with 30 points.
NTP on the first was Lyn (Kelly Bakery Voucher) and on the 10th Merrissa.
This Wednesday is a three-per-son Ambrose with teams to be announced.
If you would like to play, please contact captain Kerri.

LEONGATHA

TUESDAY, May 20: Stableford.
Tuesday's event was a Stabl-eford event with 68 members/ guests taking to the course.
Overall winner: Craig Hutchin-son (8) with a high score of the day of 36 points.
A Grade winner: Craig Hutchin-son (8) with a score of 36 points.
A Grade runner-up: Antony Gedye (8) with a score of 33 points.
B Grade winner: Peter Read (16) with a score of 35 points.
B Grade runner-up: Malcolm Legge (14) with a score of 32 points.
C Grade winner: Ken Lay (18) with a score of 35 points.
C Grade runner-up: Anthony Giles (28) with a score of 32 points.
NTP fifth second shot: Dave Brownnett.
NTP 14th: Jeremy de Silva.
NTP 16th: Craig Hutchinson.
Thursday, May 22: Invy Espy

Stableford Event.
Thursday's event was an Invy Espy Stableford Round with a field of 77 members/guests with a shotgun start.
Many thanks to the excellent sponsorship of this event by the Invy Espy Hotel.
A Grade winner: Jeremy de Sil-va (7) with a score of 32 points on a countback.
A Grade runner-up: Colin Bear (14) with a score of 32 points.
B Grade winner: Neale Gillin (15) with a score of 34 points.
B Grade runner-up: Barry Attwood (17) with a score of 33 points.
C Grade winner: Alan Briggs (21) with a score of 35 points.
C Grade runner-up: Russell Pentland (21) with a score of 34 points on a countback.
NTP fifth second shot: Bruce Christison.
NTP 14th: Bernard Skerys.
NTP 16th: Gordon Morrison.
Saturday, May 24: Stableford.
Saturday was a Stableford round with a field of 80 mem-bers/guests taking to the course.
Overall winner: Rod MacKenzie (9) with a high score of the day of 39 points.
A Grade winner: Rod MacKen-zie (9) with a score of the day of 39 points.
A Grade runner-up: Tony Mor-ganti (8) with a score of 33 on a countback.
B Grade winner: Steve Vuill-ermin (15) with a score of 36 points.
B Grade runner-up: Daniel Jol-ley (13) with a score of 35 points on a countback.
C Grade winner: Geoffrey Mc-Donald (18) with a score of 32 points on a countback.
C Grade runner-up: Bryan Ro-ylance (19) with a score of 32 points on a countback.
D Grade winner: Melinda Ho-nig (38) with a score of 37 points.
D Grade runner-up: Patrick McNally (23) from the Mans-field Golf Club with a score of 31 points.
Great score by Craig Hutchin-son with an eagle two on the 17th hole.
NTP fifth second shot: Andrew Henley.
NTP 14th: Geoffrey McDonald.
NTP 16th: Rod MacKenzie.

Ladies

EVANS Petroleum sponsored the Stableford event last week on unbelievably slick greens.
The seventh green was a killer for many women: of the 41 play-ers, 26 were unable to score.
Evans Petroleum petrol vouch-ers were given to all winners and runners-up.
A Grade was won by Jenny Teas-dale (25) with 33 points and Mari-anne Leaver (25) was the runner-up on 32.
Leanne Costello (35) won B Grade with 31 points and Jill Steer (36) was the runner-up on 29 points.
Balls down the line went to 27 Karen Castledine Briggs, Janet Monk, Neryl Hopcraft, Kay Dumb-leton, Di Williams, Jo Miles, Chris Lay and Joc Howson.
Nearest the pin on the 16th was Jo Miles, and second shot on the fifth went to Sue Bowler.
Karen Orford won the nine-hole competition with 16 points and Helen Mackenzie won a ball down the line with 13 points.

MIRBOO NORTH

TUESDAY, May 20: Stableford.
A Grade: M. Payne (9) 35 points.
B Grade: D. Taylor, (23) 39

points.
DTL: S. Beitz 34, and C. James and J. Gunn 33.
NTP: fourth N. Whichello and sixth T. Bradshaw.
Birdies: fourth N. Whichello and sixth T. Bradshaw.
Saturday, May 24: Par –Final Captain Trophy.
A Grade: R. Scurlock, (9) 1 up c/b.
B Grade: J. Hughes, (17) 1 down.
DTL: Tim Traill +1, G. Shand-ley sq. M. Woodall and T. Brad-shaw -1 c/b.
NTP: fourth J. Hughes, sixth S. Woodall, 13th Tim Traill and 16th R. Scurlock.
Birdies: fourth S. Evison, 13th Tim Traill, S. Woodall, and 16th R. Scurlock and M. Payne.
Captain Trophy Final: Rick Scurlock defeated Choppa Hughes 2/1.

PHILLIP ISLAND

TUESDAY, May 20: Mens Comp Stableford 18H
Overall Winner: Sam Orr (17) 39 pts C/B, A Grade winners: A-1 Rob Sparkman (12) 38 pts, A-2 Gino Manfredi (12) 37 pts, B Grade winners: B-1 Sam Orr (17) 39 pts C/B, B-2 Allen Sher-lock (18) 39 pts, C Grade win-ners: C-1 Tony Owens (20) 35 pts, C-2 John Gains (24) 34 pts C/B, BDL to 30 C/B
NTP: fifth Peter Ablett, seventh Allen Sherlock, 10th Rob Spark-man, 17th Steve Sloss
Mens Stableford Nine holes
Overall Winners: Chris Hailes (37) 21 pts, Vic Mitchell (28) 18 pts C/B, BDL to 17 pts
Wednesday, May 21: Womens Monthly Medal Stroke 18H
A Grade winner: Jeanette Diss (17) 73, B Grade winner: Janice Baker (30) 71, C Grade winner: Julia Mascitelli (34) 75, BDL to 79 C/B, NTP: Fifth Emma Hall, seventh Julia Mascitelli, 10th Mary Taylor, 17th Ada Anglin
Womens Nine-Hole Stableford
Overall Winner: Barb Moloney (38) 20 pts, BDL to 12 pts
Thursday, May 22: Open Stabl-eford 18H
Overall Winner: Bill Lang (20) 40 pts, A Grade winners: A-1 Justin McBean (13) 37 pts, A-2 Daniel Pearce (2) 36 pts C/B, B Grade winners: B-1 Sam Orr (17) 39 pts C/B, B-2 Stephen Earl (15) 39 pts, C Grade win-ners: C-1 Bill Lang (20) 40 pts, C-2 Mike Fitzmaurice (20) 36 pts C/B, BDL to 34 pts C/B
NTP: Fifth Dale Gude, seventh Allen Sherlock, 10th Dale Gude, 17th Sam Orr
Mens Nine Hole Stableford
Overall Winners: Bryan Pirouet (22) 20 pts, John Jackson (29) 18 pts C/B, BDL to 17 pts
Saturday, May 24 Mens Stabl-eford 18H
Overall Winner: John Gains (26) 39 pts, A Grade winners: A-1 Tim Duff (5) 37 pts C/B, A-2 Brent Scott (12) 37 pts C/B, B Grade winners: B-1 Dennis Hackling (17) 37 pts, B-2 Steve Earl (15) 36 pts, C Grade win-ners: C-1 John Gains (26) 39 pts, C-2 Steve McIntyre (20) 35 pts , BDL to 33 pts
NTP: Fifth Phil Bencraft, sev-enth Brenton O'Brien, 10th Adri-an O'Gorman, 17th Tim Duff
Womens Stableford 18H
A Grade winners: A-1 Sheryl Smith (23) 35 pts C/B, A-2 Pam Williams (38) 35 pts, BDL to 29 pts, NTP: Fifth N/A, seventh Emma Hall, 10th Emma Hall, 17th Michelle Pardoe
Open Stableford Nine Holes
Winner: Rob Davison (10) 17 pts C/B, BDL to 16 pts.



Winners of the Perrett Family Board Event at the Woorayl Golf Club were Bev Bridge and Barb James.

WONTHAGGI

RESULTS: May 22, SR. 71.
Competition: Stableford 18-hole.
Winner: Roger Kilpatrick 36.
Runner-up: Andrew Hooton-Shandley 36.
Ball sweep: Rod McBride 36, Alex Wilson 35 and Graeme Crawford 34.
Results: May 22, SR. 34.5.
Competition: Stableford front nine hole.
Winner: Rod Walker 20.
Ball sweep: Norm Burne 18, Andrew Hooton-Shandley 18 and Bill Howard 16.
Results: May 24, S.R 71.
Competition: Stableford.
A Grade: Ross Lovett 34.
B Grade: Manny Sahayarn 40.
C Grade: Phillip Dynes 39.
Balls down the line to 31: Rohan Todd 36, Andrew Hooton-Shandley 35, Mat Johnson 33, Frank Huber 32, Alan Jones 32, Brad Andrew 32, Keith Ridout 31 and Ian Gilmour 31.
NTPs: Ross Lovett second, not claimed fourth, Max Ahearness propin eighth, Andrew Monks 13th and Sam Horvath money hole 17th.

Ladies

THERE was nearly a “full house” with a great field of 37 players on Wednesday.
The event was Stableford with three grades.
There was an amazing round by B Grade winner Irene Walsh (23) with 40 points.
This included the NTP on the second.
Patsy Britt (23)38 points also had a great score.
A Grade’s winner was Marg Johnson (14)35 points on c/b from Yvonne Everitt.
Marg also claimed the NTP on the eighth.
C Grade’s winner was Pam Hanley (31) with 34 points.
The NTP on the 17th was Anne Walker.
BDL went to Patsy Britt 38,

Robyn Wilkinson 36, Yvonne Everitt 35, Donna Brosnan 35, Lisa Brusamarello 32, Chris Hamilton 31 and Jane Buardromo 31.

Wonthaggi Friendship Day

THE club welcomed 18 teams to play in the TS Construction Wonthaggi Friendship Day last Friday, May 16.
It was a three-person aggregate Stableford with a twist – five mulligans or redos at a cost, and three secret holes worth double points.
This ensured no one had any idea of the winners until announced.
A Grade winners with 122 points was team Marg Ryan (Wonthaggi), Lisa Brusamarello (Wonthaggi) and Elly Berryman (Woorayl).
Runners-up with 117 points were Anne Walker (Wonthaggi), Dot Christie and Andrea Thorson (both Meeniyen).

B Grade was close, and the winners were decided by countback.
The winning team was Patsy Britt (Wonthaggi), Beryl Brown (Korumburra) and Trisha Jamieson (Phillip Island) and runner-up was Centenary Park team, also on 117 points, Anne Briner, Cathy McDermott and Kris Rooney.
NTPs went to Anne Tschiderer, fourth Susan Straw, eighth Lisa Brusamarello, 13th Megan Elbaz and 17th Jenny Blackmore.

WOORAYL

AN EXTREMELY cold morning turned into a beautiful sunny day on Wednesday.
Eighteen players braved the cold morning.
The event was the second round of the Perrett Family Board event.
The game was foursomes, sponsored by Debbie and Gavin Price.
Winners of the day and the Perrett Family Board event were Bev Bridge and Barb James, 74.5 and 79.5 = 154.



Tuesday Stableford A Grade winner Iain Riddell and B Grade winner Dale Wyhoon at the Korumburra Golf Club.



Elders organises the annual charity golf day raising money for local families affected by cancer, with Nicky Renden, Rohan McRae, Tracey Gollop and Tayla Gollop busy on the day. ob04_2125

Community tees off in support of local families

FOR over 10 years, Elders South Gippsland’s annual charity golf day has been raising money to support those within the community battling cancer, illness or tragedy.
The drizzly morning didn’t stop around 150 players teeing off at this year’s event at the Leongatha Golf Club last Friday morning, helping to raise funds for local families and charities.
Following a fun – if not competitive – game of golf, lunch was served up, an auction was called and one lucky raffle winner won the ultimate prize, Keith Urban concert tickets and accommodation in Melbourne.
All proceeds will be donated to two separate causes, the first is, In Shiona’s Shoes – which raises funds for Carries

Beanies 4 Brain Cancer Foundation, established in memory of Shiona Berry and the second is for Jackson Jones, a local 17 year old, who has recently been diagnosed with Ewing Sarcoma, a rare form of bone cancer.
Elders Korumburra branch manager Rohan McRae explained that this will be the eleventh year that the Korumburra and Leongatha branches have been running the event, which has raised in excess of \$200,000 since 2014.
“The event originally began when family members of our staff were directly affected by cancer,” Rohan said.
“We are so proud to see how it has evolved to extend its support to local community members affected by illness or meaningful charities.”

Rohan acknowledges that the event would not be possible without the support of volunteers, and the surrounding community, who are extremely generous with both their time and donations.
“It never ceases to amaze us the level of support we receive from everyone in our industry, from abattoirs, feedlots, farmers, Elders’ branches and other agencies in our industry,” he said.
“The whole community whole-heartedly gets behind the event, donating money and prizes towards an auction and raffle.”
Elders is still accepting donations and encourages those in a position to support to call up the Elders Korumburra branch to find out more.



The morning drizzle didn’t stop 150 golfers teeing off last Friday to raise money for a worthy cause. ob03_2125



Grummo and Shannon were the winners of the popular San Remo Butchers Meat Tray Raffle during round eight of the Phillip Island and District Darts League.

Storm and Miramar strike in round eight

THE darts were flying, and the stakes were high on Monday night as round eight of the Phillip Island and District Darts League unfolded at the Darts Centre – and what a night it was.

With just one round remaining before the much-anticipated Lightning Premiership and finals series, the competition is heating up – and so is the tension.

In a night of mixed results, Storm and Miramar delivered the most commanding performances, securing notable wins that could prove pivotal as teams jostle for finals positions.

With only one regular round left, every point matters, and next week's matchups are sure to shape the finals picture in a big way.

The format for the finals will be communicated next week, so stay tuned.

The action wasn't limited to the oche.

Luck was in the air as well, with Grummo and Shannon both claiming victory in the ever-popular San Remo Butchers Meat Tray Raffle – talk about lightning striking twice.

Tony took home a refreshing win with the beer prize, while Chris ended the night on a sweet note by scoring the chocolates.

Bring your best game next week – it's going to be a round to remember as the finals loom large.

Finals loom at Wonthaggi Table Tennis

THE top teams flexed their muscle with solid victories as the finals loom.

Led by alpha dogs honing their uniquely individual styles, knowing that matchups are so tight, one false shot could doom your title chances.

Donic's Justin could partner up with a rocking chair and still be a chance.

Radak's Mark with his quirky paddle, foot stomp and veteran savvy is very capable. Team Butterfly with David's jolly persona belying his venomous loaded loop can go deep. Double Fish's Sven with or without soccer injuries has a potent counter attack that has knocked off all the above mentioned before. All these alphas have trusty betas providing great support. It sets up an intriguing finals campaign.

One round to go. Thanks to debutante Yeti for filling in with admirable effort.

Radak defeated Double Fish three to two; Butterfly defeated Stiga four to one; Donic defeated Nittaku four to one.

A Grade ladder: Radak 28, Butterfly 28, Double Fish 20, Donic 20, Stiga 8 and Nittaku 4.

Leading player: Justin 17, David 15, Braden and Dirk 11.

Thursday night – B Grade: Ball defeated Smash three to two; Serve defeated Bat three to two.

Ladder: Serve 28, Bat 22, Ball 21, Smash 14 and Edge 4

Leading players: 12 Trish, Yeti 10 Jay, Shane.



Local sponsors Coast to Coast Conveyancing's Tania Dodes-Cumming, Ray White Inverloch, Ray White Wonthaggi and Inverloch Accommodation's Fiona McMahon-Hughes, Paul Brougham and Mortgage Brokers Co's Jackson McCarthy out on the course during the Go Girls Charity Golf Day.

Golf backs the Go Girls program

SEVENTY-TWO players took part in the Go Girls Charity Golf Day held at the Leongatha Golf Club on Sunday, May 4.

Through ticket sales, a meat and wine raffle, a live auction and hole sponsorship, a total of \$22,050 was raised – smashing the goal of \$20,000.

The funds will go towards Go Girls South Gippsland Program, which will start in September.

The four-month program assists women to find focus, direction and independence.

It empowers women at risk in the community and encourages them to take control of their lives.

"This golf day will support our fifth program in South Gippsland," Go Girls Foundation CEO Michelle Jobson said.

"Go Girls works with many women who have experienced family violence. Women in the region are terribly socially isolated and are battling mental health issues. Our four-month program assists them to become part of their local community.

"Many of our Go Girl Graduates are now leading fulfilling lives, either working or are volunteering in their communities. We help the women create a vision for their future.

"During the program, the women form friendships, and many feel connected back into their community. At the end of the program, a special celebratory luncheon is held for the women at the Inverloch RACV Resort.

"Local women train as volunteer mentors so that the women are mentored for six months after the completion of the program."

Go Girls Graduate Annie Terese said the program offers a safe, welcoming environment, and has been a blessing in her life.

"Keep your heart open, face your fears and it will be okay," she said.

An Ambrose style event was played, and awards were presented to the top men's team, top women's team, best-mixed team, nearest the pin, men's longest drive, and women's longest drive.

Awards were also presented to best-dressed man and woman.

Volunteers were on deck, supplying a cooked breakfast and all-day sausage sizzle, and were thanked for their time.

The following local sponsors were also thanked – Ray White Leongatha, Ray White Wonthaggi, Inverloch Accommodation, Coast To Coast Conveyancing, Mortgage Brokers Co, Burra Foods, Bruce McMullin Foundation, Melina Bath MP and Jordan Crugnale MP.

The event was also supported by Melbourne-based sponsor Embrace Wealth, and backed by local donors the Leongatha Golf Club, Mitre 10 Leongatha and Inverloch Foodworks.

An information session for the Go Girls South Gippsland Program will be held at 10am and 1.30pm at the Wonthaggi library on Friday, August 29.



Coast to Coast Conveyancing's Tania Dodes-Cumming and Ray White Inverloch, Ray White Wonthaggi and Inverloch Accommodation's Fiona McMahon-Hughes were local sponsors of the Go Girls Charity Golf Day.



Go Girls Charity Golf Day convener Craig Jobson and head of the barbecue local volunteer from Foster Vanessa Searrell at the Leongatha Golf Club.



Go Girls Foundation CEO Michelle Jobson, Golf Day convener Craig Jobson, and Go Girls Foundation Partnerships and Community Engagement Michelle Maughan at the charity golf day at the Leongatha Golf Club.



Go Girls Foundation CEO Michelle Jobson with local sponsor Ray White Inverloch's Fiona McMahon Hughes and Go Girls Charity Golf Day convener Craig Jobson at the recent Go Girls Charity Golf Day.

Wolves in action on the soccer field

SUNDAY morning had turned into a glorious one, with the sun warming everyone's spirits.

The parents sat in anticipation as the U12s took the field, confident in their ability.

The whistle blew and the intense game began.

Drouin was awarded a free kick, which resulted in the first goal of the match, but Wonthaggi didn't let their heads drop.

Sam kept up the pace in attack and Fraser, their quick-footed midfielder, fired up the team.

Just before halftime, he danced through two defenders and slotted the ball low into the corner.

Wyatt and Jordan, Wonthaggi's powerhouse defence keeping Drouin at bay, along with keeper Harvey saving the ball from the net multiple times.

After the break, it was all about Blake.

In what felt like a blur, the powerful forward scored twice in quick succession – once with a booming shot from the edge of the box, and then again after breaking past the defence with a clever run.

It was three to one to Wonthaggi.

Drouin wasn't finished, and struck again, sneaking a goal past the keeper to make it three to two.

Tension filled the field.

Sunny, Billy, Leo and Oscar powered through, attacking with their strength.

Then came Marwan – calm, focused, and fierce.

He charged forward and chipped the keeper from a distance.

The crowd went wild and the score as four to two.

The whistle blew.

Wonthaggi Wolves had done it. They stood their ground, showed their strength, and proved that even Drouin couldn't ruffle their feathers.

While the U12B team headed to Drouin, the majority of the Wonthaggi junior teams were in Lang Lang.

It was another trip away, another strong result for the



Wonthaggi's U12s competed against Drouin on Sunday. Photos: Shanah Photography

Wonthaggi U14s team and another major milestone for one of its players.

The U14s team celebrated 50 club games for Ollie Phillips.

Ollie started at the Club as a little U6 MiniRoo and has grown into a strong defensive player, but that's not his only talent. Ollie's family are a huge part of the Wonthaggi United Soccer Club and following his family's lead, Ollie regularly volunteers as a coach and referee.

Ollie will also be representing Gippsland in the Country Championships in June.

On the other side of Gippsland the Wonthaggi U17 team had a tough battle against Leongatha and unfortunately didn't get the result they were chasing.

However, Jack Harvey also celebrated his 50th junior club game.

Jack and his family have also been a huge part of the Wonthaggi United Club, with his father Dean currently coaching the Wonthaggi U14s team.



Wonthaggi in action against Drouin in the juniors.



Phillip Island's Centre Back Jack Middleton moves to shut down Leongatha's Patrick Wilson in midfield.



Phillip Island's Hannah pressured by Leongatha's Samara in midfield during the U15 Girls Game.

Female players demonstrate high-quality skill

FOR Round 5 of the Gippsland Soccer League, the majority of Leongatha's teams headed over to Newhaven to take on the Phillip Island Breakers. Unfortunately, it was not to be Leongatha's day with all away teams succumbing to their strong opponents. However, there were many positives to take out of

the day.

The U12 and U15 girls' teams continue to develop as both teams replicated training exercises on the pitch, and new players continue to impress with their perseverance. Both teams are still recruiting new players and actively encouraging any junior girls to come

along and try a training session.

The U17S Blue team went into their match with a significant number of players away, but determination and teamwork proved a considerable challenge for their opponents.

The senior women's match was an excellent example of the quality of female football in

the league, as the grand final rematch from last season saw chances from both halves, but ultimately, a dominant Phillip Island took home the win.

A shout out to the Under 17s White team who played at home against Wonthaggi United and secured their first win of the season. Congratulations team!

Gippsland Soccer League

Round 5 Results – May 23/24/25

SENIOR Mens: Trafalgar Victory 5 d Drouin Dragons Maroon 0, Phillip Island Breakers 2 d Leongatha Knights 0, Lang Lang United 1 d Wonthaggi United 0, Korumburra City 2 d Inverloch Stars 1

Senior Womens: Drouin Dragons Maroon 3 d Trafalgar Victory 0, Phillip Island Breakers 5 d Leongatha Knights 2, Wonthaggi United 3 d Lang Lang United 0, Inverloch Stars 4 d Korumburra City 0

Mens Reserves: Drouin Dragons Maroon 0 drew Trafalgar Victory 0, Inverloch Stars 4 d Korumburra City 1, Phillip Island Breakers 8 d Leongatha Knights 0

Under 17 Mixed: Drouin Dragons Maroon Yellow 6 d Mirboo North United 0, Phillip Island Breakers 3 d Leongatha Knights Blue 1, Leongatha Knights White 3 d Wonthaggi United 2, Inverloch Stars 5 d Korumburra City 4

Under 15 Girls: Wonthaggi United 3 d Korumburra City 0, Phillip Island Breakers 7 d Leongatha Knights 1, Drouin Dragons Yellow 5 d Drouin Dragons Maroon 3

Under 14 Mixed: Drouin Dragons Maroon 3 d Phillip Island Stingrays 1, Drouin Dragons Maroon Yellow 4 d Mirboo North United 3, Phillip Island Penguins 6 d Leongatha Knights 0, Inverloch Stars 5 d Korumburra City 2, Wonthaggi United 6 d Lang Lang United 0

Under 12 Girls: Phillip Island Breakers 7 d Leongatha Knights 1, Lang Lang United 4 d Wonthaggi United 3, Inverloch Stars 4 d Korumburra City 2

Under 12A Mixed: Phillip Island Breakers 4 d Leongatha Knights Blue 2, Inverloch Stars 7 d Korumburra City 1, Mirboo North United 4 d Drouin Dragons Maroon Yellow 1, Wonthaggi United 8 d Lang Lang United 2

Under 12B Mixed: Trafalgar Victory 3 d Drouin Dragons Yellow 0, Wonthaggi United 4 d Drouin Dragons White 2, Phillip Island Penguins 7 d Leongatha Knights White 1

Round 6 Fixture – Sunday, June 1

Senior Mens: Trafalgar Victory v Inverloch Stars, Drouin Dragons Maroon v Lang Lang United, Wonthaggi United v Phillip Island Breakers

Senior Womens: Trafalgar Victory v Inverloch Stars, Drouin Dragons Maroon v Lang Lang United, Wonthaggi United v Phillip Island Breakers, Leongatha Knights v Mirboo North United

Mens Reserves: Trafalgar Victory v Inverloch Stars, Drouin Dragons Maroon v Phillip Island Breakers, Leongatha Knights v Korumburra City

Under 17 Mixed: Drouin Dragons Maroon v Leongatha Knights White, Wonthaggi United v Phillip Island Breakers, Leongatha Knights Blue v Mirboo North United, Korumburra City v Drouin Dragons Maroon Yellow

Under 15 Girls: Wonthaggi United v Phillip Island Breakers, Leongatha Knights v Drouin Dragons Maroon, Korumburra City v Drouin Dragons Yellow

Under 14 Mixed: Phillip Island Stingrays v Inverloch Stars, Drouin Dragons Maroon v Lang Lang United, Wonthaggi United v Phillip Island Penguins, Leongatha Knights v Mirboo North United, Korumburra City v Drouin Dragons Maroon Yellow

Under 12 Girls: Drouin Dragons Maroon v Lang Lang United, Wonthaggi United v Phillip Island Breakers

Under 12A Mixed: Drouin Dragons Maroon v Lang Lang United, Wonthaggi United v Phillip Island, Leongatha Knights Blue v Mirboo North United, Korumburra City v Drouin Maroon Yellow

Under 12B Mixed: Trafalgar Victory v Inverloch Stars, Drouin Dragons Yellow v Drouin Dragons White, Wonthaggi United v Phillip Island Penguins

LDNA celebrates 60 years

LEONGATHA and District Netball Association (LDNA) celebrated 60 years on May 17 and 18. Saturday's usual round of netball was watched by a large crowd of spectators.

At present LDNA has ten clubs, 62 teams plus Net-Set-Go and All Abilities, and close to 600 registered players. A great display of memorabilia in the club rooms revived memories of past netball events.

Later that evening two hundred people were seated for the celebration dinner held at the Leongatha Grandstand Function Rooms. Guests were treated to amazing and abundant food catered by Brett Kuhne – Food and Event Gippsland.

Wal Washfold, a life member of Mirboo North Netball Club and a past vice president of LDNA was the M.C. for the evening.

Fellow life member Maria Evison welcomed everyone present at the beginning of the evening and thanked the major sponsors including Evans Petroleum Gippsland, Nutrien Harcourts Leongatha – Kellie Thomas, Leongatha R.S.L. – Ricky McNaughton, N.A.B. Leongatha – Catherine Spradbury, Handley Funeral Services, Jenny Nation, M & M Paving – Mileto Family, Food and Event Gippsland – Brett Kuhne and Leongatha Football Netball Club, as well as supporting sponsors Gippsland Jersey, R. & M. Evison and Thorntons Bakery.

Special guests included: South Gippsland Shire Council Mayor John Schelling, Member for Eastern Victoria Melina Bath M.P., Judi Buhagiar – Netball Victoria, and former LDNA netballer and guest speaker Lyndell Bruce.

LDNA life member Noreen Williams shared memories of years gone by and proposed a toast to the past whilst special achievements during the past ten years were presented by life member Philomena Smith to Taylah Brown, James Bruce, Liam Jones, Zac Mabilia, Gemma Meadley, and Leonnie McCluskey. Nine ladies previously acknowledged, who were all present, were also introduced and congratulated.

In 2015 Barb Challis, Brenda Hocken, Kerri Palmer and Narelle Polato were the recipients of recognition awards for dedicated service to the LDNA Association.

Life memberships were awarded to Maria Evison in 2015 and Coral Johnston in 2019 for their longtime contribution to the Association.

A ten-year addition to the 50-yearbook was collated by the 60-Year Committee with the committee thanking the clubs and individuals who made information available and assisted in many ways.

"Special thanks to the typesetter Heather Gregg for her invaluable advice and encouragement. We encourage you to purchase a copy of this 60-year history of our association at \$25 per book."

Lyndell Bruce, a true grass roots member of LDNA was the guest speaker. She gave a most enjoyable, informative and poignant presentation. Lyndell is currently an Accredited Sports Scientist working at Deakin University, teaching and completing research within Sports Science.

"We thank Lyndell, everyone at LDNA is extremely proud of her achievements and wishes her every success for the future."

Emma Smith, president of LDNA thanked the 60 Year Committee for their many months of hard work. She then acknowledged the renaming of Court Four to be known as the Pat Kuhne Court on Grand Final Day, 2024.

Emma then made a surprise presentation of life membership to Vicki Neal recognising thirty years of involvement with the fundraising committee referred



Sixteen presidents of LDNA (past and current): Back, from left, S. Ritchie, J. Geary, E. Smith, D. Bracecamp, P. Smith, A. Patterson, T. Berryman, A. Gourlay, M. Evison, and J. Grant. Front, A. Dunlevie, N. Williams, B. Hocken, P. Kuhne, S. Wright, and J. Zun.

to as the Deb Ball Committee. Vicki, a quiet achiever, spent 10 years as a trainer, 16 years as treasurer and six years as secretary. Congratulations Vicki, well-deserved recognition.

The anniversary cake was then cut by all the life members, Noreen, Yvonne, Shirleyanne, Maria, Philomena, Vicki, Coral and Pat.

Maria Evison noted a vote of thanks to the major and supporting sponsors, as well as Food and Event – Brett Kuhne and Staff, LDNA Executive Committee for their support, all the clubs, Michaels IGA, Cheryle Thorson, Ken and Glen Reid, Morgan Fisher Photography, Shelley Williams, Kaylene Morter, S.G. Sentinel Times, L.F.N.C. – Christine Mackie, Daryl McGannon, Marj Barter, and the bar staff.

A toast to the future, Pat Kuhne recalled LDNA's journey from the Inaugural Meeting on February 21, 1966. Four people who attended that meeting attended last Saturday, Mary Carter, Rosemary Brooks, Marg Turra and Pat Kuhne.

"Thanks to the many people who have contributed to making the last sixty years successful."

The Twilight Competition continues to run successfully after 45 years whilst the All Abilities competition has been taking leaps and bounds since 2015.

LDNA acknowledged without the clubs there would be no association and thanked their hardworking executives, noting they "are very much appreciated".

Gippsland Region – Twelve State Distinction Award winners also joined the festivities last Saturday alongside 16 presidents past and present who have given 42 years of service to LDNA.

"We are a netball family sharing a special bond, the premierships and the awards are insignificant compared with the strength of the friendships we have formed over the past sixty years."

"We leave a great legacy, LDNA is in good hands. Please join in for A Toast to the Future," Pat said.

On Sunday LDNA had some Net-Set-Go and Walking Netball.

"Although a smaller crowd than we anticipated those present enjoyed morning tea and a BBQ lunch sponsored by the Leongatha R.S.L."

"Everyone enjoyed the celebrations and we look forward to continued success for the Leongatha and District Netball Association."



At Saturday's book launch were Y. Brown, R. Brooks, C. Cope and J. Bloyle.



The LDNA 60-year committee consisted of C. Cope, M. Evison, P. Kuhne, J. Bloyle and P. Smith.



Training the next generation through Net-Set-Go.

LDNA celebrates 60 years



Cutting the anniversary cake were the eight life members, from left, Y. Brown, C. Johnston, N. Williams, V. Neal, M. Evison, P. Kuhne, S. Wright and P. Smith.



Three of LDNA's inaugural members, from left, M. Turra, P. Kuhne, R. Brooks



Former LDNA netballer, Lyndell Bruce was the 60-year dinner guest speaker.



Presentation of the life membership to Vicki Neal (right) by Emma Smith.



Life member Philomena Smith presented special achievements last Saturday.



Walking netball has been a hit at LDNA.



Get your hands on a copy of the LDNA's 60-Year Book.

NETBALL | SPORT



Wonthaggi and Traralgon scramble for the ball during the A Grade match. A30_2125



Olivia Gilmour defends for Wonthaggi during Power's A Grade loss. A31_2125



Makayla Lee steps up to deliver the centre pass for Nyora.



Kaycee Gardiner lines up a shot for the Saints.

ELLINBANK

RESULTS

A GRADE		17 & UNDER	
Catani 44 d Bunyip 26		Catani 30 d Bunyip 20	
Lang Lang 40 d Buln Buln 29		Lang Lang 47 d Buln Buln 39	
Neerim Sth 56 d Poowong 27		Neerim Sth 17 It Poowong 33	
Trafalgar 75 d Nyora 32		Yarragon 32 It Nil-Darn 34	
Longwarry 34 It Ellinbank 61		Trafalgar 43 d Nyora 7	
Yarragon 37 It Nil-Darn 63		Longwarry 35 d Ellinbank 22	
B GRADE		15 & UNDER	
Catani 43 It Bunyip 47		Catani 38 d Bunyip 15	
Longwarry 23 It Ellinbank 53		Lang Lang 28 d Buln Buln 18	
Neerim Sth 61 d Poowong 25		Yarragon 21 d Nil-Darn 14	
Lang Lang 42 d Buln Buln 36		Neerim Sth 17 It Poowong 28	
Trafalgar 53 d Nyora 27		Trafalgar 23 d Nyora 11	
Yarragon 24 It Nil-Darn 42		Longwarry 17 It Ellinbank 6	
C GRADE		13 & UNDER	
Catani 27 d Bunyip 25		Catani 5 It Bunyip 42	
Lang Lang 12 It Buln Buln 44		Neerim Sth 28 d Poowong 15	
Neerim Sth 41 d Poowong 30		Lang Lang 18 d Buln Buln 14	
Trafalgar 64 d Nyora 7		Longwarry 17 It Ellinbank 29	
Longwarry 22 It Ellinbank 33		Yarragon 17 It Nil-Darn 20	
Yarragon 21 It Nil-Darn 39		Trafalgar 55 d Nyora 1	

LADDERS

A GRADE		%	pts	17 & UNDER	
Neerim South	197.52	28		Longwarry	170.41 28
Nilma Darnum	147.77	24		Nilma Darnum	148.96 24
Ellinbank	139.57	20		Trafalgar	150.00 20
Longwarry	139.16	20		Catani	120.31 20
Trafalgar	125.98	16		Poowong	115.05 20
Lang Lang	98.69	16		Lang Lang	135.91 14
Poowong	86.47	16		Yarragon	125.33 14
Catani	95.27	12		Neerim South	99.55 12
Yarragon	81.16	8		Bunyip	75.69 6
Bunyip	72.59	8		Ellinbank	49.46 6
Buln Buln	50.61	0		Buln Buln	74.38 4
Nyora	50.12	0		Nyora	18.67 0
B GRADE				15 & UNDER	
Ellinbank	169.90	28		Catani	294.51 28
Lang Lang	116.61	24		Poowong	204.21 24
Neerim South	158.91	20		Neerim South	184.21 24
Nilma Darnum	124.67	20		Lang Lang	173.73 20
Bunyip	117.76	20		Bunyip	126.17 20
Catani	135.92	16		Longwarry	109.68 12
Poowong	108.40	16		Nilma Darnum	100.00 12
Yarragon	80.26	8		Buln Buln	89.12 12
Buln Buln	80.13	8		Yarragon	71.58 8
Trafalgar	78.26	4		Ellinbank	60.00 4
Longwarry	78.01	0		Trafalgar	51.71 4
Nyora	36.58	0		Nyora	10.36 0
C GRADE				13 & UNDER	
Ellinbank	145.60	24		Lang Lang	675.00 28
Buln Buln	138.35	24		Trafalgar	309.33 28
Trafalgar	144.95	20		Bunyip	335.71 24
Neerim South	101.21	20		Buln Buln	192.13 16
Catani	135.23	18		Longwarry	93.66 16
Yarragon	134.97	18		Nilma Darnum	86.11 12
Longwarry	135.79	16		Poowong	78.68 12
Nilma Darnum	105.45	12		Catani	57.30 12
Lang Lang	69.64	8		Neerim South	68.48 8
Poowong	93.78	4		Ellinbank	42.99 8
Bunyip	81.70	4		Yarragon	71.15 4
Nyora	11.92	0		Nyora	5.52 0

GIPPSLAND

RESULTS

A GRADE		17 & UNDER	
Traralgon 65 d Wonthaggi 44		Traralgon 61 d Wonthaggi 18	
Warragul 95 d Maffra 21		Warragul 29 It Maffra 30	
B GRADE		15 & UNDER	
Traralgon 42 It Wonthaggi 49		Traralgon 73 d Wonthaggi 3	
Warragul 54 d Maffra 21		Warragul 42 d Maffra 28	
C GRADE		13 & UNDER	
Traralgon 28 It Wonthaggi 35		Traralgon 51 d Wonthaggi 15	
Warragul 43 d Maffra 22		Warragul 10 It Maffra 38	

MIRBOO NORTH

MIRBOO North welcomed the Stony Creek Lions and took home a clean sweep in the netball.

It was a battle of the cats for round seven with the Tigers putting on a dominant display on home courts against the Lions, taking out all six matches in impressive fashion.

A Grade: A consistent and composed performance from start to finish saw the A Grade side secure a solid 12-goal win.

Best on Court: Jessie Holland. Coach's Award: Marley Wallace.

B Grade: A competitive game with momentum swings, but Mirboo North's pressure and accuracy proved the difference in the final quarter.

Best on Court: Chelsea Loh. Coach's Award: Bella Cook.

C Grade: A hard-fought contest with great defensive efforts and patience in attack earned the C Grade team a narrow but well-deserved win.

Best on Court: Brooke Lagerwey. Coach's Award: Talei Falkingham.

D Grade: A dominant performance from D Grade, showcasing great teamwork, communication, and control all over the court.

Best on Court: Carolyn Movchan. Coach's Award: Beth Liley.

U17: The 17s were strong from the first whistle, applying full-court pressure and finishing with confidence in the ring.

Best on Court: Marley Wallace. Coach's Award: Mia O'Brien.

U15: A fast-paced, energetic game by the 15s, combining solid defence with sharp shooting. A great team effort all round.

Best on Court: Amy Conlan. Coach's Award: Emily Ludlow.

U13: A tough game from the youngest Tigers, taking home the win by just one solitary point.

Best on: Georgie Shaeche. Coaches award: Lucy Andrews.

It was a proud day for the club with all grades delivering great performances.

Congratulations to all players and award recipients.

A fortnight of rest and recovery, ready for a strong battle against the Hawks for round nine.



Evie Stone's leap proves successful for Toora during its B Grade win over Morwell East, Stone scoring 26 goals. A19_2125



Mirboo North goal defence Bella Cook moves the ball down the court, under pressure from Stony Creek's goal attack. Photo: Annie Holland.



Mirboo North celebrated a clean sweep over Stony Creek in the netball. Photo: G. S. Bruning.



Action from the goal circle in Mirboo North's match against Stony Creek. Photo: G. S. Bruning.



Centre Maya Garlick takes possession for Toora after a pass from goal shooter Tenae Dixon early in the C Grade match against Morwell East, won comfortably by the Magpies. A15_2125



It was a battle of the cats with Stony Creek and Mirboo North going head-to-head in round seven. Photo: G. S. Bruning.



Toora's Katrina Need flies against Sarah Rickwood of Morwell East, the Magpies coming out on top in the C Grade match. A17_2125

MID GIPPSLAND

RESULTS

A GRADE	B GRADE	C GRADE	D GRADE	17 & UNDER	15 & UNDER	13 & UNDER
Boolarra 61 d Thorpdale 34	Boolarra 28 d Thorpdale 26	Boolarra 75 d Thorpdale 13	Boolarra 56 d Thorpdale 11	Tarwin 14 lt N-borough 29	Mirboo Nth 34 d Stony Crk 12	Tarwin 17 lt N-borough 26
Yinnar 41 lt Foster 48	Yinnar 35 lt Foster 55	Yinnar 28 d Foster 25	Mirboo Nth 47 d Stony Crk 18	Mirboo Nth 39 d Stony Crk 14	Yinnar 39 d Foster 19	Mirboo Nth 15 d Stony Crk 14
Mirboo Nth 52 d Stony Crk 40	Mirboo Nth 47 d Stony Crk 40	Mirboo Nth 31 d Stony Crk 27	Yinnar 45 d Foster 13	Yinnar 48 d Foster 18	Tarwin 21 lt N-borough 28	Yinnar 20 d Foster 7
Tarwin 46 lt N-borough 47	Tarwin 24 lt N-borough 40	Tarwin 33 drew N-borough 33	Tarwin 22 d N-borough 17	Morwell-E 16 lt Toora 71	Morwell-E 6 lt Toora 53	Morwell-E 16 lt Toora 18
Morwell-E 36 lt Toora 41	Morwell-E 43 lt Toora 60	Morwell-E 25 lt Toora 40	Morwell-E 16 lt Toora 20			

LADDERS

A GRADE				B GRADE				C GRADE				D GRADE				17 & UNDER				15 & UNDER				13 & UNDER			
Foster	252.43	28		Foster	186.12	28		Newborough	183.92	26		Mirboo North	170.95	28		Boolarra	282.11	28		Yinnar	269.44	28		Yinnar	509.80	28	
Yinnar	128.57	24		Newborough	148.64	24		Yinnar	158.08	24		Yinnar	204.38	24		Yinnar	190.63	26		Boolarra	221.67	28		Boolarra	227.50	28	
Fish Creek	150.00	20		Mirboo North	135.56	20		Tarwin	118.10	20		Newborough	163.04	24		Mirboo North	171.62	22		Toora	312.00	28		Newborough	239.34	24	
MDU	142.98	20		Fish Creek	125.44	20		MDU	140.57	18		Tarwin	124.20	24		Toora	180.39	20		Hill End	217.24	24		Tarwin	240.82	20	
Mirboo North	140.58	20		Yinnar	124.61	20		Foster	134.78	18		Hill End	187.96	20		Hill End	137.12	20		Foster	86.75	16		Fish Creek	133.64	20	
Newborough	110.62	20		Toora	114.23	20		Hill End	130.00	18		Toora	86.29	16		MDU	182.96	16		Newborough	82.63	16		Hill End	101.14	16	
Stony Creek	119.59	16		MDU	120.00	16		Boolarra	124.35	16		Fish Creek	117.29	12		Newborough	49.79	16		Mirboo North	79.72	12		Foster	67.24	16	
Morwell East	107.38	12		Stony Creek	97.72	12		Fish Creek	101.68	16		Morwell East	100.00	8		Fish Creek	78.80	12		MDU	75.38	12		Mirboo North	119.51	12	
Toora	69.93	12		Morwell East	89.23	12		Stony Creek	86.06	12		Boolarra	97.06	8		Stony Creek	51.00	8		Tarwin	84.09	8		Stony Creek	74.81	8	
Hill End	48.29	8		Hill End	73.09	12		Mirboo North	84.96	8		MDU	86.39	8		Foster	37.56	8		Fish Creek	38.67	8		Toora	24.06	8	
Tarwin	66.82	4		Thorpdale	66.31	4		Toora	79.75	8		Foster	74.47	8		Morwell East	35.94	8		Morwell East	34.44	8		Morwell East	19.09	4	
Boolarra	64.30	4		Boolarra	45.81	4		Morwell East	79.75	4		Stony Creek	63.72	8		Tarwin	41.58	4		Stony Creek	34.39	4		MDU	13.62	4	
Thorpdale	45.05	4		Tarwin	59.88	0		Thorpdale	13.37	4		Thorpdale	10.29	4		Thorpdale	0.00	0		Thorpdale	0.00	0		Thorpdale	0.00	0	



Jya Donohue looks to deliver the ball out of the Panthers defensive end during the 17 & Under game.



Jaycee Trewavis looks for options through the Garfield defence during the D grade game.



Ro Grayson fights for possession in the Panthers goal circle during the D grade match.



Korumburra takes possession against Cora Lynn. Photo: NSM Images.



Great reach by Korumburra against Cora Lynn. Photo: NSM Images.



Hope Oats attempts to deflect the ball from her Garfield opponent in a close 17 & Under game resulting in a draw.



Renee Pilkington deals with a block. Photo: Bec Casey Sports Photography.



Isla Cousins (PI) takes a chest high pass from the centre. Photo: Bec Casey Sports Photography.



Lanni Pryor finds front position. Photo: Bec Casey Sports Photography.

KILCUNDA BASS

A GRADE: The team came out hungry for a win this week against Garfield. The girls adjusted to the conditions and played a solid four quarters of netball. Garfield put their foot down in the last quarter, and came back however the girls stepped up to the pressure and ultimately came away with the win. Award: Gypsi Schmidt.

B Grade: After a couple of losses the team needed to fine-tune a couple of things. Our goalers shone in tough wind conditions with their movement and accuracy on point. The mid court were solid with feeds and ring work and our defence was strong to get a good strong win. Award: Kylie Wookey.

C Grade: Kilcunda Bass fought hard against Garfield but ultimately fell short. The score remained close in the first quarter. Despite good defence and great patches of play in the attacking end, they struggled to convert key opportunities in the second half. Award: Romy De Nardis.

D Grade: After a tough loss last week, the ladies returned to the court with renewed focus and determination. Garfield came out strong, with accurate and consistent goalers that proved difficult to contain. Despite our best defensive efforts and moments of strong play, we struggled to match their intensity and scoring power. Award: Lynne Boag

17 & Under: The game started well with the girls having high defensive intensity everywhere on the court. Our shooters Jilli, Maisie and Millie all had their work cut out for them with the windy conditions. We were so proud of the girls' efforts, positivity, and intensity throughout the game! We were able to walk away with a draw. Awards: Maisie Van Der Walt and Jilli Wallace.

15 & Under: The girls worked extra hard this week to bounce back from a loss last week to take the win over Garfield. Step by step we will continue to improve our game, learn from our mistakes, work hard and get ready for next week when we take on Koo Wee Rup. A huge shout out to our defence end who worked hard to create multiple turnovers from start to finish. Well done to all the girls it was a team effort today. Awards: Isabella Stead and Kealey Trewavis

13 & Under: Kilcunda Bass faced a well-drilled and disciplined Garfield on Saturday in what proved to be a challenging encounter. Despite a determined effort from the team we fell short. Plenty of positives can still be taken from the game, we look forward to next week. Awards: Summer VanSteensel and Asha Payne.

11 & Under: We took on Garfield this week and we knew it was going to be a tough one as they sat second on the ladder. Once again we found it hard to score with a strong opposition. However, in the last quarter our girls were able to implement clearing out and having space to move into the front position. It was nice to see our kids put into play the things we've been working hard on. Well done girls, we love your enthusiasm for our game and love watching you grow stronger each week. Awards Sadie Johns, Vanessa Vanderspek and Sage Van Der Walt.

WEST GIPPSLAND

RESULTS

A GRADE		17 & UNDER	
KWR 35 drew Tooradin-Dal 35		KWR 14 lt Tooradin-Dal 31	
NNG 58 d Warragul Ind 36		NNG 37 lt Warragul Ind 38	
Cora Lynn 29 lt Kor-Bena 36		Cora Lynn 47 d Kor-Bena 21	
IK 41 d P-Island 31		Garfield 23 drew K-Bass 23	
Garfield 42 lt K-Bass 52		IK 18 lt P-Island 31	
B GRADE		15 & UNDER	
KWR 36 lt Tooradin-Dal 57		KWR 8 lt Tooradin-Dal 31	
NNG 87 d Warragul Ind 15		IK 15 lt P-Island 23	
Cora Lynn 52 d Kor-Bena 26		Garfield 21 lt K-Bass 24	
IK 35 lt P-Island 40		NNG 56 d Warragul-I 15	
Garfield 24 lt K-Bass 49		13 & UNDER	
C GRADE		KWR 22 lt Tooradin-Dal 36	
KWR 19 lt Tooradin-Dal 25		Garfield 34 d K-Bass 13	
NNG 38 lt Warragul Ind 43		IK 14 lt P-Island 19	
Cora Lynn 42 d Kor-Bena 13		NNG 47 d Warragul-I 6	
IK 23 d P-Island 20		Cora Lynn 54 d Kor-Bena 9	
Garfield 40 d K-Bass 33		11 & UNDER	
D GRADE		Garfield 39 d K-Bass 3	
KWR 35 d Tooradin-Dal 20		KWR 29 d Tooradin-Dal 9	
NNG 40 d Warragul Ind 28		IK 26 d P-Island 8	
Cora Lynn 31 d Kor-Bena 18		NNG 27 d Warragul-I 4	
IK 29 d P-Island 19		Cora Lynn 34 d Kor-Bena 10	
Garfield 31 d K-Bass 9			

LADDERS

A GRADE			% pts			17 & UNDER			% pts			13 & UNDER			% pts		
Nar Nar Goon	147.58	28	Cora Lynn	182.14	28	Cora Lynn	202.99	28	Nar Nar Goon	403.03	28	Cora Lynn	342.86	28			
Kor-Bena	142.16	24	Garfield	142.70	24	Phillip Island	166.89	24	Nar Nar Goon	242.37	26	Garfield	411.90	24			
Dalyston	119.34	20	Warragul Ind.	141.48	24	Nar Nar Goon	135.98	24	Tooradin-Dal.	184.30	22	Inverloch-K	242.37	24			
Cora Lynn	116.83	20	Tooradin-Dal.	132.04	22	Warragul Ind.	165.03	20	Garfield	193.14	20	Koo Wee Rup	202.82	24			
Inverloch-K	101.63	20	Inverloch-K	122.70	22	Dalyston	117.95	16	Kor-Bena	129.03	20	Phillip Island	120.78	18			
Tooradin-Dal.	104.76	14	Nar Nar Goon	122.70	12	Tooradin-Dal.	110.14	16	Phillip Island	66.86	16	Kor-Bena	119.23	16			
Phillip Island	104.09	14	Kilcunda Bass	88.89	8	Koo Wee Rup	96.76	12	Koo Wee Rup	81.95	12	Nar Nar Goon	95.08	10			
Garfield	83.12	14	Phillip Island	67.01	8	Inverloch-K	70.53	12	Kilcunda Bass	74.47	8	Tooradin-Dal.	75.82	8			
Kilcunda Bass	95.91	8	Koo Wee Rup	62.80	8	Kor-Bena	64.41	8	Warragul Ind.	40.91	8	Dalyston	31.11	8			
Warragul Ind.	55.90	4	Dalyston	55.31	4	Garfield	54.43	6	Inverloch-K	31.86	4	Warragul Ind.	18.79	8			
Koo Wee Rup	70.69	2	Kor-Bena	53.09	4	Kilcunda Bass	32.48	2	Dalyston	12.55	4	Kilcunda Bass	16.02	0			
B GRADE			D GRADE			15 & UNDER			11 & UNDER								
Tooradin-Dal.	179.08	26	Cora Lynn	227.08	28	Nar Nar Goon	309.01	28	Cora Lynn	342.86	28						
Dalyston	144.93	24	Nar Nar Goon	227.08	28	Garfield	295.29	28	Garfield	411.90	24						
Nar Nar Goon	146.84	22	Garfield	173.28	24	Tooradin-Dal.	295.29	20	Inverloch-K	242.37	24						
Cora Lynn	115.28	22	Kor-Bena	114.63	16	Phillip Island	83.13	16	Koo Wee Rup	202.82	24						
Kilcunda Bass	122.82	16	Kilcunda Bass	94.44	16	Kilcunda Bass	80.93	16	Phillip Island	120.78	18						
Phillip Island	107.97	16	Koo Wee Rup	110.30	12	Kor-Bena	74.30	16	Kor-Bena	119.23	16						
Inverloch-K	96.94	14	Tooradin-Dal.	103.72	12	Garfield Stars	70.44	12	Nar Nar Goon	95.08	10						
Garfield	84.72	8	Inverloch-K	85.07	12	Koo Wee Rup	67.20	12	Tooradin-Dal.	75.82	8						
Koo Wee Rup	78.90	8	Phillip Island	82.22	12	Dalyston	47.83	8	Dalyston	31.11	8						
Kor-Bena	73.36	8	Warragul Ind	50.36	4	Inverloch-K	46.53	8	Warragul Ind.	18.79	8						
Warragul Ind.	29.48	4	Dalyston	29.87	4	Kor-Bena	0.00	0	Kilcunda Bass	16.02	0						

FOOTY TIPPING



64

BEN FISHER

Brisbane

Hawthorn

Gold Coast Suns

GWS

Sydney

Melbourne

Geelong

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 6



81 Commercial Street,
Korumburra
5655 1024



61

DANIEL CHETLAND

Brisbane

Hawthorn

Gold Coast Suns

GWS

Sydney

Melbourne

Geelong

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 4



119 Graham Street,
Wonthaggi
5672 1027



65

CARL LINDSAY

Brisbane

Hawthorn

Gold Coast Suns

GWS

Adelaide

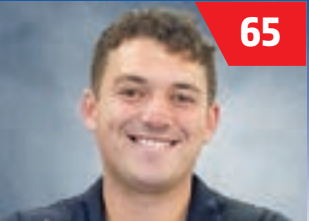
Melbourne

Geelong

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 7



145 Graham Street,
Wonthaggi
5672 1137



65

ALEX GEYER

Brisbane

Hawthorn

Gold Coast Suns

GWS

Adelaide

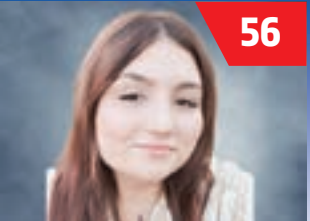
Melbourne

Geelong

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 5



Wonthaggi 5672 5522
Leongatha 5662 2941



56

JAE DAVEY

Brisbane

Collingwood

Gold Coast Suns

GWS

Sydney

Melbourne

Geelong

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 7



62-64 McBride Avenue,
Wonthaggi
7051 0720



70

DARRYL MCGANNON

Brisbane

Collingwood

Gold Coast Suns

GWS

Sydney

Melbourne

Geelong

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 6



1 Roughead Street,
Leongatha
5662 2327



61

KRIS BAKER

Brisbane

Hawthorn

Gold Coast Suns

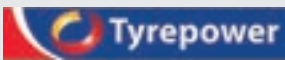
GWS

Adelaide

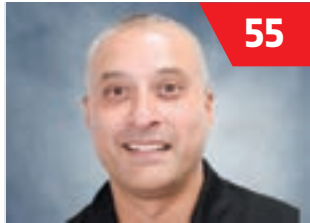
St Kilda

Geelong

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 7



78-80 Watt Street,
Wonthaggi
5672 5760



55

RYAN SHANE

Brisbane

Hawthorn

Gold Coast Suns

GWS

Adelaide

Melbourne

Geelong

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 5



Leongatha Toyota

7-13 Hughes Street,
Leongatha
5662 2302



60

**CRAIG FARRINGTON
DARREN TILE**

Brisbane

Hawthorn

Gold Coast Suns

GWS

Sydney

Melbourne

Geelong

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 5



6/5 Cyclone Street,
Wonthaggi
Darren 0405 603 569
Craig 0415 641 845



67

ADAM WARE

Brisbane

Collingwood

Gold Coast Suns

GWS

Sydney

Melbourne

Geelong

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 7



2/88-98 Watt Street,
Wonthaggi
1800 358 131



69

JUSTIN CAPORALE

Brisbane

Collingwood

Gold Coast Suns

GWS

Sydney

Melbourne

Geelong

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 7



41 McCartin Street,
Leongatha
5662 2529



55

LEIGH DONOHUE

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Hawthorn

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GWS

Sydney

Melbourne

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LAST WEEK'S TIPS 5



Wonthaggi
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LEADERBOARD
AFTER ROUND 11

Darryl McGannon	70
Justin Caporale	69
Aaron McGregor	68
Peter Fort	68
Phil Hardy	68
Adam Ware	67
David England	67
Dylan Clark	67
Liam Sawyer	67
Alex Geyer	65
Carl Lindsay	65
Ben Fisher	64
Brad Hodson	64
Warren Stewart	64
Daniel Chetland	61
Hayden Poppe	61
Keith & Eddie	61
Kris Baker	61
Craig & Darren	60
Brett Jacobs	57
Jae Davey	56
Leigh Donohue	55
Ryan Shane	55



64

WARREN STEWART

Brisbane

Collingwood

Gold Coast Suns

GWS

Sydney

Melbourne

Geelong

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 6



Wonthaggi Toyota

346 Bass Highway,
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5632 3503



68

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LAST WEEK'S TIPS 7



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Gold Coast Suns

GWS

Sydney

Melbourne

Geelong

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 8



1 A'Beckett Street
Inverloch
5674 1432



67

DAVID ENGLAND

Brisbane

Collingwood

Gold Coast Suns

GWS

Adelaide

Melbourne

Geelong

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 7



3/45-61 McKenzie St,
Wonthaggi
5644 2080



68

PETER FORT

Brisbane

Collingwood

Gold Coast Suns

GWS

Sydney

Melbourne

Geelong

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 7



47 Station Street,
Korumburra
0417 332 141



61

KEITH KELLY

EDDIE CHANDLER

Brisbane

Collingwood

Fremantle

GWS

Adelaide

Melbourne

Geelong

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 8



54 Graham Street,
Wonthaggi
5672 1311



67

LIAM SAWYER

Brisbane

Collingwood

Gold Coast Suns

GWS

Adelaide

Melbourne

Geelong

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 7



16 McBride Avenue,
Wonthaggi
5672 1007



68

AARON MCGREGOR

Brisbane

Collingwood

Gold Coast Suns

GWS

Sydney

Melbourne

Geelong

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 7



24 Inverloch Road,
Wonthaggi
5672 5906



64

BRAD HODSON

Brisbane

Collingwood

Gold Coast Suns

GWS

Adelaide

St Kilda

Geelong

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 8



15/17 Murray Street,
Wonthaggi
5672 5878



57

BRETT JACOBS

Brisbane

Hawthorn

Gold Coast Suns

GWS

Adelaide

St Kilda

Geelong

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 5



28 Inverloch Road,
Wonthaggi
5672 4770



61

HAYDEN POPPE

Brisbane

Hawthorn

Gold Coast Suns

GWS

Adelaide

St Kilda

West Coast

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 6



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Donna Lawless, and Sue Embrey are known as the Gippy Mumma's – the only all-female team in the KidzFix Rally, raising funds for Latrobe Regional Health. Pictured with Courtney Whittaker, Acting Nurse Unit Manager of LRH Paediatrics.

Hitting the road for Gippsland's kids

FOR Donna Lawless and Sue Embrey, the roar of a 1991 Subaru wagon engine is more than just the soundtrack to a bush adventure.

Known as the Gippy Mummas, these two spirited Yinnar locals have turned their love of rally driving into a phenomenal fundraising mission to support sick kids at Latrobe Regional Health (LRH).

The Gippy Mummas are the only all-female team in the Kidz-Fix Rally, a charity event that combines back roads with fundraising for sick and disadvantaged kids in small communities.

Since 2017, KidzFix has raised nearly \$90,000 for Latrobe Regional Health (LRH), and the Gippy Mummas are determined to push that total past \$100,000 this year.

"Rallying is so much fun. People come from all over the country, and each night we gather like a big family," Donna said.

"But what makes it really special is knowing the funds we raise go straight to equipment used here at LRH – our local hospital, helping local people."

Their journey began in 2016 with a trusty old Commodore, encouraged by Donna's mechanic husband, who volunteers with the rally's rescue team.

They've since upgraded to a Subaru L-series, clocking about 2500 kilometres at each rally across unsealed roads, remote bush towns, and the occasional river crossing deep enough to test the nerves of any driver.

Despite the rugged terrain, the Gippy Mummas have proudly finished every rally.

"We've tackled it all, even river

crossings that saw other cars towed out on trailers," Donna said.

And each year, the team receives the "Most Courteous Driver" award, reflecting their generous spirit both on and off the road.

Participation in KidzFix doesn't come easy. Teams must raise at least \$4500 and drive vehicles more than 20 years old.

The Gippy Mummas meet the challenge year after year through community fundraisers, including trivia nights and barbecues.

One of this year's fundraising events will be a high tea fundraiser at the Yinnar Bowls Club, with all proceeds helping the team gear up for this year's September rally from Lithgow to Mallacoota via Lorne.

It will help LRH purchase four critical Nexus syringe pumps for its paediatrics unit.

Thanks to their past efforts, LRH has already acquired vital equipment including paediatric cots, a blanket warmer, a resuscitation trolley, sleeper chairs, and a jaundice meter – the latter eliminating the need for painful heel pricks in newborn babies.

Courtney Whittaker, Acting Nurse Unit Manager of LRH Paediatrics, couldn't be more grateful.

"The support from KidzFix and the Gippy Mummas is phenomenal," she said. "This equipment makes a real difference for children and families throughout Gippsland."

The Gippy Mummas High Tea will be at the Yinnar Bowls Club on June 15 at 1.30 pm. Tickets are \$35 a person. To book, call Sue on 0458 151 631 or Donna on 0439 631 470 by June 8.



Ella Cargill celebrates her 100th Breakers match with teammates.

Breakers mark milestone with a win

BASS Coast Breakers celebrated Ella Cargill's 100th match for the club in style, holding Mt Eliza goalless and winning by 38 points away from home.

Cargill, a favourite amongst teammates and spectators alike, has been there from the start, missing only a couple of matches since the team's inception in 2017.

The Breakers started against the wind, which was strongly favouring one pocket.

As a result, the home side had a lot of the play in the first quarter but the Breakers backline led by Brooke McKean did well to shut the game down and keep them goalless.

It was Bass Coast's turn to attack in the second quarter; however, despite creating a number of attempts, the dead pocket also got the better of them.

A goal late in the quarter finally broke the deadlock and gave the Breakers a bit of momentum going into the second half.

They maintained their attack in the third, with a goal into the wind.

It was created by nice ball movement, with Gaby Hynes not blazing away and giving the hands off to Immy Bradford who made the most of the opportunity.

The backline continued to



Jayde Lamb clears the ball out of the backline.

limit Mt Eliza's opportunities, with Jayde Lamb taking some strong marks and Cloe Booth attacking the ball and driving it forward.

Sophie McCracken-Evans played a key role in directing play to the open side of the ground.

The Breakers took better advantage of the wind in the last quarter with Tayla Stahl and Cargill adding goals early to stretch the lead.

A shot attempt by Jenna Russo fell short, Cargill reading the drop of the ball to score her second major from the goal line.

Play of the day came in the dying seconds of the match with a long kick from the centre clearance giving Stahl the chance to snap a goal from the dead pocket, her third major for the match and the Breakers' second in a minute.

Final score: Breakers 6.6-42 def Mt Eliza 0.4-4

Best: Jenna Russo, Gaby Hynes, Molly Conroy, Tess Angarane, Jayde Lamb, Sophie McCracken-Evans

Goals: Tayla Stahl 3, Ella Cargill 2, Immy Bradford

This week the Breakers face Karingal on Saturday at 1pm at Ballam Park.

Courageous but costly win for Wonthaggi Power



Fergus O'Connor looks for a Wonthaggi teammate further up the field. A35_2125



Players from both sides, Wonthaggi and Traralgon, went from contest to contest especially in a frenetic last quarter when the game could have gone either way. Power2_2125



Wonthaggi's Kyle Reid battles with Traralgon skipper Tye Hourigan, Reid proving decisive in Power's win with his commanding performance in defence. A32_2125



O'Pili Paora attempts to escape the clutches of his Trafalgar opponent.



Nyora skipper Dylan Heylen was among the Saints' best, dashing clear on this occasion.

Trafalgar trumps Nyora

IT WAS a tough slog for Nyora as a well-drilled Trafalgar side came away with a 108-point victory.

Nyora started flat and it took the first half for the Saints to adjust to the windy conditions at the Trafalgar Recreation Reserve.

The wind favoured Nyora's kicking end in the first quarter.

The wind factor affected Trafalgar's scoreline, as it kicked three goals and nine behinds.

Nyora's backline was also responsible for a few of Trafalgar's early missed opportunities.

Tyler Kirkbridge and Jesse Heylen were strong presences in the defence.

Ten minutes into the first quarter, Luke Ferguson also came off the bench and joined the defence.

An elder statesman of the game, Ferguson settled the play down back and proved to be a calming influence.

The change of ends changed the game for Nyora, as Trafalgar wisely used the wind to its advantage.

Trafalgar exhibited excellent game structure and strategy, kicking away to a 61-point

lead at half time.

A chat with coach Daryl Swinburne saw a new-look Nyora team step out for the third quarter.

Will McGindle was moved from the backline up forward, providing a bigger body to distract Trafalgar's number one backman.

This move allowed more breathing room for the small forwards.

The play settled for Nyora and the Saints managed to win the quarter.

However, the third-quarter momentum was not enough to

pull the game back into Nyora's favour.

Trafalgar continued to hit its targets in the fourth quarter to establish its dominant win.

Trafalgar showed its fitness by running out the game to the end and overall demonstrated a high-level quality of play Nyora will continue to strive for.

Nyora will be playing Buln Buln in its second away game in a row next week.

It will be another tough game, but Nyora has relished playing the stronger sides to establish where it sits in the league.

Injuries take toll as Poowong struggles against ladder leaders

POOWONG travelled to Neerim South last Saturday in overcast conditions. The ground was good with the wind across the ground and a good crowd.

The seniors went in with five changes – Bryce Townsend and Connor King in for their first game, both worked hard also in were Micah Williams, Jack DeKock and Connor Ives, out Connor Cunningham, Rhys Schultz, Hayden Hessells, Daniel McDonald and Calvin Langford.

It was going to be a tough day and it turned out to be.

Neerim South won the Under 16s 7.9. 51 to Poowong 4.6.30, The under 18's Neerim South 10.13.73 to Poowong 0.6.6.

It was good to see Jett Blackwood back on the field playing well after a work injury. The reserves after their first win in three years

By Geoff Wyatt

suffered a heavy loss with many of last week's team unavailable 33.17.215 to 0.0.0.

To the seniors with many U18s playing – virtually boys against men. To these boys the club is proud of your commitment and take from the game what level you need to achieve – this comes with confidence and fitness, look at your game and see what areas you can improve your game.

Neerim South have some very good footballers in their team and from their efforts Saturday they have every chance to be finalists.

Poowong kicked against the breeze to the Baw Baw end, and quickly we could see the strength of Neerim South. They added 9.3 to Poowong's single goal in Connor Ives from CHF.

The second quarter

Poowong added two goals one to Connor King's first senior goal, the second to Joseph Bisognin who was working hard. Neerim added eleven goals to go in at 20.8.128 to Poowong 3.0.18.

With Poowong having no bench for the second half with mostly senior players injured it was going to be tough on the young players. This has been an ongoing problem this season if you have no fitness, injuries will occur more often, fitness is a big part of football, and lack of fitness only lets you down.

Three-quarter time Neerim 27.15 177 to Poowong 3.1.19.

It was good to see some of the young players really having a go in the last quarter showing there is some good ability there for the future. Unfortunately, Neerim added another eleven goals to finish

with 38.22.250 with Poowong adding 1.2 to finish with 4.3.27.

The coach has a tough job with so many injuries and I thought he spoke very well after the game in the situation. Best players were Connor King up forward, Jack de Kock (ruck), Fiachra Staunton (great effort down back), Joel Norton (one of the best each week gives you everything) and David O'Neill (he worked hard and shows he has a good future in the game).

Next week off to Trafalgar. Will not be easy with the injuries but let's get behind the boys and show our support for their commitment. The netball girls results were three each well done.

I will see you next week at Trafalgar, the boys need to see support in the rooms, good luck to all grades.

ELLINBANK & DISTRICT LEAGUE RESULTS

RND 7

NYORA FOOTBALL CLUB

139

31

TRAFALGAR

NYORA

Trafalgar	3.9	11.13	12.14	20.19	(139)
Nyora	2.0	3.0	5.0	5.1	(31)

GOALS, Trafalgar: B Slater 7, K Beveridge 5, M Devon, J Roe-Duggan 2, I Caroleo, L Hennessy, D Brewster, C Noonan 1 each

BEST: K Beveridge, D Farrell, J Butler, J Roe-Duggan, B Slater, C Minichiello

GOALS, Nyora: P Delaroche 3, C Crestani 1, D Heylen 1

BEST: T Kirkbride, P Delaroche, I Kennedy, J Heylen, D Heylen, C Lucas

RESERVES

Trafalgar	5.2	10.4	13.9	19.11	(125)
Nyora	0.1	0.1	1.3	2.3	(15)

GOALS, Trafalgar: H Brock 5, K Tullett, D Brock, B Templeton, B Bosman 2, D Dyke, J Dwyer, J Hines, M Smart, A Templeton, Z Brown 1 each

BEST: D Brock, A Templeton, K Tullett, H Brock, Z Brown

GOALS, Nyora: J Shaw-Remy, T Dalgleish 1 each

BEST: L Forscutt, T Dalgleish, L Brock, J Shaw-Remy, B Smith, O Hill

POOWONG FOOTBALL CLUB

250

27

NEERIM SOUTH

POOWONG

Neerim Sth	9.2	20.8	27.15	38.22	(250)
Poowong	1.0	3.0	3.1	4.3	(27)

GOALS, Neerim Sth: M McGarrity 12, T Morrow 6, L Bambridge, K Mounsey 4, D Norton, T Pratt, K Wilson 2, T Beaurain, L French, I Guy, A Lockett, H Notman, W Papley 1 each

BEST: M McGarrity, T Morrow, K Wilson, E McGillivray, W Papley, K Mounsey

GOALS, Poowong: J Bisognin, J de Kock, C Ives, D Miller 1 each

BEST: No players selected.

RESERVES

Neerim Sth	9.7	15.11	25.14	33.17	(215)
Poowong	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	(0)

GOALS, Neerim Sth: X Cox 13, T Bayne 4, J Williams, J Clerks, L Ramage, P Sheehan, K Salerno 2, L Bottom, K Cornwall, R Clarke, E Lucas, A White, L Edgar 1 each

BEST: X Cox, A White, L Ramage, T Bayne, J Clerks, K Salerno

BEST, Poowong: No players selected.

THIRDS

Neerim Sth	4.3	7.6	8.10	10.13	(73)
Poowong	0.2	0.3	0.5	0.6	(6)

GOALS, Neerim Sth: K Cornwall, D Strating, B Macdonald 2, D Shortis, M Hickmott, W Kew, A Tripodi 1 each

BEST: K Cornwall, D Christian, D Shortis, B Loft, J Muir, W Kew

BEST, Poowong: No players selected.

FOURTHS

Neerim Sth	3.1	4.4	5.6	7.9	(51)
Poowong	2.2	3.2	4.3	4.6	(30)

GOALS, Neerim Sth: D Strating 4, T Cornwall, N Uliando-Dalton, R Peterson 1 each

BEST: T Cornwall, C Duck, O Bain, D Strating, A Stafford, J Marsden

GOALS, Poowong: C Deal, C Dorian, L Moriarty, L Nieuwerth 1 each

BEST: J Wilson, B Warren, L Moriarty, K Gilliatte, C Dorian, M Cawcutt

IN OTHER GAMES...

SENIORS

Buln Buln	6.8.44	d	Lang Lang	5.9.39
Longwarry	11.11.77	d	Ellinbank	4.5.29
Yarragon	17.14.116	d	Nilma Darn	6.12.48
Catani	14.16.100	d	Bunyip	8.5.53

RESERVES

Lang Lang	19.15.129	d	Buln Buln	1.2.8
Longwarry	6.4.40	d	Ellinbank	6.1.37
Yarragon	11.8.74	d	Nilma Darn	3.4.22
Catani	7.7.49	d	Bunyip	5.4.34

THIRDS

Buln Buln	8.7.55	d	Lang Lang	3.5.23
Ellinbank	8.11.59	d	Longwarry	2.10.22
Nilma Darn	14.18.102	d	Yarragon	1.2.8
Trafalgar	16.13.109	d	Bunyip	0.3.3

FOURTHS

Buln Buln	12.14.86	d	Lang Lang	1.2.8
Ellinbank	7.14.56	d	Longwarry	2.6.18
Yarragon	5.7.37	d	Nilma Darn	1.7.13
Bunyip	11.13.79	d	Catani	3.4.22

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ELLINBANK & DISTRICT LEAGUE LADDERS														ROUND 7																									
SENIORS					W	L	%	pts	RESERVES					W	L	%	pts	THIRDS					W	L	%	MR	FOURTHS					W	L	%	MR				
Neerim South	7	0	432.92	28	Longwarry	7	0	764.36	28	Ellinbank	7	0	284.19	100.0	Bunyip	6	0	435.35	100.0	Trafalgar	6	1	279.32	24	Lang Lang	6	1	721.95	24	Neerim South	5	2	226.76	71.43	Ellinbank	6	1	155.14	85.71
Longwarry	6	1	225.96	24	Ellinbank	5	2	245.93	20	Nilma Darnum	5	2	170.53	71.43	Poowong	5	1	195.02	83.33	Lang Lang	5	2	161.89	20	Trafalgar	5	2	202.09	20	Longwarry	3	2	107.35	60.00	Trafalgar	4	2	233.51	66.67
Buln Buln	4	3	113.38	16	Catani	4	3	91.22	16	Lang Lang	3	3	150.39	50.00	Yarragon	4	2	173.60	66.67	Buln Buln	4	3	90.27	16	Yarragon	4	3	107.95	12	Buln Buln	4	3	203.60	57.14	Lang Lang	3	3	59.22	50.00
Yarragon	4	3	90.27	16	Bunyip	2	4	65.25	10	Poowong	2	3	65.09	40.00	Lang Lang	3	3	59.22	50.00	Ellinbank	3	4	127.95	12	Trafalgar	2	4	71.06	33.33	Buln Buln	3	4	94.69	42.85					
Ellinbank	3	4	127.95	12	Buln Buln	1	5	38.51	6	Yarragon	0	6	29.33	0.00	Neerim South	2	5	66.89	28.57	Catani	3	4	110.13	12	Yarragon	0	6	29.33	0.00	Catani	1	5	61.36	16.67					
Catani	3	4	110.13	12	Nyora	1	6	20.91	4	Bunyip	0	6	9.47	0.00	Longwarry	1	5	60.82	16.67	Nyora	2	5	53.54	8	Bunyip	0	6	9.47	0.00	Nilma Darnum	0	7	15.38	0.00					
Nyora	2	5	53.54	8	Poowong	1	6	9.46	4	Catani	0	0	0.00	0.00	Nilma Darnum	0	7	15.38	0.00	Poowong	0	7	37.58	0	Nyora	0	0	0.00	0.00	Nyora	0	0	0.00	0.00					
Nilma Darnum	2	5	42.44	8	Nilma Darnum	0	7	15.80	0	Nyora	0	0	0.00	0.00																									
Bunyip	0	7	37.58	0																																			
Poowong	0	7	26.36	0																																			
LEADING GOAL KICKERS					LEADING GOAL KICKERS					LEADING GOAL KICKERS					LEADING GOAL KICKERS																								
Jason Wells (Longwarry)					Bradley Blazevic (Longwarry)					Charlie Armour (Ellinbank)					Cruze Deal (Poowong)																								
Mason McGarrit (Neerim South)					Toby Bayne (Neerim South)					Dylan Strating (Neerim South)					Dylan Strating (Neerim South)																								
Marc Holt (Lang Lang)					Kurt Batt (Lang Lang)					Blake Macdonald (Neerim South)					Hudson Grujic (Trafalgar)																								

MID GIPPSLAND LEAGUE RESULTS

RND 7

MIRBOO NORTH FOOTBALL CLUB

STONY CREEK FOOTBALL CLUB



63



56

MIRBOO NORTH	STONY CREEK
Mirboo North 3.5	5.7 9.9 9.9 (63)
Stony Creek 1.2	4.5 5.6 8.8 (56)

GOALS, Mirboo Nth: J Conlan 3, J Taylor 2, E Woodall, H Kerr, P Lewis, R Gillian 1 each
BEST: R Kratzat, B Peters, T Wilkins, J Conlan, H Mahoney, J Chila
GOALS, Stony Crk: Z Bergles-brown 3, H Bull 2, K Bergles, J Stone, T Bernaldo 1 each
BEST: Stony Creek Seniors: N Trotto, T Bernaldo, J Riley, T Sinclair, C Loughridge, D Atkins

RESERVES

Mirboo North 1.1	2.3 2.4 2.4 (16)
Stony Creek 2.1	2.5 4.6 6.10 (46)

GOALS, Mirboo Nth: A O'Loughlin, B Peters 1 each
BEST: L Gervasi, J Hysen, T Alexander, B Peters, E Hall, T McAllister
GOALS, Stony Crk: N Svenson 2, J Byrnes, W Speed, C James, J Brann 1 each
BEST: N Svenson, L Byrnes, C James, R Baudinette, A Logan, J Brann

THIRDS

Mirboo North 5.3	8.4 14.4 15.5 (95)
Hill End 2.0	3.1 3.2 5.5 (35)

GOALS, Mirboo Nth: T McDuffie 7, C Crutchfield 4, T Heislars 2, A Evans, S Berquez 1 each
BEST: N Jackson, C Crutchfield, J Unwin, L Poljak, T McGrath, T McDuffie
GOALS, Hill End: T Riley 2, X Pace, B Stephens, C Bannister 1 each
BEST: D Paul, B Stephens, D van der Stoep, T Riley, M Balfour, X Pace

GIPPSLAND LEAGUE RESULTS

RND 7

WONTHAGGI FOOTBALL CLUB



79



84

TRARALGON	WONTHAGGI
Traralgon 2.3	6.6 7.10 11.13 (79)
Wonthaggi 3.2	3.2 8.3 13.6 (84)

GOALS, Traralgon: D Loprese 4, C Ambler, J Cunico, L D'Angelo, S Hallyburton, T Hourigan, A Lovison 1 each
BEST: T Waack, J Cunico, C Ambler, T Hourigan, J McMahon, L D'Angelo
GOALS, Wonthaggi: J Williams 4, C McInnes, K Patterson, J Williams 2, H Tiziani, J Blair, B Cornelis 1 each
BEST: J Shone, J Williams, K Reid, N Anderson, K Patterson, J Schulz

RESERVES

Traralgon 1.4	5.5 7.9 10.11 (71)
Wonthaggi 0.0	0.1 1.1 2.1 (13)

GOALS, Traralgon: D Hough 3, G Ruach, M McCafferty, J Macumber, C Ruyters, B Hutton, J Mudita, O Haberl 1 each
BEST: J Macumber, D Hough, C Ruyters, B Hutton, B Cheetham, F Kennedy
GOALS, Wonthaggi: A Busana, T Davey 1 each
BEST: K Kay-Darts, C Magro, L Legione, J Williamson, J Lewis, J Douthat

THIRDS

Traralgon 6.2	11.6 14.8 15.14 (104)
Wonthaggi 2.1	4.1 4.1 5.2 (32)

GOALS, Traralgon: J Zappulla 4, L Macumber 3, H Pirie, E Pass, J Murdoch, Z Bastin, L Hooper, M Farley, T Lapenta, A Harle 1 each
BEST: L Macumber, B Hagley, J Zappulla, T Davidson, W Ambler, S Wight
GOALS, Wonthaggi: J. Brouwers 3, B Wyhoon, J Burns 1 each
BEST: J Brouwers, J Burns, M Ori, L Lidstone, W Simmons, O Feather

FOURTHS

Traralgon 4.7	8.12 13.18 22.20 (152)
Wonthaggi 0.1	0.1 1.2 1.2 (8)

GOALS, Traralgon: B Stevenson 7, B Cargill 3, H Anderson, F Gore, M Fox 2, H Styles, H Connolly, L Field, B Adams, L Balcombe Matters, D Smith 1 each
BEST: B Stevenson, K Thorley, H Anderson, B Cargill, A Tangi, H Connolly
GOALS, Wonthaggi: W Hullick 1
BEST: . Wintle, B Wyhoon, R Tack, A Luke, W Simmons, M Plenkovich

IN OTHER GAMES...

SENIORS			
Warragul 12.13.85	d Maffra	9.8.62	
RESERVES			
Maffra 15.10.100	d Warragul	3.3.21	
THIRDS			
Warragul 3.7.25	d Maffra	3.5.23	
FOURTHS			
Maffra 7.14.56	d Warragul	8.4.52	

Tigers cling to a win

By Rover

MIRBOO North defiantly held Stony Creek at bay in a tense last quarter, to sneak home by seven points at Tigerland on Saturday.

Mirboo North now has four wins for the season and sits in seventh spot on the Mid Gippsland ladder, below Newborough on percentage.

A highlight of the match was Mirboo North teenager, Jonathon Conlan, booting the opening goal with his first kick in senior footy and later following it up with two more majors.

With the wind blowing hard towards the eastern end goalposts, the mighty Tigers had established a handy 27-point lead at the last change, after holding an eight-point advantage at half-time.

The unrelenting run and tackling pressure of Jesse Chila, Harry Mahoney, Archie Woodall and skipper Hudson Kerr were important reasons why Mirboo North was in a winning position at three-quarter time.

Less than three minutes into the final term, Stony Creek secured two majors; then another goal at the seven-minute mark reduced the Lions' deficit to nine points.

For the remaining 19 minutes, Mirboo North restricted Stony Creek to two behinds, as the visitors repeatedly pounded the ball into their forward 50.

Led by Rhys Kratzat, Beau Peters, Taj Wilkins and Jacob Blair in the back 50, the Tigers fought tooth and nail to time and time again block the Lions' pathway to the big white sticks.

With Stony Creek doing most of the attacking, classy



Mirboo North held onto a seven-point win over Stony Creek. Photo courtesy: G.S. Bruning.

small forward, Zye Bergels-Brown – who finished with three majors in his first appearance for the Lions – was a constant threat to the Tigers.

Nathan Trotto, Jason Riley, Troy Sinclair and Hayden Bull were also relentlessly on the prowl for the visitors.

When Mirboo North warhorse, Josh Taylor, hobbled from the oval midway through the last quarter, it followed the loss of Doug Black to a leg injury during the third term.

Playing coach, Damien

Turner, had successfully used Taylor at both ends of the ground, where he kicked two goals in the first quarter and provided steadiness and cohesion in defence, later in the contest.

Mirboo North now appeared ripe for the picking, but as the clock kept ticking towards full time, the desperate Tigers constantly stepped up to the mark.

Ethan Woodall's high intercept grab across half back was one of a number of examples of Mirboo North's solidarity under pressure.

With Mirboo North in full

lock-down mode, the Sher-rin rarely crossed into its forward half throughout the six-minute time-on period.

As the Lions' frenzy to close the gap heightened, Mirboo North remained vigilant and refused to allow the floodgates to open.

When the final siren sounded, the battle had been won by the Tigers, with all of the Lions' challenges overcome.

This Saturday, Mirboo North has the bye, after which it travels to Morwell East on June 14, following the King's Birthday holiday break.

Courageous but costly win for Wonthaggi Power



Jasper Shone had 17 hitouts in the last quarter after standing up all day for Wonthaggi following the loss of Jakeb Thomas to a broken ankle in the first quarter, on this occasion outleaping Traralgon's Daniel McKenna.

A34 2125

From page 60

Up the other end, a defensive mistake by Jordan Cunico ended up with Blake Cornelis who ran his full distance, and then some, before snapping a fantastic goal.

Not long after that Jarryd Blair made up a lot of ground in defence to help Kyle Reid clear the ball and Wonthaggi's Jai Williams had a shot at the other end, for a point and there was only one point in it.

Wonthaggi's players shared the ball around with Josh Bates back on in a head bandage involved, allowing Jaxon Williams to mark and kick a beauty to put the Power back in front for the first time in more than an hour.

With Jasper Shone making a great contest in the centre and Ryan Sparkes getting his fifth kick for the quarter, in the first 12 minutes, Cooper McInnes marked on the lead and put the Power in front by 11 points.

Traralgon went on the attack but Reeve Moresco relieved the pressure. A brain fade by Dylan Loprese ended up in a downfield free and Jai Williams kicked one from

close range to get it out to a 17-point lead as the wind dropped to the Traralgon end of the ground.

Loprese made up for his mistake by kicking four in the quarter but with courageous defence, led by Kyle Reid, a fantastic effort by young Jasper Shone in the ruck, with 17 hit outs for the term, and Sparkes, Patterson, Schultz, Anderson, the Williams brothers, Cooper McInnes and everyone playing their roles to perfection, they withstood a Traralgon fightback to walk off with one of the best wins in the club's 20-year history.

Fergus O'Connor was helped off at the end of the second term and will have scans this week to assess the extent of what looks to be a serious knee injury.

So, it was a thrilling win, but it didn't come without significant cost to the Power's prospects in season 2025.

(Read more about the heroics of the last quarter online at sgst.com.au)

Final scores: Traralgon 11.13.79 to Wonthaggi Power 13.6.84

Tigers claw back win

By Rob Popplestone

AS THE MGFNL fast approached the halfway mark of the season, it was becoming evident that three distinct groups were forming.

Foster, Fish Creek, Yinnar and MDU, were looking like the top four spots on the ladder were theirs for the taking, then a group of six more teams closely followed for the remaining two spots that made up the top six, which made the weekend's round absolutely crucial for all teams involved.

This was a mouthwatering clash that had been set up on the back of an unbeaten side in Foster having to travel to Yinnar to take on a Magpies side that were looking to bounce back from their first loss of the season just a week prior.

It appeared for a lot of the afternoon that Yinnar would get the points, but slowly and surely Foster reeled in Yinnar to win by ten points, 10-11-71 to 9-7-61.

"Huge win for the group – they jumped us, we lost a forward in the first and we had our backs against the wall when the score was 40-9 in the second but we got the game back on our terms from then on," Sam Davies, Foster coach said.

"It was a real team effort and buy-in to keep grinding away and we backed our fitness to outrun them late. We kicked crucial goals when it mattered and it's a game we can refer back to throughout the year when the going gets tough."

The Tigers' best win of the year, keeping their unbeaten run in place has them firmly in top spot and ready to take on the world, while for Yinnar it was a game in which no premiership points were taken home but certainly lessons were learnt.

"We came out and started the game with a high intensity and took advantage of the breeze," Sam McCulloch, Yinnar coach said.

"Midway through the second Foster got on top and maintained that for a large portion of the game. We certainly still had a chance to win late in the game but couldn't get the job done.

"We've learnt a lot about ourselves over the last two weeks and will get to work over some areas we need to work on."

For Yinnar, it's not the end of the world to have two losses in a row, but this is where you see the best of good teams and the challenge of Newborough next week at the Kennel is the perfect location for a test that should bring out the Magpie's best.

MDU vs Fish Creek to be played on King's Birthday weekend, Saturday, June 7.

Toora breaks through as Hawks hit low

By Rob Popplestone

THE importance of success in this clash could not be overstated, Morwell East hosting Toora for a rare opportunity for one to grab premiership points.

The Hawks have been a shell of their former selves and were desperate to turn their fortunes around, the Magpies winless as they prepared for their round seven clash away from home, but of the belief this was to be their best chance.

In the end, Morwell East were beaten comfortably by Toora 7-4-46 to 13-17-95, the result terrific for Toora, but has many at Morwell East scratching their heads.

"Really good to get our first win on the board against Morwell East in a tough contest. Was fairly blustery conditions and I think we were able to adapt to them quite well," Jay Accardi, Toora coach said.

The win is a real fillip for the club, who off field are one of the strongest in the competition, the camaraderie something to behold, but winning on field is something that although rare can now be celebrated by the whole community.

Morwell East has lost its mojo and whether it can be found again this season remains to be seen, but if it is



Ben Wemyss gets his kick away under pressure, being one of the better players for Toora in its victory over Morwell East. A26_2125

to be, the players that take to the ground have to do so like their lives depend on it, and that certainly was not the case on the weekend.

"We are a long way off from where we need to be to compete at this level. Toora were set for their first win and that they did. We were never in the game," Paul Henry, Morwell East coach

said.

Coach Henry is not one to ever even consider throwing in the towel, but this, one would suggest, be one of the toughest periods of his footballing life, and it doesn't get any easier in the week ahead as he prepares his side for a Stony Creek side who themselves are fighting for survival in 2025.

Sharks snatch thriller after siren

By Rob Popplestone

in the contest and team discipline to stick to tasks and seek reward.

"We are finding some continuity to what is a fairly new playing group. Newborough kept coming all game but worked through those tight moments in games.

"I thought our forwards stood tall and were rewarded."

It is in matches like this when players and coaches alike look at moments in games, decisions made, players chosen and think, could we have done it any differently.

"Went down in a close one against Tarwin out at the Shark Park on the weekend," Pat Frendo,

Newborough coach said.

"They got off to a flyer kicking the first three or four goals in ten minutes. Managed to fight our way back into it and took the lead early in the last quarter. Was a real back-and-forth all day and unfortunately, we missed a shot on goal after the siren to win the game. Really proud of the boys today, extremely undermanned and had every right to give up, but kept on fighting until the very end."

Thorpdale sits fifth and Newborough sixth, both with a pack of teams chasing them from below, and one in particular from above in the shape of Yinnar that will plan to trouble the Bulldogs after suffering two losses in a row themselves.

MID GIPPSLAND LEAGUE RESULTS

RND
7

TOORA FOOTBALL CLUB

46

95

MORWELL EAST

Morwell East 2.0 2.1 4.3 7.4 (46)

Toora 3.5 5.11 9.12 13.17 (95)

GOALS, Morwell East: D Cooper 2, J Quinn, A Dodd, B Evans, C Iorangi, L Towns 1 each

BEST: M Diaz, W Kennedy, J Wilson, D Cooper, J Francis, K Hearn

GOALS, Toora: J Weston, M Bezzene 3, J Smart, L Craig 2, L Marr, B Wemyss, J Platt 1 each

BEST: L Marr, M Bezzene, J Smart, J Weston, S Bright, B Wemyss

RESERVES

Morwell East 4.1 7.3 10.4 13.7 (85)

Toora 0.2 0.3 2.6 5.6 (36)

GOALS, Morwell East: B Francis 5, B Atkinson, P Henry, C Silver 2, K Chapman, D Day 1 each

BEST: C Silver, B Atkinson, L Little, N Nikodemski, K Chapman, D Day

GOALS, Toora: B Darcy 2, P Grant, L de Boer, J Griffin 1 each

BEST: P Grant, R Barlow, A Vening, B Darcy, J Dows, J Cripps,

TARWIN FOOTBALL CLUB

86

84

TARWIN

Tarwin 4.2 9.5 10.7 12.14 (86)

Newborough 2.0 7.1 11.4 13.6 (84)

GOALS, Tarwin: D Brosnan 4, T Francis, T Harley, J Staley, F Brosnan, M Williams, B Chalmers, B Ellen, L Jones 1 each

BEST: J Staley, B Chalmers, L Jones, F Brosnan, D Brosnan, T Francis

GOALS, Newborough: J Robinson 5, P Ainsworth 3, W Collings, B van Dyk, M Rowlings, P Charles, J Bowden 1 each

BEST: P Charles, J Robinson, M Rowlings, N Curtis, J Brincat, A Styles

RESERVES

Tarwin 3.2 7.6 12.8 17.13 (115)

Newborough 0.0 0.0 0.1 0.1 (1)

GOALS, Tarwin: B Senior-Gibson 4, F Leggo, T O'Loughlin 3, R Anderson 2, N Tucker, D Cardy, Z Bright, J Chalmers, L Cann 1 each

BEST: J Chalmers, B Senior-Gibson, N McRae, J Osborne, D Leggo, F Leggo

BEST, Newborough: B Richards, J McMahon, M Stringer, L Nelson, E Mounsey, P Georgiou,

THIRDS

Tarwin 2.0 2.0 4.4 5.6 (36)

Newborough 2.1 6.5 7.6 12.7 (79)

GOALS, Tarwin: L Jones 2, J Commadeur, L Cann, J Andronaco 1 each

BEST: E Gundlapalli, K Gow, I Cameron, F Leggo, S kreutzberger, J Tieman

GOALS, Newborough: O Hanson 5, B Young 3, Z Daley 2, A Korab, M Brosnan 1 each

BEST: T McCabe, B Young, O Hanson, L Nelson, P Georgiou, S Kippen

FOSTER FOOTBALL CLUB

61

71

YINNAR

Yinnar 4.4 6.4 7.6 9.7 (61)

Foster 2.3 4.7 6.10 10.11 (71)

GOALS, Yinnar: K Grinstead-Jones 3, N Hall, C Mills, J Notman, S Famularo, B Cheffers, H McKay 1 each

BEST: B Van Der Meer, N Hall, O McColl, K Grinstead-Jones, T Robertson, M Stolk,

GOALS, Foster: J Best 4, C Banbury, B Flavelle 2, F Materia, J Flavelle 1 each

BEST: A Norton, B Cripps, J Morris, C Banbury, H Hoppner, J Best

RESERVES

Yinnar 3.3 6.9 9.13 12.16 (88)

Foster 0.2 0.2 1.3 2.5 (17)

GOALS, Yinnar: J Garlick 5, N McCafferty 4, S Patten, M Nelson, C Le Page 1 each

BEST: N McCafferty, M Nelson, T Hutchinson, D Yates, E Lappin, J Garlick

GOALS, Foster: N Gundrill, T Daldy 1 each

BEST: B Smith, J Davy, F Lomax, J Smith, J Pryor, J Lewis

IN OTHER GAMES...

SENIORS

Thorpdale 13.8.86 d Boolarra 8.9.57

RESERVES

Thorpdale 7.9.51 d Boolarra 3.8.26

MID GIPPSLAND LEAGUE LADDERS					ROUND 7				
SENIORS	W	L	%	pts	RESERVES	W	L	%	pts
Foster	6	0	228.79	28	Yinnar	7	0	288.36	28
Fish Creek	4	1	212.88	20	MDU	5	1	356.16	20
Yinnar	5	2	159.95	20	Morwell East	5	2	205.41	20
MDU	5	1	152.88	20	Tarwin	5	2	184.05	20
Thorpdale	4	2	104.88	20	Newborough	4	2	137.97	20
Newborough	3	3	94.88	16	Stony Creek	3	3	108.97	16
Mirboo Nth	4	3	85.00	16	Fish Creek	3	2	67.74	16
Tarwin	3	4	94.48	12	Hill End	2	4	77.25	12
Stony Creek	2	4	87.38	12	Thorpdale	2	4	39.35	12
Boolarra	3	4	78.44	12	Foster	1	4	53.44	10
Toora	1	5	71.23	8	Toora	1	5	93.12	8
Morwell East	1	6	49.50	4	Mirboo Nth	2	5	62.12	8
Hill End	0	6	44.97	4	Boolarra	0	6	29.73	2
LEADING GOAL KICKERS					LEADING GOAL KICKERS				
Nick Nagel (MDU)				33	Jarryd Garlick (Yinnar)				28
Kane Grinstead-Jones (Yinnar)				31	Brendan Tomada (MDU)				20
Jake Best (Foster)				22	Noah McCafferty (Yinnar)				13
THIRDS	W	L	%	pts	LEADING GOAL KICKERS				
Yinnar	3	1	162.83	24	Tobias McDuffie (Mirboo North)				31
Newborough	5	1	158.75	24	Oscar Hanson (Newborough)				24
MDU	4	1	291.36	20	Angus McInnes (MDU)				24
Mirboo Nth	3	3	111.17	16					
Hill End	2	3	68.51	16					
Tarwin	1	4	64.74	12					
Fish Creek	0	5	30.41	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					

Win just out of reach for the Giants

KORUMBURRA-Bena threatened third-placed Cora Lynn on Saturday, with the Cobras narrowly hanging on to a six-point win.

Playing at the Cora Lynn Recreation Reserve, the Giants exhibited excellent ball pressure, allowing the team to get the ball to the ground and send it into the forward line.

The Giants held a three-point lead at the end of the first quarter, and the scores levelled at half time.

Korumburra-Bena's fluent ball movement and use of the wind were a strength throughout the first half.

Bailey Nation kicked a great goal from 50, which slowly bounced through an undefended goal during the second half.

Tyler Newton was a great asset in the back line, getting lots of intercepts.

Excellent defence all game nearly won the game for the Giants.

Cora Lynn kicked a goal and to put it in front by 12 points.

The Giants then kicked one to take it back to six.

With the Giants in possession

of the ball, the siren went.

Unfortunately for the Giants, this resulted in yet another loss, but definitely not one to be disappointed about.

For the young team, everyone including coach Josh Hopkins was very impressed with their fight and effort that they put up against a strong, finals contesting team.

The Giants' last encounter with the Cobras resulted in a 99-point loss, which indicates their huge improvements and hard work that happens on and off the field.

Korumburra-Bena's best players were Evan Allaway, Newton, Tom Crocker, Hopkins, Nation and Matthew Borschman.

The Giants will be coming up against Tooradin Dalmore next week.

Tooradin Dalmore is currently sitting second on the ladder, so will be another tough contest for the Giants.

However, they will be coming off the momentum of this week's exciting result and will be hungry to go one better, so will be hopeful for an interesting outcome.



Korumburra finds front position, taking the mark with pressure from Cora Lynn. Photo: NSM Images.

Panthers outplayed by Garfield in windy conditions

KILCUNDA BASS was unable to get the ball rolling against a red-hot Garfield side and suffered a 33-point loss.

Garfield proved to be too good on the day, adapting to the conditions at the Garfield Recreation Reserve much quicker than the Panthers.

It was a tricky day with the wind favouring one side, which died off as the game went on.

The Panthers struggled to find their footing and gave full credit to Garfield for taking advantage of the situation.

A shining light for Kilcunda Bass was the debut of Dylan Susic, who kicked three crucial goals for the game.

Kilcunda Bass was feeling confident in the first quarter, despite both sides failing to seize opportunities to fire off shots.

Garfield kicked two goals in the dying minutes of the quarter, gaining a 12-point lead at the first break.

Kilcunda Bass was unperturbed, feeling comfortable with the margin and ready to use the wind advantage.

However, Kilcunda Bass was unable to gain control of the match, and the second quarter may have cost it the game.

The usual strategies didn't go to plan and Garfield was able to win the quarter.

Still chasing Garfield after half time, Kilcunda Bass opted

not to make too many changes but went into the third quarter ready for a fight.

Accepting the game wasn't going to be clean, Kilcunda Bass focused on its pressure, with backmen Lochie Scott and Sam Watson putting up a great contest against Garfield's key forwards.

Nathan Foote and Bradley Aldwell were also effective through the middle.

However, Kilcunda Bass wasn't hitting its targets and didn't seem to be in it.

Garfield kicked away in the last quarter to record its second win of the season.

Kilcunda Bass now turns its attention to its upcoming game against Koo Wee Rup.

The sixth versus seventh match will be a crucial one for both sides.

It will be a must-win game for the Panthers, so they will be heading into the match ready for a fight.

Koo Wee Rup will be bringing the same energy, keen to break into the top six.

The matchup between Kilcunda Bass and Koo Wee Rup has been notoriously tough in the past, going right down to the wire, so it will be anyone's game.

Kilcunda Bass is looking forward to having Jack Soroczynski back in the lineup next week.

WEST GIPPSLAND COMPETITION RESULTS

RND
7

KILCUNDA BASS FOOTBALL CLUB

 **71**  **38**

GARFIELD **KILCUNDA-BASS**

Garfield 3.1 5.1 8.3 11.5 (71)
K-Bass 1.1 2.4 4.4 5.8 (38)

GOALS, Garfield: M Johnson 3, M Rennie 2, J Pinkerton, W Pickering, J Tenace-Greenall, L Schreurs, E Morris, J Van Den Berghe 1 each

BEST: L Sauze, J Tenace-Greenall, W Cole, J Pinkerton, C Reilly, Z Soutar

GOALS, K-Bass: No players entered.

BEST: B Aldwell, N Foote, D Susic, T Cartmel, L Scott

RESERVES

Garfield 2.1 4.3 5.7 8.11 (59)
K-Bass 1.1 1.4 2.5 2.5 (17)

GOALS, Garfield: J Murphy 3, K Kelsey, L Spinks, B Scamporlino 1

BEST: N vandenbroeck, J Murphy, C Diston, S Simpson Brewer, F Hower

GOALS, K-Bass: G Boyd, T Stuckey 1 each

BEST: J Soroczynski, J Rocotas, C Brinkmann, G Boyd, P Tucker, B Simpson

FOURTHS

Garfield 1.0 1.0 1.0 1.1 (7)
K-Bass 4.1 8.5 10.7 14.11 (95)

GOALS, Garfield: C Wangkaew 1

BEST: C Wangkaew, H Serong, H Osborne, M Maroney, T Davitt, J Wilberforce

GOALS, K-Bass: B Eden 6, B Lawrence 3, E Baker-Keys, C Maund, A Oats 1

BEST: C Burgess, B Eden, A Oats, P McKay, E Baker-Keys

KORUMBURRA BENA FOOTBALL CLUB

 **52**  **46**

CORA LYNN **KORUMBURRA BENA**

Cora Lynn 1.5 2.8 3.12 6.16 (52)
Kor-Bena 2.2 3.2 6.4 7.4 (46)

GOALS, Cora Lynn: C Inverno, N Gardiner 2, M Banham, W Thomas 1 each

BEST: N Vilella, G Da Costa, H Briggs, J Butera, C Inverno, H Paul

GOALS, Kor-Bena: T Crocker 3, C Quaife, B Nation, J Hopkins, C Anderson 1 each

BEST: E Allaway, T Newton, T Crocker, J Hopkins, B Nation, M Borschman

RESERVES

Cora Lynn 1.2 5.3 7.5 11.9 (75)
Kor-Bena 0.0 0.1 1.4 1.5 (11)

GOALS, Cora Lynn: D Ross 5, J Ede 2, R Spierings, J Percy, S Wilson, J Frazer 1 each

BEST: D Ross, J Boccardi, L Taylor, C Brook, T Arnett, J Ede

GOALS, Kor-Bena: C Bailey 1

BEST: M Kennewell, J Carpenter, J Harris, H Gordon, T Sheedy, J Dunn

THIRDS

Cora Lynn 0.3 1.4 2.7 4.7 (31)
Kor-Bena 0.2 3.3 3.3 5.4 (34)

GOALS, Cora Lynn: J Iannantuono 1

BEST: No players have been selected.

GOALS, Kor-Bena: C De Grandi 4, H Simcock 1

BEST: J Douglas, E Belvedere, S Hill, H Simcock, B Riddell, K DeGrandi

IN OTHER GAMES...

SENIORS

Nar Nar Goon 19.8.122 d Warragul Ind 6.4.40
Tooradin-Dal 12.15.87 d Koo Wee Rup 4.7.31

RESERVES

Nar Nar Goon 17.9.111 d Warragul Ind 1.1.7
Tooradin-Dal 6.7.43 d Koo Wee Rup 3.4.22

THIRDS

Nar Nar Goon 9.14.68 d Warragul Ind 4.8.32
Tooradin-Dal 5.10.40 d Koo Wee Rup 1.5.11

FOURTHS

Warragul Ind 9.11.65 d Nar Nar Goon 3.10.28
Tooradin-Dal 13.12.90 d Koo Wee Rup 0.1.1

WEST GIPPSLAND COMPETITION LADDERS

ROUND 7

SENIORS	W	L	%	pts
Nar Nar Goon	7	0	272.00	28
Tooradin-Dal	6	1	125.35	24
Cora Lynn	5	1	143.64	20
Warragul Ind	4	2	88.89	16
Phillip Island	3	3	127.49	12
Kilcunda Bass	3	4	114.06	12
Koo Wee Rup	3	4	83.76	12
Garfield	2	4	65.41	8
Inverloch-K	1	5	60.39	4
Dalyston	1	5	57.17	4
Kor-Bena	0	6	55.49	0

LEADING GOAL KICKERS	
Dermott Yawney (Nar Nar Goon)	26
Nathan Gardiner (Cora Lynn)	26
Billy Taylor (Phillip Island)	19

RESERVES	W	L	%	pts
Tooradin-Dal	6	1	241.71	24
Nar Nar Goon	5	2	263.21	20
Cora Lynn	5	1	229.30	20
Inverloch-K	4	2	238.37	16
Phillip Island	4	2	221.16	16
Garfield	3	3	101.52	12
Koo Wee Rup	3	4	73.32	12
Kor-Bena	2	4	54.80	8
Kilcunda Bass	2	5	46.70	8
Warragul Ind	1	5	31.25	4
Dalyston	0	6	25.74	0

LEADING GOAL KICKERS	
Lauchlan Gregson (Tooradin-Dal)	14
Dylan Ross (Cora Lynn)	12
Jack Huther (Phillip Island)	12

THIRDS	W	L	%	pts av
Nar Nar Goon	6	1	231.75	3.43
Phillip Island	4	1	192.12	3.20
Inverloch-K	3	2	263.45	2.40
Warragul Ind	3	2	161.40	2.40
Koo Wee Rup	4	3	172.73	2.29
Tooradin-Dal	4	3	84.14	2.29
Dalyston	2	3	69.72	1.60
Garfield	2	4	61.65	1.33
Kor-Bena	1	4	23.85	0.80
Cora Lynn	0	5	19.39	0.00
Kilcunda-Bass	0	0	0.00	0.00

LEADING GOAL KICKERS	
Tarrant Millar (Nar Nar Goon)	15
Augustus Finsterer (Inverloch-K)	15
Oliver Duggan (Phillip Island)	14

FOURTHS	W	L	%	pts av
Warragul Ind	6	0	553.33	4.00
Nar Nar Goon	5	2	186.73	2.86
Kilcunda Bass	4	2	103.07	2.67
Inverloch-K	3	2	129.49	2.40
Phillip Island	3	3	174.55	2.00
Tooradin-Dal	3	3	138.34	2.00
Koo Wee Rup	3	3	42.09	2.00
Kor-Bena	1	4	44.19	0.80
Dalyston	1	4	42.40	0.80
Garfield	0	6	11.53	0.00
Cora Lynn	0	0	0.00	0.00

LEADING GOAL KICKERS	
Ky Bannister (Warragul Ind)	21
Sam O'Garey (Phillip Island)	17
Alex Ingham (Warragul Ind)	12

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Courageous but costly win



Wonthaggi's Cooper McInnes has front position in this contest, booting a couple of goals for the game. A33_2125

ADDING insult to injury with a loss at Traralgon on Saturday simply wasn't on the agenda for a damaged but determined Wonthaggi Power team when they took the field after halftime, nearly four goals behind after a promising opening.

Wonthaggi looked the goods in the first quarter after they withstood a scoreless first 15 minutes to outscore the Maroons three goals to two with the Williams brothers Jai and Jaxon prominent.

Late in the quarter, however, Jakeb Thomas suffered a broken leg and dislocated ankle after he crashed a pack only to see the players fall on top of him on the clubrooms' wing.

Jaxon stepped up and slotted the goal after a long break for the incident but it was clear it had sapped the Power's momentum.

With the wind advantage, Traralgon completely dominated the second quarter, putting on four goals to nil and were full of running, Wonthaggi unable to penetrate the half back line.

But they made a few adjustments at half-time, lowered their eyes, and hit up teammates for a run of five goals to one to trail by just a single point at the last change; Kaj Patterson kicking the first after Josh Bates copped a heavy knock to the head and was helped from the ground.

Hunter Tiziani, Cooper McInnes, the coach Jarryd Blair from 40 metres after a nice mark, and Jaxon Williams again gave value to the players' efforts up the ground, and it was all set up for a cracking last term.

Big Tye Hourigan finished the third quarter by taking a towering mark deep in defence and took a big grab up forward at the start of the last quarter before putting the first shot on goal. Fortunately for Wonthaggi it wasn't a major and with Kyle Reid clearing the ball three times, Wonthaggi Power swung it quickly up the other end to where Noah Anderson ran on to the ball, straightened up and really might have put the Power in front.

But it was a clear indication to all that they were up for the fight.

It was end-to-end play for a while with Traralgon also having a few chances to extend the lead.

Mitch Membrey got a free and 50 metres and found Tom McMahon and the ball finally ended up with Dylan Loprese. His goal stretched Traralgon's lead to eight points.

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