



Director of the horror film *House of Wax* and other films including *Unknown* and *Non-Stop* with actor Liam Neeson, **Jaume Collet-Serra**, has been in South Gippsland filming the World War II survival thriller *Play Dead* as part of a \$24 million investment in the local film industry. Photo: Dennis Van Tine/AP

Hollywood comes to South Gippsland

MAJOR Hollywood movie director, **Jaume Collet-Serra**, has brought the glitz and glamour of Tinseltown to South Gippsland... but hardly anyone knew about it.

Actors of the calibre of rising British heartthrob **Noah Jupe** (*A Quiet Place*, *Franklin*) lead an international cast including German actor and filmmaker **Matthias Schweighöfer** (*Army of Thieves*, *Oppenheimer*), **Patrick Gibson** (*Dexter: Original Sin*), **Andreas Pietschmann** (*1899*), **Juliette Garipey** (*Red Rooms*) and **Sebastian Griegel** (*Young Woman and the Sea*) may well have been stopping off for coffees at local cafes in recent weeks or trying our tasty produce but no one recognised them.

Australian actors **Joel Jackson** (*Ms Fisher's Modern Murder Mysteries*), **Sean Keenan** (*Barons*), **Harrison Quast** (*Ten Pound Poms*) and **Don Hany** (*Ali's Wedding*) are also in the cast.

But, according to the South

Gippsland Shire Council, you needed to be quick to catch them, with what filming they have done, likely on private property, has already been completed.

Although listed as "partly filmed in South Gippsland", the production of Collet-Serra's new World War II survival thriller '*Play Dead*', which may also have strayed over into Bass Coast, is being substantially filmed at the cutting-edge virtual production stages at Docklands Studios Melbourne.

In a statement by Minister **Brooks** this week, *Play Dead* was attracted here by the State Government's Victorian Screen Rebate and will create more than 300 jobs for Victorian screen workers, including 160 crew, 40 cast and extras and deliver 100 post-production and digital effects roles.

He said the film is expected to inject more than \$24 million into the Victorian economy and will engage around

100 local businesses – from armourers and special effects technicians to prosthetics artists, LED engineers, visual effects specialists and production crews.

But beyond the kudos of having scenes of the Loch hills, Kernot and reportedly part of the local coast as a background, the local share of the proceeds is uncertain.

Docklands Studios Melbourne boasts the world's largest permanent volume screens, operated by leading screen technology company **NantStudios**. The production will utilise the screens to recreate the 1940s Belgian countryside.

"This latest production shows that screen is a serious business for our state, one that creates jobs, builds our skilled workforce, generates millions for our economy and showcases Victorian innovation to the world," said Minister **Brooks**.

"Our investment in cutting-edge screen technology is

paying dividends, and when combined with our stunning locations, expert crews and screen talent, it is a winning combination that keeps productions from across the globe coming to Victoria."

A Nocturnal Entertainment production, *Play Dead* is produced by **Akiva Nemetsky** and **Keaton Heinrichs**, alongside **Sam Raimi** (*Spider-Man*, *Crawl*) and **Rob Tapert** (*Evil Dead Rise*) for **Ghost House Pictures**, **JD Lifshitz** and **Raphael Margules** (*Barbarian*) for **BoulderLight**, and **Dane Eckerle** (*Last Straw*) for **Bad Grey**. The screenplay is by **Peter Stanley-Ward** and **Natalie Conway**.

Play Dead follows a raft of major projects filming in the state this year secured by the State Government, including the TV series *The Dispatcher*, currently shooting in **Warrnambool**, gridiron movie *The Untitled John Tuggle Project*, sci-fi action film *War Machine* and **Liam Neeson** action feature *The Mongoose*.

Leongatha my 'final home' said Erin

LEONGATHA mother of two, **Erin Patterson**, has taken the witness stand for the first time in her triple murder trial at the Supreme Court in Morwell.

She was the opening witness in the case for the defence, starting at 3.30pm on Monday, June 2, 2025.

Ms Patterson, who spent the morning in the dock listening as the prosecution closed its case, after almost 24 days, was escorted to the witness box wearing black pants, a paisley top and black sandals.

Mrs Patterson, who has been charged with three counts of murder and one of attempted murder, arising out of a meal of Beef Wellington, including death cap mushrooms, at her home on Saturday, July 29, 2023, was taken through her evidence by defence counsel, **Colin Mandy SC**.

Asked about the time leading up to July 2023, Mrs Patterson said she moved into her new home in Leongatha in June of 2022 with the intention of making it her "final home".

"I saw it as the final home, where the children would grow up and come back to from university and working, later with their own children, that I would grow old there."

Asked about her relationship with her estranged husband **Simon**, Erin Patterson described herself as a "fundamental atheist" when the couple first met in the early 2000s but that an unexpected spiritual experience, during her first service at the **Korumburra Baptist Church**, changed all that.

Mrs Patterson said the service led by **Simon Patterson's** uncle, **Pastor Ian Wilkinson**, "quite overwhelmed me".

Erin Patterson became emotional when she was asked about **Ian's** son **David Wilkinson** walking her down the aisle at her wedding in June 2007 and also when she described having an emergency caesarean section when delivering her first child, 16 years ago.

Erin Patterson has pleaded not guilty to all charges, maintaining that what happened at the lunch in July 2023 was a tragedy and a terrible accident.

Her evidence will continue today.

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No retreat, they say: Advisory group waits on plan to save Inverloch

HONESTLY, to look at it, the next storm surge at Inverloch could start to undermine the foundations of the surf club.

Certainly, it looked that way as moderate waves, on the end of a relatively high tide last Sunday, continued to cut away sand at both ends of the geotextile bag wall only metres from the clubrooms.

But, according to the President of the Inverloch Tourism Association, Glenn Morris, a member of the Inverloch Coastal Advisory Network (I*CAN), that won't be allowed to happen.

Speaking to the Sentinel-Times this week after a meeting of the group last Friday, May 30, which includes representatives of the Inverloch Surf Lifesaving Club, South Gippsland Conservation Society, Inverloch Tourism Association and general community speaking directly with representatives of the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (DEECA), Mr Morris said the announcement of a works plan was imminent.

"We have been told that we will see a draft design of the works, which will include extensions of the geotextile bag wall at both ends, Wreck Creek drainage works and dune work along the beach in the next three weeks," said Mr Morris.

Funding for the works will come from a package of \$10 million, announced on March 19 this year to deliver restoration work and repairs at locations including Black Rock, Inverloch, Loch Sport, Tooradin, Silverleaves and Warrnambool.

"While they're getting that work done, there will be a continuation of sand placement between now and spring to deal with the ongoing scouring at either end of the geotextile wall," he said.

The Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (DEECA) released its draft Cape to Cape (C2C) Resilience Plan for comment in August 2024.

In response, the Inverloch Coastal Advisory Network (I*CAN) was formed in September 2024 to provide a focused and aligned community voice representing the Inverloch community in dealings with DEECA and State/local



Even on a day of moderate swell last Sunday, waves crashed over the geotextile wall at high tide, also undercutting both ends of the wall as beach erosion marched ever closer to the Inverloch Surf Lifesaving Club.

government relating to the coastal erosion issues and the finalisation/implementation of the C2C Resilience Plan.

In the draft C2C Resilience Plan, Stage 1 of the Pathway for Inverloch Surf Beach involves Beach Renourishment/Dune Reconstruction and Revegetation.

I*CAN fully supports the proposed Stage 1 program and is liaising with DEECA on revegetation and "best practice" measures to maximise resilience of the reconstructed dunes. Design will soon be completed with works planned to be carried out in spring this year.

"It is vital that the Stage 1 works are completed by the end of spring this year as the remaining dunes at Inverloch Surf Beach are at risk and cannot go through another cycle of high tides/storm surges similar to July/August 2024 when large quantities of sand eroded from the Surf Beach over a five-day period," said Mr Morris.

The I*CAN action list:

1. Funding commitments to implement the full Beach Renourishment/Dune Reconstruction and Vegetation spanning from Flat Rocks to Point Norman – a minimum of 250,000 cubic metres of sand is needed well in excess of the 100,000 cubic metres than the current budget for DEECA allows.

2. Funding commitments to implement the recommended

Final C2C Pathway of works required over the medium term including ongoing Beach Renourishment/Dune Reconstruction on Surf Beach/Flat Rocks.

3. Establishment of a Terminal Barrier for the Surf Beach capable of withstanding major storm surge events ideally located along Surf Parade beachside of the existing and future pedestrian/bike pathways (subject to a feasibility assessment).

4. Release of the Final C2C Report before July this year – I*CAN sees no reason why the Minister cannot sign off on the C2C Resilience Plan before Stage 1 of the Plan starts work in spring this year.

5. Prompt completion of the necessary final designs and tendering of works for the Stage 1 Beach Renourishment/Dune Reconstruction work to enable completion of the Works before the 2025 summer season.

6. Completion of Protection Works for Inverloch Surf Club and Wreck Creek by the end of spring 2025 via adequate funding being made available by the Minister to DEECA to ensure a full scope can be designed and built.

7. Pipeline infrastructure built for sand slurry pumping as part of Stage 1 Works to be undertaken as permanent infrastructure which can be used in ongoing future Beach Renourishment/Dune Reconstruction works subject to

feasibility assessment.

8. Sand dredging beyond Stage 1 to be carried out in locations that lead to re-establishment of the Main Channel adjacent to Point Norman to re-establish ebb tide delta and the Hydraulic Groyne at the entrance to Anderson Inlet-such conditions tend to limit coastal sand drift away from the surf beach.

"It's all about funding," said Mr Morris.

"The recent State Government budget has no money set aside for climate adaptation works in Victoria let alone Inverloch. I*CAN does not accept the argument that no money is available given the increased levels of debt which the recent budget has forecast. Long-term protection of the Inverloch coastline requires a program of Beach Renourishment/Dune Reconstruction works and Terminal Protection which will be ongoing for many years ahead."

I*CAN is calling on State/Federal Governments and Opposition parties to commit the funds needed for DEECA to be able to implement the Inverloch Pathway over the medium and long term.

"I*CAN will now extend our efforts to informing the community on the Pathway Works that we feel is needed for protecting Inverloch in the long term-Works that require funding commitments by Governments," he said.

"We plan on consulting with the community through a combination of mailouts, public meetings, online communication and will explain what is needed through clear graphics and in a language that is understandable by members of the community.

"The community has a very important role in securing funding and must be with us in force to ensure we can commit the Government of the need to finance our future," says Mr Morris.

I*CAN firmly believes that the short, medium and long term risks associated with beach erosion can be significantly reduced by implementing a well-planned and fully funded 'best practice' program of works. Advocating for making this happen will be the focus of I*CAN going forward.

Cape decision threatens future housing, they say

By Bruce Wardley

A DECISION on the withdrawal of Cape Paterson land, designated for residential development for the past 15 years, excluding it from residential rezoning, is believed to be imminent. Fearful over the future rezoning of the land, project managers Wallis Watson claim the owners have been denied natural justice.

Ian Wallis is concerned at the way the planning process has been handled.

"The Cape Paterson town boundary could be reduced to exclude land previously recommended by an independent planning panel for a future residential zone," said Mr Wallis. "Sixty per cent of the syndicate of owners are from Inverloch and Cape Paterson."

According to Ian Wallis at the last public hearing held in relation to the Bass Coast Distinctive Areas and Landscapes Program before the Standing Advisory Committee in 2023 the State Government supported the inclusion of the land within the Cape Paterson town boundary.

"The Standing Advisory Committee prepared a report in relation to the PSB, but the State Government refused to release it," said Mr Wallis. "The State has denied our request to provide the report in a FOI application and the Wallis Watson Group is seeking an administrative review of that decision."

A landscape assessment commissioned by the State Government for Cape Paterson North in December 2023 concluded that the land north of Seaward Drive could be developed for residential purposes and recommended that additional land could be included in the PSB according to Wallis Watson.

"It now seems both the State Government and Council have reversed their positions and now consider Cape Paterson North should be excluded from the PSB even though this is contrary to the findings of the State Government's own experts," said Mr Wallis.

The project managers have made repeated requests for information and meetings with Council and the State Government, but those requests have been refused.

Wallis Watson considers that the Standing Advisory Committee should be reconvened to provide Wallis Watson with procedural fairness in relation to a decision which stands to restrict development in Cape Paterson for the next 50 years. Both the Property Council of Australia (PCA) and the Urban Development Institute of Australia (UDIA) have written to the Minister for Planning setting out their support for the inclusion of the Cape Paterson North land in the PSB.

Wallis Watson has not ruled out renewing its offer to the Cape Paterson Lifesaving Club to help build a new clubhouse if the land north of Seaward Drive is made available for residential development.

Late last year the State Government announced that the Cape Paterson town boundary would not be allowed to expand to the north by upwards of 900 new dwellings due to the Distinctive Areas and Landscapes (DAL) process.

"Regional boundaries are all about making sure growing areas can keep growing in a sustainable way by preserving agricultural land, parks, forests, and natural resources," said Minister for Planning Sonya Kilkenny.

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6 Day
Weather
Forecast

SOUTH
GIPPSLAND

TUE | Jun 3

Showers easing.

Wind AM: NW 15-20 km/h

Wind PM: S-SW 20-25km/h

8° 15°

WED | Jun 4

Possible shower.

Wind AM: S 15-25km/h

Wind PM: SW 15-20km/h

6° 15°

THUR | Jun 5

Cloudy.

Wind AM: Light

Wind PM: Light

7° 15°

FRI | Jun 6

Shower or two.

Wind AM: Light

Wind PM: N 15-25km/h

5° 16°

SAT | Jun 7

Showers.

Wind AM: N-NW 15-25km/h

Wind PM: N-NW 15-25km/h

6° 16°

SUN | Jun 8

Showers.

Wind AM: NW 15-25km/h

Wind PM: NW 15-25km/h

5° 14°

IN BRIEF

Let’s talk about
menopause

EVERYONE is invited to attend a free event at the Foster Hospital with a panel of expert speakers that will focus on perimenopause, menopause, and mental wellbeing.

There will also be a community discussion during the event, take home menopause resources and a light lunch.

Special guest speaker will be Dr Sara Whitburn, the Medical Director of Sexual Health Victoria, and has a great depth of experience in the field.

Sara specialises in medical abortion, innovation in access to sexual and reproductive health care, genital health, menopause, and long-acting reversible (LARC) training.

The event supports women and gender-diverse people in Gippsland and is a collaboration between Gippsland Women’s Health, Sexual Health Victoria, South Gippsland Hospital and Mental Health and Wellbeing Local.

On Thursday, June 5, 10am - 1pm at the South Gippsland Hospital, Foster, Community Health Centre – Fleming Room.

Launch of the Gippsland
Offshore Wind Energy
Community Assembly

THE Gippsland Climate Change Network recently partnered with independent facilitators called DemocracyCo to design and run a citizens’ assembly for coastal communities from Inverloch to Loch Sport. The assembly has now been selected and is set to start ahead of two online sessions before a weekend gathering in person at Port Albert on June 28 and 29.

The assembly process is intended to be a community-strengthening activity, enabling the community to develop a united voice as a platform for advocacy to government and industry/windfarms. The assembly will come up with recommendations that will be formally presented to the Gippsland

Offshore Wind Alliance for comment. There is still a chance for other local people, groups and organisations to have their voices included in this process via a ‘Your Priorities’ online platform by June 17 visit ypri.org/group/31292 or register to submit a longer submission at surveymonkey.com/r/ZYYM65L by June 17.

Bus connections
for Yarram

PLANNING is underway for weekday and weekend services to be added to the popular Leongatha and Yarram coach services as part of a \$30 million investment in last year’s State Budget.

Consultation is now open for the community on the V/Line coach services between Yarram, Leongatha, Koo Wee Rup and Melbourne.

There are no plans to remove the express services to and from Southern Cross Station.

Community feedback will help shape a better understanding of how and when passengers use these coach services, their experience of the local bus network and how it impacts travel choices.

For more information and to provide feedback visit engage.vic.gov.au/Yarram-Melbourne-VLine or attend a local information session, which will take place at:

- Regent Theatre Yarram – June 12, 12pm – 2pm.
 - Leongatha Memorial Hall – June 17, 11am – 12.30pm
 - Koo Wee Rup Woolworths – June 17, 2.30pm – 4pm
- Community consultation closes on Sunday, June 29, 2025.

CRT provides a \$50,000
boost for country
primary schools

THE 2025 CRT Primary Schools Program is delivering a \$50,000 boost to 25 primary schools across rural and regional Australia, supporting grassroots education initiatives in local communities.

Included in the funding boost

are Fish Creek and District Primary School, St. Laurence O’Toole Primary School and Meeniyana Primary School.

The program attracted 88 applications from schools eager to enhance learning experiences through Parents and Friends Associations (P&Fs). Each of the 25 successful schools will receive \$2000 in funding to support a wide range of student-focused projects.

Explore your own
beliefs on mortality

AN UPCOMING Death Cafe will be held at Manna Gum Community House in Foster on Friday, June 20, from 10.30am to approximately 12.30pm.

Death cafes provide an opportunity to delve into discussions about death and dying. They are not support groups but rather non-judgmental, safe spaces for group-directed discussions about an often-taboo subject in society. The goal is not to focus on grief or counselling but to promote awareness of death and help individuals make the most of their time by exploring their own beliefs and concerns about mortality.

Beware – speed limits
have changed, don’t get
caught out

SPEED limits have changed in South Dudley this week along Graham Street and West Area Road in Wonthaggi and Cowes-Rhyll Road on Phillip Island with drivers caught out by the new speeds that have seen the speed drop from 60km/h to 50km/h.

Locals were caught out by police officers conducting regular speed checks along South Dudley Road late last Thursday. Officers are urging drivers to watch out for the newly lowered speed limits across the shire.

According to Bass Coast Shire Council, the speed changes were updated after consultation with the public.

“The South Dudley Road/Graham Street speed review was initiated following repeated requests from residents.

“South Dudley Road and Graham Street are built-up areas with homes and driveways, making them better suited to the default 50 km/h limit. The previous 60 km/h speed zone in these areas was introduced when the speed limits were changed from mph to kph (30 mph converted to 60 km/h). The default speed limit in built-up areas is now 50km/h.

“At the northern end of South Dudley Road, a 60 km/h limit remains due to nearby schools, residential development and wildlife.”

Further speed limit changes are happening across the shire with Grantville-Glen Alvie Road, Almurta; Berrys Beach Road, Ventnor; Archies Creek Road, Archies Creek; and Back Beach Road, San Remo all scheduled for speed limit changes this month, as well as the Cowes region. Changes will also be made in Rhyll, Cape Woolamai, Corinella, Bass and Inverloch later this year.

Community consultation speed reviews for Ventnor and Wimbledon Heights are still open for comment until today (June 3). Head to engage.bass-coast.vic.gov.au/speed-reviews-and-parking-improvements.

Car flips on
Bass Highway

A WOMAN in her 30s was taken to hospital after her car flipped on the Bass Highway on Sunday, June 1 between Wonthaggi and Inverloch.

It’s understood a car slowed to turn right into a property along the highway with two vehicles behind subsequently pulling out to go around the vehicle. The third vehicle has clipped the second vehicle causing it to flip and roll down the embankment. The female managed to extract herself before emergency services arrived and was taken to hospital for observation. The driver of the third vehicle remained on scene and assisted police. The highway was closed as emergency services and tow vehicles worked to clear the road.

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And the winner is Mary Aldred MP, newly elected Member for Monash

WITH the counting all but done Liberal candidate Mary Aldred MP has been declared the new Federal Member for Monash.

According to the Divisional Returning Officer for the Australian Electoral Commission (AEC) in Warragul with just 2592 votes still to be counted any remaining votes would not affect the result of the election.

Attending the declaration of the poll in Warragul last week Mary Aldred thanked former incumbent Russell Broadbent and his wife Bronwyn for decades of service.

Ms Aldred said it was the most significant privilege of her life, and she would dedicate her life to serving the people of Monash.

Greens candidate Terence Steele also attended the declaration of the poll and congratulated Mary Aldred on doing a fantastic job.

“Well done,” said Mr Steele. “The best candidate won.”

Mary Aldred said as a Member of Parliament her number one priority would be to stand up for Monash and stand up for the country.

“It’s been a busy few weeks but I’m looking forward to making a strong contribution,” Ms Aldred said.

“Lots of farmers and businesses are still grappling with the cost of living.

“Farmers are front-line struggling with drought-like



Monash MP Mary Aldred with her mother Margaret at the declaration of the poll at the AEC in Warragul. B71_2225

conditions.

“The significance of the dry conditions are not lost on me.

“I can’t wait to get to work,” said Ms Aldred.

Likely to make her maiden speech to parliament in July, Mary Aldred said she would continue with what she called her ‘listening posts’ or mobile offices.

“We have a huge electorate with many small and remote

areas.

“It is important the Federal representative is available,” Ms Aldred said.

On a two-candidate preferred (TCP) basis Mary Aldred increased the Liberal vote by 2.9 per cent compared to the last election giving the Liberals a winning margin of 4.09 per cent.

Ms Aldred said she would always consider Monash to be

a marginal seat.

“I never take any vote for granted.”

AEC results for the Federal Division of Monash (2025)

First Preference Count:

- Kuljeet Kaur Robinson (Pauline Hanson’s One Nation) 8166 votes 7.97% (+0.43%)
- Tully Fletcher (Australian Labor Party) 20,804 votes 20.29% (-5.31%)
- Russell Broadbent (Independent and Previous Member) 10,450 votes 10.19% (+10.19%)
- Mary Aldred (Liberal) 32,579 votes 31.78% (-6.01%) (ELECTED)
- Deb Leonard (Independent) 17,529 votes 17.10% (+6.38%)
- Geoff Detjhefs (Family First) 1801 votes 1.76% (+1.76%)
- David O’Reilly (Legalise Cannabis Party) 3521 votes 3.43% (+3.43%)
- Terence Steele (The Greens) 5062 votes 4.94% (-4.92%)
- Alex Wehbe (Trumpet of Patriots) 2608 votes 2.54% (+1.84%)

Two Candidate Preferred (TCP):

- Tully Fletcher (Australian Labor Party) 47,069 votes 45.91% (-1.19%)
- Mary Aldred (Liberal) 55,451 votes 54.09% (+1.19%) (ELECTED)



Lucky escape after car fire

CFA responded to reports of a car fire and persons trapped at around 12.29am on Savages Road in Fish Creek, on Wednesday, May 28.

Four CFA units from Fish Creek and Yanakie attended the scene alongside Ambulance Victoria and Victoria Police.

Upon arrival, crews found a vehicle fully involved with fire and immediately began suppression efforts.

The driver had managed to extract themselves from the vehicle and was taken to hospital for observation.

The incident was deemed under control at 1.03am and declared safe at 1.17am.

Thirsty bandits swoop on Wonthaggi BP

BALACLAVA-clad burglars have helped themselves to drinks from the fridge while stealing an estimated \$12,000 worth of cigarettes from the BP Service Station in McKenzie Street in the early hours of last Saturday morning, May 31.

Acting Bass Coast Area Commander, Inspector Jason Hullick said the incident happened at 3.30am on Saturday morning and police are seeking assistance from the community.

“So, it was on Saturday morning at 3.30am when two offenders wearing balaclavas and gloves and all the gear have forced their way into the BP Servo in McKenzie Street Wonthaggi and stolen a quantity of cigarettes. I believe it’s possibly \$12,000 worth but they’re still sorting that out,” said Inspector Hullick.

“It must have been thirsty work because during the process the two offenders have helped themselves to five drinks from the fridge.

“So, if anyone has any information on that or dashcam footage from vehicles travelling around at about 1.30am or later on Saturday morning, if they noticed anything peculiar we’d like them to get in touch with Crimestoppers on 1800 333 000 or Bass Coast CIU on 5671 4100.”

154KM/H in an 80KM/H zone

On May 25, at 3.45pm a grey Holden Commodore sedan was detected travelling at 154km/h in an 80km/h zone by Foster Police along Wilson Promontory Road near Yanakie. The driver failed to stop when directed to by police, although was located a short distance away at a nearby car park.

Police identified the 21-year-old male driver who had three other occupants in the vehicle and who was driving on a disqualified licence.

A search was conducted of the vehicle where police located an imitation firearm hidden under the front seat.

The vehicle was impounded at a cost of \$1290 and the driver was charged with 10 driving offences including fail to stop, drive whilst disqualified and reckless conduct endangering life. The driver was also charged with firearm offences including possession of an imitation firearm.

The offender has been bailed to Korumburra Magistrates Court at a later date to answer to a Magistrate for his stupidity.

Team Summit launches South Coast Playgroup Summit

AN ENDEARING project full of purpose and plenty of play, Team Summit is set to bring local communities together at the inaugural South Coast Playgroup Summit, happening Saturday, June 21, at Dalyston Hall from 9.30 am. Developed through the 2025 South Coast Community Leadership Program, this event is the result of months of collaboration by emerging community leaders dedicated to making early childhood experiences richer, more inclusive, and more connected across the Bass Coast and South Gippsland.

The five-member team – Edward Allis, Kim Storey, Nikole Schellekens, Jessica Egglestone, and Heather Wright – have poured their collective energy into creating a hands-on, heart-first event. Their workshop, titled Building Stronger Playgroups in Bass Coast and South Gippsland, is focused on equipping local playgroup facilitators and volunteers with the tools and confidence to nurture stronger connections between children, parents, and community.

“Playgroups are more than just a place for kids to play,”



Team Summit, Edward Allis, Kim Storey, Nikole Schellekens, Matilda the horse from Wattle Bank Farm, Jessica Egglestone, and Heather Wright present Playgroup Summit to build stronger playgroups in Bass Coast and South Gippsland.

said Nikole Schellekens, one of Team Summit’s dedicated members.

“They’re spaces where caregivers find support, where children form their first friendships, and where communities come together. We wanted to create something that recognises the value of that and helps those running playgroups feel more empowered.”

The Summit kicks off with a Smoking Ceremony led by Trish Neville, a proud

Bunurong woman whose work in early childhood education and cultural storytelling is both revered and transformative. The morning continues with a lineup of engaging sessions, including “Little Feet on Big Land” – a unique exploration of connecting children to Country – and a practical guide to grants and fundraising for community groups.

Following a chance to connect over lunch, the afternoon features a collaborative session called In the Circle:

Sharing Our Best Play Ideas, and an insightful talk led by Kathryn Anderson, team leader of the Maternal and Child Health Team at Bass Coast Health, focused on identifying when families need additional support and how to navigate those pathways with care.

For Nikole, the vision behind the Summit is simple but powerful.

“We believe strong playgroups build strong communities. By bringing together facilitators and volunteers to share knowledge and build relationships, we’re planting seeds that will grow long after this one-day event.”

Expected outcomes of the workshop include increased skills and confidence among playgroup leaders, stronger inter-group support networks, and greater inclusivity and engagement from both children and caregivers.

With support from the South Coast Community Leadership Program, Team Summit has created an event that’s as informative as it is inspiring – and they’re inviting everyone with a passion for early years community work to come along.

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Mayor's Message



Cr Rochelle Halstead



ONE of the greatest privileges I have as Mayor is the opportunity to celebrate the extraordinary individuals and groups who make Bass Coast such a special place to live. Recently, I had the honour of presenting the Bass Coast Community Awards, and I'm still filled with pride and emotion from that evening.

Twelve-year-old Isla, our Next Generation Leader winner, captured hearts with her wise and thoughtful words. She reminded us that leadership, courage, compassion and clarity of purpose can come from the youngest among us. She was truly inspirational, I will be following Isla's work and hope she will join us at next year's awards to update us.

The Bass Coast Breakers received the Sports Leadership Award, and their commitment goes far beyond the football field. The entire team attended the awards night—canceling their training to do so, and in matching pride t-shirts—their energy, unity and pride were absolutely infectious. They are powerful role models for inclusion and resilience, and their presence lit up the room.

The Bass Valley Community Group, who won the Community Group Award, also stood out for their unwavering commitment. I have watched their work closely and know how well deserved this recognition is. Their efforts touch the lives of so many—from delivering essential services to creating safe, connected spaces.

Sarah Pedersen, our Community Leader, moved us all with her emotional and generous speech. Sarah chose to pass on her gift basket to Nicky Chung, another nominee whose work spans across Rotary, Vietnamese Women's Association and Homelessness. This gesture spoke volumes about Amanda's humility and the respect she has for others who quietly shape our community.

These awards shine a light on the heart of Bass Coast—our people. The kindness, strength, and generosity I witnessed that night will stay with me always. It reminds me why I love this role, and why I believe so strongly in the spirit of our community.

To every nominee and winner—thank you and thank you to the many other volunteers across Bass Coast.

Bass Coast community champions honoured at Community Awards



Isla Fillery was the winner of the Next Generation Leader Award. Pictured with Mayor Rochelle Halstead and Cr Ron Bauer. Photo: Piers Buxton.



Cr Tim O'Brien alongside members of the Bass Valley Community Group, who won the Community Group Award. Photo: Piers Buxton.



Members of the Bass Coast Breakers Women's Football Team celebrate their win of the Contribution to Sports Leadership Award. W02_2225

THE achievements of local volunteers, young leaders and community groups were celebrated on Wednesday, May 28 at the 2025 Bass Coast Community Awards, held at the Cape Paterson Surf Life Saving Club.

Proceedings began at 6pm, with Bass Coast Shire Council CEO Greg Box opening the night by acknowledging the Traditional Owners of the land. In his opening remarks, Mr Box reflected on the importance of recognising the efforts of community volunteers, particularly during National Volunteer Week.

He told the audience he understood the value that volunteers bring to the region and emphasised the Council's desire to celebrate them for their ongoing contributions. He then invited the previous year's Community Leader Award winner, Mandy Chancellor, to the stage.

Ms Chancellor spoke passionately about how the award had impacted her life and opened new opportunities.

"The award has allowed me to stand in front of community groups and share my experiences," she said.

She continued by reflecting on what true leadership means.

"What makes a good leader comes from the heart. Good leaders don't necessarily need years of study. A good leader needs to be authentic."

She closed her speech by acknowledging the impact of everyone present. "If you are here tonight, that means you've made a difference."

Bass Coast Mayor Rochelle Halstead then took to the stage to conduct the awards ceremony.

"Being nominated is a testament to your contributions," she said, adding, "All nominees do it because they love it."

The first award of the evening was the Sports Leadership Award. It was presented to the Bass Coast Breakers, a women's football team led by women, for women. The team was recognised primarily for its commitment to inclusion and its standout work in the LGBTQIA+ space, particularly through their annual Pride Match. In a stand against discrimination, the club painted their 50-metre line in rainbow colours, raised giant pride flags behind the goals, and even wore a custom-designed pride guernsey created by the players themselves.

The Next Generation Leader Award was presented to 12-year-old Isla Fillery, who has already made a name for herself as a leader in social justice. Isla's speech reflected her positivity and radiant spirit, illustrating her commitment to the community.

"This community means everything to me," she said.

"This award isn't just mine; it's for all of us who show up and give our all."

The Community Group Award went to the Bass Valley Community Group, a not-for-profit that supports residents through an impressive range of services. With just four staff and around 37 volunteers, the group offers aged and disability care through a Planned Activity Group, a weekly community shopping bus, volunteering opportunities, and regular programs such as computer club, cooking classes, genealogy group, and even line dancing. They also provide free internet and facilitate a friendship group aimed at reducing social isolation.

The final award of the night was the Community Leader Award, which was presented to Sarah Pedersen. A full-time teacher at Newhaven College, Ms Pedersen also co-founded Shades of Pink, a breast cancer services foundation that has raised over \$600,000. She is also a committed volunteer at the Phillip Island Football Netball Club and was visibly emotional as she accepted the award.

"To hear those words spoken about you is almost like an out-of-body experience," she said.

"I'm just so humbled that my amazing friend nominated me," she added, holding back tears of joy.

Danny O'BRIEN_{MP}

State Member for Gippsland South

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6 | TUESDAY, JUNE 3, 2025 | SOUTH GIPPSLAND SENTINEL-TIMES

Olive Justice Place moves to head of the queue for streetscape project

By Bruce Wardley

THE inclusion of public toilets at Olive Justice Place in Cowes has been fast-tracked by Bass Coast Council and will now be included in Stage 2 of the Cowes Streetscape Plan.

With tenders now being called for the \$8 million dollar Cowes streetscape project planners have identified the need for an additional toilet block in the Cowes CBD.

Bass Coast Council was advised it should use this opportunity to construct a public toilet block at Olive Justice Place so it can be easily and unobtrusively tucked into the northwest corner of the site.

Island Ward Councillor Ron Bauer said Olive Justice Place was important to the community and what was needed were facilities to service residents and tourists alike.

“There is a toilet block on the beach at The Esplanade, but we desperately need a toilet block at the top end of Thompson Avenue at the intersection of Chapel Street,” said Cr Bauer.

“The current thinking is that people can go to the Cowes Cultural Centre, but I believe that is unrealistic, people will be too embarrassed to go to that imposing building to use the loos.”

“It is also not signposted as a convenience centre,” said Cr Bauer.

Cr Tim O'Brien said his personal feeling was that



Cr Ron Bauer and Cr Jan Thompson support the inclusion of public toilets at Olive Justice Place in Stage 2 of the Cowes Streetscape Plan. B01_2225

Olive Justice Place with its fake plastic grass at one end, and a twenty foot shipping container chipped open on the other end, is not really a reflection of the generosity of the gift.

“Why not bring it into the second stage for people needing disability access?”

“Going down the hill, down Thompson Avenue to access the toilets at the bottom, for those in wheelchairs, perhaps is difficult,” said Cr O'Brien.

“As is going up to Berninneit or going around the back of the transit centre.”

Cr Tracey Bell said she didn't

believe there was a need for a toilet at Olive Justice Place.

“It's only one block down to The Esplanade toilets, one block to Berninneit and then there's another toilet at the transit centre,” said Cr Bell.

“I'm curious to know how far people have to walk in other townships to get to a toilet.

“I'm pretty sure it would be more than one block.”

As a disabled person Cr Jan Thompson said walking one or two blocks is a long way and if you need to use public facilities, you need it as close as possible.

“I personally would find it

difficult to get down to the facilities at the other end,” said Cr Thompson.

Olive Justice Place was named in honour of Olive Justice a local identity and tourist guide who operated a guest house, ran the Newhaven Post Office and was perhaps the first woman on Phillip Island to obtain a driver's licence.

Her family built their home at 70 Chapel Street in Cowes in the 1950s.

Olive died in March 1995 aged 99 and gifted her Chapel Street property to the Salvation Army which later sold the land to Bass Coast Council.

The original vision for the site was for it to become a place of peace and quiet reflection featuring colourful landscaping, seating areas and shelter.

Olive Justice was reportedly approached many times to sell the site for development but despite the large sums she was offered always refused.

Olive's intended legacy was a small park with a facility where mothers could breastfeed their babies in privacy and pleasant surroundings, where people could get out of the weather without having to go to a cafe if they could not afford it, and where gardens would flourish for everyone's enjoyment.

Council eventually paid \$250,000 for the land with the proceeds going to the Salvation Army for the building of a drug and alcohol rehabilitation centre.

Bass Coast to host Regional Circular Economy Summit

BASS Coast Shire Council will host the inaugural Regional Circular Economy Summit in Cowes on Thursday, June 5. June 5 is World Environment Day, and the summit will bring together circular economy experts, decision-makers, and practitioners from across the region and beyond.

The summit will feature presentations, panel discussions, and interactive workshops, offering attendees the opportunity to explore the environmental, economic, and social benefits of adopting circular economy principles.

Chris Francis, Sustainability Victoria's Gippsland Regional Engagement Lead, is speaking at the event and said that attendees will gain insights into the environmental, financial, and social benefits of circular economic development.

“The summit will explore how circular economy principles can be effectively applied within organisations, how to accelerate decision-making to support circular initiatives, and how to align circular strategies with broader goals such as Net Zero and Nature Positive outcomes,” Mr Francis said.

Practical case studies will showcase successful implementations and sector-specific opportunities will be identified to support innovation and sustainability.

“The Regional Circular Economy Summit offers a unique platform for leaders, practitioners, and innovators to come together and drive real change. It's about turning circular economy theory into action – locally, regionally, and across sectors,” Bass Coast Shire Council Mayor Cr Rochelle Halstead said.

Funded by Sustainability Victoria as part of the Circular Economy Business Innovation Centre, the program provided tailored support to 11 businesses across the council region, helping them reduce waste, regenerate resources, and strengthen long-term resilience.

Learn more and register via: the-cap.com.au/regional-circular-economy-summit.



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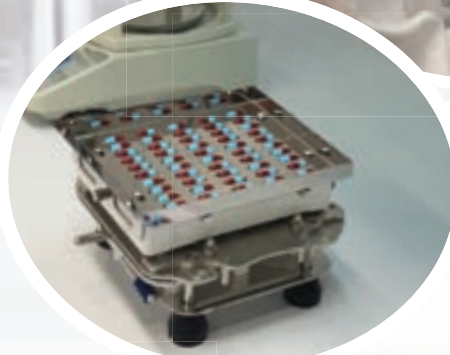
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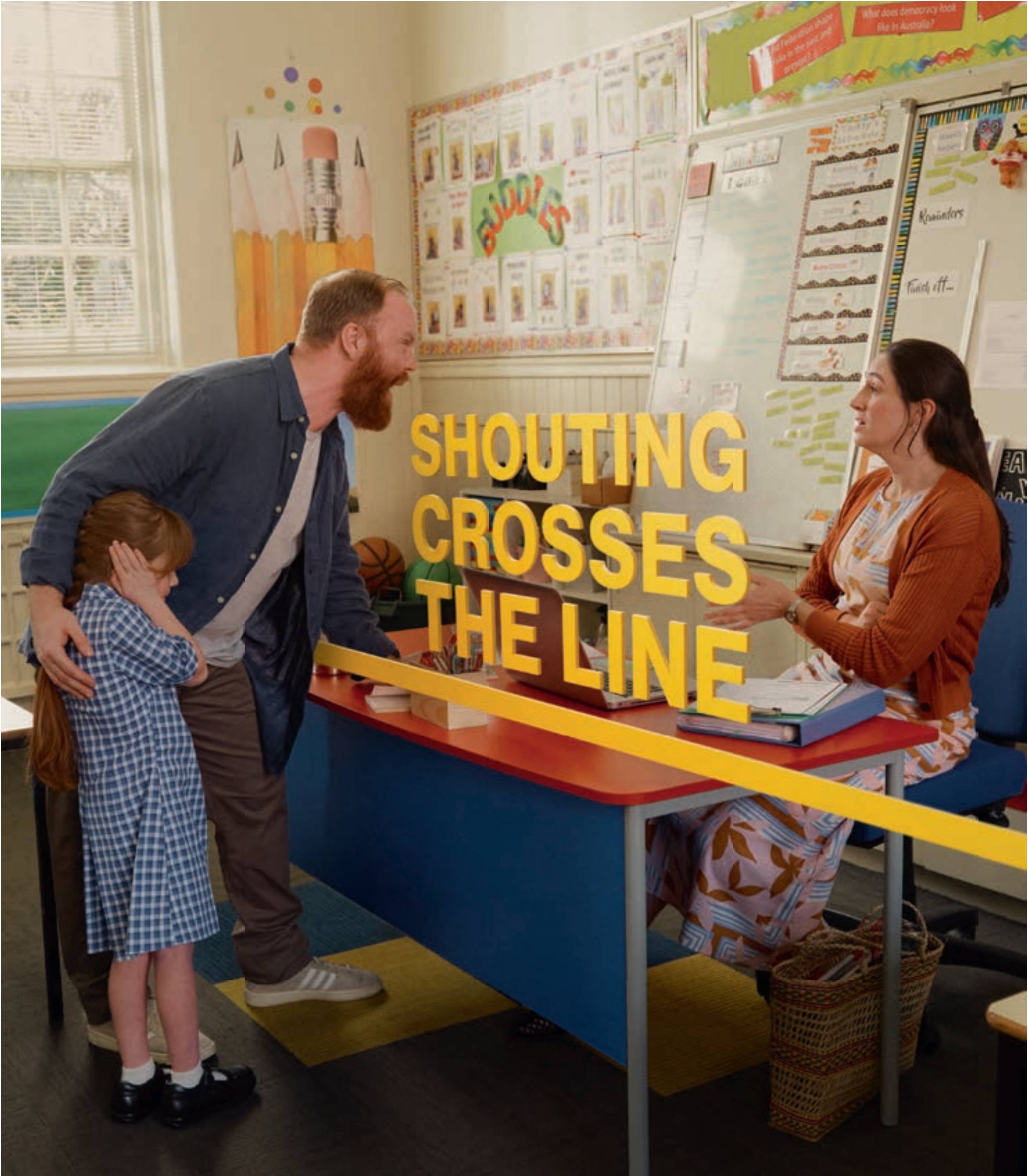
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Potential risk to Corner Inlet prompts call for Environmental Effects Statement

By Andrew Palocz

CONCERNS have been raised over Esso Australia's plans to use Barry Beach Marine Terminal (BBMT) to break down decommissioned Bass Strait platforms.

A community group and Birdlife Australia, which describes itself as being at the forefront of bird conservation and the nation's largest bird conservation charity with over 400,000 supporters, are among those expressing alarm at the potential impact on the Corner Inlet Ramsar site.

Birdlife Australia's Executive Director of Conservation and Science, Lyndel Wilson, made a submission on the organisation's behalf in response to a 'referral' from Esso Australia relating to the establishment of an Onshore Reception Centre (ORC) at BBMT, stage one of its decommissioning campaign.

Esso's referral is required by the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation (EPBC) Act, with anyone whose project could impact any matters protected under that Act needing to submit a referral.

A referral is a written request for the Environment Minister to decide whether the action proposed needs assessment and approval under the EPBC Act.

Birdlife Australia's submission argues Esso's proposed action, outlined in its referral, should be declared unacceptable under the EPBC Act, stating it is likely to have significant and unacceptable impacts on Matters of National Environmental Significance.



Birdlife Australia and locals sound alarm over Esso's decommissioning plan citing potential risks to precious migratory shorebird habitats.

"The proposed action will likely disturb roosting habitat, roosting patterns and assemblages of a wide range of migratory shorebird species, including threatened species, within the Corner Inlet Ramsar site," the submission states, offering the Far Eastern Curlew as one such threatened species.

"Barry Point, the sandy point adjacent to the southern boundary of the proposed action project area, is a significant roosting site for migratory and resident shorebirds," Birdlife Australia states, noting that should the proposed action proceed, it will increase levels of noise, light and dust within 500 metres of that roosting site.

It is argued that may lead to potential site abandonment by disturbed birds.

Birdlife Australia stresses that while the current Esso referral relates to the establishment of the ORC, that is part of a larger overall project, which needs to be considered in its entirety.

In its referral, Esso divides the

decommissioning campaign into three stages, the first being the establishment of the ORC, the second the activities required to transport the removed structures to the ORC and offload them there, and the third stage is dismantling operations.

Stages two and three would each require submission of separate referrals. The initial stage is hoped to be completed over 13 months, beginning in January 2026, with transporting and offloading of the structures intended to take place over three or four months from the third quarter of 2027 to early 2028, and dismantling operations expected to commence in the second quarter of 2028 and take two to three years.

A report prepared on behalf of Esso Australia claims "Potential disturbance of resident and migratory (bird) species present at the site will be low in the context of their pre-exposure to physical presence, noise and artificial lighting from the

operation of the BBMT facility for more than 50 years."

The report also states "The potential for unplanned impacts due to mobilisation of contaminants to occur is very low, due to the application of standard avoidance measures within the construction method," thus not ruling out the possibility of contamination to the sensitive environment of Corner Inlet.

Foster's Julia Merrington, of the informal and recently named Corner Inlet Alliance, said its members want to see a full Environmental Effects Statement required in relation to Esso's plans, a petition to that end attracting over 3500 signatures, and having been presented to the Victorian Legislative Council in May.

The petition requests the Legislative Council to call on the State Government and the Minister for Planning to commission an Environmental Effects Statement into Esso's plans for the decommissioning of retired oil and gas rigs at BBMT, ensuring there is a period of public consultation.

Julia is adamant that new sustainable jobs are welcome in South Gippsland, but with the environmental importance of an internationally recognised Ramsar wetland, and South Gippsland's reliance on tourism, farming and fisheries jobs, it is essential to prove the overall decommissioning project is safe for all the creatures and people who rely on Corner Inlet.

"We don't get a second chance," she said.

Lighter moments at 'mushroom' trial

THERE have been moments, during the Erin Patterson murder trial, when tragedy has inexplicably given way to humour, and even a hearty laugh at times.

Such is the human condition.

On one occasion, on Day Six of the trial, during the evidence of the only survivor of the Beef Wellington lunch, besides Erin Patterson herself, Ian Wilkinson, his gas-lift chair suddenly collapsed in the witness box prompting a response from the judge, Justice Christopher Beale.

"We do that with all our witnesses," he said, asking if it was possible to get Mr Wilkinson a different chair.

"I thought I was being lowered to the basement," responded Mr Wilkinson.

Last Friday, May 30, it was police informant Detective Leading Senior Constable Stephen Eppingstall who shared a humorous moment with defence counsel for Mrs Patterson, Colin Mandy SC.

Mr Mandy was making an important point about the data that might be generated when a SIM card is swapped to a new phone, including the reconnection of apps such as myGov, myki, PayPal, AusPost, and the like, suggesting the abbreviation 'Hotdo' might mean 'Hot Doc'.

"Yeah, or hot donuts, but yeah, I agree it says 'HotDoc' there, sir," said Detective Eppingstall.

There have been other moments to lighten what has otherwise been the serious business of a triple murder trial.

Erin Patterson, who is facing three charges of murder and one of attempted murder, arising out of the Beef Wellington lunch at her home on July 29, 2023, has pleaded not guilty to all charges, maintaining what happened on that day was a tragedy and a terrible accident.



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South Gippsland Shire Council News

ArtCubes in Leongatha - Expression of Interest

After two years travelling South Gippsland Shire, the ArtCubes are coming to Leongatha!

South Gippsland Shire Council's trio of portable creative spaces, the ArtCubes, will be installed outside Council's main office entrance at 9 Smith Street, 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 have a creative practice of any kind - including visual or sound artists, performance artists, writers, photographers, or makers of any kind, we invite you to apply for an ArtCubes residency.

An ArtCube residency involves activating an ArtCube as you'd like. This might include the installation of your creative works for display, setting an ArtCube up as a making or recording space, or utilising the space to promote your creative works.

For more information and to apply for a residency, please visit:
www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/leongatha_artcubes_eoi

Applications close 5pm Monday 16 June 2025.

To learn more about the ArtCubes, please visit:
visitsouthgippsland.com.au/blog/artcubes

This Park's Alive! Expression of Interest



South Gippsland Shire Council is seeking to engage a suitable, qualified contractor to help coordinate the logistics for This Park's Alive!

This Park's Alive! is a project funded by a VicHealth Growing Healthy Communities Grant. It involves proposing a groundbreaking participative art campaign for South Gippsland, that will engage children from 5 to 11 years of age in new ways with their own local parks.

For more information and to apply, visit:
www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/this_parks_alive

COUNCIL MEETINGS

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

COMMUNITY TRAINING

Council is hosting the next community training session in June.

If you are eager to secure funding for your projects, this workshop is the perfect opportunity to learn the ins and outs of grant writing.

Grant Writing for Success

Date: Wednesday 18 June

Time: 6.00pm to 7.30pm

Where: Online

For more information or to register, please visit:

www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/communitytraining

COMMUNITY IMMUNISATION SESSIONS

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When: Thursday 12 June

Where: Leongatha

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Coastal councils working together to smooth climate change adaptation

By Andrew Paloczi

SOUTH Gippsland Shire Council was represented at a gathering of 15 Victorian coastal councils in Port Melbourne during May, at which a discussion took place about advocacy priorities in terms of planning an approach to anticipated flooding and coastal inundation.

The Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (DEECA), and JLT, which handles local government risk insurance, gave presentations, as did South Gippsland Shire Council, the event led by council in partnership with the Municipal Association of Victoria and JLT.

South Gippsland Shire Council's Deputy Mayor, Sarah Gilligan, and Director of Future Communities, Lucas Gardiner, gave council's presentation, with Manager for Planning and Building Services Nick Moore, Director of Sustainable Infrastructure Tony Peterson and Cr Nathan Hersey also present.

"It's about advocating via our councils, collaborating with each other so that we're sharing where we're at and what we're doing," Cr Gilligan told the Sentinel-Times of the productive relationship between Victorian coastal councils achieved through such gatherings.

She commented on the productive conversations between local and State Government representatives at the Roundtable.

"We talked about the urgent need for help with legacy planning and vulnerable low-lying communities," Cr Gilligan said.

The recent Roundtable built on a previous coastal council meeting at Safety Beach during March last year.



South Gippsland Shire Council representatives at the recent coastal councils gathering, Lucas Gardiner, Cr Sarah Gilligan, Nick Moore, Tony Peterson and Cr Nathan Hersey.

Coastal councils want to play a decisive role in determining transition strategies necessitated by climate change but are keen to see a State-led planning approach to prepare for flood and coastal inundation.

Need for sustainable funding for local governments to carry out coastal adaptation actions, and support through improved Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements are important considerations.

South Gippsland Shire Council, along with other councils continues to argue the merits of being supported to build more resilient infrastructure able to better withstand future natural events, rather than just repairing to the original standard.

Council argues its budget is already stretched to capacity, not allowing for an adequate response to climate change, ageing infrastructure and increasing population, leaving it in a position of being reactive rather than proactive, having to simply rebuild in the event of disasters and not pursue opportunities for improved durability.

Doing nothing is not an

option, South Gippsland Shire Council states, stressing planning how to most effectively adapt to climate change requires the involvement of all levels of government, along with community and various agencies.

Council is currently working with the State Government to prepare planning controls, with a focus on minimising risk to life and property from climate hazards.

During council's May meeting, Cr Gilligan said the DEECA representative tasked with writing the 'Victorian retreat policy' attended the coastal councils Roundtable, noting almost \$4 million of Federal and Victorian Government funding has been committed to the organisation to carry out that work.

Specifically, that relates to the 'Transition/Retreat Policy for Property and Assets Impacted by Coastal Hazards and Sea Level Rise', with the total project cost listed as \$3,932,992, of which the State Government is providing \$2,404,742, and the Federal Government the remaining \$1,528,250.

All of Victoria's 22 coastal

councils are listed in association with the policy.

"So, this was an opportunity to make sure it wasn't just a list of names and that we weren't going to get a policy that just said, 'This is what you do', that actually the local councils are involved on the ground at the beginning of that policy development," Cr Gilligan said.

In the description of the policy's intended purpose, it is stated that local government will be able to draw on it and associated tools to deliver adaptation plans that call for transition away from coastal locations impacted by hazards.

As a Venus Bay resident passionate about the threat of coastal inundation and committed to mitigating it, Cr Gilligan intends to arrange Federal ministerial meetings to discuss planning reform and the need for a national adaptation strategy to more effectively deal with the impacts of climate change.

She will be in Canberra for the Australian Local Government Association's conference in June and hopes to arrange such meetings for then.

Shire Message



South Gippsland
Shire Council

Cr Brad Snell



THIS week, I'm thrilled to step in for the Mayor and share a few reflections and highlights from across our vibrant South Gippsland community.

Reconciliation Week

It was a privilege to attend Council's first-ever Reconciliation Week Flag Raising Ceremony last week. This event marked an important step in recognising and respecting the rich cultural heritage of our First Nations people and the land we call home. It was a moving and meaningful occasion, and I'm proud to support Council's ongoing commitment to inclusivity and cultural celebration.

Southern Rail Trail Run

On Saturday, our region came alive with the inaugural Southern Rail Trail Run. There was lots of energy, and it was fantastic to see so many people out enjoying our beautiful landscape. Events like this not only promote healthy, active lifestyles but also shine a spotlight on one of our greatest tourism assets, the Great Southern Rail Trail. I'm an avid cyclist and some of my greatest adventures are along our incredible Rail Trail. I hope to see many more people visiting our region to use and enjoy this one-of-a-kind track just like I do.

Live4Life Annual Dinner

On Saturday, I had the pleasure of joining the Mayor and a few of my fellow Councillors at the Live4Life Annual Dinner in Melbourne. Hosted by Brian Nankervis and featuring a very special guest – Aussie music legend Paul Kelly – the night was a celebration of connection, conversation, and the incredible work being done to support young people's mental health. It was a powerful reminder of the importance of community and the impact we can have when we come together.

Young people are the future, and I feel passionate about providing a voice to our youth and sharing my platform to advocate for them.

At Council, we are super lucky to support Live4Life's Youth Mental Health First Aid course. The course is designed to equip adults who teach, care for or support young people, with the knowledge, skills and confidence to recognise, understand and respond to a young person experiencing a mental health problem or crisis.

www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/YMHFA

V/Line Coach Services Engagement

The Department of Transport and Planning are planning to increase services on the Yarram to Melbourne V/Line coach service. They are seeking community feedback to better understand peoples travel behaviour and travel needs. For a service that is incredibly important to South Gippsland's connectivity, I strongly encourage our community to hop online and provide feedback. <https://engage.vic.gov.au/>

Dry Season

As you are all aware, South Gippsland and many of our surrounding regions are experiencing unseasonably dry conditions. Information on support services and water supplies to assist during these difficult times can be found on Council's website.

www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/dry_season

Grants for Local Community Groups

I want to thank our community of passionate, dedicated groups doing incredible work and share that at Council we are here to support you.

We offer a range of resources to help bring your visions to life. This takes shape in the form of small grants (all year round), community grants (open twice a year) and grant writing workshops.

We also have dedicated staff at Council including our Community Development team and Grants Officer who can help you find the right grant and even submit a strong application. If you're part of a community group with a great idea, reach out – we'd love to support you.

www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/grants

King's Birthday Long Weekend

Looking ahead to the upcoming long weekend, there's no shortage of things to do across South Gippsland. From the **Loch Food and Wine Festival** to the **Southern Lights Festival** at Coal Creek in Korumburra, there's something for everyone. These events are a great way to embrace the winter spirit and connect with our community. Don't forget to check out the many art exhibitions, markets, live music gigs, and more happening throughout the region.

Whether you're a local or visiting for the weekend, I encourage you to get out, explore, and enjoy everything our incredible region has to offer.

Plaques replaced with the help of community donations

LOCH Memorial Reserve will soon be able to replace their valued commemorative plaques following generous community donations.

The two brass plaques, which honoured local World War I soldiers, were stolen from the granite pillars at Loch Memorial Reserve in the early hours of the morning on Monday, April 6.

Locals were distressed by the theft as many of the families of the men who fought and died in the war still live in the area and the plaques hold great sentimental value.

Although video footage of the thief was captured and police reports made, there has, as yet, been no outcome and the plaques haven't been recovered.

While insurance will cover \$5466 of the \$7307 replacement cost, a gap of \$1841 remained.



Two brass plaques honouring local World War One soldiers at Loch Memorial Reserve, which were stolen in April, will soon be replaced.

At the time when Frank Springer, president of the Loch Memorial Reserve informed the community of the theft, many offered to donate towards the replacement cost of the plaques.

"We had quite a few



people that wanted to donate, and we were a little iffy about that because we didn't want to take people's money. But sometimes it becomes emotional, because of the emotional connection with a family member that

passed away at war."

"So, we opened that up to the general public," said Frank.

"And as a result of that, within a matter of about two or three days, I think we got about 90 per cent of it. It's good community spirit."

In addition to the commemorative plaques being replaced, the Brett Woods plaque, made from granite and placed on an oak tree in the reserve honouring a local man who died in Afghanistan, will also be replaced with brass and placed back on the tree. The original plaque was broken when thieves tried to steal it as well, and the remaining pieces will go to Brett's family.

The plaques have been ordered through local business Levey Engineering and are anticipated to be placed on the pillars in about six weeks.

A closer look at health and wellbeing

GIPPSLAND Primary Health Network (PHN) has released its 2025 Local Government Area Health Snapshots, offering an in-depth look at the health and wellbeing of our region.

The data highlights both strengths and challenges in South Gippsland and Bass Coast, from ageing populations and mental health needs to high alcohol use and gaps in service access.

Bass Coast's population surged to 42,729 in 2023, growing by 2.2 per cent in a single year, while South Gippsland's population increased slightly to 30,823. Both areas have older populations than the state average, with 29.5 per cent of Bass Coast and 26.5 per cent of South Gippsland residents aged over 65.

Alcohol and tobacco use are key concerns. In Bass Coast, 73 per cent of adults drink at levels that pose a risk of lifetime harm – the highest in Gippsland. South Gippsland follows closely at 67 per cent. Smoking rates are also elevated, with 18 per cent of adults in both LGAs being current smokers.

Mental health challenges are also apparent. Around one in 10 residents in both areas report a diagnosed mental health condition, and more than 22 per cent receive mental health-related prescriptions – notably higher than Victoria's 16.8 per cent.

South Gippsland is underserved when it comes to mental health professionals, with only 28 psychologists per 100,000 people. Bass Coast has 44, but both are well below the Victorian average of 117.

South Gippsland reports higher-than-average avoidable deaths from heart disease and cancer, and ambulance attendances for alcohol intoxication are especially high in Bass Coast (531 per 100,000), well above the state average of 394.

On a brighter note, both regions show strong community involvement. Volunteering rates are higher than the Victorian average, and unpaid care for people with disability is also more common.

Inverloch Bendigo Community Bank celebrating \$657,000 in community grants

UNUSUAL for bankers Inverloch Community Bank Bendigo Director Louise Litchfield and Chairman Mark McCormack were more than happy to hand out money to local community groups and sporting clubs at this year's annual community night.

More than 100 guests attended the Inverloch Community Bank's community night bringing the total amount of money handed out in community grants since the Inverloch branch opened in 2006 to \$657,000.

Chair of the Inverloch Community Bank's Business, Marketing and Sponsorship Committee Louise Litchfield said she was delighted to give \$50,000 back to the community this year.

Included in the bank's sponsorships were the Bass Board Riders Club (\$3745), Bass Coast Community Foundation (\$5000) Inverloch Historical Society Ripple Project (\$5000) and the Inverloch Surf Lifesaving Club (\$7000).

Inverloch Community Bank Bendigo Chairman Mark McCormack thanked staff who had put the community night together and for those taking time to attend the event.

"It means a lot to us," said Mr McCormack.

Mr McCormack said unlike other banks which are corporately owned with profits going to their corporate entity the Inverloch Community Bank Bendigo is owned by 120 local shareholders that originally



Bec Shepherd, Penelope Rowe (Branch Manager Inverloch Community Bank Bendigo) and Carolyn Collier at the annual community night in Inverloch. B60_2225

set-up the bank 19 years ago.

"All of our profits are returned through dividends to shareholders and contributions back to the community," said Mr McCormack.

"By the end of this year, over \$650,000 will have been returned back to community projects and you can also go onto our website and buy shares in our bank."

Banking with the Inverloch Community Bank Bendigo contributes significantly to the funds that can be returned to the community according to Mr McCormack.

"The more people that bank with us, the more we can return back.

"This is the heart of a community bank model."

This year the Inverloch

Community Bank reinvigorated its grants program and according to Mr McCormack, the program was oversubscribed.

"After a comprehensive assessment process, we were able to meet a number of requests but sadly we could not meet them all," he said.

"It would be great to one day make enough to meet all requests, so congratulations to those that did get funding and apologies to those that missed out. Hopefully, we can help out next time."

Existing customers were thanked for their ongoing support.

Those who were not customers were encouraged to try out the Inverloch Community Bank because when you open an account to get your home

or business loan, credit card, or insurances you are funding local community services such as life-saving, schools, defibrillators, local clubs and many other local initiatives that help to save and change lives.

Sponsorships over the years have included \$126,000 to the Inverloch Surf Life Saving Club, \$67,000 for the Inverloch Jazz Festival, \$46,000 to the Inverloch Kongwak Football Netball Club, \$29,000 to the Inverloch Primary School and \$43,000 for 20 heart defibrillator units.

The Inverloch Community Bank Bendigo can be found at 16C Williams St, Inverloch.

For more information go to bendigobank.com.au/branch/vic/community-bank-inverloch-district.



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Community Grants Program

A Community Grant can support your organisation when it needs it the most. Applications open Thursday 1 May and close Monday 30 June 2025.

Email admin@srdfs.com.au or head to the San Remo, Cowes or Grantville Community Bank Facebook pages for the link to apply!



Community Enterprise Foundation™

Community Grants Program is a management account of the Community Enterprise Charitable Fund ABN 12 102 649 968 (the Fund), The Bendigo Centre, Bendigo VIC 3550. Sandhurst Trustees Limited ABN 16 004 030 737 AFSL 237906, a subsidiary of Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited ABN 11 068 049 178, AFSL 237879, is the trustee of the Fund. 1409006-1409008 OUT_44379675



Living Lightly

Bass Coast

June Events | Practical Workshops Across Bass Coast

Energy Evolution

Electric Vehicles

Tuesday, 3 June – 6pm
Online

| Free

Future Foods

Organic Veggie Farming

Sunday, 15 June – 10am
Coronet Bay Community Garden

| Free

Garden Gems

Attracting Birds and Insects to Your Garden

Sunday, 22 June – 10am
Coronet Bay Community Garden

| Free

Circular Solutions

Recycle Refresh

Tuesday, 24 June – 10am
Wonthaggi Library

| Free



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



Frank Goranitis and Jim O'Brien received several donations and grants to replace the nine chainsaws that were stolen earlier this year from their volunteer group, the Wednesday Warriors.

Wednesday Warriors are sawing once again

THE Wednesday Warriors of Mirboo North were devastated mid-March this year after thieves broke in and took every last one of their chainsaws.

The group of volunteers use the chainsaws regularly to keep the trails around Mirboo North clear of debris, so everyone can safely walk, ride, jog and enjoy the trails.

On hearing of the group's huge loss, individual donations of chainsaws came flooding in, alongside grants from the South Gippsland Shire Council, Mirboo North and District Community Foundation and the Mirboo North and District Community Bank, to replace what had been stolen.

"Also, Russel Broadbent very generously donated a large new Stihl saw, the first week after it happened. People have been very generous. We've had people from as far away as Wonthaggi and Cape Paterson who have donated saws," said Jim O'Brien, President of the Wednesday Warriors, otherwise known as Friends the Lyrebird Forest Walk.

"There was a retired woman in Leon-gatha who went into Marriotts and bought us a brand new electric chainsaw and just told them to ring me and told me to come and get it - there's some amazing people

around."

As a result, the volunteers are now back up and fully operational with a complete fleet of chainsaws to do their work once again.

The group have also recently upgraded their safety equipment, including helmets and chaps through their own fundraising activities.

The Warriors are always looking for new volunteers to join them as current members are ageing and they require some young, fit and capable members to help out with some of the tasks.

Jim believes the upcoming free introductory chainsaw courses being held in Mirboo North could be a good opportunity for people to learn how to use a chainsaw and then join the Wednesday Warriors, where they would have the opportunity to hone these newly acquired skills.

"It would certainly be helpful to have people qualified in certain operations. We want people who've done various courses and who are not just self-taught," said Jim.

The Safe Sawing in the Boo Chainsaw Courses will be held on four dates, June 14, 15, 21 and 22 from 8am - 4pm in Mirboo North. For more information email: safesawingintheboo@gmail.com.

GOOSENECK

POTTERY

Winter Exhibition & Sale

(Firing The Gosling)

Kings' Birthday Weekend

Saturday, Sunday & Monday, June 7, 8 & 9 from 10am-5pm

10% off all pots, 20% off large pieces (over \$500)

* Inspect the kiln and workshop

Five minutes Korumburra, 10 minutes Leongatha, 25 minutes Inverloch. The pottery is also open weekends, public holidays and most weekdays. (Best to phone first during weekdays. Closed during August).

Robert Barron

60 Kardella-Fairbank Rd, Kardella, 3951 (Via Korumburra) Mobile: 0403 023 761
www.gooseneckpottery.com.au Email: gooseneckpottery@gmail.com

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KINCROME Portable Tool Kit

92 Piece

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- DEEP SOCKETS
- LIFETIME GUARANTEE

Measurements: L 360 x W 270 x H 110mm

K1857

\$559

KINCROME Portable Tool Kit

150 Piece

Metric

- 1/2 DRIVE
- DEEP SOCKETS
- LIFETIME GUARANTEE

Measurements: L 430 x W 385 x H 110mm

K1870

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Victorian Budget delivers milestone investment in Regional Multicultural Inclusion

THE Regional Multicultural Alliance Victoria (RMA Vic) welcomes the Victorian Government's announcement of \$1.6 million in dedicated funding through the 2025–26 Victorian State Budget to strengthen the capacity of multicultural organisations operating across regional Victoria including Gippsland Multicultural Services.

The targeted investment will support seven RMA member organisations to maintain their vital grassroots presence in regional communities, fostering inclusive settlement, strengthening social cohesion, and enhancing regional resilience through culturally informed, place-based engagement.

“Gippsland Multicultural Services (GMS) welcome this unprecedented support for regional multicultural communities, by the State Government,” CEO of Gippsland Multicultural Services, Sally Gafa said.

“I commend the Allan Government on backing the Regional Multicultural Alliance (including GMS) to do what we do best and that is supporting grassroots communities by providing opportunities for social connection, access to services, education and employment opportunities and fostering community harmony and inclusion. This funding milestone will create opportunities to create a more inclusive Gippsland through a range of growth opportunities which can only be a good thing for all Gippslanders.”

The Alliance also acknowledges the strong advocacy of regional Members of Parliament, whose efforts have ensured that the needs and aspirations of regional communities are reflected in the State Budget.

RSL to sponsor two students to undertake the Kokoda Trail

THE Leongatha RSL will be sponsoring two Leongatha secondary school students to embark on a tough but life-changing pilgrimage along the Kokoda Trail.

The trail in Papua New Guinea is renowned as the location of the World War II battle between Japanese and Australian forces in 1942.

The RSL committee was committed to funding the experience in an effort to keep the story of Kokoda alive and in the minds of a new generation, and to also help shape and build future leaders.

The committee will soon be approaching schools with the aim of sending two students to Papua New Guinea in June 2026.

“The whole trek, it’s important for Leongatha to be involved in because we’ve got a fairly rich history of involvement in wars, and we think it’s an opportunity for these kids to experience the Kokoda track, and build some leadership skills,” said Greg Nugent, General Manager of Leongatha RSL.

“It’s also very important to know what people went through when they were involved in it. I know that the Kokoda Track is like the Monash freeway now, compared to what it was like back in the war, but you still get a sense of what it was like.”

The students will join another group from the Baw Baw Shire, led by Gary Blackwood, former Member for Narracan, who has



The Leongatha RSL will be sponsoring two year ten students from Leongatha to undertake the Kokoda Trail next year, with a group of students from the Baw Baw Shire.

been doing the Kokoda Trek with secondary school kids for about the last 10 years.

“We got into a discussion with him (Gary) and the Committee of the RSL thought it would be a good thing for us to be involved in,” said Greg.

Students will be selected through a stringent process to ensure that kids are picked who really want to do the walk and who will get something out of it.

“Part of the application process will be writing an essay as to why it’s important for them

to walk the Kokoda Track, and then that’ll go to a committee who will sift through the applications, and we come up with the successful applicants from there.

“Before they go across to do the trek, there’s some training and networking and getting to know, and all that type of thing; there’s a commitment there to make. When they come back from the trek, they’re expected to do some public speaking in relation to the Kokoda Track and their experiences.”

Ideally, the RSL committee

would like to have two Year ten students selected by the end of this year, so they have time to prepare for the 96-kilometre walk.

The amount needed for the venture is \$15,000 and funds will be raised by private donation and as part of the RSLs Friday night community nights, alongside other fundraising events planned for the next 12 months.

If there’s a shortfall, the RSL Club have committed to funding that.

For more information or to donate visit the Leongatha RSL.

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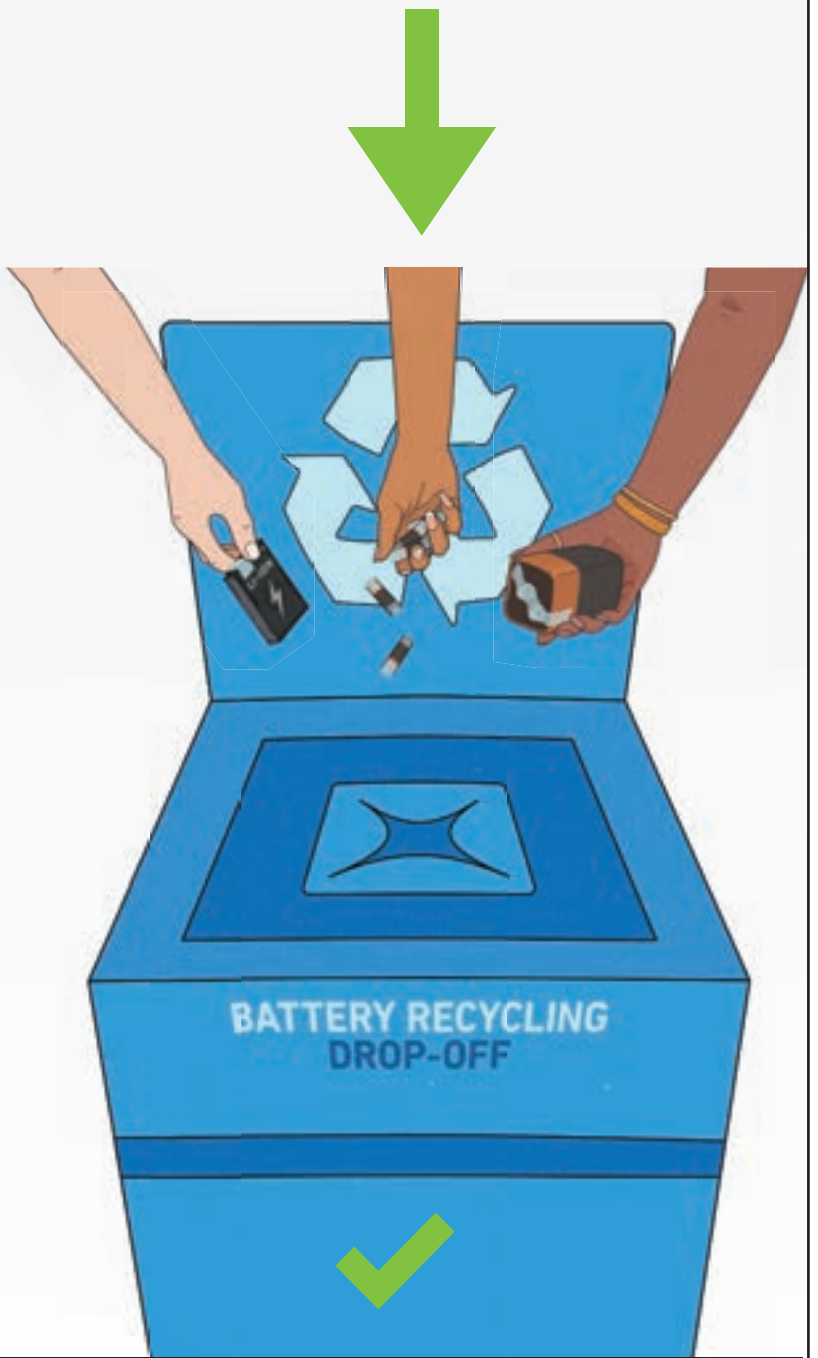
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Sustainability Victoria



VICTORIA State Government

If it's cool to touch, it's safe to leave

AS VICTORIANS head outdoors to enjoy the King's Birthday long weekend, fire and land authorities are reminding campers and visitors to forests and parks to be safe around campfires.

Forest Fire Management Victoria (FFMVic) Chief Fire Officer Chris Hardman said with cooler temperatures settling in, it might feel like the fire risk has passed, but with parks and forests remaining dry, campfires can quickly escape and become devastating bushfires.

After a warmer and drier-than-average autumn and normal rainfall expected this winter, the fire risk is higher than usual – particularly in parts of western, southwestern and south-eastern Victoria.

“Even at this time of year, just one unattended or poorly managed campfire can cause serious damage to the environment and put lives and property at risk,” Mr Hardman said.

“This season, we’ve responded to more than 370 incidents involving campfires. This included the Boroka Lookout Fire, where an illegal campfire turned into a bushfire in difficult terrain, on the edge of the cliff diverting resources responding to bushfires in the Grampians National Park.

“With a little extra care around your campfire this long weekend, we can keep forests and parks healthy and safe for everyone to enjoy.

“Never leave a campfire unattended and use water to

fully extinguish it – if it's cool to touch it's safe to leave.

CFA Acting Chief Officer Garry Cook AFSM said while conditions over the weekend will also be an opportune time for residents to burn off, extreme care should be taken to ensure enough water and resources are on hand to extinguish burns properly.

“Escaped burn-offs, particularly in the current dry conditions, continue to cause significant concern and great risk to our communities across the state,” he said.

“It is really important landowners have someone monitoring their fire activity at all times. Although cooler days are arriving, now is not the time to be complacent.

“This weekend, take a moment to check the wind forecast, ensure you’ve left ample room in your fire break and please register your burn-off online to help reduce unnecessary callouts to emergency services.”

Before hitting the road, people should be familiar with local campfire regulations and safety measures to help protect the environment and local communities at vic.gov.au/campfires-stoves-and-bbqs.

People who breach campfire regulations on public land face a maximum penalty of \$19,759 if the matter is prosecuted in court.

Report unattended campfires to 136 186 or call 000 to report a bushfire.

Remember, if you light it, you own it!



Newhaven College's Prep to Year 12 campus fosters connections across all age groups, with mentorship and cross-age tutoring actively embraced by the entire school community.



The Perpetual Motor Program (PMP) helps develop key motor skills and supports cognitive growth, concentration and classroom readiness. Prep Sunny Jose enjoys the program on a weekly basis during Term 2.

Junior years near capacity, senior students invited to enrol

NEWHAVEN College is experiencing an exciting surge in enrolments for its Prep to Year 8 classes, with nearly all year levels approaching full capacity for 2026. This growth reflects the community’s strong confidence in the College’s nurturing environment, excellent teaching, and commitment to small class sizes that support individual learning.

The demand is so high that the College is actively welcoming interest from families considering Prep enrolment for next year with the view for potential expansion.

“We are thrilled by the response from families who value the quality education and strong community at Newhaven College. Keeping class sizes small is a priority for us,” Principal Tony Corr said.

The Junior School is also poised for exciting growth with plans underway for new classrooms, pending final approvals. These new facilities will provide modern, flexible learning spaces designed to inspire curiosity and creativity, reinforcing the College’s commitment to fostering the whole child.

While Prep to Year 8 buzzes with increasing enrolments, Newhaven College’s Senior School (Years 9 to 12) continues to offer a dynamic and enriching curriculum that prepares students for success beyond school. Limited places are still available in the Senior School for this year, and beyond, providing an excellent opportunity for new students to join a vibrant learning community focused on academic excellence, leadership

development, and real-world skills.

Families interested in enrolling for Senior School are encouraged to explore the range of programs with a suite of extracurricular opportunities tailored to develop confident, capable young adults ready for the challenges of the future.

Anyone interested in learning more about the College is encouraged to attend the upcoming College Tour on Wednesday, June 18. Book through the College website newhavencol.vic.edu.au or head to page six and scan the QR code to register your interest.

For more information or to register interest in Prep or Senior School enrolments, contact the College Admissions Team admissions@newhavencol.vic.edu.au or 5956 7505.

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Ben Fisher at the hotel's annual MND Big Freeze Day last weekend following their 2025 AHA (VIC) Award for Excellence the week prior.

Middle Hotel shines at Australian Hotel Awards

THE Middle Korumburra Hotel was in the spotlight at the 2025 Australian Hotel Association Victoria Awards for Excellence winning Best Non-Alcoholic Beverage Menu. The Middle Korumburra Hotel was also a finalist for Best Cocktail List of the Year, Best Outdoor Experience (Regional), Chef Mark Smith was a finalist for Chef of the Year and Sous Chef Paras Chopra was a finalist in Emerging Leader of the Year.

The Middle Hotel in Korumburra was recognised by the judges for its forward-thinking approach setting a benchmark for inclusivity and creativity in drink offerings.

Ben and Elyse Fisher, owners of The Middle Korumburra Hotel, said it was nice to win the Best Non-Alcoholic Beverage Menu and to be able to celebrate the occasion with 13 other staff from the hotel at Melbourne's iconic Palladium at Crown.

"It was nice to get the judge's feedback that our hotel had a very friendly and warm feel about the place," said Ben.

"You want to be part of the community.

"We were also a finalist in Best Hotel of the Year, which we won last year.

"Our Chef Mark Smith has been a finalist five times for Chef of the Year."

Ben Fisher described Mark Smith as a very creative chef.

"It's almost fine dining. A mix of traditional pub favourites with restau-

rant-style specials.

The Middle Korumburra Hotel can serve up to 200 meals for lunch.

"Mark uses local products which helps local suppliers," said Ben.

A finalist for Emerging Leader of the Year, Sous Chef Paras Chopra has been with the Middle Korumburra Hotel for two years.

"He has just grown so much in that time," said Elyse Fisher.

"He leads from the front. He's so happy all the time and is always up for a chat.

"You need that. He's very positive."

Mark and Paras work well together according to Ben Fisher.

"It's a team effort."

Destination Gippsland CEO Terry Robinson said the AHA Victoria Awards for Excellence not only highlighted individual excellence but also reinforced the region's growing reputation as a premier destination for quality food, drink, and authentic local experiences.

"Gippsland's outstanding results at the 2025 AHA Victoria Awards are a testament to the hard work, creativity, and passion that drives the region's hospitality industry," said Mr Robinson.

The Middle Korumburra Hotel's Award for Excellence for Best Non-Alcoholic Beverage Menu now qualifies the hotel for the 2025 AHA National Awards for Excellence to be held at RACV Royal Pines Resort on the Gold Coast in November.



Legendary Essendon Premiership Coach Kevin Sheedy was joined by the longest-serving captain in the history of the Melbourne Football Club David Neitz, jockey of Black Caviar for 22 of the mare's 25 consecutive wins Luke Nolen and Ben Fisher owner of The Middle Korumburra Hotel for MND Day. B131_2225

AFL legends Sheedy and Neitz join Nolen for Korumburra's Big Freeze



South Gippsland Shire Cr Nathan Hersey's face says it all after he was dunked on Sunday.



Hold your breath it's time to raise funds for MND. B132_2225

AFL greats Kevin Sheedy and David Neitz were joined by Black Caviar jockey Luke Nolen at Korumburra's fourth consecutive Big Freeze Day to support ongoing research into motor neurone disease (MND).

Organised by Ben Fisher from The Middle Korumburra Hotel hundreds attended the MND Big Freeze Day eager to see local identities dunked into icy cold water.

"We've been doing it for four years now and we've raised over \$30,000 for MND research," said Ben.

"We greatly appreciate the support of our local community, and it's a great day out."

Neale Daniher's battle against MND inspired the 'Big Freeze at the G' campaign which has raised over \$115 million for MND research and support.

Kevin Sheedy welcomed the massive turn-out for Korumburra's MND Big Freeze.

"I got the job as Essendon coach 32 years ago and Neale Daniher won the club's best and fairest in my first year," said Sheedy.

"I made him captain because every time Neale got the ball it ended up a shot at goal."

In 1993 Neale Daniher was made assistant coach of Essendon under Kevin Sheedy.

"We had the youngest team ever to win a premiership."

According to Kevin Sheedy, Neale was very good with advice for the young players.

"We had eight young people and there was no doubt Neale Daniher was going to be a great coach," said Sheedy.

"My own father died at age 50 from MND or multiple sclerosis as we knew it then.

"We didn't know any better..

"It was beautiful to see Neale Daniher named Australian of the Year."

Jockey Luke Nolen spoke about his 22 consecutive wins on Black Caviar.

"She was amazing," said Luke. "She had a great racing style, and I was fortunate to go to England with her."

It was a 'moment of struth' according to Luke Nolen.

"Winning at Royal Randwick was a career-defining moment," Nolen said.

"Twenty-five wins in a row."

Melbourne Football Club legend and former captain David Neitz said great advances are being made in treating and diagnosing motor neurone disease. "It's a devastating disease."

David Neitz said Neale Daniher was one of the greatest heroes you would ever meet.

"We are the shining light of MND research across the world because of Neale Daniher and all his friends."

Watching the 'Big Freeze at the G' according to Neitz you hope you can beat this thing.

"Lots of things are taken away with MND and this includes your speech," Neitz said.

"Equipped with a computer and A.I. we're hearing Neale Daniher's voice again."

David Neitz said he got a tear in his eye the first time he heard it.

"It's just phenomenal what you can do to support this worthy cause."

South Gippsland Shire Cr Nathan Hersey was one of 23 local identities who volunteered for a dunking and said the research needed a boost.

"It is good to see extra funding for MND research from the ground up," said Cr Hersey.

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chassis SN: L101351



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double cab SN: L101324



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Landcruiser Prado GXL

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AWAY

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



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Erin Patterson speaks

THE Leongatha mother of two accused of the murders of three family members and the attempted murder of another, Erin Patterson, has so far not taken the witness stand in her own defence.

But last Tuesday, May 27, a video recording of the first police interview conducted with Mrs Patterson, on the afternoon Saturday, August 5, 2023, from 4.41pm to 5.30pm was played for the Supreme Court in Morwell.

Erin Patterson was read her rights by Detective Leading Senior Constable Stephen Eppingstall, the police informant in the case, waiving her right to call a lawyer or a friend or relative.

The interview followed a search of her home in Leongatha earlier that day.

Detective Eppingstall said he wanted to speak with Mrs Patterson about the deaths of Gail Patterson and Heather Wilkinson the day before, acknowledging that she hadn't been kept in the loop about their condition and their passing.

Addressing what happened after the meal at her home the previous Saturday, with Heather and Gail dying and both Don Patterson and Ian Wilkinson "so ill that their livers have failed", Detective Eppingstall said police were trying to understand what had made them so ill and conversely, why she wasn't that ill.

Erin Patterson agreed she knew why she was being interviewed, but noted that she had been very, very helpful with the health department through the week because she wanted to help.

"So, I've given them as much information as they've asked for and offered up all the food and all the information about where the food came from."

After speaking about the meal of Beef Wellington and where she got the recipe, Detective Eppingstall said police didn't see a lot of food from Asian or Indian grocers or those kinds of stores.

"Did you look in my fridge? I've got a lot of Asian cooking stuff in my fridge," she said.

The pair had a conversation about Erin's house in Mt Waverley and then discussed the mushrooms.

"Obviously, we've got concerns in relation to these mushrooms and where they've come from. Is that something you've done in the past, foraging for mushrooms?" asked Det. Eppingstall.

"Never," said Erin.

"Or anything like that?"

"Never."

"Have you ever dehydrated food or anything..."

"No."

He asked why Mrs Patterson had asked Simon's parents and his uncle and auntie over for lunch on July 29.

"Because I've got no other family. They're the only support I've got left and they've always been really good to me and I want to maintain those relationships with them, in spite of what's happened with Simon. I love them a lot and they've always been really good to me."

She said Gail and Don Patterson had always said they would continue to provide her with emotional support even after the separation and that she wanted them to stay in her children's life. She said she felt Simon resented the fact that she still had a relationship with his parents.

The trial goes into its sixth week in Morwell this week. Erin Patterson has pleaded not guilty to all charges, maintaining that what happened at the lunch was a tragedy and a terrible accident.

Mushroom murder trial: How prayer and \$38 only gets you so far

THE relationships between Erin Patterson, her estranged husband Simon, and her in-laws, Don and Gail Patterson, have been an ongoing feature of the 23-day 'mushroom murder' trial in the Supreme Court at Morwell.

Last Friday, May 30, some 'Signal' group chat messages between Don, Gail, Simon and Erin, from November 15 to November 24, 2022, were probed by defence counsel for Erin Patterson, Colin Mandy SC, during the evidence of police informant in the case, Detective LSC Stephen Eppingstall.

This was at the time when the on-again-off-again, mostly friendly, but sometimes "strained" relationship between Erin and Simon Patterson had become "toxic", in Simon's evidence, by late October 2022, over child support payments, school fees and medical bills.

There had also been the issue, on October 16, 2022, of what Erin Patterson described as an "afterthought" invite to Gail Patterson's 70th birthday lunch at the Top Pub in Korumburra, and Simon describing her decision not to go as "ridiculous".

Back on Day 4 of the trial, Simon Patterson described an exchange between Erin and his parents in a group chat in December 2022 as "extremely aggressive", prompting him to consider getting a mediator to assist with communication over child support payments.

Under cross-examination by Mr Mandy on May 2 of the trial, after it was suggested that Simon's child support responsibilities had been assessed at \$38-a-month, Simon Patterson acknowledged it was the likely reason why Erin had become so upset.

At \$38-a-month, or around \$500-a-year in total, Mr Mandy put it to Simon Patterson that it wasn't going to cover any of the school fees, let alone an anaesthetist's bill, a reference to the costs associated with his son's knee operation on November 24, 2022.

Mr Mandy started last Friday's cross-examination of Detective Eppingstall by asking him about Signal messages in February 2022, the first one being between Erin Patterson and Don Patterson, a former maths-science teacher at Korumburra Secondary College, about picking up some schoolbooks and helping the oldest of the Patterson children with his studies.

"We can pick up more books if [he] wants. Also, if he needs help in any subject I might have some competence in, I'm happy to provide it, probably in Jitsi (free video conferencing software)," said Don Patterson.

"Thank you so much... I think [he] would absolutely love a Jitsi session for maths. They're working through algebra, and he says it's one topic that he finds a little tricky, so he actually mentioned last night that he thought a Papa session on algebra would really help him about now," said Erin Patterson in response.

There was also an exchange



The 'mushroom trial' in the Supreme Court in Morwell has featured details about the relationship between the accused, Erin Patterson, and her estranged husband Simon Patterson, and her in-laws Don and Gail Patterson. The trial continues in Morwell this week.

over some new concerns about COVID, with Erin thanking Don for the use of Gail's blood/oxygen monitor.

Mr Mandy then moved to questions about group chat messages between Don, Gail, Erin, and Simon between November 15 and 24, 2022.

The first one was on November 15, 2022, between Gail and Erin: "Hi Erin. Thank you for the two slices you made for Sunday's arvo tee. Very thoughtful of you. We are very thankful for the mild weather we had. Sorry to hear you're not feeling well. Hope a good night's sleep helped and you're feeling better today."

Erin responded saying thanks for the kind message and that she still felt nauseous with a headache, Gail contacted her three days later to ask how Erin was feeling.

On November 24, 2022, there was an exchange over the Pattersons' teenage son having a knee operation that day.

"Could you please tell [him] we are all praying all goes smoothly for his knees today and that he will know God's peace. Safe travels xo, Nana and Papa."

There followed a brief exchange, then a longer message from Erin later in the afternoon that the surgery had gone well, which was picked up on by Simon.

"Good news about the surgery. Thanks for that update, Erin," said Simon, going on to comment about some other medical issue referred to by the doctors.

Gail Patterson was also appreciative of the news.

"Thanks for letting us know, Erin, sounds good. Thank you God, and the doctors," said Gail.

Mr Mandy also made reference to an exchange on Mother's Day, May 8, 2023, between Erin Patterson and Gail Patterson.

"Happy Mother's Day, Erin. May God bless you. Love Don and Gail."

Erin replied: "Thanks Gail. Happy Mother's Day to the best mum-in-law anyone could ask for, xxoo."

Gail responded: "Very kind of you xo."

But it wasn't all plain sailing with the evidence of senior digital forensics officer at the Victoria Police cybercrime department, Shamen Fox-Henry painting a different picture.

On May 22, 2025, prosecutor Jane Warren questioned Mr Fox-Henry about an exchange between Erin Patterson and some of her Facebook friends via Messenger about Erin's efforts to get Simon's parents to intervene in the child-support dispute.

"I wonder if they've got any capacity for self-reflection at all? I mean clearly the fact that Simon refuses to talk about personal issues in part stems from the behaviour of his parents and how they operate. According to them, they have never asked him what's going on with us, why I keep kicking him out, why his son hates him etc," Erin Patterson is alleged to have said on December 6, 2022, under the social media name "Erin, Erin, Erin".

"It's too awkward or uncomfortable or something. So, that's his learned behaviour. 'Just don't talk about this shit'."

On December 7, 2022, Erin again expressed her frustration to her Facebook friends: "His mum was horrified I had claimed child support. Why isn't she horrified her son is such a deadbeat that I had no choice but to claim?"

Erin is also alleged to have said that Don called her to say that if she prayed with Simon, and withdrew the child support claim, a solution to the impasse could easily be found.

"My head nearly exploded, and I was like what?" Erin, Erin, Erin told her friends' group.

Don contacted her later to ask her to ignore his earlier remarks, saying that he and Gail didn't want to get involved in financial matters.

Erin told her friends that she thought Simon asking her to withdraw the child support claim was unconscionable and wrong.

She said she messaged Don to say that while she appreciated it was uncomfortable and awkward for them to hear, she wanted to copy them into the discussion about child support because Simon needed to be accountable for the decisions he is making "that are hurting his children" and their grandchildren.

After a message from Don suggesting they pray together, Erin again messaged her friends' group.

"I'm sick of this shit. I want nothing to do with them. I thought his parents would

want him to do the right thing, but it seems their concern about not wanting to feel uncomfortable and not wanting to get involved in their son's personal matters are overriding that, so fuck'em."

There were more references to school fees, the choice of an alternative school to the faith-based school the children were attending and child support.

"Simon wants to walk away from his responsibilities too. Well, that's his choice. 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."

The dispute about changing schools was ultimately left unresolved. In the interview with police on August 5, 2023, Erin Patterson revealed an interest in selling the Mt Waverley house and buying one closer to the new school.

The squabbles over child support payments, school fees, doctor's fees and the like were against a backdrop of Erin Patterson being very generous with her money, especially the inheritance she received from her grandmother, well after separation in 2015, putting Simon's name on the title for the homes she had purchased in Mt Waverley and Leongatha, while also lending "hundreds of thousands of dollars" to three of Simon's siblings to buy their homes.

Whether the relationships between Erin Patterson, her husband Simon and his parents Don and Gail Patterson has an impact on the outcome of the trial is a matter for the jury.

But in her opening remarks, on Day Two of the trial, Crown Prosecutor Dr Nanette Rogers offered the prosecution's general view about motive.

"I want to talk to you about motive," she said to the jury.

"You might be wondering, now, why would the accused do this? What is the motive? You might still be wondering this at the end of this trial," she said.

"As I'm sure His Honour will direct you towards the end of the trial, motive is not something that has to be proven by the prosecution."

"You do not have to be satisfied what the motive was or even that there was one. The prosecution will not be suggesting that there was a particular motive to do what she did."

Erin Patterson has pleaded not guilty to three charges of murder and one of attempted murder arising out of a family lunch of Beef Wellington including death cap mushrooms at her Leongatha home on Saturday, July 29, 2023, maintaining that while she did lie to police about foraging for mushrooms, she denies ever deliberately setting out to find death cap mushrooms.

Mrs Patterson says that what happened on that day was a tragedy and a terrible accident.

The case continues into its final days in the Supreme Court at Morwell this week.

Levy fury continues with protestors taking it to the streets of Wonthaggi

PROTESTORS gathered outside Member for Bass, Jordan Crugnale's office last Tuesday with placards in hand and voices raised in unison against the State Government's recently passed emergency services and volunteers fund levy.

Together the crowd chanted "Axe the Tax," and Bass Coast locals spoke out about the impact the tax will have on farmers, business owners and the wider community.

Cheers went up from the crowd as a John Deere tractor made its way up and down McBride Street and passed the office of Ms Crugnale.

Rob Truman, a Bass Coast local believes that politicians have lost touch with the people and are failing to find out and represent what communities want, need and care about.

"I'm protesting because I think the tax is immoral and I think it's all about raising money," he said.

"The mere fact that she (Jordan Crugnale) voted for the tax and declares that it's a good thing says to me that she's disconnected from the people.

"The people protesting are there because they are not happy with the decision that's been made because it's not representative of what the vast majority want."

Rob believes today's politicians lack the courage to stand by their principles, ethics and their communities in the face of the party agenda and instead simply toe the line.

"It does feel like a betrayal and you can see that with the people, because this person's been elected to represent us, and we elect the person to represent us, to be our voice. Therefore, that person should be well connected with what the people feel."

Rob would like to see the tax abolished immediately.

"We're not a cash cow. We are so overtaxed it's not funny, and we all feel it's deliberate to keep us down there, and that is wrong and that's why, as a people, we have to stand. We have to stand and make our voice heard and say no, we've had enough. We've had a total gut full of you wasting money."

Graham Wood is a retired farmer from the area and attended the rally with his wife, speaking out in support of other farmers.

"It's our life. That's our mojo. We've always been involved in farming since I was six years old and sent off to a dairy farm by my parents."

Rob said the tax will only



Maryanne Peters, Russ Williams – a farmer from Coronet Bay, Kimberley Neave and a farmer from Meeniyan who are all sick of the taxes and sick of the Labor government. ob03_2225

affect them marginally because they are now on a single residential property, but if they still had their five farms it would be a different story.

"Instead of a couple of thousand dollars with the emergency fund, it would be something like \$5000, and that's on top of the shire rate."

While Maryanne Peters grew up on a farm as a child and is now a Wonthaggi resident she said the levy will double her rates and passionately spoke up at the rally.

"I just feel it's urgent," she said about the need to act and speak out against the levy.

"I think it's psychopathic. Absolutely unfeeling and very out of touch with the people. Completely out of touch with the people who feed us. They are biting the hand that feeds us."

"I would like a complete repeal – revoke it and never even have to think of that tax again."

While Ms Crugnale wasn't in attendance to address the protestors, she released a statement prior to the rally:

As this is a sitting week I will be in parliament so won't be able to address everyone attending or answer any questions that people may have.

I do not shy away from protests nor meeting with community members on issues that matter to them.

Should the organisers wish to make contact to arrange another time to protest or meet in person, I will make myself available.



Jim and Vivienne Armstrong walk up and down McBride Street in Wonthaggi with their placard opposing the levy. ob01_2225



Norma Suckling believes this tax is going to hurt everybody with ripple effects and impacts on people's children and grandchildren. ob04_2225

Silent Government takes more and gives less

PREMIER Jacinta Allan last week in Parliament dodged questions on her claims that every cent from the tax will go towards boosting emergency services.

Budget papers show the new tax will raise an additional \$600 million in the next financial year, but money for emergency services is actually being cut.

The budget reveals 'emergency services capability output' will reduce by \$203 million in the same period.

Shadow Minister for Emergency Services, Danny O'Brien, said this is a revenue measure, not one to support our frontline emergency services.

"The State Government is taxing more and giving less to emergency services.

"If the Premier was true to her word that every cent was going to emergency services, we would not be talking about a \$203 million reduction in funding for the emergency services output.

"Surely the output should be rising, not reducing. This is just another hit to hard-working Victorians, some of which are having to pay double or triple under the new tax."

MP outlines reasons she is in favour of ESFV levy

WHILE Jordan Crugnale MP for Bass was sitting in parliament during last Tuesday's protest, which took place outside of her office in Wonthaggi, prior to this, she outlined her reasons for voting in favour of the levy.

In a post on Facebook, Ms Crugnale stated,

"I know this is a very difficult time for many members of our community, particularly farmers, with drought conditions and bad harvests.

"I have provided feedback to the government that many volunteers who are also farmers have more than one title.

The MP pointed out that farmers in Bass Coast and South Gippsland (declared drought-impacted areas) would be eligible to claim a partial rebate on the ESFV for the 2025/26 financial year.

"This means that these farmers will have no increase in their ESFV levy rates compared to the previous year's Fire Services Property Levy (FSPL)," stated Ms Crugnale.

CFA and SES volunteers and life members will receive a full refund on their primary residence or farm.

Ms Crugnale then detailed the changes the levy brings in, stating firstly that VIC-SES has advocated for a number of years to expand the levy beyond just fire services.

In addition, she stated: The levy guarantees 95 per cent of VIC-SES and CFA funding and 90 per cent of Fire Rescue Victoria (FRV) funding.

It also funds up to 95 per cent of other emergency services such as Triple Zero, FFMVic, State Control Centre, Emergency Recovery Victoria and Emergency Management Victoria.

One hundred per cent of the levy must be spent on emergency services and \$110 million will be invested to deliver a rolling fleet replacement program for VICSES, CFA and FRV.

"We have committed to working on an implementation package for local councils. They currently collect the FSPL, instituted in 2013 following a recommendation in the Bushfire Royal Commission," wrote Ms Crugnale.

"Residential Properties will see an annual median increase of \$63. This is calculated on a property valued at \$650K. There will be an online calculator available next month that people can go to for the exact increase."

Ms Crugnale also pointed out that in December 2024, the State Government announced \$250m in funding for emergency services. This included \$62m to double the VESEP program which funds critical equipment, vehicles and facility upgrades; \$70m to establish a rolling fleet replacement program for VICSES and CFA and \$30m to deliver training and support programs for volunteers.

NEXT RALLY DATE FOR LEVY SET

COMMUNITY members concerned about the new ESFV levy are invited to attend a follow up gathering on Friday, June 13 at 11am at the Apex Park in Wonthaggi.

Jordan Crugnale MP for Bass supported the bill and has been invited to attend and address community members. Respectful and peaceful dialogue is welcome from anyone who wishes to attend.

Hey blokes! Go see your GP

NEXT week, June 9 to 15, is International Men's Health Week and honestly, there isn't a lot for us blokes to celebrate.

If you do nothing else, book an appointment with your local GP or dentist for your annual "grease and oil change" because there are a lot of issues about which we should be aware.

For example, did you know that the leading killer of men under 65 is suicide. So, you're not alone there if you have depression, and for the sake of your family and friends, if not yourself, get professional help, and your local GP is a great starting point.

If you have a diagnosed mental health disorder, your doctor can create a plan to treat it, including allowing you to claim 10 individual and 10 group sessions with an eligible mental health professional each calendar year. Together you can develop strategies that really work, even at the toughest times.

In general terms, though, men in Australia, especially those born in Australia are dying much younger than women, five years younger for those born overseas and six years younger for those born here or 78.3 years compared to 84.3 years for women.

It doesn't have to be that way, and with a better attitude to regular checkups, and taking timely action when issues arise, there's no reason why men should be leaving their life partners so early.

Heart disease is still the leading killer of men in Australia, claiming the lives of more than 10,000 men (nearly 30 a day) in 2023.

But we've all heard the stories, there's virtually nothing they can't do today to treat the many and varied issues of heart disease, so long as we get on it asap.

The mechanics of heart disease is one thing, but there's a lot we can do with a better diet and that's another thing you can do to celebrate Men's Health Week – get your GP to check your heart health and refer you to a dietician.

The other one, of course, is cancer with men 50 per cent more likely than women to die from cancer.

While heart disease is the leading single killer of men in Australia, the combined total of male deaths from different types of cancers is nearly three times higher than deaths from chronic heart disease. We're talking particularly about prostate cancer, melanoma of the skin, and colorectal cancer.

And not forgetting our behaviour on the road. Men and boys are three times more likely to die in road deaths than women and girls. That's an easy place where we can lift our game.

Other men's health issues include injuries, diabetes, kidney and urinary diseases, respiratory diseases and sleep disorders.

And with all of the above, the theme for International Men's Health Week 2025 in Australia is right on the money – 'See Your GP'.

If you are concerned that someone is at risk of suicide and you aren't sure how to talk to them, you can call Lifeline for advice 24/7 on 13 11 14.

Morning tea highlights what's on offer locally

THOSE new to town or feeling a little lonely or in need of something to do discovered an array of activities and social opportunities at a morning tea run by volunteer organisation the South Gippsland Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB) at Leongatha Memorial Hall on Wednesday.

As well as learning about the services the CAB provides, attendees chatted with representatives of community organisations, hearing what they have to offer.

CAB volunteer Judy Hetherington spoke of the importance of building community resilience, and addressing loneliness, particularly among older people, noting there have been quite a few people moving into the area, many of whom are looking to form connections locally.

Ensuring people are aware of what is on offer in Leongatha and surrounds and creating greater awareness of the CAB and its services encouraged Judy and other volunteers to organise the morning tea.

People who have been residents of Leongatha for years sometimes stumble upon the CAB, located in Michael Place opposite the Post Office, commenting, 'I didn't know this existed'.

"We're like a gatekeeper for people, so we can point them in the right direction to access other services, such as those wanting to know who to contact for legal advice or aged care services," Judy said.

Help is available at the CAB with basic tax returns between July and October, those wanting that assistance are urged to ring and make a booking.

Help with energy requirements is also available.

"Tourist information is a big part of what we offer, so there are lots of pamphlets, brochures and maps and local knowledge is always helpful, especially for people visiting from other areas," Judy said.

Leongatha Senior Citizens Club, Treble F Singers, Leongatha Croquet Club, Leongatha Men's Shed, U3A Prom Coast, Leongatha Probus Club, the South Gippsland Singers and Leongatha Community Garden were all represented at the morning tea.

Mary Shipway and Cheryl Lamb of Leongatha Community Garden displayed some of its produce and preserves made by vice president Cheryl.

Mary came to town about five years ago, soon joining the group, highlighting the value of Wednesday's morning tea for recent arrivals in Leongatha and surrounds.

Alan and Hillie Hoy were on hand to chat about Leongatha Probus, the club providing a social outlet rather than being a fundraising organisation, arranging meals out, interesting guest speakers, day trips and more extended tours.

Hopefully, all groups involved in Wednesday's event will gain new members through the exposure it provided.



South Gippsland Citizens Advice Bureau volunteers and committee members Amanda Race-Lyons, Sue McGrath and Judy Hetherington at Wednesday's morning tea in Leongatha. A02_2225



South Gippsland Singers group was represented by Secretary Kerry Rogers and committee member Diane Sheedy at Wednesday's Citizens Advice Bureau morning tea. A04_2225

Leongatha concert a Red Shield Appeal highlight

By Andrew Palocz

AN UPLIFTING brass band concert brought joy to attendees on Saturday at The Salvation Army's Leongatha home, raising funds towards the Red Shield Appeal that will be spent on local programs and initiatives.

That includes running weekly community dinners, the 'Christmas Cheer' program that provides assistance with toys and food for those in need, and a Christmas Day lunch.

"We're also wanting to raise money towards putting in laundry facilities here so that people who don't have those facilities themselves are able to come here and use them," Leongatha Corps Officer Captain Amanda Hart said.

"We've had an amazing response to the Red Shield Appeal this year, and we know that the cost of living is a crisis and it's so difficult to pay for your everyday expenses."

By the end of Saturday's concert, just over \$12,000 had already been raised during the current local fundraising campaign.

That includes efforts such as collecting donations at intersections and selling Red Shield soaps, as well as concert proceeds.

The concert alone brought in over \$1000 through ticket sales, with extra money coming in through café sales



Hannah Richards, Julie Jefferies and Amanda Hart look forward to Saturday's Red Shield Appeal concert. A28_2225

during the event that included Red Shield cookies as well as coffee and tea.

Amanda thanked everyone who has contributed to this year's Appeal, also reminding people there are more Red Shield activities to come.

There'll be a Red Shield market on June 21 at The Salvation Army's Long Street Leongatha home with stalls and food, and people are encouraged to get in touch if they want to run a stall.

"We had a great day with it last year," Amanda said of the community event.

A business challenge is another fundraising initiative this

year, with businesses coming up with ways to raise money for the Red Shield Appeal.

Saturday's concert featured members of the Wonthaggi Citizens Band, along with its training and youth bands, South Gippsland Shire Brass Band, and Warragul Municipal Band.

South Gippsland Shire Brass Band Musical Director Nat Pollard was MC for the afternoon, providing informative and entertaining introductions for upcoming musical pieces and performers.

She encouraged people to join the band, with new members always welcome and

hopes of eventually getting numbers up sufficiently to perform as a marching band when appropriate.

The compositions of Scotsman Alan Fernie proved popular on Saturday, featuring often throughout the afternoon.

Music from the Game of Thrones, and even a piece by Flo Rida, 'My House' appeared in the varied program along with traditional brass numbers.

Amanda praised the efforts of administrator Hannah Richards who was responsible for organising the concert as well as thanking all those who contributed to making the event a success.



The stats, the checks, the challenge

MEN'S Health Week is almost here (June 9 – 15) and there's no better time to take a good, hard look at what's going on under the hood. The stats don't lie, fellas – and they're a bit of a wake-up call. Here's the deal: every day in Australia, 50 men and boys die from preventable causes. That's about 18,000 lives cut short every year – mates, brothers, fathers, sons, gone too soon. And if that doesn't give you pause, know that men in this country are checking out a full five years earlier than women. We're talking 79.6 years on average for men, compared to 84.6 for women. And when you look at blokes born here? The gap grows to six years. The good news? Health checks can save your life. Seriously. They're not just another thing on your to-do list – they're your chance to know your numbers and get ahead of the game. Because here's the thing: heart

disease kills nearly 30 blokes a day, and cancer claims 80. We're 50 per cent more likely than women to die from cancer, and four in five heart deaths under 65 are men. But catching things early can turn the tide. So, what should you be getting checked? The Men's Health Checks breaks it down for you – think of it as your cheat sheet for survival. We're talking about the big seven: your numbers (BMI, blood pressure, cholesterol, blood sugar), your senses (eyes and ears), your down under (you know what I'm talking about), cancer checks, your ticker (heart health), your head (mental health) and your habits (alcohol, diet, exercise). Don't put it off. Make a date – book that check. And tell your mates you got it done. As the AMHF says: be the bloke who breaks the cycle. After all, there's a lot more fun to be had on the right side of 80. So, when's your next health check?



#Knowyourmanfacts this men's health week and help change the tide.



Busy on the tractor or rounding up cows, Dr Claire Joseph welcomes the rise of telehealth, noting that accessing support has never been easier or more convenient for those in rural areas.

It's time to talk men's mental health

By Dr Claire Joseph, Bass Coast Psychology

AS WE mark Men's Health Week, it's a time to pause and reflect on the mental health challenges faced by men across our communities. While the conversation around men's mental health has gained traction in recent years, because of the pressure to remain stoic and self-reliant, there is a silent struggle that many men, particularly farmers, are experiencing.

If you are experiencing persistent irritability, anger, sadness, isolation, loss of interest or motivation, impulsivity, hopelessness, difficulty making decisions and concentrating OR sleeping is hard, it is time to get help.

The first step is asking for help; from a family member or friend, a local GP, a helpline or even a local psychologist.

With the rise of telehealth (talking to a psychologist online or via the phone), seeing a psychologist has never been easier. Telehealth provides everyone with the opportunity to access mental health care within the comfort of their environment and around their demanding schedules, without the barriers of distance or time.

If you don't feel ready or comfortable seeing a psychologist yet, try these:

- Talk to someone you trust
- Call a mental health hotline - see basscoastpsych.com.au/crisissupport
- Link in with peer support networks (Rural Aid for farmers)
- Re-engage in things that bring you happiness and fulfilment
- Add structure/routine/predictability to your life
- Exercise or get outdoors
- Eat well – yes fruit and vegetables are important!
- Get rest
- Practice mindfulness and meditation – apps like Headspace, Calm and in-sight timer can be helpful
- Journal

How to go about seeing a psychologist

SEEING a psychologist can be daunting. Below is the process.

If you would like to access the Medicare rebate the first step is contacting your doctor to request a referral and mental healthcare plan for a psychologist. GPs usually have a list of local psychologists so will provide a suggestion but googling "find a psychologist" will give you many options.

The next step for Medicare recipients and the first step for self-funded clients is contacting the clinic to arrange an initial appointment with one of the psychologists.

Once your appointment is booked, an intake and consent form with the practice policies will be emailed to you for you to review and complete. This usually takes approximately 15 minutes. Information for how to attend your telehealth appointment will also be sent to you at this time.

Pop along for a chat, walk and cuppa with The Man Walk

MEN in Inverloch have been getting together to walk and talk in a positive, inclusive, safe and supportive group for the past few weeks in The Man Walk.

Meeting each Tuesday and Saturday morning at the carpark opposite the Inlet Hotel, the guys do between three and six kilometres, connecting and chatting in an environment free of judgement, expectations and pressure.

The Man Walk was started in 2019 by a man in Kiama called Mark Burns, who began walking for his health and a couple of mates joined him, which then turned into a group and a viral Facebook post.

It was Simon Mills who brought The Man Walk to Inverloch, in April this year, after moving from Queensland, where he had previously participated.

"I was a bit lonely and wanted to talk to some people, and I had a look around for the nearest Man Walk and the nearest one was in Geelong. So, I thought well, I'm going to start my own one."

While the group is still in its early days, Simon comments they have had up to twelve men join them on a Saturday



Simon Mills started The Man Walk in Inverloch with men meeting each Tuesday and Saturday morning.

morning and up to six on a Tuesday morning.

"It's just a short walk for the guys to talk about their feelings or whatever they're going through, even if they don't talk about their feelings, they just talk about the footy or whatever,"

explained Simon. "It's just to let them reach out to other people and have some sort of content with other guys, maybe who are going through the same sort of stuff as they are. It's just a great way to get yourself out there and do something as part

of the community."

The Man Walk is free, for men 18 years and over and is accessible to all, with one walker bringing along his frame and setting the pace.

Even for those guys who don't feel like walking or have mobility issues Simon is happy to sit and chat with them while the walk is on and then they all go for a coffee afterwards.

"Some guys have said to me how much they look forward to it – just time to talk to other guys."

The Larder Inverloch and The Local café in Inverloch, sponsor the group with their hats and their hoodies, which is an important aspect of helping the men feel part of the group, and Simon would welcome any sponsors who would like to contribute.

He also urges men out there to come along and join in.

"The first step is the hardest, if you make that initial attempt to meet the guys, they're all very welcoming, and we all understand what it's like at the start, and we're all really accepting of everyone else."

For more information go to the Facebook page: The Man Walk – Inverloch.

Garry's volunteer work revives GSHS driving program

LEONGATHA'S Garry Jones has never been one to sit still for long.

His life has been full of variety – managing a roadhouse, working in IT, even helping to run a 600-acre dairy farm.

After losing his wife Sue to cancer, Garry found support from neighbours. When they asked him to look after their farm while they took a holiday, he said yes. That short favour turned into three years of farm life with just Garry, his dog, a quad bike, and hundreds of calves.

Eventually, the physical toll caught up, and Garry knew it was time to step away from the farm but he wanted to give something back.

"I owed a debt to the hospital for looking after Sue and our family," he said. He asked about volunteering.

At the time, the driving program had slowed down but Garry helped bring it back. Since then, he's been behind the wheel almost non-stop, taking people to appointments, check-ups and treatments all across the region.

"I've done Foster to Coburg and back in a day," he said.

"It's a long drive, but I love it. People really open up in the car. You get to hear their stories – that's the best part."

With a background in business and a strong sense of respect, Garry takes pride in every trip.

"I treat people the way I'd

want my own family treated. That matters to me."

Volunteering has given Garry a deeper respect for the healthcare system.

"You see what really goes on behind the scenes – the effort, the pressure, the people who go the extra mile. It's made me admire the staff even more."

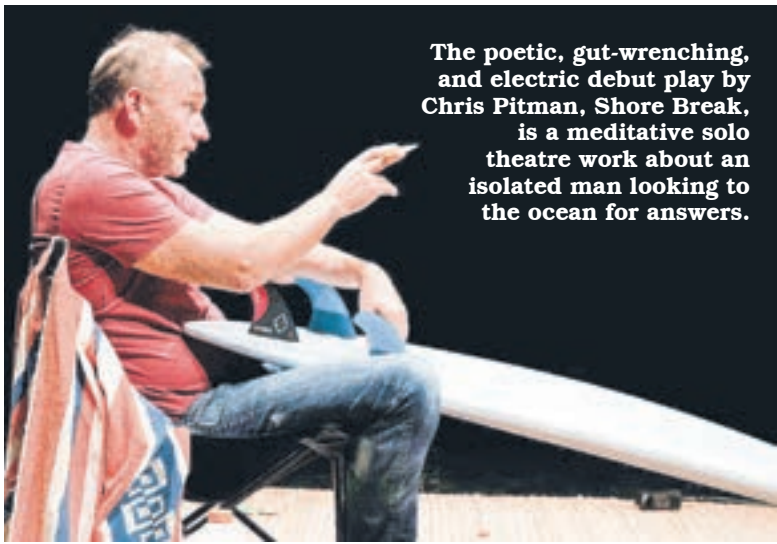
And his advice for anyone thinking about volunteering?

"Do it, but choose something that matters to you, something where you can make a difference. And make sure it brings you joy."

People interested in volunteering at GSHS can contact volunteer coordinator Vicki Riley on Vicki.Riley@gshs.com.au or 5667 5664.



Garry Jones now spends his days driving others to care, reviving Gippsland Southern Health Services driving program.



The poetic, gut-wrenching, and electric debut play by Chris Pitman, *Shore Break*, is a meditative solo theatre work about an isolated man looking to the ocean for answers.

Surfing, mental health, and the power of vulnerability in men

BASS Coast Shire Council is thrilled to announce a groundbreaking one-off event on Wednesday, July 30 at 7.30pm that combines live theatre, expert panels on mental health, as well as the opportunity to discuss mental health, bonding and connect at Berninneit in Cowes. Shore Break is a compelling 75-minute piece of theatre that delves into themes of surfing, masculinity, isolation and the quest for human connection. Berninneit is the first stop on this shows east coast tour, following rave reviews and standing ovations at its Adelaide Festival Centre premiere. Phillip Island is home to the oldest continuously running surf club in Australia. This event

celebrates the authentic allure of the ocean and its profound impact on surfers and beach enthusiasts alike. This deeply moving narrative resonates with audiences from diverse backgrounds, exploring themes of self-discovery and redemption. This solo performance will be followed by a panel including local surfing legend Ross Clarke-Jones, Chris Pitman – the writer and performer of Shore Break and facilitated by mental health expert Paul Milne. Attendees will then be invited for post show nibbles in the foyer. For tickets and more information visit basscoastculturalvenues.com or trybooking.com/events/landing/1362864.

Seeds of hope for men's health

PUBLIC submissions on new clinical guidelines for the early detection of prostate cancer closed last week and clinicians are excited. According to the Prostate Cancer Foundation of Australia, prostate cancer is the second most common cause of cancer-related death among Australian men, claiming the lives of nearly 4000 Australian men every year. In the draft 2025 Guidelines for the Early Detection of Prostate Cancer in Australia, the Prostate Cancer Foundation of Australia states, 'In the eight years since the release of the 2016 Clinical Practice Guidelines for PSA Testing and Management of Test-Detected Prostate Cancer (the 2016 Guidelines)' an estimated 29,078 Australian men have died from prostate cancer. Over future years, projections published in The Lancet Public Health estimate that between 2020 and 2044, 600,329 Australian men will be diagnosed with prostate cancer and 116,385 men will die. In 2024, prostate cancer was one of the top 10 causes of premature death among Australian men, accounting for nearly 42,000 years of life lost. The new guidelines aim to provide evidence-based recommendations for individual risk assessment, decision support, testing, and diagnosis of prostate cancer, while also guiding clinicians on management options like active surveillance and highlighting necessary implementation actions and strategies for priority populations.

When detected early, the survival rate of prostate cancer increases significantly. Dr Floyd Gomes, owner of Korumburra Medical Centre and founder of Mark & Sylvie's Home Care is excited about the new developments in men's health, including the leading cause of death for men in Gippsland, coronary heart disease. "There have been some great breakthroughs in technology," Dr Gomes explained. "There is hope." Dr Gomes is keen for men to test out the new technologies and be part of the change in bringing statistics down in South Gippsland. "Men can really make use of technology and get involved," he continued. "Men can be part of the mounting group of men who do not want to be a statistic. "On the cardiovascular scene there are now CT scans – CT coronary angiograms and calcium scores. It's a low-dose CT scan, nothing too fancy, but it looks at a lot of things. It can see blockages in the arteries." As Dr Gomes highlighted, even the fittest men, who cycle miles daily, can have heart attacks due to family history. "The good news is that there are a lot of pretty simple, quick fixes, that can change the trajectory and outcome for men." Dr Gomes is keen to see men participating in sports and exercise they love and a quick health check can keep all the parts ticking along for years to come.

Not one to shy away from topical subjects either Dr Gomes was keen to highlight healthy ageing in men, and advancements in hormonal therapies, as well as mounting use of weight loss injections. "It's essential for men to ensure that they are maintaining muscle mass if they are taking weight loss injections. Likewise, there are emerging hormonal therapies for men, particularly those involving testosterone replacement therapy. "There are many things men don't speak with their GPs about, but that is what we are here for, there are a lot of exciting developments in men's health and as a GP we are always here to discuss them. "Last, but not, least it's really important for men to maintain their connections to the community, particularly for mental health. "We all know the men who were the life of the party back in their 20s, but as men age they often become more introverted, and that's okay, but it's important for mental health to keep those connections to the community/relationships." The Harvard Study of Adult Development found that 'embracing community helps us live longer, and be happier'. According to the study director, Robert Waldinger, "Loneliness kills. It's as powerful as smoking or alcoholism." So, blokes, pick up the phone, book an appointment with your local GP and have the discussions and tests, ask the weird and odd questions, and prepare to live your fullest life.

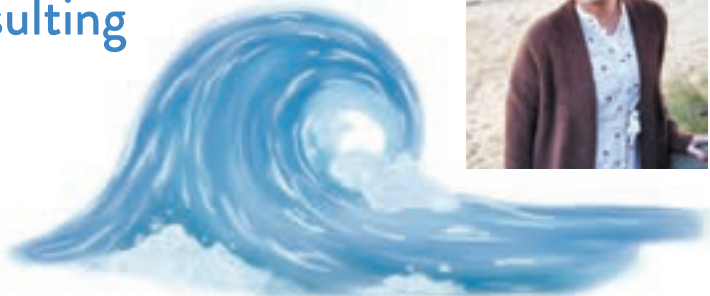
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Geoff Brown is a Volunteer Transport Driver with Bass Coast Health. The healthcare service offers men many ways to volunteer, which helps them build social connections that contribute to good mental health.

BCH cares for the men of Bass Coast and South Gippsland

BASS Coast Health (BCH) is helping local men to be as healthy as possible this Men's Health Week and all year round.

BCH provides a range of services to help men maintain optimal physical and mental health, said BCH's Interim CEO Simone Alexander.

"As your local sub-regional health service, we are committed to supporting the health of men in our community and provide first-class clinicians who help men to live fulfilling, healthy lives," she said.

BCH has a variety of Allied Health services, such as physiotherapy and dietetics, to help with the management of injuries and chronic conditions, recovery from surgery and healthy eating.

BCH offers a comprehensive cardiology service, including consultations with visiting cardiologists, stress echo testing and transthoracic echocardiograms to examine heart function.

Our Rapid Atrial Fibrillation Clinic helps in the management of this cardiac condition that increases one's heartbeat, resulting in blood pooling and subsequent clots, which cause stroke.

BCH is serviced by an extensive list of visiting specialists able to help men with a variety of conditions,



Griffiths Volunteer Gardener Bob Liebnitz enjoys contributing to the residential aged care service at San Remo, and working with residents Bill Cobbin and Eddie Darlow.

such as urology and orthopaedics, bringing more comprehensive care to local people, close to their homes.

BCH's clinical nurse consultants are skilled in areas of health that commonly impact men, such as diabetes, continence and chronic disease management, and work closely with patients to develop management plans that enhance their quality of life.

BCH's counsellors can help to improve mental health by listening intently

and developing strategies to improve wellbeing.

The Social Support Group provides another opportunity for men to interact with others to build relationships and their mental health.

Volunteering with BCH is another way men can improve their mental health and wellbeing by serving the community, helping others and meeting new people.

To learn more about how BCH can help you, or the man in your life, visit basscoasthealth.org.au.

Good ideas for men and their mental health

WITH Men's Health Week, local Bass Coast psychologist Jason Crestani has taken the opportunity to explore how men can get better thinking into their lives and value their self-care – and ultimately their mental health.

"Mental health is not a destination, but a process.

"It's about how you drive, not where you're going.

"We are learning to take the time to eat our veggies and drink more water, but it's good to keep in mind that regular self-care for your good mental health is not a luxury or a time waster.

"Self-care is how you take your power back. It's ensuring you can maintain and cultivate the energy you need to give your best to your life and your loved ones.

"There's an old saying about strength and vulnerability that "the strongest people are not those who show strength in their muscles, but those who show strength in their hearts."

"Rather than just sawing off the legs of the table – take the time to explore how the table can really be better improved."

Here's some ideas for men (and their loved ones and work teams) to cultivate that self-care into their lives and remember along the journey.

1. Create supportive environments, both in the workplace and at home, that encourage open dialogue and reduce the sense of isolation.
2. Make it a habit of mentioning mental health with men. This will help dismantle harmful stereotypes and normalise vulnerability among men.
3. Take a deep breath and remember who you are. Stop and take time out

With Jason Crestani, Inspired Honey Psychology

to breathe purposefully and take the moment out when it's too much.

4. Take note of the negative thoughts and don't just accept them. Question them and challenge them.
5. Like a photographer who changes their angle to get the best shot, take the time to look at your situations from a different perspective.
6. Your present circumstances don't determine where you can go; they merely determine where you start. Give yourself the freedom to seek extra information for alternatives.
7. Don't be hesitant to be you. There is no standard normal. Normal is subjective. There are millions of versions of normal on this planet.
8. Remember what Winnie the Pooh says: "You're braver than you believe, and stronger than you seem, and smarter than you think." – A.A. Milne
9. When you feel frustrated and angry with those around you, remember that sometimes the people around you won't understand your journey. They don't need to; it's not for them.
10. When you're tempted to feel depressed and anxious, know it's okay to make mistakes. It's okay to have bad days and to be less than perfect. Just do what's best for you.

"It's okay to not be okay. You're allowed to scream; you're allowed to cry but just do NOT give up. Take a deep breath and remember who you are."

Happy Men's Health Week!



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basscoasthealth.org.au

Wonthaggi Hospital, 5671 3333
Phillip Island Health Hub, 5951 2100
basscoasthealth.org.au





Donning their yellow outfits are Blaire Davey and Billie Proctor.



Finn McDonald, Jackson Melrose and Reef McDonald wear yellow in support of Children's Ground.

St Paul's reflect during National Reconciliation Week

DURING National Reconciliation Week, educators at St Paul's Anglican Grammar School's Drouin Campus engaged students in a range of meaningful activities to deepen their understanding of the histories and cultures of First Nations people.

Through storytelling, art, music and classroom discussions, students reflected on the theme 'Bridging Now to Next' – the ongoing connection between past, present and future, and explored how everyone can contribute to promoting reconciliation in their everyday lives.

Students were invited to wear yellow and bring a gold coin to support Children's Ground, an organisation that provides tools and resources needed for the education, health and employment of First Nations children. The colour yellow represents First Nations peoples' deep connection to Country and is the colour of the centre of the Aboriginal flag, representing the sun as the giver of life. Students also made cupcakes and decorated them with yellow icing.

On May 26, students commemorated National Sorry Day by creating purple native hibiscus art as a symbol of compassion and reconciliation for First Nations people.



William Elliott creates a purple hibiscus for National Sorry Day.

Students lead reconciliation walk through Inverloch

HUNDREDS of students, staff and community members came together in Inverloch on Thursday, May 29 to take part in a Reconciliation Walk hosted by Inverloch and Kongwak Primary School.

The event, held as part of National Reconciliation Week, saw 490 students, around 60 staff and roughly 50 members of the wider community walk together from the school gates, around the block, and through the Inverloch Recreation Reserve.

Speaking at the reserve, principal Ben Soumilas addressed the crowd, reflecting on key moments in Australia's journey toward reconciliation, including the 1967 referendum, the Mabo decision in 1992, and Corroboree 2000.

"It hasn't just been one straight line," Mr Soumilas said.

"We've made some great progress, but we've also had some setbacks. When we understand each other, we all become more kind and inclusive."

Following his speech, students joined in song, performing a reconciliation-themed musical number that echoed the event's purpose.

Inclusion leader Tash Bird, who also organised the event, said holding the walk in public was a deliberate decision.

"This is a place of education, and we have so many opportunities to educate our students, but this was also an opportunity to educate



Member for Bass, Jordan Crugnale, pictured with Inverloch Primary School captains Reef and Bianca, and principal Ben Soumilas at the Inverloch Recreation Reserve following the Reconciliation Walk. W08_2225



Students make their way through Inverloch during the Reconciliation Walk. W05_2225

the community," she said.

"I always try to think about how we can make an impact beyond the school grounds."

This year marked the second time the school has held the event.

Ms Bird said she was

encouraged to see even more community members join in, including local parents, the Inverloch Childcare Centre and members of the local Reconciliation Group.

Throughout the week, students learned about the

significance of Sorry Day and the Stolen Generations, with each year level reading stories and taking part in age-appropriate activities to deepen their understanding of Australia's history.

"It's an important way to educate the kids around the true history of our country but also what we can do to right some of the terrible wrongs that have happened in our past," Ms Bird said.

"Reconciliation Week is about moving forward from that. It's both an apology and an opportunity to create a better future."

The school also showcased artwork inspired by this year's National Reconciliation Week theme, 'Bridging Now to Next'.

Created by Kalkadoon artist Bree Buttenshaw, the artwork incorporated native plants to symbolise resilience, growth and renewal. Each class reflected on what they do well now to promote reconciliation – and what they could improve – with parents also invited to share their input. The school plans to use this feedback to refresh its Reconciliation Action Plan.

Ms Bird, who has worked at the school for four years, said organising events like this is deeply rewarding.

"This is the work that fills my cup," she said.

"Seeing the community come together in this way and support people who have been suppressed for so long – I find it really positive work."

Newhaven College walks for Reconciliation Week 2025

NOW in its fifth year, Newhaven College students, staff, and parents gathered once again – despite chilly winds and light rain – to walk two laps of the school oval in a powerful show of solidarity and respect for First Nations Peoples. National Reconciliation Week, observed from May 27 to June 3, marks two key milestones in Australia's reconciliation journey: the 1967 referendum and the High Court's historic Mabo decision.

Newhaven College proudly supports Reconciliation Week each year and honours the region's rich Indigenous heritage. The College formally acknowledges the Boonwurrung/Bunurong people of the Kulin Nation as the Traditional Custodians of the land. This acknowledgment is respectfully delivered by staff, teachers, or students before all school gatherings.

The Newhaven College community used their feet to show their respect and support for Reconciliation Week, with the whole school community walking around the oval to raise awareness and support the reconciliation process. Year 9 student, River Hume, a



Year 12 Art student Sienna Bell (left) designed and painted the 'Bridging Now to Next' banner. She and fellow Year 12 student Mackenzie Slidders led the walk with the banner.

Boonwurrung of the Yallock-Bullock clan, welcomed everyone to Country before the walk commenced.

The 'Bridging Now to Next' banner was designed and painted by Year 12 Art student Sienna Bell, and she and friend Mackenzie Slidders led the walk around the oval with the banner. After the walk, Junior and Middle School students participated in class

activities while learning more about reconciliation and what it means to us all.

Reconciliation Week is one of the most important weeks in the Newhaven College calendar. It is important to teach young people to be respectful and to create and strengthen relationships with Aboriginal people and Torres Strait Islanders. We all have so much to learn from the oldest living

culture in the world, especially about how to look after the land and seas.

This year's theme of 'Bridging Now to Next' is a reminder for all Australians to reflect on the ongoing connection between past, present and future, and calls on all Australians to step forward together, to look ahead and continue the push forward as past lessons guide us.

Bass Coast Health launches inaugural Reconciliation Action Plan

BASS Coast Health (BCH) is committed to providing culturally safe care to the First Nations People of the Bass Coast and South Gippsland.

In a sign of this commitment, BCH launched its first Reflect Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) at Wonthaggi Hospital during Reconciliation Week.

The RAP lists BCH's actions over 12 months towards providing culturally accessible, responsive and safe health services to the community.

Health is an area of significant disadvantage for First Nations Peoples and BCH is committed to improving the community's health outcomes.

BCH Interim CEO Simone Alexander said the plan was endorsed by Reconciliation Australia to guide BCH in furthering its efforts in fostering reconciliation with First Nations Peoples.

"Reconciliation action plans recognise that at the heart of reconciliation is the relationship between the broader Australian community and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples," she said.

"The plans contribute to creating opportunities for these meaningful relationships to be established and nurtured. This plan demonstrates our aspirations to enhancing the health of our First Nations People, knowing that good health is vital to them enjoying their lives to the fullest."

As examples of creating culturally safe and welcoming places, two wards at Wonthaggi Hospital bear First



Members of Bass Coast Health's Reconciliation Action Plan Working Group with copies of the plan, from left, Steve Fuery, Jane Ori, Jess Jude, Fiona Christensen, Dion Triptree, Kristen Yates-Matthews, Lauren O'Dwyer and Interim CEO Simone Alexander. Absent: Darelle Van Haaster, Aunty Doseena Fergie and Hope Thomas.

Nations gifted names and First Nations artwork proudly hangs in public places at the hospital.

The new Phillip Island Community Hospital at Cowes will also feature First Nations artworks.

"To optimise the care we provide, we have a dedicated Aboriginal Health team of an Aboriginal Clinical Nurse Consultant and Aboriginal Health Nurse, who are supported by our Elder-in-Residence Aunty Professor Doseena Fergie and guided by our First Peoples Advisory Committee who are community representatives," Ms Alexander said.

Other actions implemented by BCH so far have been:

- the increased identification of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples on admission
- the formation of the First Peoples Advisory Committee, which has been consulted about the expansion of the health service
- an Aboriginal representative

on the Bass Coast Health Community Advisory Committee, which reports to the Board

- the development of a culturally safe environment for patients and staff through the ongoing education of all staff
- the display of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander flags at the front of Wonthaggi Hospital.

The RAP launch featured a Welcome to Country, Smoking Ceremony and speeches. Uncle Mik Edwards of Bunurong Land Council said, "Reconciliation is not just a word we make up for one week a year; it lasts forever. It lasts for every blink you take, every step you take."

Dion Triptree, Co-Chair of BCH's First People's Advisory Committee, said, "I'm proud to see how Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander voices are not only present but are guiding Bass Coast Health towards being culturally safe and towards genuine reconciliation."

"Bass Coast Health is not just committed to listening but committed to walking alongside our First Nations People with respect and courage."

Darelle Van Haaster, BCH's Aboriginal Health Clinical Nurse Consultant, read a message on behalf of Aunty Professor Doseena Fergie, who is also Co-Chair of BCH's First People's Advisory Committee.

"I am pleased to say that this health service is committed to collaborating with the community to bring about positive culturally appropriate changes within its system so that Aboriginal and Torres Strait community members will feel culturally safe to participate."

"The outcome has been a steady increase in First Peoples utilising this service, thereby contributing to closing the gap in health inequities."

The RAP is available on BCH's website: basscoasthealth.org.au/reconciliation-action-plan.



Presented by The Hills Are Alive and Ocean Sounds Birdz and Fred Leone will take to The Union on July 5.

Birdz and Fred head to The Union

BIRDZ and Fred are cousins by family, but brothers in music. Both artists hail from Ngulungbura Clan of the Butchulla nation with Fred Leone being one of the three Butchulla songmen.

Their new EP's title, 'Girra', means fire in the Butchulla language and pays homage to their traditional language, roots and identity.

A perfect pairing of Birdz's sharp, poetic, rhythmic, lyricisms fused with Aboriginal Creole and Fred's soaring vocals in both Butchulla and English.

This collaboration builds on the success of their hit single Bagi-La-m Bargan. Between them, they have collaborated and toured with the likes of Public Enemy, Missy Higgins, John Butler, Xavier Rudd, Dead Prez, Amanda Palmer and many more iconic artists.

Fred's role as a Songman sees him as one of the custodians of the traditional songs of the Butchulla tribe and one of a handful of keepers and custodians of their language.

The duo will be performing at The Union Theatre, Wonthaggi on Saturday, July 5 at 7.30pm – don't miss out, secure your tickets today.

Warnings: GIRRA music and storytelling explore mature themes such as social justice, cultural identity, and resilience.

Celebrating Refugee Week with Il Capitano

The refugee support group, South Gippsland Rural Australians for Refugees (SGRAR), cordially invites the community to celebrate Refugee Week in 2025.

The award-winning film; Il Capitano, about two teenagers who set out on a journey of their lives across the globe will be screened in celebrating the week.

The idea to celebrate Refugee Week originated in Australia in 1983, proposed by the founding president of the Refugee Council of Australia (RCOA) Major-General Paul Cullen. Australia's first celebration was held in 1986 in Sydney. The idea spread globally and since 2001 Refugee Week became a world-wide celebration of the rich and varied contributions that refugees make to communities.

"The theme this year is Seeking Freedom in Diverse Community which is the story of our speaker for 2025, a high achieving woman whose family came to Australia to seek freedom and remained to contribute to our free, diverse community," noted Felicia Di Stefano.

"In fact, freedom and diversity is the story of Wonthaggi and the Bass Coast; a diverse, free community to which refugees and people seeking asylum who join us contribute and through which we all share in the benefits."

Since forming in 2003, SGRAR have played a pivotal role in three waves of refugees who have joined the diverse Bass Coast community; the South Sudanese people, the Karen people and now the Syrian people.

"Each group of immigrants escaped bombs, starvation and displacement to arrive in the Bass Coast and find freedom, welcome and generous Bass Coast people sharing and helping in every way. Many who came are now valued members and contributors to our community as well as our friends."

On Sunday, June 22 at 2pm SGRAR will celebrate all refugees and their contributions to our free community and nation.

For booking and more information: trybooking.com/events/landing/1375296

Strong community support for Bass Coast Winter Shelter

THE Bass Coast Winter Shelter is one step closer to becoming a reality, with 44 local volunteers now fully trained and ready to support this vital initiative.

Organised by the Inter-church Council of Phillip Island, the shelter will provide evening meals, safe overnight accommodation and a place of connection for people experiencing homelessness across the region.

Behind the scenes, volunteers have already begun supporting key operational areas such as administration, coordination, accounts and training.

Once the shelter opens, the remaining volunteers will take on frontline roles, including driving and providing support across three evening shifts per night.

Volunteers recently completed comprehensive, face-to-face training, covering topics such as homelessness, trauma-informed care, mental health, shelter operations and safety protocols – ensuring the team is well-equipped to provide compassionate, informed support.

"I volunteer at Phillip Island Community and Learning Centre (PICAL) and have seen how much need there is here on the Island. Many people are struggling to make ends meet and it can happen so quickly," trained Winter Shelter volunteer Sandra

Dentry said.

"There are a variety of people experiencing homelessness here, but unlike the city, it's hidden. I often meet women, just like me. We are all vulnerable, any one of us could experience homelessness in our lifetime."

"The volunteer training was great. It really did confirm the need for a winter shelter in our region."

An additional 37 people have registered their interest in volunteering, a further show of local support for the shelter's mission.

A final training session will soon be held for those individuals.

Michael, a Phillip Island resident who has been experiencing homelessness since September last year, knows firsthand how urgently this shelter is needed.

"It wasn't a crisis or a major event. I had a good job but just couldn't find a rental that would accept me and my dog, Toast," he said.

"It wasn't about money – it was about availability and suitability. I'm living in my car now and doing my best to stay respectful and move around."

On the shelter, Michael is clear.

"It's a borderline necessity. Homelessness isn't always caused by crisis. Sometimes, it's just the harsh reality of the housing market today," he said.

Planning for the inaugural Bass Coast Winter Shelter was for a June 1 launch.

However, this date will be pushed out, as securing the necessary planning and building permits is proving more complex and time-consuming than expected.

Once operational, the shelter will provide up to three nights of accommodation each week during June, July and August in Cowes.

The program will be open to guests from across the Bass Coast region, with all guests assessed for suitability to ensure safety and wellbeing for all involved.

To bring the shelter to life this winter, organisers are now calling on the community to help raise the final \$8000 needed to reach the \$20,000 target.

Nearly \$12,000 has already been pledged through generous community donations.

"Since announcing the shelter, we've been overwhelmed by the generosity of the community," project coordinator Wendy Elson said.

"People have stepped forward to volunteer, donate and lend support in every way imaginable."

A local philanthropist from Wonthaggi has donated \$3700 toward essential permits.

PICAL has provided a trailer for daily operations and other donations have helped purchase bedding and supplies.



Sandra Dentry recently completed volunteer training for the Bass Coast Winter Shelter.

Financial support has also come from Housing Matters Bass Coast, St John's Uniting Church, the Baptist Church of Cowes, St Philip's Anglican Church, the Lions Club of Phillip Island, and many others.

"This is a true community effort," Wendy said.

"Now we're reaching out to everyone – every dollar helps. Your donation, no matter the size, will go directly to essentials like food and heating. Together, we can make a real difference this winter."

To donate or learn more, visit basscoastwintershelter.wordpress.com.



Jill receiving her award from Inverloch VIEW president, Heather.

Jill received 20 years with sights on Making a Difference

At the May meeting of the Inverloch VIEW Club a special award was presented to long-time member, Jill Widmer.

Jill joined Inverloch VIEW Club over 20 years ago and shortly after joining became a member of the committee. Up until her retirement from the committee this year, she has served continuously in almost every position, always carrying out her roles with dedication, humour and grace.

Last week she was presented with her twenty-year VIEW badge and also a letter from VIEW headquarters, advising her that she is to receive a Making a Difference Award. This award honours her dedication and enthusiasm for many things, including organising entertainment for the members' enjoyment at special birthday and Christmas meetings and taking on any committee role where she was needed.

She epitomises the VIEW guiding principles of "supporting and caring", "inclusive and welcoming" and "collaborative and future-looking".

Jill's warm smile, kind heart, her willingness to help out and her caring nature have endeared her to all the members and we, as a group, are proud to have her as a member of our club. Congratulations on this very well-deserved award, Jill.

LIFE Moments



SOPHIE Sara Kennedy was born at Bass Coast Health on May 7, 2025, weighing 4.08kg and measuring 53cm. She is the second child for Sara Gillbee and Stephen Kennedy of Wonthaggi, and a dearly loved little sister for Frank.



WITH joy and gratitude, Victor and Mimmie Ng are delighted to announce the safe arrival of Macy Abigail Ng, born at 3:55pm on Friday, May 16 at Leongatha Hospital. Cherished granddaughter of Carol Kwok and Wai Ming Ng (dec.); Pat Jackson; and Rod and Judy Jackson. We are deeply thankful for the care provided by the wonderful midwives and doctors. Abigail was discerning and beautiful — 1 Samuel 25:3.

Volunteers awarded at Bass Coast Health's annual Volunteer Celebration

Bass Coast Health (BCH) paid tribute to the 134 active volunteers who help the public health service to deliver care to the community, at the annual Volunteer Celebration during National Volunteer Week.

They were acknowledged for their contribution across the health service at Wonthaggi, San Remo and Cowes. BCH also presented awards to long-serving volunteers.

Volunteers help BCH through its concierge service, transport driving, residential care visiting, gardening, our Community Advisory Committee, way-finding, administration, ward visiting and auxiliaries.

BCH's Interim Chief Executive Officer Simone Alexander said when most people think of a health service, they tend to think of doctors and nurses caring for the sick and injured in beds in hospital wards.

"Yet behind the scenes, there is another group of people working hard to help people in their time of need or raising funds for medical equipment that helps us to care for our community," she said.

"We're so grateful for the dedication our Volunteers show, the empathy they display, and the time and effort they contribute so that others may benefit."

BCH presented service awards to these longstanding Volunteers:

- Five years: Graeme Bright, Toni Cornelius, Alison Dixon, Amanda Drennan, Joan Gaunt, Terry Hall, Ross Kelly, Alan Pittard, David Scrase and Grant Wadeson
 - 10 years: Marie Mills – Griffiths Point Lodge, Songs of Praise
 - 20 years: Barbara Culph – BCH Ladies Auxiliary
 - 25 years: Candy Pile – Armitage House.
- Achievements of the Volunteer team during the 2024-25 financial year included:
- 35 volunteer drivers providing an average of 130 drives a month
 - regular transport being provided for patients receiving dialysis and chemotherapy



Volunteers to receive five-year service awards were, from left, Joan Gaunt, Amanda Drennan, David Scrase, Toni Cornelius and Terry Hall, with Bass Coast Health's Volunteer and Fundraising Manager Kerry Redmond and Coordinator Snezana Colley. Absent: Alison Dixon, Ross Kelly, Alan Pittard, Grant Wadeson and Graeme Bright.

- Volunteer gardeners giving 468 hours of service to maintaining gardens at Wonthaggi Hospital and Griffiths Point Lodge residential aged care at San Remo
- Concierge volunteers providing 312 hours of welcoming consumers and directing them where to go
- Volunteer wayfinders helping consumers to find their way around the hospital over 1248 hours, and also helping teams to collate files. Wayfinders can walk up to five kilometres a shift
- Administration volunteers giving 640 hours of their time to help compile patient packs and volunteer packs, filing, printing, laminating and helping the volunteer team
- Theatre volunteers serving for 780 hours, supporting patients and their loved ones after procedures. On average they give out up to 30 cups of tea and sandwiches per shift, wipe down more than 30 chairs and change 30 beds
- Armitage House volunteers supported consumers and helped staff with diversional therapy such as colouring, painting and puzzles, over 250 hours
- Griffiths Point Lodge volunteers, over 1144 hours,

visited residents at least once a week, helping with diversional therapy and listening to residents. Volunteers also ran the singing sessions, Songs of Praise

- Kirrak House volunteers have contributed more than 400 hours for the year, helping with diversional therapy and engaging with residents
- Community Group Volunteers have provided more than 400 hours, collecting consumers from their homes and bringing them to BCH to engage with others and to participate in activities. This program also runs offsite at places such as cafes, lunches and trips to the library.

BCH's Auxiliaries have raised a tremendous amount of funds. Their activities included:

- Inverloch Fundraising Auxiliary: giving \$4950 for a hospital bed in the L. Rigby Cancer Centre, helping at the BCH Footy Day celebration and now fundraising for iPads, a cuddle bed and a fold-out couch
- Phillip Island Health Hub Auxiliary: held the Woolamai Race Day, trivia nights, barbecues and markets, donated funds to supply a trolley and diagnostic machine for Midwifery, and now fundraising for the upgrade of two

anaesthetic machines for the Phillip Island Community Hospital

- Inverloch Art Show Auxiliary: held a record-breaking art show over Easter that made a \$10,000 profit to buy food boxes for community members in need
- BCH Ladies Auxiliary: funded plants for the garden at Armitage House, and a resuscitation cot and battery pack. They held a fete, Christmas in July stall, stalls at the hospital and raffles. In 2025 they are fundraising to buy six syringe pumps for Armitage House
- San Remo Op Shop Auxiliary: have donated \$1 million over the shop's operation, and are now fundraising for 20 hospital beds and two Cardiotocography machines for monitoring fetal heart rates and uterine contractions in Maternity.

In other volunteer roles, BCH's Community Advisory Committee provides community insight into Board decisions, helps to design community engagement and more. BCH's Consumer Associates Hilary Kerrison and Terry Shannon sit on various committees and panels, support strategic planning and service development and lead site tours.

Students at LSC get a taste of the Arts and Technology

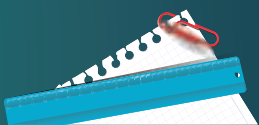
AS PART of Arts/Tech Week (May 26-30), Leongatha Secondary College invited a range of guest speakers to share their experiences and insights with their students.

These presenters have successfully built careers in the arts and technology industries, and their stories highlight the many diverse and exciting pathways available for our students. Their journeys are a powerful reminder that with passion, resilience, and determination, students can carve out their own creative futures.

Students were also fortunate to hear from current students who are studying in Arts and Technology courses or completing apprenticeships. Their first-hand experiences offered invaluable guidance and inspiration to our students as they consider their own future pathways. The school community is very grateful to the presenters for their time.



Ex-student Sam Cross gives Blaze Johns some hands on experience in filming.



Head of St Paul's Drouin Junior School, Rowan van Raay, with Drouin students at the Anniversary Service in Warragul.

Looking to the future and celebrating the past

ST PAUL'S Anglican Grammar School Drouin Campus students recently adopted a long-held tradition, gathering together with Warragul Campus students as a united school community to celebrate a significant annual school service – the 43rd anniversary of the school.

The event brought together students from Prep to Year 12 from across both campuses in a special assembly that honoured

the school's rich history and growing future.

The school welcomed Warragul Anglican Church Rector, The Reverend Daniel Gebert, and Anglican Bishop of Gippsland, The Right Reverend Dr Richard Treloar, who gave the rededication and shared, "As well as celebrating what has come before, our Anniversary Service is a great time to recognise and commit to our role in shaping the future of the School."

Continuing with tradition, students enthusiastically sang "Happy Birthday" to the school, a joyful highlight of the event.

St Paul's commenced with 19 students in 1982 in the Sunday School rooms of St Paul's Anglican Church in Warragul. Since then, the school has grown to be a leading independent, co-educational school of approximately 1900 students across three campuses in Drouin, Warragul and Traralgon.

Over the years, the school has grown steadily, adding a primary school in 1998 and a kindergarten in 1999. The Traralgon Campus was established in 2002 and now accommodates over 640 students from Pre-Kinder to Year 10, expanding next year to include VCE. Continuing this trajectory, the new Drouin Campus opened its doors this year for students from Pre-Kinder to Year 3 and will grow annually to reach Year 6.

FutureBound provides a taste of university life

THIS month, Country Universities Centre (CUC) Bass Coast brought its FutureBound Program to Year 9 students at Leongatha Secondary College, in partnership with Swinburne University.

FutureBound is an engaging, hands-on program designed to widen participation in higher education for regional students.

Delivered by current Swinburne University students, the Year 9 groups had the opportunity to explore whether university might be the right path for them through a range of interactive workshops in areas including law, engineering, film and TV, exercise physiology and design.

Funded through the Federal Government's Regional Partnerships Project Pool Program (RPPPP) and supported by the South Gippsland and Bass Coast Local Learning and Employment Network, the program aims to give young people a taste of university life and demonstrate the many different ways higher education can work for them.

CUC Bass Coast Education Program Coordinator Rhett McLennan highlighted the importance of this initiative in regional communities:

"People living in regional Australia are less likely to access higher education. More than 50 per cent of our current students are the first in their family to go to university, and as someone who was the first in my family to go to university I understand firsthand how important initiatives like this are. The FutureBound program helps plant the seed early, showing young people that university is a possible pathway they may like to explore down the track," he said.

"We believe every student deserves access to educational opportunities, regardless of where they live. By bringing university experiences directly into schools like Leongatha Secondary College, we're helping to bridge that gap."

Leongatha Secondary College Year 9 Coordinator Nenad Tarlac said "the program provided a chance for our students to explore different workshops and learn through current university students. It was fantastic to see our students so engaged and curious to ask questions and start thinking about future pathways. We are very grateful to CUC and Swinburne for supporting our regional students in planning for the future."

CUC Bass Coast has now delivered FutureBound to over 700 local students across four secondary schools in South Gippsland and Bass Coast. The program is delivered free of charge and held on-site at schools.

CUC is a dedicated local learning hub that collaborates with schools, tertiary partners, and other educational organisations to expand opportunities for students throughout the region. Established in 2020, the Centre currently has over 200 registered students – the highest number of registrations to date. Students have access to the Centre seven days a week, providing high speed technology, academic mentoring and a network of like-minded students to create a community learning environment.

For more information, please give the team a call on 0472 741 451 or visit cucbasscoast.edu.au

Celebrating excellence at Cowes PS

COWES Primary School held its Term 2 Excellence Lunches to coincide with Education Week recently.

It was a wonderful celebration of the achievements of the students with their parents and teachers invited to attend the celebratory lunch.

The quality of work on display and the high level of skill demonstrated by the students was extremely impressive.

Congratulations to the students who received an Excellence Award.

RIGHT Cowes Primary School senior students with their Excellence Awards.



Cowes students take part in National Simultaneous Storytime

THE Grade 1 students from Cowes Primary School walked to the local library for National Simultaneous Storytime on Wednesday, May 21.

National Simultaneous Storytime is held annually by the Australian Library and Information Association.

Every year, a picture book, written and illustrated by an Australian author and illustrator, is read simultaneously in libraries, schools, homes, bookshops and many other places around the country.

The students were able to listen

to this year's story The Truck Cat at the local library, where they also learnt a little more about the Berninnet Cultural Centre.

Students were very excited to complete the activities based on this year's book.

The school thanked the library staff who organised the event and the wonderful parent volunteers who joined in.

RIGHT Cowes Primary School's Grade 1 students enjoyed The Truck Cat during National Simultaneous Storytime.



Streeton Court Big Band heads to Inverloch

Formed in 2012 at the Inverloch Yacht Club, the Streeton Court Big Band has grown from humble beginnings to become a cherished part of the local music scene. The band originally rehearsed in the Musical Director's home on Streeton Court – hence the name – before moving to larger premises at the Salvation Army Church in Leongatha to accommodate its growing size.

As with many community music groups, the Streeton Court Big Band's members span generations, from teenagers to seasoned senior citizens. Drawing talent from across South and West Gippsland, the band includes former players from Sophisticated Swing and Out of the Blue Orchestra, as well as musicians from San Remo, Leongatha, Korumburra, Warragul, Trafalgar, and Traralgon.

The Streeton Court Big Band has long been a fixture at the Inverloch Jazz Festival and has played a diverse array of local events – from the Wonthaggi Tractor Show to private parties and even a Remembrance Day concert at Traralgon.

On Friday, June 6, the band will take the stage at the Warrawee Club in Inverloch, treating audiences to a vibrant selection of 1940s swing classics by Basie and Ellington, along with hits by Michael Bublé and Earth, Wind and Fire. With a roster of talented male and female vocalists, the evening promises to be a captivating musical journey.

Doors open at 7pm for a 7.30pm show-time, so gather your friends and family for an evening of great music – this is one show you won't want to miss!

Seating is allocated on payment, for more information on details on how to book visit warraweeclub.com/special-events or call 5672 5263 for enquiries.

Wickedly delightful, yet humorously sinful, it's graveyard glee

No spoilers... I promise.

WHAT a delightfully eerie performance! With haunting harmonies, bone-rattling dancing, and enough spooky twists to please even the most morbidly curious, Wonthaggi Theatrical Group's *The Addams Family* musical has it all – and it's in its final week, so don't miss your chance to descend into this deliciously dark world.

While it's easy to be mesmerised by the charismatic leads – particularly Jay Nelson's captivating Gomez – the real magic pulses through the ensemble. From the shadows, the dancestors and vocal ensemble breathe life into every cobwebbed corner of the Addams mansion: Alana Eddy, Anthea Donohue, Dale Donohue, Eve Leversha, Finn Campbell Walker, Hayden Aldwell-Smith, Jaz Hendry, Kayley Lockhart, Lachlan Denbrok, Luciano Finsterer, Matilda Abraham, Nissa Campbell Walker, Phoebe Helps, Rebecca Slavin, Angeliqe Bodaan, Danni Dennis, Elsa Osabutey, Finn Farley, Jacqueline Bodaan, Kyla McKenzie, Nola Maxfield and Tilly Webber.

From gliding set pieces across the stage like phantoms to belting out chorus numbers that would wake the dead, this ensemble proves it's not just the living who can



Last week and tickets are selling fast! Don't miss out! Photo: Mark Durey.

steal the show, or one particular ancestral strong man's muscles. Their ghoulishly good work is the glue holding this creepy, kooky, and delightfully morbid spectacle together.

A special shoutout to the show's script, which sparkles with witty one-liners and a wry, grown-up sense of humour that sails blissfully over children's heads, a delicious layer of adult amusement for the grown-ups in the audience. For the more mature, the pieces are cleverly ghastly

and delightfully sophisticated – enough to entertain without offending even the most prudish.

Though the storyline focuses on Wednesday Addams and the introduction of her boyfriend and his parents, at its heart is Gomez's hilarious yet heartfelt internal struggle. Jay Nelson delivers a grimly comical performance that embodies everything one could imagine of Gomez.

And last but not least, let's not forget the underrated Pugsley, played by Jude Fisher,

whose darkly humorous performance deserves special praise.

To all of *The Addams Family* cast and crew: congratulations on a twisted, wickedly delightful show, and chookas for the final five performances!

Don't miss your chance to see Wonthaggi Theatrical Group's *The Addams Family* this Thursday (7.30pm), Friday (7.30pm), Saturday (2pm and 7.30pm), and Sunday (2pm). Go once or a handful – it's macabrely moreish!



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Tristan Ross to play for veteran's health awareness

MUSIC fans will have a unique opportunity to enjoy an afternoon of entertainment while supporting a great cause on Sunday, June 15, at the Inlet Hotel in Inverloch.

Renowned musician Tristan Ross will join Dale Ryder, the lead singer of Boom Crash Opera, for an acoustic performance dedicated to raising awareness about veteran suicide, homelessness, and addiction. The event, starting at 2.30pm, invites attendees to donate on entry, with funds supporting the Veteran Advocacy Centre in Boronia.

Ross, who regularly performs and contributes to initiatives near his hometown of Anglesea, emphasised the importance of events like these.

"When you do events like these, I think to myself if it saves one person, then it's all worth it," he said.

"My job is easy. We come and play some music and entertain. It's all thanks to our soldiers and everyone that's served. It's the only reason we're still here."

The performance promises to include beloved hits from Boom Crash Opera alongside a broad range of covers from the 60s to today.

Ross encourages locals and visitors alike to attend, promising "a great show" and "a big party" atmosphere. He also hopes the event sparks ongoing conversations about these pressing issues.

"I hope the people who are struggling realise that there is support there. I'm hoping they realise they're not alone," Ross said.

"And for the rest of us there to enjoy the day, I hope we can help spread some awareness about these issues. We've got a lot to be thankful for."

Laurence Quinn, a veteran who served six years in the Australian Army and deployed to Afghanistan in 2012, praised the event's impact.

"It's immensely powerful,



Musician Tristan Ross will perform at the Inlet Hotel on June 15 to raise awareness for veteran suicide, homelessness, and addiction.

and it allows members of the community to talk about these topics outside of traditional remembrance days and put a real-world perspective on them, all while enjoying great music," Quinn said.

Quinn highlighted how veterans often face isolation and a lack of support after leaving the Defence Force, making such events vital for building community awareness and providing pathways to help.

"We really want to raise awareness that there are veterans who, due to a lack of transitional support and understanding, fall into isolated environments," Quinn

explained.

"Hopefully, this builds bridges of understanding and mateship."

Ross, reflecting on music's role in his life, described how performing has positively influenced his mental health.

"My life isn't perfect. I have my own issues as well, but if it wasn't for music, they'd be a lot bigger," he shared.

During the COVID-19 lockdowns, when live music came to a halt, Ross turned to online streaming to stay connected. He began hosting live performances on Facebook, which unexpectedly grew into something much bigger.

"There were probably around 200 people watching the streams, and in the end, it was more about connection than music," he said.

"I told my wife that I don't think people are even watching me for the music, they're really just watching because they're all connected online, just chatting."

What started as a virtual performance became the foundation for a growing community. Viewers, who were once strangers, began forming friendships. Many of them now attend Ross' live shows and even spend time together outside of the events.

"This group comes together for my shows, and they didn't know each other before," Ross said.

"Now I see them going away together, organising trips, and staying connected. We're all friends on Facebook now. It's one of the things I'm most proud of. Just another way music can bring people together."

Ross's musical journey began when he started playing guitar at the age of nine. By 14, he was performing in bands, continuing through to his 30s. After marrying and becoming a father of four, he shifted away from touring and embraced cover gigs at pubs, allowing him to stay close to home. Eventually, he turned music into a full-time career and, in recent years, has started performing in bands again alongside his solo acoustic work.

The performance on June 15 is proudly supported by local businesses and organisations, including Clancy's Printing Service, Inverloch Community Hub, Casella and Calabria Wines, Nonna's Bakery, and The Inlet Hotel itself.

Community members and music enthusiasts alike are encouraged to support this amazing cause and enjoy an afternoon of exceptional live entertainment.



French Onion Soup



By Meg Viney

Ingredients

- 500 gm finely sliced onions (mandoline is excellent for this)
- 2 tbsp butter
- 1 tbsp olive oil
- ½ tsp brown sugar (helps onions caramelise)
- 1 ½ litres beef stock
- ¼ cup white wine
- 2 tbsp flour
- Several rounds of French bread, lightly toasted
- 1 cup grated Swiss cheese

Method

Melt the oil and butter in a stock-pot.

Add onions, sugar and salt, lid on and cook over a low heat for 20 minutes or until golden.

Sprinkle in flour and stir well. Off the heat, add the stock and wine, stirring to prevent lumps from forming.

Continue to cook over a low heat, covered, for a further 40 minutes.

Taste for seasoning. Preheat oven to 200.

Ladle 1 ½ cups stock into a bowl for each guest, place the toast on top and sprinkle liberally with Swiss cheese.

Turn oven to grill and place the bowls in the oven on a tray until golden and bubbling.

Get your tickets for the Gippsland Symphony Orchestra

THE Gippsland Symphony Orchestra (GSO) will mark a decade of music with an anniversary concert at the Yarram Regent Theatre on Sunday, June 15.

The concert is titled 'Symphonic Journeys: The First,' borrowing from Beethoven's Symphony No. 1, a pivotal work that ushered in the Romantic era and cemented Beethoven's legacy as a musical innovator. The performance will even feature the dramatic King Stephen Overture, highlighting Beethoven's orchestral mastery.

Joining the GSO are the Gippsland Chamber Singers, a talented West Gippsland-based ensemble formed in 2020. Known for their diverse repertoire spanning medieval to modern, they will enrich the performance with vocal works from Purcell's 'Dido and Aeneas', Faure, and Beethoven.

This special concert reflects the GSO's commitment to high-quality regional performance and its growing influence across Gippsland's arts scene.

Tickets are available now: \$25 for adults, \$20 concession and \$15 for under-18s.

Stay tuned for next week's edition, where we speak with David Williams OAM – the GSO's founder, president, and conductor – about the orchestra's journey and what's next for this celebrated local institution.

WEDNESDAY 1pm - 3pm

THURSDAY 7pm - 9pm

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Cathie Beenie and Eva Fakos are enjoying the opening night of the David Williamson play Emerald City. B07_2225



Zaina Nehme and Emma Yench at the Black Box Theatre on Phillip Island for the opening night of David Williamson's Emerald City. B11_2225



South Gippsland Citizens Advice Bureau volunteers Leon Burgher, Daryl Mazonowicz and Di Newton are ready to explain available services. A05_2225



Bruce Grainger and Mark Eva share what the group has to offer and are keen to chat with people about the upcoming production of Footloose. A06_2225



Meredith Birnie and Bernadette Grainger of Treble F Singers are keen to welcome more members at Wednesday's Citizens Advice Bureau morning tea in Leongatha. A09_2225



Clem, Janine, Bernadette, Simon and Allison attended the Black Box Theatre for opening night of the Offshore Theatre Group's Emerald City. B06_2225



Leongatha Community Garden's Mary Shipway and Cheryl Lamb display some of their produce at Wednesday's morning tea in Leongatha. A07_2225



Jean Carnell, Garry Shandley and Lynne Hodges of Leongatha Croquet Club are ready to chat about what the club has to offer during the Citizens Advice Bureau morning tea. A10_2225



David Brereton of Leongatha Men's Shed and Alan and Hillie Hoy of Leongatha Proboscis welcome people to the morning tea run by the Citizens Advice Bureau. A08_2225



Jose Goossens and Jenni Munro of U3A Prom Coast are happy to chat about the activities the group offers during Wednesday's Citizens Advice Bureau morning tea. A11_2225



Leongatha Senior Citizens Club members Kay Cook, Pat Allaway, Jeanette Chalmers and Phil Benson are ready to help during Wednesday's morning tea. Treasurer. A12_2225



Tilly Hutton, Bill Damm and Louise Litchfield at the Inverloch Bendigo Bank community night. B57_2225



Mark McCormack, Gail Francis and Kirk De Marchi at the Inverloch Bendigo Bank community night. B58_2225



Heather Wright and Rosa Turner from the Inverloch View Club attended the Bendigo Bank community night in Inverloch. B59_2225



Mackenzie and Katrina Slidders from the Tarwin Sharks Football Netball Club at the Inverloch community night. B63_2225



Norm and Judy Vradenburg from Wallace Avenue Community Park at the Inverloch Bendigo Community Bank community night. B65_2225



Mirboo North farmer Peter Debrecey was keen to hear advice on how to get his breeding stock through the current tough conditions, while Ellinbank farmer Adrian praised the Managing a Dry Season session. A14_2225



Kathryn and Ryan Selvarajoo (Point Cook) competed in the inaugural Southern Rail Trail Run at Leongatha. B75_2225



Grant and son Ashton finished together in the 5km Southern Rail Trail Run at Leongatha. B82_2225



Dr Ruyu Yao from Foster with Event Marshall Renee Quinlan at the Southern Rail Trail Run in Leongatha. B83_2225



Diana Utz and Josette Dorey from the Coronet Bay Community Garden provided refreshments for competitors in the Southern Rail Trail Run at Leongatha. B86_2225



Angela Wishart, Michelle Loe and Kate Wills attending the Lions Eye Health Night at the Wonthaggi Workmen's Club. B23_2225



Steve Ronaldson and Jan Hutton, president of the Lions Club Korumburra at the Lions Eye Health Night in Wonthaggi. B24_2225



Rex Thorn and Kevin Oates at the Lions Eye Health Night at the Wonthaggi Workmen's Club. B25_2225



Peter Fitzgerald, Luis and Melissa Castagna at the Lions Eye Health Night in Wonthaggi. B26_2225



Christopher Nagle, Terry Salmon, Helen Zed and Di Goeman enjoy a drink together at the Bass Coast Community Awards. W01_2225



Cr Tracey Bell alongside Gareth Kennedy from the Phillip Island Breakers following official proceedings at the Bass Coast Community Awards. W04_2225



Guitarist, Lucas Bartlett was impressing everyone with his performance at the Bass Coast Community Awards. W09_2225



Jody Page, Daryl Werner, James and Angela Livingston were anticipating a good night attending The Addams Family in Wonthaggi.



Marilyn and Bob Newton, Jim Forbes and Meg Edwards enjoyed The Addams Family on its opening night in Wonthaggi.

Snapped Out

Pictures of you and your friends at the Lions Eye Health Night, Bass Coast Community Awards, Wonthaggi's opening night of The Addams Family, Elders Golf Day, Offshore Theatre Group's opening night of Emerald City, South Gippsland Citizens Advice Bureau morning tea, Community Bank Inverloch & District community night, Managing a Dry Season session in Koonwarra and Southern Rail Trail Run.



Julie, Debbie, Trudy, and Shelley from Korumburra were ready to tee off and play a good round of golf. ob06_2125



Amy McRobert, Adrian Banks, Peter Scott, Rod O'Neill from Inverloch were getting into the spirit of the competition early on Friday morning. ob05_2125



Steve Foster, Jeff Brewer and Matthew Pearce from Leongatha heading off in their golf carts to their tee off point. ob07_2125



Sharon King and Jan Lowe at opening night of the Offshore Theatre Group's Emerald City at Newhaven College Black Box Theatre. B02_2225



Matt, Raph and Geoff enjoy David Williamson's Emerald City at the Black Box Theatre on Phillip Island. B03_2225



Stef and Sally Kirsch at Newhaven College's Black Box Theatre for the opening night of David Williamson's Emerald City presented by the Offshore Theatre Group. B08_2225



Hellie Mau and Jett McMillan were set to see the opening night performance of Offshore Theatre Group's Emerald City. B09_2225



Katrina William and Wendy Nichol at the Black Box Theatre on Phillip Island for the opening night of David Williamson's Emerald City. B05_2225

Sentinel-Times
>>> ORDER THESE AND OTHER PHOTOS 5672 1888

CROSSWORD

No. 69 - by 'Johnno2' of Cape Paterson

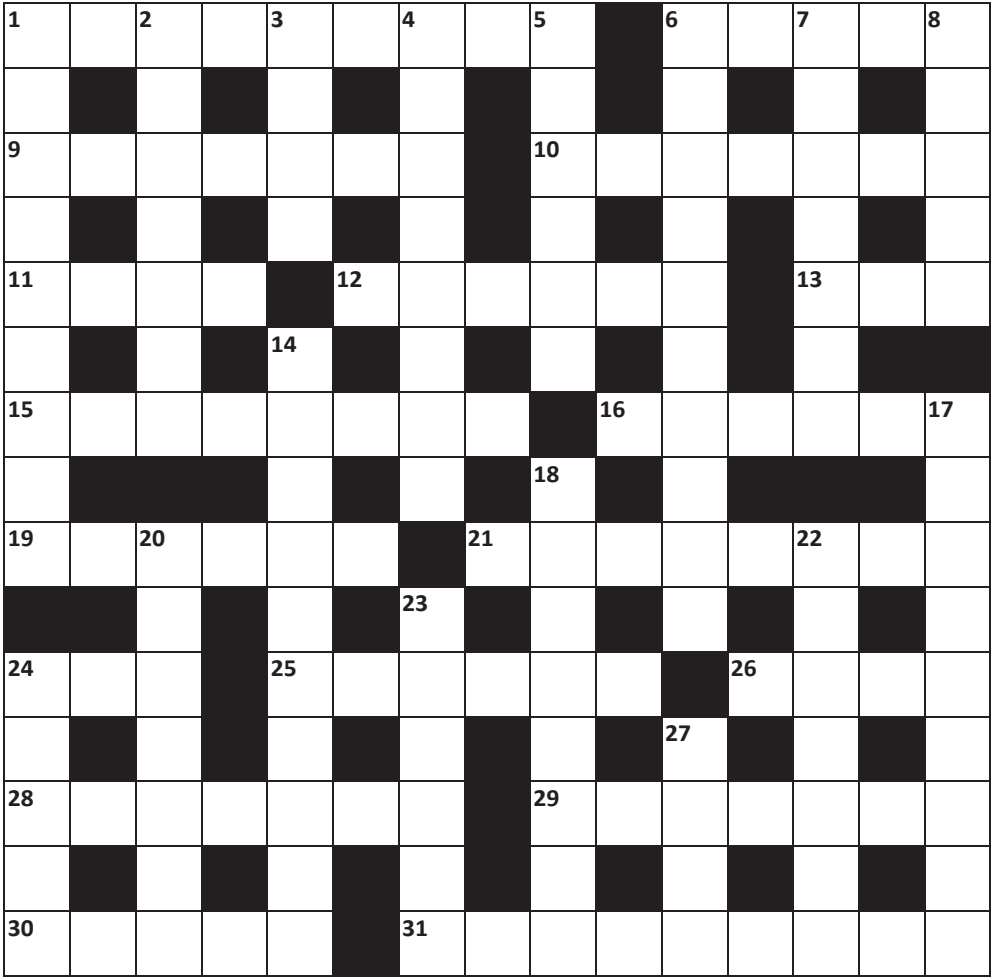
CRYPTIC CLUES

ACROSS

- 1 Spooner's nothing to do for half of most Februarys (9)
- 6 Origins of myth about Goliath, or 'Giant's Giant', in the Bible (5)
- 9 Beta-free, from convention? (7)
- 10 Mother of one mixed-up Adrian Mole: *Miss* model! (7)
- 11 Kicked amphibian in the ear (4)
- 12 Credit the Parisian touch (6)
- 13 Shout in Vietnam (3)
- 15 Explosion disturbing our butts? (8)
- 16 Baltimore bills church leader \$1000 in education debt (6)
- 19 Epic returns follow on from making instructions (6)
- 21 Delaware dummy back in? Sure, if I capitulate! (8)
- 24 Formula 1 doughnut in accessibility legislation (1.1.1)
- 25 Nong to upset my punt (6)
- 26 Progressive back rub for your irritation (4)
- 28 Stained; surprisingly as an alternative (7)
- 29 Texan taps tricky fuse with a stick now and then (7)
- 30 Cavity's in us - the five right there (5)
- 31 Louisiana lifts casting of 'real' votes (9)

DOWN

- 1 Entrance/d? (5,4)
- 2 Rednop? (7)
- 3 Want sound massage (4)
- 4 Frankfurter goods with spiciest skin: eating *that* is most courageous! (8)
- 5 Bronx boots Trump pollie out: 'No use for nukes, son!' (6)
- 6 First hospital broadcast by 'Fern' (10)
- 7 99's following, around average in *Get Hurt* initially, becomes stark (7)



- 8 Pennsylvania Primary odds for Gore - a Democrat, and green at heart (5)
- 14 Boston braces for US writer in scandalous dress (10)
- 17 Startles half Prussian? (9)
- 18 Occupant of leather-lined slipper (8)
- 20 Bad-boy colour? (7)
- 22 Colloquially oven-placed cooking routine (2,5)
- 23 Bit by midges, bottom to top (6)
- 24 Chattanooga chips from first fairway, over rocky rise (5)
- 27 Barrel barely had fish (4)

STRAIGHT CLUES

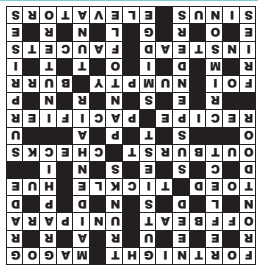
ACROSS

- 1 Two weeks (half of most Februarys!) (9)
- 6 A Biblical giant (5)
- 9 Free from convention, regularity (7)
- 10 Mother of one (7)
- 11 Kicked, with tip of foot (4)
- 12 Touch teasingly (6)
- 13 Shout; also, a city in Vietnam (also, a colour) (3)
- 15 Explosion - of voice or activity say (8)
- 16 Bills for service in USA (6)
- 19 Instructions for making something (6)
- 21 Baby's dummy in USA (8)
- 24 Legislated information access (1.1.1)
- 25 A nong or ineffectual person (colloq.) (6)
- 26 Irritation, generally of grass origin (4)
- 28 As an alternative (7)
- 29 Taps in USA (7)
- 30 Cavity - behind nose, for example (5)
- 31 Building lifts in USA (9)

DOWN

- 1 Entrance of a building, generally from street (5,4)
- 2 Ponder; also, bounce back (7)
- 3 Want, requirement (4)
- 4 Most courageous (8)
- 5 Car boot in USA (6)
- 6 A type of fern (10)
- 7 Stark; also, drawn (7)
- 8 Primary - as in school - in USA (5)
- 14 Braces for trousers in USA (10)
- 17 Startles (9)
- 18 A type of slipper (8)
- 20 A red colour (7)
- 22 In the womb (2,5)
- 23 Bit, tiny piece (6)
- 24 Hot chips in USA (8)
- 27 A type of fish (4)

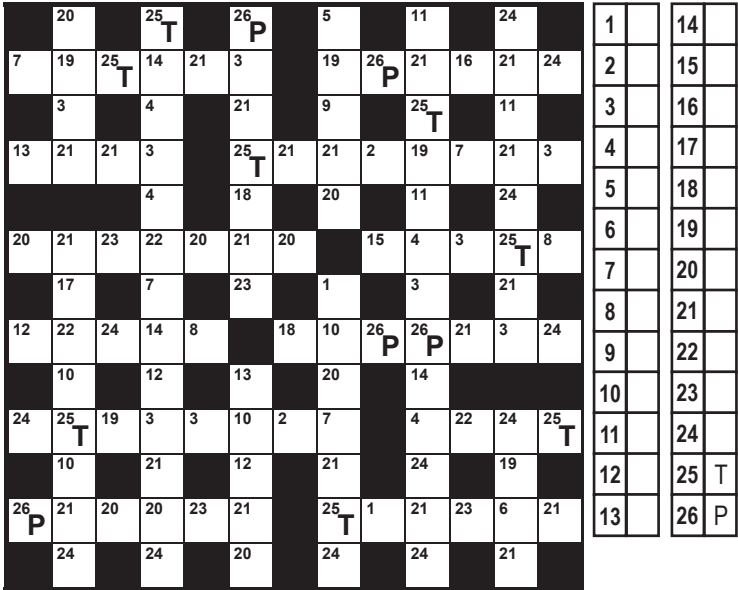
SOLUTION



CODEWORD

No. 273

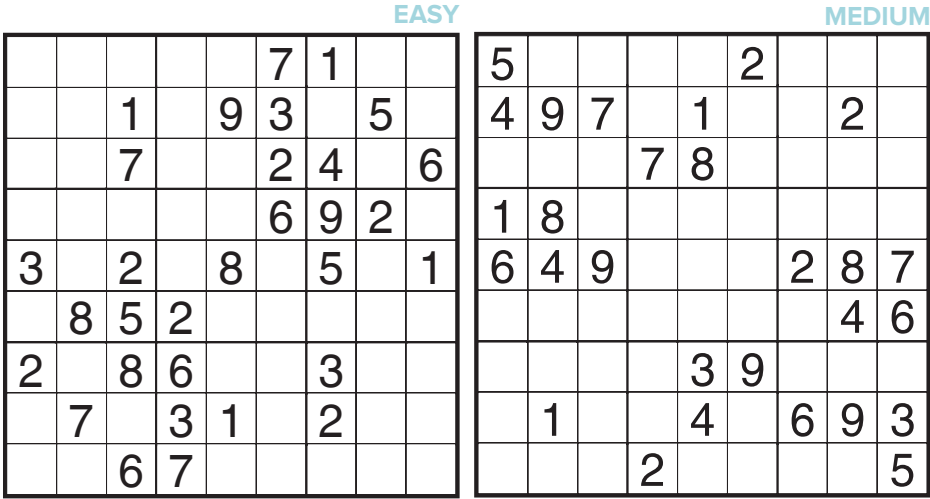
Each number corresponds to a letter of the alphabet. Two have been filled in for you, can you work out the rest?



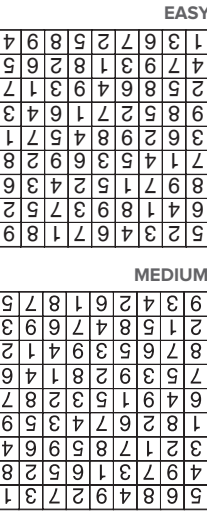
SUDOKU

No. 282

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

1. Which of the following is not a noble gas: helium, krypton, hydrogen or neon?
2. *Girl with a Pearl Earring* is an oil painting by which Dutch Golden Age painter?
3. Freetown Christiania is an intentional community and commune located in which city?
4. *The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie* is a novel written by which Scottish writer?
5. In World War I, which three countries formed the Triple Entente?
6. '124 was spiteful' is the first sentence of which novel?
7. And who authored that book?
8. 'Go ahead, make my day' is a catchphrase used by Clint Eastwood's (pictured) character in which 1983 film?
9. True or false: Canada was the first nation to grant universal suffrage for women?
10. Hyperhidrosis is the medical term for what condition?



ANSWERS: 1. Hydrogen 2. Johannes Vermeer 3. Copenhagen 4. Muriel Spark 5. Britain, Russia and France 6. Beloved 7. Toni Morrison 8. Sudden Impact 9. False; it was New Zealand 10. Excessive sweating

WORD SEARCH

No. 193

Can you find all the words listed? The leftover letters will spell out a secret message.



- AEROBIC
- FLAKE
- PLANKTON
- ALGAE
- GILL
- PUMP
- BIVALVE
- GRAVEL
- ROCK
- BOWL
- HALOGEN
- SALINITY
- BRINE
- HYPOXIA
- SAND
- CALCIUM
- IODINE
- SEAHORSE
- CHEMICAL
- JELLYFISH
- SYPHON
- CHITIN
- KRILL
- TANK
- CORAL
- LARVAE
- VERTEBRATE
- DECHLORINATOR
- MARINE
- WATER
- ECTOPARASITE
- OZONE
- WET
- FEED
- PECTORAL

SECRET MESSAGE: Keep your anemones close



MBV and HIA condemn new building legislation

A CONTROVERSIAL bill has passed Victoria's Legislative Council with Master Builders Victoria (MBV) and Housing Industry Association (HIA) issuing a united rejection of the new home building dispute resolution legislation, arguing it remains unworkable and despite the government's promises, is highly unlikely to be adequately funded and will be unable to deliver.

The Building Legislation Amendment (Buyer Protections 2025) Bill passed the upper house last week and both MBV and HIA say they are concerned that there are many unanswered questions about exactly how the new legislation will work.

MBV CEO Michaela Lihou said the industry was unclear on how the widespread changes would be funded, given it was not specifically detailed in the recent State Budget.

"This legislation introduces sweeping changes to our current system, which we estimate realistically will need at a minimum, dozens of new inspectors and dispute resolution officers to undertake the potential workload," she said.

"Without those extra assets, this new legislation will fail before it begins and then nobody wins."

HIA Executive Director Keith Ryan said it was also inexplicable that multiple reviews of Victoria's existing Domestic Building Insurance (DBI) scheme appear to have been cut short, with no findings publicly revealed before the introduction of this new legislation.

"In the past year, both the Victorian Auditor-General's Office (VAGO) and the Victorian Government Ombudsman had been reviewing the operation of the Domestic Building Insurance (DBI) scheme."

"The VAGO audit was brought to a halt in October 2024, and there is no indication when the Ombudsman's report will be published," he said.

"So, how can the government be confident that the solution in this rushed bill will work?" he said.

"It just doesn't make sense to have the Ombudsman's office conduct an investigation, but then the government impose a new scheme before that review is completed."

Both Ms Lihou and Mr Ryan also again questioned the logic of a builder potentially being at risk of being subjected to a rectification order.



a decade or more after they've finished the job.

"And let's be clear, this legislation will do nothing to protect consumers from uninsured people delivering substandard building work," she said.

"Piling more legislation on decent builders is just another way of pushing them out of the industry when we've never needed them more."

Mr Ryan called for the government to clarify how it was going to adequately fund the new regulator to deliver on its promises.

"If the government is going to go ahead with this poorly designed reform it should at least properly fund the new regulator so it can have a chance of meeting consumer expectations," he said.

"Otherwise by late July next year we expect history to repeat itself and find both consumers and builders bitterly disappointed by their experience with yet another new home building dispute resolution system."

"It is difficult to understand the logic of the government's new legislation. And I fear, yet again, consumers and builders will be let down."

Member for Eastern Victoria, Melina Bath spoke against the legislation during the second reading last Thursday.

"This bill certainly seeks to address an important and genuine issue, and that is that new home buyers are not exposed by shoddy builders," Ms Bath stated in parliament last week.

"But unfortunately, this legislation does not do what it is stipulating it is going to do.

"We have heard it

through the Master Builders Victoria and the Housing Industry Association, two of the peak bodies, that there has been (a) real lack of consultation. They have some significant suggestions, and The Nationals last year had a great briefing with the peak bodies about some of the solutions moving forward. But they feel very strongly that this government has not consulted with them and has not listened to their very sensible ideas.

"This bill has the intention of supporting consumers, of supporting clients, of supporting homeowners and of supporting people who are renovating their homes, but it does not eventuate. It is flawed..."

"The Allan Government is failing to protect consumers, punishing reputable builders, and putting the dream of home ownership even further out of reach for all Victorians," Ms Bath added on Monday morning.

"This flawed bill fails to fix the real problem of consumer protection - it only adds more bureaucratic red tape for builders which will increase the cost of construction.

"Housing affordability in Victoria will be even further out of reach for young people after Labor's passed the Bill with the assistance of the Greens, Cannabis Party and Animal Justice Party."

The Members for Eastern Victoria were divided on the motion with Melina Bath, Jeff Bourman and Renee Heath opposed and Tom McIntosh and Harriet Shing voting for the bill.

MBV and HIA argue that the new building legislation, passed last week, doesn't deliver on key promises to protect consumers or support builders, and will instead create confusion, costs and red tape. Photo: Henry & Co. Unsplash.

Stamp duty cuts extended in budget

AS PART of the Victorian Budget 2025/26, the Government is investing \$61 million to extend the stamp duty concession for off-the-plan apartments, units and townhouses for another 12 months. This initiative will cut upfront costs for homebuyers, speed up construction, and save buyers an average of \$25,000, according to the Government.

Originally expanded in October 2024, any buyer - not just first-home buyers - can access the concession for eligible off-the-plan purchases, regardless of the property's value. Since its expansion, Victorians have saved an average of \$24,517.

Set to expire in October 2025, the concession will now be extended for a further year. For example, someone buying a \$620,000 apartment could see their stamp duty bill slashed from about \$32,000 to just \$4000.

The exact savings depend on the construction stage of the property, but generally, buyers pay around a quarter of the stamp duty they would without this concession. Eligible properties are those in a strata subdivision, such as apartments, townhouses and units with shared spaces like driveways and hallways.

This tax cut is one part of a broader push to boost housing supply, reduce costs and increase rental options for Victorians.

"As our city grows, we're determined to help more Victorians into affordable, energy-efficient, well-built homes close to public transport, jobs and services," Minister for Housing and Building Harriet Shing said.

For more information on concessions available to buyers, visit sro.vic.gov.au/offtheplan.

Nutrien Harcourts Leongatha

AUCTION

150 Hazelwood Estate Road, Hazelwood

Auction to be held onsite at 1pm (A.E.S.T) on the 4th of July 2025



- Well maintained property on approx. 109 Acres. with a solid 4 bedroom, 2 bathroom BV home
- Boasting a double lock up garage, undercover alfresco area, established gardens & a bungalow
- Gentle, flat topography bordered by the picturesque Billys Creek, subdivided into 9 paddocks
- Good fencing throughout, heavy duty stockyards, water troughs & recently upgraded laneways
- Excellent shedding throughout the property, established shelter belts for animal protection
- Ideally positioned close to Yinnar and Churchill townships and a short drive to the large towns of Morwell and Traralgon

Terms of Auction: 10% Deposit on signing. Settlement within 90 days or earlier by agreement.

For more information or to arrange a private inspection please contact the Selling Agent Barry Redmond.



Barry Redmond

E barry.redmond@nh.com.au

M 0477 622 292

nutrien.harcourts.net/au/office/leongatha



50 Acres*

80 Timmins Estate Rd, **Nerrena**
For Sale \$2,250,000
Agent SEJ Real Estate
Irene Walker 0429 045 632

Rural living, minutes from town

SET against a stunning rural back drop, at the end of a country lane, this property offers expansive views across farmland, to the township of Leongatha, just minutes away, yet peacefully distant.

The property consisting of 20ha/50acres* is a rare gem, the perfect balance of country living in a highly desirable location.

Meander along the tree lined driveway, to the spacious north facing home set perfectly in the established gardens.

The home exudes a timeless style and charm, with a thoughtful floor plan, cathedral ceilings, and north facing double glazed windows filling the home with light.

The family, dining, and kitchen, the heart of the home, is spacious and flooded with natural light, and sweeping views.

A generous kitchen with a walk-in pantry, dishwasher, and Glem gas/electric oven has excellent storage and bench space.

The living areas enjoy the comforts of a wood heater, reverse cycle air conditioner (two), ceiling fans, with quality window furnishings throughout.

The study/home office provides the perfect close the door work from home space, with shelving for all your home office needs.

The master suite, with garden views is complete with built-in robes, ceiling fan and ensuite.

Three additional bedrooms are located in the east wing of the home, all generous in size with built in robes, ceiling fans, and easy access to the family bathroom.

The alfresco is designed to be enjoyed all year round, ideal for family gatherings.

This 20ha/50 acre* grazing property is gently undulating and highly productive, suitable for cattle or horses, it has traditionally fattened cattle for the local store markets

Five paddocks, dams (three) with troughs and timber stock yards with a four bay shed (12m x 4m) with sliding doors, concreted and power in addition to a three bay open shed. Solar power 4.5KW and water storage for the home of approx. 100,000 ltrs

The property features established plantings of ornamental trees including, elms, maples and native gums.

If you have been searching for the ideal lifestyle property, with 50 highly productive acres, a modern, stylish home, then this here on the door-step of Leongatha, is most worthy of your consideration.

A rare gem, in a magnificent location, private and peaceful. Eight minutes to Leongatha, 20 minutes to the beaches of Inverloch, and an easy 90 minutes to the SE suburbs of Melbourne.

To arrange a personal inspection, please contact Irene Walker at SEJ Real Estate.

**Denotes approximately.*

For a Due Diligence Checklist go to: consumer.vic.gov.au/duediligencechecklist

Your local
Real Estate &
Livestock Specialists

www.sej.com.au

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aadams@sej.com.au

FOSTER
Ph 5682 2800

IRENE WALKER
0429 045 632
iwalker@sej.com.au

LEONGATHA
Ph 5662 4033

FISH CREEK



- 3 bed 2 bath home, walk to town
 - Open plan living/dining
 - Well-appointed kitchen
 - North facing deck with views.
 - Fenced est garden, workshop
- \$585,000**
- Contact Andrea Adams 0429 822 801

WONGA



- Self-sufficiency meets luxury, 7 star rated home on approx. 1.26 ha
 - Spacious open plan living, ultra modern kitchen, polished Jarrah flooring
 - Master suite with fitted dressing room, ensuite, office, and sauna
 - Second wing with two fitted bedrooms and superb main bathroom
 - Detached self contained barn with living area, kitchen, bathroom, bedroom
 - Total privacy, forest views, paddock, veggie garden, orchard & chook pen
- \$985,000**
- Contact Andrea Adams 0429 822 801

SANDY POINT



- 5 bed, 2 bath beach house
 - 639m2 approx. block
 - Multiple levels, elevated deck
 - Low maintenance & LU shed
 - 6 minutes walk to the surf beach
- \$1,100,000**
- Contact Andrea Adams 0429 822 801

WOORARRA WEST



- 105 undulating acres approx
 - 3 bed Australian ranch home
 - Open plan living & gourmet kitchen
 - Green pastures with shelter belts
 - Two springfed dams, disused dairy
- PRICE ON APPLICATION**
- Contact Andrea Adams 0429 822 801

MARDAN



- Highly productive undulating blue-gum grazing hill country
 - 52ha/130acres (approx.) ideal for fattening cattle or turnout
 - Absolute water security, start of Toomeys Creek
 - Springs, dams, troughs, all set in high rainfall region
 - 14 paddocks, stock yards, excellent shedding, and est. trees
 - Beautifully presented, fully updated 2 bed, 1 bath w/b cottage
- \$1,640,000**
- Contact Irene Walker 0429 045 632

NERRENA



- Peace & Quiet on 1.4ha/3.4ac
 - 4 bed, 2 bath, Coldon home
 - Native bush & solar power
 - Exc. 18m x 9m shed plus more
 - Just 10 min to Leongatha
- \$980,000**
- Contact Irene Walker 0429 045 632

Downsizers’ Dream Home

INTRODUCING Units 1 and 2, 77 Princes Street, Korumburra, recently built units by local builder Jaarl Enbom. These stunning low-maintenance units have an amazing amount of space you'll be surprised that you are living in a unit and not a house. Just a short walk to schools and shops making it a perfect location, perfect for downsizing or a first home buyer.

Each unit has three generous-sized bedrooms, two with BIR and the main includes WIR and ensuite. Ensuites include a walk-in shower, vanity and toilet. Each main bathroom has a large walk-in shower, vanity and toilet.

A functional and spacious kitchen awaits you with modern appliances including an electric oven, induction cooktop and dishwasher. There is plenty of cupboard space with a walk-in pantry. The open plan kitchen and dining leads out to an under-cover alfresco area perfect for entertaining. Each unit has a separate living area with plenty of natural light.

Comfort is guaranteed all year round with reverse cycle units in the living area and dining room.

The double garage has remote control access with plenty of room for two cars plus storage with internal access through to the dining room in unit 1 and laundry in unit 2 and includes access to the backyard. Backyards for both units are fenced off for privacy and have a 5000-litre rain-water tank. Unit 2 includes access to the rear laneway.

There are no body corporate fees, and each unit has its own separate access. These units are a must-see! For further information or to inspect the property, please contact Sharon Turton on 0447 604 796.

For a Due Diligence Checklist go to: consumer.vic.gov.au/duediligencechecklist

3

1

6

1/77 Princes Street, **Korumburra**
2/77 Princes Street, **Korumburra**
For Sale \$680,000 each
Agent Elders
Sharon Turton 0447 604 796



1/77 Princes Street, Korumburra



2/77 Princes Street, Korumburra

Real Estate

Over 40 years' experience

eldersrealestate.com.au

new price

Hallston18 Acres

'Grand Ridge Stay'

- 3-bed, 2-bath home with stunning views
- Outdoor entertaining area with fire pit
- Mach. shed, cattle yards and loading race

Web ID: 300P105934 **\$1.2 - \$1.3 Million**

new price

Mt Eccles181 Acres

Grazing | Turnout Block

- Grazing/turnout block
- 13 paddocks with central laneway
- Stockyards and race

Web ID: 300P174263 **\$1.42 Million**

new price

Hallston33 Acres

Experience the Joy of Country Living

- 4 bay & 3 bay shed + hay shed
- Yards & loading race
- 3-bed, 1-bath home

Web ID: 300P17274 **\$690,000**

new listing

Wild Dog Valley4241m²

Outstanding Views

- Secluded flat block, just over 1 acre
- Stunning views of surrounding area
- Build your dream home (STCA)

Web ID: 300P180693 **\$220,000**

BEN TOWNSEND
Licensed Estate Agent
0400 594 487

SHARON TURTON
Sales Consultant
0447 604 796

HELEN ARESTIA
Sales Support
03 5662 3523

NATALIE RES
Property Manager
0439 383 091

Elders Korumburra
11 Commercial Street
Ph 5658 1894

Elders Leongatha
37 Bair Street
Ph 5662 3523

SOUTH GIPPSLAND SENTINEL-TIMES | TUESDAY, JUNE 3, 2025 | 37



Beachside bliss on double block

WHETHER you're dreaming of the ultimate coastal getaway for your extended family or a high-return Airbnb with serious wow factor, this spacious beachside home on a rare 1000m² double block offers incredible potential – with a little vision and renovation.

Set literally steps from the water, the home features six bedrooms, four bathrooms, and three living areas, providing an abundance of space for large groups. The flexible floorplan is ideal for holiday hosting, multigenerational living, or short-stay accommodation, with plenty of room to relax, entertain, or retreat to quiet corners.

While the home is solid and functional, it's ready for a refresh – the perfect blank canvas for those looking to personalise, modernise, and unlock the full value of this rare coastal holding.

Why You'll Love It:

- Prime beachside location – rear deck with direct access to the water (~40m)
- Renovator's dream – great structure, ready for cosmetic updates
- Three large lounges – flexible zones for guests, kids, or chill-out spaces
- Huge 1000m² double block – rare size and scope in a tightly held location
- Ideal for large family holidays, Airbnb, or dual living
- Strong rental and capital growth potential in a fast-growing coastal market

Ready to enjoy in its current form or take it to the next level with upgrades, this is a rare opportunity to secure location, size, and future value all in one. Bring your vision, add your flair, and create something truly special by the sea.



6

4

3

1016m²

66-68 Stewart Street, **Grantville**

For Sale \$795,000

Agent Alex Scott & Staff

Angus Hall 0466 326 487

Affordable dream sea change

WHETHER it's quiet serenity, work from home by the beach or a holiday rental this property offers all the potential.

Set on a generous 663m², very private with a mature native garden, fully fenced and gated, this low-maintenance home has everything to offer.

Enjoy the large open-plan living space that seamlessly blends indoor and outdoor living, thanks to extensive bifold doors and windows that lead to an expansive north-facing deck. Absolutely perfect for entertaining or relaxing in the sun.

The well-appointed kitchen is a delight with ample cupboard space, a gas cooktop, and timber benches. Bifold windows leading to an outdoor bar ensures your guests will be impressed.

Three spacious bedrooms, including a master suite featuring a large luxury spa-style experience ensuite.

The second bathroom is conveniently centrally located and includes a laundry. Need extra space for the boat or van? With a three-car carport and extra space this property is perfect for those who love adventure.

Large bills are a thing of the past with solar power allowing you to take advantage of the two reverse cycle air conditioners and internal sound system with confidence.

Work from home with high-speed internet and the sound of the ocean in the background.

Cape Paterson's beautiful beaches are a short four-minute walk away along with an award-winning cafe this location offers everything. A quick five-minute drive to Wonthaggi for all your shopping needs.

Embrace the peace and coastal lifestyle you've always wanted!



3

2

3

663m²

4 Pinnacle Place, **Cape Paterson**

For Sale \$890,000

Agent Alex Scott & Staff

Mick Chambers 0418 349 783

Cal Nation 0439 334 163



NERRENA  75 Timmins Estate Road • 188 Prime agricultural acres • 5 minutes from Leongatha & VLE • 2 homes, 6 sheds + disused dairy EOI closing 4pm Thurs. July 10, 2025 Contact: Leongatha Office	KORUMBURRA  3/37 Princes Street • 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom townhouse • Low maintenance • Great investment \$469,000 Contact: Korumburra Office	COWES  6 Tocana Rise • Elevated allotment with unparalleled views • Double glazing, internal lift, 1003m² block • 4 bedroom, 2 bathroom, 4 car \$1,950,000 - \$1,980,000 Contact: Cowes Office	WONTHAGGI SOLD  1/7 Baillieu Street • Close to town centre • 2 bedroom unit • Open plan Sold \$335,000 Contact: Wonthaggi Office
LEONGATHA  17 Lee Parade • Elevated family home with farmland views • 5 bed, 2 bath, 2 car on large 794sqm block • Great location close to schools \$595,000 Contact: Leongatha Office	POOWONG  13 Nyora Road • 3 bedroom, central location • Breathtaking views • 988m² block \$650,000 Contact: Korumburra Office	WIMBLEDON HEIGHTS  49 Hallway Drive • Well maintained home • Open plan living, fully fenced yard • 3 bedroom, 1 bathroom, double carport \$569,000 Contact: Cowes Office	WONTHAGGI SOLD  187 Graham Street • Great development site • Close to town • Laneway access Sold \$470,000 Contact: Wonthaggi Office
LEONGATHA  21 Roughead Street • 3 bed, 1 bath cottage in convenient location • Corner allotment of 471sqm approx. • Offers period features, ideal project house \$375,000 Contact: Leongatha Office	KORUMBURRA  5/6 Ruddville Avenue • Modern 1 bedroom apartment • Fully furnished • Nothing to spend \$400,000 Contact: Korumburra Office	COWES  8 Lobelia Lane • Double storey set on 336m² block • Well-appointed kitchen • 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom, 2 car \$789,000 Contact: Cowes Office	KILCUNDA SOLD  2 Hillcrest Avenue • Large 2 storey home • 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms • Great ocean views Sold \$1,225,000 Contact: Wonthaggi Office
LEONGATHA NORTH NEW PRICE  405 Leongatha North Road • Lifestyle property with stunning town views • Well built 3 bed 1 bath multi living area • 5408sqm block with shedding and gardens NEW PRICE \$890,000 Contact: Leongatha Office	KORUMBURRA  23 Bridge Street • Grand period home • Prime corner location • 3 bedroom, 3 living \$675,000 Contact: Korumburra Office	VENTNOR  2 Crafers Crescent • Spacious 977m² block, close to beach • Front & rear decks • 4 bedroom, 2 bathroom, ample car parking \$890,000 Contact: Cowes Office	WONTHAGGI SOLD  32 White Road • 4 bedroom, 2 bathroom • Open plan living • Corner block Sold \$575,000 Contact: Wonthaggi Office



Price of hay doubles in matter of weeks

THE shortage of hay is sending prices skyrocketing with bales doubling in price in a matter of weeks as the drought continues and flooding in NSW puts more pressure on farmers trying to feed their animals.

Mirboo North Hardware's local and regular supplier of square hay bales recently ran out of stock and the store was forced to hunt for another supplier. Fortunately, they were able to secure supply from a wholesale hay company that sources feed from wherever it is available and delivers across Australia.

Unfortunately, it comes at a cost. The most recent stack of hay came from Goulburn, 700 kilometres away, and the distance meant the price doubled to a retail value of \$25 a bale.

"You can't buy hay anywhere. That's why our hay is coming from Goulburn," said Helen, owner of the store. "We used to pay \$11 a bale. We're now paying \$20 a bale."

While there was the option of getting bales from a supplier in Albury – about 460 kilometres away – the store owners would have had to pick it up and transport it themselves – for the same cost. Over the past four to six weeks, stocks have swiftly dwindled according to the farmers Helen has spoken to, who've also had trouble finding fodder. In some instances, round bales have risen to unsustainable rates of \$400 a bale, up from \$125.

"A lot of farmers have used the hay that they did this year, which would normally last for the whole of winter, but has already been used because we haven't had any grass," said Helen. "So, we've got a real issue, and it's only going to get worse, because the hay has got to go up to New South Wales, to Taree and all around there, where floods have hit, so it's even going to get harder."

When Helen checked in with her customers whether they would be prepared to buy the bales before she purchased them, there were mixed responses.

"We had a couple of people say they'd rather shoot their animals than feed them \$25 a bale. That's pretty poor – and ruthless," she said. "But we had a lot of people personally message us, rather than put it on Facebook and say 'Look we need to feed our animals. If that's the price it's going to be, that's the price it's going to be', and others have put it up saying, how wonderful it was that we've actually been able to source the hay in the first place."

The business received 100 bales last week and will be getting another stack this week; but Helen isn't optimistic that sourcing bales will get easier or that the price will improve.

"Realistically, it's going to get worse because we haven't even hit winter yet. We've had a couple of cold days, but that's it. The problem is, even if it rains now, it's too late because the ground's too cold for the grass to grow. You can't grow grass in the cold."

"All that's going to happen now. We've got the issue at home where our paddocks (with the rain that we got on Friday) – have already started to turn to mud, and we didn't get much. We only got four mls. And that presents another problem in itself," added Helen.

Nothing driving prices down

ACCORDING to the latest Hay Report from the Australian Fodder Industry Association, there is "nothing driving prices down", but there may be lucerne stores in South Australia that may be released soon.

In Gippsland, cereal hay and lucerne hay are + 20 (\$350 to \$540/t, and \$480 to \$610/t respectively), whilst staw is + 25 (\$190 to \$320/t) and pasture hay + 30 (\$300 to \$450/t).

The outlook is pretty dismal as Victoria's State Government announced this afternoon that its Drought Package has been extended to farmers statewide.

The decision follows advice from Agriculture Victoria who, according to the Government, have indicated that rainfall in May realised the worst-case scenario that had been projected at the start of the month.

Though the Bureau of Meteorology is predicting rainfall to be within the typical winter range with warmer than usual winter maximum and minimum temperatures across the state, it has been noted that the latest rainfall for May is 20 per cent or less than the average rainfall, and is expected to continue into June.

In addition to the Drought Support Package, which has been increased for south west Victoria, the program has been expanded to include water carting activities and pasture re-establishment across the state.

Furthermore, all primary production properties will be capped in the Emergency Services and Volunteer Fund contribution to the same amount



Whilst some farmers are fortunate to have only recently transitioned to fodder, others are feeling the pinch particularly with demand increasing across the eastern states. C03_2225

that was paid in 2024-25, meaning properties will remain at 28.7 per cent of the ESVF variable rate.

The Government has also announced that a dedicated task force has been established that will deliver a further package of support in the coming weeks.

The announcement comes as the Australian and New Zealand Council for fire and emergency services announced a heightened risk of fire for southern Australia extending from western South Australia's coast through to Wilson's Prom in Victoria.

If there is any upside to the miserable conditions for farmers then the drought has reduced fire risk in pasture

and crop landscapes, but the abundance of dry material in grass and forest vegetation in Victoria has authorities and firefighters on high alert elsewhere.

"We don't normally think of winter and bushfire together in southern Australia. The prolonged drought conditions mean that communities across parts of Victoria and South Australia may see more activity than normal for this time of the year," AFAC CEO Rob Webb said.

"Fire authorities will monitor the landscape conditions and climate influences closely this season to manage bushfire risk and identify opportunities for mitigation activities such as planned burning."

Acting Country Fire Authority Chief Officer Garry Cook AFMS echoed the sentiments.

"The lack of rainfall and dry vegetation across many parts of the state is a great concern for firefighters this time of the year and we're asking people to remain vigilant and not become complacent just because we're not in summer anymore," Cook stated.

"While cooler days are arriving, the landscape remains dry enough to allow fires to start and spread quickly if a burn-off gets out of control, especially when coupled with strong winds."

"The impact and damage of an escaped fire on local communities and emergency services can be devastating."

Kernot farmers lunch keeps the local community connected

AT THE Kernot Store there are no strangers, only friends you haven't met yet.

Meeting regularly every second Thursday the Kernot Farmers Lunch Group has been welcoming local farmers and residents to the Kernot Store to share lunch and catch up with friends for as long as most can remember.

Always a great place to have a coffee, enjoy a drink, or listen to live music the Kernot Food and Wine Store has continued to keep the local

community connected despite the closure of the nearby Kernot Bridge.

History has it that in 2007 Kenny Adshead and Lew Potter, or was it Mick Graves, went in search of local identities to spend more time eating and drinking at The Kernot Food and Wine Store, and found Duck Matheson and Ian Hitchings at Archies Creek.

After a chat and a drink, the two from Archies Creek were persuaded to return to Kernot for lunch and so began

the Kernot Farmers fortnightly lunch which now hosts around a dozen district farmers and other locals every second Thursday afternoon.

The tradition continues to this day with the fortnightly farmer's lunch welcoming the communities of Almurta, Glen Forbes, Kernot, Woodleigh and the Bass Valley.

The Farmers Lunch Group helps promote what's happening in the area, share news and generally keep the community together.

Kernot Store offers wood fire pizzas, homemade pies and sweets, breakfast, lunch and an evolving dinner menu with local wines and other locally sourced products.

A History of Kernot by Rob Parsons can also be purchased at the Kernot Store for \$40 and is well worth the investment for those interested in local history and colourful local identities.

The Kernot Store can be found at 1075 Loch-Kernot Road.

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Valuable tips for farmers dealing with dry conditions

By Andrew Paloczi

WEDNESDAY'S 'Managing a Dry Season' session at Koonwarra Hall proved an engaging affair, a couple of attendees quick to praise the information from presenter Fiona Baker of Agriculture Victoria, one farmer labelling it "world-class".

The event was hosted by South Gippsland Landcare Network, with beef extension officer Fiona outlining how to calculate feed requirements and achieve a balanced diet, and ways of farming as cost-effectively as possible.

Ensuring sufficient fibre in the diet of cattle is a major consideration, with ruminants ideally requiring 35 per cent Neutral Detergent Fibre (NDF) in their diet, being mindful that pellets, oats, wheat and barley are lacking in fibre, while good grass hay contains about 65 per cent NDF.

However, it's important to also be mindful of protein content in cattle feed as excessive protein is problematic, leading to energy loss.

Lucerne hay tends to be considerably higher in protein than grass or oaten hay, with a feed profile in the vicinity of 20 per cent protein compared to around nine per cent.

It is crucial to understand the overall nutritional value of the supplementary feed you are providing cattle with, and whether the quantities each animal can eat will meet its energy requirements.

Fiona recommends feed testing to ensure you know the megajoule, fibre and protein content of each type of supplemental feed you are providing, the cost of testing being low compared to



Agriculture Victoria beef extension officer Fiona Baker demonstrates cattle feed related calculations. A01_2225

the benefits of achieving more efficient feeding.

Fiona ran through feed requirement examples for various weights of cattle and lactating animals, with examples also provided for sheep.

She discussed the possibility of early weaning of cattle in dry conditions and associated feed requirements.

Dry cows need approximately six per cent protein as opposed to 10 per cent for cows with young calves, or a little higher for those with twins.

"That opens up a whole range of different feed that we can give her," Fiona said of the reduced protein requirements for cows no longer having to provide for a calf.

She explained that reduced protein requirement can be significant in a dry period such as many Victorian farmers are currently experiencing.

The hay that farmers can presently source may not offer

sufficient protein content for a lactating cow but might meet the needs of one that has been dried off, provided she can physically eat enough to achieve her energy requirements.

"We still call her a dry cow even if she's in calf in the early stages," Fiona said.

If weaning calves early, consideration needs to be given to their dietary requirements.

"The younger you wean the animals, the more you've got to look after them nutritionally," Fiona said, noting that even though you've got to buy some pellets and hay for them, it can still represent an overall feed and cost-saving.

As far as pasture is concerned, she observed the situation is still better in South Gippsland than in other parts of the State and spoke of the potential use of urea to boost grass growth, warning of the need to observe the required withholding period before grazing to prevent nitrate poisoning



Project Officer for South Gippsland Landcare Network Kirby Leary and Bena beef farmer Gary Dorling at the Managing a Dry Season session in Koonwarra, where Gary was keen to pick up tips for keeping his cattle fed in the current challenging climate. A13_2225

which can be fatal for cattle.

"If you can get some grass growing, it can save your bacon," Fiona said.

"We have been lucky enough to have a bit of rain, so we may get a bit of growth; think about Monday, it was 20 degrees and grass will be growing at 20 degrees."

She said if you employ a closed-gate policy and give grass some grazing-free time, you'll be surprised how much it starts growing.

Fiona cautioned against overgrazing in general, noting cattle are good at sniffing out the most nutritional food, necessitating the need for well-managed paddock rotation.

Farmers keen to learn more about how best to manage in the current dry conditions are encouraged to visit feedinglivestock.vic.gov.au with Fiona Baker happy to offer advice, and contactable at fiona.baker@agriculture.vic.gov.au or on 0429 935 572.

Nominations open for 10th Cobber Challenge

COBBER is calling on Australia's toughest, stock-chasing, hard-running working dogs to battle it out for the title of the hardest working dog.

Nominations are now open for the 2025 Cobber Challenge, back for its milestone 10th edition.

The Cobber Challenge is an annual showdown where the country's best working dogs go paw-to-paw in a tribute to the unsung heroes of the farms – the four-legged legends behind Australia's billion-dollar agriculture industry.

Over the last decade, Cobber Challenge competitors have clocked up enough distance to lap Australia two and a half times, moving at a pace that would take a human nearly half a year to keep up with.

From wrangling wayward steers to guarding flocks and dominating the nation's top trial circuit, Cobber is calling for farmers across the country to shine a light on their favourite trusted companion to give them the recognition they deserve.

To celebrate its 10th anniversary, the Cobber Challenge is turning up the heat, introducing video submissions for four-legged legends for the first time.

At the end of the competition, one top dog will rise above the rest to claim bragging rights, \$3000 cash, the legendary Cobber Challenge trophy, and a year's supply of Cobber Working Dog feed.

Nominations are open via the Cobber website until June 22.

For more information, visit cobberdogfood.com.au/cobberchallenge.

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		Brian Vuillermin	0429 436 040
LEONGATHA		WONTHAGGI	
Dane Perczyk - Livestock Manager	0408 176 063	Rob Ould - Livestock Manager	0408 595 183
Jack Curtis	0427 762 670	David Holden	0428 749 390
		Alan Bolding	0419 723 255
WARRAGUL		PAKENHAM	
Neil Darby - Livestock Manager	0418 595 265	David Setches - Livestock Manager	0409 443 473
Terry Ahearn	0438 562 816	Glenn Barwick	0408 975 476
Jordan Sim	0448 058 435	Morgan Croucher	0457 001 877
Mark Malacarne	0418 654 590	Tim Gibson	0420 306 599
Georgie Snell	0417 100 657	Imogen Price	0417 225 498

Real Estate Sales

KORUMBURRA		LEONGATHA		MELBOURNE LAND	
Scott McKenzie	0427 552 898	Andrew Newton	0402 940 320	Matt Koster	0474 781 711
		Peter Dwyer	0428 855 244	COWES	
WONTHAGGI		Emily Hillberg	0422 622 299	Greg Price	0419 337 441
Phillip Hanley	0417 140 508	Tony Giles	0407 528 192	Brian Silver	0407 347 509
Cal Nation	0439 334 163	Dan Huther	0418 334 801	Chase Watters	0423 272 819
Mick Chambers	0418 349 783	WARRAGUL		VENUS BAY	
		Alan Steenholdt	0409 423 822	Daniel Lawrie	0417 631 252
GRANTVILLE		PAKENHAM		Sue Lawrie	0419 885 489
Angus Hall	0466 326 487	Tom Gibson	0438 574 472	KOO WEE RUP	
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A/c LINDSAY LOCKETT, NEERIM SOUTH
LARDNER PARK
Friday, June 13 at 11am

SELLING 75 COWS & HEIFERS

75 Autumn calved & Spring calving
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Sires include; Guthrie, Uno, KingDoc, Mirand,
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Spring calving cows PTIC to commence calving
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12 Spring Calving heifers, PTIC to Jersey bull,
all sired by popular AI sire, Latenight.

A genuine line of high Production Large framed
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Sale in conjunction with
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For further details contact:

Michael Robertson 0484 041 653,
Nutrien Livestock
Terry Ahearn 0438 562 816, Alex Scott

JC23106

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Monday, June 23 at 11am

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SELLING 215 SPRING CALVING COWS SELLING 130 SPRING CALVING HEIFERS

215 Holstein cows, sired by bulls including
Alum, Fate, Pairing, Nighthawk, Viewpoint,
Mainstage, Summerday, Superhero,
MVP, Samaritan, Roble & Samite.

Cows are PTIC to commence calving 18th of
JULY to Sexed & Conventional Holstein semen
for a 10 week period. Sires include Dynasty,
Chester, Larson, Pace, Maestro,
Float, Migos & Pharaoh.

130 Holstein heifers, sired by bulls including
Fondoo, Float, Dynasty, Maestro, Migos, Fate &
Viewpoint. **Heifers** Due to commence calving
on the 18th of July to Jersey Bull.

A first-class opportunity to buy into an
extremely youthful herd of AI bred Holstein
cows. Breeding program led by Brad Aitken
of Leading Edge Genetics. Great udders &
tremendous will to milk.

Note: All cows treated with
Enduro Dry Cow on May 29.

Sale in Conjunction with the team at DLS



For further details contact:

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JC23104

ON THE LAND



Fonterra price ‘too low’, say Dairy Farmers

MILK processor Fonterra was first out of the gate with its new milk price for the coming season, Managing Director of Fonterra Oceania, David Breckenridge, advising suppliers on May 26, 2025 of an opening weighted average Australian milk price for the 2025/26 season of \$8.60/kgMS.

Dairy Farmers Victoria President Mark Billing said the price from Fonterra is too low and the figure falls short of what is needed to sustain farmers through one of the most challenging periods in recent memory.

He argues the opening price does not reflect the reality on the ground for Victorian dairy farmers grappling with prolonged dry conditions, skyrocketing input costs, and shrinking margins.

“We recognise Fonterra’s attempt to provide price certainty early, but \$8.60 simply does not meet the needs of farmers facing feed shortages, high energy prices, and financial pressure,” Mr Billing said.

“Many farmers are being forced to de-stock or exit the industry altogether and this price will not turn that around.”

DFV is calling on all processors, including Fonterra, to revisit their pricing models and deliver an opening milk price that genuinely supports the viability of Australian dairy farms.

“We need opening prices that reflect the true cost of production in 2025, not just signals to the market; the days of pricing to the average are over and our farmers deserve better,” it is stated.

DFV continues to advocate for a sustainable, profitable future for Victorian dairy and urges the Federal and State Governments to monitor processor behaviour closely and consider additional supports for farmers during this period.

Speaking to suppliers about the opening offer, Mr Breckenridge raised hope of further improvement.

“There are favourable signals for the season ahead that are building optimism for the 26 financial year, including the increase in global dairy prices over the last 12 months,” he said.

He noted global demand has shown signs of growth, with constrained global supply driving an uptick in global prices throughout the year.

“Australian dairy exports have strengthened on the previous year in value and volume; these improvements have been supported by a return to balance between local and global dairy prices and a favourable, yet volatile Australian dollar,” Mr Breckenridge said.

He elaborated on the scene locally.

“Our domestic market, where we direct the majority of your milk, remains challenging. Inflationary pressures have yet to fully ease, and segments of Australian consumers continue to chase value through lower-cost dairy products,” Mr Breckenridge said.

“While there’s room for local demand to lift, we remain confident in the strength of our business and ability to be competitive on price as we navigate these conditions throughout the season.”

Burra Foods new milk price range reaches beyond \$9/kgMS

BURRA Foods on Tuesday confirmed a new season milk price range of \$8.60 - \$9.10 for the period from July 1, 2025 until June 30 next year.

The processor noted that quoting an Opening Minimum Farmgate Milk Price Range is its long-term practice, with most of its milk supply partners sitting within that range.

Writing to confirm the price range, previously announced verbally to farmers, Burra CEO Stewart Carson acknowledged many milk suppliers are doing it tough at the moment.

“We are actively working with local and global partners to try and source fodder for those in need,” he said, also mentioning the cashflow opportunity opened up through early commitment bonus payments.

Bena dairy farmer and Burra Foods supplier Murray Fowles anticipates getting around \$8.80 per kilo of milk solids.

While he was hoping for \$9, he is pleased with the initial price announcement and hopeful it will reach that figure during the season.

Rabobank’s Michael Harvey recently said that while Australian dairy companies will need to carefully balance the risk of a potential downturn in market performance in both the local consumer market and the commodity market over the course of the 2025/26 season price increases to milk suppliers are justified.

“There should be enough confidence to ensure guaranteed minimum prices are higher than the closing levels of the current season, reaching at least \$9 a kilo of milk solids,” he said.

Saputo announces opening milk price for the new season

SAPUTO Dairy Australia’s opening milk price for the 2025/26 season is between \$8.80 - \$8.95,

based on a weighted average across SDA’s supply base, with the processor announcing the range to its milk suppliers on Monday, June 2.

Milk prices achieved on individual farms vary according to circumstances.

SDA’s milk prices for exclusive supply are available to suppliers in Gippsland, South-West Victoria and South Australia, Northern region and Tasmania.

Kate Ryan, Director of Milk Supply and Planning, said SDA’s opening milk price reflected the stabilisation of global commodity prices, offset by sustained domestic market challenges as consumers remain cost-sensitive due to cost-of-living pressures.

“While we are optimistic there are long-term opportunities ahead, we are mindful of prevailing headwinds,” she said, noting the business will review its farmgate milk prices during the season and pass on step ups where that is supported by greater certainty across key markets and product categories.

SDA states that it continues to support farmers with flexible payment options and tailored programs to help achieve their business goals.

Lactalis and Bulla announce their opening milk prices

LACTALIS Australia on Monday announced an opening milk price for the new season of \$9 per kilogram of milk solids for its Gippsland payment region, based on its current suppliers and assuming maximum quality, while Bulla Dairy Foods set its opening price range at \$8.40 - \$9.20 per kilo of milk solids depending on supplier profile.

Bulla CEO Allan Hood acknowledged in his price announcement that farmers across Victoria are dealing with the impacts of severe drought and rising costs but also outlined challenges facing the processor.

“Like many businesses, Bulla continues to navigate a difficult and unpredictable domestic market with changing consumer behaviour, cost of living pressures and escalating input costs,” he said.

“Despite the challenges, we remain optimistic for the season ahead and are committed to being competitive at the farmgate.

“We recognise that our farmers want to see milk prices continue to rise and we will aim to deliver increases throughout the season as business performance and general market conditions allow.”

MARKET REPORT

Brought to you by...



Store market on the rise

By SGSAA

AGENTS yarded another good yarding of 3600 head at Thursday’s VLE Leongatha store sale.

Prices again lifted another 10 –15 cents and some sales more with feedlot and northern orders once again dominating.

Leongatha Store Sale on Thursday, May 29, 2025 Steers

AM & JM Forbes 12 Angus	603kg	\$4.27	\$2580
D & J Rippingale 16 Angus	549kg	\$4.44	\$2440
G Murray 19 Angus	545kg	\$4.49	\$2450
Infinity Past 15 Angus	533kg	\$4.46	\$2380
Karibu Rise 11 Hereford	532kg	\$4.04	\$2150
G Sartori 12 Angus	518kg	\$3.46	\$1800
S Wyeth 12 Angus	514kg	\$4.53	\$2330
Bilby Pastoral 20 Angus	514kg	\$4.28	\$2200
D Burn 10 Angus	501kg	\$4.18	\$2100
Woodleigh Pastoral 15 Angus	494kg	\$4.34	\$2150
J Bishop 25 Angus	480kg	\$4.49	\$2160
Sha Valley 10 Angus	471kg	\$4.35	\$2050
WA Bates & SL Gleeson 18 Angus	459kg	\$4.31	\$1980
Tarwin Meadows 18 Hereford	456kg	\$3.62	\$1750
LN Heyden 11 Angus	452kg	\$3.20	\$1450
Hageley Park 16 Angus	436kg	\$4.36	\$1900
Cravensville Est. 16 Angus	433kg	\$4.30	\$1860
D & S Hickmott 12 Angus	431kg	\$4.26	\$1840
PC & GE Haymes 22 Angus	430kg	\$3.25	\$1400
GG Churchill & DS Sly 11 Angus	428kg	\$4.19	\$1800
D Hooke 10 Hereford	424kg	\$3.76	\$1600
BD & SE Neilson 18 Angus	421kg	\$4.32	\$1820
Mt Ararat 27 Angus	419kg	\$4.37	\$1830
O’Keefe & Stafenac 10 Angus	415kg	\$3.75	\$1560
AJ,BR,NB, Moyle 12 Angus	403kg	\$4.33	\$1750
Fine Line Merinos 11 Angus	401kg	\$4.06	\$1630
Walker Family Trust 19 Angus	397kg	\$4.40	\$1750
Boundary Rd Investments 13 Ang	389kg	\$3.77	\$1470
D Young 27 Hereford	384kg	\$3.78	\$1420
B & S Phillips 15 Angus	380kg	\$3.69	\$1580
Strathbrae Equity 27 Angus	378kg	\$4.53	\$1720
D & S Fussell 18 Angus	376kg	\$4.30	\$1620
GJ & HT Symons 17 Angus	373kg	\$4.17	\$1560
Gippy Rural Enterprises 10 Mxd	373kg	\$3.67	\$1370
DB & TA Jeffrey 19 Angus	372kg	\$4.16	\$1550
Yarra Valley Farm 10 Angus	371kg	\$4.19	\$1560
WB,ML,HB,TM Armstrong 10 Hereford	370kg	\$3.50	\$1300
C Doensen 10 Angus	366kg	\$4.09	\$1500
Kardella Ridge Farm 25 Angus	359kg	\$4.50	\$1620
B Brady 10 Angus	353kg	\$4.40	\$1530
S & L Storti 16 Angus	352kg	\$4.23	\$1490
D & L Christensen 14 Angus	342kg	\$4.26	\$1460
B & R Cashin 21 Angus	340kg	\$4.46	\$1490
C Urie 10 Angus	340kg	\$4.33	\$1360
GR & LM Vale 11 Angus	336kg	\$4.40	\$1480
A & J Gerrand 26 Angus	334kg	\$4.15	\$1490
R Bleicher 15 Angus	331kg	\$4.22	\$1400
FP & CD Dortmans 15 Angus	327kg	\$3.73	\$1220
M & V Milnes 14 Angus	318kg	\$4.46	\$1420
S & K White 13 Angus	306kg	\$4.30	\$1300
WPH Holdings 16 Angus	291kg	\$3.95	\$1150
Belgrano P/L 25 Angus	287kg	\$4.56	\$1310
G & J Cope F/T 12 Angus	273kg	\$4.27	\$1170
Maybrook Past Co 18 Charolais	271kg	\$4.48	\$1220
H & A Edelmaier 32 Angus	248kg	\$4.51	\$1120
J Holt 16 Angus	241kg	\$4.89	\$1180
JG & RM Sidwell 15 Angus	241kg	\$4.30	\$1040
C & S Tayler 27 Angus	239kg	\$4.39	\$1050
RK Brumley 14 Angus	237kg	\$4.46	\$1060
Vaughan Ag 13 Angus	234kg	\$4.39	\$1030

Heifers			
Smith Investments 16 Angus	447kg	\$3.95	\$1770
J & LN Tribuzi 14 Angus	446kg	\$3.78	\$1690
B & K Pollock 10 Angus	426kg	\$3.87	\$1650
AF & JD Hodgson 18 Angus	421kg	\$3.84	\$1620
IC & RA Ripper 10 Black Baldy	403kg	\$3.27	\$1320
Sandy Hill Pastoral 11 Angus x	394kg	\$3.60	\$1420
S Bridger 18 Angus	378kg	\$3.33	\$1260
B Read 17 Angus	378kg	\$3.19	\$1210
Bass Coast Contracting 14 Ang	376kg	\$3.67	\$1380
S & L Storti 11 Angus	371kg	\$2.83	\$1050
Cravensville Estate 12 BB	359kg	\$3.55	\$1280
East Gippsland Resources 16 Ang	358kg	\$3.21	\$1150
D & J Fussell 10 Angus	357kg	\$3.66	\$1310
Pc & JT Sibly 14 Angus	353kg	\$3.31	\$1170
S Valenti 11 Angus	350kg	\$2.85	\$1000
M Mastrangoli 11 Angus	347kg	\$3.39	\$1180
D & L Christensen 12 Angus	327kg	\$4.26	\$1200
Corrabora Cattle Farm 12 Ang	321kg	\$2.80	\$900
Strathbrae Equity 17 Angus	315kg	\$3.48	\$1100
GS Pastoral 16 Angus	311kg	\$3.53	\$1100
C Urie 15 Angus	307kg	\$3.32	\$1020
B & R Cashin 15 Angus	304kg	\$3.84	\$1170
C Mercuri 21 Angus	295kg	\$3.68	\$1090
JT & ME Reid 16 Angus	287kg	\$3.48	\$1000

Lardner Park Calf Market Report

Monday, May 26, 2025

Jersey & Jersey x	\$14 to \$32
Friesian Bulls	\$34 to \$70
Beef Bulls	\$32 to \$140
Beef Heifers	\$35 to \$210
Friesian Heifers	\$35 to \$45
Number of Calves: 234	
Number purchased to rear: 36	



Workshop helps communities prepare for drought

THE Australian Rural Leadership Foundation is excited to announce an upcoming Changemaker Workshop.

This is a two-day leadership development workshop designed for individuals who want to play a more active role in the Bairnsdale communities and contribute to positive change.

The workshop, facilitated by the Australian Rural Leadership Foundation (ARLF) under the Future Drought Fund's Helping Regional Communities Prepare for Drought Initiative aims to foster self-awareness, community engagement, resilience, leadership skills, and the ability to create positive change while considering diverse perspectives and

community well-being.

Run in partnership with Gippsland Agricultural Group Inc. this workshop is open to individuals who have a strong desire to drive meaningful change within their community, an interest in finding innovative solutions for complex challenges, a commitment to exploring new approaches for building a thriving community, and an interest in driving

local action to prepare for drought effectively.

The Changemaker Workshop is a vital component of the \$29.6 million Australian Government Future Drought Fund supported Helping Regional Communities Prepare for Drought Initiative.

This initiative combines and builds on previous programs to deliver tailored support in getting agriculture-dependent communities across rural, regional and remote Australia more prepared and resilient to the impacts of drought and changing climate. It is delivered by the Foundation for Rural Regional Renewal in partnership with the Australian Rural Leadership Foundation and community organisations across the country.

The workshop will be held on June 23 to 24 at the Gippsland Agricultural Centre, Bairnsdale.

This is a fully subsidised workshop with catering included across both days.

For more information or to register for this event, visit: qr.codes.pro/XzN-VUX.



Participants of the upcoming Changemaker Workshop will play an active role in helping communities prepare for drought effectively.

VLE LEONGATHA STORE SALE 3000 CATTLE 3000

THURSDAY, JUNE 5, 2025 - Starting at 9am

PLEASE NOTE: 4PM WEDNESDAY CURFEW APPLIES

GROWN STEERS

- A/c Central Station, Bairnsdale (NUTRIEN)**
60 Hereford steers, 18-20 mths, Mawarra & Red Hill blood, NE Accred
- A/c C. L. Murphy, Welshpool (PHC)**
45 Angus steers, 14-16 mths, EagleRock & Leawood blood
- A/c Von Pace Pastoral, Giffard (NUTRIEN)**
40 Angus steers, 15-16 mths, By Leawood & Absolute Angus Bulls
- A/c Bulleondurra, Mirboo Nth (NUTRIEN)**
40 BB steers, 14-15 mths
- A/c J Reilly, Loch (NUTRIEN)**
10 Angus steers, 16 mths
15 Santa X steers, 16 mths
12 H/Ford steers, 14 mths
- A/c C & G White, Foster (SEJ)**
32 Angus steers, 13- 14 mths, VB, GF & ABF, Banquet blood
- A/c Hillside Pastoral, Seaspray (NUTRIEN)**
15 Angus steers, 18 mths
15 Angus steers, 16 mths
- A/c G & V Lane, Willung Sth (NUTRIEN)**
30 Angus steers, 15-16 mths, VB, Leawood blood, forward condition
- A/c N Stavrou, Loch (NUTRIEN)**
30 Hereford steers, 18 mths
- A/c Baldi Plains Grazing, Licola (SEJ)**
22 Hereford steers 20-22 mths
- A/c F & R Raiti, Foster (SEJ)**
20 Angus steers, 2 yo, East Gippsland bred
- A/c GW & GA Morgan, Seaton (NUTRIEN)**
20 Angus steers, 18 mths, Chilton Park blood, GF & ABF
- A/c Cobains Est P/L, Cobain (NUTRIEN)**
20 Angus steers, 18 mths
- A/c B & I Gale, Waratah Bay (NUTRIEN)**
20 Angus steers, 16-17 mths, VB, GF, ABF & Ne Accred
- A/c Melaleuca Pastoral Trust, Ruby (NUTRIEN)**
20 Angus steers, 16 mths
- A/c A Hopkins, Iona (NUTRIEN)**
20 Angus steers, 14-16 mths
- A/c A O'Loughlin, Berrys Creek (NUTRIEN)**
18 BB steers, 14-15 mths
- A/c MG Harrison, Dumbalk (SEJ)**
16 Angus steers, 17-18 mths, VB, GF & ABF, NE Accred, Hardhat bloodline
- A/c Aquila Audax Pastoral, Woodside (NUTRIEN)**
15 Angus steers, 18-20 mths

- A/c Beale & Foat, Woodside (NUTRIEN)**
15 Angus steers, 18-20 mths
- A/c Glendalough Farm, Ferndale (NUTRIEN)**
15 Angus steers, 18 mths
- A/c Fleming Holdings, Willung (NUTRIEN)**
14 Angus steers, 15 mths
- A/c KD Stothers, Stratford (NUTRIEN)**
15 Angus steers, 16 mths
- A/c Foat & Davis, Lance Creek (NUTRIEN)**
12 Angus steers, 16 mths
- A/c R Kelly & J Macdonald, Leongatha Sth (NUTRIEN)**
11 Angus steers, 18 mths
- A/c Kama Dean P/L, Jumbunna (NUTRIEN)**
10 Angus steers, 20 mths
- A/c S Crutchfield, Mirboo Nth (SEJ)**
10 Angus steers 18-20 mths
- A/c G & K Connors, Pearceedale (NUTRIEN)**
10 Angus steers, 18-20 mths, GF & ABF, VQ
- A/c D Kuch, Darriman (NUTRIEN)**
10 Angus steers, 20 mths, EU Accred
- A/c S Jackson & S Collins, Kilmany (NUTRIEN)**
8 Angus steers, 2 yo
- A/c G Lampert, Heath Hill (NUTRIEN)**
8 Angus steers, 16-18 mths
- A/c Alexander & Nicholson, Narracan (NUTRIEN)**
8 Angus steers, 14-15 mths
- A/c A&L Klinkhamer, Kardella (SEJ)**
6 Hereford X Angus steers, 2 yo

GROWN HEIFERS

- A/c Alexander & Nicholson, Narracan (NUTRIEN)**
25 BB heifers, 14-15 mths
- 25 Hereford heifers, 14-15 mths
- A/c Central Station, Bairnsdale (NUTRIEN)**
30 Angus heifers, 16-18 mths, Leawood blood, NE Accred
- A/c Mardan Lodge, Mardan (SEJ)**
22 Angus heifers, 14-15 mths, Alpine Angus bloodlines, extremely quiet in forward condition
- A/c D Kuch, Darriman (NUTRIEN)**
20 Angus heifers, 20 mths, EU Accred
- A/c G & S Couper, Mardan (SEJ)**
15 Angus heifers, 16-18mths
- A/c Powlett River Downs, Powlett River (SEJ)**
12 Hereford heifers, 18-20 mths, Unjoined, Mawarra blood
- A/c T Beamish, Boolarra (NUTRIEN)**
12 Angus X heifers, 18 mths
- A/c P & J Boddy, Woodside (SEJ)**
10 Angus heifers, 18-20 mths, Unjoined by Dunoon Bulls

WEANERS

- A/c A.G Landy, Walkerville (SEJ)**
100 Angus steers
- 40 Hereford Angus steers
- 8-9 mths, well weaned, By AI sires, Te Mania & Landfall New Ground
- A/c G & C Hosking, Woodside (SEJ)**
60 Angus steers
- 50 Angus heifers
- Leawood blood, VB, GF ABF & NE Accred
- A/c McLeod Partnership, Yarram (PHC)**
60 Angus & Angus-x steers
- 40 Angus & Angus-x heifers
- 10-12 mths, by Landfall & Ardrossan bulls, weaned 7 weeks, drenched & vaccinated
- A/c Doonagatha (SEJ)**
15 Angus and Black Baldy steers, 12 mths
- 60 Angus steers, 8 mths
- Mordallup and Harris farms blood, Weaned, VB, GF, ABF, Greenhams Acc
- A/c B&N Coulthard, Calrossie (SEJ)**
70 Angus mixed sex weaners, VB, GF & ABF, Pinora blood
- A/c M & M Cattle Co, Powlett River (SEJ)**
50 Angus steers, 10 mths, Battersby blood, weaned, VB, GF, ABF & NE Accred
- A/c Buneep Park, Bunyip North (SEJ)**
45 Angus steers, 10 mths, weaned 6 weeks, VB, GF, ABF & NE Accred, Wattlewood & Sparta bloodlines
- A/c Hollywoods Past Co. Giffard (NUTRIEN)**
40 Angus mixed sex, 14 mths, Mawarra blood
- A/c Cambridge & Carter, Hedley (NUTRIEN)**
40 Angus weaner steers, 10 mths
- A/c M & N Bracecamp, Berrys Creek (SEJ)**
40 Angus heifers, 12-14 mths, VB, GF & ABF, NE Accred, Pinora blood
- A/c B.M & G.H Missen, Woodside (SEJ)**
35 Angus steers, 12 mths, Weaned, VB, GF and ABF, Leawood & Pinora blood
- A/c JG Coleman, Llowalong (NUTRIEN)**
30 Angus steers, 11-12 mths, weaned, GF & ABF, NE Accred, Sire by Landfall New Ground Bull, VQ
- A/c Manuka Ridge, Kilcunda (NUTRIEN)**
30 Angus mixed sex calves, 7-8 mths, By Merlewood, Absolute Angus & Kelly Stud Bulls, weaned 6 weeks, Multimin, Virbamec Plus Drenched, 3x5in1, NE Accred
- A/c B & D McMahon, Leongatha Nth (NUTRIEN)**
25 Angus steers, 12 mths, East Gippsland Bred

- A/c B & D Lucas , Woodside North (PHC)**
20 Red Angus mixed sexes, 12-14 mths
- A/c NR & KD Hansford, Yinnar (NUTRIEN)**
20 Hereford mixed sex, 8-10 mths, Mawarra blood, weaned
- A/c J & J Beamish, Boolarra (NUTRIEN)**
18 Angus X heifers, 12 mths
- A/c D Jerram, Leongatha (NUTRIEN)**
18 Angus steers, 8-9 mths, Millah Murrah/Rennylea blood, EU & NE Accred, GF, VB, ABF, Fully Vacc. Drenched & Multimin 3/5 , Vq
- A/c L & M Harris, Mirboo (SEJ)**
18 Angus steers, 7 mths, weaned, VB, GF & ABF, Harris Farms blood
- A/c R & S Lowe, Kilcunda (NUTRIEN)**
18 Angus mixed sex calves, 7-8 mths, By Merlewood, Absolute Angus & Kelly Stud Bulls, weaned 6 weeks, Multimin, Virbamec Plus Drenched, 3x5in1, NE Accred
- A/c R & L Edis, Grand Ridge (NUTRIEN)**
7 Angus & Hereford steers
- 10 Angus / Hfd X Hfrs
- 12 mths
- A/c C & R Schellekens & Sons, Berrys Creek (NUTRIEN)**
12 Angus & BB steers, 8-9 mths, weaned 6 weeks
- A/W Caldwell, Yinnar Sth (NUTRIEN)**
10 Angus steers, 8-9 mths
- A/c B & J Taylor, Mardan (SEJ)**
10 Angus Steers, 10 mths, VB, GF & ABF
- A/c SP Dunlop, Middle Tarwin (NUTRIEN)**
9 Angus heifers, 12 mths

XBRED & DAIRY

- A/c Vening Agriculture, Hedley (PHC)**
32 Angus / Friesian x heifers, 12-14 mths, By "Smiths" stud Angus bulls
- A/c Smartship Logistics P/L, Grantville (NUTRIEN)**
20 Angus X steers, 12 mths
- A/c D Joyce, Outtrim (NUTRIEN)**
18 Friesian & Black Poll Friesian X steers, 24-30 mths

COWS & CALVES

- A/c M Breen, Buffalo (NUTRIEN)**
13 X 13 Angus cows, 1st & 2nd calvers with Angus CAF 6-8 weeks, Leawood bloodlines, Not Rejoined



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BIRTHDAY GREETINGS



A Wonthaggi legend is turning 98 on 6th June.

“Happy Birthday Danny Carr”

From all your family and friends.
XOXO

VIC1010

DEATHS

BOWCHER (Dowel), Beverley Jean:

27.10.1937 - 30.05.2025.

Passed away peacefully at Hillside Lodge, Korumburra.

Daughter of Serge and Maysie Dowel (both dec.).

Sister of Norman.

Loved wife of Bill (Allan) (dec.).

Loving mother and mother-in-law of Allan and Julie, Marion and John, Robert and Narelle.

Nana of 8, great nana of 10.

Reunited with “Dad”

Please see Handley Funeral Services website for funeral details.

To place a notice on this page please call

5672 1888

DEATHS

BOWCHER (Dowel), Beverley Jean:

Loved mother and mother-in-law of Allan and Julie.

Beloved nana to Brad and Danielle, Megan and Steven, and Melanie.

Great “Nana Bowcher” to Damon, Jett, Amity and Diesel.

Forever in our thoughts.

Loved mother of Marion and John.

Loved nana to Belinda and Tom, Ian and Narelle, Lauren and John, and Peter.

Great nana to Joel and Liam, Eden and Hugo, Jackson and Natalie.

Peacefully sleeping with her beloved Bill.

Loving mother and mother-in-law of Robert and Narelle.

Loving nana to Emily.

Memories bring us closer, we are never far apart, you will never be forgotten, you are always in our hearts

Nana,

We will forever hold close the fond memories, love, and laughter we shared. Thank you for passing on your family recipes, and for sharing some of your interests with us.

We love you.

Belinda, Tom, Joel and Liam.

DEATHS

COUCH, Alma Jessie:

14.03.1938 - 30.05.2025.

Beloved wife of Keith.

Loved mother to Stephen, Debra (dec.) and Janine, mother-in-law to Chris, Paul and Christine.

Cherished grandmother to Janelle, Alannah, Fraser, Jessica, Mitchell, Lucas, Madelyne, Owen, Nathan and Kelsey.

Adored great grandmother to Hugo, Arlo, Hunter, Makenzie, Payton, Pippa, Mack, Cole, Mina, Alan, Brody, Baillie and Jaxon.

“A Life Well Lived”

“In Our Hearts Forever”

COUCH, Alma:

Over the years we shared so many fun times with you.

You will always be fondly remembered.

Proud to call you a friend.

--Terri, Max (dec.) and family.

DOWIE, Lorraine Lorna:

Passed peacefully with family by her side at Griffiths Point Lodge, San Remo on Thursday, May 22, 2025, aged 96.

Loving wife of Jack (dec.).

Loving mum and mum-in-law of Pam (dec.) and Joe, John and Ian, Kevin and Debbi, and Suzanne.

Loving grandmother of 7, great gran of 14 and great-great-gran of 2.

DEATHS

FRASER, Barbara:

A true wonderful friend. R.I.P.

--Sue and John Cartwright.

FRASER, Barbara:

Loved and respected past member and friend of the Wonthaggi Croquet Club.

Barbara was President for a time until illness dictated otherwise.

Our condolences to family and friends.

--R.I.P Barbara.

HAYWARD-NASH, Virginia Lois:

Passed away peacefully on May 31, 2025, at home surrounded by her family.

Loved wife of Robert.

Loving mum and mother-in-law of Mukti and Warren, David, Susan, Peter, and Tammyanne.

Adored nana of Ravi, Qiran and all the extended grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Loved Always.

POCKLINGTON, Keith Frederick:

Born on May 25, 1933. Passed away May 28, 2025.

Dearly loved husband of Pat for 69 years.

Loved father and father-in-law of Kevin (dec.), Margaret and Dale, Andrew and Jan, Stephen and Deidree, Jim and Heather, Greg and Belinda.

Loved grandfather of 7.

Loved great grandfather of 9.

Forever in our hearts.

DEATHS

PRICE, Lorraine Mary (Sue):

19.04.1941 - 27.05.2025.

Beloved wife of Cecil (dec.).

Loved mother of Leonie, Marlene, Patricia (dec.), and Wayne.

Beloved grandmother and great grandmother.

Forever in our hearts.

ROWE, Brian:

22.04.1943 - 28.05.2025.

Passed away peacefully at Latrobe Valley Regional Hospital, aged 82.

Beloved husband of Norma for 60 years.

Loving father of Suzanne (dec.), Michelle, and Steven, father-in-law to Andrew, and Laura.

Adored pop to all his grandchildren and great grandchildren.

A great storyteller who will be sadly missed.

VAN LOON, Paul:

29.06.1947 - 20.05.2025.

It is with saddened and heavy hearts we announce the passing of Paul.

Loving husband and soulmate to Kaye for 54 years.

Cherished dad to Michelle, Naomi, Lauren and Eleisha.

Respected father-in-law to Patrick, Greg and Grant.

Adored poppy to Morgan, Phoebe, Kaylee, Rhian, Lucy, James, Lucas and Patrick.

Fly High, Fly Free

Gone Birding

WHEATLEY (nee Gladstone), Maureen:

Passed away on May 29, 2025.

Loved sister of June and Bruce, aunty of Leanne, Jocelyn and Sharyn.

--Sadly missed.

FUNERALS

COUCH:

The Funeral Service for Mrs. Alma Jessie Couch will be held at Handley and Anderson Chapel, 3085 Loch-Wonthaggi Road, Wonthaggi on Tuesday, June 10, 2025, commencing at 11am.

A Private Family Burial will follow.

Handley & Anderson Wonthaggi 5672 1074

FUNERALS

HAYWARD-NASH:

A Memorial Service to Celebrate the Life of Mrs. Virginia Lois Hayward-Nash will be held at the Baptist Church Wonthaggi, 81 McBride Avenue, Wonthaggi on Tuesday, June 10, 2025, commencing at 2:30pm.

For live-streaming go to www.handleyandersonfunerals.com.au

Privately Cremated.

POCKLINGTON:

A Memorial Service (prayers) for Mr. Keith Frederick Pocklington will be held at St Kevin’s Catholic Church, McKitterick St and Geale St, Meeniyon on Friday, June 6, 2025, commencing at 12pm.

A Private Burial will precede the above Service.



HANDLEY FUNERALS

LEONGATHA & WONTHAGGI

The Funeral Service of Mrs. Lorraine (Sue) Mary Price will be held at the Foster Lawn Cemetery commencing at 12pm on Wednesday, June 4, 2025.



GIPPSLAND FUNERAL SERVICES

5482 2443

www.gippslandfuneralservices.com.au

ROWE:

A Graveside Funeral Service for Mr. Brian Rowe will be held at the Korumburra Cemetery, Kardella Road, Korumburra on Tuesday, June 10, 2025, commencing 1.30pm.

All Masonic Brethren are respectfully invited to attend.

HANDLEY FUNERALS

LEONGATHA & WONTHAGGI

VAN LOON:

A Memorial Service to Celebrate the Life of Mr. Paul Van Loon will be held at the Mirboo North Golf Club, 18 Galvins Road, Mirboo North on Thursday, June 5, 2025, commencing 1.30pm.

HANDLEY FUNERALS

LEONGATHA & WONTHAGGI

IN MEMORIAM

DEVLIN, Don:

04.12.1936 - 22.03.2021.

DEVLIN (nee Sward), Margaret:

05.08.1942 - 31.05.2024.

Much loved parents, grandparents and great great grandparents.

Miss you both so much and love you forever.

--Leanne, Katrina and families.



STERLAND, Anthony (Sterls):

19.09.1968 - 05.06.1987.

God has you in his keeping, we have you in our hearts.

Dearly loved xxx.

-- Mum and sisters Adele and Chantelle.

WRENCH, Lachlan Scott:

He was a huge part of my life for almost 18 years and today marks 18 years without my beautiful son, Lachlan.

Forever loved and missed, Garry and Jo, Grandma Wrench and family.

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES



PLATINUM WEDDING ANNIVERSARY:

Celebrating 70 years of love, loyalty, and commitment.

Brian and Glenis Hanratty married in Toora, June 4, 1955.

Their journey together has been a testament to enduring love.

They continue to inspire their legacy of seven children, sixteen grandchildren, and sixteen great grandchildren!

Wishing them many more years of happiness and joy.

BEREAVEMENT THANKS

DELL, Phillip:

Christine and family would like to thank everyone for their love, cards and flowers on the passing of Phillip.

Special thanks to Armitage House Doctors and staff for their care and kindness, the Workmen’s club, Scott and Sharon, and staff at Handley and Anderson Funerals.

FOR SALE

FILING CABINETS

Brand new with an anti-tilt safety feature

Available in 2, 3 and 4 drawers. Over 8 colours to choose from.

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Small squares, this season, good quality, \$17 per bale, delivered.

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GARAGE SALES

INVERLOCH:

21 BIRD ST, Saturday, June 7. 9am-2pm

Collectables, household goods, books, clothing. (Cash only please).

USED CARS TRUCKS & TRACTORS

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We pay you for your unwanted cars, 4x4’s & trucks

We can remove farm scrap metal for free. Towing now available.

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Advertisements offering a used motor car for sale must include in the advertisement:

(a) The cash price of the motor car; and

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- If the motor car is unregistered, the engine number of the vehicle.

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Cash paid.

0417 108 286.

PUBLIC NOTICES

CORINELLA COMMUNITY MARKET

Community Market, Smythe Street, Harold Hughes Reserve

Saturday, June 7, 9am-2pm

All enquiries to

0490 852 753

JENC5069



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3085 Loch-Wonthaggi Road, Wonthaggi (P.O Box 35)

Cowes office (by appointment)

15 Warley Avenue, Cowes 5952 5171

Email: info@handafunerals.com.au

www.handleyandandersonfunerals.com.au

A.F.D.A.

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Sentinel-Times Classifieds

PUBLIC NOTICES



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**HAPPINESS
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COURAGE
ACCEPTANCE**

Will this help personally towards a happier life therefore a better world.

MEETINGS



Glen Alvie Cricket Club

AGM

Friday, June 20 at 6.30pm

Glen Alvie Clubrooms
All welcome

PERSONALS

GENT:

Late 60's, calm caring nature, NS, LSD, wide interests, own home, and car, would like to meet a lady, 65 - 75. Height / weight unimportant. Disability welcome. Ph: 0483 189 549.

SITUATIONS VACANT



WONTHAGGI PRIMARY SCHOOL

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST FOR THE PROVISION OF A CANTEN SERVICE AT WONTHAGGI PRIMARY SCHOOL

The school needs a service that will offer:

- Offsite preparation with delivery to the school
- Flexibility
- A menu with clear link to government's Healthy Eating Guide
- Online ordering

For a copy of the scope please contact Vicki Leheny, Business Manager on 5672 1600

Expressions of Interest closes 4pm Tuesday, June 17, 2025

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.

DEADLINES

Classified single column
Mondays 12.00 noon

Classified double column
Fridays 3.30pm

Please note that double column advertisements requiring a proof must be received at least two hours prior to deadline and proofs will not be provided for single column advertisements.

TO ADVERTISE



Phone:
5672 1888



Email:
ads@sgst.com.au



In person:
**47 McBride Ave, Wonthaggi
36 McCartin St, Leongatha**



Mail:
47 McBride Ave, Wonthaggi

SITUATIONS VACANT



LEONGATHA Secondary College

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: dailiorg@leonsec.vic.edu.au



LEONGATHA Secondary College

TEACHERS MATHS/SCIENCE
Full Time - Fixed Term
Term 3 & 4 2025
Job ID 1477926

ENGLISH
Full Time - Family Leave position
Commencing September 1, 2025
Job ID 1477933

EDUCATION SUPPORT
Part Time - Fixed Term
Term 3 & 4 2025
Job ID 1478010

All enquiries to Tanya Chalmers, Acting Principal 5667 2200

Applications to be made via Dept of Education's Schools Jobs Vic website



INVERLOCH HEALTHCARE

PART-TIME PRACTICE NURSE
Inverloch Healthcare, Bass Coast

Join our warm, supportive team at Inverloch Healthcare.

We're looking for an experienced General Practice Nurse to work one day per week, with the flexibility to cover leave.

Essential skills and experience:

- Accredited Nurse Immuniser
- Strong in wound care & chronic disease management
- Confident in conducting health assessments
- Comfortable working independently, while contributing to a close-knit team

You'll be joining a friendly, professional and supportive clinical team of seven GPs and two experienced Practice Nurses in a respected local clinic committed to providing high-quality, patient-centred care.

Ready to be part of something amazing?
Apply now and make a difference in the lives of our patients by submitting your resume with a cover letter and any questions addressed to Suzanne Simpson, Practice Manager at invyhealth@gmail.com.



NEWHAVEN COLLEGE



Newhaven College is an independent co-educational school on Phillip Island offering quality education for students from Prep to Year 12

Newhaven College is seeking applications for:

PRIMARY TEACHER

Full Time Junior School Classroom Teacher for Semester 2, 2025

For more information and details on requirements, duties and responsibilities, visit our website.

Commencement Semester 2, 2025.

Applications to be submitted to: recruitment@newhavencol.vic.edu.au

Applications close Monday 9 June, 2025

Newhaven College is a child safe environment. Every child has a right to be safe, and at the College we have a zero tolerance for child safety risks (including child abuse and reportable conduct). As such, preferred applicants will be subject to child protection screening, background and reference checks, verification of identity checks and must adhere to the College's child safe practices, as outlined in the Child Protection Program policies available on the College website.



Environment and Sustainability Coordinator

With our 2040 Vision and Strategy guiding us toward our vision - to be a trusted partner, advancing water services to support customer and community aspirations - we are seeking a skilled, enthusiastic and community focused person to join us.

South Gippsland Water is a diverse, community-oriented organisation and offer the following:

- Strong focus on career opportunities, professional development and training
- Highly flexible work options, including modified hours and/or work weeks
- Employee Assistance Program and broad wellbeing offers
- Family friendly workplace, including Paid Parental Leave
- Attractive Salary Packaging options available (eligibility conditions apply)
- Flexibility to work from home, with base location at any of our offices in Wonthaggi, Foster or Leongatha

Diversity is celebrated and respected as important for our wellbeing and success. Through our Equity, Inclusion and Diversity Strategic Plan, Gender Equality Action Plan and upcoming Reconciliation Action Plan we are actively working to address the gender pay gap, create opportunities for underrepresented groups and partner with Traditional Owners.

- Permanent Full Time
- Starting Location Wonthaggi, Leongatha or Foster
- SGW Enterprise Agreement Band 6 \$82,702.66 - \$89,148.20 + Statutory Superannuation & Leave Loading

Please go to <https://www.sgwater.com.au/careers/> for more details about SGW, the role and how to apply

Applications Close Sunday, June 15, 2025 at 5pm

1300 851 636 | www.sgwater.com.au

Office Hours:
9am-5pm Monday to Friday

Payments accepted:



Advertising conditions:

Full name and address of advertiser must be supplied even though not necessarily included in advertisement.

The publishers reserve the right to omit and alter any advertisement. Please check your ad is correct the first day it appears. While every care is taken to ensure your ad is correct, errors can occur. We regret that we cannot be responsible for any errors beyond the first day if you fail to bring it to our attention.

All advertisements must be prepaid unless client has an existing credit facility. Accounts are due and payable on the due date as shown on the account.

The Motor Car Traders Regulations:

States that from July 1, 1998 all advertisements for used vehicles including motorcycles must include the cash price of vehicle and registration number or engine number if not registered.

Sentinel-Times

SITUATIONS VACANT



ACHIEVING SUCCESS IN A CARING
AND CREATIVE ENVIRONMENT

ADMIN ASSISTANT/
RECEPTIONIST

San Remo Campus

Family Leave Position, commencing
Monday, September 1, 2025
2 days/ week 8:30am – 4:30pm

Applications close on
Tuesday, June 10, 2025

Bass Coast College is seeking a suitably
qualified and / or experienced person
to join its team in 2025 for the
above position.

Applications need to be made
via School Jobs Vic
<https://www.vic.gov.au/school-jobs>
Job Vacancy ID:1477743

Further details are available on School
Jobs Vic or for more information please
contact **Gabe Windsor –**
Business Manager on 5611 4000

Cowes Primary students immerse in culture during Education Week

COWES Primary school embraced Education Week with great enthusiasm, diving into the theme “Celebration of Cultures” recently.

The week was a wonderful opportunity to highlight the rich diversity of the school community and to reinforce the importance of every child feeling safe, valued, and welcome at school.

Throughout the week, families from Prep and Grade 1 were invited to share their cultural heritage with the classes, and the response was truly heartwarming.

Each presentation brought a unique perspective and offered the children a meaningful glimpse into the traditions, languages, and lifestyles of people around the world.

The Grade 2 students shared in a collaboration with ITL Public School in India, sharing their culture and what life is like for each of the schools through online meetings, presentations and letters.

A highlight was a joint yoga session led from India that all Grade 2 students from both schools participated in.



Cultures were celebrated at Cowes Primary School during Education Week.

Sentinel-Times

COVERING SOUTH GIPPSLAND AND BASS COAST



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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 jlangley@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

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

Work with and 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@adamsupport.org.au or
- President Les on 0417 572 475 email: admin@adamsupport.org.au



MILPARA COMMUNITY HOUSE

MILPARA Community House has donated a pile of power tools to the Korumburra Women's Shed. It's great to be able to support other emerging community groups.

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 on Wednesday, June 4 at 9.30am at the tool box meeting to find out more. "The Life Force Program" will be shared by the Prostrate Cancer Foundation of Australia

Laura Corbert from Latrobe Community Health Service gave a fabulous talk on Thursday all about How to Live Longer at Home. She shared information essential for everyone over the age of 65, about beginning the registration process for My Aged Care. Even if they are not needing the services immediately, it's wise to get their paperwork in the cue, for what can be a very lengthy processing time.

Don't worry if you missed this talk. Laura will be returning to the Korumburra Community Hub to repeat her presentation, on Wednesday, June 4 at 10am.

She will also be available at Milpara Community House one day each month to personally guide you through the My Aged Care registration process. The first session will be 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 foodbank.

Our Services Australia agent is at the house Mondays and Thursdays 10am to 1pm, Tuesdays and Wednesdays 9.30am to 2pm.



15 Little Commercial Street, Korumburra PH: (03) 5655 2524 www.milparacommunityhouse.org.au

LEONGATHA COMMUNITY HOUSE

LEONGATHA Community House is thrilled to announce a fantastic lineup of programs and workshops over the coming months.

Join us to help Build Our Story, a project with the goal of preserving the history of Leongatha Community House by compiling stories, photos and memories from the community that future generations can cherish in the form of a book.

If you're looking to stay active, we are introducing a new walking group, the Friday Walkers which is for all abilities and has shorter walks to encourage people of all demographics to get fit and healthy. Why not also try our new Hatha Yoga

class run by Nicki on a Wednesday from 11.30am-12.30pm. Hatha Yoga involves a series of poses that help improve flexibility, strength, and balance, combined with controlled breathing to enhance concentration and relaxation. It's suitable for all levels, as the pace is generally slow and steady, allowing practitioners to focus on alignment and mindfulness.

For the more artistically inclined we have an Alcohol Ink Workshop with Maree Blore on June 14, hands-on and perfect for beginners and seasoned artists alike!

We are also holding a Painting with Acrylics class every Friday from 10am-12pm, it's a fun

and casual group for all levels of skill.

Additionally, we're looking for new people to participate in our Book Club which meets on the second and fourth Wednesday from 1pm-2.30pm every month where one fortnight you talk about the assigned book and the other you can discuss anything you've been reading lately in this friendly group.

We also have some interesting Bus Trips coming up, including a visit to the Moonlit Sanctuary on June 6, as well as a trip to the Noojee Hotel on June 17. As usual, we offer a Personal Day Bus Service every Wednesday with a small fee for pick-up/drop-off you're your home in

Leongatha, Korumburra, and surrounding areas.

If you're interested in making a positive impact and to learn new skills, we're looking for volunteers! We need bus drivers to assist with our exciting trips and volunteers to support our daily operations. Join our team and contribute to making a difference within the community.

For more information please contact us at: 5662 3962 or info@leongathacommunityhouse.org.au.



16 Bruce Street, Leongatha PH: (03) 5662 3962 www.leongathacommunityhouse.org.au

WONTHAGGI NEIGHBOURHOOD CENTRE

APPARENTLY last week's Community Lunch was another triumph! I say 'apparently' because I wasn't able to make it, but by all accounts, Chef Emma once again outdid herself. If you'd like to experience the welcoming community that epitomises our Wednesday lunches and to try out the wonderful food, just call or pop into Wonthaggi Neighbourhood Centre to book a seat or two. You are very welcome to bring a friend with you to Mitchell House at 12.30pm on Wednesdays during school terms. The lunch is free, though if you can, a gold coin donation is always appreciated.

After the community lunch on

Wednesdays, our LearnShare Art Group meets. This is a dynamic mix of 'budding' as well experienced artists who share space whilst coming together to work on their own projects. If this sounds like something you'd be interested in, grab your paints, pencils and any other things you might need, and come along.

Maybe there is something from our suite of health and well-being programs that would interest you. Yoga? Seated Yoga? Both of these classes happen during school terms and are taught by qualified and experience practitioners. As is our newest program - Qi Gong. This new class is at 12.30pm on

Tuesdays and if you're interested in joining, call Nicky on 0488 333 139 for more information and to book a place.

As always, I want to thank our fantastic group of volunteers. Mostly they are at our reception desk, attending to people as they come in, giving out information or contact details for other service providers, helping with bookings and any number of other enquiries. You'll also find volunteers helping with the community meal and tending our small but productive food garden.

Sometimes Mitchell House is a bustling, noisy, crowded (even chaotic) place and sometimes Mitchell House feels like a calm,

warm place to be. Either way, our volunteers are on the job, doing their best to ensure everyone is welcomed. And of course, not to forget our Learner Driver Program Mentors. Volunteering their time and skills to help our community's young people to get their learner driving hours up preparing them to get their 'P' plates.

Want to get involved in any of this? If the answer is yes (or even maybe) just give us a call. We'd love to hear from you.



6 Murray St, Wonthaggi PH: (03) 5672 3731 www.wonthaggineighbourhoodcentre.com

BASS COAST ADULT LEARNING

BCAL had its Annual General Meeting last Thursday. The keynote address was given by Greg Box, CEO of Bass Coast Shire.

Mr Box delivered a very interesting presentation about growth in the Bass Coast Shire and the opportunities that growth will bring. There will be an increased demand for services with the population forecast to increase over the next 20 years. Naturally, one of those services will be education and training, which makes the topic very relevant to BCAL.

The AGM also made a fond farewell to Maddy Harford, who is retiring from the BCAL board. Ms Harford joined the BCAL board in 2017 during

some very challenging times for the centre. During her five years as Chair of the board, her leadership ensured that BCAL grew into the flourishing and vital organisation that it is today.

WONTHAGGI COMMUNITY GARDEN

One of the garden's original plots, built when the garden was established more than 15 years ago, has been dismantled, to make way for three new plots. Its raised timber frame was rotted and beyond repair.

Now handyman and volunteer, Kevin, has come up with a fresh design for the space left behind, which introduces a creative element to the raised-box-plot concept.

Using different shapes and angles, the three new timber plots should provide lots of growing space and inspiration for decades to come.

There are plenty of opportunities to get involved at the community garden. You can contact us for more info at tgordon@westnet.com.au or at BCAL on 5672 3115.

WONTHAGGI WOODCRAFTERS

A few years ago, the Woodies Committee trialled renaming General Meetings to Members' Meetings to create a more social and interest-based focus.

The format included reducing formal business, encouraging participation in Show and Tell,

and featuring a guest speaker at each meeting. The trial was a success and the format has continued, thanks to the support of dedicated members.

Talks at the meeting don't have to be specifically on the topic of woodworking – some have been about safety, travel and mental health while still connecting with members' interests. It has made the meetings much more popular.

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

Rural communities grant for Korumburra Women's Shed

KORUMBURRA Women's Shed and Gallery led by Moy-Yan Neighbourhood House has been awarded \$24,278 from the Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal (FRRR) as part of its Strengthening Rural Communities (SRC) program.

The grant will assist Korumburra Women's Shed with the Women Surviving and Thriving program creating an inclusive, disaster-ready women's facility with a generator, wood heater and upgraded kitchen and workshop.

The Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal announced more than \$1 million in grants across rural Australia for projects that celebrate, strengthen and support remote, rural and regional communities.

Jill Karena Head of Granting at FRRR said rural people want their communities to be places that future generations choose to call home.

Ms Karena said FRRR is actively supporting disaster preparedness and recovery.

"Not only are remote, rural and regional communities more likely to experience a disaster, but the lack of accessible services, economic resources and risks of greater social isolation all mean that recovery is a long-term and ongoing journey.

"We're proud to support the people and places that are tackling these issues head-on."

More information about the SRC program is available at frrr.org.au/src.

National Day of Prayer

By John Searle

ON JUNE 7, people all over Australia will be gathering to pray for our country.

They will be gathering in around 100 different places across our great country with a common agenda for all the groups. Topics for our prayers will include prayers for our Leaders – Federal, State and Territory and, where appropriate, local and those on the land across Australia.

The floods and droughts are causing very real problems for our farmers – they need our prayers. The venue for this gathering is the Wonthaggi Baptist Church in McBride Ave, Wonthaggi. There will be hourly sessions starting at 10 am and everyone is invited to come and share our prayers and concerns for our country for the whole day or just for an hour.

Come when you can, go when you must.

• FAITH FACTOR

Be the Hope

By Captain Amanda Hart, South Coast Gippsland Salvos

"BE THE Hope" is the theme of this year's Red Shield Appeal – and it couldn't come at a more relevant time. Across South Gippsland and Bass Coast, we've seen a steady rise in the number of individuals and families reaching out for help.

The faces behind the statistics are local: the single parent skipping meals so their children can eat, the elderly neighbour who can't afford both medicine and heating, the young person sleeping rough after leaving an unsafe home. These are not distant issues they're happening right here in our community.

Being the hope doesn't require grand gestures. Sometimes it's a warm meal, a kind word, or simply being there when someone feels alone.

The Bible reminds us in Hebrews 6:19 that "we have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure."

Hope keeps us steady in the storms of life – and often, it's each other who helps hold the anchor.

Whether or not you consider yourself a person of faith, hope is something we all need. And we can all be hope – for our neighbours, our town, our future.

Because when people are struggling, what they need most isn't just a solution – it's someone who sees them, cares, and stands with them.

That's what it means to Be the Hope.

Finals await as regular season wraps up

THE final round of the regular season has been played, and the ladder is locked in as the Phillip Island and District Darts League heads into the exciting finals series!

After nine competitive rounds, the top four teams are set to battle it out in the prestigious A Grade Final, while teams placed fifth to eighth will compete in the ever-popular Gumboot Final. Meanwhile, teams finishing ninth and 10th will be playing to avoid the dreaded wooden spoon. The official finals draw will be released shortly – stay tuned!

A big shout out to the Vikings, who finished the regular season on top of the ladder and will head into the finals as the team to beat. It's been a fantastic season across the board, and congratulations are in order to all teams who have shown dedication and sportsmanship throughout the year.

In off-the-board highlights, congratulations to Jeff, who stepped in for Battista and walked away with the coveted San Remo Butchers meat tray raffle win – a prize as delicious as it is prestigious!

Next week, before the Kings Birthday break, we'll enjoy a fun and fast-paced Lightning Premiership. This round-robin event will see all teams face off once in a game of either 801 or 601 (format to be confirmed). It's always a crowd favourite and a great warm-up before the finals.

Note to all captains: If your team is unable to compete in the Lightning Premiership due to player availability, please let us know as soon as possible so fixtures can be adjusted.

Thanks again to everyone for making this season such a success. Good darts and good luck to all teams heading into the finals!

Pairs triumph at Island Bridge

PAUL Hill generously led a special learning session on "Active and Passive Leads" on Monday morning at the Phillip Island Bridge Club.

Those in attendance also enjoyed the morning tea treats, including Boston bun and walnut scrolls.

Fifteen pairs then competed in the afternoon session. Jean Barbour and Greg Nicholson were first N/S pair on 63.54 per cent.

Moya Crowley and Michael Dooley were first E/W pair on 57.14 per cent.

On Wednesday, with a field of eight pairs, Jean Barbour and Greg Nicholson triumphed again with a massive score of 75.6 per cent. In second place were Trish and Don Stewart-Uden on 61.9 per cent.

Supervised lessons will continue on Tuesday afternoons. For anyone interested in joining the club to play bridge or take lessons, please contact Caroline on 0418 369 557.

South Gippsland Bridge Club

MAY 27 at Wonthaggi RSL: six tables competing.

Winning master points: First: Faye Rowlands and Doug McIntosh with a 58.46 average board score. Second: Roger and Glenda McNee 57.85. Third: John French and Deb Anglim 56.59. Fourth: Ruth Harvey and Alan Johnston 56.00. Fifth: Penny Loughran and Ruth Stevenson 49.70.

May 27 at Inverloch: eight tables competing.

Australia Wide Restricted Pairs Event: North/South Pairs: First: Sean Munley and Bruce Higgs 60.12. Second: Graeme and Wendy McKendrow 57.85. Third: Penny Loughran and Ruth Stevenson 51.79. Fourth: Julie Perriam and Kathy Dowd 49.70.

East/West Pairs: First: Penny Lanser and Doug Mc Intosh 62.80. Second: Denise Allitt and Tom Kudelka 61.31. Third: Caroline Shaw and Jill Short 55.06. Fourth: Robyn Synan and Ruth Harvey 49.70.



The Victorian ISSF Target Pistol Shooting state team won the AED Authority Team of Year Award the 2024 Victorian Sport Awards. Kardella's Linda Ryan (third from right) was a member of the winning team.

State shooting team congratulated

KARDELLA'S Linda Ryan was part of the Victorian ISSF Target Pistol Shooting state team that won the AED Authority Team of Year Award at the prestigious 2024 Victorian Sport Awards.

The awards were held in the Members Dining Room at the Melbourne Cricket Ground on May 14.

The team was nominated by team manager and former multiple world champion in action pistol competition shooting Cherie Blake following last year's nationals.

Shooting in Brisbane at the Commonwealth Games range, the team shot exceptionally well, nearly winning everything. "The nationals are held every year, and throughout the year we do selections by competing locally, interstate and internationally. We have to achieve certain scores to make the team, and last year 14 qualified," Linda said.

"Part of the reason we were successful was because it is an inclusive sport. We had a cohort of juniors, para-athletes and experienced shooters who all shot very well. We were pleased to hear that we were finalists."

Four members of the team, including Linda, attended the

event and accepted the award.

"We were thankful to Cherie for nominating us, and also AED Authority for sponsoring our category," Linda said.

The Victorian team was straight back into it, shooting at nationals on May 17 and 18.

Although it was not quite as successful, Linda proudly shot well in her primary match and was third outright.

Linda has been shooting since she was 14 years old, inspired by her family's love for the sport.

Her father was a Commonwealth Games gold and bronze medallist, and both parents have represented Victorian and Queensland over the years.

Linda's stepmother is also heavily involved with sport, and she met her partner Chris whilst competing at the National Championships in Tasmania.

Linda and Chris moved to South Gippsland in 2005, and have since been shooting with the District Pistol Club.

"Outtrim has a really high-performing club. It has around 49 members, who have been state and national team representatives. It's a great club and we are proud to be members," Linda said.

"Rural clubs are the best. People are always pitching in, and we have a really great balance of different disciplines.

"Shooting can be a bit of a 'choose your own adventure'. You can choose to be as competitive as you want to be and go international, or you can compete locally, or just attend your club shoots. There's so many opportunities."

Linda started competing for Australia in 1995 and retired from that level in 2016.

"Competing for Australia is a real honour. It's an honour to be able to wear the team uniform and it's an absolute honour to hear the anthem when you are on top of the dais," she said.

"Competing at the Sydney Olympics was definitely a highlight. I came 11th there and just missed out, but I was happy with my performance."

Linda was also part of the World Championship teams in 2010, received gold and silver at the Commonwealth Games in Manchester, and silver in India.

"The highlights are also the team bonds you have with your teammates. When I was at the Sydney range for nationals, there were four people shoot-

ing who I used to travel with all the time. It was just wonderful to catch up with my old teammates who are still competing and shooting at different levels," Linda said.

She enjoyed a lot of success over the years and kept a strenuous training routine to maintain peak performance.

"Before I moved here, I was working part-time and training part-time. It's a highly mental sport, so I was undergoing a mix of technical, weight and gym training," she said.

Linda will now be focusing on recovering from a shoulder injury before heading to a state-wide competition in August.

She is also taking steps to give back to the sport she loves so much.

"I'm on the Target Pistol Australia Board and I do a bit of coaching," she said.

"What has been really good to see is across Australia we have a new group of juniors coming through who are so incredibly talented. Four of them weren't at nationals because they were competing overseas in Germany at the Junior World Cup.

"We are looking at the future of our sport with the aim of the 2032 Olympic Games in Brisbane."

Changing of the guard at the Wonthaggi Croquet Club



The team that represented Wonthaggi Croquet Club in the Bass Coast Shield featured, back from left, Kathy Ross, Jo Butterfield, Marj Prendergast, front from left, Mike Butterfield, Gerry Kool and Neil Warburton.

THE club's annual general meeting was held on May 21 with two of the existing committee members stepping down after several years in their positions. President Gerry Kool and treasurer Paul Andrews opted not to stand again.

The new committee was duly elected and sworn in, and the club now has Tom Lacey at the helm as president with Neil Warburton as vice president.

Sue Cartwright continues on as secretary and will be backed up by Bert Orr as assistant secretary. Stephen Wilbourne is the new treasurer with Kathy Ross and Marj Prendergast as committee members. The club will be in good hands going forward.

Prior to this, on May 13, six members travelled to Phillip Island to compete in the annual

Bass Coast Shield, a singles/doubles competition comprising Wonthaggi, Phillip Island, Korumburra and Leongatha.

This is always a challenging but fun day. However, no accolades for Wonthaggi this year as it was narrowly beaten by Korumburra.

Phillip Island finished third with Leongatha bringing up the rear. On the weekend of May 24 and 25, four members competed in the Lakes Entrance Singles event.

Tom Lacey competed in Section 1, winning one game.

Neil Warburton and Virginia Wheeler in Section 2 won one game and four games respectively with Sue Baker in Section 3 winning five games and finishing a credible third. Bragging rights on the way home for Sue.

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	June 3
▲ 4.42am	1.47m
▼ 10.41am	0.51m
▲ 5.46pm	1.65m
▼ 11.19pm	0.71m

WEDNESDAY	June 4
▲ 5.40am	1.41m
▼ 11.24am	0.62m
▲ 6.29pm	1.58m

THURSDAY	June 5
▼ 12.09am	0.70m
▲ 6.48am	1.37m
▼ 12.07pm	0.73m
▲ 7.09pm	1.52m

FRIDAY	June 6
▼ 12.59am	0.69m
▲ 7.59am	1.35m
▼ 12.53pm	0.84m
▲ 7.48pm	1.46m

SATURDAY	June 7
▼ 1.50am	0.67m
▲ 9.03am	1.37m
▼ 1.46pm	0.94m
▲ 8.30pm	1.41m

SUNDAY	June 8
▼ 2.44am	0.65m
▲ 10.04am	1.42m
▼ 2.49pm	1.01m
▲ 9.15pm	1.38m

MONDAY	June 9
▼ 3.39am	0.61m
▲ 11.00am	1.48m
▼ 4.03pm	1.04m
▲ 10.03pm	1.36m

Email us your fishing photos

news@sgst.com.au



Jessica, Christie, Kirsten, Natalie, Lucinda and Steven were ready for the start of the five-kilometre Southern Rail Trail Run. B74_2225

Southern Rail Trail running festival attracts hundreds

NOT everyone may have been up to running 100 kilometres but for the elite and amateur, young and old, mums, dads, grandmas and grandads and plenty of young runners there was a distance to suit everyone at the inaugural Southern Rail Trail Run at Leongatha.

Starting at Port Welshpool at 6.45am the 100-kilometre ultra-marathon was definitely a race for the elite only with the Dads Running Club relay team arriving in Leongatha eight hours and 35 minutes later.

Lone individual runner Merlin Gammon was not far behind clocking eight hours and 47 minutes.

The first team home in the 72-kilometre ultra-marathon which started at 7.30am in Port Welshpool was the BPC relay team arriving in Leongatha six hours and 57 minutes later.

Welcome to the thrill of trail running.

Embracing breathtaking scenery, vibrant community spirit, and unforgettable challenges on trails where history and adventure collide runners were able to experience South Gippsland's rich rail history.

The first runner to return home from the round-trip to Stony Creek for the full 42.2-kilometre marathon starting at 8.30am in Leongatha was Kane Iskra in three hours and 26 minutes.

The first runner home in the 21.1 kilometre half marathon which started at 9am in Stony Creek was Kyle Standfield arriving in Leongatha one hour and 23 minutes later.

The 10 kilometres and five kilometres fun runs started at 9am at Leongatha with the first runners returning home 25 minutes later, and a two-kilometre free family dash was a dead heat between young Nathan Moore and Brody Jarvis completing the distance in just six minutes and one second.

Results 2025 Southern Rail Trail Run

- 100km Male**
- 1. Relay Team Dads Running Club (8:35:30)
 - 2. Relay Team Third Leg

- Legends (8:43:25)**
- 3. Individual Merlin Gammon (8:47:00)

- 100km Female**
- 1. Relay Team Prom Coast Express (8:57:56)
 - 2. Individual Shimin Li (10:57:37)
 - 3. Individual Stephanie Ellis (11:14:37)

- 100km Mixed**
- 1. Relay Team Coupers Coasters (7:49:53)
 - 2. Relay Team All The Gear-No Idea (9:49:51)

- 72km Male**
- 1. Relay Team BPC (6:57:33)
 - 2. Individual Findlay Ferguson (7:57:05)
 - 3. Individual Elder Bejar (9:08:32)

- 72km Female**
- 1. Sheena Appleyard (7:19:24)
 - 2. Adele Burgess (8:32:00)
- 42.2km Male**
- 1. Kane Iskra (3:26:07)
 - 2. Barry Degan (3:30:48)
 - 3. Kai Barrera (3:40:29)

- 42.2km Female**
- 1. Nagiska Mayes (3:49:12)
 - 2. Rachael Johnstone (3:49:12)
 - 3. Tilly Sandbach (3:57:50)
- 21.1km Male**
- 1. Kyle Stanfield (1:23:29)
 - 2. Michael Thomas (1:25:33)
 - 3. Maxim Maximov (1:26:45)

- 21.1km Female**
- 1. Charlotte Terrill (1:40:11)
 - 2. Maggie Brown (1:44:32)
 - 3. Anna Lockwood (1:46:50)

- 10km Male**
- 1. Marcus Hope (36:27)
 - 2. Mark Tapscott (39:06)
 - 3. Aidan Brouwer (40:10)
- 10km Female**
- 1. Natalie Kaspers (46:13)
 - 2. Hannah Vedder (48:28)
 - 3. Astrida Birzulis (49:33)

- 5km Male**
- 1. Matthew Korecki (25:25)
 - 2. Benny Bickerton (26:06)
 - 3. John Behrsin (26:24)

- 5km Female**
- 1. Lily Marazzato (21:14)
 - 2. Lynda Tancredi (27:25)
 - 3. Ruyu Yao (27:44)

- 2km Male**
- 1. Nathan Moore (6:01)
 - 2. Brody Jarvis (6:01)
 - 3. Leo Deery (7:24)

- 2km Female**
- 1. Heidi Jarvis (7:51)
 - 2. Jesse Jarvis (9:16)
 - 3. Mckenna Smith (9:44)



Three generations of the same family competing in the 5km Southern Rail Trail Run at Leongatha Julie, Sharon, Isaac, Toby and Anderson. B87_2225



Ali Cooper, Laura Malady, Owen Cowell and Daniel Cross from Sandy Point, Foster and Frankston (Team Coupers Coasters) were winners of the 2025 Southern Rail Trail 100km Mixed Team Relay. B114_2225



Felicity, Cait, Ollie and Archer three generations of the same family from Foster competing at the Southern Rail Trail Run in Leongatha. B110_2225

Gripping final round at Wonthaggi Table Tennis

DONIC defeated Stiga three to two. Even the wailing winds that unleashed their ice and fury off Bass Strait's sea caps and into the walls of the humble hall could not curb the heat stoked within the aspiring finalists.

Donic's Justin, leading player and perennial finalist, was pushed to his limits by Tim from lowly Stiga in an enthralling battle of thrust and parry.

Did a tailwind zephyr splinter from the wail in the wall and kiss the net hovering ball on the bot bot and push it over, granting Justin victory 11 to eight in the seventh?

It is so sport that a mere splinter can decide who is glorious and who is not.

No doubt Justin deserved the win, but Tim can hold his paddle high. Radak defeated Butterfly three to two.

Was this the grand final preview? Form says yes, fate says beware the vagaries of sport. Double Fish defeated Nittaku four to one.

Shout out to Stiga's Tim and Luke and Nittaku's Braden and Charley who missed the finals but didn't miss making major contributions to a fun and competitive season.

Wonthaggi has entered three teams into the Table Tennis Victoria's Country Championships held in Traralgon on King's Birthday weekend.

Whatever the results, stories will be collected.

A Grade ladder: Radak 32, Butterfly 28, Double Fish 24, Donic 24, Stiga 8 and Nittaku 4.

Leading players: Justin 19, David 17, Braden and Dirk 12.

Next matches: semifinals. Radak v Butterfly: double chance.

Donic v Double Fish: knock out. Thursday night: B Grade.

Ball defeated Edge five to zero; Bat defeated Smash four to one.

Ladder: Serve 28, Bat 22, Ball 21, Smash 14 and Edge 4.

Leading players: 14 Trish and Yeti, 12 Jay, and 11 Shane.

Next match: preliminary final.

Bat v Ball: winner to play Serve in the grand final.

Personal bests beaten at the Grand Ridge Rail Trail parkrun

A BRISK morning greeted the parkrunners at the Grand Ridge Rail Trail, but fine weather and smiles warmed everyone up.

The event wrapped up with great company and coffee at Lamezleighs Café – thank you to all who joined in.

Personal bests were achieved by Paul Krausz – 23:00, Maddison Anthony – 24:24, Adrian Smith – 25:52, Alicia Turner – 36:36, Frank Krausz – 40:06, Joel Neal – 42:35, Janice Bouquet – 46:45, and Bradley Bouquet – 46:46.

A warm welcome was given to first-timers Auryn Holmes, Jeffrey Pearson, Alicia Turner, Janice Bouquet and Bradley Bouquet.

Massive thanks to the volunteers for making this event possible, Robert Gray, Bev Johnson, Dave Knowles, David Lewis, Carmel Quirk, Steve Quirk, Liz Radcliffe and Rongshang Zhang.

Whether you're racing the clock, taking it easy, or pushing a pram – parkrun is for everyone.

Come be part of the movement. Join in next week at the trail shelter from 7.45am.

Post parkrun coffee will be at Jimmy Jams.



Jan Murphy, Rhonda Rattenbury and Marj Ford were the Breakaway Bowls winners on Monday with a score of +15.



Craig Jenkins and Bev Tyers enjoyed a win at the Foster Bowls Club.



Wonthaggi Senior Indoor Bowl's Singles Championship runner up for the men Allan Ireland and winner Laurie Culph with ladies' winner Maggie Scapin and runner up Lia Smith.



Glenda Binch, Sylvia Mattock and Jeannie Slocombe were the Friday winners at Wonthaggi Senior Indoor Bowls.



Wonthaggi Bowls Club's Saturday winners were Colin Binch and George Stein.



The Section 1 winners at Inverloch Bowling Club's Tuesday night competition were Peter Shaw and Keith Cousins, and the runners up were Bev and Charlie Tyers.



Inverloch Bowling Club's Section 2 runners up at the Tuesday night competition were Marg Griffin and Shirley Turton, and the winners were Mean and Phil Price.



Vern Elliott (S), Sue Wright (2), Michael Saunders (3) and Aggie Gratton (L) were the well-deserved South West Gippsland Midweek Bowls Group winners.



Thursday's best one game winners for the South West Gippsland Midweek Bowls Group were Tony Heppleston (S), Gwen Jeffrey (2) and Richard Kerr (L). Absent: Steve Edge (3).

BREAKAWAY BOWLS

ANOTHER great was had by the very enthusiastic members. The winners on Monday were Jan Murphy, Rhonda Rattenbury and Marj Ford with +15 – a very respectable score, well done ladies. Again, there was a great turn-out of happy bowlers on Friday. There seem to be more people who just want to bowl and have a great day out. Everyone is welcome. The winners were Pat Novak, Ken Webb and Peter Novak. They had a score of +15 – well done.

FOSTER

THE wintery weather is starting to rear its head. However, that doesn't stop some of the bowlers still having a bowl out on the green. On Saturday afternoons, the club runs outdoor social bowls, weather permitting – all welcome. Come along for the practice and fun. Phone your names in (5682 2061) or turn up by 12.30pm, so teams can be prepared. Play starts at 1pm. It costs \$5 to play. The club is also trying out social indoor carpet bowls over the winter on Wednesday nights. The club has got the mats out of storage and is raring to go. Last week saw 12 players turn up for the first night. Lots of fun was had with everyone trying out their skills. With three wins, the winners on the night were Craig Jenkins and Bev Tyers, winning a yummy box of smarties each. The club is still working out

the format for the nights, so your feedback is welcome. At the moment, phone your names in (5682 2061) or turn up by 6.30pm for a 7pm start. It costs \$5 to play. Bring your own supper to share after the games. The club is happy for you to bring your dinner in to eat before play and it can open the bar up for service. Phone Bev on 0408 369 298 for further details. The club would love to see you all come along. Everyone is welcome.

INVERLOCH

UNFORTUNATELY, the final night of the Tuesday night competition had to be cancelled due to the inclement weather. A group of the participants did gather in the clubhouse though for a snack and a drink, to see the winners and runners-up collect their prizes. In Section 1, the overall winners for the season were Peter Shaw and Keith Cousins. The runners-up were Bev and Charlie Tyers. In Section 2, Phil and Mean Price took home the winners' prize, with Marg Griffin and Shirley Turton the runners-up. Both winners had a clear margin on the rest of the field, however, it was a lot closer for the runners-up prizes. The club extended its thanks to Pam Sutcliffe and Karen Orford for the snacks on the night and to Derek Brown for manning the bar each week. The club was pleased with the support for this competition and look forward to holding similar events in the future.

Don't forget the Bowl Over Cancer Day event. The day will be different with four games of five ends. Lunch will be after the second game. Homemade soup and bread will be available. After the last game, the club will be holding an afternoon tea. Please bring a plate to share. A trading table will also be available on the day as well as a raffle. Last Thursday saw more than 30 bowlers attend. After two games of 10 ends, the eventual winners and runners-up were separated by only one point. The hard luck story for the day was the team of Reg Varty (skip), Jon Justin and Carol Thorn. Runners-up with two wins and 32 points were Daryl McStravick (skip), Brian Humphris, Ted Lee and Carol Waters. The eventual winners were Keith Cousins (skip), Rob Howard, Joan McStravick and Pam Sutcliffe.

MIDWEEK BOWL

A LOVELY cold morning brought 50 of the family of bowlers to San Remo on Thursday to fight it out in the weekly challenge. The bowlers were welcomed to the club by esteemed president John, while Rob and Claire arranged the teams. Once the teams were arranged, they all went out to the green to start the challenge. It was immediately clear that it was going to be a hard day with such great teams on the green. As usual, there was plenty of laughter and friendly banter between the players, and some

brilliant bowls being played. Only a couple of wrong bias bowls, but it all helps to fill the Royal Children's Hospital tin. This week's well-deserved winners on 34 points were Vern Elliott (S), Sue Wright (2), Michael Saunders (3) and Aggie Gratton (L). Runners-up on a score of 33 points were Peter Taylor (L), David Talbot (3) and Peter Gratton (S). Best one game winners on a score of 18 were Tony Heppleston (S), Gwen Jeffrey (2), Richard Kerr (L) and Steve Edge (3). Many thanks to the volunteers, including Mark in the bar as well as Claire and John in the kitchen. Next week, the bowlers will be meeting at Koo Wee Rup as it returns to the fold following its recent rebuild of the clubhouse. The club hopes to have a full house to welcome it back. The club will meet at 10am to allow time to prepare the teams prior to the 10.30am start. Please, be on time as the numbers are getting quite high and if you are in after the books are full then you may have to miss out. Meanwhile till then, have fun and stay safe.

WONTHAGGI

ONLY one day of social bowls this week. Wednesday was not a good day; even though the weather was fine, a strong wind made conditions unpleasant. Saturday saw a good number of 35 bowlers grace the greens on a fine but overcast day. Most of the teams were pairs, along with some triples to balance the numbers. There were three teams that were two-game winners, with the unlucky team being Ken Gage

and Bruce Cameron. The runners-up were Frank Tagell and Rob Aitken with a score of two wins and 32 points. The winners were Colin Binch and George Stein with a score of two wins and 33 points. Once again, Friday night was a success with good numbers and a good vibe in the room. Steve, Rod, and Jeannie were happy meat tray winners. The members' draw didn't go off, so next week it will be \$70. Bowls this week: Wednesday: Social bowls at 12.30pm. Friday: Coaching at 10am. Saturday: Social bowls at 12.30pm. Friday night: Meat tray raffles at 6pm, plus the members' draw, standing at \$70 this week. Don't forget to put your name or names on the sheets for the Pennant season. Have a good week and good bowling.

WONTHAGGI INDOOR

THIS week, the club held its Singles Championships. It was a very competitive day. Congratulations to the winners. The ladies' winner was Maggie Scapin and runner-up was Lia Smith. The men's winner was Laurie Culph and the runner-up was Allan Ireland. On Friday, the club had 22 players compete. The winners with a plus 11, winning two games, were Glenda Binch, Sylvia Mattock and Jeannie Slocombe. Runners up, also winning two games on plus two, were Judy Sweetnam, Carol Thorp, Philip Fowler and Fred Demenech.



Winners at the Wonthaggi Golf Club Anne Walker and Catherine Bolding with runners up Carole Sartori and Shaz Patullo.



Winners of the Red Cross Red Tee Gentsomes Challenge were Jill Steer, Joc Howson, Bill Howson and Glenyce McRobert at the Leongatha Golf Club.



Bev Bridge, Janet Thompson and Pauline Lancaster were the winners of the annual Green Card Day at the Woorayl Golf Club.



Peter McMaster with Thursday's A Grade winner Greg Wilson at the Korumburra Golf Club. Peter won the daily raffle.



Korumburra's Wednesday winning Ambrose team was Beryl Brown, Merrissa Cosson and Mandy Seater.

KORUMBURRA

RESULTS: Tuesday, May 27. Stableford: 11 players. Winner: Barry Kerr (9) 34 C/B. NTPs: first Barry Kerr. Thursday, May 29: Stableford: 19 players. A Grade: Greg Wilson (12) 33 points. B Grade: Chris McConnell (20) 34 points. NTPs: first Steve Rose, seventh Peter Van Agtmaal, 10th Greg Wilson and 13th Mick Belvedere. Saturday, May 31: Sponsor: Barry Kerr. 4BBB Stableford: 37 players. Winners: Richard Johnson and Matt Burns 50 points. NTPs: first Brian Pope, seventh Shayne Harland, 10th Peter McMaster and 13th David Gow.

Ladies

THE women braved the weather to play a three-four person Ambrose last week. The club welcomed many new faces to play 18 holes and thanked captain Kerri for organising a fun day for all. Congratulations to the winning team of Merrissa Cosson, Beryl Brown and Mandy Seater, who came in with a handy score of 59.167net. Runner-up with a score of 62.625net was the team of Johanna van den Heiligenberg, Karen Sorrell, Chris Rickard and Charmaine Morton. BDTL went to Shelley Snooks, Maree Wittingslow and Leanne Thomson with 68net. NTP on the first went to Charmaine, 10th Johanna and 13th green Lyn McIvor. Afterwards, a farewell afternoon tea was held for Johanna and Val, which was enjoyed by all. The club wishes you both all the happiness in your new home

in East Gippsland.

Thank you for your contribution to the Korumburra Golf Club over the years. Well done to the women who went to Wonthaggi and Leongatha recently, thanks ladies for representing the club. Saturday was the last of the beautiful autumn weather with women playing a Stableford game. Congratulations to Shelley Snooks (14) winning with a nice 34 points, followed by Jenny Blackmore (24) close behind, 33 points on a c/b. BDTL went to Jennie Loughnan (35), also with 33 points. NTP on the 10th was Jenny and the 13th Shelley.

LEONGATHA

TUESDAY, May 27: Stableford. Fifty members played Tuesday's Stableford round. Overall winner: John McInnes. A Grade winner: John McInnes (11) with 36 points. A Grade runner-up: Dean Kellett (6) with 32 points. B Grade winner: Philip Edwards (16) with 34 points. B Grade runner-up: Barry Attwood (16) with 32 points on a countback. NTP 14th: Russell Williams. NTP 16th: Bernard Skerys. NTP second shot fifth: Gary McGrath. Thursday, May 29: 4BBB Stableford Event. Seventy-seven members and guests played in Thursday's 4BBB Stableford Event. Winners: Matthew Pearce and Bernard Skerys with 43 points. Runners up: Walter Taberner and Warren Stewart with 42 points. NTP 14th: Ray Matthews. NTP 16th: Steve Foster. NTP second

shot fifth: Gordon Morrison.

Saturday, May 31: Stableford. Ninety-three members and guests played in Saturday's Stableford Event. Overall winner: Craig Hutchinson. A Grade winner: Craig Hutchinson (5) with 37 points. A Grade runner-up: Dean Kellett (6) with 34 points. B Grade winner: Mark Anderson (13) with 36 points. B Grade runner-up: Gordon Morrison (14) with 33 points. C Grade winner: Ken Lay (18) with 34 points. C Grade runner-up: Kay Dumbleton (17) with 33 points on a countback. D Grade winner: Michael Delaney (24) with 35 points. D Grade runner-up: Graeme Clark (26) with 31 points. NTP 14th: Philip Heath. NTP 16th: Adrian Banks. NTP second shot fifth: Dean Kellett.

Ladies

THE Red Cross benefited from the proceeds of the Gentsomes Red Tee Mixed Stableford event last week. The winning team, with 96 points were Bill and Joc Howson, Jill Steer and Glenyce McRobert. Not too far behind and winning a ball for their efforts were Josh and Karen de Groot, Janet Monk and Sue Bowler. A special award was given to Sue Bowler for her 47 points. Balls down the line went to Fran Kearney, Maryanne Gartner, Dave Brownnett and Lianne Anderson with 90 points.

MIRBOO NORTH

TUESDAY, May 27: Stableford. A Grade: J. Woodall (11) 40 points. B Grade: S. Beitz (17) 36

points.

DTL: R. Thompson 34, T. Whitelaw and J. Hughes 33. NTP: fourth M. Richter, sixth J. Woodall, 13th N. Baker and 16th M. Payne. Birdies: fourth T. Whitelaw and J. Smeriglio, and sixth J. Woodall. Saturday, May 31: 4B Aggregate. Winner: R. Scurlock and P. Smart 73 points. Runner-up: N. Baker and G. Renwick 70 points. DTL: T. and B. Bradshaw 68, and S. Duff and D. Taylor 66. NTP: fourth S. Duff, sixth D. Taylor, 13th N. Bickerton and 16th T. Whitelaw. Birdies: sixth D. Taylor and J. McFarlane.

WONTHAGGI

RESULTS: May 29, SR. 71. Competition: Stableford 18-hole. Winner: Keith Ridout 40. Runner up: Neil Beer 39. BDTL to 35: Gary Youten 38, Glen Turner 35, Graeme Campbell 35 and Philip McCrimmon 35. Results: May 29, SR. 36. Competition: Stableford nine-hole 10 to 18. Winner: Secondo Tiziani 18. BDTL to 16: Mark Nicholson 17, Norm Burne 17 and Ken Cuman 16. Results: May 31, S.R 71. Competition: Par. A Grade: Mat Johnson +4. B Grade: Alan Jones +6. C Grade: Michael Hetherington +2. BDTL to +1. Ball sweep: Aaron Yann +4, Warwick Judkins +2, Kevin Bayley +2, Steven Laing +1, Ben Martin +1, Andrew McAllister +1, Glen Moresco +1 and Robby Geyer +1.

Eagles: Jarrod Brusamarello first.

NTPs: Eric Van Agtmaal second, Kevin Jamieson fourth, Allan McLean pro pin eighth, Simon O'Halloran 13th and John Walsh money hole 17th.

Ladies

WEDNESDAY was a 4BBB fundraising day on behalf of the Royal Women's Hospital – an event Golf Australia has been running for many years. There were 14 teams in the field. At the end of the day, there were three teams on 42 points, so a countback had to split them. Winners were team Anne Walker (19) and Catherine Bolding (16) from Team Carole Sartori (45) and Shaz Patullo (29). NTP on second was Shaz Patullo, eighth Kaylene Hodgetts and 17th Bev Sloan. BDL went to Marg Johnson and Jane Buardromo 42, Marg Johnson and Kaylene Hodgetts 41, Layla Robertson and Heather Wintle 41, and Jenny McRae and Lisa Brusamarello 39.

WOORAYL

Ladies

SO MANY Woorayl ladies are away tripping, but nine set out to play the annual Green Card Day, sponsored by Jo Fennell. The weather was sunny, then raining in pretty even patches. Fortunately, there wasn't any wind. Winners were Pauline Lancaster, Bev Bridge and Janet Thompson. Runners-up were Jean Hayes, Tracey Ryan and Kath Davis, followed by Ann Poole, Jo Fennell and Barb James. Next week is monthly Medal Day.



U12 Boys: back row, from left, Steve Lock (coach), Louie Thomas, Wes Gijbsers, Jobe Lock, Jonah Bennett (captain), Hudson Zeldenryk, Freddy Granger, Flynn Jury, Mitchell Thomas, Ian Thomas (coach); front row, Josh Fairess, Tom Incoll, Harry Sivori, Henry Kennedy, Lenny Vella, Eli Rogan and Gareth Kennedy (coach).



U12 Girls: back row, from left, Andrea Dempsey (coach), Stephanie Moon, Amy Stockdale, Caitlyn Jacobs (captain), Ruby Allman, Amity Wilkinson; front, Gabby Titmarsh (captain), Chelsea Chambers, Alice May, Zahli Koster, Liberty Murdoch, Kelsey Watson and Lily Murphy. Absent: Hannah Taylor and Ada Cross.

Rep teams prepare to head to Albury Wodonga

ON SATURDAY, May 31, the Gippsland Soccer League celebrated their 2025 Representative Squads with a Jersey Presentation at Drouin Dragon's new facility. With their biggest event, the Country Championships, taking place next weekend, this was a chance to acknowledge our teams and share in the excitement prior to the long weekend. The event saw over 300 attendees across three age group presentations cheer on our Rep Squads. The main event of the Representative Squad season is the annual Country Championships which sees all country soccer associations gather for a three-day tournament across the long weekend. This year our squads will travel to Albury Wodonga and face opponents from leagues such as Geelong and Sunraysia. This year the GSL is sending six squads: U12, U14 and U16 boys and girls teams. It is the first year the league has submitted equal girls and boys teams. The GSL would like to thank Drouin Dragons for hosting the event and wishes our representative players and families a safe and fun tournament.



U14 Boys: back row, from left, Liam Anderson, Noah Bowman, Eli McLean-Watling, Sonny Carlin, Ollie Phillips, Casey Sherburn, Cameron Taylor, William Martin, Brody Sherburn, Bob Wilkinson (coach); front, Fred Gannon, Chayce Vivian, Chadwick Wilkinson, Raiden Knabe, Tom Stevenage (captain), Ben Stephens and Kaiden Hughes.



U14 Girls: back row, from left, Hannah Titmarsh, Georgia MacDonald, Grace Goodwin, Emily Douglas, Zoe Diesner (captain), Lily Thomas, Ava Barber, Gines Satchithanandam (coach), Myrid Bartlett (coach); front, Heidi Cawood, Cyra Satchithanandam, Daisy Hockett, Chelsie Rowe, Marcella Incoll, Aylah Strickland and Ruby Reidy. Absent: Paul Goodwin (coach).



U16 Boys: back row, from left, Daren Dempsey (coach), Aaron Kelly, Quincy Hay, Sam Scott, Thai Townley, Lincoln Newton, Peeraphan Panyo (captain), Fletcher Middleton, Daniel Prentice, Tony Bals; front, DJ Meadows, Myka Sylvio, Stefan Tumino, Josh Taylor, Jonah Foster, Will Langley-Jones and Heath Clifford.



U16 Girls: back row, from left, Lisse Bath (assistant coach), Amara Pittorino, Michaela Marr, Evie Titmarsh, Aurora Quintana Laing, Ana Heneghan, Neka McKenzie, Talia Thomas, Rob Sherburn (coach); front, Tanna Goding, Brianna Purvis (captain), Asha Earwicker, Grace Wilkinson, Savannah Mclean-Watling, Joss Geronimo and Tallarah Murdoch.



Women's: Leongatha Knights player Madeline Herbert dominated on the wing.

Leongatha Knights are still recruiting U15 girls

ROUND six of the GSL saw the Knights entertaining at home with visiting clubs including Mirboo North United, Drouin Dragons and Korumburra City. The U14s kicked off the day with the winter sun shining bright. A strong Mirboo North outfit scored early, but the younger Knights kept their heads high and continued to battle through.

Shout out to Lachlann, who made some incredible defensive moves and Lewis' impressive footwork as he dribbled around his opponent. Next up was the new U15 Girls team (still recruiting!), who took on Drouin's Maroon team.

Amy put up an incredible half in goals, making some impressive saves. Hannah's incredible work rate and skill in midfield earned her Player of the Match. Shout out to Liberty for scoring two goals in 1v1 situations with the keeper. Marvellous job!

The U17 Blue team and the U12 Blue team both took home wins against Mirboo North. The U17 White team, who were playing away at Drouin, played a tough game against a dominant Drouin.

The day at home rounded out with Senior matches. The Lady Knights took home a strong win with striker Lisse scoring six goals. Reserves took the lead in the first half but were overcome in the second against neighbours, Korumburra.



Under 14s: Leongatha's Stella takes control of the ball from her Mirboo North opponent.

Gippsland Soccer League Results

ROUND 6 Results – Sunday, June 1
Senior Mens: Trafalgar Victory 8 d Inverloch Stars 0, Drouin Dragons Maroon 6 d Lang Lang United 1, Phillip Island Breakers 3 d Wonthaggi United 1
Senior Womens: Phillip Island Breakers 12 d Wonthaggi United 1, Leongatha Knights 10 d Mirboo North United 0, Trafalgar Victory 3 d Inverloch Stars 0, Drouin Dragons Maroon 3 d Lang Lang United 0
Mens Reserves: Trafalgar Victory 3 d Inverloch Stars 0, Phillip Island Breakers 6 d Drouin Dragons Maroon 2, Korumburra City 5 d Leongatha Knights 2
Under 17 Mixed: Drouin Dragons Maroon 7 d Leongatha

Knights White 1, Leongatha Knights Blue 6 d Mirboo North United 0, Phillip Island Breakers 2 d Wonthaggi United 1, Drouin Dragons Maroon Yellow 5 d Korumburra City 1
Under 15 Girls: Wonthaggi United 3 d Phillip Island Breakers 2, Drouin Dragons Maroon 8 d Leongatha Knights 2, Drouin Dragons Yellow 4 d Korumburra City 0
Under 14 Mixed: Drouin Dragons Maroon 6 d Lang Lang United 0, Wonthaggi United 3 d Phillip Island Penguins 0, Inverloch Stars 6 d Phillip Island Stingrays 3, Mirboo North United 6 d Leongatha Knights 0, Drouin Dragons Maroon Yellow 3 d Korumburra City 1

Under 12 Girls: Lang Lang United 8 d Drouin Dragons Maroon 4, Wonthaggi United 8 d Phillip Island Breakers 7
Under 12A Mixed: Drouin Dragons Maroon 7 d Lang Lang United 1, Leongatha Knights Blue 3 d Mirboo North United 0, Korumburra City 2 drew Drouin Maroon Yellow 2, Phillip Island 6 d Wonthaggi United 0
Under 12B Mixed: Trafalgar Victory 7 d Inverloch Stars 1, Drouin Dragons White 6 d Drouin Dragons Yellow 0, Phillip Island Penguins 9 d Wonthaggi United 4
The Gippsland Soccer League have a bye round over the King's Birthday weekend, and Round 7 will be played on Sunday, June 15.



AFL Gippsland, Latrobe Health Services and Female Football Gippsland successfully hosted the Latrobe Health Services Gippsland Gather Round Female Festival of Footy recently.

Crowd gathers round for Female Festival of Footy

AFL Gippsland, Latrobe Health Services and Female Football Gippsland successfully hosted the Latrobe Health Services Gippsland Gather Round Female Festival of Footy on Sunday, May 25, at Yinnar Recreation Reserve.

The event was a vibrant celebration of girls and women's sport, while also promoting health awareness and accessibility within the Gippsland community.

With 10 back-to-back matches across two ovals, the festival provided non-stop footy action and showcased the talent of youth girls and women, drawing strong crowds both in person and via livestream.

Players and fans alike were inspired by AFLW stars including Gippsland's own number one Collingwood draftee Ash Centra, Gippslanders Amber Schutte from Collingwood and Tyla Hanks from Melbourne Football Club, and newly drafted Collingwood player Georgia Knight.

"The energy on the day was incredible – seeing so many athletes and families come together to celebrate female football highlights how important it is to this community," Female Football Gippsland's president Graeme Smith said.

Tim Cotter, regional manager at AFL Gippsland, agreed.

"The Female Festival of Footy united our youth girls' and women's teams to inspire the next generation and promote healthier lifestyles for all Gippslanders. Featuring kicking and handballing competitions, an

all-girls football skills clinic, and half-time Auskick games, it was truly an action-packed day in Yinnar," he said.

Beyond the on-field action, the festival also provided an opportunity for attendees to take advantage of free Shane Warne Legacy Health Checks, delivered by Latrobe Health Services as part of their ongoing commitment to improving health outcomes.

These screenings helped participants assess critical heart health indicators, such as blood pressure, heart rate, body composition, diabetes risk, and non-fasting cholesterol levels.

More than 70 checks were completed across the day, with almost one quarter of participants recording high blood pressure readings and almost half had not had their blood pressure checked in the last 12 months.

"Regional communities often face additional challenges in accessing preventative health care, so being able to provide these free heart health checks was an important part of the day," Chief Executive Officer at Latrobe Health Services Ian Whitehead said.

"At Latrobe Health Services, we strive to support the long-term health and wellbeing of Gippslanders. We want people to not only enjoy the game but also walk away with valuable health insights that can make a real difference in their lives."

Coronary heart disease remains a leading cause of death in Australia, with regional and rural areas disproportionately affected.



AFLW inspired future stars at the recent Latrobe Health Services Gippsland Gather Round Female Festival of Footy.



Hazel Stone eyes the target for Toora, the junior player getting a taste of Senior netball against MDU. Photo: Jo de Boer.



Goal for goal at the end of round eight with Hawks in front to take possession. Photo: G. S. Bruning.



Haley Watkins moves the ball forwards. Photo: Bec Casey Sports Photography.



Maddy Macfarlane-Mate scored 12 of Morwell East's 56 for the win in a heated game against Stony Creek. Photo: G. S. Bruning.



Stony Creek is open for the ball against the Hawks in their close contest. Photo: G. S. Bruning.



Grace Berryman takes the pass for Fish Creek B Grade. Photo: Bec Casey Sports Photography.



High pressure from Stony Creek against Morwell East made for a close contest in Round 8. Photo: G. S. Bruning.



Emma Watkins stands tall to block the shot at goal. Photo: Bec Casey Sports Photography.



Hayley Bourke passes it off centre for Fish Creek. Photo: Bec Casey Sports Photography.

MID GIPPSLAND

RESULTS																				
A GRADE			B GRADE			C GRADE			D GRADE			17 & UNDER			15 & UNDER			13 & UNDER		
Thorpdale 37 lt Tarwin 70			Thorpdale 28 lt Tarwin 51			Thorpdale 13 lt Tarwin 58			Thorpdale 7 lt Tarwin 52			Fish Crk 40 d Foster 15			N-borough 20 lt Yinnar 46			N-borough 18 d Yinnar 10		
N-borough 46 lt Yinnar 55			N-borough 35 lt Yinnar 43			N-borough 30 lt Yinnar 32			Hill End 33 d Boolarra 22			Stony Crk 39 d Morwell-E 28			Hill End 34 d Boolarra 29			Toora 20 d MDU 16		
Stony Crk 53 lt Morwell-E 56			Stony Crk 51 d Morwell-E 32			Fish Crk 28 lt Foster 36			N-borough 24 lt Yinnar 42			N-borough 10 lt Yinnar 73			Toora 29 d MDU 11			Hill End 8 lt Boolarra 25		
Fish Crk 44 lt Foster 60			Hill End 42 d Boolarra 27			Stony Crk 32 d Morwell-E 21			Fish Crk 43 d Foster 19			Hill End 23 lt Boolarra 48			Fish Crk 16 lt Foster 38			Stony Crk 48 d Morwell-E 9		
Hill End 44 drew Boolarra 44			Toora 46 lt MDU 55			Hill End 33 lt Boolarra 45			Toora 39 d MDU 19			Toora 21 lt MDU 56			Stony Crk 25 d Morwell-E 24			Fish Crk 29 d Foster 21		
Toora 39 d MDU 38			Fish Crk 49 lt Foster 61			Toora 34 lt MDU 39			Stony Crk 37 d Morwell-E 20											
LADDERS																				
A GRADE			B GRADE			C GRADE			D GRADE			17 & UNDER			15 & UNDER			13 & UNDER		
Foster	230.13	32	Foster	174.42	32	Yinnar	150.25	28	Mirboo North	170.95	32	Boolarra	270.55	32	Yinnar	262.50	32	Boolarra	235.23	32
Yinnar	127.30	28	Newborough	137.64	24	Newborough	167.43	26	Yinnar	200.00	28	Yinnar	222.35	30	Toora	305.81	28	Yinnar	391.30	28
Mirboo North	140.58	24	Mirboo North	135.56	24	Tarwin	135.51	24	Tarwin	150.61	28	Mirboo North	171.62	26	Hill End	192.24	28	Newborough	230.99	28
MDU	136.65	20	Yinnar	124.40	24	MDU	136.36	22	Hill End	181.54	24	MDU	194.23	20	Boolarra	191.56	28	Tarwin	240.82	24
Fish Creek	126.64	20	MDU	119.93	20	Foster	133.86	22	Newborough	138.33	24	Toora	142.11	20	Foster	100.00	20	Fish Creek	134.38	24
Newborough	106.34	20	Fish Creek	113.48	20	Boolarra	125.86	20	Toora	97.94	20	Hill End	113.33	20	Mirboo North	79.72	16	Mirboo North	119.51	16
Stony Creek	114.95	16	Toora	108.64	20	Hill End	116.92	18	Fish Creek	130.92	16	Fish Creek	92.96	16	Newborough	74.18	16	Hill End	85.84	16
Morwell East	111.38	16	Stony Creek	104.41	16	Fish Creek	97.67	16	Stony Creek	73.58	12	Newborough	41.18	16	Tarwin	84.09	12	Foster	68.28	16
Toora	73.65	16	Hill End	80.46	16	Stony Creek	92.14	16	Boolarra	92.83	8	Stony Creek	59.93	12	MDU	68.99	12	Stony Creek	103.47	12
Hill End	53.65	10	Morwell East	85.34	12	Mirboo North	84.96	12	Morwell East	92.09	8	Tarwin	41.58	8	Stony Creek	40.43	8	Toora	31.14	12
Tarwin	76.62	8	Tarwin	69.60	4	Toora	80.80	8	MDU	80.00	8	Morwell East	40.31	8	Morwell East	40.23	8	MDU	19.31	4
Boolarra	67.47	6	Thorpdale	64.56	4	Morwell East	78.10	4	Foster	68.83	8	Foster	37.55	8	Fish Creek	39.27	8	Morwell East	19.03	4
Thorpdale	46.31	4	Boolarra	47.46	4	Thorpdale	14.58	4	Thorpdale	10.71	4	Thorpdale	0.00	0	Thorpdale	0.00	0	Thorpdale	0.00	0



Kylie Wookey receives a pass under pressure in the Panther's goal circle during a close B grade game.



Caitlin Egan eyes off the ball as she attempts to intercept the pass to her Koo Wee Rup opponent.



Grace Rand steps around the defensive pressure of her opponent in an effort to deliver the ball in the Panther's attacking third.



Inverloch Kongwak's Kelly Boyd sets up for a goal. Photo: The Warragul and Drouin Gazette.



Sea Eagles' Lanni Pryor opens for possession against Warragul. Photo: The Warragul and Drouin Gazette.



Sophia Licciardello stretches out for St Laurence White against Inverloch-Kongwak Navy in 13 & Under LDNA competition. A25_2225



Colbie Cottle of St Laurence White has ball in hand, with Inverloch-Kongwak Navy's Emma Barclay looking on during the sides' 13 & Under LDNA match. A24_2225



St Laurence White's Sophia Licciardello keeps a close watch on Inverloch-Kongwak Navy's Emily Croatto. A27_2225

KILCUNDA BASS

A GRADE: Coming off a win the previous week, the girls were fired up to continue the winning streak. A great start helped the girls break away early, before Koo Wee Rup put the pressure on. The girls played a solid four quarters of netball and showed what they could do as a group. Award: Sophie Baker.

B Grade: The B Grade girls hit the court with intensity and a clear determination to work hard for one another. 3 goals down going into the last quarter, the team showedimpressive resilience and composure. Sticking to their team goals, they were able to force crucial turnovers and convert under pressure, ultimately claiming a thrilling 1-goal victory. Award: Isabella Santorini

C Grade: Kilcunda Bass secured a strong win over Koo Wee Rup in a great team performance. After a scoreless start in the first half of the opening quarter, the girls showed impressive composure to fight back. Tightening up their passing and applying strong defensive pressure, they capitalised on Koo Wee Rup's errors. Award: Jessica Egan

D Grade: Taking to the court united and determined, D grade started strong, showing great focus. They moved the ball confidently down the court, behind by just three at half time. The second half proved more challenging. A few errors crept into our game, and with Koo Wee Rup capitalising on every opportunity, they were able to stretch the lead. Awards: Lynne Boag and Miranda Eden.

17 & Under: Our first half was full of high intensity, defensive pressure and a smooth transition into our attacking end from turn-overs. The defensive end worked hard all game and tried to slow down the strong Koo Wee Rup attackers from converting into goals. Attackers worked hard to implement strategies we had worked on at training. Awards: Matilda Feehan and Sadie Davies.

15 & Under: Illness ripped through our team like wildfire this week and the girls displayed pure dedication to their team showing up regardless of how they were feeling and giving 100% Frankie stepped up after a full game in the 13's and we couldn't have got to the final siren without her. Savannah tagged her opponent through the mid-court with her intercepts and turnovers helping us put some points on the board. Awards: Savannah Bennett and Ciara Santorini

13 & Under: The game was a competitive contest, with both teams displaying great energy and skill. Our players showed determination and resilience throughout the match especially dealing with the rain and a wet court. Despite conceding a few early goals, they regrouped well, producing some fine defensive efforts and connecting nicely in attack. The team moved the ball with confidence, creating scoring chances that kept the opposition on their toes. Awards: Asha Payne and Frankie Leary.

11 & Under: We started positively shooting the first goal of the game. Unfortunately Koo Wee Rup took control after that and we didn't see another score until the third quarter. Facing stronger and more experienced opposition in the West Gippsland Competition is proving challenging week in and week out for our team, most of who are new to the game this year. The players maintain their smiles and enthusiasm and give it their all each week. Awards: Sage, Kalani and Zoe

WEST GIPPSLAND

RESULTS				LADDERS														
A GRADE				A GRADE														
Tooradin-Dal 0 It Kor-Bena 52	17 & UNDER	Tooradin-Dal 38 d Kor-Bena 35	A GRADE	%	pts	C GRADE	%	pts	17 & UNDER	%	pts	13 & UNDER	%	pts				
Warragul Ind 42 It IK 53		P-Island 32 d Dalyston 26	Kor-Bena	147.58	32	Cora Lynn	156.00	28	Cora Lynn	213.38	32	Cora Lynn	358.62	32				
P-Island 41 It Dalyston 47		Warragul-I 41 d IK 21	Cora Lynn	167.65	28	Garfield	140.38	28	Phillip Island	160.34	28	Nar Nar Goon	387.30	30				
Cora Lynn 45 d Garfield 34		K-Bass 13 It KWR 33	Dalyston	119.07	24	Warragul Ind	137.93	28	Nar Nar Goon	135.98	28	Tooradin-Dal	197.10	26				
K-Bass 58 d KWR 37		Cora Lynn 63 d Garfield 23	Inverloch-K	118.58	24	Tooradin-Dal	134.47	26	Warragul Ind	168.48	24	Garfield	147.30	20				
B GRADE				Phillip Island	105.21	24	Inverloch-K	117.01	22	Tooradin-Dal	109.92	20	Kor-Bena	102.31	20			
Tooradin-Dal 67 d Kor-Bena 25		K-Bass 18 It KWR 30	Phillip Island	101.58	14	Nar Nar Goon	126.22	16	Dalyston	111.70	16	Phillip Island	79.46	20				
Warragul Ind 19 It IK 74		Cora Lynn 52 d Garfield 12	Tooradin-Dal	89.92	14	Kilcunda Bass	93.67	12	Koo Wee Rup	105.68	16	Koo Wee Rup	85.52	16				
P-Island 39 It Dalyston 49		Cora Lynn 52 d Garfield 12	Garfield	82.15	14	Phillip Island	80.39	12	Inverloch-K	67.34	12	Kilcunda Bass	74.64	8				
K-Bass 47 d KWR 46		P-Island 31 d Dalyston 15	Kilcunda Bass	102.25	12	Koo Wee Rup	64.93	8	Kor-Bena	68.25	8	Warragul Ind	43.89	8				
Cora Lynn 50 d Garfield 25		Warragul-I 32 d IK 25	Warragul Ind	58.92	4	Dalyston	51.92	8	Garfield	50.67	6	Inverloch-K	40.00	8				
C GRADE				Koo Wee Rup	69.67	2	Kor-Bena	54.80	4	Kilcunda Bass	33.14	2	Dalyston	15.77	4			
Tooradin-Dal 38 d Kor-Bena 25		Tooradin-Dal 49 d Kor-Bena 17	B GRADE				D GRADE				15 & UNDER				11 & UNDER			
Warragul Ind 31 d IK 27		K-Bass 16 It KWR 21	Tooradin-Dal	187.50	30	Cora Lynn	202.38	32	Cora Lynn	312.37	32	Cora Lynn	273.91	32				
K-Bass 38 d KWR 30		Cora Lynn 46 d Garfield 21	Dalyston	141.87	28	Nar Nar Goon	161.83	32	Nar Nar Goon	309.01	32	Inverloch-K	270.77	28				
P-Island 34 d Dalyston 10		P-Island 32 d Dalyston 13	Nar Nar Goon	146.84	26	Garfield	152.98	24	Tooradin-Dal	231.20	24	Koo Wee Rup	251.35	28				
Cora Lynn 30 It Garfield 38		Warragul-I 16 It IK 23	Cora Lynn	124.07	26	Koo Wee Rup	117.74	16	Phillip Island	93.71	20	Garfield	306.35	24				
D GRADE				Kilcunda Bass	119.51	20	Tooradin-Dal	107.41	16	Warragul Ind	80.88	20	Phillip Island	144.58	22			
Tooradin-Dal 38 d Kor-Bena 28		Phillip Island	Inverloch-K	119.35	18	Kor-Bena	106.93	16	Kilcunda Bass	78.13	16	Kor-Bena	110.99	16				
P-Island 24 d Dalyston 19		Cora Lynn 21 d Garfield 20	Phillip Island	103.33	16	Inverloch-K	98.17	16	Koo Wee Rup	75.98	16	Nar Nar Goon	95.08	14				
Warragul-I 18 It IK 44		P-Island 27 d Dalyston 6	Koo Wee Rup	81.07	8	Kilcunda Bass	88.51	16	Garfield	58.77	12	Tooradin-Dal	80.12	12				
K-Bass 21 It KWR 37		Warragul-I 6 It IK 33	Garfield	79.59	8	Phillip Island	83.33	16	Inverloch-K	50.85	8	Dalyston	29.06	8				
Cora Lynn 37 d Garfield 30		K-Bass 3 It KWR 42	Kor-Bena	66.57	8	Warragul Ind	49.06	4	Dalyston	47.91	8	Warragul Ind	18.68	8				
11 & UNDER				Warragul Ind	28.93	4	Dalyston	34.51	4	Kor-Bena	0.00	0	Kilcunda Bass	14.35	0			
Tooradin-Dal 13 d Kor-Bena 8		Tooradin-Dal 13 d Kor-Bena 8																



67

BEN FISHER

Western Bulldogs
Brisbane
Sydney
Geelong
GWS
North Melbourne
Carlton
Collingwood

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 3



81 Commercial Street,
Korumburra
5655 1024



64

DANIEL CHETLAND

Western Bulldogs
Brisbane
Richmond
Geelong
GWS
North Melbourne
Carlton
Collingwood

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 3



119 Graham Street,
Wonthaggi
5672 1027



69

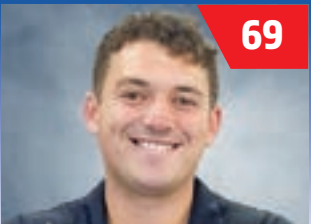
CARL LINDSAY

Hawthorn
Brisbane
Sydney
Geelong
GWS
North Melbourne
Carlton
Collingwood

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 4



145 Graham Street,
Wonthaggi
5672 1137



69

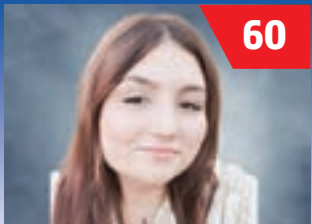
ALEX GEYER

Hawthorn
Adelaide
Sydney
Geelong
GWS
North Melbourne
Carlton
Collingwood

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 4



Wonthaggi 5672 5522
Leongatha 5662 2941



60

JAE DAVEY

Western Bulldogs
Brisbane
Sydney
Geelong
GWS
North Melbourne
Essendon
Collingwood

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 4



62-64 McBride Avenue,
Wonthaggi
7051 0720



74

DARRYL MCGANNON

Western Bulldogs
Adelaide
Sydney
Geelong
GWS
West Coast
Carlton
Collingwood

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 4



1 Roughead Street,
Leongatha
5662 2327

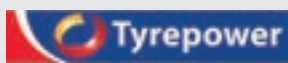


66

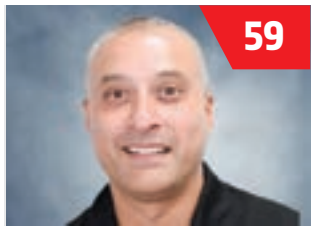
KRIS BAKER

Western Bulldogs
Adelaide
Sydney
Geelong
GWS
North Melbourne
Carlton
Collingwood

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 5



78-80 Watt Street,
Wonthaggi
5672 5760



59

RYAN SHANE

Hawthorn
Adelaide
Sydney
Gold Coast Suns
GWS
North Melbourne
Carlton
Melbourne

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 4



Leongatha Toyota

7-13 Hughes Street,
Leongatha
5662 2302



63

**CRAIG FARRINGTON
DARREN TILE**

Hawthorn
Brisbane
Sydney
Geelong
GWS
North Melbourne
Carlton
Collingwood

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 3



6/5 Cyclone Street,
Wonthaggi
Darren 0405 603 569
Craig 0415 641 845



71

ADAM WARE

Western Bulldogs
Adelaide
Sydney
Geelong
GWS
North Melbourne
Essendon
Melbourne

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 4



2/88-98 Watt Street,
Wonthaggi
1800 358 131



73

JUSTIN CAPORALE

Western Bulldogs
Adelaide
Sydney
Geelong
GWS
North Melbourne
Carlton
Collingwood

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 4



41 McCartin Street,
Leongatha
5662 2529



58

LEIGH DONOHUE

Western Bulldogs
Brisbane
Sydney
Geelong
GWS
North Melbourne
Essendon
Collingwood

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 3



Wonthaggi
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LEADERBOARD
AFTER ROUND 12

Darryl McGannon	74
Justin Caporale	73
Phil Hardy	73
Aaron McGregor	72
David England	72
Liam Sawyer	72
Peter Fort	72
Adam Ware	71
Dylan Clark	71
Brad Hodson	70
Alex Geyer	69
Carl Lindsay	69
Warren Stewart	68
Ben Fisher	67
Keith & Eddie	67
Kris Baker	66
Hayden Poppe	65
Daniel Chetland	64
Craig & Darren	63
Brett Jacobs	62
Jae Davey	60
Ryan Shane	59
Leigh Donohue	58



68

WARREN
STEWART

Western Bulldogs
Brisbane
Sydney
Geelong
GWS
North Melbourne
Carlton
Collingwood

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 4



Wonthaggi Toyota
346 Bass Highway,
Wonthaggi
5632 3503



73

PHIL
HARDY

Hawthorn
Adelaide
Sydney
Geelong
GWS
North Melbourne
Carlton
Collingwood

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 5



Bass Coast LIGHT ENGINES
317 White Road,
Wonthaggi
5672 4017



71

DYLAN
CLARK

Western Bulldogs
Adelaide
Sydney
Geelong
GWS
North Melbourne
Carlton
Collingwood

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 4



1 A'Beckett Street
Inverloch
5674 1432



72

DAVID
ENGLAND

Western Bulldogs
Adelaide
Richmond
Geelong
GWS
North Melbourne
Carlton
Collingwood

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 5



3/45-61 McKenzie St,
Wonthaggi
5644 2080



72

PETER
FORT

Western Bulldogs
Adelaide
Sydney
Geelong
GWS
North Melbourne
Essendon
Collingwood

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 4



47 Station Street,
Korumburra
0417 332 141



67

KEITH
KELLY EDDIE
CHANDLER

Western Bulldogs
Brisbane
Sydney
Geelong
GWS
North Melbourne
Carlton
Collingwood

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 6



54 Graham Street,
Wonthaggi
5672 1311



72

LIAM
SAWYER

Western Bulldogs
Adelaide
Sydney
Geelong
GWS
North Melbourne
Carlton
Collingwood

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 5



16 McBride Avenue,
Wonthaggi
5672 1007



72

AARON
McGREGOR

Western Bulldogs
Adelaide
Sydney
Geelong
GWS
North Melbourne
Carlton
Collingwood

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 4



24 Inverloch Road,
Wonthaggi
5672 5906



70

BRAD
HODSON

Hawthorn
Brisbane
Sydney
Geelong
Port Adelaide
North Melbourne
Essendon
Collingwood

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 6



15/17 Murray Street,
Wonthaggi
5672 5878



62

BRETT
JACOBS

Western Bulldogs
Adelaide
Richmond
Geelong
GWS
North Melbourne
Carlton
Collingwood

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 5



28 Inverloch Road,
Wonthaggi
5672 4770



65

HAYDEN
POPPE

Hawthorn
Brisbane
Richmond
Geelong
GWS
North Melbourne
Essendon
Melbourne

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 4



6/6 Cyclone Street,
Wonthaggi
5672 2543

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ELLINBANK

RESULTS

A GRADE

Nil-Darn 60 d Catani 38
Buln Buln 53 d Nyora 42
Neerim Sth 64 d Lang Lang 13
Trafalgar 61 d Poowong 46
Ellinbank 95 d Yarragon 37
Bunyip 49 lt Longwarry 55

B GRADE

Nil-Darn 47 d Catani 40
Buln Buln 64 d Nyora 22
Neerim Sth 48 d Lang Lang 36
Trafalgar 58 d Poowong 37
Ellinbank 58 d Yarragon 23
Bunyip 42 d Longwarry 32

C GRADE

Buln Buln 76 d Nyora 4
Nil-Darn 38 d Catani 31
Ellinbank 54 d Yarragon 23
Trafalgar 53 d Poowong 27
Neerim Sth 52 d Lang Lang 22
Bunyip 26 lt Longwarry 34

17 & UNDER

Buln Buln 38 d Nyora 13
Nil-Darn 37 d Catani 27
Neerim Sth 28 lt Lang Lang 44
Ellinbank 33 lt Yarragon 37
Trafalgar 37 lt Poowong 44
Bunyip 15 lt Longwarry 45

15 & UNDER

Nil-Darn 17 lt Catani 27
Buln Buln 53 d Nyora 4
Neerim Sth 20 lt Lang Lang 23
Trafalgar 17 lt Poowong 42
Ellinbank 16 lt Yarragon 26
Bunyip 24 d Longwarry 22

13 & UNDER

Nil-Darn 30 d Catani 12
Buln Buln 53 d Nyora 1
Trafalgar 39 d Poowong 11
Neerim Sth 7 lt Lang Lang 37
Ellinbank 12 lt Yarragon 26
Bunyip 32 d Longwarry 12

LADDERS

A GRADE	%	pts
Neerim South	215.35	32
Nilma Darnum	148.94	28
Ellinbank	153.33	24
Longwarry	134.94	24
Trafalgar	126.91	20
Lang Lang	85.14	16
Poowong	84.62	16
Catani	89.89	12
Bunyip	74.94	8
Yarragon	72.05	8
Buln Buln	57.68	4
Nyora	53.43	0

B GRADE

Ellinbank	178.17	32
Neerim South	155.04	24
Nilma Darnum	123.60	24
Bunyip	119.24	24
Lang Lang	110.88	24
Catani	127.74	16
Poowong	100.00	16
Buln Buln	93.94	12
Trafalgar	86.35	8
Yarragon	73.84	8
Longwarry	77.78	0
Nyora	36.29	0

C GRADE

Buln Buln	171.90	28
Ellinbank	155.09	28
Trafalgar	151.11	24
Neerim South	112.27	24
Longwarry	135.19	20
Catani	126.41	18
Yarragon	113.92	18
Nilma Darnum	107.57	16
Lang Lang	64.88	8
Poowong	85.11	4
Bunyip	81.04	4
Nyora	10.82	0

17 & UNDER	
Longwarry	181.97 32
Nilma Darnum	147.49 28
Poowong	115.64 24
Trafalgar	137.50 20
Catani	112.66 20
Lang Lang	138.31 18
Yarragon	123.64 18
Neerim South	93.56 12
Buln Buln	85.49 8
Bunyip	68.06 6
Ellinbank	54.14 6
Nyora	20.34 0

15 & UNDER

Catani	273.15 32
Poowong	210.71 28
Neerim South	167.88 24
Lang Lang	165.22 24
Bunyip	123.98 24
Buln Buln	121.85 16
Longwarry	106.76 12
Nilma Darnum	94.05 12
Yarragon	78.89 12
Ellinbank	60.21 4
Trafalgar	49.80 4
Nyora	9.94 0

13 & UNDER

Lang Lang	654.90 32
Trafalgar	315.12 32
Bunyip	325.61 28
Buln Buln	248.89 20
Nilma Darnum	98.72 16
Longwarry	83.33 16
Poowong	67.43 12
Catani	54.88 12
Yarragon	61.55 8
Neerim South	80.18 8
Ellinbank	43.32 8
Nyora	4.99 0

GIPPSLAND

RESULTS

A GRADE

Morwell 48 lt Moe 70
Sale 39 lt Bairnsdale 43
Leongatha 47 lt Drouin 55

B GRADE

Morwell 46 lt Moe 63
Sale 46 drew Bairnsdale 46
Leongatha 66 d Drouin 44

C GRADE

Morwell 50 d Moe 28
Sale 29 lt Bairnsdale 32
Leongatha 42 d Drouin 33

17 & UNDER

Morwell 30 lt Moe 41
Sale 37 lt Bairnsdale 62
Leongatha 44 d Drouin 39

15 & UNDER

Morwell 15 lt Moe 45
Sale 45 d Bairnsdale 29
Leongatha 43 d Drouin 36

13 & UNDER

Morwell 19 lt Moe 39
Sale 35 d Bairnsdale 18
Leongatha 58 d Drouin 9

LADDERS

A GRADE	%	pts
Warragul	192.83	28
Moe	191.22	28
Morwell	114.25	20
Drouin	120.50	16
Bairnsdale	89.39	16
Leongatha	89.76	12
Traralgon	82.17	8
Wonthaggi	76.75	8
Sale	60.40	4
Maffra	52.67	0

B GRADE

Leongatha	170.64	28
Wonthaggi	162.72	28
Moe	154.78	24
Traralgon	114.33	16
Warragul	105.63	12
Drouin	83.81	12
Morwell	79.01	8
Maffra	68.60	8
Sale	63.29	2
Bairnsdale	62.98	2

C GRADE

Morwell	160.64	26
Leongatha	141.99	26
Wonthaggi	162.63	24
Bairnsdale	120.72	16
Traralgon	114.50	12
Drouin	95.22	12
Moe	83.00	12
Sale	86.61	8
Warragul	56.95	4
Maffra	46.15	0

17 & UNDER	%	pts
Traralgon	279.29	28
Bairnsdale	218.65	28
Sale	106.81	24
Maffra	91.09	16
Leongatha	82.40	12
Moe	81.88	12
Drouin	81.11	8
Warragul	71.48	8
Wonthaggi	67.41	4
Morwell	56.55	0

15 & UNDER

Traralgon	246.21	28
Sale	167.20	28
Warragul	129.63	20
Moe	97.79	18
Bairnsdale	132.10	12
Drouin	109.95	12
Maffra	83.07	10
Leongatha	77.29	8
Morwell	60.73	4
Wonthaggi	9.91	0

13 & UNDER

Leongatha	307.87	28
Sale	180.42	22
Traralgon	182.64	20
Moe	108.22	18
Bairnsdale	157.69	14
Maffra	144.38	14
Morwell	81.22	12
Drouin	59.28	8
Wonthaggi	32.84	4
Warragul	12.89	0



Mackenna Anderson looks to pass during Leongatha's C Grade victory over Drouin. A22_2225



Nyora's Tanasha Walters looks down court for options during the A Grade game against Buln Buln.

WDNA 2025 Summer Indoor Netball Comp

WDNA hosted the grand final night on Tuesday, May 27.

Congratulations to all teams entering and playing this great indoor night competition.

The Elimination Finals were determined often only by a single goal. Intense.

2025 Overall Best and Fairest was awarded to Emma Ton. Equal Runners up went to Emma Felsovary (High Flyers) and Eden Wilson (The Spice Goals). Third place wa-sawarded to Ruby McGillivroy (High Flyers) and Joanne Duscher (Jaguars, absent) closely followed by Juliette Townsend (Opals), Sally Wells and Holly Forsyth. Congratulations girls on your great season and playing stand out netball. Very well done and well deserved.

Section One: Saw the undefeated Sapphires play The Club. The Sapphires came out strong and came away with a convincing win. Credit to The Club whom had vital players injured, still turned it on. It was a fast moving, friendly skilled game. Congratulations girls especially the Sapphires whom have finally had a great season. Sapphires 51 to The Club 31.

Section Two A very contested game and although Scissor Sisters had a six-goal lead at half time The High flyers kept at it and won the final quarter . Final siren Scissor Sisters 21 to The High Flyers 16. Congratulations on getting to the grand final, playing and enjoying the game.

Now The Social Section saw The Ball Blasters 27 win the chocolates from The Goal Diggers 20. Their first quarter was level and The Goal Diggers had the lead at half time.

W&DNA would like to thank all the umpires, players and captains for their support this season.

Special thanks to Katrina and family for organising the umpires and setting up the stadium weekly, much appreciated. Things do get a bit crazy and unravel at times which is unfortunate. But we value everyone, and we are all there to have fun and play netball, perhaps gain a bit of fitness too.

All the grand finals were played in a very friendly manner and in the true spirit of the game, it is just great fun. WDNA appreciate and love playing in the three court community stadium.

Next season is to start early August with an AGM so all teams are welcome to participant. Watch the Sentinel Times or WDNA Facebook. Looking forward to seeing you all on the court in August.



Section 1 winners The Sapphire, front row from left, Tamara Crowe, Aimee Tessari, Jackie Kent, Sam Kolden, Sally Wells, Deb Griffin, Joanne Smith and Emma Ton. Absent Mal, Jan Jinette and Lee Storti. Runners-up The Club, back row, from left, Macey Peterson, Grace Peterson, Shayee Digit, Molly Turner, Emily Turton, Whitney Tiziani and Brogan Tiziani. Absent Millie Jobe, Molly Horsefield, Jorgia Tiziani and Jess Lane.



Social Winners: The very happy Ball Blasters, back from left, Chloe Rodda, Janelle Evens, Georgia Amor and Laura Nicholls. Front, Gabby O'Connor, Olivia Watson and Carly Zammit.



WDNA overall Best and Fairest Emma Ton with placegetters Emma Felsovary, Eden Wilson and Ruby McGillivroy.



Section 2 winners High Flyers, back, from left, Zoe Reiter, Emma Felsovary, Imogen Lockhart, Louise Strickland, Mia Boost, Ruby McGillivary, Eliza Wintle and Jaycee Trewavis. Runners-up the Scissor Sisters, front, Alyssa Hughes, Annette Spinks, Bonnie Peterson, Jessica Kitson, Olivia Antonella, Megan Fitzgerald, Laila Kane-DiPaolo and Eleanor Kane-DiPaolo. Absent Jazzima and Lydia Meldrum, Lydia and Jodie Kilner.

Buln Buln dominates with 124-point victory over Nyora

BULN Buln Lyrebirds flexed their muscles with a thumping 124-point win over Nyora in round eight of the Ellinbank and District Football League at Buln Buln Recreation Reserve on Saturday.

The Lyrebirds were relentless, holding Nyora goalless in the opening term while racking up three of their own.

By halftime, Buln Buln had a comfortable 69-point lead, thanks to a dominant second quarter where they piled on 10 goals to Nyora's two.

The onslaught didn't stop there. Hayden Baker (six goals), Angus Mitchell (three), and Bailey Leatham (three) were standouts in attack.

Despite some strong efforts from William McGindie, Jordan Anderson and Tyler Kirkbride, Nyora couldn't stem the tide, conceding another nine goals in the final term.

The win sees Buln Buln remain a force to be reckoned with as they build momentum mid-season. Coach and fans alike will be buoyed by the even contribution across the board and the ability to maintain scoreboard pressure all afternoon.

Nyora, meanwhile, will need to regroup quickly as they look to rediscover form after a tough outing.



Dante Di Pietro competes in the ruck duel for Nyora.

ELLINBANK & DISTRICT LEAGUE RESULTS

RND 8

NYORA FOOTBALL CLUB

158 34

BULN BULN NYORA

Buln Buln 3.3 13.5 19.10 24.14 (158)
Nyora 0.2 2.2 2.4 5.4 (34)

GOALS, Buln Buln: H Baker 6, A Mitchell, J Kos, B Leatham 3, S Batson, R Campbell, S Beecroft 2, M Nobelius, N Tutton, L Axford 1 each
BEST: A Mitchell, H Baker, J Pierrehumbert, W Battley, B Leatham, M Nobelius
GOALS, Nyora: W McGindie 2, D Heylen, L Ferguson, R Hotchkin 1 each
BEST: J Anderson, T Kirkbride, L Fievez, T White, L Lee, D Di Pietro

RESERVES

Buln Buln 2.2 5.4 6.12 12.13 (85)
Nyora 1.2 1.3 2.3 3.5 (23)

GOALS, Buln Buln: L Buza, B Monahan, M Whelan, R Bradshaw 2, C Seymour, S Dawson, J Kelly, F Bravington 1 each
BEST: M Jones, R Bradshaw, B Monahan, J Kelly, J Pickthall, T Strachan
GOALS, Nyora: No goal scorers listed
BEST: N Kimm, L Koffman, L Forscutt, B Smith, L Brock, M Hughes

POOWONG FOOTBALL CLUB

178 23

TRAFALGAR POOWONG

Trafalgar 11.5 17.6 26.12 27.16 (178)
Poowong 0.0 0.1 0.1 3.5 (23)

GOALS, Trafalgar: I Caroleo, M Swenson, S Brewster 5, B Slater 4, M Devon, K Beveridge 2, D Gauci, J Roe-Duggan, O Hennessy, B Hoffmann 1 each
BEST: K Beveridge, D Brewster, M Devon, J Hines, I Caroleo, B Hoffmann
GOALS, Poowong: Z Gray, R Schulz, J Bisognin 1 each
BEST: J Bisognin, D Miller, D O'Neill, J Norton, M Molloy, C Ives

RESERVES

Trafalgar 9.4 15.8 22.13 30.16 (196)
Poowong 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 (0)

GOALS, Trafalgar: B Bosman 6, D Puglia 5, H Brock 3, R King, B Cameron, K Tullett, D Brock, Z Brown 2, K Hennessy, C O'Connell, A Templeton, Z Mills, M Ablett, M Smart 1 each
BEST: M Smart, B Cameron, A Templeton, B Bosman, H Brock, D Brock
BEST, Poowong: B Townsend, R Gilliatte, S Aschenbrenner, M Gowland, T Smethurst

THIRDS

Trafalgar 0.0 2.0 3.2 5.4 (34)
Poowong 4.1 6.6 11.10 12.16 (88)

GOALS, Trafalgar: C Ingram, C Paul, L Hennessy, J Dinsdale, O McQualter 1 each
BEST: J Buch, C Ingram, B Gauci, Z Larkin, H Martin, J Marslen
GOALS, Poowong: G Monson, J Blackwood 2, T Nieuwerth, J Foote, C Deal, H Bott, B Broadmore, B Camp, A Damon, N Halliday 1 each
BEST: J Blackwood, B Broadmore, B Camp, G Monson, A Damon, M Cook

FOURTHS

Trafalgar 0.2 2.3 4.4 5.8 (38)
Poowong 2.2 3.5 4.9 4.9 (33)

GOALS, Trafalgar: H Grujic 3, T Kersten, C Jennings 1 each
BEST: O White, C Jennings, C Johnston, R Gunn, W Scott, J Marslen
GOALS, Poowong: C Deal 2, K Zealley, C Deal 1 each
BEST: L Moriarty, J Wilson, K Gilliatte, A Riley, L Nieuwerth, M Cawcutt

Poowong battle on despite Trafalgar dominance

POOWONG travelled to Trafalgar in overcast conditions, a good breeze early to the high-way end. The ground surface was in good knick with a good crowd in attendance.

Trafalgar, with a new senior coach also bringing a few players from Warragul Industrials in the West Gippsland League with him, have developed into a pretty handy side. When it comes to finals, they will be thereabouts.

The day started with Poowong fourths leading up to the last ten minutes when Trafalgar gained the lead to win 5.8.38 to Poowong 4.9.33. Well done, boys.

The Under 18s, with a few boys in the seniors and a couple injured, had a good win 12.16.88 to Trafalgar 5.4.34, a lot of players gaining senior experience.

The reserves had a tough day; it always is on away games. Still able to field a team

By Geoff Wyatt

with no top-up players from the thirds, training appears to be a problem here, as fitness fell away quickly.

Final Score: Trafalgar 30.16 to Poowong, failing to hit the scoreboard. Keep at it boys, you will surprise someone.

The seniors had to make four changes: Rhys Schultz, Calvin Langford, Hayden Hessesells and Aaron Damon. Out Connor King, Bryce Townsend, and Jack de Kock, believe there will be a couple back next week and maybe a couple of new faces to help the boys.

Poowong lost the toss and had to kick against the breeze to the northern end, it was not what they wanted, having one of their stronger players yellow carded. We could not afford to be one down.

Against seventeen players for most of the quarter, Trafalgar had most of the play with the

wind to score 11.5.71 to 0.0.0.

The Poowong boys were working hard but had a couple of good passages of play, only to turn over the ball.

Unfortunately, this was the trend all day – together with being out-muscled, men against boys, it was going to be a long day. With the breeze dropping and not getting the rub with decisions, we were well down at half-time 17.6.108 to 0.1.1.

It did not improve in the third quarter, though we had more of the ball as the breeze had dropped. Poowong added a point while Trafalgar added 9.6. three-quarter time, Trafalgar 26.11 to 0.2.2.

In the fourth quarter, Poowong outscored Trafalgar; they may have given a couple of players an early shower. Early Trafalgar added a goal before Zac Gray kicked Poowong's first of three consecutive goals. We received a 50-metre penalty, which shocked the

supporters.

Joseph Bisognin kicked a goal from the square, and when Rhys Schultz took a good mark at centre half-forward and goaled, we held the points for the quarter 3.3.21 to Trafalgar 1.5.11. Overall Trafalgar 27.16 178 to Poowong 3.5.23.

Best Players were Joseph Bisognin who battled all day in the ruck; Dave Miller had another strong game, David O'Neil from the U18s has turned in two good games in a row, "keep up the good work, David."; Joel Norton, Mitch Molloy, together with Connor Ives also battling hard all day.

Let's get to training this week as we have Ellinbank at home this Saturday and see if we can reduce the "turnover tally."

The netball was 4 to 2 in Trafalgar's favour, Poowong with wins in U15s and 17s, see you at Poowong next Saturday, let's get behind these young lads.

ELLINBANK & DISTRICT LEAGUE LADDERS																ROUND 8																							
SENIORS					W	L	%	pts	RESERVES					W	L	%	pts	THIRDS					W	L	%	MR	FOURTHS					W	L	%	MR				
Neerim South	8	0	403.10	32					Longwarry	8	0	709.32	32					Ellinbank	8	0	355.32	100.0					Bunyip	7	0	468.75	100.0								
Trafalgar	7	1	318.69	28					Lang Lang	7	1	631.37	28					Longwarry	4	2	138.77	66.66					Ellinbank	6	2	139.25	75.00								
Longwarry	7	1	251.11	28					Neerim South	6	2	413.08	24					Buln Buln	5	3	187.71	62.50					Trafalgar	5	2	216.07	71.43								
Buln Buln	5	3	141.16	20					Trafalgar	6	2	284.10	24					Neerim South	5	3	173.10	62.50					Poowong	5	2	177.82	71.43								
Lang Lang	5	3	133.86	20					Ellinbank	6	2	263.76	24					Nilma Darnum	5	3	157.48	62.50					Yarragon	5	2	171.93	71.43								
Yarragon	5	3	91.88	20					Catani	5	3	106.46	20					Lang Lang	4	3	168.00	57.14					Lang Lang	4	3	67.93	57.14								
Ellinbank	3	5	123.51	12					Yarragon	3	5	93.40	12					Poowong	3	3	83.81	50.00					Buln Buln	3	4	94.69	42.86								
Catani	3	5	104.77	12					Bunyip	2	5	60.04	10					Trafalgar	2	5	65.58	28.57					Catani	2	5	68.72	28.57								
Nilma Darnum	3	5	49.46	12					Buln Buln	2	5	49.29	10					Yarragon	0	7	22.30	0.00					Neerim South	2	6	67.00	25.00								
Nyora	2	6	47.87	8					Nyora	1	7	21.54	4					Bunyip	0	7	11.07	0.00					Longwarry	1	6	51.20	14.28								
Bunyip	0	8	34.78	0					Poowong	1	7	7.98	4					Catani	0	0	0.00	0.00					Nilma Darnum	0	8	18.08	0.00								
Poowong	0	8	24.35	0					Nilma Darnum	0	8	16.17	0					Nyora	0	0	0.00	0.00					Nyora	0	0	0.00	0.00								
LEADING GOAL KICKERS										LEADING GOAL KICKERS										LEADING GOAL KICKERS										LEADING GOAL KICKERS									
Jason Wells (Longwarry)					67					Toby Bayne (Neerim South)					29					Charlie Armour (Ellinbank)					22					Cruze Deal (Poowong)					23				
Mason McGarrit (Neerim South)					52					Bradley Blazevic (Longwarry)					29					Blake Macdonald (Neerim South)					17					Hudson Grujic (Trafalgar)					22				
Marc Holt (Lang Lang)					35					Kurt Batt (Lang Lang)					25					Dylan Strating (Neerim South)					16					Dylan Strating (Neerim South)					21				

IN OTHER GAMES...

SENIORS							
Yarragon	12.7.79	d	Ellinbank	11.9.75			
Neerim Sth	17.15.117	d	Lang Lang	7.5.47			
Nilma-Darn	14.12.96	d	Catani	10.12.72			
Longwarry	29.21.195	d	Bunyip	6.5.41			
RESERVES							
Ellinbank	12.18.90	d	Yarragon	3.2.20			
Lang Lang	12.6.78	d	Neerim Sth	4.6.30			
Catani	12.11.83	d	Nilma Darn	2.4.16			
Longwarry	9.11.65	d	Bunyip	2.5.17			
THIRDS							
Ellinbank	25.20.177	d	Yarragon	0.1.1			
Lang Lang	11.11.77	d	Neerim Sth	2.7.19			
Buln Buln	8.8.56	d	Nilma Darn	7.9.51			
Longwarry	13.18.96	d	Bunyip	3.5.23			
FOURTHS							
Yarragon	7.8.50	d	Ellinbank	4.7.31			
Lang Lang	7.8.50	d	Neerim Sth	4.10.34			
Catani	6.8.44	d	Nilma Darn	3.5.23			
Bunyip	14.10.94	d	Longwarry	2.1.13			

MID GIPPSLAND LEAGUE RESULTS

RND 8

FISH CREEK FOOTBALL CLUB

FOSTER FOOTBALL CLUB



49



48

FISH CREEK	FOSTER			
Fish Creek	2.1	4.2	5.4	7.7 (49)
Foster	3.3	4.4	6.5	7.6 (48)
GOALS, Fish Crk: D Berryman 4, T Cameron, H Shaw, L Gale 1 each				
BEST: T Valenta, J Hayes, R De Biase, J Lamers, J Kenny, D Berryman				
GOALS, Foster: J Rathjen 3, J Best, M Cooke, H Flavelle, B Flavelle 1 each				
BEST: J Rathjen, L Rathjen, D Williams, J Morris, A Norton, B Cripps.				
RESERVES				
Fish Creek	4.0	10.1	12.5	13.6 (84)
Foster	0.4	1.5	3.6	6.6 (42)
GOALS, Fish Crk: A Bright 5, J Arestia 3, C Mcphee 2, J Morgan 1				
BEST: O Schnoor, B Boyd, J Arestia, L Southwell, T Piasente, T Millton				
GOALS, Foster: E Smith, N Daldy, S Brett, J Davy, J Lewis, Z House 1 each				
BEST: J Gay, Z House, E Smith, C Garlick, K Davy, J Lewis				
THIRDS				
Fish Creek	1.1	1.2	2.3	3.4 (22)
MDU	7.1	11.4	17.8	25.12 (162)
GOALS, Fish Creek: O Bright, B Boyd, L Moon 1 each				
BEST: R Cicero, H Henning, J Rysko, B Cocksedge, L Moon, J Morgan				
GOALS, MDU: A Mcinnes 10, J Cleator 4, C Harrison, C Bruce, A Hulshof 2, L Hamilton, W Campbell, E Kratz, B Sellings, T Hibberson 1 each				
BEST: A Mcinnes, C Harrison, J Lambert, A Hulshof, J Carew, J Cleator				

TARWIN FOOTBALL CLUB



91



101

THORPDALE	TARWIN			
Thorpdale	5.2	8.2	12.5	14.7 (91)
Tarwin	3.3	7.7	8.10	14.17 (101)
GOALS, Thorpdale: S Pickering 3, L Wallace, J Jones, S. Falla, J Patullo 2, C Meloury, T Patten, H Britten 1 each				
BEST: C Millsom, L Wallace, S Pickering, J Patullo, J Burgess, T Patten				
GOALS, Tarwin: T Harley, D Brosnan 4, B Chalmers, B Ellen 2, J Proctor, M Williams 1 each				
BEST: J Staley, T Vanderkolk, B Chalmers, F Brosnan, M Williams, T Harley				
RESERVES				
Thorpdale	0.1	0.3	0.3	1.3 (9)
Tarwin	4.4	7.5	9.9	11.11 (77)
GOALS, Thorpdale: W Allan 1				
BEST: Z Danger, M Graeme, A Raven, P MacKenzie, D Martin, L Swain				
GOALS, Tarwin: H Guymer 5, L Anderson 3, H Watt, M Dennison, N McRae 1 each				
BEST: DDarcy O'Halloran, H Guymer, J Chalmers, M Chalmers, S Griffin, H Watt				

THIS WEEKEND'S DRAW

SATURDAY, JUNE 7

ELLINBANK

ROUND 9

Yarragon v Buln Buln
Poowong v Ellinbank
Catani v Neerim South
Nyora v Nilma Darnum
Longwarry v Trafalgar
Lang Lang v Bunyip

GIPPSLAND

ROUND 8

Drouin v Maffra
Moe v Warragul
Sale v Morwell
Bairnsdale v Traralgon
Leongatha v Wonthaggi

MID GIPPSLAND

ROUND 7

MDU v Fish Creek

WEST GIPPSLAND

ROUND 9

Korumburra-Bena v Nar Nar Goon
Phillip Island v Koo Wee Rup
Warragul Industrials v Cora Lynn
Inverloch-Kongwak v Dalyston
Garfield v Tooradin-Dalmore
Kilcunda Bass - BYE

Roos snatch showdown in one-point thriller

By Rob Popplestone

Two teams in top form clashed for the expected title of premiership favourite. Foster arrived at the home of the Kangaroos as the only unbeaten side in the competition, ready to take on the back-to-back reigning premiers.

A clash worthy of the big crowd that attended didn't disappoint, the home side winning in the game of the season.

Fish Creek 7-7-49 to Foster 7-6-48

"A gritty win yesterday. A genuine arm wrestle all day with neither team able to kick back-to-back goals," Jarrad Walker, Fish Creek coach said.

"Both teams defended really well making for a low scoring affair and we just fell on the right side at the final siren."

It was one of those games, Foster didn't lose, they just happened to be behind when the final siren sounded.

The Tigers believe they had their chances, and now the most frustrating thing is they must wait some months before their chance of redemption.

"Just a game that got away unfortunately and a game that we definitely lost from our mistakes rather than they won from playing good footy," Sam Davies, Foster coach said.

"It was a high stoppage scrap for a lot of the day and we just failed to execute late which led to turnovers or poor decision making. We'll learn and take a lot away from it, but we need to be better in certain areas."

"We need a break and will take the week off to reset before the next block of games."

Only percentage separates the top three sides of Fish Creek, Foster and Yinnar and the impressive and important win on the weekend, as crucial as it was for Fish Creek does little to help predict which of the trio, are worthy of premiership favouritism.



Foster's Josh Toner strives to clear the ball under pressure from Fish Creek. Photos: Bec Casey Sports Photography



Reghan Lewis works to win possession for Fish Creek.

Tarwin overpowers Thorpdale with a final quarter surge

By Rob Popplestone

TWO teams that had been as honest and as aggressive as you could hope for clashed at the home ground of Thorpdale, Tarwin desperately needing a victory away from home so as to not lose touch with those teams above them, one of which was their weekend opponent in the Blues.

Thorpdale was most certainly prepared but just could not shake the Sharks.

Tarwin 14-17-101 to Thorpdale 14-7-91

"A really tough and important win over at Thorpdale today," Lachie Jones, Sharks coach said.

"The game had passages where both sides looked aggressive with their ball movement and it was about who could absorb the pressure and hang tough in the contest."

"We played the last quarter and a half with 18 fit players, so I was extremely proud of our guys to persist and play for one another to the siren."

"We are kicking large scores which is pleasing and the message at the final break was to take the game on and take risks. Credit to Thorpdale, they play a

tough brand. We are looking forward to the week off and refreshing"

As much as Tarwin enjoyed possibly their best win of the season, the defeat was a tough pill to swallow for Thorpdale.

The Blues led at the first and second breaks and by nineteen points at three-quarter time.

"Disappointing to lose in a game that had a lot of momentum swings. The most frustrating thing was giving up two four-goal leads throughout the day," Daniel Taylor, Thorpdale coach said. "We battled to the end but

I feel the better team won on the day so full credit to Tarwin. We need to find a way to get ourselves going when the going gets tough, our best has shown we can compete and our worst is nowhere near the level."

Thorpdale maintains their position in the league's top six, but those below are closing quickly, with five teams within just a single win.

The Blues like most will enjoy a week off before they hit the halfway mark of the year, a chance to reset, to refresh and to go again in a most competitive race to September.

Lions end Hawks' finals aspirations

By Rob Popplestone

FOR most of the season, there has been this expectation that Morwell East was going to bounce back into the sort of form that had them as contenders just twelve months ago. The Hawks knew this was quite possibly their last chance, all that stood before them was a Stony Creek side that coincidentally was just as desperate as the Hawks.

The Lions killed off the Hawks season even before the halfway mark of the year with a comprehensive win.

Stony Creek 12-16-88 to Morwell East 4-8-32.

“Boys bounced back after a disappointing game the week before and really set the tone from opening bounce and didn't let up for four quarters, the week off has come at a good time for everyone,” Troy Shephardson, Stony Creek coach said.

For Morwell East, a week off to regroup, reassess and plan a way forward cannot come quick enough.

“I'm not sure if and when our season is going to turn around and we start playing some decent footy but the weekend against Stony wasn't it,” Paul Henry, Morwell East coach said.

“A week off now before we start the back end of our season. Hopefully the week off we can soul-search and come up with something. Mirboo North at home is our next game to hopefully start a good run home.”

Coach Henry refuses to give up on his team and can only hope they can dig deep enough to find a way back to get something out of the season.



Good mark by the Hawks with Stony Creek on their tail, ending in a 56-point win. Photos: G. S. Bruning.



High pressure by Stony Creek at a home game against Morwell East Hawks in round eight.

Demons left reeling in Magpies shock win

THIS weekend we got to witness what many believe will be the Grand Final prelude, round eight also put a spotlight on the fight, pressure and even heartache that continues for more than a handful of clubs trying desperately to keep in touch with the top half of the ladder. With twists and turns at every corner, most scenarios have been considered, not many however with confidence.

Toora did what it needed to do to secure its first victory of the season against Morwell East just a week ago, but as they welcomed a quality MDU side, refreshed from a round seven bye, they knew the job was never going to be an easy one to go

By Rob Popplestone

back-to-back. The Magpies had the Demons on the back foot early and to their credit responded every time they were challenged along their way to the most unlikely of wins, Toora 11-8-74 to MDU 9-7-61 “We came up against a strong MDU today that are pretty polished with the ball in hand and are a side that set the ground quite well,” Jay Acardi, Toora coach said. “To our boy's credit, we applied pressure for four quarters and were able to get the game on our terms for periods of the match.

“The task doesn't get any easier next up with a game against Foster who are going quite well and are a tough team to play on their home deck.” The win was unexpected for most, but not for those at Toora, the Magpies now with two wins in a row, and dreaming of even bigger and better things ahead. On the flip side, the loss is a disaster for the Demons who up until the weekend seemed to be travelling so beautifully, their fourth place on the MGFNL ladder now looking a little fragile. “Disappointing day for us yesterday, full credit to Toora, who started the game full of energy and effort and maintained

it for four quarters to get the win,” Rhett Kelly, MDU coach said. “We looked like that at stages we were going to get our game going, but Toora was able to respond at every opportunity and deserved the win.” The Demons must now prepare for their standalone game against the “stars of the show” in Fish Creek over the King's Birthday weekend, their weekend loss against Toora, a dent to the confidence needed to take on the team the quality of the Kangaroos, or the reality check they needed just in time for the league's toughest challenge? Time will tell.

MID GIPPSLAND LEAGUE RESULTS

RND 8

STONY CREEK FOOTBALL CLUB

88

32

	STONY CREEK		MORWELL EAST	
Stony Creek	3.1	7.5	8.12	12.16 (88)
Morwell East	0.0	1.3	2.5	4.8 (32)

GOALS, Stony Crk: K Bergles 4, A Logan, C Stone, H Bull 2, C Michael, D Atkins 1 each
BEST: C Stone, J Bright, J Stone, T Stone, A Logan, C Michael
GOALS, Morwell East: M Jacobsen 2, N Kyriacou, L Tactor 1 each
BEST: J Dyer, K Hearn, M Jacobsen, D Field, M Diaz, B Francis

RESERVES

Stony Creek	0.0	1.0	3.0	5.2 (32)
Morwell East	3.6	7.9	8.13	13.13 (91)

GOALS, Stony Crk: N Svenson 2, L Byrnes, G Gray, B McKnight 1 each
BEST: T Davies, C James, C Batten, N Svenson, R Baudinette, C Carter
GOALS, Morwell East: C Silver 3, B Marks, L Little 2, B Gibson, H Dwyer, B Atkinson, J Quinn, A Dodd, N Nikodemski 1 each
BEST: B Atkinson, C Silver, D Day, J Lansdown, N-L Nikodemski, L Little

TOORA FOOTBALL CLUB

MDU FOOTBALL CLUB

74

61

	TOORA		MDU	
Toora	2.1	5.4	8.5	11.8 (74)
MDU	0.1	3.2	8.5	9.7 (61)

GOALS, Toora: L Craig 4, J Weston 2, J Smart, M Bezzene, R Stone, S Frawley, T Dyson 1 each
BEST: R Stone, L Craig, S Frawley, J Weston, S Bright, J Coulthard
GOALS, MDU: N Nagel 4, T McRae 2, W Stewart, S Walsh, J Hickey 1 each
BEST: J Hickey, T McRae, T Corry, J Leeden, K Bohn, A Battersby

RESERVES

Toora	3.0	3.0	4.0	8.0 (48)
MDU	1.4	3.4	6.7	6.10 (46)

GOALS, Toora: A Rhodes 2, J Dows, J Griffin, J Cripps, B Darcy, J McDonald, P Grant 1 each
BEST: J Griffin, Z Clavarino, L Anedda, F Cashmore, M Shaw, J Dows
GOALS, MDU: L Harris, B Tomada 2, K Helms, T Harris 1 each
BEST: A Trease, M Harris, B Trotman, K Helms, M Smith, B Cantwell

THIRDS

Fish Creek	1.1	1.2	2.3	3.4 (22)
MDU	7.1	11.4	17.8	25.12 (162)

GOALS, Fish Creek: O Bright, B Boyd, L Moon 1 each
BEST: R Cicero, H Henning, J Rysko, B Cocksedge, L Moon, J Morgan
GOALS, MDU: A McInnes 10, J Cleator 4, C Harrison, C Bruce, A Hulshof 2, L Hamilton, W Campbell, E Kratz, B Sellings, T Hibberson 1 each
BEST: A McInnes, C Harrison, J Lambert, A Hulshof, J Carew, J Cleator

IN OTHER GAMES...

SENIORS

Boolarra	9.20.74	d Hill End	9.7.61
Yinnar	24.6.150	d Newborough	9.5.59

RESERVES

Hill End	17.15.117	d Boolarra	1.4.10
Yinnar	16.12.108	d Newborough	1.3.9

THIRDS

Newborough	13.12.90	d Yinnar	11.8.74
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MID GIPPSLAND LEAGUE LADDERS					ROUND 8				
SENIORS					RESERVES				
	W	L	%	pts		W	L	%	pts
Foster	6	1	208.31	28	Yinnar	8	0	329.80	32
Fish Creek	5	1	193.95	24	Morwell East	6	2	214.09	24
Yinnar	6	2	171.28	24	Tarwin	6	2	206.77	24
MDU	5	2	142.24	20	MDU	5	2	291.75	20
Thorpdale	4	3	102.07	20	Newborough	4	3	104.95	20
Mirboo Nth	4	3	85.00	20	Fish Creek	4	2	80.22	20
Stony Creek	3	4	100.90	16	Hill End	3	4	103.90	16
Tarwin	4	4	97.07	16	Stony Creek	3	4	91.34	16
Boolarra	4	4	82.91	16	Toora	2	5	94.34	12
Newborough	3	4	80.00	16	Mirboo Nth	2	5	62.12	12
Toora	2	5	76.64	12	Thorpdale	2	5	35.38	12
Hill End	0	7	49.17	4	Foster	1	5	52.90	10
Morwell East	1	7	48.05	4	Boolarra	0	7	26.56	2
LEADING GOAL KICKERS					LEADING GOAL KICKERS				
Kane Grinstead-Jones (Yinnar)				38	Jarryd Garlick (Yinnar)				34
Nick Nagel (MDU)				37	Brendan Tomada (MDU)				22
Jake Best (Foster)				23	Logan Anderson (Tarwin Reserves)				14
THIRDS					LEADING GOAL KICKERS				
Newborough	6	1	151.46	28	Angus McInnes (MDU)				34
MDU	5	1	344.57	24	Tobias McDuffie (Mirboo North)				31
Yinnar	3	2	139.87	24	Oscar Hanson (Newborough)				29
Mirboo Nth	3	3	111.17	20					
Hill End	2	3	68.51	20					
Tarwin	1	4	64.74	16					
Fish Creek	0	6	26.86	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					

Local football

South Gippsland and Bass Coast

Sentinel-Times



www.sgst.com.au



Leongatha's Kim Drew spoils his Drouin opponent, the Parrot listed among his side's best. A17_2225

GIPPSLAND LEAGUE RESULTS

RND 7

LEONGATHA FOOTBALL CLUB

157 22

LEONGATHA DROUIN

Leongatha 5.4 9.9 15.13 23.19 (157) Drouin 1.1 2.3 3.4 3.4 (22)

GOALS, Leongatha: J Pellicano, T Marriott 4, P Ireland 3, Z Lamers, J Garnham, T Hall 2, T Brill, A Heppell, J Hume, B Harding, N Argento, H Lindsay 1 each BEST: T Marriott, L Bowman, J Pellicano, B Harding, J Hume, K Drew GOALS, Drouin: C Fleming, K Smith, T Unferdorben 1 each BEST: K Walmsley, M Williames, C Quirk, T Unferdorben, K Gregg, Z Atkins

RESERVES Leongatha 6.5 11.11 17.15 23.17 (155) Drouin 0.0 0.0 0.0 1.0 (6)

GOALS, Leongatha: F Materia 5, J Cochrane 3, N Fixter, R Reardon, B Fort, L Marshman, C Quaife 2, J Stewart, J Walker, B. Grabham Andrews, C. Watson, I. Fox 1 each BEST: J Walker, M De Kleuver, L Marshman, N Fixter, B Grabham Andrews, F Materia GOALS, Drouin: C Piner 1 BEST: H Piner, F Lockwood, L Lenders, H Watson, K Hermansen, J Bennett

THIRDS Leongatha 2.4 5.5 7.6 8.7 (55) Drouin 3.1 4.4 6.4 7.5 (47)

GOALS, Leongatha: M Croatto, A Fixter 2, R Hume, K Berryman, A Williams, I Bolge 1 each BEST: A Fixter, I Bolge, A Williams, F Donohue, M Croatto, R Hume GOALS, Drouin: R Baker 6, J Welford 1 BEST: J Etchell, W Virtue, T Mapleson, J Proctor, E Croucher, J Welford

FOURTHS Leongatha 2.2 5.6 6.6 8.8 (56) Drouin 2.2 3.3 3.7 6.9 (45)

GOALS, Leongatha: L Read, C Bickerton, N Bradley 2, E Berryman, R Tucker 1 each BEST: N Bradley, C Bickerton, C Houston, F Livingstone, J Hosking, M Hogarth GOALS, Drouin: D Bordonaro 3, T Williames 2, J Ferguson 1 BEST: B Alie, D Bordonaro, J Proctor, J Taranto, R Vanderplight, C Croucher

IN OTHER GAMES...

SENIORS				
Moe	13.14.92	d	Morwell	7.6.48
Sale	12.11.83	d	Bairnsdale	11.12.78
RESERVES				
Moe	13.4.82	d	Morwell	2.4.16
Sale	13.10.88	d	Bairnsdale	4.8.32
THIRDS				
Moe	12.11.83	d	Morwell	3.4.22
Bairnsdale	6.6.42	d	Sale	5.8.38
FOURTHS				
Moe	16.16.112	d	Morwell	6.8.44
Bairnsdale	12.12.84	d	Sale	6.7.43

Drouin commitment not enough against classy and determined Leongatha

By Andrew Paloczi

A COMMANDING team performance led by midfielders Tom Marriott and Luke Bowman delivered Leongatha a 135-point victory over Drouin, the Parrots celebrating Justin Pellicano's 200th club game in style.

After the final siren, Pellicano was chaired off the ground by ruckman Ben Willis and Bowman, the milestone man having made a major contribution that included booting four goals.

The massive margin would have been greater still with more accurate kicking from the Parrots who finished with 23 goals and 19 behinds.

While coach Trent McMicking gave his players a gentle ribbing after the match, asking a number of them individually how many behinds they kicked, he acknowledged the hard work the team did to create so many scoring opportunities and the positive game style it displayed.

"The way we've moved the ball the last couple of weeks, that's what we've been aiming for, so next week it becomes super important, that ball movement, against Wonthaggi," he said.

McMicking urged his players to embrace the big occasion against their local archrival, a match in which Dyson Heppell is expected to play during a Port Melbourne bye.

Bowman and Marriott's hard running and ability to win the footy on the inside and use it effectively impressed the coach, Marriott also having a big impact up forward with his four goals.

Wingers Jack Hume and Ben Harding were others who provided eye-catching performances.

With Leongatha's midfield giving the side's forwards abundant supply, Patrick Ireland was another Parrot who was difficult for Drouin to contain, finishing with three majors.

Fellow forward Jenson Garnham booted a couple of goals, as did Ty Hall and Xavier Lamers.

Any nerves Pellicano may have been feeling in his milestone match would have been quickly eased when he booted the game's opening major, going on to kick a goal in each quarter.

The Parrots won every term comprehensively, allowing Drouin just three goals for



Levi Hickey takes a strong mark for the Parrots. Photo: Skewesme Photography.

the day.

One of those majors for the Hawks came through Tomas Unferdorben who was among the side's best, Cody Fleming and Kyron Smith his goal-scoring teammates.

While Drouin was outclassed, the Hawks continued to display commitment throughout the match, a marvellous chase-down and tackle by Max Williames in the final term that almost prevented a Harding goal from the square an example of that.

Williames' efforts throughout the game were recognised, being named Drouin's second-best behind Kaiden Walmsley.

Saturday's long weekend clash between second-placed Leongatha and third-placed Wonthaggi is a tantalising prospect, those sides and top-of-the-table Moe are separated only by percentage.

It's sure to be a big turnout at the Parrots' nest, the winner being hard to predict.



Justin Pellicano is chaired off the ground by Leongatha teammates Ben Willis and Luke Bowman after the Parrots' big win in his 200th club game. A16_2225

GIPPSLAND LEAGUE LADDERS

ROUND 7

SENIORS					RESERVES					THIRDS					FOURTHS				
	W	L	%	pts		W	L	%	pts		W	L	%	pts		W	L	%	pts
Moe	6	1	198.74	24	Leongatha	6	1	432.19	24	Leongatha	6	1	170.31	24	Traralgon	7	0	1100.00	28
Leongatha	6	1	167.53	24	Traralgon	6	1	387.24	24	Traralgon	5	1	199.59	22	Maffra	6	1	125.00	24
Wonthaggi	6	1	150.37	24	Moe	6	1	195.55	24	Bairnsdale	5	1	118.13	22	Warragul	5	2	123.01	20
Traralgon	4	3	133.48	16	Maffra	5	2	209.81	20	Moe	5	2	255.31	20	Moe	4	3	142.60	16
Morwell	3	4	116.85	12	Wonthaggi	5	2	153.94	20	Warragul	4	2	199.58	18	Bairnsdale	4	3	98.95	16
Bairnsdale	3	4	95.84	12	Sale	3	4	107.67	12	Maffra	3	3	164.66	14	Sale	3	4	87.23	12
Warragul	3	4	86.83	12	Bairnsdale	2	5	76.75	8	Drouin	2	5	90.77	8	Wonthaggi	2	4	52.31	10
Maffra	2	5	73.81	8	Morwell	1	6	64.68	4	Sale	2	5	50.84	8	Leongatha	2	5	61.00	8
Sale	2	5	71.39	8	Warragul	1	6	32.57	4	Wonthaggi	1	6	47.36	4	Morwell	1	6	36.08	4
Drouin	0	7	37.15	0	Drouin	0	7	5.26	0	Morwell	0	7	16.74	0	Drouin	0	6	49.03	2
LEADING GOAL KICKERS					LEADING GOAL KICKERS					LEADING GOAL KICKERS					LEADING GOAL KICKERS				
Ben Crocker (Moe)				42	Oliver Haberl (Traralgon)				17	Rylie Baker (Drouin)				26	Bill De Araugo (Warragul)				26
Brandon McDonald (Morwell)				20	Damien Hough (Traralgon)				16	Mitchell Croatto (Leongatha)				15	Fraser Aubrey (Warragul)				22
Jenson Garnham (Leongatha)				20	Brendan Holt (Moe)				16	Jaxon Brouwers (Wonthaggi)				15	Ford Gore (Traralgon)				21



Hayden Bruce puts boot to ball under strong pressure from Dalyston's Kyle Kirk. Photos: Carol Ratcliff.

Youthful Bulldogs too nimble for the Pies

PERENNIAL West Gippsland grand finalists Phillip Island have worked themselves back into form with a comfortable 80-point triumph over Dalyston. The Bulldogs' impressive win was built over four quarters, with their clean ball movement and relentless pressure allowing their potent forward line every opportunity to score.

Played in fine conditions, in front of a strong home crowd, Phillip Island infused by new talent were quick to kick into gear with coach Cam Pedersen posting the first major from a set shot.

Kicking towards the town end they look primed and goals to Charley O'Garey and Jack Taylor swept them to an early 22-point lead.

Kyle Hutchison finally hit the scoreboard for the Magpies and two further goals to Blake Carew reduced the margin to just eight points at quarter time.

Phillip Island showed fluency to commence the second term with goals to Duggan and Taylor stretching



Nick Anderson takes his kick with Cam Pedersen providing the shepherd.

their lead. Dalyston countered with a third goal to Carew but the pendulum was swinging against the visitors and the Bulldogs looked to be doing it easily with a comfortable 28-point advantage at half-time.

It seemed to be a case of death by a thousand cuts in the second half. Dalyston,

despite their competitive efforts, let themselves down with average field kicking. The Bulldogs created crucial turnovers and inflicted increasing pain for the Magpies on the scoreboard.

Nine goals to two after the long break sums up their success.

The Bulldog's Nick Anderson

put together a masterclass up forward, finishing with five goals and proving nearly unstoppable. His effort was matched by consistent contributions from Cameron Pedersen (3 goals), Jack Huther (3 goals), and captain Jack Taylor with 2.

A special shout-out to Charlie O'Garey, who impressed again in just his second Senior game – showing poise and polish beyond his years. While Oliver Duggan stepped up for his senior debut and slotted two goals – a brilliant start to what promises to be an exciting journey.

Hayden Bruce, Charlie Bruce, Jaymie Youle, Tyce Kleverkamp, and Jay Ladson were all influential across the ground, continuing to drive the Bulldogs' fast-paced and disciplined brand of footy.

Dalyston's leading lights were Hutchison, ruckman Kurt Thomas, young Harry Howell and Michael Marotta.

Phillip Island host Koo Wee Rup on the King's Birthday weekend while Dalyston travels to Inverloch to face the Sea Eagles.

Giants struggle to recover after second quarter blow

A CLOSE first quarter gave Korumburra-Bena fans a surge of hope, but Tooradin-Dalmore proved to be the superior team on Saturday.

Playing at the Tooradin Recreation Reserve, the Giants demonstrated great pressure and tackling across the field, resulting in plenty of forward entries.

New recruit Ryan Gillis kicked two goals early – proving to be an essential addition to the forward line – and Bailey Nation kicked one.

It was great to see Paul Fermanis return to the Giants.

Fermanis and Gillis were crucial up forward, easing the pressure on the smaller forwards.

The Giants were only down by eight points at the first break.

The second quarter was a difficult affair for Korumburra-Bena.

Tooradin-Dalmore got a massive jump on the Giants, and the visitors could not regain momentum.

A 100-metre penalty for the Giants resulted in a great goal to open the third quarter.

A total of five goals for the

term brought the Giants back into the game.

Tooradin-Dalmore began to make mistakes and lose its head, as the Giants drew it back to a 32-point margin ahead of the last quarter.

Unfortunately the fourth quarter belonged to the Seagulls as the Giants couldn't sustain their third term resurgence.

Evan Allaway and Tom Crocker were huge throughout the game.

Crocker kicked a massive six goals, while Allaway continued to be the much needed

tall target to kick to, taking some great contested marks.

Others worthy of praise were Tyler Newton, Matt Borschman, Kye Benson and Josh Hopkins who were key players across the four quarters.

Korumburra-Bena will face its biggest challenge of the season this weekend, as it braces itself to take on Nar Nar Goon at home.

Nar Nar Goon has been in a league of its own all season, and it will take a strong four-quarter effort for the Giants to rattle the premiership contender.

**WEST GIPPSLAND
COMPETITION
RESULTS**

**RND
8**

PHILLIP ISLAND FOOTBALL CLUB

DALYSTON FOOTBALL CLUB

**129**

**49**

	PHILLIP ISLAND		DALYSTON	
Phillip Island	4.4	10.5	14.10	19.15 (129)
Dalyston	3.2	5.3	6.5	7.7 (49)

GOALS, Phillip Island: N Anderson 5, C Pedersen, J Huther 3, C O'Garey, J Youle, J Taylor, O Duggan 2 each

BEST: H Bruce, C Bruce, J Youle, N Anderson, T Kleverkamp, J Ladson

GOALS, Dalyston: B Carew 4, K Hutchison 2, D Karamoshos 1

BEST: K Hutchison, K Thomas, M Hallahan, B Tilley, H Howell, M Marotta

RESERVES

	Phillip Island		Dalyston	
Phillip Island	3.1	9.1	11.5	14.7 (91)
Dalyston	1.2	2.2	2.2	3.2 (20)

GOALS, Phillip Island: J Nicolaci 3, J Keating, M Mattock, B Pewtress 2, L Chihotski, M Paulsen, B Taylor, C Thompson, B Kleverkamp 1 each

BEST: C Thompson, F Cousins, J Keating, J Nicolaci, B Taylor, D Holmes

GOALS, Dalyston: J Brooker, L Bellaart, T Braid 1 each

BEST: M Chisholm, B McRae, W Luke, A Chetland, H West, J Pedersen-Morris

THIRDS

	Phillip Island		Dalyston	
Phillip Island	3.3	3.7	5.12	10.16 (76)
Dalyston	2.1	2.2	2.2	3.3 (21)

GOALS, Phillip Island: M Taylor 3, D Rizzo 2, F Gibson, J Cashman, G McCausland, A Fawaz, J Kelly 1 each

BEST: J Kelly, CC Fischer, M Taylor, A Fawaz, D Rizzo, H Arceo

GOALS, Dalyston: J Joske, J Hughes, B Anderson 1 each

BEST: B Anderson, L Harris, R Brinkman, Z Bowman Kissane, T Humphris, M Toler

FOURTHS

	Phillip Island		Dalyston	
Phillip Island	0.7	4.10	6.12	9.18 (72)
Dalyston	1.0	1.1	1.3	1.3 (9)

GOALS, Phillip Island: C Cantwell 3, S O'Garey 2, A Bailey-Cox, L Addison, L De Fazio, J Allan 1 each

BEST: E Rhee, H Power, J Mascaros, J Allan, A Williams, F Bathgate

GOALS, Dalyston: H Bell 1

BEST: A Donohue, T Karema, J Howell, F McNally, J Joma, B Magro

KORUMBURRA BENA FOOTBALL CLUB

**125**

**66**



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WEST GIPPSLAND COMPETITION

Phillip Island 19.15.129 d Dalyston 7.7.49

Cora Lynn 12.10.82 d Garfield 3.6.24

Inverloch-Kongwak 11.10.76 d Warragul Industrials 9.14.68

Tooradin-Dalmore 18.17.125 d Korumburra Bena 10.6.66

Kilcunda Bass 11.9.75 d Koo Wee Rup 8.13.61

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Jayde Lamb and Vic Jaskula proudly display their red arm bands.

Breakers dominate on the field

THE Breakers headed to Karingal with good conditions setting the tone for a great day of footy.

A clearance from the first centre bounce put the ball in the Breakers forward half and that's where it stayed for most of the quarter. Immy Bradford seemed to have the ball on a string with four goals for the quarter.

Maintaining their focus in the second quarter the Breakers didn't blaze away, instead finding good options with Annie Dempsey and Issy Pereira both scoring from set shots.

Great forward pressure also allowed Immy Bradford to add to her total.

The baton was handed to Ella Cargill in the third and she piled on four goals for the quarter.

Gaby Hynes and Montana Kranen were active in the forward line and though they weren't rewarded on the scoreboard their efforts created space and set up a number of the team's goals.

After a solid three quarters in the back-line Jayde Lamb made the most of a rare opportunity in the forward line to score her first goal.

Tess Wingfield and Cayli Lane also got on the board with Immy Bradford taking her total to seven for the match.

Despite the scoreline the Breakers didn't have it all their own way and the midfield had to work hard with Karingal putting pressure on every contest.

With two first gamers and five first goal scorers the Breakers are happy with how the team continues to grow and develop each week and the great team focused footy their playing.

Final Score: 17.13-115 def Karingal 0.1-1

Goals: Immy Bradford 7, Ella Cargill 4, Cayli Lane, Kelly Pethick, Annie Dempsey, Tess Wingfield, Isabel Pereira

Best: Immy Bradford, Tess Angarane, Ella Cargill, Tess Wingfield, Kelly Pethick, Annie Dempsey

The Breakers wore two red arm bands in protest of the Victorian Government's defunding of the Office for Women in Sport and Recreation including the Change our Game initiative, and the cut to violence prevention programs in sport.

These initiatives and programs were among the first of their kind – designed to make sport safer, more inclusive and more equal for women and gender diverse people.

One arm band was to stand against these cuts; the second one was to honour the 31 women killed by violence this year (May 31).

This week the Breakers face Edithvale-Aspendale on Saturday 4.30pm at Inverloch following the Inverloch-Kongwak and Dalyston matches.

Sea Eagles edge out Dusties in thrilling eight-point win

THE fans were out at Western Park on Saturday as Inverloch-Kongwak and Warragul Industrials put on a game for the ages in round eight of the West Gippsland Football Netball Competition.

The scoreboard told a story of momentum swings and missed opportunities, but it was Inverloch-Kongwak who walked away with the narrow eight-point victory, 11.10 (76) to 9.14 (68), a win built on relentless pressure and last-quarter composure.

The game started in scrappy fashion. Both sides found themselves peppering the goals without reward – Inverloch-Kongwak managing 2.2 while the home side was left ruing 0.4 in the first quarter. Early goals to Joseph Nowell and Augustus Finsterer gave the Sea Eagles a sniff, but the Dusties ensured their side was still within touching distance.

The second quarter saw Warragul Industrials turn the tables. Todd Beck, Robert McCallum and Ben Nichol found their radar to slot home goals, while Harry McInnes kept the Sea Eagles in the game with a timely major. The margin was razor-thin at halftime, with the Dustie's leading by just three points – 3.3 (21) to 3.6 (24).

Warragul Industrials came out firing after the main break. Nichol, McCallum, Beck and Gibson hit the scoreboard as they threatened to break the game open. However,

the Sea Eagles steadied with crucial goals from Taite Cumming and Augustus Finsterer as the Dustie's went into the final quarter 18 points in front.

The last quarter was one of those you'll remember for a long time. The Sea Eagles, down by 18 points at the final change, refused to go quietly. Joseph Nowell turned into a one-man wrecking crew, slotting three final-quarter goals, dragged his team back in reach of the four point win. Harry McInnes and Taite Cumming chipped in with vital majors as the Sea Eagles found another gear in overtime.

Every time the Dusties threatened, Inverloch-Kongwak responded. The margin hovered around a goal for much of the term, but it was Joe Soumilas who iced the game for the Sea Eagles with a clutch goal in the dying minutes.

Best-on-ground performances came from Joe Soumilas, Ethan Park, Lewis Rankin, and the ever-dangerous Joseph Nowell, whose four-goal haul proved decisive.

Inverloch-Kongwak's win puts them in finals contention, their ability to find a way in the tough moments perhaps a turning point for a team who had a slow start to the year. Meanwhile, Warragul Industrials will be left wondering how costly their inaccuracy in front of goal was – nine goals and 14 behinds a cruel statistic in an otherwise even game. The Sea Eagles now face the Magpie's at home.



Harry Butcher goes for the handball despite his Dusties' opponent latching on. Photo: The Warragul and Drouin Gazette.

AFL dream comes true for new Bulldog

From page 68

Walker, 19, has averaged 14.8 disposals and 6.5 marks for Gippsland Power in the Coates Talent League this season.

The Western Bulldogs website has already announced the youngsters' arrival.

"A childhood Bulldogs supporter, he is an impressive intercept defender and reads the ball well in the air."

Speaking on the defenders' addition to the team Western Bulldogs' Player Acquisition and Strategy Manager, Michael Regan, commended Walker's resolution to overcome setbacks and find himself in a position to join an AFL club.

"Zac's a really exciting, raw prospect from Gippsland Power," Regan said

"He's done it the hard way.

"He was actually cut from Gippsland as a 17-year-old but, got to work on himself with his family and friends

down at Phillip Island Football Club – who put a lot of work into him, and at Gippsland Power who have done the same over pre-season."

Similarly to the Bulldogs' other Mid-Season Rookie Draft selection in Michael Sellwood, Walker is seen as a strong, fast and athletic rebounding defender who will add more depth to the team's backline.

"Another really raw, intercepting defender with some great athletic traits," Regan said

"At 191cm he adds another layer to our defensive mix as well."

Zac was farewelled at Newhaven College on Thursday by the whole school, signing autographs and having a joke and chat with the students.

Zac Walker's player profile: Height: 191cm. DOB: 03/03/2006. State-league club Gippsland Power (Coates Talent League). Position: Defender.



Zac Walker received plenty of attention from Newhaven College students the day after his selection in the AFL mid-season draft.

Panthers prevail in mid-table showdown

KILCUNDA BASS managed to hang on to the win in a crucial game against Koo Wee Rup.

It was a battle between sixth and seventh, and Kilcunda Bass has ended up fifth at the end of round eight, heading into a bye next week.

The match was played at the Bass Recreation Reserve in good conditions and in front of a big crowd.

A tough first quarter saw the Panthers trailing by six points at the first siren.

Neither side was able to really break the game open, and some early skill errors from the Panthers put the home side on the back foot.

The second quarter saw similar congested play, with both sides working hard to find their feet.

It took some half time adjustments to see some changes in the game.

Kilcunda Bass made a few positional changes in the third quarter and managed to take control of the game.

Brody Connelly kicked three goals in five minutes, singlehandedly breaking the game open.

It was the break Kilcunda Bass needed, as the Panthers kicked five goals for the quarter to Koo Wee Rup's one.

Jack Soroczynski and Nathan Foote led a cleaner attack through the midfield, and Angus McGillivray – who had been playing down back – successfully fulfilled some ruck duties.

The third quarter won the game for the Panthers, with high pressure play returning in the fourth quarter.

Kilcunda Bass suffered an injury early, which made an impact.

A couple of good goals from Koo Wee Rup added to the intensity, but Kilcunda Bass did just enough to earn the four points.

Kilcunda Bass will be having a freshen up next week during its bye, before returning for round 10 to take on Tooradin-Dalmore at home.

This will be another tough competition against a top side, and Kilcunda Bass is looking forward to finding out where it sits in the scheme of the league.



Trent Cartmel runs clear with the football as his Koo Wee Rup opponent closes in. Photos: Anna Carson



Jack Rosenow lines up the handball to Dean McRae who went on to kick a goal in the opening term.

WEST GIPPSLAND COMPETITION RESULTS

RND 8

KILCUNDA BASS FOOTBALL CLUB



75



61

KILCUNDA-BASS	KOO WEE RUP			
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K-Bass	2.2	5.5	10.7	11.9 (75)
KWR	3.2	5.6	6.9	8.13 (61)

GOALS, K-Bass: B Connelly 4, D McRae 3, A Daraio 2, T Gunn, T Cartmel 1 each

BEST: A McGillivray, J Soroczynski, B Connelly, S Watson, L Scott, L Cartmel

GOALS, KWR: W Farrer, D Alanis, M Voss 2, M Alderson, N Muratore 1 each

BEST: M Voss, M Cammarano, D Alanis, T Miller, N Muratore, B Delarue

RESERVES

K-Bass	1.0	1.1	2.1	5.3 (33)
KWR	4.1	5.3	9.4	10.6 (66)

GOALS, K-Bass: C Simpson 3, B Wemyss, M Owens 1 each

BEST: B Wemyss, B Simpson, T Stuckey, C Simpson, B Gude, J Rocotas

GOALS, KWR: M Drommel 3, M Simpson, D Mullen 2, N Bindley, L Edwards, B Perry 1 each

BEST: R Wilby, M Drommel, E Neill, C Taylor-McKain, N Bindley, M Monckton

FOURTHS

K-Bass	2.0	6.2	7.3	10.6 (66)
KWR	0.1	0.1	3.3	4.3 (27)

GOALS, K-Bass: C Maund 2, C Brown, C Burgess, A Oats, H Leary, B Eden, B McMillan, A Jobe, J Braumann-Hall 1 each

BEST: C Burgess, A Oats, P McKay, H Leary, B Eden

GOALS, KWR: C Parr 2, J Hobson, K Shrapnel 1 each

BEST: C Parr, S Giles, S Filarski, H Monckton, A Sands, E Young.

INVERLOCH-KONGWAK FOOTBALL CLUB



68



76

WARRAGUL IND	INVERLOCH-K			
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Warragul Ind.	0.4	3.6	7.12	9.14 (68)
Inverloch-K	2.2	3.3	5.6	11.10 (76)

GOALS, Warragul Ind: T Beck, B Nichol, R McCallum 2, W Gibson, N Visser, B Beck 1 each

BEST: G Stevenson, W McGillivray, B Nichol, T Beck, K Willis, W Gibson

GOALS, Inverloch-K: J Nowell 4, H McInnes, A Finsterer, T Cumming 2, J Soumilas 1

BEST: J Soumilas, E Park, L Rankin, J Nowell, N Baltas, J Sullivan

RESERVES

Warragul Ind.	1.3	2.3	2.6	4.6 (30)
Inverloch-K	2.3	7.4	11.6	14.9 (93)

GOALS, Warragul Ind: O Walsh 2, S De Faria, D Burton 1 each

BEST: Z Tepper, D Burton, C Gibbons, H Radcliffe, R Ware, A Nicolli

GOALS, Inverloch-K: R Dal Pozzo, X Hughes, B Poll, L O'Neill, W Tiesdell-Smith 2, J Tomas, R Patterson, C O'Flynn, N. Harris 1 each

BEST: A Cross, N Harris, L O'Neill, B Poll, M McCaughan, R Patterson

THIRDS

Warragul Ind.	1.3	1.5	2.5	3.7 (25)
Inverloch-K	2.4	6.7	9.7	13.10 (88)

GOALS, Warragul Ind: J Lee, M Cornwall, Z Tepper 1 each

BEST: A Borg, Z Tepper, T Vickery, Z Reid, T Youngman, M Cornwall

GOALS, Inverloch-K: J Cousins, H Gleeson 4, A Mankhong 2, C Bird, J O'Neill, M Ward 1 each

BEST: F Anderson, H Gleeson, A Nowell, J Cousins, M Ward, J O'Neill

FOURTHS

Warragul Ind.	3.1	5.5	5.7	5.11 (41)
Inverloch-K	1.1	2.1	5.3	8.4 (52)

GOALS, Warragul Ind: A Ingham, K Bannister 2, M Cornwall 1

BEST: A Ingham, R Buck, O Ireland, C Belsham, C Moore, R Bostock

GOALS, Inverloch-K: J Martin, F O'Halloran 2, W Bruce, T Debono, L Aungier, M Tonkin 1 each

BEST: C Newman, F O'Halloran, J Martin, N McLennan, T Debono, H Bell

IN OTHER GAMES...

SENIORS
Cora Lynn 12.10.82 d Garfield 3.8.24

RESERVES
Garfield 10.9.69 d Cora Lynn 8.8.56

THIRDS
Garfield 11.8.74 d Cora Lynn 3.2.20

WEST GIPPSLAND COMPETITION LADDERS														ROUND 8					
SENIORS					RESERVES					THIRDS					FOURTHS				
	W	L	%	pts		W	L	%	pts		W	L	%	pts av		W	L	%	pts av
Nar Nar Goon	7	0	272.00	28	Tooradin-Dal	7	1	298.94	28	Nar Nar Goon	6	1	231.75	3.43	Warragul Ind	6	1	409.88	3.43
Tooradin-Dal	7	1	132.92	28	Nar Nar Goon	5	2	263.21	20	Phillip Island	5	1	211.29	3.33	Nar Nar Goon	5	2	186.73	2.86
Cora Lynn	6	1	156.49	24	Inverloch-K	5	2	249.01	20	Inverloch-K	4	2	276.47	2.67	Kilcunda Bass	5	2	115.00	2.86
Phillip Island	4	3	140.51	16	Phillip Island	5	2	243.54	20	Tooradin-Dal	5	3	105.54	2.50	Inverloch-K	4	2	128.93	2.67
Kilcunda Bass	4	4	115.01	16	Cora Lynn	5	2	184.07	20	Koo Wee Rup	4	3	172.73	2.29	Phillip Island	4	3	199.13	2.29
Warragul Ind	4	3	88.96	16	Garfield	4	3	105.31	16	Warragul Ind	3	3	122.77	2.00	Tooradin-Dal	4	3	156.93	2.29
Koo Wee Rup	3	5	83.47	12	Koo Wee Rup	4	4	83.66	16	Garfield	2	4	82.27	1.33	Koo Wee Rup	3	4	41.90	1.71
Inverloch-K	2	5	66.38	8	Kilcunda Bass	2	6	47.05	8	Dalyston	2	4	60.83	1.33	Kor-Bena	1	5	39.14	0.67
Garfield	2	5	60.59	8	Kor-Bena	2	5	41.97	8	Kor-Bena	1	5	23.80	0.67	Dalyston	1	5	35.71	0.67
Dalyston	1	6	53.84	4	Warragul Ind	1	6	31.40	4	Cora Lynn	0	6	20.39	0.00	Garfield	0	6	11.53	0.00
Kor-Bena	0	7	54.98	0	Dalyston	0	7	25.17	0	Kilcunda-Bass	0	0	0.00	0.00	Cora Lynn	0	0	0.00	0.00
LEADING GOAL KICKERS					LEADING GOAL KICKERS					LEADING GOAL KICKERS					LEADING GOAL KICKERS				
Nathan Gardiner (Cora Lynn)				36	Anthony Mirauta (Tooradin-Dal)				15	Chayse Campbell (Tooradin)				17	Ky Bannister (Warragul Ind)				23
Dermott Yawney (Nar Nar Goon)				26	Lauchlan Gregson (Tooradin-Dal)				14	Tarrant Millar (Nar Nar Goon)				15	Sam O'Garey (Phillip Island)				19
Blake Carew (Dalyston)				20						Augustus Finsterer (Inverloch-K)				15	Alex Ingham (Warragul Ind)				14



Western Bulldogs AFL mid-season rookie draft Zac Walker with teachers and staff at Newhaven College. B52_2225

AFL dream comes true for new Bulldog

PHILLIP Island 19-year-old Zac Walker won't have to change his footy jumper this week when he heads up to the big smoke to take up his 2025 AFL Mid-Season Rookie Draft position with the Western Bulldogs.

The lifetime Western Bulldogs fan and Phillip Island Bulldogs player was taken Pick 12 in a mid-season opportunity that only gave a total of 18 players a place on an AFL list.

Zac Walker, who played 21 senior Phillip Island games last year and five under 18 games, was cut from the Gippsland Power list last year but worked hard to return to Gippy Power this year, as an overage player and attracted the interest of AFL clubs.

Now he's on the Western Bulldogs list, getting a call from the club's coach Luke Beveridge on

Wednesday night, May 28, welcoming him to the club.

Speaking on ABC Gippsland Radio on Thursday morning, Walker said the news was pretty amazing but hadn't quite had time to sink in yet.

"I'm still pinching myself. I was pretty lost for words at that time. I don't think it's really fully sunk in yet, but I'm sure over the next couple of days it will," said Zac Walker this morning.

Asked by the ABC's presenter Mim Hook where he was when he heard he news, Zac said with a big group of friends, hopeful of hearing the announcement.

"I was with a great mentor of mine, Scotty Huther, and I had a few mates over, just in case the best case scenario happened. And yeah, it did happen."

Asked about the life-changing moment, moving into being a

full-time, professional footballer, Zac described what he's been up to since leaving school.

"Yes, I was working at the San Remo Hotel over summer holidays. That kept me busy for a while, and then after school started, I got a job at Newhaven College on a sports traineeship.

"So, I've just been doing that, just working in the office that but I'm sure things are about to change drastically. Yeah, I can't believe it."

Has it been your dream to be an AFL footballer, asked Mim.

"Yeah. I think, if you asked me when I was one years old, I would have told you I wanted to be a footballer. It's been my dream ever since, yeah, ever since I could remember," said Zac.

And he's worked very hard to get his chance.

"Just hours and hours of this, not only in the gym and running, but just working on my kicking, just working on my craft is 24/7. That's all I really think about outside of outside of work. And when I'm not at work, I always think about what I could be doing and what I should be doing. And, yeah, it keeps me busy, and I just love every bit of it," he said.

"I'm sorry, but it hasn't really sunk in yet. I'm sure it will."

And what about the chance to play for the team you and your family already support?

"They're pretty ecstatic at the moment, yeah, everyone's still trying to let it sink in, but yeah, it's crazy. The support from everyone has been crazy. It's been insane."

What do you do now?

"Yeah, well, actually the first person to ring me was Luke

Beveridge from the Bulldogs which was pretty insane. But yeah, I think I go off on Monday. It's my first day, so I get a couple of days just to relax and get my mind settled, and then yeah, and it's all go from there."

Zack also reflected on his rocky road to the big time.

"Well, I actually haven't had the smoothest run to being on an AFL list. I only played my first Gippy Power game this year as an overage player. So, I got cut last year, and then the year before, I was on the development list. But yeah, I guess that has really helped me and to strengthen my mind, knowing that if I just keep my head down and keep patient and just keep trying that way that things will happen. And yeah, it's been about doing my training and keeping at it."

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