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Mushroom murderer guilty of all charges

ERIN Patterson, the Leongatha mother of two, found guilty of three counts of murder and one of attempted murder in Morwell yesterday, did not flinch as the foreman read out her four guilty verdicts.

Maybe there was a flutter of the eyes from Erin as the first of the murder verdicts was entered, for Heather Wilkinson, age 66.

And perhaps she swallowed once as another of Korumburra's well-loved former residents, Gail Patterson, 70, was named.

But, honestly, there was nothing.

Courtroom 4 was packed, with media, interested members of the public, Detective Eppingstall and members of the homicide squad, and both legal teams, although Crown Prosecutor Dr Nanette Rogers was a notable absentee.

The air was sucked out of the room as the jury entered, and Erin Patterson stood for her moment of truth in the familiar swirls of her brown paisley shirt.

"On the charge of attempted murder against Ian Wilkinson, do you find the accused Erin Patterson guilty or not guilty?" asked the judge's associate. "Guilty".

"On the charge of murder against Heather Wilkinson, do you find the accused Erin Patterson guilty or not guilty?" "Guilty".

"On the charge of murder against Gail Patterson, do you find the accused Erin Patterson guilty or not guilty?" "Guilty".

"On the charge of murder against Donald Patterson, do you find the accused Erin Patterson guilty or not guilty?" "Guilty".

It was quite a moment, not just because the marathon trial was into its 11th week, not just because the eyes of the world were on Morwell, Leongatha and Korumburra, not just because the jury deliberated for six days but because ordinary people realised for the first time that such evil existed in the world.

Justice Beale had warned against outbursts. There weren't any. Just a stunned silence as the enormity of one of Victoria's most heinous crimes sank in.

No one spoke outside afterwards. One of Erin Patterson's friends, who has been in court most days, worked her way through the media pack, with the help of court security staff, tears in her eyes, but without saying anything.

A representative of the Patterson family also left without speaking, as did Colin Mandy SC, Erin Patterson's defence counsel, and Detective Eppingstall. Although police have since issued a



Defence counsel for Erin Patterson Colin Mandy SC leaves the court on Monday under a hail of interest from the waiting media.

statement in relation to the verdict handed down in relation to the deaths of Gail and Don Patterson and Heather Wilkinson:

"Victoria Police acknowledges the decision of the jury today.

"Our thoughts are with the respective families at this time and we acknowledge how difficult these past two years have been for them. We will continue to support them in every way possible following this decision.

"We would also like to acknowledge the work of Homicide Squad detectives over the course of this complex investigation, as well as the significant support received from a number of other areas across Victoria Police."

They said the Patterson and Wilkinson families will not be supplying a statement via Victoria Police and have asked for privacy at this time.

"At this stage, Victoria Police will not be facilitating any requests for interviews in relation to this verdict."

Detective Inspector Dean Thomas, who had oversight of the investigation, spoke to the assembled media after the verdict and said it was important to remember that the victims were loved family members and that the families deserve their privacy at this stage.

'The right verdict'

Throughout the trial, a number of members of the public, some of whom operate social media sites, have followed the evidence closely.

One of them, Tammy Egglestone, who runs a True Crime Podcast on Instagram, said she thought it was the right outcome.

"It was a little unknown, though, because the defence put in so much doubt, but in the end, they didn't buy it," said Ms Egglestone.

"Overall, it was a tragedy but I don't believe there wasn't a motive and we may never know what it was. I don't believe she did it for no reason."

The three charges of murder and one of attempted murder arose out of a family lunch of Beef Wellington, green beans, mashed potato and packet gravy, painstakingly prepared by Erin Patterson at her Leongatha home on July 29, 2023, as a special lunch for her husband Simon's parents and his aunt and uncle.

But, as has been revealed by the jury verdict, Erin Patterson went looking for death cap mushrooms, the most poisonous mushrooms in the world, researched how to prepare them and dry them so they could be secreted in the individual packages of Beef Wellington and then tricked the Pattersons and Wilkinson into attending the lunch with a bogus claim about having cancer.

'Beyond a reasonable doubt'

During the 10-week trial, the court heard from 53 witnesses, viewed 125 exhibits and ran up almost 4000 pages of transcripts.

Was it the "compelling" evidence of Ian Wilkinson, the Pastor of the Korumburra Baptist Church, about the mismatched plates used by Erin Patterson, including four large grey plates for her guests and a smaller plate for herself, orangey-tan



One of Erin Patterson's friends, who has been in the courtroom most days, left without making comment on the verdict.

in colour, that raised the bar beyond a reasonable doubt?

Was it the choice to make individual portions of Beef Wellington, allowing Erin Patterson to exercise control, according to the prosecution case, with devastating effect over who ate the poisonous meals?

Was it the fabricated cancer claim with which she lured her guests to the fatal family lunch, or the faked illness from death cap mushroom poisoning afterwards?

Was it her unwillingness to help the people she allegedly loved by telling doctors and health care staff that she had included wild mushrooms in the meal, or even asking after their condition as they lay dying in hospital?

Maybe it was because she sent health department officials on a wild goose chase around Asian grocers in the Oakleigh, Clayton and Mt Waverley areas?

Perhaps the jury accepted that the accused must have seen the only two credible sightings of death cup mushrooms ever in Gippsland, posted on the iNaturalist website by Christine McKenzie near the Loch Recreation Reserve on April 18, 2023 and/or the sighting by Dr Tom May in Neilson Street, Outtrim on May 21, 2023?

And coupled with the phone and communications tower data, analysed by world-renowned expert in digital forensic science, Dr Matthew Sorell, that placed Mrs Patterson's phone in the Loch area around that time – did that make the difference?

Or was it the possible visits to both Loch and Outtrim on May 22, 2023, the day after Dr May

posted his death cap mushroom sighting?

Perhaps it was her insistence on leaving the Leongatha Hospital after just five minutes, against the medical advice of Dr Chris Webster that she may have been exposed to a deadly dose of death cap mushrooms?

Also, that she initially refused treatment not only for herself but also for her children, who she claimed ate the leftovers?

Was it the fact that she concealed her well-used mobile phone from police when they searched her house a week after the lunch, giving them a dummy phone instead, and then lying during her police interview about which phone number she used?

Was it the fact that she disposed of the deadly dehydrator at the Koonwarra tip the morning after arriving home from hospital in Melbourne, four days after the meal?

Was it her fabricated evidence that she'd been foraging for mushrooms for years, and not just in the four months leading up to the poisonous lunch date?

Or was it that the jury looked at all of the evidence, from the testimony of the 53 witnesses to the 125 exhibits in the case, as pieces of a deadly jigsaw puzzle, allowing them to reach their decision, beyond a reasonable doubt, and deliver a verdict of guilty on all charges?

We'll never know how the jury came to their decision, but we will hear from the judge, Justice Christopher Beale, when he sums up and hands down his sentence in due course.

Francis A. Rutherford
Barrister & Solicitor
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6 Day
Weather
Forecast

SOUTH
GIPPSLAND

					
TUE Jul 8	WED Jul 9	THUR Jul 10	FRI Jul 11	SAT Jul 12	SUN Jul 13
Showers increasing. Wind AM: N 15-25km/h Wind PM: NW 25-35km/h	Shower or two. Wind AM: NW 25-40km/h Wind PM: N 20-30km/h	Showers. Wind AM: NW 15-25km/h Wind PM: W 20-30km/h	Showers. Wind AM: W-NW 20-30km/h Wind PM: W-NW 20-30km/h	Shower or two. Wind AM: Light Wind PM: NW 15-25km/h	Showers. Wind AM: NW 20-30km/h Wind PM: W 20-25km/h
7° 16°	6° 13°	8° 15°	4° 15°	8° 15°	7° 13°

IN BRIEF

Toora set to host
Gippsland Offshore
Wind Day

GIPPSLAND Offshore Wind Days is coming to Toora.

Southerly Ten has teamed up with other Gippsland offshore wind projects to host information sessions through July, with Toora on its radar.

The local session is set to be held at the Toora Hall on Wednesday, July 23, from 4pm to 6pm.

The community is encouraged to come along to hear about project plans, meet locals already working in the industry, view maps and share their ideas and feedback.

Government agencies such as VicGrid, Offshore Wind Energy Victoria, and the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water will also be there to answer questions about Victoria's transmission and energy plans.

Act on penalty
reminder notice or
risk enforcement action

VICTORIANS who have an outstanding fine for failing to vote in the 2024 local council elections are urged to act before the matter is referred to Fines Victoria.

Victorians who failed to vote in the October 2024 elections will start receiving a penalty reminder notice this week, which carries a fee of \$29.20 in addition to the original \$99 fine.

Electoral Commissioner Sven Bluemmel advised recipients of a penalty reminder notice to act as soon as possible.

"If you receive a penalty reminder notice in the mail, you have three options: pay the fine, request an internal review, or elect to go to court," Mr Bluemmel said.

"Please get in touch with us if you have any questions or require further clarification because once we hand it over to Fines Victoria for enforcement action, we are unable to

further assist."

Non-voters have 28 days to respond to the penalty reminder notice. The Victorian Electoral Commission encourages people who are unsure what to do, or who require assistance throughout any stage of the infringements process, to call 1300 551 575 or visit vec.vic.gov.au/voting/fines-and-reviews.

Improved satisfaction for
Bass Coast Shire Council

BASS Coast Shire Council has seen improvements across the board in this year's Community Satisfaction Survey.

Council performed above the Large Rural group average on every measure.

The overall performance score rose to 56, up three points from last year, with steady gains across key service areas.

Waste management remains the highest-rated service, climbing to 65 after three years at 63.

Sealed local roads were another standout, scoring above both group and statewide averages.

The survey was conducted by the Department of Government Services on behalf of participating councils.

A minimum 400 residents and ratepayers over the age of 18 were selected at random to complete the survey.

The survey covered council's overall performance, value for money, overall council direction, customer service, waste management, community decisions, sealed local roads, and consultation and engagement.

Special meeting of Bass
Coast Council to meet
planning policy deadline

BASS Coast Shire Council will hold a special meeting of Council on Wednesday, July 9, to endorse the final draft of the Bass Coast Statement of Planning Policy.

The timeframe to consider endorsement of this document as set out in government legislation is within 28 days of receiving the Statement of Planning Policy and that deadline falls at the end of this week.

The purpose of the Statement of Planning Policy is to create a framework for the future use and development of land in Bass Coast to ensure the protection and conservation of Bass Coast's distinctive attributes.

In preparing the final draft of the Bass Coast SPP all public submissions were considered alongside the advice of the Bunurong Land Council Aboriginal Corporation, Bass Coast Shire Council, other government agencies, authorities and the Distinctive Areas and Landscapes Standing Advisory Committee report.

To find out more about the State Government Distinctive Areas and Landscapes Policy process go to engage.vic.gov.au/distinctive-areas-and-landscapes-program.

Auxiliary's July
Christmas Market

BASS Coast Ladies Auxiliary are hosting a Christmas Market this Friday, July 11, at Wonthaggi Workmen's Club in the Kirrak Room.

Gold coin entry gifts, crafts and a raffle will be on display and available for purchase from 9am to 1pm.

South Gippsland Water
goes 100% renewable

SOUTH Gippsland Water has taken a major leap toward a cleaner, greener future, with all operations across the corporation now powered by 100 per cent renewable electricity.

This significant milestone will slash the organisation's greenhouse gas emissions by 55 per cent, eliminating approximately 4000 tonnes of carbon dioxide from the atmosphere each year. It's a key part of South Gippsland

Water's commitment to building a sustainable and climate-resilient future for the region.

South Gippsland Water's renewable energy is sourced from their own solar installations at nine of their largest energy-consuming sites.

Grant funding backs the
live music sector in Bass

JORDAN Crugnale MP announced on Monday that local Bass Coast successful recipients of the latest round of 10,000 Gigs: The Victorian Gig Fund and the Live Music Festivals Fund were awarded to Archies Creek Hotel, Kilcunda Ocean View Hotel and Phillip Island's Wildlife Coast Cruises, as well as Phillip Island's Ocean Sounds 2027 and South Gippsland's NYE on the Hill 2026.

This latest package will support not only the musicians on stage, but the crews behind them, as well as venue owners, hospitality staff and local businesses.

Vicspell returns –
mixing old and new

2025 brings in the twenty-first year of operation for the Vicspell Spelling Bee. Like a new bride, it carries something old and something new.

The major sponsor is the Scanlon family.

In 2025, Vicspell will no longer have the services of Norman McLennan, who tragically passed away last November. He had been a stalwart of the competition since 2006, and each year saw his value to the competition increased remarkably. In his honour, the Year 6 State Final champions trophy will be named in his memory.

On November 24, at the Docklands headquarters of Oxford University Press, the official launch of the 2025 competition occurred. Since its inception in 2005, there have been over seventy age-level champions in Vicspell.

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New Wonthaggi servo approved despite early opposition

A DISPUTE over a proposed service station in Wonthaggi seems to have come to a close, with the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (VCAT) ordering that a planning permit be issued for the project.

The development, at 63-67 McKenzie Street, will see a service station built on formerly residential land where houses were only recently demolished.

Bass Coast Shire Council confirmed the matter was resolved between all parties before the scheduled VCAT hearing, after the company behind the proposal, Pearl Energy, amended its plans to address concerns raised by objectors. As a result, both objectors withdrew from the appeal.

Council told the Sentinel-Times that VCAT subsequently ordered the permit to be issued, but no formal published order exists because the resolution was reached prior to the hearing.

According to the planning permit, the site will allow a service station with associated buildings, works, and signage – including internally illuminated signs – in a General Residential Zone. To proceed,



The future site of a proposed service station on the corner of McKenzie Street and Korumburra Road after demolition.

the developers must first vary a restriction on the land's title that previously limited the land to dwellings only.

The permit sets strict conditions on how the site must operate. Opening hours will be limited to 5.30am to 10.30pm Monday to Friday, and 6am to 10pm on weekends. Deliveries, including fuel, will only be allowed between 7am and 9pm on weekdays and Saturdays, and from 9am to 8pm on Sundays and public holidays.

Noise and lighting controls

will also apply. The developers must install acoustic fencing and manage light spill to minimise impacts on nearby homes. Signs must be kept tidy, must not flash or move, and can only be illuminated during operating hours.

Traffic safety has been a key concern throughout the process. To address this, the service station's entry and exit on McKenzie Street must be "left in, left out only". Additional roadworks, signage, and a modified median island will

be required to prevent right turns in and out of the site.

However, while the permit has now been issued, the project is not fully ready just yet. Council has confirmed that amended plans still need to be submitted and endorsed to ensure all conditions – including drainage, landscaping and traffic management – are met before any construction can begin.

Before works start, the developer must also consolidate the three land titles into one and satisfy various technical and environmental requirements. If the project does not begin within three years, the planning permit will expire.

Pearl Energy's proposed development has drawn community attention since early this year, when residents initially raised concerns about squatters occupying three houses, particularly a double-storey corner property, that has since been demolished to make way for the project. Now, after a process involving Council, residents and VCAT, the project is set to go ahead – but only under detailed conditions aimed at minimising the impact on the surrounding neighbourhood.



Police seeking information on assault

POLICE were called to Parr Street Leongatha on Saturday night at 6.30pm after a male resident was assaulted. It's understood that three police units attended, and the victim was transferred by road ambulance to the Alfred Hospital with multiple broken bones including arm, wrist and rib, and a contusion to the head.

The victim was released from the hospital on Sunday.

At the time of print, the offender/s are outstanding and it's unknown if the parties are known to each other.

Any witnesses, or those with dash cam and CCTV near the vicinity are urged to contact Bass Coast CIU Detective Senior Constable Lomax on 5671 4100.

Poowong rapist awaits sentencing

A 45-YEAR-OLD male from Ferntree Gully was found guilty last Monday, June 30 at Morwell County Court of three charges of rape and one of intentionally cause injury relating to incidents in Poowong in 2020. The case has been adjourned to August 4.

Young accused driver denied bail

ON MONDAY June 30, police apprehended a 15-year-old male driver in Leongatha's Boags Road, accused of stealing a Toyota Prius from an Inverloch address the previous night and committing multiple fuel theft offences at various petrol stations in the Latrobe and Bass Coast areas.

It is also alleged the Prius was used to ram a stationary police vehicle.

"At approximately 12 noon on Monday the 30th of June, police observed the same stolen vehicle driving in an erratic manner in and around the township of Leongatha," police stated on the Eyewatch - Bass Coast Police Service Area Facebook page.

After police immobilised the vehicle, the 15-year-old repeat offender from South Gippsland and two young female passengers were arrested at the scene and transported to Wonthaggi Police Station for questioning.

"The 15-year-old male was successfully remanded in custody and fronted the Magistrate where he was further remanded until a later date," police reported.

Police units from South Gippsland, Wonthaggi and Bass Coast CIU were all involved in a coordinated effort.

Some of those commenting on the Facebook post thanked the police, with people surprised but pleased the alleged driver was denied bail.

"Such an outcome would not have been possible without the assistance of community members; as a result, police were able to reduce further risk to public safety and property," the police stated.

Treaty yeah, treaty later in the year for First Peoples

THE State Government announced on Friday that it expects to introduce the Statewide Treaty Bill to Parliament later this year.

And a feature of that Bill will be how to evolve the First Peoples' Assembly of Victoria into an ongoing representative body to provide advice to Government and make decisions over matters that affect First Peoples.

When it happens, we are likely to have one or two seats at the table including a member of the Bass Coast Reconciliation Network, Gunai man Brian Stevens, and co-chair of the assembly Gunditjmara man Rueben Berg, who shares his time between Phillip Island and the state's south west.

Last Sunday, July 6, Mr Stevens was at the Ngangga Community Festival, chatting with Bass Coast Shire Councillors Tracey Bell, Jon Temby and Tim O'Brien, and



First Peoples' Assembly of Victoria Member for South East Region, Gunai man Brian Stevens, chats with Bass Coast Councillors Tim O'Brien, Jon Temby and Tracey Bell at the Ngangga Community Festival at the Berninnet Cultural Centre last Sunday.

anyone interested in talking about the treaty process.

"There's a lot happening at the moment and events of this kind are an ideal opportunity for people to get together and not only

celebrate NAIDOC Week but also to discuss the progress that's being made," Mr Stevens said.

"I've been talking to some of the local councillors here today, and we are going to

meet again," he said.

For the last five years, the First People's Assembly has been the independent, democratically elected body representing First Peoples in the Treaty Process.

Victoria's Statewide Treaty Bill is proposed to give the Assembly decision-making powers to make sure First Peoples' communities can design and deliver practical solutions for their communities.

The proposed body will sit within our existing parliamentary and democratic structures. It will not have veto power on policy or legislation – a power that does not exist under Victoria's parliamentary system.

Details about the progress being made on the Treaty Bill follows the tabling of the Yoorrook Justice Commission's Yoorrook for Transformation and final report, Truth be Told.

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Shire Message



Cr Brett Tessari



IT'S been a big week for sport in Bass Coast! I'm really pleased to share that two important projects have been successful in securing funding through the Victorian Government's Regional Community Sports Infrastructure Fund.

First up is the long-awaited upgrade to the ageing pavilion at Thompson Reserve in Inverloch, which will now become a reality thanks to \$1 million in State Government funding. This means new, modern change rooms—including separate spaces for women and girls—an umpire room, first aid facilities, public amenities, a canteen, and a multipurpose community space. The Inverloch Stars Soccer Club and Inverloch Stingrays Cricket Club, and everyone who uses the Reserve, will benefit from this transformation.

The current facility has been inadequate for some time for the increasing membership of the clubs and there are temporary facilities littered around the ground to try and cater for the growing number of users, particularly women, that participate in sport here. This knockdown/rebuild project is about making sport accessible, inclusive and welcoming for everyone. The support shown by the clubs to get this over the line has been outstanding, and Council is proud to be contributing more than \$1.3 million to make it happen.

The second piece of great news is for our young people in Wonthaggi. Council has received funding of \$40,000 to start detailed design and planning for the new Wonthaggi Active Youth Space—or WAYS. This is a project close to my heart, because we know how much our young people need a space that's truly for them.

WAYS will include a skate facility, new play areas and space for unstructured recreation like basketball, social sport and more. It will be a place where young people of all ages and abilities can be active, connect, and belong.

This project is about listening to our youth and investing in their future—creating a safe, inclusive, and fun environment that supports not just physical activity but mental health and community connection too.

I want to sincerely thank the Victorian Government for backing Bass Coast. These investments reflect what we already know: that sport and recreation are powerful tools to bring people together, build pride in our towns, and support healthier, happier lives.

We're proud of our clubs, proud of our young people, and proud of what's possible when we work together to deliver the facilities our community deserves.

And the finalists are...

THE finalists are in for this year's Bass Coast Business Awards!

This year's Judged Awards attracted 46 entries, and according to Bass Coast Shire Council it's a strong signal that forward-thinking and entrepreneurial spirit is alive and well in Bass Coast. Business Innovation proved to be the most popular category, followed closely by New Business.

When it came to the People's Choice Awards, the support was just as strong, according to council. Nearly 2000 votes were cast across the seven categories, impressively recognising 149 different businesses.

Bass Coast Mayor, Cr Rochelle Halstead said the awards are a chance to stop and recognise just how far our local businesses have come:

"I talk to business owners every day and I'm constantly blown away by their passion, adaptability and drive, whether they've been in the game for decades or just starting out," Cr Halstead said.

"I hope everyone who entered the awards takes a moment to reflect on how far they've come. These awards are your night to celebrate your achievements, enjoy a well-earned night off, and connect with others who are building something special here in Bass Coast – especially in a year where nearly 150



Mates Gin Distillery are one of this year's finalists in the running for the New Business Award.

businesses were nominated by the community itself."

Winners will be announced at our Celebration Night on Friday, August 22, at Silverwater Resort in San Remo. Tickets are on sale now.

Judged Awards Finalists:

Access, Equity and Inclusion

- Empowered Lactation Consulting
- Phillip Island Tenpin Bowling & Entertainment Centre
- Southcoast Psychology

Business Innovation

- Empowered Lactation Consulting
- Inverloch Bike Hire

Environmental Sustainability

- Trent Allen Building Pty Ltd
- Hycon Homes Pty Ltd
- Phillip Island Tenpin Bowling & Entertainment Centre
- San Remo Fisherman's Co-op

Event Excellence

- Bass Coast Yoga Festival
- Inverloch Running Festival
- Ocean Sounds 2025 (The Hills Are Alive Group)

Marketing and Communications

- Coast to Coast Conveyancing
- Made. By Bronte
- Phillip Island Tenpin Bowling & Entertainment Centre

New Business

- Made. By Bronte
- Mates Gin Distillery Pty Ltd
- Phillip Island Sauna

People's Choice Awards Finalists:

Accommodation and Tourism Attraction

- Anchor Belle Holiday Park
- Maru Koala and Animal Park
- Wildlife Coast Cruises

Food and Beverage

- Beachside Bakehouse
- Harman Wines
- Hotel Phillip Island

Hair and Beauty

- H Bombs Barbershop
- Studio 13
- Urban Hair

Health and Lifestyle

- Bass Coast Support Work Services
- Phillip Island Sauna
- Voyage Fitness Wonthaggi

Online, Mobile and Home-Based Business

- Empowered Lactation Consulting
- Foodies on Phillip Island
- Made. By Bronte

Retail and Services

- Bass Coast Boat & Caravan Storage
- Dalyston General Store
- San Remo Butchers

Trade

- Bass Coast Carpentry and Maintenance
- ESI Solutions
- McKenzie Motors and Machinery

San Remo foreshore not acceptable there's got to be a better way

By Bruce Wardley

CONCERNED over sporadic maintenance, lack of on-ground management and stalled improvements to the San Remo foreshore local residents and landowners are calling for a better pathway forward.

"There has effectively been no active management since 2019 and the deterioration is plain to see," said San Remo Community Association president Mark Jamison.

"The San Remo Community Association is committed to returning the 27.5 hectare foreshore reserve to community management, something that worked extremely well for decades," Mr Jamison said.

"San Remo is the fastest-growing town in the region surrounded by water on three sides, and the foreshore is central to both our identity and our future.

"It needs urgent reinstatement, management, and proper

planning, something only a dedicated, local committee can provide. The current management is unacceptable."

Secretary of the San Remo Community Association, Susan Alcock said responsibility for the area was split between Parks Victoria to the high water mark, Bass Coast Shire for the retail precinct, VicRoads to the pine trees alongside the Phillip Island Road, and DEECA for the foreshore.

"DEECA is managed from Traralgon and has refused to do maintenance," said Ms Alcock.

"Bass Coast Shire had to step in as a goodwill gesture to clear scrub and provide access to walking tracks and pick up rubbish," said Ms Alcock.

"The path hasn't been maintained, signs can't be read, and there's graffiti on the walls.

"The San Remo Community Association has exciting plans for the foreshore including a concrete all-abilities walking track from the Post Office to Lions Park.

"We're missing out on grants." Despite repeated requests over several months through Bass Coast MP Jordan Crugnale, the San Remo Community Association said it is yet to meet with DEECA.

"This neglect and total lack of accountability needs to change," said Mark Jamison.

"The community has made it clear we want the foreshore returned to local, accountable hands, we're not just volunteers, we are an incorporated association with experienced committed and locally engaged committee members."

The foreshore is in desperate need of maintenance upgrades according to Eastern Region

Nationals' MP Melina Bath.

"For years a Committee of Management oversaw the 27-hectare reserve but that changed in 2019 when DEECA took over," said Ms Bath.

The San Remo Community Association has strong community backing.

"No point in getting angry," said Ms Alcock.

"If we've got a problem we need to find a pathway. We need to clean up the town. Ongoing maintenance is really the biggest problem."

The plan is for safer, accessible footpaths, better signage and amenities, new facilities like a toilet block, saltwater pool, skate park, and recreation centre.

"The retaining wall needs replacing," said Ms Alcock.

"You can't muck around in this environment. Tidy up, relocate, fix it. It's about public access."

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

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Inverloch foreshore at risk as emergency meeting called

By Inverloch Foreshore Action Group

THE Inverloch Foreshore Action Group are calling an emergency meeting in Inverloch on Sunday, July 13, to rally community support to save the Inverloch Foreshore and vital community assets.

"The emergency meeting is being called because State Government agencies are now planning a retreat which means vital community assets will be lost including hundreds of homes long term. This will result in a significant section of the Inverloch township as we know it now, lost forever," Action Group member Alan Brown said.

"For the past ten years, the Government has been aware that significant erosion has been occurring at the Inverloch foreshore and should be ashamed of their inaction.

"Presently, significant portions of what remains of the dune formation at Inverloch continue dropping into the ocean and Government agencies are now talking retreat options.

"Retreat means the Government walks away and a significant portion of the Inverloch township as we know it today will be lost," he said.

"Not everyone understands how serious the present issue is regarding the loss of the Inverloch Foreshore. After ten years of government inaction watching the fore-



An emergency meeting has been called by the Inverloch Foreshore Action Group in light of the State Government's retreat. B23_2525

shore disappear, we now have a full-blown crisis with eventually hundreds of homes at peril of being lost through inundation by the ocean if immediate protective works are not undertaken."

For much of the dunes it is too late, but unless the Government acts immediately, the Inverloch Surf Lifesaving Clubhouse will be lost and the road between Inverloch and Cape Paterson will be cut off.

As a short-term stopgap measure, the Government is considering pumping sand from the Inlet at a cost of millions of dollars before they retreat. With absolute certainty, unless protective measures are put in front of

that freshly pumped sand slurry it will all be lost. We know this as a certainty as for months the Bass Coast Shire Council, to their credit, has been placing hundreds of tons of sand around the Surf Lifesaving Clubhouse in an attempt to save the building but the sand is washed away within days of it being placed there. In fact, it often disappears later the same day. The Action Group commends the Council for their valiant effort to save the Clubhouse but obviously what is desperately needed is for the Government to put in permanent protective works in front of the Clubhouse as a matter of extreme urgency.

They have done exactly that at Silverleaves at Cowes on Phillip Island in recent weeks so the question is why are they saving Silverleaves but walking away from Inverloch?

"People need to be in no doubt, they are planning a short-term temporary fix which will wash away and be lost as they retreat," Mr. Brown said.

"Last week, highly respected former Moorayl Shire Engineer Keith Godridge, a member of the Action Group, released a comprehensive report on what can be done to save the Inverloch foreshore and community assets permanently."

People should come to the public meeting this Sunday afternoon where Mr. Godridge will explain his report and take questions.

"I implore people to come to the public meeting and hear first-hand, issues surrounding the present crisis and what can be done to save Inverloch and the homes of hundreds of residents.

"The only thing which will save Inverloch now will be people power," Mr. Brown said. "Even if your home is not amongst those at risk, please come along to support your neighbours."

For more information visit the Inverloch Foreshore Action Group's Facebook page [facebook.com/groups/3555316291433437](https://www.facebook.com/groups/3555316291433437).

Poison bait incident alarms dog owners

THE likely poisoning of a dog with a rat bait picked up at the Blue Gum Reserve off-leash dog park in Dunsmore Road, Cowes has local dog owners alarmed.

"It's not the first time," said Cheryl Owens, president of the Phillip Island Dog Owners Association.

According to Janine, the distraught owner of 13-year-old schnauzer Reuben, the bait could have been anywhere in the park.

"I bought Reuben home today, and all that could be done has been done.

"The Vet is keeping him on Vitamin K and will continue with anti-toxin for rat poison. It's still touch and go."

Cheryl Owens said the incident was of massive concern to all dog owners.

"The problem is we don't have a bait or a toxicology report."

Dog owners have been warned to remain vigilant when walking their dogs in the reserve after a report earlier this year that a dog had died from eating poison bait in the area.

"Janine and Reuben go to the park daily," said Ms Owens.

"Watch your dog, keep your eye on it.

"Apart from the danger to dogs, wildlife in the area is also at risk of ingesting bait. It's a horrible thing to do. It would be a real pity if the only dog park on Phillip Island can't be used."

Reuben's owner said one very important part of rat poisoning everyone should know is that the first symptom can be constipation. Janine took Reuben to the Vet for treatment for constipation, but no other symptoms were present.

Cheryl Owens asked anyone who may see baits to place them in a sealed disposable bag and report it to police.

"Reuben was holding a whopping two kilograms of blood in his tummy so if you don't notice anything else, you will sure notice the swollen tummy," said Janine.

"We walk the whole entire park so please stay vigilant."

INVERLOCH AT RISK EMERGENCY MEETING.

Significant sections of the Inverloch Foreshore continue to be lost daily due to erosion.

Unless immediate action is undertaken, the Inverloch Surf Lifesaving clubhouse will soon be lost and the road between Inverloch and Cape Paterson will be severed.

Major portions of the dunes continue to fall into the ocean daily.
In the long term, hundreds of houses will be lost unless the erosion is stopped.

THE INVERLOCH FORESHORE ACTION GROUP
IS HOLDING A PUBLIC MEETING AT THE INVERLOCH HUB,
SUNDAY, JULY 13 AT 1:30PM.

A report will be presented outlining what can be done immediately to stop the erosion and save the above vital assets and homes.

If you support saving Inverloch from the present catastrophe, it is vital you attend the public meeting and show your support.

INVERLOCH FORESHORE ACTION GROUP
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/3555316291433437>

Link to our Facebook page



Korumburra Tennis Pavillion a go for town

FUNDING has been secured by the state government for the Korumburra Tennis Club Pavillion.

Confirming the announcement Allison Jones, South Gippsland Shire Council CEO stated:

“South Gippsland Shire Council is pleased to welcome the Victorian Government’s announcement of a \$1 million contribution toward the Korumburra Tennis Club Pavillion Redevelopment Project.

“This funding – delivered through the Regional Community Sports Infrastructure Fund – will be combined with \$475,000 from Council and \$25,000 from the Tennis Club to deliver compliant, accessible, and female-friendly facilities that support increased participation in tennis across the region.

“Council thanks the Victorian Government for this generous support and looks forward to seeing the project progress.

“Sport plays a vital role in regional communities, bringing people together, promoting healthy lifestyles, and creating opportunities for connection, inclusion, and personal development.”

The creation of a youth space at Wonthaggi Recreation Reserve has moved a step closer to realisation with State Government funding announced for planning, consultation and preparation of detailed design documentation to create a skate facility and a local play space.



Member for Bass Jordan Crugnale joins representatives of Inverloch Cricket Club, Inverloch Stars Soccer Club, Bass Coast Shire Councillor Brett Tessari and CEO Greg Box. A13_2725

Inverloch cricket and soccer to benefit from pavilion redevelopment

MEMBER for Bass Jordan Crugnale and Bass Coast Shire councillor Brett Tessari delivered excellent news for Inverloch sporting participants, announcing funding for a new soccer and cricket pavilion at Thompson Reserve.

Council is contributing \$1.35 million to the project, with \$1 million coming through round two of the State Government’s Regional Sports Infrastructure Fund, the remainder of the \$2,406,148 project value coming from Inverloch Stars Soccer Club and Inverloch Cricket Club.

The new facility will include four player changerooms with amenities, umpires changeroom, a multipurpose space, first aid room, kitchen, canteen, and public and accessible amenities.

Cr Tessari said the project is

a perfect example of what can be achieved when local and state governments work together to deliver for communities.

“The upgrade to the Thompson Reserve Pavilion will make a huge difference for the Inverloch Stars Soccer Club and Stingrays Cricket Club, providing modern, inclusive facilities that encourage more women and girls to get involved and feel supported in community sport,” he said, describing the redevelopment as “much needed”.

Ms Crugnale, a former Inverloch Stars goalkeeper, noted the importance of having a modern fit-for-purpose pavilion, featuring changerooms that will boost participation for women and girls.

She praised those at Inverloch Stars and the Stingrays cricket

community for their hard work towards making the project a reality.

Inverloch Stars’ Under 17 coach Eamonn Toomey told the Sentinel-Times of his delight at the funding commitment and the fact that the soccer and cricket clubs will share modern facilities.

He stressed that both clubs have outgrown the existing facilities, explaining the need for redevelopment is made all the more important by their increasing participation.

“There’s been a massive growth in team sports over the last few years, especially after all the lockdowns, and we’ve had a lot of families bringing acquaintances,” he said.

Many of those who were part of the soccer club when it began are now bringing their kids, helping make it an increasingly vibrant

environment, Eamonn having been a part of the club since its inception in 2010 and expecting his two daughters will eventually become involved there.

Inverloch Cricket Club committee member Mitch Woods is equally excited about funding being secured for the planned new facility.

“In the last three or four years we’ve had a big growth in our female participation; we’ve got a women’s side that’s been fairly successful but unfortunately we haven’t been able to play here because of the lack of facilities,” he said, explaining that the modern building will be a lot more inclusive.

It is sure to encourage further participation in both cricket and soccer.

SUNDAY SESSIONS AT THE INLET HOTEL, INVERLOCH.



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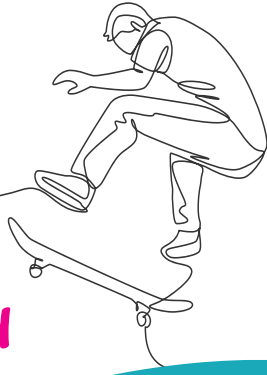
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SOUTH GIPPSLAND SHIRE COUNCIL

Korumburra Skate Park



**JOIN THE
CONVERSATION**



South Gippsland Shire Council
is seeking your feedback on
Korumburra's new **skate park**.

Feedback can be provided online via
QR Code or in-person at one of our
drop-in sessions facilitated by **East
By West Design Management**.

DROP-IN SESSIONS

When: Monday 14 July
Where: Korumburra Community Hub

Skate Park Users
Between 4.30pm and 6.30pm
General Discussion
Between 6.45pm and 7.30pm

Engagement closes Sunday 27 July



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No easy solution to problem gambling across South Gippsland and Bass Coast

By Bruce Wardley

PUNTERS on the Bass Coast spent a whopping \$19.15 million on various forms of gambling in 2024/25 including poker machines, lotteries and sports wagering.

South Gippsland gamblers according to the Victorian Gambling and Casino Control Commission (VGCCC) spent \$6.94 million in the same period.

Losses on poker machines accounted for nearly half of gambling revenue.

According to the VGCCC, the gambling industry is highly lucrative because it taps into people's fantasies of winning big on products that are designed to ensure punters lose more than they win.

Bass Coast gamblers hand over \$1.6 to \$1.7 million to the gambling and lottery industry each month while in South Gippsland gamblers spend \$660,000 a month.

VGCCC CEO Annette Kimmitt said rates of gambling harm in Victoria have increased by 13 per cent over the last 10 years with more than a quarter of gambling participants suffering harm aged 18 to 24 years.

Crown Melbourne accounts for a third of participants experiencing harm in Victoria (36 per cent), sports betting (35 per cent), poker machines (29 per cent) and wagering on horse, harness and greyhound racing (20 per cent).



Bass Coast gamblers hand over up to \$1.7 million to the gambling and lottery industry every month. B08_2725

"The house always wins," said Ms Kimmitt.

"People who experience severe gambling issues are more likely than others to take up inducements like bonus bets, reward programs and early cash-outs, which are often promoted through direct marketing messages.

"Customers who understand these tactics are in a better position to protect themselves from harm," she said.

Examples of how to protect yourself include taking regular breaks, setting and sticking to time and money limits, keeping track of losses, and only

gambling when sober.

"The gambling industry spent \$53 million on advertising in Victoria in 2023, much of which seemed to imply that gambling is a game of skill rather than chance," Ms Kimmitt said.

"This type of misinformation can result in people underestimating the risks, as well as their chances of winning, and leading to negative consequences, including serious harm."

Every year more than 400,000 Victorians experience at least one type of gambling harm, such as feelings of guilt

and regret or other psychological distress, relationship problems, financial issues, physical or mental health concerns, and work or study difficulties.

The Salvation Army is actively involved in addressing problem gambling by offering support services and advocating for policy change.

The Salvos provide counseling, financial assistance, and support groups for individuals and families affected by gambling addiction.

Anyone negatively affected by their own or someone else's gambling is encouraged to contact the 24/7 gambling helpline on 1800 858 858 for free and confidential support or visit gamblershelp.com.au or gamblinghelponline.org.au

Gambler's Help services are provided by a range of community organisations across metropolitan, regional and rural Victoria and are available in over 100 locations.

Gambling Help services are also tailored to First Nations communities, and in-language support for at-risk culturally and linguistically diverse communities.

Call 1800 858 858 for in-the-moment support or to book a free counselling session.

For people under 25 who are worried about their own, or someone else's gambling support is available on the Gambler's Help Youthline by calling 1800 262 376. Gambler's Help Youthline is available 24/7 and is anonymous, confidential and free.



Mobility overturn lands driver in hospital

WHILST patrolling the streets on Monday morning, July 7, the Bass Coast Proactive Policing Unit witnessed an elderly lady reverse her mobility scooter into a drain on Abrahams Lane.

The scooter overturned, with the lady landing on the concrete and being trapped under the scooter.

Leading Senior Constable Nicholas Carlson and Senior Constable Megan Krause assisted other bystanders to remove the scooter from the lady and to make her safe and comfortable until paramedics arrived. It's understood the eighty-six-year-old lady was then taken to the Wonthaggi Hospital for assessment.

Reckless driving in Mirboo North

MIRBOO North Police are appealing for information following the stolen grey Toyota Prius that was later located in Leon-gatha after reports on Sunday, June 29 at 7.30pm, that it was seen swerving at vehicle and driving in a dangerous manner through the township of Mirboo North.

It's understood several drivers had to take evasive action to avoid a collision.

Anyone with information is urged to contact Mirboo North Police Station on 5668 1444.

Wanted female arrested after community appeal

A 24-YEAR-OLD female was arrested by police on June 30, at 11.41am, in Briggs Drive, Wonthaggi, after an appeal for information on the woman's whereabouts.

To read the full insightful, and rather well written account of her arrest head to Eyewatch – Bass Coast Police Service Area. The female was bailed to appear at the Korumburra Magistrates' Court on July 10.



Meet Gippsland's offshore wind developers

Offshore wind energy is a new opportunity to continue electricity generation in Gippsland, bringing jobs and investment to the region.

Come along to meet local already working in the industry, hear about project plans, view maps and share your ideas and feedback.

Government agencies VicGrid, Offshore Wind Energy Victoria and the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water will also be there to answer questions about transmission and energy plans.

We look forward to seeing you there.

Toora	Wednesday 23 July 4 – 6 pm Toora Hall, 23 Gray Street
Loch Sport	Wednesday 30 July 4:30 pm – 6:30 pm Loch Sport Hall, 222-236 National Park Road
Woodside	Thursday 31 July 4 – 6 pm Woodside Community Hall, Cnr Prince Street and Austins Road





South Gippsland Shire Council News

Community Grants Program - Round One Now Open

Applications for South Gippsland Shire Council's first round of 2025/26 Community Grants are now open until Sunday 31 August. The program offers grants of up to \$10,000 to help local not-for-profit community organisations to carry out important projects, planning, events, and even purchase much needed equipment.

The program focuses on projects and initiatives that enhance mental and physical wellbeing, promote social connection, facilitate cultural development and most importantly, celebrate the good in our local community.

The funding is available under the following categories;

- Minor Projects and Equipment (up to \$5,000);
- Major Projects and Equipment (up to \$10,000);
- Planning and Development Reports (up to \$10,000); or
- Festivals and Events (up to \$10,000).

Community grants provide endless opportunities to level up your community group and enrich our broader community. Don't miss out on the chance to secure funding.

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

Have Your Say: Korumburra Skate Park



South Gippsland Shire Council is seeking feedback on plans for the new skate park that will be delivered as part of the Korumburra Railway Precinct Project. The skate park is aimed at beginners and intermediate skaters and will be located near the new BBQ shelter and toilet block.

Provide your feedback through an online survey or drop in to the in-person engagement session -

When: Monday 14 July

Where: Korumburra Community Hub

Time: Skate Park Users - Between 4.30pm and 6.30pm
General - Between 6.45pm and 7.30pm

For more information or to have your say, visit:
yoursay.southgippsland.vic.gov.au

COUNCIL MEETINGS

The next Council Meeting will be held on Wednesday 16 July 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

FOSTER WAR MEMORIAL ARTS CENTRE

The Foster War Memorial Arts Centre will be holding their General Annual Meeting (AGM) in July.

Date: Monday 21 July 2025

Time: 5.00pm

Location: 79 Main Street, Foster

This is a public meeting to nominate persons for appointment to the Committee of Management for the Centre, for the term of one year.

Residents are encouraged to attend and are welcome to nominate for positions on the Committee of Management.

For further details please contact Emma McKay at **fwmac1@gmail.com**

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATIONS

Second round registrations for three-year-old and four-year-old kindergarten are now open.

To register, simply complete the online registration form and nominate your kindergarten preferences.

Offers for this round will be released during the first week of October.

For more information and to register, visit:
www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/kinder

CONTACT US

9 Smith Street, Leongatha
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South Gippsland Water tops the state with a rate hike of 6.1%

By Bruce Wardley

South Gippsland Water is about to add an extra \$80 a year to your water rates bill. A typical annual rate bill for a South Gippsland Water user which includes owner/occupier households and those paying rent will jump by 6.1 per cent from July 1.

The average water bill from South Gippsland Water will increase from \$1324 to \$1405, the highest increase of any water business in Victoria and well above the state average.

By comparison, a typical water bill for Gippsland Water will increase by 1.9 per cent in 2025/26 from \$1465 to \$1492, and Westernport Water up 2.1 per cent from \$1171 to \$1183.

South Gippsland Water has historically kept water prices low in comparison with other water corporations according to Managing Director Rob Murphy.

"The prices we charge customers are lower than the actual cost of supplying water and wastewater services in the region," said Mr Murphy.

"We know a lot of our customers are doing it tough with cost-of-living pressures and we have support measures in place," he said.

An approved tariff schedule released by the Essential Services Commission last week outlined the maximum price each water business can charge for specific services.

Inflation is blamed as the main driver for an average 2.4 per cent jump in water rates across the state.

Having kept prices historically low, South Gippsland Water said it needed to lift water rates to compensate for the increasing cost of services.

"Like many others, we are facing increasing costs of electricity, insurance and infrastructure materials, we also have to maintain, renew or repair a significant amount of infrastructure



South Gippsland Water Managing Director Rob Murphy said if you are experiencing difficulty paying water rates talk to the Customer Care team. B07_2725

across the region to deliver water and wastewater services," said Mr Murphy.

"We plan major projects as part of our drive to continuously improve the services we provide to customers and are committed to the Victorian Government Net Zero target to have 100 per cent renewable energy in place by 2025."

South Gippsland Water has improvement projects planned for the Leongatha, Meenyan and Wonthaggi wastewater treatment plants.

A further project to improve water pressure for a localised area of Wonthaggi will begin this month with a noticeable improvement in water pressure for local residents expected by September.

Rob Murphy said the Head Office functions of South Gippsland Water would remain in Foster however a review of the current headquarters had revealed ongoing problems.

"We have the occasional roof leak at Foster," said Mr Murphy.

South Gippsland Water

has looked at refurbishing the Foster offices but found the cost of refurbishment to be almost as much as a new building.

"We're now considering what the best use is for the Foster office, but we have no intention of moving out of the town or proceeding with plans for a single major office facility in Leongatha or Wonthaggi," said Mr Murphy.

Chairperson of the Essential Services Commission Gerard Brody encouraged Victorians to reach out to their local water supplier if they're having trouble paying their bills.

"Water businesses must help you manage your bills and provide a range of options such as flexible payment plans and assistance with concessions or grant applications."

South Gippsland Water offers support for customers in the region who may be struggling financially, including payment plans, concessions, financial counselling, utility relief grants and family violence support.

"We encourage people to

call us on 1300 851 636 to explore their options," said Mr Murphy.

"We're here to help."

People having trouble paying a water bill due to temporary financial difficulties may be eligible for a Utility Relief Grant. The South Gippsland Water Customer Care team can help with an application to get up to \$650 off your rate bill.

South Gippsland Water also has flexible payment plans and grants available for those experiencing financial difficulty.

South Gippsland Water provides water and sewerage services to around 165,000 people in Gippsland covering an area that stretches from Drouin in the West, Loch Sport in the East, Mirboo North in the South and Rawson and Briagolong in the North.

For more information go to gippswater.com.au/customer-care or call 1800 050 500.

To estimate your annual water bill using the Essential Services Commission's water bill calculator go to esc.vic.gov.au/water/information-for-water-consumers.

Mayor's Message



South Gippsland Shire Council

Cr John Schelling



Advocacy in Canberra

Last week, I travelled to Canberra with Deputy Mayor Councillor Gilligan, Councillor Hersey, Chief Executive Officer Allison Jones, and Tony Peterson Director Sustainable Infrastructure, to attend the Australian Local Government Assembly. While there we took the opportunity to meet with Ministers and government representatives to advocate for South Gippsland's needs. Discussions centred around Council's advocacy priorities which include – amongst others – roads, resilient coastal communities and disaster recovery infrastructure funding. We also lobbied strongly for the Australian government to fund the upgrade and ongoing maintenance of the Yanakie Automated Weather Station.

The Deputy Mayor and I were fortunate to be Mary Aldred MP's first visitors at her office in Parliament House and had some very productive conversations. The trip also highlighted the significant progress Council has made in Canberra, with many government representatives acknowledging Council's efforts—particularly regarding coastal strategies and planning. Councillor Gilligan was invited to chair a Coastal Roundtable event during the visit, which was well received and testament to our strong leadership in this area.

Our main takeaway from the visit was that many other local governments are facing similar challenges, and it's important that we continue to engage and collaborate to address them together.

Community Grants

The first round of Council's Community Grants is now open until Sunday 31 August. These grants provide an opportunity for our local not-for-profit community organisations to access funding to carry out important projects, planning events or even purchase equipment. Helping our community level up through grants such as this is one of the most rewarding aspects of being part of Council. Don't miss this opportunity, find out more or apply here,

www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/grants

Community Engagement

Council is seeking your feedback on two engagement opportunities.

The **Korumburra Skate Park** is being delivered as part of the Korumburra Railway Precinct Project. The skate park is aimed at beginners and intermediate skaters and we are wanting to hear your thoughts on the proposed design. Council is hosting two community engagement sessions at the Korumburra Community Hub on Monday 14 July. The first session is tailored to skate park users and the second session will provide community members with the opportunity to view the designs and share more general feedback. If you're unable to make these sessions, you can provide a submission via an online survey.

Council has also proposed a **sale of land** known as Part 71 MacDonald Street, Leongatha, to the adjoining landowner. You are invited to make a submission regarding the proposed sale of land.

For more information or to provide your feedback on either of these engagement opportunities, visit your-say.southgippsland.vic.gov.au

Leongatha Rotary Changeover Dinner

Councillor Williams and I had the joy of attending the Leongatha Rotary Changeover Dinner. This was a fantastic night and not only recognised members that have made an outstanding contribution but saw six new members join the club.

The Rotary is always welcoming new members. If this is something that interests you, don't hesitate to reach out on their website, www.leongatharotary.org.au

Footloose

Finally, Footloose opening night is almost here! Don't forget to buy your tickets to what is bound to be a brilliant performance by the Leongatha Lyric Theatre. If you've seen the footage of the stage construction on Lyric Theatre's Facebook page, you'll know we're all in for a treat.

Mount Vernon? Sign spelling error sparks local frustration

A BERRYS Creek couple says a simple spelling mistake on a newly installed road sign is yet another example of council waste – and a sign (no pun intended) that the basics aren't being done right.

Locals Fergus and Deb O'Connor were among the first to spot the blunder earlier this week when they noticed the new sign for Mount Vernon Road had been put up with a glaring typo: "Mount Vernon Road".

The couple said the road sign had always been spelled correctly in the past, and they were baffled that the old sign – which seemed to be in good condition – was replaced at all.

"They replaced a perfectly good sign with a misspelled one," Fergus said. "To make matters worse, the new sign

had fallen over onto the road, and I had to lift it off the road with the tractor. I reported this to the council. It's just a total waste of money from the council."

Fergus said they had raised the issue with local councillor Brad Snell, who has been supportive. The fallen sign has since been stood up again, but the error remains.

Thankfully the O'Connors, who have called Berrys Creek home since 2012, say they're not aware of anyone being confused by the incorrect spelling yet – largely because the road itself is in such poor condition that few want to use it.

"Most people try and avoid the road as it's in a disgraceful state. It's quite dangerous," Fergus said.

The mistake has left Deb shaking her head.

"I couldn't believe that they would make that error, and I couldn't believe how many steps it must've gone through with nobody picking it up."

The couple say they'd like to see the sign replaced properly – and an explanation for why it was needed in the first place.

"Well, it would be sensible to replace the sign with a correct road sign, and it would be very sensible to explain why a perfectly adequate sign was replaced," Deb said.

Fergus added: "If they can't get the little simple things right, how are they supposed to get the big things right?"

Contacted for comment, South Gippsland Shire Council stated: Council was alerted to the spelling mistake on Tuesday and replaced the sign on Thursday.



The new sign on Mount Vernon Road shows a clear misspelling – 'Mount Vernon Road' – which locals say is a waste of ratepayer money.

2024-25 Investment Markets

Another strong year – But can it last?

By David Caporale,
Chief Investment Officer of RELcapital

Australian investors have enjoyed another year of solid returns across most major asset classes, with the 2024–25 financial year marking a third consecutive period of strong growth.

Despite early concerns around global instability, inflation, and trade tensions, investment markets delivered better-than-expected results. According to AMP's Shane Oliver, the performance was driven by central bank interest rate cuts, easing inflation, and resilience in the global economy.

Shares and Property

Both Australian and global share markets were standout performers. The ASX 200 posted a return of 13.8% over the financial year, led by technology, financial, and telecommunications companies. However, mining stocks lagged, reflecting ongoing concerns about global trade and weaker commodity prices.

International shares fared even better. Global equities returned 13.8% in local currencies, but a weaker Australian dollar pushed this to 18.6% in AUD terms. US and Chinese stocks were particularly strong, buoyed by ongoing enthusiasm for artificial intelligence and easing inflation pressures.

Property investments also rebounded. Listed Australian real estate investment trusts (REITs) delivered a 14% return, while global REITs were up 7.9%. According to CommSec, this marked a turnaround after previous years of underperformance driven by rising interest rates.

Meanwhile, residential housing saw modest growth. Home prices across Australia rose 3.4% overall, with Perth, Brisbane and Adelaide leading the way. The recovery picked up pace in early 2025, again reflecting lower interest rates.

Bonds & Cash

Fixed income and cash investments also made positive contributions, although more modest than equities. Both Australian and global bonds rebounded during the year as interest rates fell and inflation eased. After several tough years, bonds provided capital gains and helped diversify portfolios.

Cash investments delivered a 4.4% return—stable and in line with expectations. This reflected higher interest rates earlier in the cycle, with recent cuts by the Reserve Bank of Australia expected to bring these returns down over time.

Vanguard Australia noted that bond markets “returned to more typical behaviour” as inflation cooled and central banks shifted from raising rates to holding or cutting them. Income-focused investors saw improved results after a long period of uncertainty.

What Comes Next?

Looking ahead, most economists expect returns to be more modest. AMP forecasts average annual growth across diversified asset classes closer to 6–7% over the medium term, due to stretched valuations and ongoing risks.

According to CommBank's Chief Economist Stephen Halmarick, “We've likely seen the peak in returns for this cycle,” citing global uncertainty and the limited room for further rate cuts.

Geopolitical risks remain in focus too. Ongoing tensions between the US and major trading partners - including tariff uncertainty and military activity in the Middle East - continue to cast a shadow. Nevertheless, markets have so far proven resilient, and many expect this to continue if economic growth holds up.

Final Thoughts

After a volatile few years, the 2024–25 financial year proved once again that markets can surprise even in uncertain times but the future is never guaranteed.

The information above does not constitute financial or other professional advice and is general in nature. It does not take into account your specific circumstances and should not be acted on without a full understanding of your current situation and future goals and objectives by a fully qualified financial advisor. Before you make any decision about whether to acquire a certain financial product, you should obtain and read the relevant product disclosure statement. Sources: AMP, CommSec Market Wraps, Vanguard Australia, RBA statements.

Grow your career in Horticulture at BCAL

IF YOU'RE looking for a hands-on, outdoor career, Bass Coast Adult Learning (BCAL) is now taking enrolments for the Certificate III in Horticulture – a course that goes well beyond basic gardening. The program equips students with the skills to work in plant selection and care, landscape design, pest and disease management, weed control, pruning, propagation, and more.

Led by experienced Horticulturist Mark Sheargold, who brings over 15 years of industry expertise, the course offers a vocational pathway into rewarding careers in landscape maintenance, nursery work, design, and plant propagation.

“Horticulture is much more than just a trade,” says Mark.

“It's a fulfilling way to work outdoors, connect with nature, and contribute to healthy, vibrant green spaces.”

BCAL students enjoy a rich, hands-on learning experience. Earlier this year, the class visited Mansfield's Propagation Nursery in Skye – one of Australia's major wholesale growers supplying Bunnings and independent nurseries nationwide. Students were able to observe large-scale operations in action as part of their ‘Manage Nursery



Put learning into practice at BCAL with enrolments now open for Certificate III in Horticulture.

Plants' unit.

Additional visits included Plantmark in Langwarren and GardenWorld in Keysborough, where students explored a broad variety of plants – from bonsai and bromeliads to cacti and carnivorous species – and gained insight into the difference between wholesale and retail nursery environments.

Throughout Term 2, students have been focusing on pruning, soil improvement, and sustainable gardening. With BCAL's heavy clay soil as

a challenge, they've been trialling techniques such as green manure crops, cover cropping, and composting with contributions from the Wonthaggi Woodcrafters (sawdust as well as horse manure), and food scraps from the BCAL kitchen. They've also been experimenting with cardboard as a natural weed suppressant while preparing winter crops like cauliflower and carrots.

The course takes place in BCAL's purpose-built outdoor classroom, featuring a greenhouse and raised garden beds where students put their learning into practice.

Mark adds, “Students are really enjoying the process. It's rewarding to see them develop a passion for horticulture and the natural world.”

With a solid foundation of industry knowledge, they can go on to explore opportunities like starting their own business.

Whether you're starting fresh, seeking a career change, or wanting to deepen your connection with the environment, the Certificate III in Horticulture offers both the knowledge and practical skills to flourish.

Enrolments for July are now open. Visit bc.al.vic.edu.au or call 5672 3115 to learn more.

The Nobbies boardwalks and car park re-opened

THE Nobbies boardwalks and car park re-opened on Friday, July 4, ahead of the busy school holiday period.

The views, blowhole and the excitement of whale watching are the true attractions at this incredible site, and Phillip Island Nature Parks (PINP) CEO Catherine Basterfield said, “We hope to see both visitors and the local community enjoying this rugged coastline throughout the whale season.”

“Following the structural issue that occurred at the Nobbies Centre, engineer inspections have confirmed it is not safe to re-open the

building at this stage. We have prioritised securing the site so the boardwalks and car park can be freely accessed.”

In the coming weeks, Phillip Island Nature Parks will begin consultation for the updated Summerland Peninsula Master Plan. As part of this, Catherine said, “We will be seeking the views of the local community and organisations on the future of the Nobbies Centre.”

“We want to ensure that any further investment in the Nobbies facility helps to achieve the community's long-term aspirations for this site. This means the building will remain closed

while this planning is undertaken.”

During The Nobbies downtime, the Penguin Parade will be the primary visitor hub for the peninsula.

The Penguin Parade Visitor Centre will open at midday each day, so visitors can access bathroom facilities and food and drink services. Public toilets are also available at the Penguin Parade car park.

PINP will also be hosting activities, movies and additional tours throughout the school holidays. To view the full program or to book, visit Phillip Island Nature Parks website.

Discover the magic in every winter waddle

Visit the Penguin Parade to witness these little wonders as they return to their burrows earlier each night!

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SES San Remo says thanks

YOU hear the saying 'it's a thankless job' from people who work hard and receive very few rewards in return. SES San Remo unit controller Mandy Chancellor said a volunteer can sometimes feel this way; their work may go unnoticed by the community, by friends, or by family.

"When I was appointed Unit Controller of SES San Remo, I promised myself as a leader I would do my best to make sure everyone felt valued. My priority was the members of the unit and to other emergency services personnel that we work with. After this, it was important to me that the community knew they also mattered," Mandy explained.

"Today, we would like to say thank you to the community of Bass Coast, to everyone who has supported, encouraged, and generously donated to SES San Remo and other SES units in the shire.

"We thank the organisation, the social groups, the businesses, and the individuals who have consistently made us feel visible and valued."

The last two years have seen tragedy and triumph, but SES have not travelled that journey alone.

"Special thanks to Jordan Crugnale MP, and Rochelle Halstead, Mayor of Bass Coast Shire, who, without fail, texted or called to make sure SES members are okay and to offer support," said Mandy.

SES thank organisations, RSL Phillip Island, Kilcunda Lobster Festival, The Tidal Festival, Grantville Market, Bendigo Bank, Channel Challenge, Walk for The Kids, San Remo Traders



Unit controller Mandy Chancellor was recently presented with her five years of service to the SES by A/Senior Assistant Chief Officer, Matthew Taranto.

Association and Bass Coast Shire Council.

"Thank you for your generosity in providing opportunities and much-needed donations and grants, which allow us to purchase new equipment, put fuel in our vehicles and help with maintenance around the unit. We would struggle without you."

The Bass Coast Shire Council and the staff have never been too busy to take a call or to be there beside the SES in times of storms, floods and other emergencies.

"Thank you to the businesses, who, through organisations like the Grantville Market and San Remo Traders Association, support us," Mandy said.

"Finally, I thank the Bass Coast

Community. This amazing community gives all the units their incredible members. It is the community that welcomes and thanks us when we turn out for jobs. It is the community that attends all the fantastic events in the Shire and always comes up to us to tell us of their appreciation and admiration for what we do.

"We do not forget CFA, Ambulance Victoria, Victoria Police, Phillip Island Nature Parks and Fisheries and the support they provide to us, but SES San Remo wanted to let the community of Bass Coast know we are grateful for you, and we feel privileged and proud to be SES San Remo. Your support and appreciation are our rewards."



Toora members prepare to enter the smoke-filled building to search for two mannequins at the South Gippsland Group Exercise.

Major CFA exercise at Barry Beach

BRIGADES from across South Gippsland converged at the Barry Beach Marine Terminal for their South Gippsland Group exercise training recently, where members worked through a few scenarios to fully train and practice their skills in an unusual environment.

"We chose to engage with Qube Energy as the Barry Beach Martine Terminal is a major piece of infrastructure in the region," Deputy Group Officer Training Ray Argento said.

"We're also expecting the number of people onsite at Barry Beach to grow significantly over the coming years with the proposed offshore rig decommissioning activities and the development of the Gippsland offshore wind zone."

The key was for members to practice their skills, and the site at Barry Beach was chosen to provide a foundation for collaboration.

Active members from Welshpool, Toora, Foster, Meeniyar-

Stony Creek, Inverloch, Tarwin Lower & District, Fish Creek & District, Pound Creek and Dumbalk participated in a complex search and rescue in a smoke-filled building, communications on new CFA radios, and a HAZMAT scenario where a forklift was involved in an unknown chemical spill.

Ambulance Victoria members were also 'on scene' to provide support and expertise in patient lift and extraction techniques.

"I think the exercises challenged brigades and members," Mr Argento continued.

"They were able to call on the experiences of others and their training to consider the best way to deal with each of the scenarios they were presented with.

"We sincerely thank Qube Energy for the opportunity to use their site, their willingness to be so involved in the process and particularly for supporting volunteers to learn vital skills."



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-  Water public gardens and playing surfaces between 6pm - 10am
-  Water features must recirculate the water
-  Don't clean hard surfaces with water unless cleaning up hazards

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When	Tuesday 22nd July 2025
Time	*Coffee and cake from 10am
Where	57 Phillip Island Rd, San Remo (corner San Remo Parade)

Call us on 5678 5833 with any queries.
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Chasing foxes and dreams at Corner Inlet



The BirdLife Australia team at a seasonal bird count at Corner Inlet.

CAPTURING an elusive fox on Dream Island, tackling weed infestations and keeping watch over threatened beach nesting birds are just some events in the compelling story of the past year of Gippsland Catchment Management Authority’s Corner Inlet Connections project.

“It’s been another successful year of dedicated work in the Corner Inlet Ramsar site where, for nearly two decades, we’ve been working with partners and community to protect the inlet’s significant natural values,” waterways officer for West Gippsland Catchment Management Authority (CMA) Tanya Cowell said. “We’re pleased to share what’s been achieved in partnership with Parks Victoria, Trust for Nature, Birdlife Australia and specialist contractors.”

“Every effort is an important step towards our shared goal of a healthy and resilient inlet that we can all enjoy – whether you are a fisher, farmer, birdwatcher, walker or

boater. We all love the inlet in our own special way and want it cared for.”

A huge effort was made in tackling Spartina infestations across the entire Ramsar site to protect the habitat. Long-term monitoring shows this consistent annual treatment is significantly reducing this threat – a major win for the environment and wildlife.

Protecting an additional 20 hectares of habitat was another great win with Trust for Nature leading a program to protect saltmarsh through weed control and fencing from stock on private properties in the Tarraville and Hedley areas.

Multiple landholders have expressed interest in being involved with the project and the Trust is currently assessing projects for future years. Landholders wanting to come on board can contact Billie Emmett from Trust for Nature at billie@tfn.org.au.

Foxes are the number one predator for the Inlet’s beach nesting birds including

Hooded Plovers and Small Terns.

An elusive resident fox on Dream Island was caught thanks to a determined contractor. The 500-hectare island is critical habitat for vulnerable beach-nesting bird species to breed, and the removal of this fox will increase the likelihood of breeding success. Remote sensing camera detected another fox that will be targeted in 2025/26.

Summer and winter monitoring of beach nesting birds by BirdLife Australia and a team of highly skilled and dedicated volunteers showed generally low success in chicks fledging despite the birds putting in their best efforts. Hooded Plovers made 27 nesting attempts across four islands, yet only two fledglings were produced on Dream Island. Similarly low fledgling rates were seen for the Inlet’s Pied Oystercatchers, Crested, Caspian, Fairy and Little Terns. These failures are largely due to predators, high tides and people.

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Australian Government



The new glasshouse at PICAL’s community garden is now complete.

PICAL expands community garden with new glasshouse

PHILLIP Island Community and Learning Centre (PICAL) has taken another step forward in its mission to tackle local food insecurity, with the installation of a new glasshouse at its Settlement Road community garden.

This marks the beginning of an expansion project funded by a \$24,000 grant from VicHealth’s Growing Healthy Communities program.

The new glasshouse is described as the “engine room” of the garden, enabling volunteers to propagate seedlings that will soon fill an expanded network of garden beds.

In addition to the glasshouse, the funding will provide for additional raised garden beds, soil, mulch, as well as garden bed screenings and lining an upgraded watering system, cold storage refrigeration, a PV solar energy system and other essential infrastructure.

Since re-launching in July 2023, PICAL’s community garden has become a vital part of the local emergency food supply chain. The garden produces over 30 kilograms of fresh, seasonal produce weekly, which is distributed through PICAL’s community pantry.

The community pantry is the major emergency food relief service on Phillip Island and within a 35 kilometre radius in Gippsland, currently supporting more than 340 families per month – a number that continues to grow due to the ongoing cost-of-living crisis.

“This expansion allows us to produce more high-quality, locally grown food for those who need it most. We’re not just growing seasonal produce – we’re growing community resilience and connection,” said Neil Wilmot, volunteer and PICAL Community Garden Co-ordinator.

Operated by a dedicated team of 25 volunteers, the garden functions under sustainable “circular economy” principles by composting leftover organic waste from the community pantry. While open to the public when staffed, the garden’s primary purpose is to supply the community pantry with fresh food and offer volunteers a meaningful way to connect and contribute to the well-being of their community.

With the new glasshouse and other improvements funded by VicHealth’s Growing Healthy Communities program, PICAL, is reinforcing its commitment to sustainable food access, environmental responsibility and community empowerment on Phillip Island.



The defence team in the Erin Patterson murder trial adjusted to the rain that arrived in Morwell last week.

Mushroom murder trial goes into 11th week

CHRIS Reason, six times a Walkley Award winner, with two Logies and a Graham Perkin Australian Journalist of the Year Award for covering everything from the Fukushima nuclear disaster to the deaths of Nelson Mandela and Princess Diana.

He was there last week, so was Channel 7 news anchor Mike Amor, Ben Knight, the BBC, Daily Mail, Reuters and all the majors.

At its peak last week, there were more than 200 news people, from all over the world, waiting inside and outside the Latrobe Valley Law Courts for a verdict in the Erin Patterson mushroom murder trial.

The jury retired just prior to lunch on Monday, June 30 to consider their verdict, and they came back to the jury room in the courthouse at 10.30am on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and even Saturday last week, wrapping it up at 4.15pm.

They resumed at 10.30am on Monday, July 7, into the 11th week of the marathon trial in the Supreme Court at Morwell.

Essentially, to the outside observer, nothing happened.

Photographers and film crews entertained themselves taking pictures of the comings and goings by the main players; the prosecution, the defence, and the police informant in the case, Detective Leading Senior Constable Stephen Eppingstall.

The Patterson and Wilkinson families are no longer attending the court.

They waited, we waited, the world waited for a verdict, which came on Monday, July 7, at 2.15pm.

Erin Patterson was found guilty of three counts of murder and one of attempted murder arising out of a lunch of Beef Wellington and death cap mushrooms she prepared for her husband's family members at her home on Saturday, July 29, 2023.



Crown Prosecutor Dr Nanette Rogers leaves court in Mowell last week as the wait for a verdict went on.

But was it a motive for murder?

IF YOU accept what the defence had to say, there was no real issue between Erin Patterson and her estranged husband Simon.

"It was a brief spat, we say, about child support which the evidence says was resolved amicably," said Colin Mandy SC in his closing remarks during the 11-week Erin Patterson mushroom murder trial, way back on Tuesday, June 17.

It started, they say, in November 2022 and was over by late December that year, "the critical period being December 5, 6 and 7".

That's a full seven months before the Beef Wellington lunch on Saturday, July 29, 2023.

The prosecution? Not so much.

They say Erin Patterson gave Simon "multiple incentives to attend" the lunch before he ultimately declined, and that she fully intended to serve him the same meal she served the other guests.

"The prosecution suggests that this sixth Beef Wellington, that the accused went to the trouble of making, was clearly intended for Simon Patterson," Crown Prosecutor Dr Nanette Rogers told the jury in her closing address on Day 32 of the trial.

"The prosecution case is, had Simon Patterson changed his mind and decided to attend the lunch after all, he too would have been served that sixth poisoned Beef Wellington," she said.

Clearly, the submissions from the opposing counsels, are a world apart, which as they say, is a matter for the jury.

But what did Simon Patterson have to say about it?

He told the court that they met in the early 2000s when they were members of "a fairly eclectic group of friends" while working at the Monash City Council, a friendship that became romantic and the couple married on June 2, 2007.

"Erin is very intelligent. I guess some of the things that attracted me to her in the first place was definitely her intelligence. She is quite witty and can be quite funny," said Simon about his wife.

He also spoke about their first period of separation in Perth when he was living in an onsite caravan for about six months after driving across Australia, on his own, with a six-month-old baby.



The state of the relationship between Erin Patterson and her estranged husband Simon has been one of the central issues in the mushroom murder trial at Morwell.

"What I understood from Erin was that she was struggling inside herself," he said.

He acknowledged the relationship was "strained" during an on and off period until a permanent separation in late 2015, but that he was "always keen to have a good relationship, have a good marriage and a good strong family to bring up the kids in", a sentiment he shared with Erin even after separation.

He continued to care for her "very much", he said, they were friendly most of the time, had easy arrangements with the custody of the children, travelled overseas and interstate on holidays and continued to own property in common.

But a noticeable change came over the relationship when Erin moved to Leongatha later in 2022, and there was a dispute over child support arrangements, choice of school, school fees, and medical bills for the kids.

He said Erin became very upset about these issues, often expressed in messages to him, while also seeking to involve Simon's parents Don and Gail in the dispute.

A message from Erin Patterson to her Facebook Messenger friends, on December 6, 2022 supports that: "Simon's dad contacted me this morning to say that he and Gail had tried to talk to Simon about the matters I raised and to get 'his side' but he refused to talk about it other than to signal he disagreed with what I said. Beyond that he won't talk about it. So, Don said they can't adjudicate if they don't know both sides and Simon won't give his side".

By December 9, 2022, it

had escalated: "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?"

Mr Mandy addressed the difficulties in Erin and Simon's relationship in depth during his closing remarks, especially with regard to the prosecution's claim they didn't have to prove a motive.

He claimed that "the brief spat" which reached a crescendo during the Facebook Messenger exchange around 5, 6, 7 December "didn't stretch much beyond that".

"It was a brief spat, we say, about child support which the evidence says was resolved amicably.

"What was the point of leading from Simon Patterson all the evidence about the dispute over his tax return and child support payments which flared up and then dissipated?" asked Mr Mandy.

"The reason why all of that is before you, and in evidence in this trial, and the reason why it was led by the prosecution, is because they want to try and show that there was some kind of difficulty in the relationship between Erin and Simon and that it therefore might provide a reason for her to murder his parents and his aunt and uncle six months later, seven months later. Even just saying it aloud demonstrates, in our submission to you, how unpersuasive that argument is, an example of many of the prosecution's unpersuasive theories which we'll try and develop," said Mr Mandy.

So, was there still tension in the relationship after December 2022?

In her own evidence, Erin Patterson acknowledged that the relationship between Simon and herself, in the six months leading up to the July 2023 lunch, continued to be "strained", that she agreed with Tanya Patterson, that there was a deterioration in the relationship, that she wasn't attending as many family functions, and shifting the children to a new school early in 2023 was her decision.

Erin Patterson was charged and found guilty by the jury of three counts of murder and one of attempted murder arising out of a family lunch at her home on Saturday, July 29 where a meal of Beef Wellington, with death cap mushrooms, was served. Mrs Patterson had pleaded not guilty to all charges, maintaining that what happened on the day was a tragedy and a terrible accident.

The jury resumed its deliberations on Monday, July 7, 2025. Relationship timeline:

- Early 2000s: Meet while working at Monash City Council
- June 2, 2007: Simon and Erin Patterson married
- Late 2007: Moved to Perth
- January 14, 2009: First child born (son)
- Around May 2009: Travelled across northern Australia (few months)
- Around July 2009: Erin flew back from Townsville, Simon drove back with a six-month-old baby taking more than a week
- July-December 2009: Separated for six months, Simon living in a caravan park, sought marriage counselling
- 2009-2013: Several other periods of separation of between six weeks and six months
- 2013: Moved back to Victoria
- January 2014: Second child born
- 2014: Bought a house in Nason Street
- Sometime in 2015: Another period of separation, Erin moved out into a rental
- November 2015: Erin bought a house in Anthony Street Korumburra and moved in
- Late 2015: Separation becomes permanent
- 2015-2022: Continued to holiday together, share ownership of property
- Mid-2022: Moved to new house in Leongatha
- October/November 2022: Relationship became strained over child support, school and medical payments

Stellar trial interest on social media

IN THE vacuum created by a week of jury deliberations and no verdict, in the Erin Patterson mushroom murder trial at Morwell, social media sites set up to discuss the case have been working overtime to keep their readers interested.

One of the more prominent sites is the Facebook group: 'Erin Patterson. Mushrooms, Murder and Mystery - Trial Discussion Group'.

The private group, which has attracted 758 followers, is being tightly moderated in an effort to avoid contempt of court or sub judice issues, but it hasn't stopped contributors discussing the pros and cons

of the case, and some other unrelated issues.

Among the offerings from one of the administrators was a photo of 'Beef Wellington Inspired Pastries' from Woolworths - "Made from Australian beef mince with mushrooms, garlic, red wine, double-smoked ham and Rosemary - just bake in the oven for a deliciously easy appetiser".

There was also the suggestion that the Supreme Court in Morwell should adopt the black smoke/white smoke message system used by the Vatican when they elected new Pope Leo XIV recently.

There's also the opportunity

to vote on the verdict (not sure that's allowed). And there was a speculative effort to match Hollywood and Australian film and TV stars who might be able to play the characters featuring in the trial. Here are a few of their suggestions:

- Justice Beale - Eric Bana
 - Dr Rogers SC - Rachel Griffiths
 - Colin Mandy SC - Richard Roxburgh
 - Dr Chris Webster - Joel Edgerton
 - Dr Tom 'Funkeytom' May - Hugo Weaving
 - Erin Patterson - Sarah Snook
- Given the serious issues involved in this case, especially

the tragic deaths of three much-loved Korumburra people, we acknowledge a level of insensitivity in publishing these details, but it's simply further indication of the level of interest in the trial and its outcome.

Erin Patterson has been found guilty of three counts of murder and one of attempted murder arising out of a family lunch of Beef Wellington with a death cap mushroom paste at her home on Saturday, July 29, 2023.

Mrs Patterson had pleaded not guilty to all charges maintaining that what happened on that day was a tragedy and a terrible accident.



Students at Bass Coast College combined their talents to produce three artworks during a NAIDOC Week art workshop.

Students inspired during NAIDOC Week art workshop

AS PART of Bass Coast College's NAIDOC Week celebrations, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students from Wonthaggi, Dudley and San Remo campuses took part in a special art workshop with Uncle Steve "Ulala" Parker.

Steve is a distinguished Indigenous artist, cultural educator and mentor based on Milawul (Phillip Island).

He is a proud descendant of the Boonwurrung, Yorta Yorta and Erub peoples.

Across the workshops, students worked together on three large canvases representing connection to Country, community and culture across the Bass Coast region.

Each student contributed to all three artworks, creating a shared story of identity, belonging and place.

The completed artworks will be proudly displayed in the foyers of each campus.

Steve spoke with students about the story behind the designs, sharing cultural knowledge and encouraging students to think deeply about their connection to culture and land.

It was a powerful experience that fostered pride, connection and creativity.



A NAIDOC Week art project fostered pride, connection and creativity amongst the students at Bass Coast College.



Gunnai Kurnai elder, Auntie Elizabeth Dalton with a friend at the Ngangga Community Festival in Cowes on Milawul last Sunday.



Bass Coast Reconciliation Network Committee Member Kate Adams helps out at Ngangga Community Festival on the weekend.

First Ngangga Community Festival a success

PERFECTLY placed to celebrate NAIDOC Week, the start of the school holidays and the progress being made by Victoria's Statewide Treaty Bill; last Sunday's first Ngangga Community Festival was judged a significant success.

Chair of the event organising committee for the Bass Coast Reconciliation Network, Kate Adams, couldn't have been more delighted.

"The aim of the festival is to bring the broader community along to celebrate NAIDOC and to celebrate and share our First Nations' history, culture and stories.

"And we've seen a lot of support for that today.

"We want to create an opportunity for people to come together to listen, to hear and to understand and that's what Ngangga means."

A feature of the day was a smoking ceremony on the lawns in front of Berninnet Cultural Centre in Cowes, Milawul before the festival opened, the stalls of art, craft and children's cultural workshops inside and a number of musical performances including by Phillip Island resident Uncle Kutcha Edwards.

Ms Adams thanked all those organisations and individuals who supported the day and expected to be in a position to run it again next year.



The big crowd which attended the Ngangga Community Festival at Berninnet Cultural Centre last Sunday went through the smoke before visiting the stalls inside the centre.



Ruth Chambers of Inverloch and Francine Rizza of Phillip Island supported the Ngangga Community Festival at Milawul on the weekend.



The Glenn family of Cowes enjoyed the Ngangga Community Festival at the Berninnet Cultural Centre last Sunday.

NAIDOC Art Exhibition Opening at Wonthaggi ArtSpace

BASS Coast Reconciliation Network kicked off its NAIDOC Week celebrations at Wonthaggi's ArtSpace Gallery on Saturday, with representatives of that organisation and artists there to chat to attendees, the NAIDOC Week Art Exhibition showcasing the works of 13 First Nations artists.

Guests received a Welcome to Country before venturing inside and enjoying a wide variety of Indigenous art, a striking Cassowary by Shandelle Nolan one of the stand-out pieces, created with a wire frame, yarn and clay.

Wooden works and a variety of paintings were among other pieces to admire, a number of the paintings featuring vibrant colours.

Auntie Bev Munro, co-chair of the Bass Coast Reconciliation Network, gave an introductory speech, remarking on the history of NAIDOC week, and the tradition and importance of the art show



Artists and their families gather for the opening of the NAIDOC Art Exhibition on Saturday.

that has been held for over 20 years.

"Here today we can see some of the strength and vision of our young people, our future leaders, as well as the legacy of our ancestors displayed in some of the beautiful

cultural works," she said.

"This exhibition speaks of the strength of our community in sharing our culture and diversity, and of course the amazing talent of the artists."

The then 'Aborigines Day' was celebrated as far back as

1955, held on the first Sunday in July, being expanded in 1975 to become NAIDOC Week.

The NAIDOC Week Art Exhibition runs until Sunday, July 20 at ArtSpace Gallery, 1 Bent Street, Wonthaggi.

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South Gippsland Water Managing Director, Robert Murphy with Grade 6 student, Petra Smolders

New taps at Fish Creek Primary School

FISH Creek Primary School students are enjoying a fresh way to stay hydrated thanks to new drink taps installed with the help of a \$10,000 Community Resilience Grant from South Gippsland Water.

The taps, which feature striking Indigenous artwork, are part of the school's initiative to improve water access and education while also supporting environmental sustainability. The grant follows a precautionary Boil Water Advisory issued for Fish Creek in April after a contractor damaged a main water pipe.

South Gippsland Water's Managing Director, Robert Murphy, said the Community Resilience Grants are about supporting local communities in building long-term strength and preparedness.

"We know the effects a Boil Water Advisory has on our community – from businesses to individual households," Mr Murphy said.

"That's why we make a Community Resilience Grant available after the advisory is lifted. It gives community organisations, like Fish Creek Primary School, the opportunity to apply for funding that strengthens their resilience in challenging times and supports water safety, education, and awareness."

Fish Creek Primary School used the grant to replace old, leaking drink taps with new, high-efficiency units that help conserve water and reduce reliance on single-use plastics.

"The new drink taps are a fantastic addition to our school," said Principal Dale Thomas.

"They're not only practical and environmentally friendly, but they also carry deep meaning for our community through the Indigenous artworks they feature. We're incredibly grateful to South Gippsland Water for their support."

The unique tap installations include two artworks by Indigenous artist Luke Penrith – "Connections" and "Saltwater and the Coastline." The school selected these pieces to reflect the local community's connection to the coast and waterways, and to emphasise the importance of preserving natural water systems.

"We wanted to use this opportunity to educate our students on the value of water and the rich cultural heritage that surrounds it," Mr Thomas added.

"These artworks are daily reminders of our shared responsibility to care for the environment."

The Community Resilience Grant Program forms part of South Gippsland Water's commitment to not only safe water services, but also long-term community wellbeing, especially in times of disruption.

Korumburra and Leongatha Catholic churches join Jubilee celebration

By Ken Loughnan AO

ST JOSEPH'S Korumburra and St Laurence's Leongatha served as pilgrim centres on Friday as local Catholics from the Diocese of Sale came together to celebrate the Catholic Church's Jubilee Year, a special year of forgiveness and reconciliation, and its theme for 2025 'Pilgrims of Hope'.

That follows a centuries-old tradition in which the Catholic Church marks every 25th year as a Jubilee Year, people worldwide being invited to rebuild their relationship with God, with one another and with all of creation.

Throughout the year, a series of 36 Jubilees address a wide cross-section of society and in particular Catholic communities including families, youth, volunteers, people with a disability, artists, sports, missions, government, entertainment and many more.

Worldwide, Friday, June 27 on the Jubilee Year of Hope calendar marks the 'Jubilee of Clergy and Religious'.

Pilgrimage Stop - St Joseph's:

The day commenced with Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in St Joseph's Church Korumburra from 12 noon until 3.30pm, where parishioners and pilgrims from the Diocese of Sale were invited to a special time for adoration and prayer.

There was a particular focus on praying for vocations that more young people may hear and respond to God's call in their lives, especially to the priesthood in the Sale Diocese.

In the Catholic Church, your 'vocation' refers to God's call for you and your life, the word derived from the Latin 'vocare', meaning 'to call'.

The children from St Joseph's Primary School spent many hours over previous weeks preparing beautiful, themed artwork



Priests from the Diocese of Sale, on pilgrimage, gather at St Laurence's Church Leongatha to celebrate the global 'Jubilee of Clergy and Religious' day. Photo: Ken Loughnan AO.

to decorate St Joseph's Church for this special, once-in-25-year event.

The church was warm and welcoming on a cold South Gippsland afternoon with soft background music and bells rung on the half hour providing an ideal environment for adoration, prayer and reflection.

Parishioners and pilgrims then moved on to St Laurence's Church in Leongatha where Jubilee Mass was celebrated by Bishop Greg Bennet and the Clergy of the Diocese of Sale at 4pm.

The timing of this Mass coincided with a Mass at the Vatican for the Solemnity of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, presided over by the Holy Father in St Peter's Basilica with the ordination of new priests.

Pilgrimage Stop - St Laurence's:

The beautiful Spanish Baroque-styled St Laurence O'Toole Church in Leongatha had also been decorated by the students

from the local primary school for the Jubilee Mass to be celebrated by Bishop Greg supported by the clergy of the Sale Diocese.

The 23 Clergy members from around the Sale Diocese moved from the Presbytery building to the Church and formed in procession to lead Bishop Greg and host Parish Priest Fr Stanly Devasia into the church to the sounds of the hymn 'Hail Redeemer, King Divine' led by the combined St Laurence's and St Joseph's choirs.

Bishop Greg's homily and the Prayers of the Faithful focused on the mystery of love, God's infinite love for us, and in this Jubilee Year, that we may be united in love and charity drawing strength from the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the wish that every Parish in the Diocese become a fountain of hope, compassion and evangelisation for those seeking Christ.

In marking this day as we celebrate the 'Jubilee of Clergy and Religious', Bishop Greg prayed

for his brothers and sisters who have dedicated their lives to Christ in service that they may find renewed joy and zest in the Heart of Jesus and that this Jubilee Year may bring them closer to the source of their vocation and that their example might inspire hope in the hearts of the faithful.

The formalities closed with the recessional hymn and procession of the Clergy, followed by afternoon tea – a fabulous spread of finger food from traditional Indian, to homemade sausage rolls, sandwiches and dessert delicacies.

The host Parish Priest, Fr Stanly, thanked the clergy, pilgrims and parishioners for their attendance and expressed his appreciation to the organising committee, the choir, the audio-visual team who provided coverage for the overflow attendance and everyone who helped with the catering, all of whom made this celebration of the Jubilee in the Year of Hope such a success.

Student-led food drive supports those in need

STUDENTS from Korumburra Secondary College are making a real difference in their community through a powerful show of compassion and initiative.

As part of their Personal Development Skills unit in the VCE VM (Victorian Pathways Certificate) program, Year 11 and 12 students launched a food drive to support Milpara Community House's food relief program – collecting non-perishable food items to help locals experiencing food insecurity.

The student-led initiative formed part of an assessment task titled Community Action: Supporting Wellbeing Through Food Relief, designed to develop leadership, planning and community engagement skills.

Over a four-week period, students planned, promoted and carried out the food collection campaign across the school demonstrating a deep commitment to the health and wellbeing of their local community.

One student said the class recognised the growing issue of food insecurity in the community, and highlighted Milpara House for its support in making a difference.

The campaign included eye-catching posters, school an-



Students for Korumburra Secondary College organised a food drive to support Milpara Community House and local families in need. They are pictured with Milpara Community House manager Belinda Nicholls.

nouncements, decorated collection boxes, and social media outreach to encourage donations.

Staff and students across all year levels responded generously, with boxes of tinned food, pasta, rice, cereal and

other staples quickly filling up.

Personal Development Skills teacher Stacie Witton praised the students for their initiative and teamwork.

"This project gave students the opportunity to apply real-world skills while supporting

an important cause. They learned how to plan, promote and carry out a project that has genuine community impact," she said.

The food drive culminated in a delivery of donations to Milpara Community House, where staff expressed heartfelt appreciation for the students' contribution.

The food will now be distributed to individuals and families facing hardship in Korumburra and the surrounding areas.

Milpara Community House is located at the Korumburra Community Hub – 15 Little Commercial Street, Korumburra.

Community members in need of support can contact Milpara Community House on 5655 2524 or visit milpara-communityhouse.org.au for information on how to access food relief and other wellbeing services.

This initiative is a shining example of how education and empathy go hand-in-hand.

The students of Korumburra Secondary College have shown that even small actions – like collecting cans of soup or packets of pasta – can make a big difference in people's lives.



Leongatha Rotary Club's Board for the coming year, Jol Dutton (Immediate Past President/Foundation), Chris McDonald (Treasurer), Mary Dortmans (Youth), Andrew Debenham (President), Nick Dudley (Community Service), Andrew Ross (International) and Jeremy Curtis (Membership), with Secretary David Leslie absent. A15_2725

New president of Leongatha Rotary Club keen to welcome more members

By Andrew Paloczi

ROTARY Club of Leongatha has a key focus for the year ahead to ensure it continues to provide all the community benefits it aims to achieve locally and further afield, with new president Andrew Debenham declaring, "There is now a real need to expand the membership."

He elaborated that increasing the membership will spread the workload, reducing the demand on people's time required to run the club's initiatives and keep it operating smoothly.

Still, it's not all about responsibilities, with the club offering a great social vibe, members sharing dinner at their fortnightly Woorayl Golf Club gatherings and hearing from interesting guest speakers.

The new president stressed the importance of encouraging younger people to join the club.

"The central goal for 2025-26 is to grow the membership of the club," he said, noting that Board member Jeremy Curtis will, with the assistance of a couple of others, form a membership recruiting committee.

"We're also establishing an auxiliary group to recognise those people who are regularly



Now Immediate Past President of Leongatha Rotary Club Jol Dutton watches on as Andrew Debenham is inducted as President by Tim Wills the Rotary Community Leader for the Strzelecki Community Group. A14_2725

helping the club, or are interested in being associated with it but are currently not in a position to become a full member," Andrew said.

The intention behind introducing that group is to involve more people in the club's activities, with the hope that down the track some will become full members.

Andrew expressed his pride in joining the club's long list of presidents and touched on this year's Rotary theme of 'Unite for Good', pointing out its significance during the current period of conflicts.

Locally, Andrew looks to Leongatha Rotary Club's

continued involvement in providing Meals on Wheels volunteers, and to its ongoing support of community luncheons at St Peter's Church.

"Setting aside money to assist in the building of the Woorayl Lodge when the time comes, will continue to be a priority," Andrew said in reference to the planned new aged care facility in Leongatha's Bogs Road which is still awaiting government funding.

He touched on some of the well-established fundraising initiatives the club runs, including the Leongatha Rotary Art & Photography Show that is now the largest community

art show in Gippsland, Show 'N' Shine, and the Old Fire Station furniture and bookstore, all of which help support the programs with which Leongatha Rotary is involved.

Andrew was inducted as president by the Rotary Community Leader for the Strzelecki Group, Tim Wills, who praised the contribution of the now Immediate Past President Jol Dutton, whom he said has been on top of his game, noting the club's Annual Report reflects the great work achieved by Jol with the support of his Board.

Tim described inducting Andrew as president as an honour.

Rotary Club of Leongatha Board for 2025-2026:

Andrew Debenham (President), Chris McDonald (Treasurer), Jol Dutton (Foundation Director and Immediate Past President), David Leslie (Secretary to the Board), Mary Dortmans (Youth Director), Jeremy Curtis (Membership Director), Andrew Ross (International Director), Nick Dudley (Community Service Director), Committee Chairs: David Panther (Art Show Committee), Bruce Grainger (Old Fire Station Committee), Jim McNiven (Show 'N' Shine Committee), Lindsay Moore (Koonwarra Shelter Committee)

Rotary Inverloch reflect on successful year ahead of change-over

THE Rotary Club of Inverloch will hold its change-over dinner at the Inverloch Surf Life Saving Club on July 30.

It will celebrate another successful year in which it has made donations of \$22,500 to charitable causes.

Over the last three years, Rotary Inverloch has donated more than \$62,000 of which approximately \$42,000 was donated to local causes and the balance to national and international causes.

When asked about the club's success, club president Pat Barry attributed it to the enthusiasm of club members.

"It is only made possible through the generous support of the local community and others who attended the various Rotary events during the year and, most importantly, through the support and generosity of local businesses and sponsors," he said.

Local recipients of Rotary donations over the last three years include the Inverloch Surf Life Saving Club, Bass Coast L2P youth driving program through the Wonthaggi Neighbourhood Centre, Bass Coast Health Wonthaggi Hospital, Bass Coast Disabled Surfers Association, Bass Coast Shire – new seating along the Inverloch Esplanade, Leongatha Golf Club – Disability Golf Event, Wonthaggi Rotary's Vic Police Defibrillator program, and Gippsland Rotary Centenary House.

Internationally, Rotary Inverloch has fully funded the purchase of a Skyhydrant and partially funded another as part of Disaster Aid Australia's clean water project for the nearest neighbour Timor Leste.

It has also donated to Disaster Aid Australia's emergency relief fund in New Zealand. In addition, through its donations to the Rotary Foundation, the club supports many humanitarian projects that help disease – such as the End Polio Project –, improve child and maternal health, support economic development, improve access to clean water and support education, to mention a few.

Nationally, Rotary Inverloch supports the 'End Trachoma' project in Australia.

Rotary Inverloch has also made donations to the victims of the recent floods in New South Wales, which were distributed via the Rotary clubs in the affected areas.

Interested in joining Rotary Inverloch? Rotary Inverloch is a small club that welcomes new members to its ranks who support its ethos of 'Service Above Self', which is the guiding principle for Rotarians worldwide. Contact Rotary Inverloch president Pat Barry on 0418 12 100 or membership officer Linda Humphries on 0417 300 335, or email secretary@rotary-inverloch.org.au for more information.



Helen Sutton being presented with her 10 year badge by Inverloch VIEW Club president Heather Wright.

10-year VIEW Club badge presented

AT THE June meeting of the Inverloch VIEW Club Helen Sutton was presented with her ten-year badge by club president Heather Wright.

Since joining VIEW Helen has been a stalwart of our club and has been very proactive in many areas with her warmth, humour and dedication.

Helen has served on the committee for many years and recently became our welfare officer a role she will carry out with her customary compassion and care. Thank you, Helen.

Jim McNiven honoured at Leongatha Rotary event

JIM McNiven is Leongatha Rotary Club's latest Paul Harris Fellow, receiving the honour during the recent Changeover dinner at Woorayl Golf Club.

Rotarians have established a tradition of supporting the Rotary Foundation by donating in the name of members deserving of recognition.

Jim has belonged to the Leongatha Rotary Club for 15 years, being a longstanding and respected business owner who plays a key role in running the club's annual Show 'N' Shine & Swap Meet, his business knowledge and love of cars making him the perfect choice to lead the event's organising committee.

He has also played a major part in setting up and running the Old Fire Station furniture and bookstore, another of the club's biggest fundraising initiatives, continuing to transport furniture in and out.

By Andrew Paloczi

"Tonight we wish to formally acknowledge and thank Jim McNiven," Changeover dinner attendees were told, before the microphone was handed to the new Paul Harris Fellow.

"I never thought you'd do this for me because I'm a bit of an agitator, but I suppose I could put it down to the fact my heart's in the right place," Jim said of what was clearly a surprise honour, adding he does things for what he believes to be the right reasons even if not everyone agrees.

The fact he has been named a Paul Harris Fellow illustrates the respect others in the club have for him regardless of whether they always share his views.

Jim's brief but entertaining acceptance speech was acknowledged with warm applause.



Jim McNiven of Leongatha Rotary Club is acknowledged as a Paul Harris Fellow by outgoing president Jol Dutton. A17_2725

Don't lodge just yet

THE Australian Taxation Office (ATO) is warning taxpayers not to lodge their tax returns until their income statement is marked as 'tax ready' and data has been pre-filled by the ATO.

Last year 142,000 people who lodged in the first two weeks of July had to lodge amendments, or had their returns investigated and amended by the ATO to fix inaccuracies in their tax return, for example, income that had not been declared properly.

ATO Assistant Commissioner Rob Thomson said that waiting until late July allows for the ATO to prefill information in your tax return.

"We know doing your tax return is something to tick off your to-do list each year, but there's no need to rush. The best time to lodge is from late July once everything is ready.

"We pre-fill information from your employer, banks, government agencies and health funds into your tax return to help you get it right the first time – regardless of whether you use a registered tax agent or lodge yourself," Mr Thomson said.

Waiting for this information to be pre-filled reduces the likelihood of mistakes or omissions, which can often result in taxpayers having to submit an amendment which can cause issues and delays for taxpayers.

"If you wait until late July to lodge, all you need to do is check your information, add anything that's missing and include any deductions or offsets that you're eligible for.

"If you're keen to get your ducks in a row before you lodge, make sure you have all the necessary records, ensure your personal information and bank details are up to date and check the ATO occupation guides to see what deductions you may be able to claim.

"The ATO is also encouraging taxpayers to download the ATO app and set up a strong digital identity to protect themselves this tax time to ensure your interactions online are safe and secure. The app not only allows you to keep records of your work and general expenses but it will keep your information safe, including notifying you of any suspicious activity on your account," Mr Thomson said.

Once your employer has finalised your income statement, it will be marked as 'tax ready'. Taxpayers can check if their income statement is 'tax ready', as well as if pre-fill is available in myTax prior to lodging or in the ATO app.

WvS Accounting puts clients first this tax season

AS WE head into tax time, local accountant and business owner Wayne van Spaendonck is preparing for his 23rd tax season. Through his firm, WvS Accounting and Financial Services, Wayne offers clients a straightforward and affordable approach to managing their tax and accounting needs.

Wayne, a Certified Practising Accountant (CPA) and registered tax agent, says he's focused on supporting small to medium-sized clients by offering real value for money.

"Because I'm a smaller business, I don't have the overheads that big firms do, so I can offer a competitive fee while still delivering great service," Wayne said.

"At the end of the day, I want people to feel that what they're paying is fair and that they're getting good value in return."

Wayne established WvS Accounting after spending years working for larger firms. He ran

the business part-time for more than a decade before making the full-time switch and now operates independently as the principal accountant. This means clients deal directly with Wayne from start to finish.

"Clients deal directly with me. There is no hierarchy or delay in dealing with the person that you need to get hold of. I'm on call all the time, and I am the person doing the work and dealing with the client."

Alongside general tax returns, WvS Accounting offers support for companies, trusts, self-managed super funds (SMSFs), payroll, BAS, Workcover, superannuation, and investment portfolios. Wayne also helps clients navigate deductions for self-education, rental properties, and work-related travel – areas he says are often overlooked around tax time.

"Some people overclaim deductions, or don't declare all their income, which the ATO will

pick up on," Wayne said.

"But at the same time, we do want to maximise what they can legally claim, and that's where an accountant can definitely assist them, to make sure they're not missing anything on the income side or the deduction side."

His advice for clients ahead of tax season? Get organised early.

"If you can keep your receipts, review last year's return, and maybe even put together a basic spreadsheet, or just have some kind of record or summary of your tax situation, it can help," he said.

"For businesses, as long as their software is up to date and reconciled, and all the data has been entered, that's usually enough to get started."

Outside the office, Wayne is a dad of two who enjoys fishing, swimming, bike riding, and a hit of social tennis at Inverloch.

To book a consultation, call Wayne on 0434 438 420 or email wayne@wvsaccounting.com.au.



With over two decades of experience, Wayne van Spaendonck helps individuals and businesses get the most from their tax return. W08_2625

Get it right from the start with Norts & Crosses Bookkeeping

NORTS & CROSSES at 8 Ramsey Boulevard Inverloch makes business easier for you.

Inverloch-based entrepreneur Sam Cross from YewaFilms is one of a growing number of local business owners choosing to start their business journey the smart way by getting the support of a professional bookkeeper.

Specialising in start-up entrepreneurs as well as established businesses Norts & Crosses Bookkeeping is committed to providing sound financial guidance that will allow you to make informed decisions and drive your business forward.

With 25 years of experience and a world of skills and knowledge, plus a whole lot of passion to see small business succeed, Sandy Norton can offer a lot more than just crunching the numbers.

"I'm passionate about helping small businesses become profitable and sustainable," said Sandy Norton.

"It's not just about ticking boxes, it's about giving business owners clarity and confidence."

Mr Cross is a video production entrepreneur based in Inverloch.

YewaFilms is a creative production business, specialising



Young entrepreneur Sam Cross of Yewafilms with Norts & Crosses bookkeeper and accountant Sandy Norton BComm CPA. B08_2625

in creating stunning videos that showcase the unique beauty of the local community and surrounding areas.

Sam knew that getting the business side right was essential from the beginning, so he went to Norts & Crosses for sound business advice on setting up a financial system, what to know to follow the

ATO rules, and learning how to manage cash flow.

Sam's work features on the Visit Inverloch website and socials, part of the Inverloch Tourism Association's push to promote the region's stunning coastline, community and businesses.

Whether it's keeping your books up-to-date, getting your

BAS done on time, or handling your business payroll Norts & Crosses takes the worry out of bookwork.

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Norts & Crosses Bookkeeping is located at 8 Ramsey Boulevard, Inverloch. Phone 0417 981 934, email sandy@nortsandcrosses.com.au website nortsandcrosses.com.au or look for Norts & Crosses Bookkeeping on Facebook at [facebook.com/nortsandcrosses](https://www.facebook.com/nortsandcrosses).

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WEF are continuing over a century of business tradition in the heart of Korumburra.



The WEF Accounting team is all smiles as they settle into their newly renovated office at 21-23 Commercial Street.

A new location, but at the same historical building for WEF Accounting

AFTER 50 years of trading at 19 Commercial Street, Korumburra, the growth of WEF Accounting has led to renovations and a relocation to the premises next door at 21-23 Commercial Street, Korumburra, continuing a 130-year tradition of trading at the historical site.

Comprising of three separate shops with residences above, the buildings of 19 to 25 Commercial Street were built in a Federation style in 1892 by Ball and Bennett, builders for John

Sutcliffe, and became known as the Sutcliffe Buildings.

Along with Radovick's Hotel, the Austral Hotel and the Top of the Town building, these were some of the first commercial buildings in Korumburra, following the opening of the railway line in 1891.

For more than a century, a wide variety of businesses have traded from these premises, including a bakery, tailor, chemist, watchmakers, supermarket, clothing stores, sports store and accountants.

Pete and the team at Prom Country Constructions began extensive renovation works in September 2024 on 21-23 Commercial Street, the middle double shop which had previously housed a sports store for 15 years and Fava's clothing store for 40 years prior to that.

During demolition works, surprises were abundant, culminating with the uncovering of a well long since decommissioned and filled in.

"It turned into a massive

project, but it's been great to watch this old building being brought back to life," said Donna Wilks, CPA and partner at WEF.

"The larger offices will allow us to continue to provide exceptional business advice and taxation services to existing clients and gives us the space to take on new clients."

WEF are available to assist with personal and business tax returns, business planning and advice, self-managed super funds and assistance with

negative gearing and capital gains tax.

"We look forward to welcoming our clients to check out our new space, and we invite them to drop in if they are passing by," said Barry Wyatt, CPA and partner at WEF.

Whilst their office address has changed, WEF's phone number and email address remain the same.

Make an appointment to see the team at their new address at 21-23 Commercial Street, Korumburra.

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CONVENIENTLY located in Wonthaggi and working right across the Bass Coast and South Gippsland Zun & Associates is your trusted taxation and accounting specialist.

Principal accountant and tax agent Cade Zun has over 10 years' experience in the tax and accounting industry as well as extensive experience in business.

Cade is an expert at developing and supporting small to medium-sized businesses.

Helping to streamline and systemise business processes, as well as providing the structure and platform for growth, Cade is truly passionate about helping business improve their outcomes by allowing key people in the business the opportunity to focus on their individual strengths.

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investment properties, investment structuring, retirement and succession planning, and business sale and purchase analysis.

"We provide all types of tax returns and taxation services," said Cade.

From individual tax returns to trusts, companies and superannuation.

"We offer a personal service," he said.

"I'm the accountant and we have a team of bookkeepers to assist."

You will receive Cade's full attention in getting your tax done.

"Our personable and attentive approach helps to ensure a beneficial and favourable outcome," according to Cade.

Closely connected to the local community Cade has been secretary of the Wonthaggi Boxing Club for longer than he would like to remember.

"It's great for young people. Boxing develops self-confidence and self-esteem as well as improving fitness."

You can find Zun & Associates at shop D/50-52 McBride Ave, Wonthaggi.

Open Monday to Friday from 9am to 5.30pm, phone Zun & Associates on 5672 1643, go to zunassociates.com.au, or search for Zun & Associates on Facebook at [zunassociates](https://www.facebook.com/zunassociates).



Tennille Hilder, Brooke Dessent, Cindy Knee, Colleen Daff and Kylie Baxter are some of the expert and friendly team at Phillipsons in Foster. A01_2725

Smart tax tips for small businesses in 2025

AS THE 2025 financial year has come to a close, small business owners should begin to consider what the new financial year holds.

Here are four areas to consider for the financial year ahead.

1. Instant Asset Write-off

The \$20,000 instant asset write-off was extended to June 30, 2025, for businesses with turnover under \$10 million. There is no indication yet that this will be extended to the new financial year; however, the Government will be under pressure to provide support and stimulus for small businesses, so watch for this to be considered in the months ahead. If there is no further extension, the default instant asset write-off is back to just \$1000.

2. Increase to Employee Super

The new rate of super guarantee is 12 per cent and this is effective from the first payday after June 30, 2025

By Phillipsons

(even if that payday was July 1). Timely payments are essential with super – not just for compliance, but for cash flow planning. The ATO is preparing to launch "Pay Day Super" from July next year which will mean employers will have to pay their employees super at the same time as their pay is run.

3. Review Your Business Structure

A 25 per cent corporate tax rate applies to small businesses, so if you are currently trading as a sole trader or partnership it may be time to reassess whether this structure is providing the most tax-effective outcome. There are other benefits to consider with your business structure, so it is worth discussing with your accountant to determine what is right for your situation.

4. Stay Ahead of ATO Scrutiny

With nearly \$1 billion in new funding, the ATO is ramping up audits and compliance checks and has increasing access to data-matching tools. Ensure your bookkeeping is accurate, GST is reported on time, and other compliance obligations are under control. Also, note that the General Interest Charge payable on outstanding ATO debts is no longer tax deductible. Better to source other forms of short-term finance if you can, to keep your interest costs deductible.

In the year ahead, tax planning isn't just about saving money – it's about staying agile in a more closely monitored and regulated environment. A proactive approach, supported by professional advice, can make an enormous difference to outcomes and your peace of mind.

For all tax time needs contact Phillipsons on 5611 7050.

Government backs business with payroll tax relief

THE payroll tax-free threshold will lift from \$900,000 to \$1 million – meaning even more small businesses will pay no payroll tax according to the State Government.

It follows the lifting of the threshold from \$700,000 at the start of the financial year.

The change will mean about 6000 businesses no longer paying any payroll tax and a further 22,500 businesses paying a reduced amount –

saving up to \$14,550 per year.

"Every dollar not paid in payroll tax under this new threshold is a dollar that can be invested back into the business, into higher wages or employee training – it's a win for business and a win for workers," acting Treasurer Danny Pearson said.

"We know how important small businesses are to Victoria and we are on their side. This is all about

creating and supporting jobs, which helps families and drives the economy."

The State Government is also making it easier and simpler for Victorian businesses to start or build a business – backed by a \$627 million investment in the Victorian Budget 2025/26 to support business and grow the Victorian economy, including delivering the Economic Growth Statement in full.



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IT'S TAX TIME

Bringing strategic edge to the region

AS THE new financial year kicks off, now is the time to take stock, reset and plan for a smarter year ahead, especially in business.

That's the message from Larkin Partners, a long-standing accounting firm with offices in Leongatha and Ivanhoe, now combining local knowledge with big-picture thinking.

Founded by Roger Larkin over 24 years ago, the firm has grown into a well-respected, full-service practice employing 25 staff, including several Chartered Accountants and in-house specialists.

Today, Roger is joined by his sons James and William, who bring with them extensive experience in M&A tax and corporate advisory.

"We're proud to be local, but we offer a broader commercial perspective that many regional businesses don't often have access to," James Larkin said.

"Whether it's a fourth-generation farm, a growing trades business, or a family investment structure, we help clients not only meet their obligations, but plan for the future."

Larkin Partners offers Business Services, Tax Planning, Self-Managed Super Funds and



James Larkin of Larkin Partners encourages businesses to start the new financial year with a proactive plan.

Succession and Restructuring, catering to clients from farmers and family businesses to professionals and investors.

The start of the financial year, they say, is the ideal time to be proactive.

Here are three smart steps they recommend getting onto early:

1. Review your business structure – Whether you're operating as a sole trader, company, partnership or trust, now's the time to assess if your setup is still working in your favour.

2. Plan your super contributions early – Don't

wait until June. Spreading contributions throughout the year helps manage cash flow and helps maximise unused contribution caps.

3. Get visibility with forecasting and budgets – Don't fly blind. Using cloud tools and regular reports can help make clearer business decisions all year round.

Larkin Partners brings a rare blend of local insight and big-firm thinking – helping clients across the region make smarter choices, not just at tax time, but year-round.

Financial incentives to entice future tradies

THE Key Apprentice Program has been launched.

This program provides new apprentices working in residential building trades with financial incentives totalling \$10,000.

Under the program, apprentices will receive \$2000 at six, 12, 24, 36 months, and at the completion of their apprenticeship.

"It is critical that we accelerate the growth of the housing industry's tradie workforce if we are to get anywhere near building the number of homes set out in the National Housing Accord," HIA Executive Director – Future Workforce

Geordan Murray said.

"These incentives make apprenticeships in residential building trades far more appealing for those weighing up their career options. This should translate into much stronger numbers looking for apprenticeships."

Mr Murray said there is also a push to increase the number of apprentice jobs being created to boost the Vocational Education and Training sector's capacity to deliver training.

"There are existing commonwealth financial support measures available to employers, however, they are generally inadequate

to encourage builders and trades to take on an apprentice. Current incentives are also guaranteed until the end of 2025," he said.

"A much longer-term commitment is needed, as businesses are already planning for their workforce needs in 2026 and beyond, and we need apprenticeships to be front of mind.

"It will be self-defeating if the Key Apprenticeship Program only increases the number of young people seeking apprenticeships, without increasing the volume of employers willing or able to take them on."



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Allchin Builders did a spectacular job of incorporating an existing A-frame structure into a new build, the home fitting into its Inverloch coastal setting.



Owner director of Allchin Builders Leigh Allchin, on the right, is proud the business won Regional Residential Builder of the Year – Eastern. He is pictured with Master Builders of Victoria Executive Director Giovanni A. Abelardo.

Allchin Builders wins major award

WARRAGUL'S Allchin Builders was named the 2025 Master Builders Victoria Regional Residential Builder of the Year – Eastern, its stunning Lohr Avenue, Inverloch renovation and extension project catching the judges' eyes.

A top floor entertaining room with an alfresco deck affording beach views, a suspended fireplace in the living room, spiral staircases and the ability to see from the top storey to the first floor are among the house's standout features.

Owner director Leigh Allchin, who established the business in 2008, explained that while that project was highlighted by the judges, they also took account of other construction work Allchin Builders has done, both current and completed.

"One of the judges was an engineer and one was a builder; they were very happy with our finish and the detail we'd put into our build," he said of the Inverloch house, adding the judges could see the difficult nature of the build and were impressed that its challenges were overcome.

"There was a lot of problem solving throughout that build," Leigh said.

Incorporating an existing structure into the project presented multiple challenges, including the fact that the structure did not originally meet modern-day specifications.

That required extensive consideration on site to determine how to build the house to create the desired look, functionality and safety.

Bringing the owners' vision of a suspended fireplace to fruition also involved extensive problem-solving.

"We had to put some steel in the structure to hold it up and we had to get engineers involved a number of times throughout the build to strengthen it and to hold that extra weight of the fireplace," Leigh said of a challenge presented by working with an existing structure.

The house is constructed over four levels, with the original A-frame one of its features, a style of which there are a few examples across the Inverloch coastline.

"Ours has got a modern facade and it's been brought up to date," Leigh said.

A variety of claddings were

used including one resembling 'charred timber'.

A standing seam approach was taken with the Colorbond roof to ensure there were no visible fixings.

With the owners having designed the house as their long-term home, a lift was installed, another involved process that the Allchin team successfully tackled.

The new works increased the structure's size by about 45 per cent.

While there was nothing straightforward about the Inverloch project, Leigh said that's what the Allchin Builders team is all about.

"We like doing these custom builds and that's where we built our name; no two jobs that we do are the same," he said.

The owners designed the house, with a draftsman formalising the plans.

COVID and planning delays disrupted the build but the owners were delighted with the completed house.

Allchin Builders, which has a team of 14 and works with chosen tradies, has just completed a couple of Warragul projects and has a big build coming up in Beaconsfield.

"It's good to be recognised by engineers and other builders that do the judging," Leigh said of the recent award, pleased the business's accomplishments have been noticed.

On a personal note, he won Young Builder of the Year a decade ago at the Master Builders Victoria Excellence in Housing Awards.

2025 MBV Eastern Regional Residential Builder of the Year

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Harris Build celebrates dual honours at Master Builders Awards

BASS Coast and South Gippsland's own Harris Build has once again proven its reputation for quality and innovation, taking home not one but two awards at the 2025 Master Builders Victoria Regional Building Awards.

The Cape Paterson-based builder was recognised for its exceptional craftsmanship in the custom home categories, winning Best Custom Home \$500,000-\$600,000 for its 'Trumpeter' project, and Best Custom Home \$600,000-\$800,000 for the 'Sunlight', both in Cape Paterson.

For founder and managing director Troy Harris, the wins are a welcome acknowledgement of the hard work that goes on behind the scenes.

"It feels very pleasing. There's a lot of hard work that goes into running the business and it's really good to be rewarded for that effort," Troy said.

This year's trophies add to an already impressive collection. Since launching Harris Build in 2017, Troy and his wife Kelly have seen their company collect five previous awards, including multiple for sustainable homes.

The two 2025 award-winning builds showcase exactly

what sets Harris Build apart. 'Trumpeter' was no easy feat: a sleek, split-level home on a tight, sloping block just 10 metres wide.

"It had a few challenges with the feasibility of the design, but we were able to deliver a functional, aesthetically pleasing home that ticked all the boxes for the owner," Troy explains.

Meanwhile, 'Sunlight' highlights Harris Build's commitment to building for the future. Designed to be future-proofed, the home includes stepless entries and showers, widened doorways and hallways, and flexible spaces that make it as functional in decades to come as it is today.

Troy credits his team and trusted network of local trades and suppliers for making it all possible.

"A big thank you to both our direct team, as well as our trade suppliers – we can't do it without those guys and girls. Also, the architects and the owners of the properties for allowing us to deliver these houses on their behalf," he said.

It's an ethos that runs through everything Harris Build does, giving every home the close attention and care it deserves.

"A custom home starts with

a good design and a good layout," Troy said.

"From there, you can push it further to block and land selection, but the basics like passive solar and energy efficiency need to be achieved."

Sustainability and accessibility are trends Troy says more people are asking for.

"Sustainability is massive. Everyone is looking at that. Energy efficiency is also important. Accessibility is also becoming more of a topic of discussion," he said.

With nearly 60 homes built throughout the region so far, Troy says the latest accolades only reinforce that Harris Build is heading in the right direction.

"It gives us the confidence to know that we're on the right track, and that our processes and direction are the right ones. Winning these awards just highlights the fact that we're doing a good job and we know our place in the market," he said.

For those thinking about building, his advice is simple: reach out and start the conversation early.

"Building takes time. If you are considering it, please feel free to get in touch and have a chat."

Find out more at harris-build.com.au.



Troy Harris with Harris Build's latest accolades for excellence in custom home building. W01_2725

2025 MBV Regional Eastern winner



'Trumpeter' Best Custom Home \$500,000 – \$600,000



'Sunlight' Best Custom Home \$600,000 – \$800,000



At Harris Build, we craft custom homes of enduring quality in partnership with clients and architects. Every project is thoughtfully managed, meticulously built, and delivered with care.

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TS Constructions awarded the MBV sustainable home



Tony O'Connell of TS Constructions accepts the Master Builders Award Eastern Region for Cooinda – Cape Paterson, named the Best Sustainable Home.



The Master Builder Victoria (MBV) award-winning sustainable home, Cooinda, Cape Paterson, was built with a north-facing living zone and kitchen, designed with recycled materials. Photos: hanjcam.



The 8.0-star home was built with 8.8kW of PV and 12kW/hr of Redback batteries, and 46,000 litres of water storage.



The 8.0-star project, Cooinda, was built with state-of-the-art energy-efficient design.

TS CONSTRUCTIONS Cooinda project was awarded the Best Sustainable Home at the 2025 Master Builder Victoria awards. The 8.0-star project was built in Australia's premium sustainable housing project, The Cape, in Cape Paterson.

This carbon-neutral, energy and water-efficient coastal home sits within the top one per cent of sustainable homes in Australia. The home features state-of-the-art energy-efficient design, construction, and fit out, which all combine to keep the home beautifully comfortable in all weather conditions, while reducing annual running costs to below \$500 per annum.

Director of TS Constructions, Tony O'Connell, said the Cooinda's design is functional.

"We've used a sustainable guide for the home's layout; it's north-facing with crossflow ventilation, smart window placement, and deep eaves – these all play a role in keeping the home comfortable," said Tony.

"In a typical home, winter temperatures might drop to under 10 overnight. But in homes like Cooinda, we're seeing consistent, comfortable bands between 16 and 25 year-round."

Public perceptions around sustainable housing are evolving, Tony said. "When we started building at The Cape 10 years ago, there was still this idea that sustainability was unaffordable, but the reality is, these homes are cheaper to run, healthier to live in, and more comfortable. And they're not significantly more expensive to build."

The Cape has clear and prescriptive guidelines for all homes, and of the 150 approved designs within the estate, 90 have been delivered by TS Constructions – a remarkable achievement given the competitive landscape.

"Of those 90 homes, no two are the same," said Tony.

"There is a mandatory minimum 7.5-star rating, 2.5kW PV solar, and 10,000 litres of water storage. At 8.0 stars with 8.8kW of PV and 12kW/hr of Redback batteries and 46,000 litres of water storage, the Cooinda project exceeds this."

TS Constructions has worked closely with the clients and the architect to build this stylish, 263m² double-storey home (200m² of living space, again a Cape requirement) with visually impressive articulation and material selection.

The ground floor consists of a large, north-facing living zone and kitchen

that opens onto a wide deck with views of the garden. There are two bedrooms and a home office. The upper floor has a large mezzanine and balcony. Rooms and windows have been situated to capture both prevailing sea breezes, creating that natural cross flow.

The home has been constructed to provide a shelter from the southerly winds from the ocean, while allowing the owners to open up to cooler summer breezes.

The fixtures and finishes are a standout on this home, including the appliances and tiling that were selected not only for their functionality but to lift the home well above standard.

The joinery was finished to a high level of detail and incorporated a glass photographic splashback. Miglas Aluclad double glazed windows provide the low maintenance of aluminium on the external facade, with the warmth of timber on the inside. Carefully selected recycled red bricks provide a stunning feature throughout the home, along with recycled glass in the polished concrete slab.

"Using one of our designs we modelled, the price differential between a six-star home and an equivalent eight-star design is around \$7000. Based on the reduced energy required to run the home, this additional up-front cost is likely to be recuperated within four years. Modelling suggests an annual power bill including daily connection charges of approximately \$300, or \$25 per month," Tony explained.

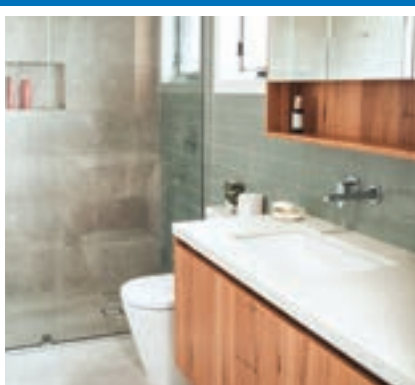
"The home is visually stunning, and the rooms are spacious with minimal use of passages. Within this home, we also explored other products, such as our plaster, which uses recycled materials, and low-VOC paints, which are less toxic, and we also extend this approach to our joinery, ensuring it's toxin-free."

Both Embodied Carbon and End of Life recycling were considered in the selection of materials, leading to items such as the external woodstone blockwork, which incorporates 40 per cent recycled timber in its composition (timber from shredded single-use timber pallets).

With demand for sustainable homes rising and awareness growing, Tony said owners are doing their own research and together we're creating sustainable homes with forward-thinking ideas.

"It's these owners that are taking us to the next level – and of course, The Cape has been built with a quantum leap in advanced design."

Best Sustainable Home 2025 - Master Builders Eastern Regional Awards



Introducing Cooinda – the latest 8-star addition to The Cape, Australia's premier sustainable housing community.

This carbon-neutral coastal home by TS Constructions sits in the top 1% of sustainable builds nationwide, with ultra-efficient design, premium materials, and state-of-the-art solar and water systems.

Build to exceed The Cape's rigorous eco standards, Cooinda offers comfort in all seasons, with running costs of less than \$500 per year.

Thoughtfully designed to embrace natural light, sea breezes and panoramic views of Bass Strait, this double-storey home is a benchmark for modern, low-impact living.

Smart, stylish, and sustainable – this is the future of home building.



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This cleverly designed home shows that smart living can go hand in hand with style and comfort.



Brad Chugg accepts the Master Builders Victoria Award Eastern Region for Best Custom Home Under \$400,000.

Award winning design excellence

AT ROSELEIGH Homes, we continue to set benchmarks in the custom building industry through innovative design, refined aesthetics, outstanding customer service and an unwavering commitment to quality. As an award-winning builder, our reputation is built on creating distinctive homes that blend visual appeal with functional living.

Our latest recognition at the Master Builders Victoria Regional Eastern Building Awards celebrates a home that illustrates this philosophy. Designed specifically for a smaller corner block, the home draws inspiration from contemporary architectural principles, featuring a striking exterior with carefully selected mix of materials and thoughtfully positioned feature windows that welcome natural light and enhance its street presence.

The floorplan itself reflects intelligent planning, resulting in a functional, well-connected layout that suits modern living without compromise. It's a testament to how smart design can elevate everyday usability while maintaining elegance and comfort.

Our portfolio of homes we have



built range from in town family homes to bespoke rural properties, each built to reflect the individual needs and lifestyle of our clients. This award-winning project is just one example of how we tailor every home to suit both.

At Roseleigh Homes, we believe every home should reflect more than a brief – it should reflect the people who live in it. From concept to completion, every project is a true expression of our clients

lifestyle, vision and individuality. It is this client focused approach to building that has earned us a strong reputation in the region for over 40 years.

Visit our new Alma Display Home located at 23 Claremont Drive in Warragul and discover the design, quality and service that set Roseleigh Homes apart when planning your next home.

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Designed specifically for a smaller corner block, this elegant home combines stylish modern design with practical living.



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Our Mills Road Project was awarded Best Custom Home in its category at the Master Builders Victoria Regional Eastern Building Awards!





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Davidson Builders were awarded Best Custom Home over \$2 million in the Master Builders Awards (Eastern Region). The building team of Greg Harmer, Clint Davidson, Lucas Harmer and Wayne McCaughan were proud of the win last week. B06_2725



Davidson Builders wins Best Custom Home over \$2 million

DAVIDSON Builders has been awarded Best Custom Home \$2 million and over in the recent Master Builders Awards (Eastern Region) for their stunning Mabilia Project at Kilcunda.

Designed by architect Nicolas Wright, the Mabilia Project delivers simplicity with impact.

"We are proud to announce this project has taken out top honours at the 2025 Master Builders Regional Victoria Awards in the highest category," said builder Clint Davidson.

"Brought to life by our

dedicated team it was a true team effort."

The single-storey, low-maintenance retreat features charred timber cladding, polished concrete floors, and uninterrupted ocean views across the rugged Kilcunda coastline.

Refinements to the original concept allowed the team to create a home that was not only beautiful but also functional, comfortable, and deeply livable.

"Resting on the top of a cliff added a level of complexity," said Clint.

"It's a pretty epic home."

Beneath the sleek surface lies meticulous attention to detail.

Master Builders Victoria (MBA) CEO Michaela Lihou said the quality of the entries in the MBA awards continues to demonstrate the talent and passion of Victoria's regional building industry.

"We're seeing some truly inspiring projects being delivered with an outstanding commitment to quality and innovation."

Davidson Builders are dedicated to every project down to every

last detail.

"We provide accurate quotes and are upfront from the beginning," said Clint.

"This we believe is what sets us apart.

"We want to make the building experience stress-free and enjoyable through collaboration and teamwork to give you a home that fits your lifestyle and environment.

"We are a team of builders and craftsmen who come from a variety of backgrounds and areas of expertise.

"We respect and place a large emphasis on involving our clients through the entire build; we want to work with you," Clint said.

"You can do things cheaper, but you can't do things better."

For more information contact Davidson Builders on 0407 844 751 or go to davidsonbuilders.com.au.

You can also find Davidson Builders on Facebook (facebook.com/davidsonbuilder) and Davidsonbuilders on Instagram (instagram.com/davidsonbuilders).

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Metricon celebrates double win at Master Builders Awards

METRICON has reinforced its reputation as a leader in home building excellence, taking out not one but two major awards at the 2025 Master Builders Victoria Gippsland Regional Building Awards, held at The Pavilion, Warragul on Friday, June 21.

Metricon's dedicated team received the Best Display Home Over \$500,000 – Qualia 39 (Harper façade) and the Best Display Home \$350,000–\$500,000 – Santorini 29 (Summit façade), both located in Traralgon and Wonthaggi, respectively.

These accolades recognise Metricon's commitment to innovative design, quality construction and creating homes families love – values that have made Metricon Australia's No.1 home builder for the past nine consecutive years.

The Qualia 39, located in Traralgon's Franklin Place estate, is defined by its bold Harper façade – showcasing layered textures, asymmetrical glazing, and a recessed timber-framed entry that makes a striking street statement. Inside, the open-plan layout connects the kitchen, living, dining, and alfresco spaces, while the rear master suite – with its own private courtyard – offers a tranquil retreat. Multiple living zones, including a theatre and leisure room, make this home both functional and luxurious.

In Wonthaggi's Parklands estate, the Santorini 29 delivers laid-back coastal elegance, brought to life by the timeless Summitt façade. Designed for growing families, the home features four bedrooms, three separate living areas, and seamless indoor-outdoor entertaining. Its clever floorplan balances connection and privacy – perfect for everyday family living.

Speaking on the award win, Jason McGregor, Gippsland Regional Manager, Metricon, commented “we're incredibly proud to be recognised for not one, but two beautiful homes that reflect the lifestyle aspirations of families in our region. These wins celebrate the craftsmanship of our local teams and our commitment to delivering homes that truly resonate with our customers.”

“Both designs showcase what Metricon does best – combining aesthetic appeal with smart, practical layouts that suit how families live today,” McGregor concluded.

Visit the Award-Winning Display Homes, both open seven days, 11am-5pm:

Qualia 39 – Franklin Place Estate, Traralgon

Santorini 29 – Parklands Estate, Wonthaggi

For more information about Metricon, visit metricon.com.au or call 1300 638 742.



The Santorini 29 is on display at Wonthaggi in the Parklands estate.



View the award winning Qualia 39 at Traralgon.



Winning the Best Display Home \$350,000–\$500,000 – was Metricon for the Santorini 29.



Metricon secured the Best Display Home Over \$500,000 – Qualia 39 (Harper façade) at the Master Builders Victoria Awards – Eastern Region.

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Paramedic crews for less-urgent calls are making a real difference

AMBULANCE Victoria's (AV) Medium Acuity Transport Service (MATS) crews have responded to more than 100,000 cases, helping save other ambulances for the most serious emergencies.

MATS began in September 2021 and is dedicated to less-urgent calls, freeing up more ambulances to respond to the most critically ill patients. In regional Victoria, MATS crews are based at Wonthaggi.

AV Executive Director of Regional Operations Danielle North said the partnering of paramedic recruits with experienced paramedics on board MATS vehicles helps develop the next generation of paramedics.

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Nathan and Trev prepare for the 2025 Mystery Box rally in Broken Hill

LOCAL Volkswagen Beetle enthusiasts Nathan Leversha and Trevor Heawood are preparing to compete in the gruelling five-day Mystery Box rally starting from Broken Hill.

Raising funds for cancer research, the 2025 Mystery Box rally will start on August 15.

Departing Broken Hill for a five-day rally on an unknown route in the remote outback of New South Wales, the teams will finally end up back at Broken Hill on the last day.

The details of each day's rally route will be kept under wraps and only given to the teams just before they start out each morning.

Nathan and Trev are happy to be taking part in their first Mystery Box rally which has become one of the largest community-led fundraising events in Australia.

Over the last 12 years, Mystery Box rallies have raised \$8 million for cancer research.

"This rally will have us driving a 60-year-old car along outback roads we've never seen before," said Nathan.

"We will do approximately 2500 kilometres over five days setting off from Broken Hill and eventually returning back to Broken Hill.

"We have no idea where we'll be headed until just before we leave each morning."

Nathan and Trev have a target of \$10,000 for the trip and have already raised \$5000.



Supporter Gavin Coyne (Autopro Wonthaggi) with Team Skilled Mystery Rally co-drivers Nathan Leversha and Trevor Heawood. B36_2625

"Every dollar goes to the Cancer Council," said Trevor.

Mystery Box rallies are for those who want to have fun, love adventure, crave something different and want to make new life-long friends.

The rally will be different for each team but most importantly it's for those who want to raise much-needed money for cancer research.

Box Rallies highlight the importance of cancer research and how it is funded, putting a spotlight on the researchers themselves.

Nathan and Trev and their VW Beetle 'Skille' are generously supported by Gavin Coyne of Autopro in Wonthaggi.

"We are proud to support Nathan and Trev with parts and accessories," said Gavin.

It's been a long list of parts and accessories including engine oil, fuel hoses and a much-needed light bar to supplement the original 1965 VW headlights.

A rally veteran 'Skille' was driven in the Variety Bashes over 20 years ago and now

has a new lease of life.

"What could go wrong," said Trevor

"Everything," according to Nathan.

Autopro supports the vintage and classic car community with an informal meeting of motoring enthusiasts on the first Sunday of each month in Wonthaggi.

To donate to Team Skilled go to 2025.mysteryboxrally.com.au/team-skilled or search for Team Skilled at facebook.com/people/Team-Skilled/61568265185929/#.

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How to start the conversation on sexual assault?

IT'S a conversation no parent, guardian or caregiver wants to have with their child – no matter their age. However, Victorians were left in utter shock last week at the revelation that 26-year-old Point Cook man Joshua Brown was arrested and charged with over 70 sexual offences linked to childcare centres.

Child sexual abuse includes a broad range of illegal sexual behaviours, and though in last week's case it included young children in care, such crimes are most often committed by someone the child knows. A 2023 report released following the Australian Child Maltreatment Study estimated that three in 10 Australians have experienced child sexual abuse.

But how do you have a conversation about body safety, particularly with toddlers?

Firstly, use the correct names of body parts – don't be embarrassed. Using anatomically correct terms not only reduces shame but also gives children the right language if they ever have to speak up. The language used to describe body parts can also matter in legal cases.

Teach children body autonomy – it's okay if they don't want to hug or kiss someone, and don't pressure them to. Teaching children consent from a young age helps them throughout their life.

Talk about people and gut instinct – have conversations with kids about people who make us feel safe inside, and those who perhaps make us feel icky or scared, and ask them to tell you if someone fits the latter criteria. They don't have to know why someone doesn't feel right – what matters is that they feel safe to tell you.

Discuss secrets and surprises – No child should be asked to keep a secret. Surprises, like birthday gifts, are different. Teach children to tell you if anyone asks them to keep a secret, and explain how secrecy can be part of unsafe behaviour.

Finally, remind children you love them, and create an open environment where they feel safe and comfortable talking to you. Every small conversation builds on the next. If they feel heard and supported, they're more likely to come to you.

If you suspect a child has been a victim of sexual abuse, Sexual Assault Services Victoria recommends having a calm conversation in a safe environment using open-ended questions.

Listen carefully and without interruption or judgement, and be mindful of your own reactions.

And, not least, tell them they've done the right thing by telling you.

Recognising the signs

Children may not always show obvious signs of trauma or be able to express what they're feeling. Instead, they often communicate through changes in behaviour, emotions, or physical symptoms.

Emotional and behavioural indicators:*

- Mood changes, depression, anxiety, or social withdrawal
- Feeling jumpy, nervous, agitated and easily startled
- Difficulty regulating emotions – rapid, sometimes exaggerated changes in mood where strong emotions or feelings occur such as uncontrollable laughter or crying
- Difficulty concentrating or learning new information; change in academic performance
- Resistance to going to school or participating in a usual activity (e.g. sports practice)
- Trouble falling or staying asleep, sleep disturbances or nightmares
- Generalised fear and anxiety – a persistent feeling that they are not safe
- Change in general behaviour – seeming 'out of sorts'
- Over-compliance and eagerness to please
- Fear and avoidance of certain people and places
- Acting as if nothing has happened
- Stating that they can deal with it on their own.

Physical signs may include:*

- Headaches, stomach aches, bed-wetting, appetite or weight changes
- Bruises in sensitive areas
- Pain, swelling, or discharge in the genital area
- Pain or burning during urination

Victoria Police have a dedicated team, Sexual Offences and Child Abuse Investigation Teams (SOCIT), who specialise in the field.

Reporting sexual abuse is a significant step. If the abuse is recent, avoid bathing the child or washing their clothes, as forensic examination may gather evidence.

Remember, it's never too late to report child sexual abuse – or child abuse in any form.

In an emergency contact 000.

Support Services:

Centres Against Sexual Assault (CASA): 1800 806 292 | casa.org.au. Free counselling and support for victims/survivors of sexual assault.

1800RESPECT – National Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence Service: 1800 737 732 | 1800RESPECT.org.au. 24/7 national counselling service, with interpreting and Auslan support.

* Some of the above information is abridged from the Sexual Assault Services Victoria website. For more information and signs of child sexual abuse visit sasvic.org.au/csaresource2.



Retirees bring comfort to new mums

TWO retirees from Morwell are bringing a bit of heart to children being born in Leongatha.

Lynne and Robert Jackman have donated 30 comfort hearts to Gippsland Southern Health Services' (GSHS) Leongatha maternity ward to give babies and their mums a bright start to life.

The comfort hearts started a few years ago when a relation of the Jackmans had a premature baby at 26 weeks in New Zealand.

"The hospital asked if anybody could make and donate comfort hearts and Lynne has taken it upon herself to continue and expand the tradition," Robert said.

At the moment, Lynne is making comfort hearts for the Christchurch Women's Hospital in New Zealand, Latrobe Regional Hospital, a private hospital in Melbourne and now GSHS.

The hearts are given to mothers and babies if they need to be separated.

GSHS midwifery unit



Lynne and Robert Jackman donated 30 care hearts to Gippsland Southern Health Services' Leongatha maternity ward.

manager Dayna Leatham said the care hearts were a nice way for mum and baby to stay linked while apart.

When a baby needs to be transferred to a special care nursery, we can offer a small heart to both the mother and the baby," she said.

"Before the transfer, we swap the hearts, which helps support bonding and makes the transition a little easier for both."

"We get mum and baby back together as soon as we can but it's a nice way to retain a connection while they're

separated and then it's a nice little memento that they can keep and for a baby book."

Ms Leatham said the handmade care hearts were a lovely gesture that would be welcomed by families.

"We're truly grateful to Lynne and Robert for reaching out and offering this thoughtful extra care to our mums and babies," she said.

Lynne said she loved coming up with the different designs and giving mums and babies another way to connect.

They are made from cotton material, often sourced from garage sales and op shops.

"It's a hobby for me and I get pleasure from it, but it's also nice for other people and there's no charge for the hospitals because it's all done voluntarily," Lynne said.

Robert said retirement has meant he and Lynne have time to travel around and deliver the care hearts.

"It's not only a win for the hospitals and mothers and babies, but for Lynne as well," he said.

Hearing Aid Simulator puts control in your hands

A REVOLUTIONARY digital tool developed by Australian company PocketAid is giving people – from major cities to regional towns – the power to explore hearing support without stepping into a clinic or committing to costly devices.

This world-first, free online Hearing Aid Simulator allows users to "test drive" the benefits of hearing aids in the comfort and privacy of their own homes.

It's a significant breakthrough for anyone hesitant to acknowledge hearing challenges due to stigma and for people living in regional and rural areas, where access to in-person hearing services can be limited. It also serves growing demand among urban Australians who want more convenience, privacy and flexibility in their healthcare choices.

"The simulator is perfect for anyone curious about hearing improvement, who may have previously been unsuccessful with hearing aids or hesitant to explore them," said PocketAid CEO Don Hudson.

"It delivers a powerful preview of the kind of clarity, tone balance, and speech recognition now possible with ready-to-use technology."

Kelvin Wilson, a retired farmer and former Army Reservist from regional Australia, has spent a lifetime surrounded by loud machinery and rifle fire, without the benefit of ear protection. Years of exposure have left him with tinnitus and worsening hearing in his right ear, which he openly attributes to his time on the farm and in the Reserves.

"My right ear is much worse than my left, and that's because of the gun shots," Mr Wilson said.

"If I am at the back of the room when someone is speaking, I just can't grasp what is being said because of the background noise. It's very annoying."

"The difference in the quality from the start of the hearing aid simulation to the end was out of this world!"

"This will be the way of the future for people wanting to address their hearing loss. I can do my research at home without having to worry about being persuaded to buy another expensive device. I've got full control."

An estimated one in four Australians will have some level of hearing loss within 25 years, yet many will go undiagnosed. The reasons often include stigma, cost and the logistical burden of seeking help.

The free tool allows users to input their own audiogram, or choose a preset hearing loss profile – mild, moderate or severe – and then experience realistic listening simulations in 12 real-world scenarios such as:

- having a conversation in a busy café,
- watching television,
- or talking on the phone.

The simulator also allows family members to gain insight into a loved one's hearing loss, helping them understand their challenges and better support them.

Try the simulator at pocketaid.com.au/hearing-aid-simulator.

Applications for ACRRM Fellowship now open

FROM delivering babies in the morning to managing a trauma case in the afternoon, no two days look the same for Australia's Rural Generalists.

The Australian College of Rural and Remote Medicine (ACRRM) has opened applications for its 2026 Rural Generalist Fellowship Program, calling for doctors ready to take on one of the most diverse and in-demand roles in medicine.

ACRRM president Dr Rod Martin said the diversity of the Rural Generalist role is what makes it one of the most rewarding – and urgently needed – medical careers in the country.

"Every day is different. One day you're providing emergency care, the next you're supporting mental health or delivering long-term care to a family you've known for years," he said.

"Rural Generalists do more than general practice – and that's exactly what rural, remote and First Nations communities need."

As Australia faces critical



The Australian College of Rural and Remote Medicine president Dr Rod Martin is calling on doctors to consider a career as a Rural Generalist.

rural workforce shortages, Dr Martin said training more Rural Generalists is essential to maintaining access to care.

"There are towns where a single well-trained doctor can mean the difference between no healthcare and a fully functioning clinic or hospital," he said.

"We need doctors who are

adaptable, capable and committed, and that's who the ACRRM Rural Generalist Fellowship program is designed to support."

ACRRM Fellowship is the only national training program built specifically for doctors who want to practice medicine in rural, remote and First Nations

communities.

From day one, registrars train in rural and remote locations and are equipped with the broad skills required to meet complex and varied community needs.

The program includes advanced training in emergency care, obstetrics, anaesthetics, Indigenous health and mental health, and is underpinned by strong mentorship and regional support networks.

Dr Martin said the program is ideal for doctors seeking a career that challenges them professionally while allowing them to make a meaningful difference.

"We're training doctors not just to be clinicians, but to be leaders in their communities," he said.

"If you want a career where every day is different – this is your next step."

Applications for the 2026 ACRRM Rural Generalist Fellowship Program are now open.

To learn more or to apply, visit acrrm.org.au.

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Like it or not, change is coming

IT WAS interesting to see the avalanche of troll comments and negativity that flowed from an innocent video posted by the Sentinel-Times of the smoking ceremony at the opening of the Ngangga Community Festival at the Berninneit Cultural Centre in Cowes last Sunday.

Many of the 470 messages on the Sentinel-Times' Facebook page expressed opposition to the smoking ceremony and used it as an opportunity to unload a few racist remarks while they were at it.

The comments are misplaced on a number of counts.

Anyone who went to the festival at Berninneit couldn't help but be impressed with the array of art, craft and cultural activities for kids on their holidays. Interest for their parents and others and the positive vibe from the organisers.

And people were lined up right down the street to participate in the ceremony.

The other issue that the general community needs to catch up with, like it or not, is the advanced state of Victoria's treaty negotiations and the extent to which First Peoples' culture and decision-making is being introduced into everything the government does.

On Wednesday this week, for example, the Bass Coast Shire Council is being asked to endorse the new Statement of Planning Policy coming out of the Distinctive Areas and Landscapes process, which charts the course for growth and development in this area for the next 50 years.

A feature of that document is the role being ascribed to Traditional Owners and the Bunurong Land Council Aboriginal Corporation in all of council's decision-making.

Council is being asked to endorse the document, but they have no choice really. Local government has long been an agency of the State Government, and while individual councillors can get up and have their say, they virtually have no control anymore.

The point is this, it's almost certain now that the Labor Government will be returned to office at the November 2026 election, such is the disarray on the Coalition side, and these changes which embrace our indigenous heritage are coming at a pace.

It's a case of get involved, get informed or get out of the way.

Speak up for Question Time

PUBLIC Question Time (PQT) at Bass Coast Shire Council meetings is a long-held right for our community.

It is fundamental to open and transparent governance at Council.

We are fortunate to have it, as not all communities are permitted this right.

Since 2016 successive Bass Coast Shire Councils have imposed tighter restrictions on this right.

In 2022 some former Councillors even attempted to remove this right altogether. But a strong community pushback left Councillors in no doubt that the community was opposed, and the attempt failed.

In many ways, public question time can be the most important aspect of open democracy and community participation at Council meetings.

Even Council itself acknowledges that PQT is the only opportunity for community members to put public questions to Council meetings.

But now we see that public question time is under attack once again.

Vox Pop

What is the best thing you have ever spent your tax return on?



Bo Fieke

"On holidays, including to Europe having been born in Germany."



Yasmin Tough

"Tattoos such as my triskelion."



Joe Licciardi

"A family camping holiday."



John

"Mostly to pay off my Visa card."

The recently elected Council is proposing changes that will largely remove public questions from Council meetings.

Their proposed changes will disenfranchise many community members across the shire.

It seems your Councillors do not have appropriate respect for community questions, and regard PQT as nothing more than a tedious chore for Council.

Without community participation via PQT the Councillors and senior bureaucrats might just as well hold Council meetings in private among themselves alone.

Our community has little time to act to protect this fundamental democratic right, Submissions close on Thursday, July 17.

Will you express your opposition to Councillors placing further restrictions on this fundamental right?

Kevin Griffin, Wonthaggi

Community update "Save Our Bank"

SINCE Thursday, July 26 when Bendigo Bank announced the closure of Korumburra's last remaining bank on August 29, 2025, the Korumburra "Save our Bank" working group (currently made up of members of the Korumburra Round Table and the Korumburra Community Development Association Inc.) has been working hard to stop the closure of the branch. This follows the successful community campaign we co-ordinated in 2021 to save the bank; our submission to the Senate Inquiry into Bank Closures in Regional Australia in 2023; and our several meetings with state and regional managers of Bendigo Bank between 2021 and 2024.

As part of our renewed campaign to save the bank, we sent a letter to the Managing Director of Bendigo Bank inviting him to meet with us and demanding that the Bank reverse its decision, or alternatively that they support the establishment of a community bank in our town. We have also been in touch with Mary Aldred MP, federal member for Monash, who will be writing to the Managing Director of Bendigo Bank to express her opposition to the decision and asking that they look at alternatives. She will also have the opportunity to raise the issue when Parliament resumes in July.

We have the support of Danny O'Brien who is writing to the board of directors. We spoke to Cr Nathan Hersey, who is also writing to the Managing Director to express his opposition to the closure and help us advocate for the establishment of a community bank.

In addition, we have done media interviews (ABC Gippsland radio and WIN News), begun exploring options for a community bank and we've reached out

to the Yarram community who are in the same predicament to express our solidarity.

The impact of the bank closure on our community will be devastating, especially for our elderly residents, people with mobility issues, our local businesses, sporting clubs and community groups. We have been fighting and will continue to fight to keep the branch open.

Korumburra "Save our Bank" working group. (Kate Murphy, Noelene Cosson, Terry Waycott, Jenni Keerie, Melissa Dixon)

The attacks must stop

SICK of hearing dog stories in the papers.

Why is a dangerous dog allowed to be registered domestically and what responsibility does the Council take in allowing the registration of these dogs? If your dog is not social keep it at home.

I feel for the horrific attack on the guide dog, and this has a domino effect on not only that dog that was doing its duty but on everyone most so on the person that depends on this dog to get around.

Pointless fining the owner because the Council takes the fine and nothing flows on to the community in dog education. With so many ignorant dog owners around who do not deserve dogs, more emphasis should be placed on the type of dogs registered.

How about a levy on owners that could be used to pay the costs that these attacks cause?

Why should the community have to tolerate such ignorance?

I think the Council should be taking more responsibility especially since I read that they are giving the cattery and kennel owners in Leongatha a hard time to stay open. They have more of a contribution towards the community than the irresponsible dog owners and the Council. This has to stop. We need to be able to walk the streets without having to watch out for vicious dogs and owners that do not give a damn.

Dilene Hinton, Inverloch

Affordable homes in Cape Paterson?

THE member for Narracan reportedly believes that the return of the Cape Paterson town boundary to Seaward Drive blocks 'affordable homes' and impacts housing supply – tell him he's dreaming! This confected outrage is not about affordability, housing supply or 'flawed processes' – it's much more likely that his comments reflect the views of those who were lured by the potential financial rewards of coastal proximity to speculate on the possible rezoning of Cape Paterson farming land.

The local community, and those who visit here for recreation, know and observe daily that, as enshrined in the final draft SPP, Cape Paterson is a fragile area of outstanding environmental significance that needs protection for future generations.

Yes, affordable housing is desperately needed in Bass Coast but it's completely inappropriate in Cape Paterson given its location, limited infrastructure and that it has none of the services families need every single day.

It's a complete fabrication that affordable housing will ever happen in Cape Paterson where houses are at least 20 per cent more expensive than in Wonthaggi, and where holiday homes predominate. Domain lists \$790k as the median price for a three-bedroom home in Cape Paterson and in Wonthaggi it's \$500k – so where's the 'affordability'?

Curiously, Wonthaggi is never marketed as the thriving important coastal regional town it is, with all the services required for affordable living, a wide variety of available housing lots – and it's only 10 or 15 minutes from the coast.

After years of research and consultation, one outcome of the SPP Standing Committee deliberations in 2023 was the commissioning of reports on three Bass Coast settlements to address matters raised in the hearings. The Cape Paterson report, by the independent landscape assessment firm Peter Haack Consulting, concluded that the dunes north of Seaward Drive were of significance and worthy of preservation, with those findings adding weight to other comprehensive research on the environmental values of the area. Council determined that development north of Seaward Drive was not required to support municipal housing needs and called for the return of the town boundary. The Department of Planning also conducted an additional consultation in 2024 and found that 90 per cent of respondents supported the return of the boundary to Seaward Drive (1188 in total responded).

Recently, the Bass Coast Shire Council Mayor, Councillor Halstead, warmly welcomed the draft final SPP. After Council consideration (and acceptance by other local relevant authorities) it requires signature by the Governor in Council and gazetting after which it will be immediately operational in the Bass Coast Planning Scheme – a milestone that the Cape Paterson community, and others who really know this significant place, will no doubt also warmly welcome.

Cheryl Padgett, Cape Paterson

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

Emily Laughlin relishing role as Footloose choreographer

HAVING run a Melbourne dance school before her move to Leongatha and with extensive local theatre involvement since, Emily Laughlin is the ideal choreographer for Leongatha Lyric Theatre group's production of Footloose.

Her current role is a major undertaking, with a cast of close to 30 all dancing at some stage of the show and an additional dancing flash mob consisting of around 35 people.

"Footloose is filled with huge dance numbers," Emily said, having to ensure that cast and flash mob members are in sync and all looking fabulous, a challenge she has enjoyed.

She has choreographed other shows for Leongatha Lyric Theatre, doing The Producers, Wind in the Willows, and jointly choreographing Young Frankenstein with Lisa Pellin.

Emily also took charge of the dancers for Wonthaggi Theatrical Group's production of Legally Blonde.

"It's a creative outlet and I like the challenge of trying to plan big dance numbers with lots of moving parts," she said.

While Emily does her research to understand the story and characters, the dancing in her shows is original and tailored to the cast, bringing out their individual personalities and strengths.

She loves the process of working with other creative individuals such as director Brad Beach and musical director Sam Shineberg, along with the set designer and the costume department.

"I like that it's a fusion of everyone's skills," she said, enjoying people working together to create something amazing.

The unpretentious environment also appeals, with everyone welcome at Lyric Theatre and plenty of opportunities for those who are inexperienced, as is the case for many of those in the flash mob.

"It's been wonderful having the flash mob because for a lot of them, it's their first show or first experience with theatre," Emily said, feeling it is a great opportunity for such people to be involved and an ideal entry point to local theatre.

She can't wait for the community to see Footloose and to hear people's reaction to it, and her feeling of excitement is building as the Friday, July 11, opening night approaches.

While there are undoubtedly plenty of nerves among the cast, Emily explained that isn't really the case for her.

"It gets to a point where your work is complete and you have to trust the cast and hand it over to them," she said, adding that she can't get up on the stage and do the choreography with them or shout out instructions from the audience, and is looking forward to watching and cheering on the performers.

Emily described the set as astonishing, saying there will be lots of local talent on show, with the overall production requiring a huge team, the members of which are supportive of one another.

She is hopeful that cast members have felt supported and challenged but not out of their depth.

Anyone who has seen previous Leongatha Lyric Theatre productions knows that if any performers have felt out of their depth, they haven't shown it.

Visit leongathalyric.com.au to book tickets, with Footloose running from Friday, July 11 until Saturday, July 26, and the schedule of performances listed on the website.



Footloose choreographer Emily Laughlin with the production's lead dancers.

Director Brad Beach ready for Footloose to kick off

PACKED with dance action, popular songs and with a large vibrant and young cast, people are already rushing to buy Footloose tickets, but on top of that, there's a special appearance by assistant director Jonah van Stekelenburg, which director Brad Beach promises people will long talk about.

Having directed Jonah in Leongatha Lyric Theatre group's Kinky Boots, Brad declared audiences can expect something even more astonishing.

"There's no way they're going to miss him," the director said of Jonah's appearance.

While Brad questioned whether he has bitten off more than he can chew with a show as ambitious as Footloose, he has the experience, dedication and support to ensure success, those at Lyric Theatre never shy to tackle a challenge.

Giving opportunities to young people was a driving force behind his choice of show, distant memories of directing a production of Grease that featured a young cast influencing the decision.

Brad has previously directed shows such as The Boy from Oz, a Wonthaggi Theatrical Group production, and The Vagina Monologues for the Foster Arts Music & Drama Association, as well as The Witches of Eastwick at Lyric Theatre.

"What makes this show different to a lot of other ones I've done is having the energy of these young people," he said of Footloose.

"It's an opportunity to create a space where young people get to be in a show with a whole lot of semi-professional people."

Brad reflected on the fact that some of the young cast members from his production of Grease 20 years ago have gone on to professional careers in theatre.

Productions that deliver beneficial messages to the broader community appeal to him, Brad saying the plebiscite on gay marriage prompted his choice of Kinky Boots, being a show that celebrated the local LGBTQI+ community.

"This show has a good message about how women and girls were treated in the eighties, as well as young people being told what to do by older people," he said of Footloose.

While clearly glad to have taken on Footloose, its enormous cast and support crew ensure it's no small challenge, the director estimating at least 150 people have been involved in some capacity to make the show happen.

Being a director in local theatre includes the responsibilities of a producer, so it is far broader than dealing with the performers alone, long-term Leongatha Lyric Theatre director Colin Mitchell OAM having been influential in Brad learning the overall production leadership required.

Brad has taken time off work in the lead up to the show, his days consumed by rehearsals, filming of a video, and ensuring everything is in readiness with the band, lighting, sound and set and all elements happen at the right moment.

With the show demanding rapid costume changes, that is another aspect that needs to run smoothly, requiring sufficient helpers, the same applies to hair and makeup as cast members may have a black eye at one point and not another.

The hard work that has gone into Footloose will ensure it flows beautifully on opening night, Friday, July 11, the Leongatha Memorial Hall having been transformed into a theatre for the occasion.

Footloose runs until Saturday, July 26. Visit leongathalyric.com.au to book tickets.



LEONGATHA LYRIC THEATRE proudly presents

Footloose

the musical



11 - 26 July, 2025

Memorial Hall, Leongatha

Tickets via trybooking.com



Shadow puppets to delight at Wonthaggi Union Community Arts Centre

CHILDREN are invited to discover of world of wonder and wisdom during the school holidays. The Owl's Apprentice is coming to the Wonthaggi Union Community Arts Centre on July 12.

This shadow puppet show was created by artistic director at Little Wings Puppets Jenny Ellis under the mentorship of internationally renowned shadow puppeteer Richard Bradshaw.

"The story follows a young owl who is learning what it is to be wise. It also follows the idea of lifelong learning and that we accumulate small lessons that add to our wisdom," Jenny said. "Through the story, the young owl meets other animals who share their wisdom based on their journeys and experiences, and what the young owl learns can be applied to save the forest."

The show will be followed by a shadow puppet workshop. Participating children will be encouraged to create their own shadow puppets and will have the opportunity to use the shadow screen.

The show is targeted for children between the ages of three and 10 but is often enjoyed by a broader audience.

Jenny is looking forward to returning to Wonthaggi, having performed in Cowes in the past, as well as working alongside the Wonthaggi Theatre Group to put on the highly successful Little Shop of Horrors.

"The Owl's Apprentice is a real family show, and the kids will get to learn some hands-on techniques they can do at home. I'm really looking forward to it," Jenny said. Tickets to the show and the workshop are available at trybooking.com.

CONVERSATION with Claire



Enjoy the Whale Festival

By author Claire Chitty

PHILLIP Island, renowned for its spectacular scenery, beaches and wildlife, is a year-round environmental wonder. During the cooler months, the Island's calm bays and nutrient-rich currents provide a safe place for humpback and southern right whales to rest and socialise.

For the last nine years, the Island Whale Festival has celebrated this migration as a community event that blends marine conservation, Indigenous storytelling and family-friendly fun.

This year, from July 11th to 13th, volunteers provide a weekend of immersive encounters. Starting at the Festival Hub at Berninnet Cultural Centre in Cowes, there's plenty on offer from interactive presentations, workshops, pop-up art shows and virtual reality experiences which brings the underwater world to life. Parents and caregivers will find plenty to engage young minds including craft activities, storytelling sessions and marine science talks tailored for children.

There's plenty for adults, too. Enjoy live music, local food and wine, and educational opportunities to connect with researchers and conservationists working towards protecting marine ecosystems. The Whale Discovery Trail has self-guided expeditions where participants have the flexibility to appreciate some of the best vantage points along the coast. I recommend taking binoculars to observe breaching whales, playful dolphins and the occasional orca.

The Island Whale Festival is more than just a celebration of marine life. It's about embracing conservation and the interconnectedness between nature, culture, and community.

Fun, belly laughing spy spoof bliss



Trisha Hogan, Jay Egresits, Nina Egresits and Lucy Cousins were ready with flowers to cheer on Trisha's daughter Pearl Hunter, who started as Clown 2 and put on a spectacular performance on Friday evening. C02_2725



Joel Stevenson, Justin Stephens and Rhiannon Stephens put on a spectacular show alongside Pearl Hunter (absent) in *The 39 Steps*.



On the run and barely coming up for air, *The 39 Steps* is an cleverly crafted spy spoof that goes past at whiplash speed.

ABSOLOLUTE chaos, organised, tightly-directed comedic anarchy.

Friday night's opening of Alfred Hitchcock's *The 39 Steps* directed by Justin Stephens, is everything you would expect and more, and throw in a sprinkle of Wonthaggi Theatrical Groups renowned ability to pull off incredible performances and the audience were not left disappointed.

The play is comedy meets classic thriller that is minimalistic yet filled with an array of roles, and countless props. To be more specific there are over 100 roles played by four characters, most of which are left to the Clowns.

Hats off to the set construction team led by Tad Henry who have built a theatre within the theatre, brick walls and all, and the props and scenic art departments who have created an uncountable number of items that are used once, sometimes twice in the show. Without noting any spoilers a prop car appears for yet an instant, but by gosh the car isn't a cardboard cutout door.

The care and dedication the behind the scenes team have put into the Hitchcockian homage is fantastic and must be praised.

For the four cast members who take the audience on a 100-minute whitty masterclass in parody, congratulations on a fantastic opening night.

Justin Stephens as Richard Hannay is impressive, bold, and dynamic. While you occasionally feel sympathy for him, you're quickly snapped back to reality by one of his pompous remarks. Expect British humour, and just a few British remarks...

Joel Stevenson stars as clown one alongside Pearl Hunter (clown two), the duo are fantastic throughout.

Of particular note, Joel's performance as Mrs McGarricle is word-escaping, belly laughing comedic bliss, and without speaking out of place, something very few men could pull off.

Melbourne-based actor Pearl Hunter's multi-role mayhem levels Joel's, both building off each other's high energy performances, though also, gives her own charm and suave to her characters.

One highlight, is Mr McGarricle. I won't ruin any surprises but expect a stereotypical sketchbook Scotsman less the bagpipes, but complete with tam o'shanter.

As for Mr Memory and Compere there are simply no words.

And last but not least, Rhiannon Stephens stars as Annabella, Pamela and Margaret, all at different times of course. Congratulations to Rhiannon for her portrayal of accents and holding character whilst performing, one can only imagine the laughs during rehearsal, particularly where Annabella is concerned.

And whilst there may have been a couple of unplanned moments, it's difficult to tell without a return visit if they were planned or not, for you see the fourth wall is broken on multiple occasions in the spy spoof, thus well done to the cast who carried on and made the unplanned moments part of the show.

Well done to director Justin Stephens and assistant Juliette, who have brought together an incredible cast, completely suited to the roles, and transformed The Shed into choreographed chaos.

The high-energy and ability of the actors to switch between so many varied characters and accents were amongst the highlights opening night audience members remarked upon.

Alfred Hitchcock's *The 39 Steps* runs until Sunday, July 13.

For tickets and more information visit wtg.org.au.



Tilda Swinton and Julianne Moore deliver hauntingly beautiful performances in Pedro Almodóvar's *The Room Next Door* – a deeply intimate story of friendship, mortality and quiet goodbyes.

Oscar winners shine in *The Room Next Door*

THE Bass Coast Fine Film Group is proud to present multi-award winners Julianne Moore and Tilda Swinton, teaming up in “*The Room Next Door*” as old friends who reconnect after several years estrangement.

Martha is played by Tilda Swinton (“*Michael Clayton*”, “*Benjamin Button*”) and Ingrid by Julianne Moore (“*Big Lebowski*”, “*The Forgotten*”). Ingrid is a best-selling author, and Martha is a former war correspondent. At a book signing, a mutual friend encourages Ingrid to reach out to Martha as she's fighting an aggressive form of cancer.

As life would have it, when younger, both women had

dated the same man played by John Turturro (“*Millers Crossing*”, “*Barton Fink*”), first Martha, then Ingrid, who re-enters their lives. The two women are warmly, even joyfully reunited in Martha's private hospital room; the shadow of death gives a richness to their rekindled friendship.

An intimate adaption of “*What Are You Going Through*”, a novel by Sidrid Nunez, Pedro Almodovar's first feature film in English brings his signature hallmarks to a heavy and difficult topic. Winner of the Golden Lion (Best Film) at Venice Film Festival, “*The Room Next Door*” sees powerhouse performances of complex and fascinating characters breathe life into the

conversation about death.

In typical Almodovar style, there is a lush, omnipresent orchestral score, seductively rich blocks of colour in the design (particularly the keynote arterial red), and – in a way utterly characteristic of Almodóvar – the story is layered and interspersed with flashbacks and incidental scenes which are semi-detached from the storytelling's downstream flow.

Almodóvar, now aged 74, has clearly been thinking a lot about mortality. “*The Room Next Door*” isn't a weighty philosophical work – as mature as it is, it still has glimmers of cheeky humour and campy melodrama. But it develops

into a sweetly heartfelt reflection on ageing, dying, and whether or not it's healthy to find joy in the most desperate of circumstances. There aren't too many films like that in any language.

Screening at 10.30am, on Sunday, July 13 at The Union Theatre, 96 Graham Street, Wonthaggi. BCFFG members entry free, with general public welcome at usual box office prices.

To find out more, visit the website: basscoastfinefilmgroup.weebly.com/current-season, and follow the links to the film.

The Bass Coast Fine Film Group is proudly sponsored by the Bass Coast Shire.



Arancini

By Meg Viney

ANY leftover Risotto Milanese can be made into Arancini – so named because they look like little oranges. If there are no leftovers, just make another batch. You will also need a beaten egg, some flour and breadcrumbs.

Ingredients

- 1 egg beaten
- Flour
- Breadcrumbs
- ¼ cup cooled rice
- Mozzarella

Method

In three bowls, place the flour, breadcrumbs and beaten egg.

Moisten your hands and scoop up ¼ cup of cooled rice.

Make it into a ball, then make a hole and place a cube of mozzarella inside.

Cover it back up so the mozzarella is inside the ball of rice.

Make all the balls, then dip them all into the flour, then into the eggs, then the breadcrumbs.

Once they are all made, leave to dry out for an hour, then heat oil in a wok or deep fryer and fry them, turning, until they are golden brown and crisp all over.

Serve as a first course.

Date announced for Carols by the Bay

HALFWAY through 2025, planning for the beloved Christmas event Carols by the Bay is well underway. Taking place on the Cowes Foreshore, this year's carols will be on Thursday, December 11. The event will be launched with children's activities from 5pm, followed by carols at 7.15pm and fireworks from 9.30pm. Island Voice is hard at work confirming artists – a process that is now in its final stages. Organiser Peter McMahon confirmed there will be a variety of free children's rides, a pet animal nursery and several food vendors.

“I am looking forward to another successful event this year,” Mr McMahon said. Last year's event was highly popular, amassing between 4000 and 5000 people.

WONTHAGGI THEATRICAL GROUP PRESENTS

ALFRED HITCHCOCK'S THE 39 STEPS

“Hitchcock meets hilarious... a dizzy delight.”
– The New York Times (USA)

4 to 13 July
The Shed, Wonthaggi State Coal Mine
BOOK NOW: WWW.WTG.ORG.AU

Bass Coast Fine Film Group

10.30am SUNDAY 13th JULY
THE ROOM NEXT DOOR
dir. Pedro Almodovar

Two friends reunite after a period of estrangement. With each shared memory, including Martha's recollections of war and of her fractured relationship with her daughter, their connection grows
Winner of the Golden Lion (Best Film) at Venice Film Festival

General public welcome. Members Free Entry!

@ THE UNION THEATRE
96 Graham Street, Wonthaggi.

Check the website for more info:
basscoastfinefilmgroup.weebly.com

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WONTHAGGI BINGO

WEDNESDAY 1pm - 3pm
THURSDAY 7pm - 9pm

Wonthaggi Workmen's Club, 75 Graham Street
Come and join in the laughs at South Coast FM Bingo

★ RAFFLES ★ DOOR PRIZES ★



Brenton (BJ) and Clare Williams await the start of the evening at the Leongatha Rotary Club's Changeover dinner. A03_2725



Sari Hickey, Michelle Hickey, Millie Enborn and Marsha Livingstone enjoying the festivities at the Leongatha Parrots' Ladies Day. W33_2725



Janie Gordon and Brianna Newton get out and about at the Leongatha Parrots' Ladies Day. W34_2725



Jess Rigby, Karen Milkins-Hendry and Tim Gesell were busy preparing the kiosk ahead of Friday night's opening of The 39 Steps. C03_2725



Recently joined Leongatha Rotary Club members Mark and Julie Jones enjoy their Monday night at the Changeover dinner. A04_2725



Merilyn Scott and Marilyn Mackie at the Woorayl Golf Club for the recent Rotary Changeover dinner. A05_2725



Hyacinth Holloway and Sue Dutton relax at the Rotary Changeover dinner in Leongatha. A06_2725



Leongatha Rotary Club members Bob Hickman and Andrew Ross enjoy a Monday night Changeover event. A07_2725



Leongatha Rotary Club's Michael Holloway and outgoing President Jol Dutton. A08_2725

Snapped Out

Pictures of you and your friends at The 39 Steps Opening Night, Leongatha Rotary Club Changeover Dinner and Leongatha Parrots' Ladies Day.



Kim and Jo O'Connor joined Lindy and Steve Waldron for a nice night out in support of Wonthaggi Theatrical Group's opening night. C08_2725



Alan and Wilhelmina Pittard of Wonthaggi were first in the door on Friday noting The 39 Steps should be a good play. The duo have seen many local productions and thoroughly enjoy them every time. C04_2725



Three generations of Inverloch ladies popped along to see The 39 Steps for a night out on Friday, from left, Isabella and Lisa Golding and Joyce Whelan. Lisa noted she was a Hitchcock fan from way back with all three saying it looks like fun. C05_2725



Pip Coleman and Caren Hendrie, both of Phillip Island, were curious to see the story unfold and popped along to cheer on a colleague. C06_2725



Jason, Sarah and Finlay Westwood headed along for Friday night's opening of The 39 Steps to show their support and see a colleague in the show. C07_2725



Leongatha Rotary Club member Mary Dortmans and Rotary Community Leader for the Strzelecki Community Group, Tim Wills, await formal proceedings at the recent Changeover dinner held at Woorayl Golf Club. A09_2725



Bernadette and Bruce Grainger look forward to a good night at Leongatha Rotary Club's Changeover dinner, with Bruce the event's MC. A11_2725



Allister Downing of Leongatha Lions Club and David Brereton of Leongatha Men's Shed at the town's Rotary Changeover dinner. A12_2725



MILPARA COMMUNITY HOUSE

A BIG thank you to everyone who joined us for our Community Lunch on Monday – it was a warm, welcoming gathering filled with great food, hearty conversations, and wonderful company.

From the laughter around the tables to the generous hands in the kitchen, the day truly reflected the spirit of Milpara and the other community organisations who pitched in to make the day a success. Events like these remind us how special it is to come together, share a meal, and strengthen the ties that make

our community so vibrant and more resilient. We were able to host this event thanks to the South Gippsland Shire Council, Community Connection Building Resilience Grant.

Our next community lunch and volunteer celebration is booked for Wednesday, July 30, mark it in your calendar to make sure you don't miss out.

Milpara Community House is more than just a place to learn – it's a trusted local hub offering support when times get tough. If you're facing food

insecurity, our Emergency Food Bank is here to help in a safe, respectful, and non-judgmental space. Drop in for assistance on Monday, Tuesday, or Thursday between 10am and 1pm, or contact us to make an appointment. Remember to bring your own bags!

Have extra produce from the garden? Our Community Produce Table gratefully accepts donations of fresh, homegrown fruit and vegetables –every item shared helps a neighbour in need.

Need help with government

services? Our Services Australia Agent is available at Milpara to assist you: Mondays and Thursdays: 10am – 1pm, and Tuesdays and Wednesdays: 9.30am – 2pm. Find us at the lower level of the Korumburra Community Hub, or online at milparacommunityhouse.org.au or call 5655 2524 to learn more or book a session.



15 Little Commercial Street, Korumburra PH: (03) 5655 2524 www.milparacommunityhouse.org.au

WONTHAGGI NEIGHBOURHOOD CENTRE

IF YOU'VE been noticing that we have a Circle Dancing Group, but it always seems to be full, this is your lucky day! This vibrant and popular group currently has a few vacancies so if you're interested, come along to Mitchell House at 2pm on a Wednesday to check it out. If you like what you see, make sure to let them know that you'll be coming back.

School term two has finished and we're currently in school holidays so not all programs are running at Mitchell

House over these two weeks. Amongst those taking a break are the three playgroups, the two yoga classes and Qi Gong. Holidays or not the AA and NA groups will keep meeting. You can find out more about the Wednesday evening AA group by calling Mark on 0425 707 480. The Monday evening NA group is led by Peter who can be contacted on 0456 000 844.

Also, I want to take this opportunity to thank the Wonthaggi Food Collective who, after six and a half years,

had their final distribution in June. Mitchell House has long been a supporter of this group and I know that the members are proud of what they, together with all of the volunteers over those years, have achieved. Whilst doing great work for the planet, saving people money and increasing community well-being, they also created a collective, whilst forging and strengthening many friendships that will continue well into the future. I'm looking forward to seeing what these

talented, passionate people take on next...

Mitchell House will be closed on Monday, July 14 and Tuesday, July 15. If you're lucky enough to be taking some time out, please stay safe and warm, we hope you have a lovely time and we'll see you back at Mitchell House in Term 3.



6 Murray St, Wonthaggi PH: (03) 5672 3731 www.wonthaggineighbourhoodcentre.com

BASS COAST ADULT LEARNING

THERE was so much colour, creativity and community spirit at the Wonthaggi Winter Fantasy Festival recently! This year's theme was Whimsy, Sea life and Circus which brought the magic to life with vibrant costumes, joyful music, and warm connections across generations and cultures.

The stunning costumes were handmade by the Art program participants using recycled and found materials, guided by the talented Camille Monet.

Students from the Migrant English and Interchange Gippsland participants joined in the fun, dressing up and celebrating together.

Hosted by Jess Rigby, the day featured live music from BCAL's own Bill Street, Ian Burke and Miguel Ovejero, plus striking hairstyles by the Hair & Beauty students which stole the show!

As part of the celebrations, Art participants also created a

fantastic community artwork where festival-goers could share what the day meant to them and express themselves through colour and words.

The festival was made even more special with delicious curries, roti, and rice prepared by Cooking Program participants. Special thanks to Tim for helping out.

With laughter and creative expression, this event was a beautiful reminder of what makes our community so special.

For more information on all BCAL's courses and services, please visit bcal.vic.edu.au or call 5672 3115 to learn more.

WONTHAGGI COMMUNITY GARDEN

Visitors to the garden last Thursday were greeted with a brilliant flush of green growth following solid rainfall and moments of sunshine.

Plots with broad beans, peas, broccoli, lettuce and leafy greens were looking

healthy and well-loved.

It should encourage garden members to persevere with growing their own vegies and herbs, and hopefully renew their annual memberships, due this month.

It's easy to join the garden as a member or volunteer. There are new timber plots available and visitors are always welcome on Thursdays between 10am and noon, to tour the garden and find out more from regular volunteers.

Contact tgordon@westnet.com.au or BCAL admin on 5672 3115 for more information.

WONTHAGGI WOODCRAFTERS

In woodworking, nothing is ever wasted. That extends even to bits that are considered waste from a woodworking perspective.

The workshop dust extractors are emptied regularly, and the sawdust is then used

by members for compost.

Shavings would take too long to break down in a compost heap but they make a great mulch. In both cases, they help nourish the next generation of trees.

Any unusable offcuts become firewood, but only after the wood has been used as much as is reasonably possible, and the segmented turning groups make sure that even the smallest pieces have a chance at living on as a piece of art.

This is all keeping in mind that some of the timber was originally fence posts, floorboards or framing. Woodworking is a very sustainable pursuit.

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

LIFE Moments



ROSEMARY Gilda Page was born at Wonthaggi Hospital on June 12, 2025, weighing 3.51kg. Rosemary is a daughter for Braden and Isabel Page of Lang Lang.

Send your birthday, anniversary or baby photos to news@sgst.com.au

FAITH FACTOR

The gentle whisper of faith

By Father Darren Howie, Parish Priest, St. Joseph's Parish Wonthaggi

JESUS described the joy a relationship brings with him in Matthew 13: 44-46: "The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and covered up. Then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field."

Like countless other Christians I have a relationship with Christ which is life changing for the better. Jesus told his disciples to spread this Good News. Because this relationship can be difficult to explain some people, out of frustration and eagerness, try to share the message by being pushy.

Scripture doesn't appear to support that approach.

In Revelations 3:20 one reads: "Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the doors, I will come in and eat with that person, and they with me."

The English artist William Holman Hunt's famous painting portrays Jesus carrying a lantern and knocking at a door with no handle on the outside. The picture rightly implies that God does not force himself on anyone and waits for them to open themselves up to him. God made people free.

In my own faith tradition examples abound of parents who have a great love for God, and undoubtedly a very real relationship with him and try to instil that love into their children through forceful means. This sadly can end up turning them away.

Then there are the people who, in my own faith tradition, encounter God through a certain way of praying and try to coerce others to do the same. Rather than drawing them to that way, this makes them opposed to it.

The words from 1 Kings 19-13 come to mind: "...After the wind there was an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake. After the earthquake came a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire. And after the fire came a gentle whisper. When Elijah heard it, he pulled his cloak over his face and went out and stood at the mouth of the cave."

People are more likely to encounter God if he is presented to them in a gentle manner and non-confrontational manner.

Inverloch RSL marks Reserve Forces Day

CALLS are growing to recognise reservists as veterans without restrictive service requirements.

The Inverloch RSL has proudly acknowledged Reserve Forces Day, underscoring the invaluable role that Australia's reservists play in the nation's defence. In a heartfelt commemoration, the RSL paid tribute to the men and women who serve as part of the Australian Defence Force (ADF) Reserve, drawing attention to their essential contributions at home and abroad.

With a pointed comparison, Inverloch RSL noted that the number of permanent members of the ADF is vastly outnumbered by the crowds that fill the iconic MCG for the AFL Grand Final – nearly twice as many fans attend the annual sporting spectacle than there are permanent personnel in Australia's military. In a nation proud of both its sporting and service traditions, this statistic serves as a powerful reminder of the weight carried by reservists in maintaining Australia's defence readiness.

Australian reservists have been at the forefront of many of the country's most significant operations in recent history. Their service has spanned critical missions in Timor-Leste, the Solomon Islands, Iraq, and Afghanistan, where they have worked alongside permanent forces to deliver peacekeeping, humanitarian support, and combat operations. The versatility and commitment of reservists have ensured that Australia can respond rapidly to international crises and domestic emergencies alike.

For many, the dual role of balancing civilian life with military responsibility is a testament to the character and dedication found within the reserve ranks.



President of Inverloch RSL Ross Gabb and Dr Terence Shannon presented at Sunday's Reserve Forces Day in Inverloch.

"Reservists are essential to Australia's defence contribution," the Inverloch RSL Secretary said.

"Time and again, they have proven their readiness to step up in times of need, whether that's overseas deployments or responding to natural disasters here at home."

Amid the celebration, Inverloch RSL has renewed its call for a change in how reservists are recognised by the Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA). Currently, reservists are not automatically recognised as veterans unless they have completed one day of continuous full-time service – a requirement that excludes many who have shown unwavering commitment through part-time service and operational deployments.

"In our view, a reservist is a veteran from the moment they serve, not just when they meet an arbitrary threshold," the RSL asserted.

"It's time for DVA policy to catch up and acknowledge all those who put

themselves forward for Australia's defence, regardless of technicalities."

The policy, they argue, leads to the paradox where a reservist is considered a veteran only when they cease being a reservist, a distinction that fails to honour the realities of modern service.

The call for equal recognition comes as support for reservists grows across the country. Communities like Inverloch are rallying behind their local service members, advocating for reforms that recognise the full spectrum of military service. As Australia's strategic environment evolves, the adaptability, experience, and commitment of reservists will remain central to the nation's security.

The Inverloch RSL's Reserve Forces Day commemoration stands as a reminder of the ongoing contribution of reservists – and of the need to ensure they receive the recognition and support they deserve, both during and after their service.

Real Estate

South Gippsland and Bass Coast

Home battery incentive launched

THE Housing Industry Association has welcomed the beginning of the new solar battery incentive program under the Small-scale Renewable Energy Scheme.

This program was launched last Tuesday, July 1.

"The inclusion of solar batteries in the SRES (Small-scale Renewable Energy Scheme) is a good step that will support more households to take control of their energy bills and improve energy efficiency in new homes and renovations," Housing Industry Association (HIA) executive director Shane Keating said.

"Voluntary incentives like this are something HIA has consistently called for. It brings batteries in line with existing solar panel incentives and provides a practical and affordable path for more Australians to integrate battery storage into their homes."

"A significant barrier in the uptake of household batteries is the large upfront costs and this scheme can be important in boosting uptake by providing homeowners with a 30 per cent discount."

Mr Keating said Australian homes now have more than four million solar panels installed which have been installed through a range of rebates and incentives, showing how important targeted subsidy or rebate programs can be in driving change.

"The housing industry is seeing growing demand from homebuyers for integrated energy solutions. In particular in new builds, where including a battery system upfront can work with features like solar panels to further increase the environmental benefits of new buildings," he said.

"With new Small-scale Technology Certificates (STC) assignment forms and documentation now available for solar retailers, designers and installers, HIA is encouraging members to familiarise



HIA executive director Shane Keating has welcomed the launch of the federal home battery incentive, which is expected to help more Australians cut energy bills and embrace renewable storage solutions.

themselves with the updated requirements and ensure their teams are prepared."

According to Mr Keating, this is a win for consumer choice and industry innovation.

"It's a change that will help more Australians future-proof their homes and reduce energy costs," he said.

"HIA will continue to work with government and industry stakeholders to ensure the scheme is effectively implemented and support Australian manufacturers and suppliers in providing these batteries into our homes."

Korumburra Legacy celebrates 30 years

KORUMBURRA Legacy War Widows Club celebrated a milestone birthday on July 3 – 30 years young.

With much laughter and reminiscing, a delicious lunch was served by the Austral Hotel team, complemented with prizes, cake and comradeship.

Members were delighted to have Inverloch, Leon-gatha and Wonthaggi clubs join in the festivities.

Legatee Perry Neil outlined the long history of the club and the many wonderful contributors who have made this club what it is today, still going strong after 30 years.

Legacy continues to provide emotional and financial support to widow and their dependents, as well as the much-loved monthly social outings around South Gippsland and beyond.



Mary Fields, Avis Tilley and Helen Maguire were the cake cutters at Korumburra Legacy War Widows Club's 30th birthday.

URGENT WANTED TO BUY

YOUNG FAMILY:

Looking to buy an affordable home with room for their kids to play.
Prepared to pay between \$450,000 - \$520,000

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Couple downsizing require well maintained unit within walking distance to main street, low maintenance & prefer brick.
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These are genuine buyers and requests.
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38-40 McBride Avenue, Wonthaggi | 5672 1833
www.raywhitewonthaggi.com.au

Real Estate

Premium Mount Eccles dairy farm

WE ARE delighted to present to the market, 37 Bells Road, featuring approximately 208 acres of prime dairy farmland comprising three titles, plus a solid three-bedroom brick veneer home.

Property Features:

- Three titles – 208 acres (84.28ha)
 - 42 paddocks, fully fenced, some electric, with laneway access and good fertiliser history
 - Main irrigation spring-fed dam with power, water licence/and troughs in every paddock supported by five dams
 - Under cover stockyards (approximately 150 head capacity)
 - Six bay machinery shed (16 x 6m) plus further workshop (8 x 3.7m)
 - 18 aside swing-over dairy
 - 8000 litre milk vat
 - Two grain silos and two three-bay hay sheds
 - Four water tanks
 - 60KVA generator
- Home Features:

- Three bedrooms with BIRs and office
- Living area with wood fire and split system heating/cooling
- Bathroom (with a second shower facility in the laundry room)
- Classic original kitchen with electric wall oven, gas cooktop, dishwasher and walk-in pantry
- Some windows are double-glazed providing comfort year-round
- Handy mudroom
- Carport
- Two additional water tanks supply the home

The purchaser would also have the opportunity to lease/purchase an adjoining 73 acres (approximately) if required. Mount Eccles is known for its heavy carrying blue gum country with a strong reliable rainfall. Don't miss your chance to make this property yours. Contact Barry Redmond on 0477 622 292 for more information or to arrange your private inspection!

South Gippsland and Bass Coast



3 1 1 208 Acres*

37 Bells Road, **Mount Eccles**
For Sale \$2,600,000

Agent Nutrien Harcourts
Barry Redmond 0477 622 292
barry.redmond@nh.com.au

*Approximately



Nutrien Harcourts Leongatha

We make it possible

47 Bair Street (03) 5662 2292
nutrien.harcourts.net/au/office/leongatha

FOR SALE



NERRENA

3 2 2

Lifestyle Dream on 1.6 Acres

- Gorgeous small acreage property with shedding.
- Modern kitchen, quality appliances and a walk-in pantry.
- Master bedroom boasts a walk-in robe and ensuite.

\$795,000

FOR SALE



KARDELLA SOUTH

3 2 3

Stunning Home on 8.4 Acres!

- Functional country style kitchen with magnificent views.
- Massive master bedroom with BIR and a stunning ens.
- Paddocks with 2 dams, shelter belts, great shedding.

\$1,100,000 - \$1,150,000

FOR SALE



KORUMBURRA

4 2 2

Charming & Character!

- Stunning family home on approx. 688m² block.
- Beautiful spacious kitchen with butlers pantry.
- Double lock up garage, close to main street.

\$750,000



Barry Redmond
Director / Estate Agent
0477 622 292



Kellie Thomas
Licensed Estate Agent
0438 647 449



Leanne Irvine
Licensed Estate Agent
0475 622 292



Monique Wightman
Marketing & Administration
(03) 5662 2292



Skye Clothier
Sales Associate
(03) 5662 2292

FOR SALE



BUFFALO

3 1 2

'Belle Crae' Outstanding Dairy Farm

- Quality 202 approx. acre dairy farm in 3 titles.
- Contemporary BV home with manicured gardens.
- Fantastic farm amenities.

\$3,636,000

FOR SALE



FISH CREEK

4 2 4

Idyllic Country Living on 28 Acres

- Stunning approx. 28 Acre lifestyle property.
- Modern home with high quality finishes.
- Lovely gardens & Views, 14.4m x 7.36m shed.

\$1,385,000

FOR SALE



LEONGATHA

4 2 2

Stunning Family Home

- Turnkey home on 871m² block in a quiet court.
- Executive kitchen, open plan living.
- Double lock up garage, access for trailer/boat/caravan.

\$950,000

FOR SALE



FOSTER

3 2 2

Modern Living in Foster

- Brand new, light & spacious family home.
- Open plan living with quality fittings & fixtures.
- Large 6x6m double car garage, great location.

\$669,000

FOR SALE



LEONGATHA

3 1 1

Excellent Opportunity!

- Solid brick home on a spacious 743m² block.
- Lovely, spacious kitchen with electric cooking.
- Close to schools, shops and the rec reserve.

\$535,000

FOR SALE



MEENIYAN

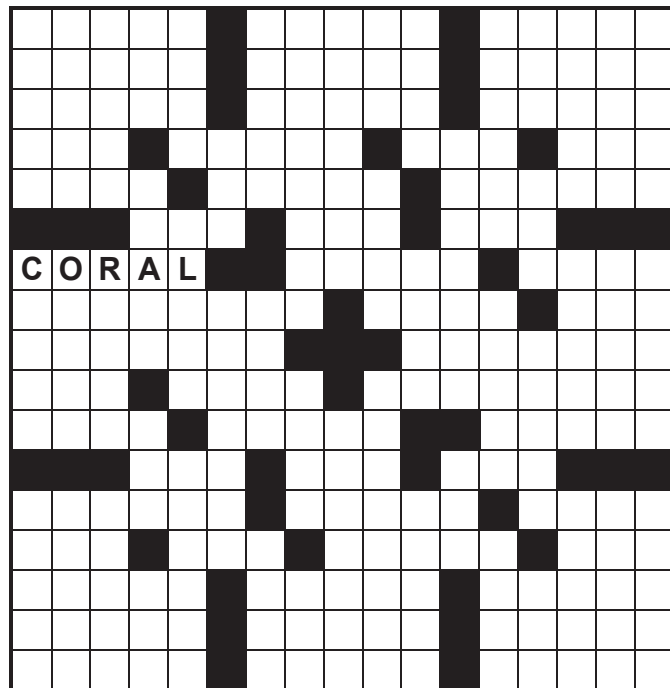
4 2 8

Executive Residence in Meeniyan!

- Luxurious family home on spacious 3,492m² block.
- Fully appointed kitchen with ceaser stone bench tops.
- Massive shed, alfresco area, double lock up car garage.

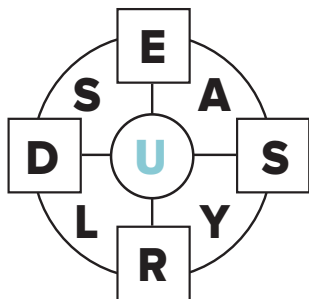
\$1,150,000

No. 197



H	O	R	S	K	N	O	W	L	E
E	A	P	I	T	A	I	V	E	
R	U	S	S	I	A	N			
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39 words: Excellent



ASSUREDLY, auld,
dual, dweil, dæps, dily,
duræss, laud, sæpne
lure, lærn, lured,
leil, leiln, leilæ,
lijs, dæjns, sænjs,
lijs, spns, dæns,
sænjs, prns, sæn,
særns, lijs, sæn,
dæns, sæn

DUET	OMEGA
GOSH	OUNCE
LEER	OUTER
MEND	PIANO
MIST	PLEAD
NEST	PRONE
RUBS	REPEL
RUES	REVUE
SAGA	RHINO

SHONE
SMART
SPEWS
STAIN
STEEP
STEPS
STORE
TAPER
TARTS
TEAKS
THESE
TINTS
TOPAZ
TORSO

TRAIT
TRIPE
TSARS
UNITE
VILLA
WATER
ZESTS

AVARICE
BLUDGER
BROWNER
DESSERT
PASSION
REPTILE

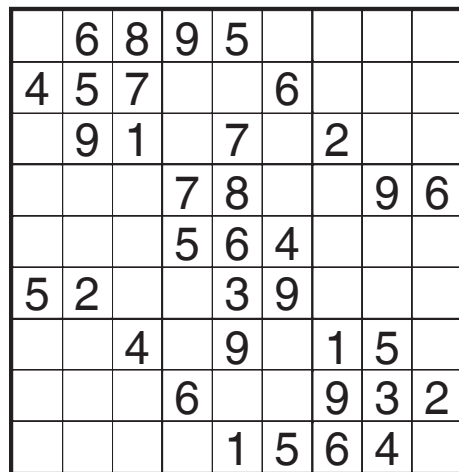
AMENABLE
REGIMENT
RETRACED
SERENADE

AVENUE
ELBOWS
GUARDS
TATTLE

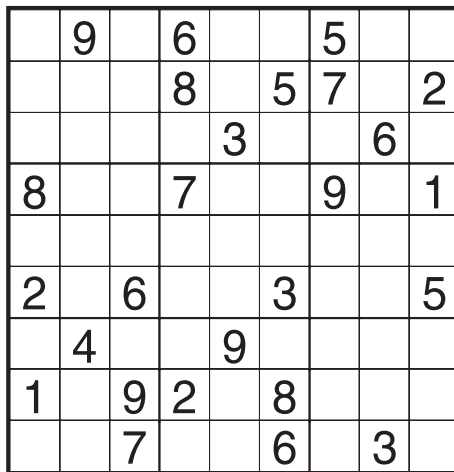
SOLUTION

0407 | PUZZLES AND PAGINATION © **pagemasters.**

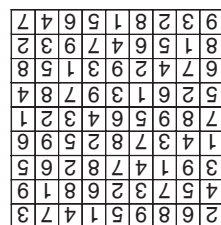
To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every number from 1 to 9 must appear in: each of the nine vertical columns, each of the nine horizontal rows and each of the nine 3×3 boxes. Remember, no number can occur more than once in any row, column or box.



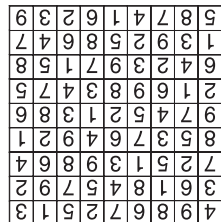
MEDIUM



EASY



MEDIUM



CODING: 1=B, 2=F, 3=N, 4=P, 5=H, 6=L, 7=A, 8=D, 9=S, 10=T, 11=Q, 12=K, 13=Y, 14=W, 15=M, 16=J, 17=X, 18=G, 19=I, 20=R, 21=E, 22=U, 23=Z, 24=V, 25=C, 26=Q

7. Ni is the symbol for which element on the periodic table?
8. What is the name of Ed Sheeran's album released in 2023?
9. Which ancient city is adjacent to the mountain of Jabal Al-Madbah?
10. The Tatra Mountains form a natural border between Poland and which other country?



ANSWERS: 1. Ally McBeal 2. Gerald Ford 3. Trident 4. False 5. Arjel Moore 6. India 7. Nickel 8. Subtract (-) 9. Petra 10. Slovakia

Can you find all the words listed?
The leftover letters will spell out a secret message.

RESEARCH MATURE
OECD VDEPARTM
NEMASTER TAXV
IYENROLIXIGIBAL
MYPMQEDEMORETECP
LHLUA EEDYPACTHI
DEAPRJMRRODEAED
CDCCKORPFELCRA
DNETTADRAANEIAF
SLZTUEUIIASNFST
SUIAIRLNOTESIT
TNUTTBELAIROTUT
ACQLIBRARYEERDU
FHMRODSL LKSEYD
FINANCIALAIDCPE

APPLY	FAIL	NOTES
APTITUDE	FINANCIAL	PASS
ATTEND	AID	PEER
BREAK	GRADE	PHD
CAREER	LECTURE	QUAD
CERTIFICATE	LIBRARY	QUIZ
CREDIT	LOAN	RESEARCH
DEPARTMENT	LUNCH	SKILL
DIPLOMA	MAJOR	STAFF
DORM	MASTER	STUDY
ELECTIVE	MATURE	TEACHER
ENROL	MINOR	TUITION
EXAM	MIXER	TUTORIAL
	MODULE	

SECRET MESSAGE: Everybody procrastinates



Here and now workshop series to empower farmers

A SERIES of expert-led workshops across regional Victoria will empower farmers with future-ready practices for profitable farming and climate resilience.

Agriculture Victoria is sponsoring the Here and Now workshop series at Drouin, Kyabram, Colac and Warrnambool to equip farmers with cutting-edge insights and practical tools to navigate climate challenges and optimise feed farming practices.

Sponsored by the Drought Support Package, these workshops will bring together industry leaders to explore innovative solutions for forage growth, herd management, weather resilience, and technology adoption.

Consultant and ruminant nutritionist Laura Tweddle has created this series, bringing in expert colleagues in each region to provide positive and constructive information and advice. The aim of the series is to give attendees some tools and information to take away that might help in planning for climate variation in their farming business.

The workshops include expert speakers Ms Tweddle, from Aggies Without Borders, meteorologist Jane Bunn (Jane's Weather), and agronomy specialists Damien Adcock (Barenbrug Seeds) and Phil White (Ag Diagnostics). Consultants Steve Ralston (Integral Feed services) and Donna Woerz (Debenham Australia) join the Kyabram and Drouin events.

There will be tailored discussions on region-specific climate drivers, paddock performance, and feed strategies for West Gippsland



Consultant and ruminant nutritionist Laura Tweddle has created this series of workshops, bringing in expert colleagues in each region to provide positive and constructive information and advice.

(Drouin), Goulburn Valley (Kyabram), South West (Colac and Warrnambool).

Topics include weather forecasting, fertility management, digital farming tools (CropX Australia), with business planning (Pinnacle Group) your take-away message with Jessica Connor Kennedy to make the most of your time.

Ms Tweddle says the workshops are about turning today's challenges into tomorrow's opportunities.

"We're bridging the gap between traditional practices and the tech-driven future of farming," she said.

"Understanding local weather drivers is key to resilience and farmers will leave with actionable strategies for their unique conditions."

People can join in-person or online.

Workshop Details:

1. Drouin – July 15, 10.30am, Drouin Family Hotel

Focus: Forage restoration, climate challenges, and herd diet planning.

2. Kyabram – July 22, 10am, Kyabram Fauna Park

Focus: Feed value comparison, business planning, and seasonal insights.

3. Colac – July 29, 10am, COPACC

Focus: Paddock renovation, efficient water use, and fertiliser technology.

4. Warrnambool – August 21, 10am, The Flying Horse

Focus: High-rainfall herd management and agri-tech solutions.

Registration:

Free to attend. Secure your spot via Eventbrite (Here and Now Series). Questions for Jane Bunn can be submitted during RSVP.



Brian McCormack of Nutrien South Gippsland Livestock sells some Morwell steers on Thursday. A19_2725

Feedlot competition drives excellent returns at Leongatha VLE

By Andrew Palocz

STRONG feedlot competition resulted in excellent prices for good quality heavy cattle at Thursday's Store Sale, with Nutrien South Gippsland Livestock offering three big lines of Angus steers, weighing mostly in the 500-600 kilo bracket and making between \$4.80 and a little over \$5 a kilo.

Those lines of feeder steers came from Aquila Fields in Neerim South, Tyers-based Baillie Brothers and Jackson Pastoral in Sale, with feedlot buyers snapping up all those cattle.

A pen of 19 Aquila Fields steers with an average weight of 544 kilos went for \$2750 a head, equating to \$5.05 a kilo.

Fifteen Jackson Pastoral steers, weighing an average of 510 kilos, fetched \$2550 each, a return of \$5 per kilo.

The top pen of Baillie Brothers steers on a per kilo basis made \$4.91 for 23 animals weighing an average of 586 kilos and going for \$2880 each.

Other agents also enjoyed a successful sale.

Sentinel-Times saw a pen of 15 Angus steers, weighing an average of 500 kilos from A. Virgona in Launching Place sold by Jarrod Bennetts of Everitt Seeley and Bennetts for \$2430 a head, a strong return of \$4.86 per kilo.

That followed the sale of a pen of 14 Virgona steers that averaged 605 kilos and went for \$2850 at \$4.71 per kilo.

After wishing business partner David Phelan a happy birthday to the cheers of those present and noting that Phelan & Henderson & Co is celebrating its 10th birthday, Simon Henderson sold a pen of 18 Angus steers from Formbuild in Ventnor.

Those cattle made \$2290 each at \$4.76 per kilo, weighing an average of 481 kilos.

Brian McCormack of Nutrien South Gippsland Livestock stressed it wasn't only the heavy cattle and steers achieving strong prices.

"Everything sold very well, with some of the lighter well-bred steers in the \$4.50 to \$5 range, and the best of the heifers a bit over \$4," he said, with heavier heifers doing best.

Thirteen Angus heifers from D. Whitley, weighing 385 kilos on average, provided a highlight, achieving \$1580 at an excellent \$4.10 a kilo.

"A lot of the heifers were in the \$3.50 to \$3.80 range," Brian said, with even well-bred examples in the 200-odd kilogram bracket still making it into that price range.

Brian put the excellent prices down to ongoing strong northern competition and the reduced number of cattle available.

"It's just supply and demand," he said.

10m³ TIPPER HIRE

MR AGRI

ALL AREAS

Phone Greg

0419 393 375



ELECTRIC FENCE ENERGIZER REPAIRS

Paul Vassil

(Formerly Vassil Electronics)

38 Lower Gordon St, Korumburra

0408 515 184



Wellington Livestock

Where loyalty counts



EXCLUSIVE!

Australian Red Heifers export order

300 to 350kg unjoined or up to

one month in calf \$1,210 inc GST

✓ more EXPORT ORDERS

✓ more LIFESTOCK OPTIONS

✓ more MONEY IN YOUR POCKET

✓ more LOYALTY & BETTER SERVICE

ABS Direct: Cattle processed from Friday to Friday

LIVESTOCK RATES

250+ KG/DW	\$6.00
200 TO 249	\$5.60
160 TO 199	\$5.20
120 TO 159	\$3.20

BULLS PLEASE CALL FOR A BOOKING

BEN BOULTON 0488 445 467

OFFICE: 0429 445 461 www.wellingtonlivestock.net

ALEX SCOTT AND STAFF

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LIVESTOCK AGENTS,
LICENSED REAL ESTATE AGENTS,
PROPERTY MANAGERS, AUCTIONEERS
www.alexscott.com.au

36 BRIDGE STREET, KORUMBURRA PH: 5655 1133 FAX: 5655 2480

Livestock Sales

KORUMBURRA	FOSTER
David Ryan 0408 311 895	Dick Faulkner 0408 595 174
	Brian Vuillermir 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		
GRANTVILLE	WARRAGUL	VENUS BAY
Angus Hall 0466 326 487	Alan Steenholdt 0409 423 822	Daniel Lawrie 0417 631 252
INVERLOCH	PAKENHAM	Sue Lawrie 0419 885 489
Marni Lee Redmond 0403 525 413	Tom Gibson 0438 574 472	
BERWICK	LANG LANG	KOO WEE RUP
Tom Gibson 0438 574 472	Scott McKenzie 0427 552 898	Angus Hall 0466 326 487

SUCCESS THROUGH SERVICE



Free whole farm planning course for farmers

SOUTH Gippsland Landcare Network is now accepting expressions of interest for their climate-smart whole farm planning course led by experienced agricultural consultant Pete Rondals.

The course begins on Wednesday, August 13 and runs weekly for seven weeks. This comprehensive program will give each participant the opportunity to visit five properties that have created successful farming businesses within the last 20 years. A range of different approaches to natural farm asset management and enterprises will be explored.

A stocksense workshop run by the Victorian Farmers Federation and a final farm and action planning day will also be included. This is an excellent opportunity to learn from others in a supportive and judgement-free environment and potentially avoid making costly mistakes on your own property.

All course materials are provided. To find out more or apply please contact kirby@sgln.net.au or 0480 749 731.

ON LINE CLEARING SALE

NUTRIEN LEONGATHA



Auction Start

Fri, 11 July 2025 9am

(SYD, NSW) AEST

Timer on

Mon, 14 July 2025 4pm

(SYD, NSW) AEST

Items include: Claas Tractor-620c 140hp Arion Tractor* 2018 model 3350 hours; Giltrap Quick Hitch; CFMoto Cforce 4x4 Quadbike, 752hours as of 20th June; Spreadrite 3000 electric fence unit; 2.8m Kuhn GMD 355-disc Mower, 2022 model; Kawasaki 450 trail bike 95hours; Redmax YT1842 ride on lawnmower 1059hours; GU Nissan Patrol 4x4; 2020 Kubota RTV-850 sidekick; Accord Spreader CL1100, PTO driven, holds 1.5t of urea; Hardi 2000L Spray Unit with 165m boom, has section control; Howard 3m Rotovator HR40 with Kuhn 20L Seedbox attached, seed box has been attached in last 18months; 62.5kVa, 3 Phase, diesel generator with CAT D33 motor in working order; 20x crane stand feet; Boyd Large Bale 3x1.4m feeder; 5.2x2.9m wooden floor hay trailer; 6x 3m H Beams 170mm thick; 3x 3.55m H Beams 170mm thick; Approximately 300L diesel trailer, has hand pump. Stored outside, has surface rust; Grader blade, fits Grey Massey Ferguson; Single tyne ripper, Fits Grey Massey Ferguson; Jas Smith wool press; Lister Sheering Plant, complete with hand piece and drop piece; 30V Lincwelder. Powered with V4 Wisconsin Petrol Engine; XR190 Honda. 2 year old. No Registration. 227kms. Only selling because bike is no longer required; Gallagher Smart Power MBX2500 fence unit; Wire Spinner; Tree Planter; Goldacres Spotmate 50L Spray tank, e comes with Silvan pump; 15L Backpack sprayer; Ryobi 2 stroke 43CC post auger; Approximately 30 unused sandbags for silage pits; qty of sand bags; 2015 Stihl Mini Boss MS 181c chainsaw and numerous other items.

All photos and details visit
AuctionsPlus.com.au



For further details contact:
Tom Hanrahan 0437 718 055

Farming news

South Gippsland
and Bass Coast

Sentinel-Times



www.sgst.com.au

Aussie avo production experiences 'short-lived' dip

AUSTRALIA is experiencing a dip in avocado production with the 2024/25 crop estimated to be down 15 per cent on last year, a newly released Rabobank report said.

However, the drop in Australia's booming 'avo' production is expected to be short-lived, resulting from the phenomenon of 'alternate bearing' where trees can produce a large crop one year followed by small or no crops the next, according to the report by the agribusiness banking specialist RaboResearch division.

Australian production is forecast to rebound to record volumes of around 170,000 metric tonnes in 2025/26.

Even with the decline in this year's production, there will still be plenty of avocados to go around.

RaboResearch analyst Anna Drake said Australia is estimated to produce 128,000 metric tonnes of fruit in the 2024/25 season – which equates to close to 20 avocados per person a year.

Meanwhile, the world's appetite for avocados continues to grow at a rapid rate, with the global market 'smashing' the USD 20 billion (AUD 30 billion) mark for the first time.

Global avocado export volumes are expanding rapidly, the Rabobank Global Avocado Update 2025 report says.

Ms Drake said growth in new 'bearing acreage' in Australia is starting to slow, with the area planted at the peak of new avocado planting in 2019 now in full production.

"New avocado planting has continued to drop off sharply," she said.

"Avocado tree planting in 2024 was at its lowest level since 1999 and down more than 90 per cent from the highs in 2019, signalling the beginning of a levelling off in crop size."

Ms Drake said while



RaboResearch analyst Anna Drake.

Australian avocado export volumes remained flat in 2024, export prices improved for growers, up 13 per cent year-on-year to AUD 5.18/kg.

"Export volumes to the major destinations of China, Singapore and Malaysia remained almost unchanged year-on-year, while those to India increased sharply after improvement in market access," she said.

Ms Drake said over the past five years, Australian avocado exports had shown impressive growth, with 10 to 15 per cent of production volumes now moving into export channels.

Following the anticipated rebound in Australian avocado production next season, Ms Drake said continued export growth across Australia's key markets will be a critical factor in easing downward pressure on prices for the industry.

Globally, the report said the market continues to grow, with an average annual market value – in terms of consumer prices – now estimated at USD 20.5 billion – more than AUD 30 billion.

RaboResearch senior horticulture analyst David Magana said three main regions represented 88 per cent of this market value – Latin America, North America and Europe.

While Latin America

leads global consumption, the market value in the rest of the world is still low at 12 per cent.

North America has seen a significant increase in avocado demand growth in the past two decades, led by marketing campaigns.

Globally, avocado export volumes are growing rapidly. RaboResearch said, driven by increased production and diversification of exporting countries.

"Amid this rise of new suppliers, seasonal oversupply in certain markets is a concern that will require continued demand creation and marketing strategies," RaboResearch said.

RaboResearch expects global avocado exports to continue to expand in the next few seasons.

"We estimate global avocado exports will surpass three million metric tons by 2026/27, a significant increase from one million metric tons in 2012/13," Mr Magana said.

"This massive growth is the result of increasing exports from the current top three avocado exporters – Mexico, Peru and Colombia – accounting for about two-thirds of global exports."

Another factor, the report says, is the continued diversification of growing regions and the appearance of next exporting countries.

MARKET REPORT

Brought to you by...

CLAAS Harvest Centre **CLAAS**

Feeders hit \$5.00

By SGSAA

AGENTS yarded another very good offering of 2700 head at Thursday's VLE Leongatha store sale.

Angus feeder steers were once again the highlight with prices lifting another 10 – 15 cents with one pen making \$5.05 with a lot of good types making \$4.70 to \$4.90 with feedlots dominating.

Recent rain has finally enticed a few locals back into the market who competed strongly against northern orders on the Angus calves to be a little dearer again.

Coloured and off bred types generally held firm.

Leongatha Store Sale on Thursday, July 3, 2025

Steers			
Steady Gallop 11 Angus	676kg	\$4.13	\$2800
Baillie Bros 18 Angus	610kg	\$4.81	\$2924
Aquila Fields 14 Angus	609kg	\$4.80	\$2930
Sd Alger 10 Angus	600kg	\$4.66	\$2800
Aquila Fields 14 Angus	595kg	\$4.82	\$2870
Baillie Bros 23 Angus	586kg	\$4.91	\$2880
Aps Properties 27 Angus	578kg	\$4.83	\$2800
Aquila Fields 19 Angus	575kg	\$4.87	\$2800
H Kerby 16 Angus	569kg	\$4.82	\$2750
Baillie Bros 13 Angus	561kg	\$4.85	\$2730
Aquila Fields 19 Angus	544kg	\$5.05	\$2750
P Jackson 14 Angus	541kg	\$4.93	\$2670
Aps Properties 16 Angus	523kg	\$4.85	\$2540
Jackson Pastoral 19 Angus	512kg	\$4.87	\$2500
Jackson Pastoral 15 Angus	510kg	\$4.99	\$2550
D Pickersgill 19 Angus	484kg	\$4.93	\$2390
Jackson Pastoral 16 Angus	478kg	\$4.92	\$2360
Jackson Pastoral 16 Angus	474kg	\$4.97	\$2360
G Scanlon 17 Angus	471kg	\$4.66	\$2200
Seanakem 16 Angus	466kg	\$4.71	\$2200
Melaleuca Past 19 Angus	460kg	\$4.77	\$2200
Ironbar Investments Angus	454kg	\$4.40	\$2000
D & M Jackman 13 Angus	453kg	\$4.41	\$2000
Formbuild P/L 35 Angus	450kg	\$4.63	\$2086
Ironbar Investments 23 Angus	443kg	\$4.49	\$1990
S Plowright 8 Red Angus	433kg	\$4.38	\$1900
Ce & M Hams 23 Angus	425kg	\$4.82	\$2050
D & P Whiteley 25 Angus	408kg	\$4.52	\$1850
Down Udder 10 Angus	397kg	\$3.87	\$1540
D Simpson 16 Angus	397kg	\$3.87	\$1540
Jackson Pastoral 15 Angus	510kg	\$4.99	\$2550
T Van Dijk 14 Angus	371kg	\$4.63	\$1720
S Conway 16 Angus	365kg	\$4.84	\$1770
Bimbadeen Angus 10 Angus	356kg	\$4.71	\$1680
J & L Fiddelaers 19 Angus	302kg	\$5.03	\$1520
S Auteri 10 Angus	302kg	\$4.49	\$1360

Heifers			
D & P Whiteley 13 Angus	385kg	\$4.09	\$1580
Horseman Management 17 Angus	363kg	\$3.88	\$1410
B Dungey 15 Angus	327kg	\$3.90	\$1280
Ranleigh Downs 20 Angus	325kg	\$3.68	\$1200
R Perrett 15 Angus	302kg	\$2.72	\$830
B Dungey 10 Angus	295kg	\$3.55	\$1050
G & L Simmons 16 Hereford	285kg	\$3.51	\$1000
Ranleigh Downs 18 Angus	280kg	\$3.52	\$990
J & L Fiddelaers 10 Angus	260kg	\$3.45	\$900
Ranleigh Downs 23 Angus	254kg	\$3.57	\$910
D Webb 10 Angus	249kg	\$2.81	\$700
C Baird 18 Sp	242kg	\$3.13	\$760
Ranleigh Downs 24 Angus	225kg	\$3.76	\$850

Lardner Park Calf Market Report Monday, June 30, 2025

Jersey & Jersey x	\$18 to \$27
Friesian Bulls	\$25 to \$90
Beef Bulls	\$46 to \$205
Beef Heifers	\$60 to \$80
Friesian Heifers	\$46 to \$57
Number of Calves:	134
Number purchased to rear:	35

Elders & Alex Scott & Staff Dairy Sale

11th July at Lardner Park

SALE CANCELLED



Alex Scott & Staff
Terry Ahearn 0438 562816



Elders Pakenham 03 5941 0299
Darryl Adams 0408 385 872



New Food & Fibre Gippsland CEO, Simon Johnson alongside Chair, Barry Rogers.

Food & Fibre Gippsland appoints new CEO

FOOD & Fibre Gippsland has announced the appointment of Simon Johnson as its new Chief Executive Officer, effective as of Wednesday, July 2.

Simon brings over two decades of leadership experience and a deep commitment to the region's food and fibre industries. With a 20-year tenure at CHEP, a Brambles company, and more recently as owner-operator of the iconic Tinamba Hotel, Simon blends strategic business acumen with grassroots regional engagement.



Bass Coast avoids VFF farm rate hit list

By Bruce Wardley

BASS Coast Shire may have avoided the Victorian Farmers Federation (VFF) hit list for the five worst farm rate rises in 2025/26, but local farmers are still not happy.

A review of farm rates by the Bass Coast Branch of the VFF revealed local farmers are paying a third more for their rates this year than they were five years ago.

The Victorian Government's local government rate capping policy isn't working according to the VFF, particularly for farmland along the coast.

VFF President Brett Hosking said farmers continue to get the raw end of the stick.

"We won't stand idle and watch the burden of funding for key services rely more and more on the agricultural sector from rates to the fundamentally wrong Emergency Services and Volunteers Fund (ESVF).

"Farmers are wondering when the financial hits will stop."

"When you've got one group of taxpayers in some cases facing double-digit rate increases, there can be no doubt the system is flawed," said Mr Hosking.

"Some farmers face increases in the tens of thousands of dollars."

VFF Bass Coast Branch has calculated that the average farm rate assessment based on Bass Coast's 2025/26 budget is \$3963 compared to \$2391 for commercial premises and \$1690 for residential ratepayers.

Residential rates have barely moved in 10 years according to the VFF.

Secretary of the VFF Bass Coast Branch Faye Tuchtan said differential rates for farmers are not



Rating structures rarely account for the ability of a farmer to pay according to Faye Tuchtan secretary VFF Bass Coast Branch. B04_2725

discounts but adjustments reflecting the imbalance of the rating system.

"Farmers in general pay more in rates than urban areas," said Ms Tuchtan.

"Rating structures rarely account for the ability of a farmer to pay.

"Land is a farmer's working capital and should not be taxed.

"The farm soil provides the population with food and fibre.

"The fundamental principle should be that as the value of farmland increases the rate differential should be adjusted to reduce the rate burden paid by farmers."

Rather than setting the farm rate differential at a fixed percentage of the general rate, the Bass Coast Branch of the VFF has proposed a rating strategy for farmland with an upper and lower limit.

They have also asked for a reduction in the farm rate differential to at least 75 per cent.

According to the VFF, farmers may have significant wealth in the form of farmland but often low capacity to pay for reasons beyond their control such as weather conditions or markets.

Faye Tuchtan and Graham Wood may have recently retired after farming in Grantville since the late 80s but the day-to-day challenges faced by farmers are never far from their minds.

"At least I don't have to pull on the gumboots anymore and feed out," said Faye.

A major problem for Bass Coast farmers according to the VFF is the Capital Improved Value of the land which is impacted by the proximity of Bass Coast to Melbourne and the occasional sale of large parcels of land on Phillip Island.

"One big sale of farmland puts the rates up for everyone," said Graham.

Farm rates in Bass Coast have

jumped from \$3000 to \$4000 in five years.

"Values have gone up because of the proximity to town.

"People from Melbourne like being in the country and close to the coast," said Faye.

"Bass Coast Shire is very fertile country.

"Capital Improved Value (CIV) is set by the State, not local government.

"They don't assess farms individually."

Rates are a huge impost on farmers said Faye, especially when there's a drought.

"Farming is a pure gamble.

"You rely on the rain, prices in the saleyards and the cost of fertiliser, feed and fuel."

Graham Wood said what is needed is a five-year rolling average for farm rates.

"It is not unusual for a farmer to go a couple of years without an income but still have to pay rates every year," he said.

"A couple of big sales on Phillip Island could then be averaged out."

"The ESVF which is a levy (or tax) is also a problem," said Graham.

"Farmers will be paying three times what they were before on this levy.

"Some years it is hard to make a profit. This year was extremely hard with no grass and no growth until spring.

"Not much hay was baled last spring because of the drought and some farmers had to buy in feed from Western Australia and Queensland.

"We're so lucky to have been able to retire and not go through this drought," said Faye.

"Big bills play on your mind."

Burra Foods lifts season opening milk price again

BURRA Foods delivered another step up in its milk price on Friday, rising to a range of \$9 to \$9.50 per kilogram of milk solids, having originally announced a price range of \$8.60 to \$9.10/kgMS ahead of the new milk season.

The latest announcement follows an earlier increase to between \$8.80 and \$9.30/kgMS.

At the time of that first step up, Burra CEO Stewart Carson explained in his letter to suppliers that the company's sales team had been busy engaging with customers to negotiate prices for the second half of the year, with the leadership team having reviewed the outcome of the market visits.

It was explained that sales price and volume, production output and costs and the overall impact on Burra's financial forecast were considered, with the determination made that a price step up was justified.

Mr Carson advised the business's milk suppliers on July 4 that, "After reviewing our competitive position, Burra Foods would like to announce an increase to their minimum opening price for the FY26 season of \$0.20/kgMS."

Other processors have also stepped up their original offers for the new milk season, with Bulla having upped its price three times, now providing a range of \$9.15 - \$9.95/kgMS, after starting at \$8.40 - \$9.20/kgMS.



Jersey Australia general manager Glen Barrett, Genetics Australia export manager Rob Derksen, Australian Jersey farmer Con Glennen and Brad Gavenlock from Agri Gene showcased Australian Jersey genetics in New Zealand recently.

Australian Jerseys showcased to New Zealand

AUSTRALIAN Jersey genetics have been showcased at the southern hemisphere's largest agricultural event in New Zealand as the breed seeks to capitalise on the success of this year's World Conference.

Jersey Australia was joined by Genetics Australia and Agri Gene at the Mystery Creek Field Days near Hamilton from June 11 to 14 and also hosted a nearby farmer day. It was the first time Jersey Australia has hosted a site at Mystery Creek and follows the success of the World Jersey Conference hosted by Jersey Australia in April.

"It aimed to build on the strong interest in Australian Jerseys at the World Conference and to look at opportunities in the New Zealand market for Australian Jersey genetics," Jersey Australia general manager Glen Barrett said.

"We had a highly positive response with good visitor numbers and a lot of genuine interest. The most pleasing thing was how many people are already using the

products and how many of them plan to use more.

"There was a lot of positive feedback and very positive engagement, which enabled us to build in the momentum of the World Conference."

A separate farmer day organised with ST Genetics, Genetics Australia's New Zealand distributor, at Aaron and Jerushah Courage Jersey farm attracted more than 50 people who also heard presentations from Mr Barrett, Genetics Australia export manager Rob Derksen and Australian Jersey farmer Con Glennen.

The pure Jersey population in New Zealand is less than 10 per cent of the market, cross breeds - usually a Jersey-Holstein Kiwi cross mix - are about 60 per cent, and Holsteins 30-35 per cent.

Jersey New Zealand president Julie Pirie, who visited Australia for the World Conference, says the future for Jerseys in New Zealand is bright.

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A/c Fulton Farm, Main Ridge (ELDERS)
40 Angus steers, 16 mths, Drysdale 'The Lilly' Bred, forward condition & quiet, LT, GF & ABF
A/c Tulla Holdings, Leongatha (ELDERS)
25 Angus steers, 16-18 mths, VB, GF, ABF & NE Accred
A/c M & S Brown, Drouin West (BAW BAW)
18 Angus steers, 24 mths
A/c Ecclesall P/L, Red Hill (ELDERS)
15 Angus steers, 16-17 mths, Pure Lawson blood, LT, GF & ABF

GROWN HEIFERS

A/c Rosebank, Foster (ELDERS)
47 Angus heifers, 16-18 mths, Monaro Dist bred, GF & ABF
A/c Tulla Holdings, Leongatha (ELDERS)
20 Angus heifers, 16-18 mths, VB, GF, ABF & NE Accred

A/c T Narum, Thorpdale (ELDERS)
12 Angus heifers, 16-18 mths, GF & ABF

WEANERS

A/c Sara Madden P/L, Tuerong (ELDERS)
35 Angus mix sex weaners, 9-10 mths, Pure Francs blood, weaned & quiet, VB, GF & ABF
A/c Somers Electrical, Binginwarri (ELDERS)
25 Angus mixed sex weaners, 10-12 mths, VB, GF & ABF
A/c D&K Bowman, Woorarra (ELDERS)
16 Angus mix sex weaners, 10 mths, VB, GF & ABF
A/c H. McPhie (ALEX SCOTT)
14 Angus steers, 10 mths, weaned, very quiet

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A/c M & S Brown, Drouin West (BAW BAW)
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A/c P. Peluso, Mirboo North (ALEX SCOTT)
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DEATHS

FINLAY
(nee Fitzgerald), Mary:

Passed away peacefully surrounded by her family.

Aged 90 years.

Beloved wife of Bill (dec.) for 67 years.

Loving “Mum” and mother-in-law of Ian and Kylie, Anne, Leigh and Gary, Graeme and Tracey, Greg and Lorraine, Karen and Michael.

Adored “Nanna” to 15 grandchildren, 13 great grandchildren and 2 more on the way.

Mum and Dad together again

DEATHS

FINLAY, Mary:

Mum may no longer be with us, but the love she gave us and the lessons she taught will stay with us forever.

We will miss her every day, but we comforted knowing she's with dad.

Forever in our hearts.

Love always Ian and Kylie; Aaron, Jodie, Lily and Ava; Nathan, Emma, Ivy and June; Nikita and Justin.

DEATHS

FINLAY, Mary:

“Mum/Nana” the epitome of grace, unwavering love and loyalty.

You showed us the purest form of care, commitment and dedication, and are the very person who made us who we are today.

Our idol and hero.

You were the best mum and nana we could have ever asked for and we are so blessed to have your love, strength and values to pass on to our own families.

While nothing will ever fill the void that is left in your absence, we are honored to have been by your side in those final moments, supporting you as you have done for us all our lives.

Reunited with the love of your life and forever in our memories and hearts.

Hold grandad tight, the angels have you now.

Love you heaps.

Greg and Lorraine, Elise and Jayden, Jessica, Jack and Jagger xx

DEATHS

GOIRIS, John Richard:

15.11.1932 - 30.06.2025.

Passed away peacefully surrounded by his family.

Loving husband of Irma.

Loved “Dad” and father-in-law of Evie and Barry, Mark and Sue, Paul and Dolly, Emma and Steve.

Adored “Grandpa” to all his grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Forever in our Hearts

DEATHS

HARRIS, Cherie:

On Friday 4, July we said a very sad farewell to Cherie.

Mother and mother-in-law of Genevie and Calvin.

Loving wife of Kenny John.

Dear “Oma” to Piah and Elle.

Aunt to Mark, Carly and James.

She will be dearly missed by so many family and friends.

A beautiful soul lost.

Now at Peace.

DEATHS

HUGHES, Faye:

Passed away June 27, 2025.

Loved sister-in-law of Wendy and Gary.

Aunt of Jy and Kade.

Treasured memories.

DEATHS

MOTTON, Ralph:

06.07.2025.

Our deepest sympathy to Gianna, Danielle, Tania and families.

Your knowledge, coaching and witty jokes will be sorely missed at the range by the members and friends of the Outtrim and District Pistol Club.

You always left a lasting impression on everyone who met you.

Forever hitting the bullseye and bagging out on the whiting.

R.I.P.

Members of Outtrim and District Pistol Club.

DEATHS

TERRANOVA, Sebastiano:

On 30 June, aged 93 years.

With deep sadness, we announce the passing of our beloved Sebastiano.

Dearly loved husband of Maria. Cherished father of Josie and David, Frank and Franca, Sam and Andrea, Tita and Sam and Giuseppe.

Adored Nonno to Sarah and Reagan, Tess, Christina, Sebastian, Taylor and Khanitha, Kyan, Jack, Zoe, Sabrina, Eliana, Francesco and great grandchild Ari.

Survived by siblings Salvatore and in-law Lina, Maria and in-law Paolo, Carmela and in-law Pasquale; in-laws Giuseppa and Sebastiano, Lina, Tina, and their families, along with many nieces and nephews.

A long life devoted to family.

Forever in our hearts.

DEATHS

MULDOON (nee Cole), Linda Christine:

Late of Loch and Cranbourne South.

Passed away suddenly on June 21, in Hervey Bay, QLD.

Youngest daughter of Chris and Joan Cole (both dec.).

Adored wife of Jim and mother of Christopher, Nicholas and Thomace and D.I.L Emma.

Dearly loved sister of Cynthia Gane.

DEATHS

Linda will be laid to rest at Bunurong Memorial Park, 790 Frankston-Dandenong Rd, Dandenong South on Friday, 11 July, following a service in the Stratus Chapel commencing at 12.30pm.

Arrangements with Lang Lang Funeral Service 0449 220 652.

DEATHS

FINLAY, Mary:

Mum, You were the heart of our family, warm, wise and endlessly loving.

Mum you were a strong woman in every sense of the word.

If we needed something you were there to guide and help us.

Words cannot convey how much we will miss you.

Hopefully you're forever caravanning with your beloved Bill.

You little tiger.

Love forever Graeme, Tracey, Phoebe, Claire and Louise.

Gave her love freely and completely.

DEATHS

FINLAY, Mary:

In loving memory of Mary Finlay, “Mother, Nana and Great Nana”, who tirelessly shared her love and life with her family keeping generations of family together.

Mary leaves a legacy of resilience, courage, and selflessness inspiring generations to persevere and thrive in unity.

Rest in Peace our beloved.

Annie; Sahlia, Rob, Roman and Malachi; Sequoia, Lucas, Ezra and Asher.

DEATHS

FINLAY, Mary:

Loved sister-in-law of Col and Glenda (both dec.). Loved aunty of Michael and Christine, Vicki and Chris and their families.

Our love and deepest sympathy to all the family.

DEATHS

HUGHES, Faye Lorraine:

Passed away peacefully on 27.06.2025.

Loved wife of Allan.

Loving mother of Phillip, Clint, Brett, Darren (dec.), and Craig.

Adored by her grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Always Remembered.

DEATHS

MOTTON, Leslie Ralph:

Born 18 Feb 1944 - Passed 6 July 2025.

To our dear friend Ralph.

We are devastated by your passing but so thankful for your amazing friendship.

We had so much fun together, travelling to the Amputee Rehab Clinic.

Ralph, your life story would be an inspiration for any young go-getters!

Peter (SOR) and Caroline Dunlevie.

DEATHS

MOTTON, Ralph:

Our deepest condolences to Gianna, Danielle, Tania and Shane, on the sad passing of Ralph.

A well-known and liked gentlemen who used life to the fullest.

He will be loved and remembered always.

Allan and Jenny Rowe.

DEATHS

PEARSON, Kylie Jane:

13.06.1974 - 17.06.2025.

Sadly left us after a short illness.

Loved sister and sister-in-law of Trevor and Helena, Wendy and Scott, Vicki and John and families.

“Memorial Service”

PEARSON:

A Memorial Service will be held at the Leongatha RSL this Thursday, 10 July, at 11am.

DEATHS

HARRIS:

The Funeral Service for Mrs. Cherie Harris will be held at Handley and Anderson Chapel, 3085 Loch-Wonthaggi Road, Monday Week, July 21, 2025, commencing at 11am.

A private cremation will follow.

DEATHS

HUGHES:

The Funeral Service for Mrs. Faye Lorraine Hughes will be held at Handley and Anderson Chapel, 3085 Loch-Wonthaggi Road, Monday Week, July 21, 2025, commencing at 3pm.

A private cremation will follow.

Handley & Anderson

FUNERAL DIRECTORS

Servicing South Gippsland & Phillip Island

Locally owned and operated by

Scott & Sharon Anderson

5672 1074

Caring and personal 24 hour Service

Main office Wonthaggi
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.

Handley & Anderson

FUNERAL SERVICES

Wonthaggi 5672 1074

At the conclusion of the service the funeral will leave for the Wonthaggi Cemetery.

Handley & Anderson Wonthaggi 5672 1074

Handley & Anderson

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46 | TUESDAY, JULY 8, 2025 | SOUTH GIPPSLAND SENTINEL-TIMES

Sentinel-Times Classifieds

FOR SALE

**OLD PORT
POULTRY FARM:**
18 week old Isa Brown
laying hens.
Available from Sunday
01.06.2025 \$32 each.
Pick up Alberton.
Ph: 0438 832 535.

GARAGE SALES

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All items free.
35 Neptune Street,
Cape Paterson.
Thursday, 10 July.
9am-12pm.

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Towing now available.
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NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS:

Advertisements offering a
used motor car for sale must
include in the advertisement:
(a) The cash price of the
motor car; and
(b) Whichever of the
following is applicable...
• If the motor car is
registered, the registration
number; or
• If the motor car is
unregistered, the engine
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Call 5672 1888
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WANTED TO BUY

**WANTED ANTIQUES,
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To share with
male owner.
Fully furnished.
\$250 p/w.
One month bond.
References preferred.
Contact Antonia.
0410 843 393.
costie2013@gmail.com

PUBLIC NOTICES

**ISLAND CRAFT
MARKET**
Thompson Ave.
Cowes

Saturday, July 12
9am - 2pm

Stall holders
wanted - craft only
Inquiries: Monica
0412 710 276

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Make
Changes?**

Jason Crestani,
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Psychologist!

Over 28 years
experience
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Sees children &
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**Mature
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SITUATIONS VACANT

Employment Opportunities

School Crossing Supervisors

- Ongoing part time
- Base Salary \$12,897 + 12% superannuation
- Monday to Friday 8.10am to 9.00am and 3.10pm to 4.00pm, during school terms
- Based in Korumburra and Foster

Enquiries to Sarah Male, Coordinator
Community Safety on 5662 9200

Applications close when suitable
candidates are identified

For more information and to apply,
please visit

www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/employment

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.



Qualified Carpenter Wanted

We are seeking an energetic, passionate,
trustworthy, qualified carpenter for a
permanent full time (Monday-Friday)
subcontractor position within a
small family run business.

Must have own transport and tools,
and be willing travel up to 1 hour
from our base at Wonthaggi.

Hourly rate offered to be based
on experience level.

We offer a diverse range of working
opportunities ranging from small scale
renovation work through to large new
homes, from set out to handover the ideal
candidate will have the opportunity to be
involved in every aspect of our builds. The
candidate shall also mentor and teach
apprentices the trade.

**Flexible work hours available if
requested, please call Brad on**
0428 496 266 to discuss further.



Expressions of Interest - Cleaning Services

Leongatha Office and Leongatha Depot

Expressions of Interest (EOI) are invited
from suitably qualified contractors to provide
Cleaning Services for the Authority's
two Leongatha premises.

The contract is for a period of three years
with the option of a further
two years and will commence on
Monday September 1, 2025.

West Gippsland CMA will run a tour of both
premises on Wednesday July 16.

This will provide an opportunity for you
to inspect the premises and ask any
questions prior to submitting your EOI.

Applicants must submit an EOI using the
online Provision of Cleaning Services
Form available on our website -
wgma.vic.gov.au.

For further details or to register your
interest in a tour, contact Janine Clark,
on 5613 5960.

**EOI submissions must be received
by 5pm Monday July 28, 2025**

Maintenance Technician - Electrical



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)

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
- SGW Enterprise Agreement Band 7 \$91,505.57-\$101,070.60 + Leave Loading + Superannuation

Please go to <https://www.sgwater.com.au/careers/>
for more details about SGW, the role and how to apply

Applications Close Tuesday, July 15, 2025 at 5pm

1300 851 636 | www.sgwater.com.au

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

Office Hours:
9am-5pm Monday to Friday

Payments accepted:



Advertising conditions:

Full name and address of advertiser must be
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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



South Gippsland Team Leader

Gippsland Ports is a provider of waterway management, dredging, marine infrastructure and asset management services along the Gippsland coast from Anderson Inlet to Mallacoota.

We are currently seeking a suitably qualified and experienced person to assist the Manager to accomplish all aspects of day-to-day operations of the **Port Welshpool Depot**, including administration and programming of works, on-the-job supervision of staff, adherence to OHS policies and procedures and to take a lead role in the construction, repair and maintenance of marine based assets.

The ideal candidate should have strong construction experience and knowledge, good interpersonal and supervisory skills, and be able to work independently and in a team environment.

Enquiries about this position should be directed to the South Gippsland Manager, Jake Griffin on 0400 932 576.

To be considered for this position, candidates must address the key selection criteria found within the position description.

For a full position description and application details, please visit our website www.gippslandports.vic.gov.au/employment.php or phone Jaine Watt, Human Resources Coordinator on 0417 489 936.

Applications close on Thursday, July 17, 2025

VJ0307



Administration Officer (Part-Time)

Commencing July 2025 | 7.5 hours per week

Meenyan Preschool is seeking an experienced and motivated Administration Officer to support the efficient operation of our community-run kindergarten. This is a part-time position commencing in July 2025.

Key Requirements:

- Demonstrated experience in administration, bookkeeping, payroll, and financial recordkeeping.
- Proficiency in managing budgets, reconciliations, and general financial operations.
- Strong organisational and time-management skills; ability to work independently.
- Excellent interpersonal skills and a collaborative working style with staff and committee members.
- Competency in using computer-based accounting/bookkeeping software.
- Current Working with Children Check (or willingness to obtain).

For a position description or for further enquiries please contact Melissa McRae via email president.meenyan@kindergarten.vic.gov.au.

Applications, including a cover letter, must be submitted by Close of Business, **Friday, July 18, 2025.**

JEN2354



South Gippsland Hospital

Positions Vacant

Allied Health Assistant - Casual
AHA, Grade 2

Kitchen Assistant - Casual
Food and Domestic Assistant, Grade 2

For more information:
<https://southgippslandhospital.com.au/employment-2/>

Volunteer Expression of Interest
Volunteer Catering Administration Assistant
For more information call
Annie on 5683 9704
www.southgippslandhospital.com.au/volunteers

JA03342



DEBENHAM
Australia Pty Ltd

Office Administrator / Receptionist

• Debenham Australia • Permanent Full Time

We are a locally owned business in Leongatha seeking a confident, friendly and enthusiastic Office Administrator, looking for a long-term future with progression and growth. The position is permanent full time, the hours are Monday to Friday. It is essential that the successful applicant be computer literate and be confident with word, excel, data entry and confident phone manner.

You will need to have a high attention to detail and deliver accurate work. A strong work ethic and time management skills are required as you must have the ability to multi-task in a busy office environment. You will need to be well presented, confident with a pleasant manner.

This position will suit a person who wants to be part of a dynamic workplace undertaking a diverse role

Immediate Start

To apply, submit your CV with references to jade@debenham.com.au

Applications close C.O.B Monday, 21st July, 2025

VJ0308



Executive Real Estate Sales Assistant

Part Time - Leongatha

About the Role:

We are seeking a highly organised, proactive, and detail-oriented individual to join a dynamic real estate business as an Executive Sales Assistant. This is a fantastic opportunity for someone passionate about real estate to contribute to a successful and growing business. The successful candidate will work closely with the sales agent, providing crucial administrative and marketing support and general reception duties to help deliver a high level of client service.

Key Responsibilities:

- **Administrative & General Office Support.**
- **Marketing & Sales Support.**
- **Client Relationship Management.**
- **Sales Process Support.**

Skills and Qualifications:

- **Experience:** Previous experience in a similar administrative or executive assistant role, ideally within the real estate industry preferred but not essential.
- **Organisation & Time Management:** Ability to manage multiple tasks, prioritise effectively, and meet deadlines in a fast-paced environment.
- **Communication Skills:** Excellent written and verbal communication skills. Strong interpersonal skills and the ability to interact professionally with clients and colleagues.
- **Technical Skills:** Proficient in Microsoft Office Suite (Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook). Experience with real estate CRM systems and social media is an advantage.

To Apply or for further information:

Please submit your resume and cover letter outlining your relevant experience and qualifications to Christie Nelson by Tuesday, July 15, 2025:

Christienelson@atrealty.com.au

JEN2351

Shape the future

Make a world of difference in the world of water.

AMIS Coordinator (12 months, Full Time, Band 5)

We are looking for a motivated team member to join our Asset Strategy, Planning & Performance Team at our Phillip Island HQ.

Oversee the systems that manage our assets and maintenance activities and the processes that support them.

Applications close 23 July 2025

For application details go to www.westernportwater.com.au



WESTERNPORT
WATER

Anglicare Victoria signs on to support young people

ANGLICARE Victoria will manage and deliver youth services in the Bass Coast region from this month providing a host of activities for young people in a safe and inclusive environment. Anglicare Victoria Program Manager Jane Kennard said the organisation was excited to be supporting young people aged 12-25 across the region in partnership with Bass Coast Shire Council and the local community.

"This is such a fantastic opportunity, and we are looking forward to working with Bass Coast Shire Council to help young people make new friends and connections that will enhance their health and wellbeing," said Ms Kennard.

"Most of the services will be based at the YES Youth Hub in Wonthaggi but they will extend throughout the Bass Coast area."

The Youth Hub has been a valuable space for young people to hang out since 2019, and Anglicare Victoria is planning to expand this important work and provide even more activities and options.

"Loneliness is a challenge for people of all ages," said Ms Kennard.

"The YES Youth Hub plays such an important role in connecting young people who are feeling isolated. If any local businesses or community groups are interested in being involved with the Youth Hub please get in touch and we can discuss how we can work together."

Anglicare Victoria Hub Coordinator Bella Green said the youth hub was a great place for young people to come and feel safe.

"We look forward to forging strong relationships with young people and will be looking to co-design some programs with their help."

"We are planning to re-launch the Youth Advisory Committee so if any young people are interested in getting involved, we would love to hear from them."

PUBLIC NOTICES

Additional Council Meeting



Bass Coast Shire Council will be holding an additional Council Meeting on **Wednesday, 9 July.**

The meeting will commence at 1:00pm in the Council Chamber, Bass Coast Civic Centre, Baillieu Street East, Wonthaggi.

The purpose of this meeting is to consider the Final Draft Bass Coast Statement of Planning Policy.

The agenda is available on Council's website at www.basscoast.vic.gov.au/meetings.

PUBLIC NOTICES

Exhibit with us in 2026 at STOCKYARD GALLERY FOSTER

Our dedicated team enables you to showcase your artistry in our vibrant space, guiding you through every step from marketing to celebration day.

Applications open now:
e: stockyardgallery@dcsl.net.au

Bastille Day takes a lighter note in Foster

By Andrew Paloczi

FOSTER got the jump on France, celebrating Bastille Day early on Saturday, and with a hint of revolution in the air, everyone had a marvellous time sampling delightful French treats savoury and sweet, local musicians Rebecca Bone and Fiona Curram singing numbers suited to the occasion.

At Foster Bowls Club, attendee David Pye, resplendent in suit and top hat on an unseasonably warm day, rekindled the revolutionary spirit of times past by bringing his homemade guillotine, to the delight of the event's organisers from Manna Gum Community House.

David's contribution ensured good behaviour from all guests after they arrived to find one head had been lost, that belonging to an unfortunate doll.

This scribe started his eating in reverse, the temptation of a delicious and light Madeleine proving too tempting, but on the savoury side delights such as beef bourguignon pie proved just as tasty.

A Basque cheesecake, macarons and mini Paris-Brest were a few of the other sweet offerings.

"It's a little choux pastry, and you cut it in half (horizontally) and fill it up with, normally, crème pâtissière," French woman and organiser Noelle Bonnin said of the latter, and while she was unsure what the maker used on this occasion it



Volunteers David Pollard, Joyce Wright, Jenny Cunningham and Noelle Bonnin served up a delightful assortment of French food. A22_2725

can be confirmed it was delicious.

Among Noelle's contributions was a tart featuring pears cooked in wine, topped with crème pâtissière.

She reduced some of the red wine to make a syrup that added to the tart's lovely taste.

Described by Noelle as a Francophile, David Pollard was responsible for the Madeleines, the Sentinel-Times chatting to him about the secrets of their lightness and taste.

"They're basically butter and eggs," he said, adding that a lot of other stuff goes in and you have to leave the mixture in the fridge overnight to set, then cook for 10 minutes at 250 degrees.

Lemon zest, honey and salt provide the burst of flavour David said before outlining the efforts of his wife Linley who

contributed the beef bourguignon pies, the bourguignon process requiring patience but clearly worth the effort.

Richard Tytler spoke to the Sentinel-Times while enjoying his lunch, being one of Noelle's French conversation students, explaining that her classes are for those who have previously spoken the language and want to rekindle that passion.

Noelle tends to pick out a poem or a short story for the students to read and translate, which leads into French conversation.

While those classes are currently in recess, they are intended to start again when there are large enough participant numbers, Foster's U3A offers French language classes for beginners.

Noelle was largely pleased with the French singing of

Rebecca and Fiona, although not shy to give them some tips on how to improve.

The audience enjoyed songs such as 'Alouette' and 'Sur le pont d'Avignon' and the delight of Noelle joining the performance for a number to the tune of Waltzing Matilda, everyone singing Frère Jacques in rounds after attendees were divided into three groups.

Something was lost in the translation when Rebecca and Fiona had a crack at singing Waltzing Matilda in French, relying on the contribution of Artificial Intelligence.

"It sounded like you were going to waltz with a kettle," Noelle told them to everyone's delight.

It was a marvellous afternoon and a great way to raise valuable funds for Manna Gum Community House.

Wonthaggi Acoustic Music Festival an outstanding success

ANYONE who likes folk music would have loved the Wonthaggi Acoustic Music Festival at the Wonthaggi Town Hall over the weekend.

Extended from a one-day event to a three-day festival from Friday evening through to late Sunday afternoon, the Wonthaggi Acoustic Music Festival was well supported by enthusiastic music lovers from throughout Gippsland and beyond.

The jam-packed program of acoustic music included a street band, workshops in singing, an afternoon of local musicians, and an evening concert featuring the Bass Coast Pickers and award-winning Davidson Brothers.

Hamish and Lachlan Davidson grew up in Yinnar playing music and performing from a young age, now with eight albums under their belt the



Invy Horn Jam Street Band entertained early morning shoppers in Wonthaggi as part of the Wonthaggi Acoustic Music Festival.

Davidson Brothers have built a reputation for being one of Australia's hottest bluegrass acts.

With five Australian Country Music Awards (Golden Guitars) to their name and a handful of Australian Bluegrass Championship titles,

the Davidson Brothers were a crowd favourite on Saturday night well supported by the Bass Coast Pickers.

Strat and Lyndal and Jim, and the John Flanagan Band opened the festival Friday night with the Invy Horn

Street Jam getting things jumping Saturday morning with Emerald By-Law Duo and Mojo Dreaming.

Tracey Miller and the ACDC choir continued the entertainment on Saturday afternoon with Los LLajtay Mantas, Karavanna Flamenca and Smiley Doherty.

Karavana Flamenca have been the support act for international giants the Gipsy Kings and have performed at a number of major festivals and events around Australia including the Port Fairy Folk Festival, Canberra National Folk Festival and Cygnet Folk Festival.

A gospel singing workshop with Jacqui and Dani Paulson got things moving Sunday morning, followed by Learn a Tune or Two, WAM Band, Canti Popolari and Keachange before an Open Mic session Sunday afternoon.

Scam call almost costs local business, experts step in

IN A world where technology connects us more than ever, it also opens doors for cybercriminals to exploit unsuspecting victims often with nothing more than a phone call. Recently, a Leongatha-based business narrowly avoided a major security breach after they received a phone call from someone claiming to be technical support. The caller sounded legitimate, instructed the client to install software, and assured them it would fix a "critical issue" on their device. But in reality, this was no support call; it was a sophisticated scam attempt.

The scammer discussed with the director of the company

about his browsing habits and about the websites that the director uses to conduct his business activities and then advised him the dos and don'ts to gain his trust before gaining access to his device.

"The scammer has built a profile of the director for some time by monitoring him before the attack," said a spokesperson from IT Solutions in Gippsland. "It seemed genuine," said the company director, who asked to remain anonymous.

"They knew our basic setup they were convincing."

Once access is granted, scammers can silently install malware, steal login credentials,

and even drain bank accounts, all while the victim remains unaware.

Fortunately, IT Solutions in Gippsland, a Leongatha-based cybersecurity provider, acted quickly. Using advanced threat detection software, the team identified the malicious activity within moments.

"We noticed unusual behaviour on the network and acted immediately," said IT Solutions in Gippsland.

"We isolated the infected device, removed the malware, and secured the system before any data was lost."

While the client had the paid version of traditional antivirus

software installed, it failed to detect the threat that specialised software did.

"This isn't just a tech problem – it's a community safety issue," said IT Solutions Gippsland.

"We've seen families, retirees, and even businesses fall victim. The scammers are getting smarter."

To help locals stay protected, IT Solutions in Gippsland is hosting a Cybersecurity Awareness Session in Leongatha.

"Our goal is to empower the community with knowledge," said the team.

To register your interest contact IT Solutions Gippsland in Leongatha on 9070 0878.

School holiday fun at local libraries

MYLI – My Community Library has your school holidays covered across South Gippsland and Bass Coast.

Launch into the winter holidays with a touch of creativity today (Tuesday, July 8) in Korumburra.

Coasters will be created at the Korumburra library, using old books to cut up, mix up and use for inspiration. Participating children are encouraged to get in touch with their imaginations and produce their own exciting illustrations. Come along from 2pm to 4.30pm.

Leongatha library is the place to be on tomorrow (Wednesday, July 9) to make your own robot. Starting at 10.30am, children will be experimenting with colour and design to invent amazing robots.

Author Yvonne Bornstein will be visiting Phillip Island library on Thursday, July 10. At 10.30am, Yvonne will be doing story time and special activities surrounding her book Welcome to Evee's Farm. Copies will be available for purchase on the day.

NAIDOC Week continues at the Leongatha library on Friday, July 11, with a special story time. This will be a morning of songs, stories and rhymes from 10.30am.

Another story time will be held at the Phillip Island library featuring author Julie Murphy on Saturday, July 12. This is a Whale Festival Story Time with ocean-themed stories from 11am.

The fun continues on week two of the holidays with story stones with the Foster Library. Held at Manna Gum Community House, children will be able to retell their own beloved stories with a newly designed set of story stones. This event will kick off at 10.30am.

A Dinosaur Discovery Interaction Presentation will be held at the Korumburra library on Tuesday, July 15.

Through Museum Victoria, children will have the opportunity to engage with dinosaur bones, fossils, replicas and stories.

Tickets are required for everyone attending this event, which will kick off at 11am.

There is more creativity to be had in Foster on July 17, when children will be creating their own library bags from 10.30am.

This is another opportunity for children to delve into their vibrant imaginations. All required items will be available on the day.

Finish off the holidays by making cardboard creations with the Waterline library.

From castles to dinosaurs, there is no limit to these wonderful works of art. This event will begin at 4pm.

To book tickets to all Myli- My Community Library school holiday activities, head to eventbrite.com/cc/school-holiday-events-july-2025-4341763.

Other events:

- Make a Japanese Paper Kite (Waterline, July 8).
- Puppet Making for NAIDOC Week (Leongatha, July 8).
- Marble Maze Fun (Foster at Toora Hall, July 9).
- Make a Japanese Paper Kite (Wonthaggi, July 9).
- Film Screening (Wonthaggi, July 9).
- Secrets of the Amazon Shipwreck (Inverloch, July 9).
- Make a Flower Posy (Korumburra, July 10).
- Cardboard Creations (Inverloch, July 10).
- Outfit Changing Paper Cups (Inverloch, July 11).
- Funky Cardboard Birds (Wonthaggi, July 11).
- Movie Day (Leongatha, July 11).
- Whale Origami (Phillip Island at Berninait, July 11).
- Planks (Waterline, July 11).
- DIY Harmonica (Waterline, July 12).
- Mr T's Mathematical Marvels (Phillip Island, July 14).
- Badge Making (Inverloch, July 14).
- Door Decorations (Waterline, July 14).
- Free Family Movie (Korumburra, July 14).
- Make a Flower Posy (Inverloch, July 15).
- Lego School Holiday Session (Foster, July 15).
- Movie Day (Leongatha, July 16).
- Special Story Time – 10 Yoga Frogs (Phillip Island, July 17).
- Door Decorations (Inverloch, July 17).
- Things That Roll (Leongatha, July 18).



Mick Sheers (S), Garry McAllister (Macca) (L) and Neil Andreatta (3) were the South West Gippsland Midweek Bowls Group winners.



Bob Arnold (L) and Anne Graham (2) were the best one game winners for the South West Gippsland Midweek Bowls Group on Thursday. Absent: Luke Monckton (3) and Mark Andreatta (S).



Jan Murphy, Peter Novak and Pat Novak enjoyed a comfortable win at Breakaway Bowls on Friday.



Bill Selby (skip), Liz Jacobs and Bruce Corrigan were the Thursday social bowls winners at the Inverloch Bowling Club. Absent: Nell van Grunsven.



The Friday winners at Wonthaggi Senior Indoor Bowls were Jean Wylde, Judy Sweetnam and Jim Wilson.



Peter Grenville, Glenda Binch, Pat Novak, Linda Newman, Jenny Bakker and Brian Newman shared a victory at Breakaway Bowls on Monday.

BREAKAWAY BOWLS

MONDAY saw another great day of indoor bowls at Breakaway Indoor Bowls at Cape Paterson Community Hall.

The winners were Peter Grenville, Glenda Binch, Pat Novak, Linda Newman, Jenny Bakker and Brian Newman. They had +3.

It was another drawn game, two days running – well done to both teams.

Another great day of bowling was had by all on Friday.

The club also welcomed Marj Ford back after her injury – good to see her.

Gordon Peters also celebrated his birthday – happy birthday, Gordon.

The winners were Jan Murphy, Peter Novak and Pat Novak.

They pretty comfortably with +10 – well done.

INVERLOCH

IF YOU need a new club shirt for the coming summer bowls season, there is an order form on the bench in the clubrooms. Orders will close on July 25.

Another successful Friday night meal was held last week with the event being well attended.

Players wishing to play Pennant this season need to place their names on the lists in the clubroom.

Three practice matches have been arranged for the Tuesday Pennant.

Please place your name on these if you are interested.

Thursday social bowls was well attended with 38 bowlers trying their luck.

Two games of 10 ends were played.

Three teams finished with two games each and were separated by ends won.

The hard luck story with two wins and 31 points was the team of Chris O'Donnell (skip), Gary Scott, Patrick Bowd and Pat McKay.

Runners-up on two wins and 32 points was the team of Di Selby (skip), Laurel Lee, Peter Gentsch and Harry Dunn.

The eventual winners on the day with two wins and 33 points were the team of Bill Selby (skip), Bruce Corrigan, Liz Jacobs and Nel van Grunsven.

MIDWEEK BOWLS

WHAT a difference a day makes.

Wednesday was almost constant rain throughout the day.

Thursday was a cool but dry day.

Forty-six of the group turned up for the weekly challenge and they were not disappointed.

They were signed in by great president John, while Claire prepared the teams.

This is always a challenge, getting everyone in the positions



Wonthaggi Bowls Club's Saturday winners Rod Vawdon, Rob Aitken and John Duscher.

they are best suited for.

Once the teams were all prepared and selected, the bowlers all went out to the green to start the fun.

As always, friends were challenged by friends, making it a certainty that there would be lots of friendly banter as well as lots of laughter on most of the rinks.

Over the day, a few players decided to donate some money to the Royal Children's Hospital tin – thank you to these charitable players.

As always, there can only be one winner and this week's premiere team on a score of 37 were Mick Sheers (S), Garry McAllister (Macca) (L) and Neil Andreatta (3).

Runners-up on a score of 35 were Ronny Rickard (L), John Nicholson (S), Max Summers (3) and Ron Hughes (2).

Best one game winners were Bob Arnold (L), Anne Graham (2), Luke Monckton (3) and Mark Andreatta (S).

A big thank you to the wonderful Gwen who looked after the kitchen all day.

Also, thanks to Mick for his work behind the bar.

Next week, the bowlers will be meeting up at Koo Wee Rup Bowls Club to once again challenge friends for team of the week.

Please, be on site by 10am 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

ANOTHER week has come and gone.

Wednesday was a wet and cold day, which left Saturday as the other option for a game of bowls.

Once again, the club was not let down by the weather gods by producing a perfect day for bowls.

Thirty-six bowlers graced the greens for two games over 10 ends.

Teams of three and four were the order of the day to square the numbers up.

There were three teams that

were two-game winners with the runners-up being Stan Noad, Colin Ormerod and Bruce Cameron with a score of two wins and 32 points.

The winners, also a team of three, were Rod Vawdon, Rob Aitken and John Duscher with a score of two wins and 34 points.

Friday night again was a success with a very good number of people there to enjoy the night.

The members draw went off with Stan Noad there to claim \$50.

Jeannie, Peter and Paul were happy meat tray winners.

Sylvia was happy to take home a dozen eggs.

Bowls this week:
Wednesday: Social bowls at 12.30pm.

Friday: Coaching at 10am.

Saturday: Social bowls at 12.30pm.

Friday night is a good night with the members draw plus meat tray raffles and other prizes.

Once again, the meat trays are supplied by Wonthaggi Meat Supply.

Doors open at 4pm with the members draw at \$50 and the raffles at 6pm.

Good to see Syd Gostling at the club yesterday after a stint in hospital.

Also, best wishes and good luck to Michael Raman, who is in hospital at the moment.

Have a good week and good bowling.

WONTHAGGI INDOOR

ONCE again, it's another great week of bowling with a total of 52 people competing for the week.

Tuesday's winners with a plus 23 were Maggie Scapin, Sylvia Mattock, Allan Ireland and Jim Wilson.

Runners up on plus 13 with a win and a draw were Pam Russell, Glenda Binch, Mary Spooner and Jo McIntyre.

Friday's winners on plus 22 were Jean Wylde, Judy Sweetnam and Jim Wilson.

Runners-up on plus 14 were Maggie Scapin, Jenny Bakker and Sylvia Mattock.

Grand Ridge Rail Trail marks its 250th event

THE weather was perfect on July 5 for the 250th parkrun event along the Grand Ridge Rail Trail in Mirboo North. This event is a milestone celebrated by parkrun and gives participants a good reason to reflect on where it all began.

Julia Groves reflected on the journey, stating, "A quick search on the Grand Ridge Rail Trail parkrun news website tells the story of trial runs before the big launch on April 27, 2019."

"A well-written story by Rob Waycott acknowledges the combined efforts of our local community to launch this event, attesting that 'five savvy locals' are responsible for bringing this event to town. Stacey Harriage, Katrina Palmer, Jessie Holland, Jodie Pincini and Liz Radcliffe (supported by event ambassador, Kate Lew Ton). Their commitment and coordination between many local community groups made it all possible. It was a true pleasure to acknowledge and cheer for Stacey and Jodie, as we still refer back to the checklists and folders of procedures they put together. Liz was the reliable event director who restored order when the equipment and boxes got chaotic. They all continue to do so much for our Mirboo North community, and we have them to thank for giving our town a weekly, free event."

Inspired by Cliff Young, participants brought along their gumboots to the weekend's event. Val Smith packed her new camera and was ready to capture the scenes that unfolded. A crowd of 50 participants arrived, some coming from Geelong and Queensland. Carmel Paddy returned for her 50th milestone run after experiencing the 'friendly parkrun event' last week. Vanessa and Josephine Hardie picked a great event for their first parkrun,



Jodie and Stacey, two of the women who brought parkrun to town!

and everyone looks forward to having them return.

"Steve Quirk took the Cliff inspiration very seriously and shuffled the five kilometres in his gumboots, which slowed him down considerably, but as he reminds me, 'parkrun is not a race'," said Julia.

The conversation and banter continued as many of the participants filled out the BBQ shelter to enjoy some cake, eggs and bacon and hot drinks (Thanks Alan and Chris for setting up).

"Photos of the first event were on display. Conversations centred on how magnificent our town is, our individual Parkrun milestones, and the reasons we love Parkrun," Julia reflected.

"We had two amazing tourists visit, dressed in their 100 different parkrun milestones hoodies. Our own Liz compared her nine countries and 66 locations to Steve Amors' nine countries and over 100 locations."

This weekend proves the parkrun community is more

than a fitness group, and for the town of Mirboo North, it gives everyone an opportunity to connect with old friends, make new friends and a reason to be social and active on a Saturday morning without a regular commitment.

"We are inclusive and don't mind if you walk, come only in fine weather, or pop by every few months to volunteer with us. Each week, there is a supportive group of people just happy to share an experience that improves their day, week or life. Nothing fills my cup more than telling a new face all the things I love about our community and how parkrun enriches so many local connections," said Julia.

"Big thanks to everyone who supported making this milestone a fun celebration of parkrun: Libby Belton, Tim Buckley, Robert Gray, Julia Groves, Alan McKenzie, Helen Reeves, Peter Reeves, Greg Smith, Val Smith, Chris Waldron and everyone else who came and enjoyed the morning."

Radak wins table tennis premiership

RADAK defeated Donic three to two.

Grand finals are always special.

There is much satisfaction watching them, making them and winning them.

Congratulations to Donic's Justin Licis and Michael Steenbergen for making it and Mark Donohue and Dirk Holwerda from Radak for winning it.

Donic took the long ladder to qualify from fourth position with some impressive wins.

However, grand final opponent Radak proved to be one rung too high, playing as they had all season, with veteran guile and competitive desire.

When Radak's number one Mark Donohue sauntered into the humble hall bouncing to some easy listening Cranberries, everyone knew Donic was in trouble.

When Mark's sidekick Dirk rolled in with team name emblazoned across his shirt, everyone knew Donic was in double trouble.

Doubles proved to be the key match.

Mark's defence blunting



Wonthaggi Table Tennis premiers Dirk Holwerda and Mark Donohue with runners up Michael Steenbergen and Justin Licis.

Justin's aggression and Dirk's table tennis IQ around the attack was a combination too formidable.

Mark will appreciate that the linger of a win lingers longer than a loss.

A special mention to the graciousness of spirit, sportsmanship and camaraderie displayed by all players in a high-stakes contest.

Mark (Radak) defeated Michael (Donic) 4 to 0; Justin (Donic) defeated Dirk (Radak) 4 to 1.

Doubles: Radak defeated Donic 4 to 1.

Justin (Donic) defeated Mark (Radak) 4 to 1; Dirk (Radak) defeated Michael (Donic) 4 to 0.

That concludes another great season. Thanks to all participants, organisers and supporters. Come on the springtime.



Korumburra women's Saturday July RB Medallist Shelley Snooks.

KORUMBURRA

Ladies

THERE was no golf due to inclement weather last Wednesday, but the golfers were spoilt on Saturday with glorious sunshine.

The women had 12 play and the club congratulated its July RB Medallist Shelley Snooks.

Shelley won with 91(15)76 and had the best scratch score.

She was the recipient of the Luscious Cafe voucher, and the club thanks them for their ongoing support.

Kerri Besley came runner-up with 93(12)81.

BDTL went to Lyn Leppin with 117(34)83.

NTP on the 10th green was Merrissa Cosson and closest on the 13th was Kerri.

This Wednesday, the women will try again to play the July Monthly Medal and hope for a fine day.

LEONGATHA

TUESDAY, July 1: Stableford. Tuesday's event was a Stableford round with a field of 61 members/guests.

Overall winner: Bernard Skerys (18) with the high score of the day of 38 points.

A Grade winner: Patrick Mitchell (14) with 35 points.

A Grade runner-up: Alan Starkey (10) with 34 points.

B Grade winner: Bernard Skerys (16) with 38 points.

B Grade runner-up: David Forbes (19) with 36 points on a countback.

C Grade winner: Antony Roberts (27) with 34 points.

C Grade runner-up: Michael Delaney (24) with 31 points on a countback.

NTP fifth second shot: Christopher Leaver at .95m.

NTP 14th: Craig Hutchinson at 1.18m.

NTP 16th: Jeffrey Brewer at 1.02m.

Thursday, July 3: 4BBB Stableford.

Thursday's event was a 4BBB Stableford round with a field of 44 members/guests with a shotgun start.

A Grade winners: Malcolm Gin and David Richards with 42 points.

A Grade runners-up: Alan Starkey and Jeremy de Silva with 41 points on a countback.

NTP fifth second shot: Will Norden at 1.03m.

NTP 14th: Trevor Steer at 2.30m.

NTP 16th: Richard Ayre at .48m.

Saturday, July 6: Monthly Medal Stroke.

Saturday was the Monthly Medal Stroke round with a field of 85 members/guests enjoying

the course in sublime winter conditions.

Excellent scores were recorded. Overall winner: Mark Billows (12) with the low net score of the day of 66.

A Grade winner: Mark Billows (12) with a net score of 66.

A Grade runner-up: Nicholas Byrne (13) with a net score of 73.

B Grade winner: Jason Dennerley (14) with a net score of 69.

B Grade runner-up: Peter Read (17) with a net score of 72.

C Grade winner: Michelle Richards (18) with a net score of 71 on a countback.

C Grade runner-up: Bernard Skerys (18) with a net score of 71.

D Grade winner: Bill Wassink (31) with a net score of 67.

D Grade runner-up: Susan Bowler (23) with a net score of 73.

NTP fifth second shot: Dot Stubbs at .50m.

NTP 14th: Scott Blencowe at .77m.

NTP 16th: Brendan Richards at 2.24m.

MIRBOO NORTH

SATURDAY, July 5: Stroke – President Trophy Qualifier.

A Grade: P. Woodall (10) 70 net c/b.

B Grade: S. Hill-Smith (15) 72 net.

DTL: S. Duff 70, T. Bradshaw 72, M. Payne 73, G. Dawson 74 and P. Draper 75c/b.

NTP: fourth N. Bickerton, sixth S. Hill-Smith, 13th T. Bradshaw and 16th J. Robbins.

Birdies: fourth S. Duff and N. Bickerton, sixth P. Woodall and 16th S. Woodall.

President Trophy play off: S. Duff v J. Robbins; M. Payne v D. Taylor; P. Draper v G. Renwick; S. McKenzie v P. Cummaudo.

WONTHAGGI

RESULTS: July 3, SR. 71.

Competition: Stableford 18-hole. Winner: Neil Beer 36.

Runner up: Gary Youtlen 35.

Results: July 5, S.R 72.

Competition: Monthly Medal Stroke and putting.

Monthly Medal: Ian Baker 70.

A Grade: Peter Kane 71.

B Grade: Jonathon Clayton 73.

C Grade: Graeme Crawford 73.

BDTL to 74.

Ball sweep: Hamish Burns 72, Eric Van Agtmaal 72, Brad Pinal 73, Keith Ridout 73, Jim McEachern 73, Peter Dell 73, Rohan McRae 73, Frank Huber 73, Ross Lovett 74 and Simon O'Halloran 74.

NTPs: Keith Ridout second, Eric Van Agtmaal fourth, Ross Lovett propin eighth, Inoke Baudromo 13th and Rod McBride money hole 17th.

Putting: Stephen Kane.



Jordan Crugnale MP with Graeme Risdale at Lang Lang foreshore, Graeme has been a big boating and fishing advocate over many years.

\$2.7 million in boat ramp upgrades underway

MEMBER for Bass Jordan Crugnale has announced work has begun to build a new ramp and jetty at Lang Lang, while resurfacing of the Tankerton ramp was almost complete and would improve boating access at French Island making boating safer and more accessible for local and visiting users.

The \$2.7 million upgrades have been funded by the Better Boating Fund, which reinvests recreational boaters' licence and registration fees and has seen close to \$140m returned into projects and programs across the state to improve boating facilities, access and safety since 2021.

Designs for both ramps were led by the Victorian Fisheries Authority's (VFA) Better Boating division in conjunction with the Lang Lang Foreshore Reserve Committee of Management, French Island Community Association and the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action.

At Lang Lang, a new, longer concrete ramp will feature a jetty with space for up to five boats to increase the efficiency and capacity of the facility. The new single-lane ramp, to be constructed parallel with the existing ramp, will be slightly steeper so the rear wheels of vehicles stay out of the water, however it will remain primarily suitable for use at higher tides given the area's flat seabed. Beach accessibility will also be improved as part of the jetty build.

Construction firm Simpson Construction is undertaking the work which began earlier this week. While work is underway, boaters can launch at Corinella or Grantville. The Lang Lang Foreshore Caravan Park remains open during the build, anticipated to be complete by November 2025.

Across Western Port on French Island, the Tankerton ramp will soon re-open following a resurfacing project that made use of an innovative design solution to reduce long-term maintenance costs. The old surface had fallen into disrepair and is being replaced by durable articulated concrete mats fixed to the seabed.

The mats are comprised of sections of concrete joined by flexible tethers and their large grooves allow for sand and seagrass to be cleared by wave action. The ramp's long flat gradient is now safer to drive on and will be easier to maintain in the long run through the replacement or repair of individual sections.

The projects are among several boat ramp upgrades around Western Port, with Rhyll, Cowes, Corinella and Hastings already upgraded, while construction is expected to begin at Tooradin later in 2025.

TT Battle for Supremacy 2025

THE very top echelon of motorcycle road racers from all over the world bring themselves, their machines and their teams to test their skills on the 37.75-mile public road circuit that is fury on two wheels. For a two week period between the last week in May and the first week in June, it's on like Donkey Kong. The TT (Isle of Man Tourist Trophy) is the most revered motorcycle event in the world!

Hundreds of entrants risk life and limb at speeds in excess of 200 mph. In the pursuit of personal milestones and glory on the rock of dreams. This is the pinnacle of motorcycle road racing. Forget MotoGP and World Superbikes as the bravest, most courageous and skilled riders pit themselves against the ultimate test in their sport, which is simply the TT. To be counted as a finisher in this event is to be considered a winner, regardless of where each rider is placed. This event is not for the faint-hearted as it takes no prisoners. There are no sand traps, large run off areas like short circuit racing, just rock walls, manhole covers, barbed wire fences and a thousand other dangerous obstacles that add to the challenge. Riders call this stuff "street furniture".

Riders can take three years to memorise the 250-plus corners on the circuit, and newcomers are made to wear orange jackets for identification purposes. This is the Colosseum of motorcycle road racing, where liberty means freedom. Mistakes can be fatal. All riders are aware of the risks before they open the throttle and blast down Glenclutchberry Road in 10-second intervals, for this event is a time trial held over six laps, approximately 225 miles at breakneck speed.

There is a respect among riders and spectators alike for the challenges presented by this gruelling encounter. The average lap speed gets faster each year around the course and currently sits around 137 mph with the fastest riders taking 16 minutes and 36 seconds to complete the journey. Superbike, Supersport, Supertwin, Sidecars and Superstockers are the five classes contested, with two races in each category, with the main event being the Senior TT for Superbikes.

The big three, Michael Dunlop, Dean Harrison and Peter Hickman, have been joined by rising star and winner of the 2024 Senior TT, Davey Todd, as the riders to beat. In fact, most of these riders will compete across four classes using their smarts, cunning, nous, courage and determination to shave seconds off their lap times to get to the top dias.

There's no adequate financial reward or bag of gold at the end of the rainbow that would



Vaulting Ballaugh Bridge, Michael Dunlop on the BMW 1000 Superbike. Photography3922.

justify the risks involved, just respect and fulfilment for achieving the ultimate.

The Raging Bull, Michael Dunlop, a Northern Irishman, is the "King of the Road" with 29 TT wins. At 36, he has been unbeatable in the Supersport and Supertwin classes. Dunlop lives for the TT! He isn't a media pin-up boy; in fact, he has little or no time for such distractions. A down-to-earth, grassroots road racer who sits top of the heap! He has no qualms about being popular. Michael receives no special treatment, which could be seen when his team, Hawk Racing, arrived in the paddock. MD was pitching in, setting up the team tent, unloading the spare parts, just another link in the cog.

During practice week, Dunlop watches his opponents, learning their strengths and how reliable their machinery is. He holds his cards close to his chest. In 2025, Michael came out in the last qualifying session, last bike on the road, first bike on the timesheets. He gives the opposing riders no redress. This strategy is simple; whatever you can do doesn't matter because I can go faster.

On Wednesday evening, in a practice session, the big four is reduced to three. Fourteen-time TT winner Peter Hickman loses control of his bike at 140mph on a very fast part of the circuit at Kerrow Moar. Fortunately, Hicky is alive despite facial, back and leg injuries; he lives to fight another day, but not at the 2025 meeting. The medical staff at Noble's hospital have patched him up. Battered and bruised Hicky leaves after a two-night stay. Last year, Hicky lost control at Ginger Hall, a fast sweeping left-hander at 120 mph. Maybe there's a message; the game might have gone past him.

Up-and-comer Tom Weeden loses control of his Superbike at Glen Helen, which spits him into a wall, where he incurs multiple leg fractures. Sidecar

duo, Peter Founds and Jevan Walmsley, considered a podium chance, get airborne going over Rhencullen, losing control of the chair, being spat down the road some 300 metres. Both are conscious when the orange army (sector marshals) come to their aid. Aussie Josh Brookes rolls off the throttle when he sees the red flag displayed, only to be clipped by Davey Todd, who doesn't see the flag marshal's signal at 176 mph. Both riders avoid injury in a close call.

Without the 600 volunteer marshals who volunteer their time, the TT wouldn't exist. These hardy souls walk the track in a point-to-point course check, searching for and removing any loose stones and debris that may be a potential cause of an accident. Each marshal has a specific task in case of a rider having an "off". Medics follow the riders as travelling marshals on the latest Superbikes. Helicopters hover overhead in case an air lift to Liverpool is required.

Dean Harrison, a very popular and highly skilled factory Honda rider from Laxey, has been the fastest in Supersport practice sessions, putting in some great times. Forever the bridesmaid, Dean deserves success. Likeable team mate of Peter Hickman, the mullet, Davey Todd, appears to have the speed to challenge "The Raging Bull" in the Superbike event, but there is an underlying query about whether he can match Dunlop over six gruelling laps in the main showdown, the Senior TT.

Race One RST Superbike TT (4 laps)

Dean Harrison on his Honda sets the early pace, but by lap 2, Davey Todd and Michael Dunlop, who were both on BMW's had gapped Harrison by 12 seconds and settled down to have a two-man war. Todd had the ascendancy by the slim margin of 2.9 seconds going into the

last lap, but "The Raging Bull" was coming and coming fast. By Barregarrow, there were two-tenths of a second separating the riders. Dunlop had picked up six seconds over Todd on the second lap pitstop, but he was delayed in getting past Dean Harrison on the road through Kirk Michael. After 150 miles of spectacular action, Todd got the victory by 1.2 seconds over Michael Dunlop, with Dean Harrison third. Australian rider Davo Johnson was ecstatic, finishing fifth in this event on his under trialled Kawasaki.

Race Two Sidecar TT (2 laps). Crowe brothers, Ryan and Callum, blitzed the Mountain Course, breaking the lap record held by Ben and Tom Birchall in an outstanding display. Thirty seconds quicker than the chasers on the first lap, the Isle of Man locals took the Sidecar event to new levels. The Crowes went round the course in 121.021 mph, winning by 77 seconds from Ben Birchall and Patrick Rosney, with Lee Crawford and Scott Hardie 17 seconds further adrift.

Race Three RST Supersport TT (3 laps)

Smarting from his narrow loss to Davey Todd in the Superbike race, Michael Dunlop was out for redemption in the first Supersport event running on the Vtwin Ducati. Again, Dean Harrison (Honda) sets the early pace, opening up a six-second advantage over Michael Dunlop on lap one, but Dunlop turned up the wick with an average speed of 130.1 mph that his opponents couldn't match. At the finish line, winning his 30th TT, Michael Dunlop had streeted Dean Harrison by 10.2 seconds with James Hillier coming in third. This win on the Ducati was the manufacturer's first at the TT since 1996. Dunlop's celebrated victory was on his seventh different manufacturer's machine.

Race Four RST Superstock TT (3 laps)

Spectators had a long wait before this event got underway, with the day session cancelled due to poor weather and the event program being pushed back to 6.30pm. Fans had been sitting in the hedges from 7am, such was their dedication. Davey Todd (BMW) took up the early lead, but Dean Harrison was carving up the track on the Honda with Michael Dunlop (BMW) close in third. On the second tour, Harrison, ever the bridesmaid, got the bit between his teeth and overtook Todd to record a popular victory by 11.6 seconds with Dunlop 20 seconds further back in third. With 28 podiums in his career, Harrison had just notched up three wins, so his fourth victory was richly deserved.

Read race reports five to ten online at sgst.com.au

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 July 8	
▼	2.35am 0.57m
▲	10.06am 1.45m
▼	2.57pm 1.07m
▲	8.58pm 1.36m

WEDNESDAY July 9	
▼	3.33am 0.56m
▲	11.02am 1.49m
▼	4.09pm 1.09m
▲	9.57pm 1.34m

THURSDAY July 10	
▼	4.33am 0.53m
▲	11.55am 1.53m
▼	5.17pm 1.06m
▲	10.59pm 1.34m

FRIDAY July 11	
▼	5.29am 0.49m
▲	12.44pm 1.58m
▼	6.14pm 1.01m
▲	11.59pm 1.37m

SATURDAY July 12	
▼	6.16am 0.45m
▲	1.29pm 1.63m
▼	7.00pm 0.94m

SUNDAY July 13	
▲	12.53am 1.40m
▼	6.59am 0.43m
▲	2.10pm 1.68m
▼	7.44pm 0.87m

MONDAY July 14	
▲	1.43am 1.44m
▼	7.38am 0.42m
▲	2.48pm 1.70m
▼	8.24pm 0.78m

Email us your fishing photos

news@sgst.com.au



The ABL champions at the Phillip Island Tenpin Bowling and Entertainment Centre were Ian Cookman, Peter MacInnes, Chris Chivers and Rob Wilkinson.



Irene Edmonds and Mark Copland were the 2sCompany winners at the Phillip Island Tenpin Bowling and Entertainment Centre.



The Phillip Island Tenpin Business League champions were the Squeezers – Brett Burrows, Ben O'Brien, and Riley Weinzierl.

The Squeezers crowned Business League Champions

2SCOMPANY winners:
First place: Him and Her on 31.5points (Mark Copland and Irene Edmonds).
Runners-up King Pins on 31points (Les Peters and Raff Merante).
Top score for season for the men and women: Raff Merante 215 and Penny Wolswinkel 200.
ABL winners:
First place: on 236 points Storm (Ian Cookman, Peter MacInnes, Chris Chivers and Rob Wilkinson).
Runners-up: Dreamers on 225 points (Jacky Dow, Jacque Kent, and Penny and Hank

Wolswinkel).
Top score for season for the men and women: Jason Bence 235 and Valma Peterson 182.
Business: In a thrilling night of strikes, spares, and show-downs, the top four teams from Phillip Island Tenpin's early business league clashed with the top four from the late league in a high-stakes, high-energy knockout tournament to crown this season's ultimate business league champion.
The lanes were buzzing with friendly rivalry as the teams bowled their hearts out under the lights.

Round by round, the competition narrowed, and after the third and final round, just two powerhouse teams remained – both hailing from the late league.
It was The Squeezers vs The 3 Blind Mice in an epic finale.
Representing The Squeezers were Brett Burrows, Ben O'Brien, and Riley Weinzierl.
Up against them, The 3 Blind Mice – Shaun Peterson, Johnnie Ipple, and Owen.
In the end, it all came down to the final frame, and with clutch performances across the board, The Squeezers squeezed out the victory and

were crowned the Business League Champions.
Trophy in hand, smiles on faces, and pride in their game – a huge congratulations to The Squeezers, and a massive shout-out to all the teams who made this night one to remember.
Stay tuned for the next season of the Phillip Island Tenpin Business League – where champions are made, and legends are born.
Top score for season for the men and women: Steve R Clarke 212 and Bec Bertram 177.

Fluro fundraiser helps send aerobics team to National Championships

THE lanes were glowing, the music pumping and the community spirit was brighter than ever as the Phillip Island Tenpin Bowling and Entertainment Centre hosted a special Fluro Bowling Fundraiser.
The fundraiser was in support of Our Lady Star of the Sea's aerobics team.
This event was a huge success, raising \$1950 to help get the team to Hobart for the upcoming National Championships.
Families, friends and local supporters came together in their best 80s-inspired glow outfits, enjoying an afternoon of bowling, laser tag, arcade games and plenty of fun – all while backing a great cause.

A highlight of the night was the team's energetic performance of their winning routine, giving everyone a taste of what they'll be bringing to the national stage.
Their dedication and passion were truly inspiring, and it's no surprise they've made it this far.
"We enjoyed an amazing evening thanks to Jeremy and his staff at Phillip Island Bowling," team coach and teacher Lisa Bennett said.
"Their generosity and community commitment was greatly appreciated by the families of Our Lady Star of the Sea with nothing but praise and gratitude for this support."



A cheque for \$1950 was presented by the Phillip Island Tenpin Bowling and Entertainment Centre to Our Lady Star of the Seas aerobics team, which will help them get to the National Championships.



A Grade winners- Vikings: Kienan Stray, Paul Gleeson, Anders Geier and Allan Stray.



B Grade Gumboot winners – Storm: Bruce Lindsay, Bob Hee, Chris Chivers and Colin Oakley.

Vikings and Storm Crowned Champions in thrilling PIDDL Grand Finals

MONDAY night saw a spectacular end to the P.I.D.D.L. (Phillip Island and District Darts League) season, with a fantastic turnout from members witnessing two action-packed Grand Finals and a spirited Wooden Spoon playoff.
The atmosphere was electric as darts flew and champions were crowned!
In the highly anticipated A Division final, the Vikings proved their mettle, securing a decisive 5-2 victory over Joe's Hornets.
The Vikings, who have enjoyed a dominant season, showcased

steady and precise dart-throwing throughout the Grand Final, cementing their well-deserved championship title.
Their consistent performance all season paid off, and their victory was met with cheers from their supporters.
The B Division Gumboot Final was an equally thrilling affair, with the Storm emerging victorious over the Breakers with a 5-2 win.
It was a high-pressure match with results that could have gone either way in many legs.
Despite the loss, the Breakers had a solid season, showing

significant improvement.
They're definitely a team to watch, with expectations high for them to come back even stronger next year.
In the hotly contested Wooden Spoon playoff, the Dart Vaders threw their way to a win, meaning the Mustangs are the 'unlucky winners' of the wooden spoons this season.
While no one wants to take home the spoons, the game was played in good spirits, adding to the night's entertainment.
The excitement didn't end on the dartboard!
The much-anticipated San

Remo Butchers meat tray raffle was won by Miramar's Dave Raso, affectionately known as "Iceman."
The league will now take a well-deserved break for a couple of months before the spring competition fires up.
Members can also look forward to the trophy presentation day, tentatively scheduled for Sunday, August 10.
The time and venue for the presentation are still to be confirmed, so keep an eye out for updates.
What a fantastic end to a memorable season!

South Gippsland Bridge Club

NATIONWIDE competition on Tuesday, July 1, at Wonthaggi RSL:
Alan Johnstone and Lois Dwyer 58.33 per cent; Michael Dooley and Neville Chapman 57.64; Hannah Martin and Maureen Stiles 55.56; Ruth Harvey and Su Edwards 54.17; John French and Mike McGregor – first time at the club – also 54.17 per cent.
On the following Friday, Neville guided everyone through a complicated movement with 9.5 tables at Inverloch.
In N/S, Alan Johnston and Clive Hope 63.54 per cent, Moya Crowley and Michael Dooley 62.50, Hannah Martin and Ruth Stevenson 58.59, Sean Munley and Bruce Higgs 55.99, and Julie and Ian McPhee 47.92 per cent.

Playing E/W, Matti Shub and John Quayle 67.82, Faye Rowlands and John Currier 60.65, Penny Lanser and Doug McIntosh 54.4, and Grant Austin and Robyn Synan with 50.69 per cent.

Phillip Island Bridge Club

Monday, June 30: Four and a half tables.
Winners: Neville Chapman and Lorrie Read on 64.58 per cent.
Wednesday, July 2: Nationwide – Three and a half tables.
Winners: Anne Ferrari and Marion Wellwood 62.5 per cent.

Students take on clay target challenge

RESULTS – Howard and Schuback Inter-school Clay Target Shoot.
Date: June 16.
Senior boys: first Dylan Naylor Lilydale High 19 + 6/6; second Zaeln Lynch Nagle College 19 + 3/6; third Ruben Corbel Maffra Secondary College 18.
Senior girls: first Brianna Tangey St Paul's Traralgon 17 + 6/6; second Maddi Gilmore Sale College 17 + 3/6; third Grace Scott Maffra Secondary College 17 + 2/6.
Junior boys: first Myles Witt Catholic College Sale 18 + 5/6; second Sonny Grant Catholic College Sale 18 + 2/6; third Owen Roach Nagle College 17.
Junior girls: first Lara Kee Gippsland Grammar 17; second Dakota Cook Lavalla College 16; third Chloe Hughes-Gag Lilydale High 14 + 5/6.
Teams:
First: Lilydale High 80/100.
Winning team members: Dylan Naylor, Riley Hughes-Gage, Taj Durrant, Lachie Devine and Nathan Taylor.
Second: Catholic College Sale 79.
Third: Nagle College 77.

Bass Coast grant opportunity for sporting clubs

THE Bass Coast Shire Council Quick Response Grants program offering up to \$2000 for community initiatives including sporting clubs closes on Friday, July 27.
Council's Quick Response Grants provide financial assistance for various needs such as purchasing equipment and increasing club participation.
The grants are available to local organisations who require a small amount of funding to support unforeseen expenses or urgent issues, to take advantage of an unexpected opportunity, or to support the establishment of a new group or program.
Applicants can seek 100 per cent of the total project capped at \$1000 with no contribution required from the applicant organisation.
The Inverloch Star's Soccer Club secured \$2000 through a Quick Response Grant in 2024 for their Go Girls program designed to recruit and retain girls in soccer.
closes July 27.

GIPPSLAND SOCCER LEAGUE

ROUND 10 RESULTS -
FRI, JULY 4 AND SUN, JULY 6

SENIOR Mens:
Leongatha Knights 4 d Lang Lang United 0,
Inverloch Stars 3 d Drouin Dragons Maroon
2, Trafalgar Victory 10 d Wonthaggi United 1

Senior Womens:
Drouin Maroon 3 d Inverloch Stars 2,
Trafalgar Victory 8 d Wonthaggi United 0,
Leongatha Knights 3 d Lang Lang United 0,
Korumburra City 4 d Mirboo North United 0

Mens Reserves:
Inverloch Stars 3 d Drouin Maroon 1,
P-Island Breakers 2 d Korumburra City 1,
Trafalgar Victory 5 d Leongatha Knights 0

Under 17 Mixed:
Drouin Maroon 7 d Inverloch Stars 1,
Drouin Yellow 3 d P-Island Breakers 2,
Leongatha Blue 4 d Leongatha White 2,
Korumburra City 3 d Mirboo North United 2

Under 15 Girls:
Drouin Dragons Yellow 6 d Leongatha 0,
P-Island Breakers 5 d Drouin Maroon 0

Under 14 Mixed:
Leongatha Knights 6 d Lang Lang United 0,
Wonthaggi United 6 d P-Island Stingrays 0,
Drouin Maroon 8 d Inverloch Stars 2,
P-Island Penguins 2 d Drouin Yellow 1,
Mirboo North United 4 d Korumburra City 1

Under 12 Girls:
Lang Lang United 6 d Leongatha Knights 0,
Inverloch Stars 5 d Drouin Dragons Maroon 2

Under 12A Mixed:
Drouin Maroon 4 d Inverloch Stars 2,
P-Island Breakers 7 d Drouin Yellow 1,
Mirboo North United 9 d Korumburra City 3,
Leongatha Blue 7 d Lang Lang United 1

Under 12B Mixed:
Inverloch Stars 3 drew Drouin Yellow 3,
P-Island Stingrays 4 d P-Island Penguins 2,
Leongatha Knights White 6 d Drouin White 4,
Trafalgar Victory 7 d Wonthaggi United 3

ROUND 11 DRAW - FRI-SUN, JUL 11-13

Senior Mens:
Korumburra City v Wonthaggi United (Fri),
Drouin Maroon v Leongatha Knights (Sat),
Phillip Island Breakers v Inverloch Stars

Senior Womens:
Drouin Maroon v Leongatha Knights (Sat),
Phillip Island Breakers v Inverloch Stars,
Trafalgar Victory v Mirboo North United,
Korumburra City v Wonthaggi United

Mens Reserves:
Drouin Maroon v Leongatha Knights (Sat),
Phillip Island Breakers v Inverloch Stars

Under 17 Mixed:
P-Island Breakers v Inverloch Stars,
Drouin Maroon v Leongatha Knights Blue,
Leongatha White v Drouin Maroon Yellow,
Korumburra City v Wonthaggi United

Under 15 Girls:
Drouin Maroon v Leongatha Knights,
Drouin Dragons Yellow v P-Island Breakers,
Korumburra City v Wonthaggi United

Under 14 Mixed:
Phillip Island Penguins v Inverloch Stars,
Drouin Maroon v Leongatha Knights,
Lang Lang United v Drouin M Yellow,
P-Island Stingrays v Mirboo North United,
Korumburra City v Wonthaggi United

Under 12 Girls:
Phillip Island Breakers v Inverloch Stars,
Drouin Dragons Maroon v Leongatha
Knights, Korumburra City v Wonthaggi United

Under 12A Mixed:
Phillip Island Breakers v Inverloch Stars,
Drouin Maroon v Leongatha Knights Blue,
Korumburra City v Wonthaggi United,
Lang Lang United v Drouin Maroon Yellow

Under 12B Mixed:
Phillip Island Penguins v Inverloch Stars,
Drouin Yellow v Leongatha Knights White,
Drouin Dragons White v P-Island Stingrays



Leongatha’s defence works hard to clear the ball from Lang Lang’s attack.

Knights charge past ladder leaders for the win



Leongatha’s Ben was a pivotal player in the U12 White team’s defence, often challenging and winning possession from his opponents.

U12 White team v Drouin White team (U12B Competition)

IT WAS a bright, sunny morning that saw Leongatha’s U12 White team take on ladder leaders Drouin White at the Knights home ground in the R10 fixture for the U12B competition.

This was the second time the Junior Knights had faced the Drouin Dragons this season and they were nervous following the difficulty of their first game. However, it soon became apparent that this game would be very different from their first!

With strong play from both sides, the first half was played relatively evenly with both teams scoring two goals each before half time. The second half was when the excitement began to build as Leongatha scored and took the lead.

Despite the strong attacking press by Drouin, Leongatha’s Noah made use of their high press to launch several successful counter attacks. At the opposite end of the pitch, Leongatha’s goalkeeper Cooper pulled off some composed saves with his defence lines clearing several balls off the goal line to a cheering sideline.

Leongatha worked hard to protect their advantage, ensuring that Drouin had very little space to attack and though the visiting Dragons fought hard they were unable to regain an advantage and the Knights finished the game with a well-deserved 6-4 win over the visitors.



Axl Moore played his 50th junior game for the Wonthaggi Soccer Club on the weekend.

Axl plays his 50th

THE sun was shining bright for the U14s match this week against the Phillip Island Stingrays.

Both teams observed a minute’s silence for Diogo Jota, Liverpool player, who passed away tragically this week.

An early goal from Ollie Phillips after a corner kick from Hayden started the game off with a quick second goal by Luka. Lewey in defence dominated the back line and Balin worked hard stopping quite a few attempts at goal from the Stingrays’ attack.

Mustafa, Hayden and Rhys were also goal scorers for the game. After the game, Axl Moore was celebrated for playing 50 junior games for Wonthaggi Soccer Club.

Congrats Axl – what a great milestone to achieve.



Wonthaggi Soccer Club’s U14s side got around teammate Axl Moore, who celebrated his 50th junior game.



The U14s from Wonthaggi and Phillip Island soccer clubs observed a minute’s silence for Liverpool player Diogo Jota.



Abbey Henshall leaps for the ball in the Poowong 17 & Under. Photo: Jeff Tull.



Nyora's Shannon Heylen works her team in towards the ring during their A Grade game against Yarragon.



Tanasha Walters searches for a pass out of defence for Nyora.



Lara Gill fires a pass to a teammate in Leongatha. w18_2725



Taylah Brown fought hard in Leongatha's 48-52 loss to Bairnsdale. w20_2725



Lara Gill finds a teammate with a pinpoint pass against a strong Bairnsdale team. w22_2725



Nicola Marriott surveys the court against Bairnsdale. w17_2725



Amy Scott shields the sun from her eyes and drains one of her 29 goals for the match. w19_2725



Amy Scott's impressive 29-goal performance wasn't enough to get Leongatha over the line. w21_2725

ELLINBANK		
RESULTS		
A GRADE		
Bunip 27 lt Neerim Sth 54		
Nyora 34 lt Yarragon 58		
Lang Lang 41 d Poowong 38		
Ellinbank 38 lt Trafalgar 46		
Longwarry 65 d Catani 25		
Buln Buln 51 lt Nil-Darn 74		
B GRADE		
Lang Lang 40 d Poowong 27		
Bunyip 37 d Neerim Sth 29		
Nyora 16 lt Yarragon 54		
Longwarry 28 lt Catani 47		
Ellinbank 60 d Trafalgar 23		
Buln Buln 37 lt Nil-Darn 39		
C GRADE		
Nyora 15 lt Yarragon 50		
Lang Lang 21 lt Poowong 35		
Bunyip 27 lt Neerim Sth 36		
Longwarry 40 d Catani 34		
Ellinbank 36 d Trafalgar 30		
Buln Buln 36 lt Nil-Darn 37		
17 & UNDER		
Lang Lang 35 d Poowong 31		
Longwarry 34 d Catani 27		
Bunyip 37 d Neerim Sth 28		
Nyora 15 lt Yarragon 45		
Ellinbank 32 lt Trafalgar 50		
Buln Buln 27 lt Nil-Darn 50		
15 & UNDER		
Longwarry 16 lt Catani 35		
Lang Lang 22 lt Poowong 27		
Nyora 11 lt Yarragon 46		
Bunyip 24 lt Neerim Sth 36		
Buln Buln 18 lt Nil-Darn 34		
Ellinbank 30 d Trafalgar 19		
13 & UNDER		
Longwarry 30 d Catani 23		
Nyora 3 lt Yarragon 27		
Buln Buln 23 d Nil-Darn 18		
Bunyip 29 d Neerim Sth 6		
Lang Lang 31 d Poowong 5		
Ellinbank 12 lt Trafalgar 39		

LADDERS		
A GRADE		
Neerim South	210.14	52
Nilma Darnum	156.31	48
Longwarry	125.14	36
Trafalgar	123.03	36
Ellinbank	137.08	32
Lang Lang	89.16	32
Poowong	88.32	20
Yarragon	82.14	16
Catani	79.32	16
Bunyip	77.76	16
Buln Buln	62.83	8
Nyora	52.77	0
B GRADE		
Ellinbank	185.32	48
Bunyip	139.63	44
Neerim South	147.37	40
Lang Lang	109.67	40
Nilma Darnum	120.57	32
Catani	119.92	28
Buln Buln	91.98	20
Poowong	89.56	20
Yarragon	83.69	16
Longwarry	86.90	12
Trafalgar	78.64	8
Nyora	33.38	0
C GRADE		
Ellinbank	181.39	48
Buln Buln	144.94	40
Longwarry	127.25	36
Neerim South	104.64	36
Trafalgar	126.48	32
Nilma Darnum	119.95	32
Yarragon	115.11	26
Catani	111.97	26
Poowong	85.96	12
Bunyip	83.71	12
Lang Lang	77.07	12
Nyora	13.27	0
17 & UNDER		
Longwarry	166.06	52
Nilma Darnum	158.62	44
Poowong	121.87	36
Lang Lang	143.04	34
Trafalgar	123.06	32
Catani	113.37	32
Yarragon	124.50	30
Neerim South	89.41	16
Bunyip	70.65	14
Buln Buln	80.31	12
Ellinbank	61.11	10
Nyora	24.36	0
15 & UNDER		
Catani	235.61	52
Poowong	214.36	48
Neerim South	167.57	40
Lang Lang	159.40	36
Bunyip	100.95	30
Buln Buln	113.36	26
Nilma Darnum	100.72	20
Longwarry	92.54	20
Yarragon	82.15	20
Ellinbank	72.82	16
Trafalgar	51.18	4
Nyora	14.49	0
13 & UNDER		
Lang Lang	689.87	52
Trafalgar	317.29	52
Buln Buln	218.13	36
Bunyip	212.07	36
Nilma Darnum	104.55	28
Longwarry	87.68	26
Poowong	72.00	20
Yarragon	79.93	16
Neerim South	60.56	16
Ellinbank	57.06	16
Catani	50.92	14
Nyora	6.17	0

GIPPSLAND		
RESULTS		
A GRADE		
Drouin 58 d Wonthaggi 44		
Leongatha 48 lt Bairnsdale 52		
Maffra 31 lt Moe 84		
Warragul 85 d Sale 32		
Morwell 59 d Traralgon 41		
B GRADE		
Drouin 18 lt Wonthaggi 51		
Leongatha 45 d Bairnsdale 35		
Maffra 49 lt Moe 65		
Warragul 73 d Sale 35		
Morwell 41 lt Traralgon 58		
C GRADE		
Drouin 37 d Wonthaggi 35		
Leongatha 48 lt Bairnsdale 52		
Maffra 30 lt Moe 54		
Warragul 37 d Sale 28		
Morwell 37 d Traralgon 28		
17 & UNDER		
Drouin 46 d Wonthaggi 34		
Leongatha 24 lt Bairnsdale 39		
Maffra 46 d Moe 35		
Warragul 27 lt Sale 53		
Morwell 13 lt Traralgon 61		
15 & UNDER		
Drouin 52 d Wonthaggi 11		
Leongatha 39 d Bairnsdale 35		
Maffra 25 lt Moe 67		
Warragul 29 lt Sale 43		
Morwell 10 lt Traralgon 65		
13 & UNDER		
Drouin 24 lt Wonthaggi 27		
Leongatha 36 d Bairnsdale 12		
Maffra 17 lt Moe 37		
Warragul 5 lt Sale 55		
Morwell 26 lt Traralgon 36		

LADDERS		
A GRADE		
Moe	191.12	48
Warragul	178.62	44
Morwell	115.02	36
Drouin	118.76	28
Leongatha	108.52	24
Bairnsdale	87.38	24
Traralgon	81.23	16
Wonthaggi	69.99	12
Sale	59.72	4
Maffra	53.90	4
B GRADE		
Leongatha	177.42	48
Wonthaggi	156.43	44
Moe	133.93	36
Traralgon	117.25	32
Warragul	116.15	24
Drouin	87.22	20
Morwell	84.95	20
Maffra	65.17	12
Bairnsdale	67.07	2
Sale	60.74	2
C GRADE		
Morwell	155.65	46
Leongatha	139.81	42
Wonthaggi	146.46	36
Drouin	100.67	28
Bairnsdale	104.14	24
Moe	97.43	24
Traralgon	107.38	20
Sale	88.27	12
Warragul	60.58	8
Maffra	50.00	0
17 & UNDER		
Bairnsdale	194.84	48
Traralgon	240.15	44
Sale	122.45	40
Maffra	95.23	24
Drouin	94.22	24
Leongatha	79.82	20
Warragul	79.24	16
Moe	77.05	16
Wonthaggi	68.87	8
Morwell	51.35	0
15 & UNDER		
Traralgon	252.23	48
Sale	151.45	44
Warragul	146.61	32
Moe	131.81	30
Drouin	112.50	28
Bairnsdale	114.62	20
Leongatha	98.43	20
Maffra	76.62	14
Morwell	43.07	4
Wonthaggi	9.79	0
13 & UNDER		
Leongatha	257.78	48
Moe	155.56	38
Sale	168.82	34
Bairnsdale	135.25	26
Maffra	122.84	26
Traralgon	131.18	24
Drouin	78.98	14
Morwell	76.44	16
Wonthaggi	40.13	8
Warragul	17.99	4



Avoiding a throw in, Stony Creek’s Keira Witton keeps the ball in B Grade play. Photo: G.S. Bruning.



Dani Blair displays her athleticism for Mirboo North during its A Grade win over Newborough. Photo: Annie Holland.



Ashlee Hilliar scored 10 goals in Mirboo North’s C Grade victory over Newborough. Photo: Annie Holland.



It’s a close one in goal centre as Jessica Brown reaches for the ball in B Grade. Photo: G.S. Bruning.



Casey Tumino fires a pass to a Tarwin teammate. w16_2725



Elle Spencer McGuire looks past her Yinnar defender to calmly assess the court. w11_2725



Brianna Weaver shoots for goal sinking one of her seven for the match. w15_2725

MIRBOO NORTH

A BIG Saturday of netball against Newborough, with some close contests, strong finishes and all-round awesome team efforts across the board!

A Grade: High-scoring and high-energy from start to finish! A dominant team effort with smooth connections and sharp shooting. Best on Court: Marley Wallace and Coach’s Award: Jessie Holland.

B Grade: A tough match against a strong Newborough side. Plenty of positives and great patches of play to build on. Best on Court: Holly Chila and Coach’s Award: Bella Cook.

C Grade: A tight tussle with momentum swings, but our Tigers held strong in the last quarter to secure the win. Best on Court: Amy Symmons and Coach’s Award: Ty-lah Wilkins.

D Grade: A gritty and hard-fought win. The girls dug deep and kept cool in the final minutes to come out on top. Best on Court: Ali Snell and Coach’s Award: Bridget Rush.

17 & Under: A powerhouse performance from our 17s! Slick ball movement and strong defensive pressure sealed a huge win. Best on Court: Indi Eden and Coach’s Award: Shealah Johnson.

U15s: Another tight game that could’ve gone either way. The team showed great composure and teamwork in a fast-paced match. Best on Court: Amy Conlan and Coach’s Award: Emily Ludlow.

U13s: A close and determined battle from our youngest Tigers! The girls never gave up, pushing Newborough all the way in a great contest. Best on Court: Georgie Schaeche and Coach’s Award: Lucy Andrews.

MID GIPPSLAND

RESULTS

A GRADE	B GRADE	C GRADE	D GRADE	17 & UNDER	15 & UNDER	13 & UNDER
Tarwin 46 lt Yinnar 49	Tarwin 18 lt Yinnar 56	Tarwin 34 lt Yinnar 39	Tarwin 25 lt Yinnar 36	Tarwin 14 lt Yinnar 44	Tarwin 7 lt Yinnar 44	Tarwin 25 lt Yinnar 30
Boolarra 33 lt Fish Crk 75	Boolarra 25 lt Fish Crk 85	Boolarra 42 drew Fish Crk 42	Boolarra 25 lt Fish Crk 48	Boolarra 57 d Fish Crk 25	Boolarra 45 d Fish Crk 16	Boolarra 25 d Fish Crk 16
Hill End 24 lt Toora 56	Hill End 34 lt Toora 56	Hill End 28 lt Toora 41	Hill End 21 lt Toora 27	Hill End 28 lt Toora 48	Hill End 24 lt Toora 37	Hill End 29 d Toora 13
Mirboo Nth 65 d N-borough 52	Mirboo Nth 44 lt N-borough 59	Mirboo Nth 37 d N-borough 33	Mirboo Nth 30 d N-borough 25	Mirboo Nth 51 d N-borough 18	Mirboo Nth 22 lt N-borough 27	Mirboo Nth 14 lt N-borough 17
Morwell-E 22 lt Foster 61	Morwell-E 41 lt Foster 80	Morwell-E 21 lt Foster 34	Morwell-E 33 d Foster 17	Morwell-E 29 d Foster 19	Morwell-E 11 lt Foster 44	Morwell-E 5 lt Foster 36
Stony Crk 62 d Thorpdale 14	Stony Crk 67 d Thorpdale 16	Stony Crk 70 d Thorpdale 16	Stony Crk 66 d Thorpdale 7			

LADDERS

A GRADE	%	pts	B GRADE	%	pts	C GRADE	%	pts	D GRADE	%	pts	17 & UNDER	%	pts	15 & UNDER	%	pts	13 & UNDER	%	pts
Foster	211.26	48	Foster	172.03	48	Yinnar	158.97	44	Mirboo North	185.14	48	Boolarra	258.72	48	Yinnar	227.27	48	Yinnar	296.75	44
Yinnar	152.54	44	Yinnar	156.78	40	MDU	138.63	38	Yinnar	218.75	44	Yinnar	187.27	42	Toora	249.04	44	Newborough	224.17	44
Fish Creek	156.17	40	Fish Creek	149.49	40	Foster	130.33	36	Tarwin	133.60	40	MDU	210.33	40	Boolarra	187.44	40	Boolarra	161.85	40
MDU	127.45	36	Newborough	126.48	36	Newborough	141.36	34	Fish Creek	166.03	36	Mirboo North	202.33	38	Hill End	179.63	36	Tarwin	182.22	36
Mirboo North	130.90	32	Mirboo North	114.63	32	Tarwin	120.38	30	Toora	132.08	36	Toora	177.57	36	Foster	106.83	28	Fish Creek	136.63	36
Toora	90.78	28	Toora	116.88	28	Fish Creek	114.59	30	Newborough	118.30	28	Hill End	107.95	28	MDU	102.28	28	Mirboo North	144.32	28
Stony Creek	109.49	24	Stony Creek	108.09	24	Boolarra	113.74	28	Hill End	129.13	24	Fish Creek	85.11	24	Mirboo North	90.91	28	Mirboo North	110.53	24
Newborough	98.25	20	MDU	103.13	24	Hill End	100.85	22	MDU	77.54	20	Stony Creek	70.37	24	Newborough	90.34	28	Foster	96.63	24
Morwell East	90.19	20	Morwell East	81.05	20	Mirboo North	86.50	22	Stony Creek	94.94	16	Morwell East	40.62	16	Tarwin	58.13	16	Hill End	78.90	20
Tarwin	89.32	20	Hill End	74.26	20	Toora	103.64	20	Morwell East	92.28	16	Newborough	39.65	16	Stony Creek	44.62	12	Toora	28.66	16
Boolarra	63.48	10	Boolarra	47.50	12	Stony Creek	97.86	20	Boolarra	76.53	12	Tarwin	36.13	12	Morwell East	40.11	12	MDU	26.80	12
Hill End	49.57	10	Tarwin	67.27	8	Morwell East	75.19	8	Foster	60.98	12	Foster	35.15	8	Fish Creek	35.31	12	Morwell East	22.10	8
Thorpdale	37.84	4	Thorpdale	49.92	4	Thorpdale	16.93	4	Thorpdale	11.36	4	Thorpdale	0.00	0	Thorpdale	0.00	0	Thorpdale	0.00	0

KILCUNDA BASS

B GRADE: After a challenging few weeks with two close losses, the girls came together determined to support each other and leave everything on the court. They started with a positive mindset, which showed in their strong, composed play, taking it right up to Dalyston and heading into half-time with a four goal lead. Dalyston responded with a good third quarter, closing the gap and overtaking by three-quarter time. Kilcunda Bass never gave up, fighting hard to the final whistle and producing some of their best netball of the season. While the win just slipped away, the girls proved they can compete at this level and will keep pushing for the next victory. Award: Kiara Brusamarello.

C Grade: We came away with another good win this week. The girls displayed some great netball skills and are getting better every week. The defensive pressure gave the goalers so many scoring opportunities. The team worked together well and came away with a 19-point win. Award: Phoebe Steendam.

D Grade: After a tough loss last week, the team was determined to return to the court and show what they're capable of. We started strongly again with the attackers working well to find the space, while the defensive unit forced errors and ultimately turnovers which we were able to convert into goals. Throughout the game attacking and defensive ends were delivering well-rehearsed set plays with accuracy. The players' effort, determination, and cohesion shone through for the entire game as a four quarter effort. They kept up the intensity and continued to widen the gap on the scoreboard. Award: Ryah Maund.

15 & Under: After some tough rounds and a few missed training sessions the girls were back into it this week and hit the court ready to fire. Our defence worked tirelessly and created turnovers and scoring opportunities that allowed us to pull away on the scoreboard a little. Dalyston weren't letting this game go without a good fight that's for sure. They lifted in areas where we struggled which kept their score ticking over and the game was definitely closer than we would have liked. We will celebrate the win and keep working hard to improve on our weaknesses. Awards: Kealey Trewavis, Lexie Baker and Ciara Santorini.

13 & Under: We had a strong win over Dalyston on Saturday. It was a great display of teamwork, skill, and determination from start to finish. The team moved the ball beautifully down the court, backed each other in every contest, and played some outstanding netball. Awards: Lexi Thompson and Summer Christian.

11 & Under: It was a close battle against Dalyston. Using some of the plays we've practised at training coming into the game we took the lead in the first quarter. Our attackers were ferocious and after many weeks of practice, we are finally starting to hit our goals. We showed what we can achieve if we play as a team and keep the talk going on court. In the last few seconds of the game, Dalyston hit a shot that took us to 17 all. It was an epic battle. Awards: Sage Van Der Walt and Vanessa Vanderspek.



Kira Hamilton looks for options through the arms of Jade Ray-Angarane as the Panthers push into their attacking third during a tightly contested B grade clash.



Lisa Jones faces strong hands-over pressure as she works the ball out of defence for the Panthers.



Jaylee Fitzpatrick searches for an option in IK's C grade match. W08_2725



Sophie Baker (GK) stretches to intercept a pass into Dalyston's Gemma Thomas in A grade.



Rebecca Massaro was desperate to get some momentum in IK's 9-point loss against Cora Lynn. W09_2725



Esther Evans (GD) and Kiahra Maloney (GA) battle for possession inside the Dalyston goal circle.



Dalyston's Olivia Bramley leaps to intercept but just misses as Tamika DeNardis collects the pass in the Panthers' goal circle.



Hayley Verboon (GS) keeps her eyes on the ball under pressure from Elizabeth Crawford (GK).

WEST GIPPSLAND

RESULTS			LADDERS		
A GRADE Tooradin-Dal 60 d Warragul-I 36 NNG 83 d Garfield 36 Dalyston 54 d K-Bass 34 Kor-Bena 72 d P-Island 39 IK 26 It Cora Lynn 42	17 & UNDER NNG 54 d Garfield 21 Tooradin-Dal 34 d Warragul-I 30 Dalyston 46 d K-Bass 15 Kor-Bena 20 It P-Island 41 IK 22 It Cora Lynn 52		A GRADE Kor-Bena 139.39 48 Nar Nar Goon 141.54 44 Cora Lynn 126.04 44 Inverloch-K 112.86 40 Dalyston 122.97 36 Tooradin-Dal 109.98 30 Phillip Island 96.45 22 Kilcunda Bass 86.88 16 Koo Wee Rup 74.87 14 Garfield 74.59 14 Warragul Ind 60.47 4	% pts	
B GRADE Tooradin-Dal 72 d Warragul-I 11 NNG 75 d Garfield 42 Dalyston 48 d K-Bass 44 Kor-Bena 39 It P-Island 41 IK 36 It Cora Lynn 40	15 & UNDER NNG 51 d Garfield 11 Tooradin-Dal 44 d Warragul-I 16 Dalyston 20 It K-Bass 26 IK 12 It Cora Lynn 52		B GRADE Tooradin-Dal 186.29 50 Nar Nar Goon 150.33 46 Dalyston 143.61 44 Cora Lynn 129.64 42 Inverloch-K 108.00 30 Kilcunda Bass 105.91 24 Phillip Island 101.55 24 Koo Wee Rup 93.76 24 Garfield 79.25 12 Kor-Bena 73.14 12 Warragul Ind 28.11 4	% pts	
C GRADE Tooradin-Dal 41 d Warragul-I 30 NNG 44 It Garfield 52 Dalyston 26 It K-Bass 45 Kor-Bena 27 It P-Island 28 IK 17 It Cora Lynn 26	13 & UNDER Dalyston 5 It K-Bass 39 IK 8 It Cora Lynn 38 Tooradin-Dal 40 d Warragul-I 1 NNG 38 d Garfield 24 Kor-Bena 25 It P-Island 26		C GRADE Cora Lynn 156.60 48 Tooradin-Dal 129.85 46 Garfield 133.67 44 Warragul Ind 134.13 40 Inverloch-K 119.40 34 Kilcunda Bass 106.87 28 Nar Nar Goon 120.60 24 Phillip Island 70.43 20 Koo Wee Rup 66.36 12 Kor-Bena 62.02 8 Dalyston 52.28 8	% pts	
D GRADE Tooradin-Dal 39 d Warragul-I 18 NNG 31 It Garfield 36 Dalyston 22 It K-Bass 42 Kor-Bena 33 d P-Island 31 IK 15 It Cora Lynn 32	11 & UNDER Tooradin-Dal 24 d Warragul-I 7 IK 14 It Cora Lynn 26 NNG 16 It Garfield 27 Dalyston 17 drew K-Bass 17 Kor-Bena 6 It P-Island 27		D GRADE Cora Lynn 199.01 48 Nar Nar Goon 152.98 48 Garfield 131.08 36 Tooradin-Dal 120.00 36 Koo Wee Rup 129.04 32 Kilcunda Bass 100.56 28 Inverloch-K 92.17 28 Kilcunda Bass 94.13 24 Phillip Island 73.93 16 Warragul Ind 51.84 10 Dalyston 43.91 6	% pts	
			17 & UNDER Cora Lynn 185.04 48 Nar Nar Goon 148.55 48 Phillip Island 147.47 40 Tooradin-Dal 129.68 40 Warragul Ind 123.96 30 Koo Wee Rup 103.37 26 Dalyston 115.06 24 Inverloch-K 74.54 24 Kor-Bena 78.89 20 Garfield 50.48 6 Kilcunda Bass 34.15 6	% pts	
			13 & UNDER Cora Lynn 355.30 52 Tooradin-Dal 262.72 46 Nar Nar Goon 250.00 46 Koo Wee Rup 104.00 36 Garfield 118.69 28 Phillip Island 73.89 28 Kor-Bena 104.38 24 Kilcunda Bass 78.03 20 Inverloch-K 47.94 16 Warragul Ind 41.09 12 Dalyston 14.77 4	% pts	
			15 & UNDER Cora Lynn 282.25 52 Nar Nar Goon 271.14 48 Tooradin-Dal 288.76 44 Phillip Island 91.13 32 Koo Wee Rup 87.02 30 Kilcunda Bass 71.51 28 Warragul Ind 73.51 24 Inverloch-K 58.43 18 Dalyston 54.47 16 Garfield 53.70 16 Kor-Bena 0.00 0	% pts	
			11 & UNDER Cora Lynn 276.15 52 Garfield 248.85 44 Koo Wee Rup 230.08 40 Inverloch-K 195.49 40 Phillip Island 145.34 34 Tooradin-Dal 102.01 28 Kor-Bena 90.24 24 Nar Nar Goon 94.44 22 Warragul Ind 21.15 12 Dalyston 40.97 10 Kilcunda Bass 20.54 6	% pts	

FOOTY TIPPING



98

BEN FISHER

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Gold Coast Suns

Western Bulldogs

GWS

Essendon

Fremantle

Melbourne

St Kilda

Port Adelaide

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 8



81 Commercial Street,
Korumburra
5655 1024



91

DANIEL CHETLAND

Brisbane

Gold Coast Suns

Western Bulldogs

Geelong

Essendon

Fremantle

North Melbourne

St Kilda

Port Adelaide

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 8



119 Graham Street,
Wonthaggi
5672 1027



101

CARL LINDSAY

Brisbane

Gold Coast Suns

Western Bulldogs

Geelong

Essendon

Hawthorn

Melbourne

Sydney

Port Adelaide

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 9



145 Graham Street,
Wonthaggi
5672 1137



100

ALEX GEYER

Brisbane

Gold Coast Suns

Adelaide

GWS

Essendon

Hawthorn

Melbourne

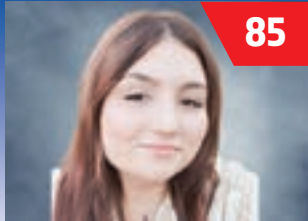
Sydney

Port Adelaide

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 9



Wonthaggi 5672 5522
Leongatha 5662 2941



85

JAE DAVEY

Brisbane

Collingwood

Western Bulldogs

Geelong

Essendon

Hawthorn

North Melbourne

St Kilda

Port Adelaide

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 6



62-64 McBride Avenue,
Wonthaggi
7051 0720



104

DARRYL MCGANNON

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Collingwood

Western Bulldogs

Geelong

Essendon

Fremantle

Melbourne

Sydney

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LAST WEEK'S TIPS 9



1 Roughead Street,
Leongatha
5662 2327



97

KRIS BAKER

Brisbane

Gold Coast Suns

Adelaide

GWS

Essendon

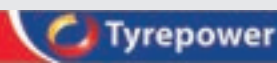
Hawthorn

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Port Adelaide

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 9



78-80 Watt Street,
Wonthaggi
5672 5760



86

RYAN SHANE

Brisbane

Gold Coast Suns

Western Bulldogs

GWS

Richmond

Hawthorn

Melbourne

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Port Adelaide

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 7



Leongatha Toyota

7-13 Hughes Street,
Leongatha
5662 2302



89

**CRAIG FARRINGTON
DARREN TILEY**

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Gold Coast Suns

Western Bulldogs

GWS

Richmond

Fremantle

Melbourne

St Kilda

Port Adelaide

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 5



6/5 Cyclone Street,
Wonthaggi
Darren 0405 603 569
Craig 0415 641 845



98

ADAM WARE

Brisbane

Collingwood

Western Bulldogs

GWS

Essendon

Fremantle

Melbourne

Sydney

Port Adelaide

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 8



2/88-98 Watt Street,
Wonthaggi
1800 358 131



104

JUSTIN CAPORALE

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Collingwood

Western Bulldogs

Geelong

Essendon

Fremantle

Melbourne

Sydney

Port Adelaide

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 9



41 McCartin Street,
Leongatha
5662 2529



84

LEIGH DONOHUE

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Justin Caporale	104
Liam Sawyer	104
Phil Hardy	104
Aaron McGregor	103
Dylan Clark	101
Peter Fort	101
Carl Lindsay	101
Alex Geyer	100
Adam Ware	98
Ben Fisher	98
Brad Hodson	97
Kris Baker	97
Warren Stewart	97
David England	96
Keith & Eddie	95
Brett Jacobs	93
Daniel Chetland	91
Craig & Darren	89
Hayden Poppe	86
Ryan Shane	86
Jae Davey	85
Leigh Donohue	84



97

WARREN
STEWART

Brisbane
Collingwood
Western Bulldogs
Geelong
Essendon
Hawthorn
Melbourne
Sydney
Port Adelaide

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 9



Wonthaggi Toyota
346 Bass Highway,
Wonthaggi
5632 3503



104

PHIL
HARDY

Brisbane
Collingwood
Adelaide
Geelong
Essendon
Hawthorn
Melbourne
Sydney
Port Adelaide

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 9



Bass Coast LIGHT ENGINES
317 White Road,
Wonthaggi
5672 4017



101

DYLAN
CLARK

Brisbane
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Western Bulldogs
Geelong
Essendon
Fremantle
Melbourne
Sydney
Port Adelaide

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 8



1 A'Beckett Street
Inverloch
5674 1432



96

DAVID
ENGLAND

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Western Bulldogs
GWS
Essendon
Fremantle
North Melbourne
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LAST WEEK'S TIPS 5



3/45-61 McKenzie St,
Wonthaggi
5644 2080



101

PETER
FORT

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Geelong
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Melbourne
Sydney
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LAST WEEK'S TIPS 8



47 Station Street,
Korumburra
0417 332 141



95

KEITH
KELLY EDDIE
CHANDLER

Carlton
Collingwood
Adelaide
GWS
Essendon
Fremantle
Melbourne
Sydney
Port Adelaide

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 7



54 Graham Street,
Wonthaggi
5672 1311



104

LIAM
SAWYER

Brisbane
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Western Bulldogs
Geelong
Essendon
Fremantle
Melbourne
Sydney
Port Adelaide

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 9



16 McBride Avenue,
Wonthaggi
5672 1007



103

AARON
McGREGOR

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Gold Coast Suns
Western Bulldogs
GWS
Essendon
Fremantle
Melbourne
Sydney
Port Adelaide

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 9



24 Inverloch Road,
Wonthaggi
5672 5906



97

BRAD
HODSON

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Collingwood
Adelaide
Geelong
Essendon
Fremantle
Melbourne
St Kilda
Port Adelaide

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 7



15/17 Murray Street,
Wonthaggi
5672 5878



93

BRETT
JACOBS

Brisbane
Collingwood
Western Bulldogs
GWS
Richmond
Hawthorn
Melbourne
St Kilda
Port Adelaide

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 9



28 Inverloch Road,
Wonthaggi
5672 4770



86

HAYDEN
POPPE

Carlton
Gold Coast Suns
Western Bulldogs
GWS
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LAST WEEK'S TIPS 5



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ELLINBANK & DISTRICT LEAGUE RESULTS

RND 13

POOWONG FOOTBALL CLUB



68



72

LANG LANG	POOWONG
-----------	---------

Lang Lang 3.3 6.4 8.5 10.8 (68)
Poowong 2.6 4.8 7.10 10.12 (72)
GOALS Lang Lang: D Walls, C Barker, R Simmons, J Hand 2, B Galante, D Gallasch 1 each
BEST: K Parker, R Dolan, B Miller, D Walls, L Casey
GOALS Poowong: M Roberts 5, A Henshall 2, Z Gray, M Cozzio, C Langford 1 each
BEST: M Roberts, C Ives, Z Gray, J Bisognin, M Williams, A Henshall

RESERVES
Lang Lang 10.4 17.7 24.9 31.14 (200)
Poowong 0.1 0.1 0.1 0.1 (1)
GOALS Lang Lang: B Kiss 13, K Batt 5, N Christensen 4, N Perkins 3, D Parker, M Hunter 2, A Lawless, J Ventura 1 each
BEST: N Perkins, B Kiss, K Batt, N Christensen, J Ventura, M Hunter
BEST Poowong: B Townsend, Z Townley, S Aschenbrenner, R Gilliatte, B Schulz, R Verma

THIRDS
Lang Lang 2.4 3.7 3.8 5.10 (40)
Poowong 2.1 3.3 5.8 6.9 (45)
GOALS Lang Lang: A Thompson 2, T Thom, J Sparks, A Bates 1 each
BEST: J Francome, J Ward, R Nooy, A Bates, C Mannix, A Thompson
GOALS Poowong: J Blackwood 3, H Bott 2, C Deal, G Monson, M Cook 1 each
BEST: G Monson, J Wilson, H Hessels, H Bott, C Deal, J Hall

FOURTHS
Lang Lang 0.2 2.3 2.3 2.3 (15)
Poowong 5.0 7.0 8.4 8.6 (54)
GOALS Lang Lang: M Ventura, J Kennedy 1 each
BEST: B Wright, K Herbert, L Casey, J Kennedy, N Hilder, B Williams
GOALS Poowong: C Deal 3, D Waide 2, C Deal, L Moriarty, L Nieuwerth 1 each
BEST: L Moriarty, C Dorian, B Sherar, D Canavan, K Zealley, A Riley

NYORA FOOTBALL CLUB



22



184

NYORA	YARRAGON
-------	----------

Nyora 0.0 1.1 2.3 3.4 (22)
Yarragon 6.3 12.5 23.8 28.16 (184)
GOALS Nyora: C Crestani, A Coggins, D Di Pietro 1 each
BEST: L Lee, J Anderson, D Heylen, L Fievez, J Shaw-Remy, T White
GOALS Yarragon: D Bates 5, B Coghill 4, B Preuss, R Kop, J Hayhow, S Clebney 3, S van der Zalm 2, H Tyers, G White, M Jolly, N Mazza, J Symes 1 each
BEST: B Preuss, B Coghill, S Clebney, J Symes, D Bates, G White

RESERVES
Nyora 3.1 4.4 4.6 6.7 (43)
Yarragon 1.3 3.7 5.12 8.18 (66)
GOALS Nyora: T Campbell, J Hewitt 2, D Boswell, J Campbell 1 each
BEST: A Dike, I Boswell, J Waixel, B Smith, J Hewitt, T Campbell
GOALS Yarragon: L McWhinney 3, D Allison 2, M Dubbeld, H Black, J Binzer 1 each
BEST: L McWhinney, J Binzer, D Allison, T Fraser, W Kemp, J Smith-Butterworth

IN OTHER GAMES

SENIORS
Longwarry 22.13.145 d Catani 7.4.46
Buln Buln 8.21.69 d Nilma Darn 2.2.14
Neerim Sth 26.24.180 d Bunyip 3.4.22
Trafalgar 10.13.73 d Ellinbank 2.4.16

RESERVES
Longwarry 15.13.103 d Catani 0.2.2
Neerim Sth 11.4.70 d Bunyip 1.2.8
Buln Buln 16.14.110 d Nilma Darn 2.3.15
Trafalgar 12.10.82 d Ellinbank 3.5.23

THIRDS
Longwarry 14.16.100 d Yarragon 3.3.21
Ellinbank 21.18.144 d Trafalgar 0.2.2
Buln Buln 6.6.42 d Nilma Darn 5.4.34
Neerim Sth 20.8.128 d Bunyip 2.4.16

FOURTHS
Nilma Darn 6.4.40 d Buln Buln 5.9.39
Trafalgar 7.11.53 d Ellinbank 6.4.40
Bunyip 11.16.82 d Neerim Sth 0.7.7
Catani 9.10.64 d Longwarry 5.10.40

Poowong makes it two wins on the trot

By Geoff Wyatt

POOWONG'S Senior side beat Lang Lang in a thriller, the four-point victory making it two wins in a row for the Magpies, the latest success achieved in the lair of the fifth-placed Tigers.

The weather was great for July, with the ground in excellent condition and a light breeze to the highway end.

Poowong was forced to make three changes to its Senior lineup, with Conor Cunningham unavailable, and Under 18 players Bryce Broadmore and Aaron Damon rested, the trio replaced by Anthony Orsini, Rhys Schulz and Josh Hall.

Poowong started off kicking to the highway end with the breeze, the Magpies quickly showing supporters that they were having a real dip, with Poowong first on the board through a goal to Alex Henshall.

Matthew Roberts was giving the visiting team a target up forward, and after a few points, Henshall added his second goal.

This all happened during the best 15 minutes of football for Poowong all season, before Lang Lang finally went forward kicking two goals from free kicks, the Tigers adding another late in the quarter.

It's amazing the difference in a player's form and how much they can improve if there is a lift in confidence among the players.

The match was of a good



Poowong's Hayden Hessels takes the mark for the U18s. Photo: Jeff Tull.

standard, and the umpires were confident with their decisions, making the game flow.

The interest in the second quarter was to see if Poowong could hold Lang Lang with the breeze.

That assignment started positively when Roberts boot-ed a goal for the Magpies, before Lang Lang hit back, converting a couple of marks in the square into majors.

Roberts then set up a Poowong goal with his pass to Zac Gray, but Lang Lang again responded and headed to the

halftime break with a slender advantage, the score at that time Lang Lang 6.4 (40) to Poowong 4.8 (32), leaving the Magpies with a chance to cause an upset.

Joseph Bisognin was performing strongly in the ruck, while Roberts continued to impress as a forward target, with an air of confidence among the Magpies.

Poowong's positivity continued in the third quarter and it was rewarded on the scoreboard with two goals to Roberts and one to Carl Langford. Lang Lang added two goals

in the third stanza, the Tigers clinging to a lead of just a solitary point at the last change, with Poowong 7.10 (52) to Lang Lang 8.5 (53).

The breeze had eased for the last quarter, with Lang Lang first on the board with a goal, before Matt Cozzio replied for Poowong, only to see Lang Lang kick its tenth.

With both sides striving to win, Roberts goaled from a free kick to cut the Magpies' deficit to just three points, Poowong trimming the margin by a behind before Roberts marked and kicked the winning goal.

Poowong's defence held tight until the siren sounded, the Magpies' second win of the season a great effort, the scores finishing with Poowong 10.12 (72) to Lang Lang 10.8 (68).

Roberts was the winning team's best player, finishing with five goals, Connor Ives and Zac Gray other Magpies who had great games.

Bisognin was outstanding in the ruck, with Micah Williams excelling and Alex Henshall working hard all day and kicking two goals.

Kalin Parker did best for the narrowly beaten Tigers, while Darcy Walls, Jesse Hand, Curtis Barker and Rhys Simmons were Lang Lang's multiple goal scorers with a couple of majors each.

Poowong has the bye this week, then welcomes Nilma Darnum at home.

See you at Poowong in a fortnight.



Busy all game, Lucas Lee pursues the Sherrin for Nyora in their contest against Yarragon.

Yarragon outclass Nyora

IT WAS a tough day for Nyora, which suffered a 162-point loss at the hands of Yarragon on Saturday.

Playing at the Nyora Recreation Reserve, Yarragon came into the game red hot, with a dominant backline that held Nyora scoreless in the first quarter.

Meanwhile, Yarragon kicked away to a six-goal lead, which it secured in the first 10 minutes of the game.

Yarragon continued its ti-rade into the second quarter.

Nyora had an opportunity at the six-minute mark but failed to convert and put a behind on its tally.

It was looking grim for Nyora until it managed to add its first goal of the game 19 minutes into the second quarter.

Yarragon recharged at the halftime break and launched back into a harsh

campaign against the home side through the third quarter.

However, Nyora held its own and fought back ahead of the three-quarter time siren, kicking one goal and two behinds to finish off the term.

Yarragon finished off its game with five more goals on the scoreboard, with Nyora adding just one more, continuing to fight until the end.

Nyora's best players were Lucas Lee, Jordan Anderson, Dylan Heylen, Lachie Fievez, Jye Shaw-Remy and Tane White.

Next week, Nyora will be up against Bunyip.

Nyora last faced Bunyip in round six, where it won by just one point.

Nyora will be looking to get back on the winners' list and will be pushing hard in a get-table game.

ELLINBANK & DISTRICT LEAGUE LADDERS

ROUND 13

SENIORS	W	L	%	pts
Neerim South	13	0	341.95	52
Longwarry	11	2	249.40	44
Buln Buln	10	3	176.38	40
Trafalgar	9	4	225.04	36
Lang Lang	8	5	141.51	32
Ellinbank	6	7	140.75	24
Yarragon	6	7	85.10	24
Catani	4	9	76.83	16
Nilma Darnum	4	9	51.66	16
Nyora	3	10	42.65	12
Bunyip	2	11	43.02	8
Poowong	2	11	30.95	8

LEADING GOAL KICKERS	
Jason Wells (Longwarry)	108
Mason McGarrit (Neerim South)	85

RESERVES	W	L	%	pts
Lang Lang	12	1	833.83	48
Longwarry	12	1	633.03	48
Trafalgar	11	2	285.22	44
Ellinbank	10	3	289.30	40
Neerim South	8	5	282.13	32
Buln Buln	6	6	74.97	26
Catani	5	8	71.99	20
Yarragon	5	8	69.96	20
Bunyip	4	8	72.61	18
Nyora	2	11	26.93	8
Poowong	2	11	8.56	8
Nilma Darnum	0	13	15.85	0

LEADING GOAL KICKERS	
Kurt Batt (Lang Lang)	46
Bradley Blazevic (Longwarry)	40
Toby Bayne (Neerim South)	39

THIRDS	W	L	%	MR
Ellinbank	12	0	503.86	100.0
Longwarry	9	2	206.77	81.82
Buln Buln	9	3	267.93	75.00
Nilma Darnum	7	5	139.76	58.33
Neerim South	7	5	126.92	58.33
Poowong	6	5	107.99	54.55
Lang Lang	5	6	154.57	45.45
Trafalgar	2	10	43.51	16.67
Yarragon	1	10	28.07	9.09
Bunyip	0	12	9.31	0.00
Catani	0	0	0.00	0.00
Nyora	0	0	0.00	0.00

LEADING GOAL KICKERS	
Charlie Armour (Ellinbank)	33
James Patterson (Nilma Darnum)	32
Hugh Cunningham (Ellinbank)	28

FOURTHS	W	L	%	MR
Bunyip	11	0	358.69	95.83
Trafalgar	10	2	284.49	83.33
Poowong	8	3	187.28	72.73
Ellinbank	8	4	127.36	66.67
Yarragon	7	4	145.93	63.64
Catani	7	5	103.04	58.33
Lang Lang	4	7	58.41	36.36
Buln Buln	3	9	64.12	25.00
Nilma Darnum	2	9	33.38	20.83
Longwarry	2	10	55.04	16.67
Neerim South	2	11	48.97	15.38
Nyora	0	0	0.00	0.00

LEADING GOAL KICKERS	
Hudson Grujic (Trafalgar)	35
Cruze Deal (Poowong)	31
Dylan Strating (Neerim South)	25

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Desperate defence as a Stony Creek player flies backwards with the flight to spoil a Thorpdale attack. Photos: G.S. Bruning.

Close but not enough for the Lions

STONY Creek, two wins from the league's sixth-placed side and their weekend opponent Thorpdale, were well aware that it was a do-or-die clash for them.

A win would provide a glimmer of hope that finals were still a possibility, a loss however would have them floundering and hoping for a miracle as they faced the remaining six rounds of the home and away season.

The result, another one kick loss, a devastating blow for the Lions.

"After quarter time our boys showed they have the ability to go with top teams, controlling the game from then on just to fall five points short at the final siren," Troy Shephardson, Stony Creek coach said.

The visiting Blues didn't have everything go their way, in fact, it was their opponents Stony Creek who actually helped their cause.

"It was a week when player availability was at an all-time

By Rob Popplestone

low with only thirty-three players available on the day," Daniel Taylor, Thorpdale coach said.

"Big shout out to Stony for helping us out with numbers so we could get a reserves side on the park. The aim was to get a win in the seniors and not forfeit the seconds so pretty happy we ticked that box for the day. In the seniors, a dominant first quarter set up the win. Credit to Stony who slowly but surely worked their way into the game and were probably stiff in the end not to pinch it late."

The football gods can be cruel sometimes and the Lions know that well, their helping hand to the Blues not returned with a positive result, but rather another one-kick loss that has changed the trajectory of their season from a possible contender to a frustrating what could have been season.



Stony Creek and Thorpdale opponents dive headfirst into the contest during a fierce midfield battle.

Breakers dominate their opportunities against Warragul

THE Breakers came out strong with an early goal from Tess Wingfield, setting the tone.

Molly Conroy converted a set shot midway through the quarter to extend the Breakers' lead, with Ella Cargill adding the visitors' third late in the quarter.

In the second quarter, Nikki Williams and Lily Jack were lively in the forward line with Immy Bradford working hard up the ground, often outnumbered, creating a lot of the forward opportunities.

Despite having all of the play, the Breakers only added one goal to their tally, coming as a result of some great contested play from Ella Cargill.

The Breakers again dominated the third quarter without much to show on the scoreboard; however, great linking play down the field was still great to watch.

Katie Cornish marked strongly and brought her usual hard attack on the ball to stop anything getting past half back.

Warragul finally broke through early in the last, but it didn't take long for the Breakers to regain momentum. Tess Angarane was first to capitalise with a contested mark and set shot conversion.

Annie Dempsey, who was having a real impact around the ground, was next with a lovely goal on the run.

Ella Cargill capped off a great performance with a bounce running into the goal to register her third for the game just before the siren.

Final score: Breakers

Goals: Ella Cargill 3, Tess Wingfield, Annie Dempsey, Tess Angarane, Molly Conroy

Best: Katie Cornish, Molly Conroy, Immy Bradford, Ella Cargill, Annie Dempsey.



Kelly Pethick gets a kick away under pressure.



A Phillip Island under 16 player gets into the clear during an impressive showing by the locals at Cowes on Sunday.

Bulldogs dominate under sunny skies

IT WAS sunshine, smiles, and serious skill on display as the Bulldogs U16 Girls soared to a commanding victory over Hill End on Sunday afternoon at the Kennel.

With clear skies and the sun beaming down on a picture-perfect Phillip Island day, the Bulldogs put on a performance to remember, finishing with a dominant 17.17 (119) to 0.0 (0) win.

Leading the charge was captain Bethany Grenness, who lit up the scoreboard with seven sensational goals, earning herself Best on Ground honours. Bethany's agility, accuracy, and relentless pressure set the tone for the Bulldogs' attack and left the Hill End defence scrambling.

She wasn't alone – Piper Nicolaci proved just as dangerous, kicking three goals and showcasing clean hands and explosive pace through the midfield and goal sneak Jasmine Trapnell added three goals to the tally. Macey Stubbs and Sadie Davies provided the girls with plenty of goal assists while Ruby Kent-Ford, Gisele Smith, Kyra Carton, and Mackenzie Marr also contributed a goal each to round out the team's impressive total.

Midfield general Gisele Smith was a standout in the engine room, linking up play and providing relentless drive through the centre. Lily (Elbow) Bow and Bethany Grenness dominated the wings, with Bethany's run and carry providing plenty of opportunity inside 50.

The Bulldogs' defence, led by Mackenzi Marr and Tess Ricardo, kept Hill End scoreless all match, applying pressure at every contest and clearing the ball with confidence. Mia Ward, Ruby King, and Jasmine Campbell were also rock solid in defence and smart with their ball use, keeping the Hill End side well outside scoring range.

Head coach Diddy praised the team's cohesion and spirit.

"They played like a true unit today. The girls backed each other, moved the ball beautifully, and never let up. I couldn't be prouder."

With support from Lee (Woo) Woolford, injured teammates on the bench, as well as a strong local crowd cheering them on, the Bulldogs showed just how bright the future is for Phillip Island football.

The win adds momentum to what's shaping up to be a promising season for the Bulldogs U16 Girls.

Final Score: Phillip Island 17.17.119 def Hill End 0.0.0

Best: Bethany Grenness, Piper Nicolaci, Ruby Kent-Ford, Gisele Smith, Sadie Davies, Lily (Elbow) Bow and Jasmine Trapnell.

Goals: Bethany Grenness 7, Piper Nicolaci 3, Jasmine Trapnell 3, Ruby Kent-Ford, Kyra Carton, Mackenzie Marr, Gisele Smith.

MID GIPPSLAND LEAGUE RESULTS

RND 12

TARWIN FOOTBALL CLUB

22 132

TARWIN	YINNAR
Tarwin	1.2 1.7 2.8 2.10 (22)
Yinnar	2.2 10.2 15.3 21.6 (132)

GOALS, Tarwin: T Harley, J Proctor 1 each
BEST: H Cumming, D Houston, L Jones, B Ellen, B Chalmers, T Harley
GOALS, Yinnar: K Grinstead-Jones 6, W Robertson, B Cheffers 3, H McKay, J Notman, S Famularo 2, N Hall, M Geary, J Bugeja 1 each
BEST: K Grinstead-Jones, W Robertson, B Cheffers, F Schill, C Mills, N Hall

Tarwin	0.3	0.4	2.5	5.6 (36)
Yinnar	5.3	7.5	10.7	14.8 (92)

GOALS, Tarwin: D Cardy, B Senior-Gibson 2, L Anderson 1
BEST: L Keily, s griffin, E Senior, I Cameron, Z Bright, D Cardy
BEST: Yinnar
GOALS, Yinnar: C Hutchison, K Alexander 4, B Watson 2, S McColl, K Elphick, P Duncan, D Webster 1 each
BEST: C Hutchison, R Mayo, K Alexander, J Shea, L Alexander, M Parker

Tarwin	1.3	3.4	5.7	10.8 (68)
Yinnar	2.1	7.3	11.6	15.9 (99)

GOALS, Tarwin: H Watt 3, L Jones, C Mallia 2, H Guymer, E Gundlapalli, I Cameron 1 each
BEST: I Cameron, E Bruning, J Cashin, E Gundlapalli, J Andronaco, B Trevena
GOALS, Yinnar: B Durea 4, B Burrows, X McCafferty, J Rogalsky, D Hobbs 2, H Bugeja, H Berechree, H McCulloch 1 each
BEST: B Burrows, J Rogalsky, H Bugeja, G Ryan, H McCulloch, H Berechree

FOSTER FOOTBALL CLUB

40 146

MORWELL EAST	FOSTER
Morwell East	1.1 2.3 5.4 6.4 (40)
Foster	8.1 12.4 17.6 23.8 (146)

GOALS, Morwell East: C Wangman 2, J Mackenzie, T Higgins, N Kyriacou, C Iorangi 1 each
BEST: N Kyriacou, L Day, B Atkinson, C Iorangi, M Diaz, J Wilson
GOALS, Foster: J Best 9, M Cooke 5, J Lewis, J Flavelle, H Flavelle 2, M Green, B Flavelle, M Green 1 each
BEST: S Chaseling, M Cooke, J Toner, H Flavelle, D Williams, J Best

Morwell East	2.5	6.9	10.10	15.15 (105)
Foster	0.2	0.2	1.3	1.6 (12)

GOALS, Morwell East: I Terrick 4, P Henry, S Winmar 3, F Marks, D Heyden 2, D Cooper 1
BEST: F Marks, N Nikodemski, C Lane, R Baptie, K Chapman, T Scott
GOALS, Foster: N Gundrill 1
BEST: J Gay, F Lomax, M House, C Garlick, A Lomax, S Gibson

FISH CREEK FOOTBALL CLUB

54 79

BOOLARRA	FISH CREEK
Boolarra	1.1 4.4 6.6 8.6 (54)
Fish Creek	1.4 5.4 8.9 11.13 (79)

GOALS, Boolarra: B Mason, A Sheers 2, L Smith, J Mason, M Dyer, M Lovison 1 each
BEST: M Dyer, W Flanagan, M Porykali, B Flanigan, S Noy, T Reiske
GOALS, Fish Creek: J Stefani, D Berryman 2, J Rysko, O Bright, J Hayes, S McGannon, M McGannon, T Vuillermin, R De Biase 1 each
BEST: J Kenny, R Lewis, T Gavenlock, S McGannon, R De Biase, M McGannon

Boolarra	1.2	1.4	2.4	3.7 (25)
Fish Creek	3.2	7.9	13.14	18.17 (125)

GOALS, Boolarra: D Cooper 2, P Haines 1
BEST: J Gill, T Beamish, P Haines, D Cooper, D Gregor, J Brierley
GOALS, Fish Creek: A Bright 7, R Staley 3, J Standfield, M Pocklington, B Bell 2, L Moon, T Millton 1 each
BEST: J Standfield, L Southwell, B Bell, A Edgelow, J Anderson, L Bowman

Yinnar pressure too much for Tarwin

By Rob Popplestone

THE Mid Gippsland Football Netball League was this week recognised as one of the most even and competitive football competitions in regional Victoria, but in round twelve the results of some big matches would also clear a pathway for many clubs to take a step towards bigger and better things, some to a bumpy road and some would need to accept the dead end that lays ahead.

It was third-placed Yinnar travelling to the home of fifth-placed Tarwin, both clubs fully aware that there was an enormous amount riding on the result.

The loser, to start to feel the pressure of a trailing pack, the winner to breathe a sigh of relief, albeit just for a week.

The air was fresh for Yinnar, the pressure on Tarwin as the Magpies had the most comfortable of victories 21-6-132 to 2-10-22.

“Tarwin on their home ground is always hard to beat and we prepared for a tough encounter,” Sam McCulloch, Yinnar coach said.

“The game was hot early and we managed to get our brand of footy going in the second quarter and went into half-time with a handy buffer. We continued on in the second half and ran the game out well.

“One of the most pleasing aspects was the even contribution from right across the field for all four quarters.”

The Magpies’ victory, one of their best for 2025, was a reassuring one for coaches and supporters alike, and not only did they put their best out here for everyone to see, but it also put a substantial dent in the confidence of the Sharks.



Tarwin's Troy Harley fending off opposition and teammates alike to get the clearance. W23_2725

“We were really outclassed all over the ground on the weekend,” Lachie Jones, Tarwin coach said.

“We prepared well but didn’t execute in so many key areas. Yinnar reminded us that they can score quickly and heavily. We won’t dwell on this too much and will look to respond positively next week against Fish Creek.”

While Yinnar just cruises below the two top teams of the MGFNL in Foster and Fish Creek, the Sharks remain under no illusions now, as to what is required to close the gap between the haves and have-nots.

Tarwin are around about the mark, but not quite there yet.



Ben Ellen fends off two Yinnar players in the contest. W27_2725

Top-tier Tigers dismantle Hawks in ruthless display

By Rob Popplestone

WITH the chances of finals both realistically and mathematically gone for the home ground Hawks, the weekend was always going to be a tough task both mentally and physically for Morwell East.

Taking on the top of the table Foster, it would be pride in performance that would need to be called on, maybe not to win, but rather, not to be embarrassed by a humiliating loss.

The result, another blow for the Hawks.

The Tigers 23-8-146 to Morwell East’s 6-4-40 one of Foster’s better wins of the year.

“Potentially our most complete four-quarter game so far this year which was really pleasing – our focus was on contest and competing in all areas of the ground and we had 21 winners across the

lines,” Sam Davies, Foster coach said.

It’s the performance, a coach dreams of, when every player contributes to the team, Foster seemingly improving as each week passes.

“We have had some big defeats this year. The weekend’s defeat at the hands of Foster was something else. They are the best team we’ve played this year,” Paul Henry, Morwell East coach said.

“The third quarter was our only quarter we matched them but we were still out-scored. Unbelievable goal kicking from them!”

The Hawks might have been on the end of a comprehensive defeat, but they won’t be the only team that will struggle with the might of Foster.

The best that Morwell East can do now, is look ahead to their next opponent in Newborough.

Roos bounce on the Demons in a battle of the midfields

By Rob Popplestone

AS TOUGH as Boolarra found last year’s Grand Finalists in Yinnar just a week ago, there was an expectation that the challenge was going to be that much tougher in round twelve when the Demons welcomed the two-time reigning premiers Fish Creek to their home ground.

Boolarra needing a win, just to keep in touch with the six clubs above them, now face a fight of enormous proportions after their twenty-five-point defeat.

The final siren finished what was a testing day for the home side, even before the first bounce.

“The revolving door at selection was at an all-time low this week with the final side not confirmed until after 2pm on game day. Match day late withdrawals were compounded by two reserves players being injured in their game and unable to fill their role in the senior side. As a result a third-choice backup player joined the senior list with their name going on the team sheet after 2pm,” Brendan Mason, Boolarra coach said.

“The first half was an arm wrestle between two powerful midfields the Fish Creek

advantage being that they were able to rotate heavily during this time which paid great benefits for them as the game wore on.

“We didn’t want to be content with yet another decent effort against a good side. We threw caution to the wind in an attempt to win the game in the last quarter.”

That attempt might not have worked, but it showed that Boolarra are courageous enough to try.

The Kangaroos, respectful of their opponents’ efforts.

“A hard-fought win for us. Boolarra definitely came to play, they were really hard at

the contest and spread really well which made defending hard,” Jarrad Walker, Fish Creek coach said.

“Credit to our mids who cracked in all day and eventually in the second half started to get on top a little bit. An arm wrestle all day so I was happy to come away with a win.”

The Kangaroos without question are the real deal. Two premierships in the past two seasons are testimony to that, but the fact is they will welcome back even more quality personnel in the weeks ahead as they soon start to hone in on a rare three-peat opportunity.



Mirboo North skipper Mitch Richardson tries to escape the clutches of his Newborough opponent during the Tigers' victory in the Reserves. Photos: Annie Holland.



Josh Taylor celebrates his 250 game milestone with wife Emily and kids Jax, Blaze and Nash.

Tigers roar back to claim Skinner trophy

MIRBOO NORTH regained the Ron Skinner Memorial Trophy from Newborough, with an 83-point eclipse of the Bulldogs, at Tigerland on Saturday.

The match took place in idyllic 16-degree sunshine on a lushly green-grassed surface, where any Holstein milking cow would have most contentedly chewed her cud.

Triple senior premiership representative, Josh Taylor, booted three goals in his 250th match for the mighty Tigers, that automatically earns the 'Blonde Bombshell' MNFNC life membership.

Right from the start, Mirboo North was on a mission to keep alive, its challenging hopes of featuring in this year's Mid Gippsland finals.

by Rover

The Tigers were strengthened with talented teenager, Clancy Snell's inclusion, plus the return from injury of skipper Hudson Kerr and giant ruckman, Patrick Lewis.

From go to whoa, the relentless running of Jesse Chila, Ethan and Archie Woodall, Snell, Kerr and Ben Heath, literally ran the Bulldogs off their feet.

Down back, Beau Peters, playing coach Damien Turner and Jacob Blair's combined cohesion, limited Newborough to three goals for the day.

As well, Mirboo North's fervour in the packs was further evidence of the Tigers' will to win the contested ball at

all costs.

At the main break, Mirboo North was well on the road to victory with a lead of 39 points, after allowing Newborough only two goals in the first half of the match.

Battling hard for the visitors were Tyler Peters, Anthony Daley, Jack Edebohis and Peter Ainsworth.

A dominant third quarter from the home side saw it kick another five majors, whilst limiting the Bulldogs to three behinds only.

The Tigers were going so well that even the odd mistake here and there didn't seem to matter too much at all – because back-up support was always on hand at the next contest.

Mirboo North recorded 3.5

in the final term, with the last goal of the game fittingly coming from Josh Taylor, on a tight angle in the dying moments.

Earlier, Ben Van Dyk brought up Newborough's third major, after marking strongly inside the Doggies' forward 50.

Afterwards, milestone man Taylor was carried from the field by Riley Oddy and Kerr, through a guard of honour, comprising other Mirboo North teammates and their Newborough opponents.

This Saturday, Mirboo North tackles fifth-placed Thorpdale, where the annual Bright-St Ellen Memorial Shield will be decided at the Thorpdale Recreation Reserve.

Magpies soar to fifty-point victory to keep finals hopes alive

AFTER manfully fighting through the first ten rounds of the season it was a demoralising loss to Fish Creek in round eleven that had most wondering whether that defeat might be enough to topple the Hillsmen over and accept that a victory might avoid them for the entire 2025 season.

At the same time the visiting Magpies still gave themselves an outside chance of a late finals surge, but to do so they could not afford to drop this one.

By Rob Popplestone

Toora's fifty-point victory, enough to keep the Magpies well and truly motivated in the back half of the year.

"We were greeted with perfect conditions at Willow Grove yesterday when we took on Hill End," Jay Accardi, Toora coach said.

"Another tough encounter against a young side who didn't take a backward step. They are a far better side than their ladder position suggests.

"We managed to break away at times throughout the contest, but they always seemed to find a way to get back into the match. A great contest all day."

It's a bit like Groundhog Day for the Rovers, where it appears that every Saturday seems to be similar to that of the week before but like Bill Murray in the movie, improvements are being made so that they can eventually get the result they are after.

"We played some really good football at times and it

was great to see the young fellas kick a score. If this club can keep and move forward with the youngsters, I see some better days ahead," Adrian Burns, Hill End said.

There will be a bit happening at the home of Hill End this coming week with former AFL player Will Schofield joining the Rovers as part of the Carlton Draught series.

His experience and presence another learning block for the young Rovers.

MID GIPPSLAND LEAGUE RESULTS

RND 12

MIRBOO NORTH FOOTBALL CLUB

 107  24

MIRBOO NORTH NEWBOROUGH

Mirboo Nth 4.3 7.11 12.12 15.17 (107)
Newborough 1.1 2.2 2.5 3.6 (24)
GOALS, Mirboo Nth: J Taylor, R Oddy, J Chila 3, R Kratzat, P Taylor 2, O Mahoney, D Turner 1 each
BEST: J Chila, C Snell, A Woodall, J Taylor, R Oddy, H Kerr
GOALS, Newborough: B van Dyk, H Gallagher, J Pearce 1 each
BEST: T Peters, A Daley, J Edebohls, P Ainsworth, W Anderson, D Smith
RESERVES
Mirboo Nth 1.3 4.5 4.8 5.11 (41)
Newborough 0.2 0.4 1.6 1.7 (13)
GOALS, Mirboo Nth: T Kelly 2, H Reville Gent, A Soplakow, D Pinneri 1 each
BEST: E Hall, T Alexander, W Lewis, J Hutton, H Reville Gent, T Kelly
GOALS, Newborough: B Dyer 1
BEST: W Collings, D Lupton, R Timbs, J Stephens, E Mounsey, L Nelson

THIRDS

Mirboo Nth 04.2 6.5 8.5 10.7 (67)
Newborough 0.0 0.3 2.7 5.9 (39)
GOALS, Mirboo Nth: T McDuffie 3, C Crutchfield, T Tobin 2, T Heislars, F Bourke, A Evans 1 each
BEST: F Bourke, S Berquez, C Crutchfield, L Poljak, H Ludlow, Z Fleming
GOALS, Newborough: M Langdon 3, O Hanson, H Dunstan 1 each
BEST: M Langdon, N Tunks, S Kippen, T Webber, T McGrath, N Murray

TOORA FOOTBALL CLUB

 94  144

HILL END TOORA

Hill End 3.3 7.4 9.7 14.10 (94)
Toora 5.1 10.10 14.15 21.18 (144)
GOALS, Hill End: A Uliando 5, L Cumiskey 4, B Paul 2, A Fawcett, R Ladson, D Paul 1 each
BEST: A Fawcett, A Daly, B Paul, A Uliando, L Cumiskey, R Ladson
GOALS, Toora: L Craig 7, M Bezzene 6, J Smart, J Griffin, J Weston 2, J Pintus, J Halsall 1 each
BEST: L Craig, M Bezzene, J Halsall, L Smart, A Peile, T Dyson
RESERVES
Hill End 0.1 1.1 1.2 1.4 (10)
Toora 5.4 8.9 14.14 17.18 (120)
GOALS, Hill End: A Matwijkiw 1,
BEST: J Conley, K Woolstencroft, J Coombs, J Tutton, J Harris, S Damschke
GOALS, Toora: J Maurilli-Pullin 8, A Rhodes 3, M Glowrey 2, J Nicholls, L de Boer, L Anedda, J Gukanovic 1 each
BEST: P Grant, L Anedda, A Rhodes, J Maurilli-Pullin, M Glowrey, M Stone

THIRDS

Hill End 3.1 3.1 5.5 6.5 (41)
Toora 2.1 5.4 7.7 9.12 (66)
GOALS, Hill End: D Paul 2, M Hasthorpe, L Riley, S Damschke, B Stephens 1 each
BEST: D Paul, M Hasthorpe, D van der Stoep, H Phoenix, B Stephens, A Cooper
GOALS, MDU: B Sellings, A McInnes 3, L Hamilton 2, C Bruce 1
BEST: W Campbell, B Sellings, J Carew, B Smedley, A Bruce, C Harrison

STONY CREEK FOOTBALL CLUB

 80  85

STONY CREEK THORPDALE

Stony Creek 1.3 3.9 5.13 11.14 (80)
Thorpdale 7.6 9.8 10.9 12.13 (85)
GOALS, Stony Crk: N Trotto 3, C Stone 2, R McKnight, L Row, H Funnell, H Bull, C Michael, J Byrnes 1 each
BEST: T Bernaldo, N Trotto, C Stone, C Loughridge, J Stuart, J Byrnes
GOALS, Thorpdale: S Pickering, M Gorman 3, S Falla 2, H Britten, J Patullo, J Burgess, J De Virgilio 1 each
BEST: J Patullo, S Pickering, J Burgess, J Jones, S Falla, J De Virgilio
RESERVES
Stony Creek 2.0 7.5 8.8 13.12 (90)
Thorpdale 3.2 3.2 4.6 4.6 (30)
GOALS, Stony Crk: J Brann 3, S Roche, T Horsburgh, L Byrnes 2, J Battersby, E Busse, C McCaughan, W Speed 1 each
BEST: E Busse, J Brann, N Svenson, C McCaughan, L Byrnes, J Battersby
GOALS, Thorpdale: M Rosato, S Lawson, A Lowater, T Taylor-Wilton 1 each
BEST: T Mackenzie, A Irwin, P MacKenzie, D Hammond, J Hecker, A Lowater

MID GIPPSLAND LEAGUE LADDERS					ROUND 12				
SENIORS	W	L	%	pts	RESERVES	W	L	%	pts
Foster	10	1	243.36	44	Yinnar	12	0	447.86	48
Fish Creek	10	1	205.79	44	MDU	8	3	285.19	36
Yinnar	10	2	177.37	40	Morwell East	8	3	223.81	36
MDU	8	3	149.65	36	Tarwin	8	3	187.41	36
Thorpdale	6	5	97.66	28	Fish Creek	8	3	144.79	36
Tarwin	6	5	93.87	28	Stony Creek	7	4	130.68	32
Mirboo Nth	5	6	79.89	24	Toora	6	5	187.53	28
Toora	4	7	87.99	20	Newborough	4	7	74.24	20
Boolarra	4	7	79.41	20	Hill End	3	8	54.11	16
Newborough	4	7	67.96	20	Mirboo Nth	3	8	53.97	16
Stony Creek	3	8	85.49	16	Foster	2	8	42.35	14
Morwell East	2	9	51.65	12	Thorpdale	2	9	24.07	12
Hill End	0	11	46.12	4	Boolarra	0	10	23.72	6
LEADING GOAL KICKERS					LEADING GOAL KICKERS				
Kane Grinstead-Jones (Yinnar)				54	Jarryd Garlick (Yinnar)				52
Jake Best (Foster)				54	Adam Bright (Fish Creek)				40
Nick Nagel (MDU)				53	James Maurilli-Pullin (Toora)				28
THIRDS	W	L	%	pts	LEADING GOAL KICKERS				
MDU	9	1	369.37	44	Angus McInnes (MDU)				52
Newborough	7	2	160.82	40	Oscar Hanson (Newborough)				40
Yinnar	6	3	132.97	36	Tobias McDuffie (Mirboo North)				35
Hill End	5	4	109.41	32					
Mirboo Nth	4	6	74.72	24					
Tarwin	1	7	61.32	20					
Fish Creek	0	9	22.87	12					
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					



Patrick Ireland enjoys the moment after his 12-goal game for Leongatha, giving much of the credit to his teammates. A50_2725

Day of festivities at Parrot Park

From page 68

“Everyone gets around me for kicking the goals but I’ve got the easy part of just taking a chest mark and kicking it straight,” he said after the game, praising Leongatha’s midfielders for their impressive delivery. “All our midfielders were really good today, just being able to win it out of the guts,” Ireland said.

While hopeful of adding to his one game for Casey this season, he’s happy to keep mounting his case, saying his focus is on what he can control.

“They’ve got a full list with no injuries,” he said of the Demons side he hopes to break into.

Whether he is picked or not, Ireland couldn’t be doing much more, having booted a total of 21 goals for the Parrots in his last two games, his Gippsland League season tally now at 38 majors from 10 matches.

That follows his prolific Ellinbank & District season for Buln Buln in which he kicked 111 goals from 20 games, including bags of 14, 13 and 12.

Those in charge at the Parrots will be delighted for Ireland if he establishes himself in the Casey side, but love having him around in the meantime, and he elaborated on why he’s happy to be in a Leongatha jumper.

“It’s such a family club; everybody here knows each other, and they brought me in with open arms,” he said, appreciating the support he gets from the club and the flexibility it offers him in regard to his other footy commitments.



Patrick Ireland slotting one of his 12 goals for the day for Leongatha. w06_2725

Parrots impressive but top challenge looms



Luke Bowman is in a purple patch of form for the Parrots at the moment, again contributing strongly across the four quarters. w05_2725



Big man Benjamin Willis gets his Leongatha midfielders first crack at the footy with some physical ruckwork. w29_2725



Leongatha's Ty Hall was getting busy in their 59-point win over Bairnsdale. w30_2725

THERE were two standout highlights for Leongatha on Saturday, three if you count the all-the-way, 59-point win over the visiting Bairnsdale side.

The day started with a guard of honour and a banner to celebrate Sean Westaway’s 250th senior game and featured 12 goals by Leongatha spearhead Patrick Ireland to go with nine the week before against Sale.

Ireland started his tally early, with the day’s first but he missed two set shots and hit the post with a snap on his way to kicking another as the Parrots shared it around.

At the three-minute mark, Luke Bowman booted long to the goal square where Ireland took an uncontested mark in the middle of a pack of Bairnsdale players but no one laid a glove on him prompting a meeting of the Redlegs’ defence after Ireland’s goal.

Kim Drew backed up only moments later with the team’s second and they already looked dominant away from the stoppages.

Willis to Drew after Forrester came off half back and Ireland had his next mark on the lead but only a point resulted, he missed another shot minutes later after doing all the hard work on the lead.

Bairnsdale’s Jamie Dore took a couple of strong marks in the intervening period but missed two good chances to open his team’s account.

Out of defence, Bowman combined with Xavier Lamers and Ayden Williams and a couple of others with good transition work that was to characterise the rest of the match, Williams kicking the Parrots’ third.

A downfield free to Ireland was his second and the Parrots’ fourth before Bairnsdale had one on the board.

Jack Hume ran on after giving it off and slotted the team’s fifth

Bairnsdale’s Cooper Harvey kicked towards Lachie Byrne-Jones who made a spectacular leap at the ball before crashing down, but he still managed to kick their opening goal despite looking a little worse for wear.

Willis was dominant in the ruck, Bowman, Ben Harding, Drew, Ben Fort, Lamers, Hume and Forrester were all busy and there wasn’t a Leongatha passenger as they shared it around.

Ireland snapped and hit the post before Fort found Ben Grabham-Andrews for the team’s sixth.

Bairnsdale managed another just before the break, but the Parrots went in with a 39-14 lead already looking the goods.

The only downside was an injury to Noah Fixter who was stretchered off, delaying the game for some time while the trainers and medicos did their work.

The match continued on in that fashion with the green and gold first to the ball on each occasion and tackling and harassing in twos and threes when their opponents took possession.

Levi Hickey seems to have found a role for himself down back, as an intercept mark and together with Forrester, Hayden Lindsay, Travis Nash, Ben Harding and co there wasn’t an easy way through for the Redlegs’ forwards.

The second quarter was a more tightly contested affair but Leongatha extended its lead to 30 points after Ireland got them going, on the end of a penetrating run by Jack Hume, with his third of the day.

Ireland got his fourth halfway through the term as he found his range and direction. There were eight more just like it to come.

The Parrots sit on top of the ladder with a small percentage advantage over Moe but that situation will be resolved once and for all when the Parrots travel to Ted Summerton Reserve next week.



Jai Williams gets the handpass to a waiting Kyle Yann as Wonthaggi Power surges back into the contest against Drouin at Moe on Saturday.

The one that got away from Wonthaggi

WONTHAGGI had control of the game early, lost their way in the middle stages and almost snatched victory from the jaws of defeat late in the last quarter at Moe on Saturday.

But the game against bottom side Drouin, which had been moved to the Ted Summerton Reserve, due to Drouin's resurfacing project, was ultimately the 'one that got away' from Power.

A 'play on' call which robbed Cooper McInnes of the go-ahead shot from close range late and a push in the back near the boundary line were chances deep in the last quarter, but Wonthaggi will rue other gilt-edged opportunities earlier and it was Drouin which seized its moments.

Big Denver Lund threw a speculative boot at the bouncing ball which connected for a goal halfway through the last quarter and the Hawks' best player, Seb Amoroso, ran free to kick the sealer for an 11-point win, their first of the season.

Match report: Drouin started better to the town end goals and were moving the ball well through Amoroso and Kaiden Walmsley with Arli Fleming busy around the flanks.

They kicked the first within the opening minute through Walmsley following a free kick and despite a few promising attacks by Wonthaggi in the intervening period, they got the next one as well, after 13 minutes.

Riley Wierzbicki led up to a

pass by Tomas Unferdorben and Drouin was getting value for effort in the scoring zone.

But Wonthaggi's on-ballers were starting to get their fair share, and they rattled on the next four, appearing to take control of the contest.

Brodie Mabilia was working like an extra ruck rover after taking the taps against twin Drouin talls Riley Wierzbicki or Denver Lund, while Kyle Yann, Ryan Sparkes, Noah Anderson, Kaj Patterson, Hunter Tiziani and Josh Bates were also busy.

Kyle Reid was into his work down back, either intercept marking or punching clear, Jayden Burns, Reeve Morresco and Jye Gilmour were playing their roles in defence too and Wonthaggi started to return fire on the scoreboard.

The first came from a nice snap on the angle by Hunter Tiziani, started by Ryan Sparkes, before a brave aerial effort by Cade Brown was rewarded with a free kick and goal.

Patterson to a leading McInnes looked promising without result, but with the Power forwards applying commendable forward pressure they forced a ball-up where McInnes sharked his own tap right in front of the posts and slotted it through for number three.

Straight out of the next centre ball-up, in one of the Power's best passages of play for the day, Bates and Sparkes combined to get it to the running Yann, on to a leading Jai Williams and

finally James Lewis for a goal just before the first break.

Soon after the restart, Bates, Lewis and Anderson combined to get it forward to where Jaxon Williams took a great contested mark right next to the goalpost and should have kicked the opener from close range but sprayed it into the post.

It was something of a sliding doors moment in the match as Drouin started to even up the contest and then surge ahead with seven goals to two across the next two quarters.

Trailing by 20 points at the start of the last quarter, Wonthaggi Power had the job in front of them, especially given that the goals had dried up. It got worse quickly when Seb Amoroso banged one through but after a game-changing tackle by Andrew McNeel, Power seemed to find their mojo again.

With the play pinballing between Kyle Reid and his defensive unit at one end, and Kye Quirk and the likes of Ben Tranfield at the other it was some time before anyone got a goal until Wonthaggi's McInnes kicked one on the run from range.

In a crucial moment, to keep a surging Power at bay, Drouin's Noah Lafrantz boot-ed long and big Lund kicked it out of midair for a goal to protect the lead.

But Wonthaggi were coming, with Tiziani getting the reply within seconds.

Still three goals adrift

halfway through, the Power had to make the most of every chance and both Jaxon Williams and Cooper McInnes missed set shots before Noah Lafrantz took his chance against the run of play.

Now Power was four goals behind with only 10 minutes to play.

But they weren't done yet. Josh Bates to McInnes on the lead for a goal had the Power up and about again. A great tackle by Anderson, good play by Mabilia and then a goal to Ollie Dawson and they were less than two goals behind.

Only seconds later, Mabilia scrambled it out of the centre to Lewis and on to Jaxon Williams who kicked a beauty. There was still plenty of time left with excitement levels high around the boundary.

The Power peppered the forward line which had been bolstered with some of the Hawks' better players, and when Tiziani passed to McInnes, they looked to have their chance to take the lead by a point but it was "play on" and the moment was lost.

Not long after that Kyle Reid clashed heads with a teammate and was helped from the ground, blood streaming from a deep gash, but with two players down at a crucial moment, Drouin ran the ball to where Amoroso strolled in and kicked the winner.

The Hawks stacked the contests and slowed the play on Powers' half forward flank and held on for their first victory of the season.

GIPPSLAND LEAGUE RESULTS

RND 12

LEONGATHA FOOTBALL CLUB

108 Rodlegs 49

LEONGATHA	BAIRNSDALE
Leongatha 6.3 8.5 11.9 16.12 (108)	Bairnsdale 2.2 3.5 5.5 7.7 (49)

GOALS, Leongatha: P Ireland 12, A Williams, B Grabham Andrews, J Hume, K Drew 1 each
BEST: P Ireland, A Heppell, L Bowman, S Forrester, J Hume, B Davidson
GOALS, Bairnsdale: L Byrne-Jones 3, T Rees 2, C Harvey, M Hamilton 1 each
BEST: C Harvey, T Rees, W Mitchell, L Byrne-Jones, T Blenheim, D O'Connor

RESERVES				
Leongatha	3.7	6.8	9.10	10.11 (71)
Bairnsdale	0.0	0.3	2.3	2.6 (18)

GOALS, Leongatha: C Watson 3, F Matera, J Harry, N Hanily, M Croatto, K McGrath, C Rickard, T Gannon 1 each
BEST: L Marshman, T Gannon, M De Kleuver, J Hayes, J Clark, D Kratzat
GOALS, Bairnsdale: H Nicholls, R Taylor 1 each
BEST: T Scott, T Selleck, N Bulmer, R Taylor, S O'Kelly

THIRDS				
Leongatha	3.2	4.4	7.4	9.6 (60)
Bairnsdale	1.4	3.5	5.6	5.7 (37)

GOALS, Leongatha: C Bickerton 3, E Berryman 2, N Bradley, M Croatto, S Bradley, H Bowler 1 each
BEST: F McLennan, S Bradley, F Donohue, C Bickerton, N Bradley, S Hogarth
GOALS, Bairnsdale: W Malady 2, O Baylis, C Otuonye, O Emmett 1 each
BEST: B Fenner, D Ashby, W Malady, C Reed, J Farley, S Buckley

FOURTHS				
Leongatha	2.1	3.1	6.8	7.9 (51))
Bairnsdale	2.0	4.2	4.3	5.5 (35)

BEST Leongatha: E Berryman, E Reardon, N Bradley, C Bickerton, J Bolge, J Holt
BEST, Bairnsdale: Z Holley, H Young, J Cullinan, B Lieuwen, L Desio, H Froud

WONTHAGGI FOOTBALL CLUB

87 76

DROUIN	WONTHAGGI
Drouin 2.1 6.4 9.9 13.9 (87)	Wonthaggi 4.1 5.3 6.7 11.10 (76)

GOALS, Drouin: S Amoroso 4, T Unferdorben 3, N Lafrantz 2, B Brasier, K Walmsley, D Lund, Z Atkins 1 each
BEST: S Amoroso, T Unferdorben, K Quirk, A Quirk, N Lafrantz, M Williams
GOALS, Wonthaggi: C McInnes 4, H Tiziani 2, J Williams, O Dawson, C Brown, K Patterson, J Lewis 1 each
BEST: B Mabilia, K Reid, N Anderson, C McInnes, J Lewis, H Tiziani

RESERVES				
Drouin	0.0	0.0	2.0	2.0 (12)
Wonthaggi	4.1	8.5	13.7	17.11 (113)

GOALS, Drouin: K Hermansen, O Hermansen 1 each
BEST: S Ladbroke, K Hermansen, F Lockwood, O Hermansen, C Caddy, J Wierzbicki
GOALS, Wonthaggi: A Busana 6, B Cornelis, R Kay-Darts, R Lindsay 2, A Lindsay, N Martin, R Cornell, A Pugh, J Waters 1 each
BEST: E Joma, A Lindsay, N Martin, B Cornelis, S Ori, A Busana

THIRDS				
Drouin	3.1	5.2	7.3	10.3 (63)
Wonthaggi	1.1	1.1	2.2	5.2 (32)

GOALS, Drouin: R Baker, C Kleeven, T Mapleson 2, J Huston, E Croucher, J Welford, J Welford 1 each
BEST: E Croucher, J Welford, C Kleeven, J Wierzbicki, W Virtue, C Stone
GOALS, Wonthaggi: J Brouwers 3, P Lorkin, N Pugh 1 each
BEST: L Lidstone, S McBean, J Brouwers, O Feather, M Ori, W Simmons

FOURTHS				
Drouin	1.0	3.0	5.3	5.5 (35)
Wonthaggi	2.2	2.7	2.7	5.8 (38)

BEST, Drouin: B Alie, S Stark, B Hanneyssee, J Proctor, J Taranto, T Williams
BEST, Wonthaggi: B Wyhoon, N Pugh, P Lorkin, J Godfrey-Jones, J Tack, A Jobe

IN OTHER GAMES.

SENIORS
Morwell 16.15.111 d Traralgon 13.6.84
Warragul 14.14.98 d Sale 9.11.65
Moe 16.15.111 d Maffra 8.12.60

RESERVES
Traralgon 13.17.95 d Morwell 1.1.7
Warragul 7.9.51 d Sale 6.7.43
Maffra 5.4.34 d Moe 5.2.32

THIRDS
Traralgon 17.13.115 d Morwell 1.5.11
Warragul 17.17.119 d Sale 3.0.18
Maffra 10.8.68 d Moe 4.4.28

FOURTHS
Traralgon 22.14.146 d Morwell 0.0.0
Warragul 21.11.137 d Sale 1.0.6
Maffra 8.16.64 d Moe 1.1.7

GIPPSLAND LEAGUE LADDERS

ROUND 12

SENIORS	W	L	%	pts	RESERVES	W	L	%	pts	THIRDS	W	L	%	pts	FOURTHS	W	L	%	pts
Leongatha	10	2	188.14	40	Traralgon	11	1	405.88	44	Leongatha	10	2	134.65	40	Traralgon	12	0	1071.33	48
Moe	10	2	183.52	40	Leongatha	10	2	345.85	40	Warragul	9	2	214.75	38	Maffra	11	1	207.92	44
Traralgon	8	4	131.03	32	Maffra	9	3	215.43	36	Maffra	8	3	236.10	34	Warragul	9	3	167.05	36
Warragul	7	5	113.61	28	Moe	9	3	200.00	36	Moe	8	4	171.74	32	Moe	7	5	117.02	28
Wonthaggi	7	5	102.70	28	Wonthaggi	7	5	116.29	28	Traralgon	7	4	204.38	30	Bairnsdale	6	6	77.52	24
Morwell	6	6	115.87	24	Sale	4	8	71.04	16	Bairnsdale	7	4	112.83	30	Leongatha	5	7	70.52	20
Bairnsdale	4	8	84.10	16	Warragul	4	8	50.77	16	Drouin	5	7	100.45	20	Wonthaggi	3	8	44.65	14
Maffra	4	8	79.58	16	Morwell	3	9	73.97	12	Sale	3	9	42.84	12	Sale	3	9	47.41	12
Sale	3	9	62.52	12	Bairnsdale	3	9	67.52	12	Wonthaggi	1	11	42.80	4	Morwell	3	9	41.42	12
Drouin	1	11	45.36	4	Drouin	0	12	9.46	0	Morwell	0	12	24.59	0	Drouin	0	11	53.91	2
LEADING GOAL KICKERS					LEADING GOAL KICKERS					LEADING GOAL KICKERS					LEADING GOAL KICKERS				
Ben Crocker (Moe)	59				Brendan Holt (Moe)	26				Rylie Baker (Drouin)	44				Brody Stevenson (Traralgon)	61			
Patrick Ireland (Leongatha)	38				Damien Hough (Traralgon)	26				Cameron Thompson (Warragul)	28				Fraser Aubrey (Warragul)	47			
Brandon McDonald (Morwell)	33				Oliver Haberl (Traralgon)	26				Wil Ruthberg (Maffra)	24				Bill De Araugo (Warragul)	40			

WEST GIPPSLAND COMPETITION RESULTS

RND 13

DALYSTON FOOTBALL CLUB

KILCUNDA BASS FOOTBALL CLUB

 97  48

DALYSTON	KILCUNDA-BASS			
Dalyston	2.4	7.5	12.8	14.13 (97)
K-Bass	1.2	4.7	4.11	6.12 (48)
GOALS, Dalyston: M Hallahan 4, D Karamoshos 3, K Kirk, B Carew, C Love-Linay 2, J Foon 1				
BEST: K Kirk, C Love-Linay, F West, M Hallahan, D Karamoshos, L Armstrong				
GOALS, K-Bass: T Gunn, T Tuck 2, D Susic, D Mcrae 1 each				
BEST: T Tuck, D Gawley, D Mcrae, J Rosenow, S Scott, T Gunn				
RESERVES				
Dalyston	2.1	4.6	5.6	8.7 (55)
K-Bass	1.0	2.1	4.2	5.2 (32)
GOALS, Dalyston: W Luke 3, S Barnard 2, P Waugh, S Silver, A Chisholm 1 each				
BEST: W Luke, J Pedersen-Morris, M Chisholm, S Silver, J Legione, F Peters				
GOALS, K-Bass: P Tucker 3, S Dickinson 2				
BEST: N Bradley, S Dickinson, B Simpson, P Tucker, D Crawford, B Gude				
FOURTHS				
Dalyston	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.4 (10)
K-Bass	1.1	3.3	5.6	6.6 (42)
GOALS, Dalyston: R Pickard 1				
BEST: H Hender, R Humphris, J Howell, J Joma, J Brown, Z Hughes				
GOALS, K-Bass: H Leary 2, B Lawrence, A Oats, T Amato, J Braumann-Hall 1 each				
BEST: T Duell, B Lawrence, J Braumann-Hall, T Amato, J Hennekam, C Maund				

THIS WEEKEND'S DRAW

SATURDAY, JULY 12

ELLINBANK

BYE WEEKND: NO GAMES

GIPPSLAND

BYE WEEKND: NO GAMES

MID GIPPSLAND

ROUND 13

Foster v MDU

Fish Creek v Tarwin

Newborough v Morwell East

Stony Creek v Hill End

Thorpdale v Mirboo North

Toora v Boolarra

Yinnar - BYE

WEST GIPPSLAND

ROUND 14

Dalyston v Nar Nar Goon

Phillip Island v Tooradin-Dalmore

Koo Wee Rup v Cora Lynn

Kilcunda Bass v Inverloch-Kongwak

Korumburra-Bena v Warragul Industrials

Garfield - BYE

Local football

South Gippsland and Bass Coast

Sentinel-Times

www.sgst.com.au

Magpies rise to the occasion



Louis Armstrong releases a handball despite pressure from Panthers' Jed Rosenow. Photos Anna Carson.



Magpies' Kyle Kirk was close to unstoppable in his milestone 200th club game for Dalyston.

DALYSTON recorded its second win for the season with a 49-point win over Kilcunda Bass on Saturday.

This matchup usually delivers a tight contest, and the result did not disappoint the Dalyston faithful, who turned out in droves for their Sponsors' Day.

Kilcunda Bass does not have an U18s side, so Dalyston played a lot of young legs in the reserves, which increased the excitement of the win.

The stars had aligned for the Magpies, as they came onto the ground with a full side following a win in the reserves.

The lineup included the return of Kyle Kirk, Hayden Wallis and Cale Love-Linay.

During the first quarter, both sides looked to be feeling each other out.

Dalyston kicked with a slight breeze and ended the quarter eight points ahead, which gave the Panthers hope they could turn the tide in the second quarter.

However, the loss of Nathan Foote to injury early on hurt the Panthers, and the side notably lacked control during the entirety of the match.

Still in front at half time, the Magpies knew the next quarter could make or break the game, especially with the wind advantage now gone.

They have been in front of the competition at halftime in previous games, but their third-quarter efforts have cost them dearly.

This time, the Magpies put the foot down and kicked away to put five goals on the board.

Dalyston's backline was rock solid, limiting opportunities for the Panthers.

Fraser West and Ben Lewis have been consistent in Dalyston's backline all season and were instrumental in this game.

Kyle Kirk was a force through the mid-field and was the standout player for the game alongside Kilcunda-Bass' Travis Tuck.

Tuck had 39 possessions and 30 contested possessions for the game.

For Dalyston, Mitch Hallahan continued to lead by example and created an excellent target for the Magpies.

Dino Karamoshos exhibited his sublime talent kicking three goals.

His pinpoint deliveries and evasive skills were pivotal in breaking open the contest.

Louis Armstrong has had a spell in Dalyston's Reserves, but was back in the action for the match, making the best players' list from the half-back flank.

A tight last quarter finished the game.

Kilcunda Bass was unable to make up the ground and get the game back on its terms, and Dalyston switched it up to some safer footy to maintain its solid lead through to the final siren.

The win was a good pick-me-up for Dalyston following its loss to Korumburra-Bena as it prepares to face Nar Nar Goon.

Although a huge challenge, Dalyston will now be entering this game with a little bit of confidence.

Kilcunda Bass has an important game ahead against Inverloch-Kongwak.

Cora Lynn did the Panthers a favour by claiming a win against the Sea Eagles, which kept Kilcunda Bass in the top six.

Kilcunda Bass will go into this match ready to fight it out and protect its ladder position to stay in the finals race.

Inverloch-Kongwak is seventh on percentage as it stands.



Darcy Thompson made his debut senior for Phillip Island on the weekend. Photo: Carol Ratcliff.

Giants crumble against the Bulldogs

KORUMBURRA-BENA suffered a blistering 97-point loss against a finely tuned Phillip Island side on Saturday.

Playing at the Korumburra Showgrounds, a great pass from coach Josh Hopkins to the leading Ryan Gillis launched the game.

However, the Giants were unable to score.

Korumburra-Bena's defenders were forced to work overtime against the unrelenting Bulldogs, but they performed well in their challenge.

Hopkins kicked the Giants' first goal to end the first quarter.

Through the second quarter, Rhys Dixon provided accurate kicking into the forward 50 targets.

Jordan Ceppi showcased superb defensive effort in the midfield.

Evan Allaway lifted in the second quarter, which continued throughout the game.

Strong contested marks were taken by both Gillis and Kye Benson, providing forwards with opportunities.

Allaway took a clean grab out of the centre and into the forward line allowing the Giants to score.

Tensions flared after a downfield free kick against Hopkins was reversed due to a scuffle, firing up the Giants to have a physical third quarter and bring fight and passion back into the game.

It was a fiery third quarter, but Phillip Island was able to continue to extend its lead for a 75-point margin going into the final quarter.

Giant Blake Webb played strong and consistently all game in defence.

He had a tagging role on a key Phillip Island forward, holding him to only one goal.

Good forward leads were exhibited by Clayton Quaife.

For Phillip Island, the best players were Hayden Bruce, Max Walton, Cameron Pedersen, Tyce Kleverkamp, Daniel Pearce and Jack Taylor.

Phillip Island was inaccurate scoring wise on a still day, bringing some relief to the Giants on the scoreboard.

However, the Giants were up against a well-structured team and unable to give their own efforts any scoreboard nourishment.

Another tough assignment faces the Giants as they host the Dusties in Round 14.

Even contest turns Cobras' way in decisive third-quarter burst

A TEN-minute burst of momentum from Cora Lynn ended the game for Inverloch-Kongwak in what was otherwise an even contest on Saturday.

Conditions were perfect for play at the Inverloch Recreation Reserve, and the Sea Eagles knew there was a challenge ahead going up against the fourth-placed side.

Although the end result came as a disappointment to the home team, there were plenty of score changes across the day.

Inverloch-Kongwak started the match strong, demonstrating some of its best passages of play for the season.

The Sea Eagles looked to be controlling the game when they kicked the first goal of

the match and later went on to kick four in a row.

A late run from Cora Lynn kept them in contention, but Inverloch-Kongwak snapped the last goal of the quarter to have the advantage at the first break.

The Cobras turned the tide in the second quarter, kicking three goals and keeping the Sea Eagles to two behinds to sneak ahead.

Regardless, Inverloch-Kongwak still got plenty of hands to the ball – it just couldn't use its opportunities effectively.

The even contest continued through the third quarter, until Cora Lynn had a game-changing run.

The Cobras dominated the

game through the last 10 minutes of the third quarter, kicking four goals in as many minutes.

It was clear the game would be going to the Cobras early in the fourth quarter.

Inverloch-Kongwak had run out of legs with just one man on the bench in the second half, and it just couldn't get back into the game after Cora Lynn's third-quarter performance.

Cora Lynn went home with a 45-point win.

It was a team performance from Inverloch-Kongwak all day, but Nicholas Baltas, Ethan Park, Harry Butcher, Dylan Clark, Paul Pattison and Oscar Toussaint were named in the best.

This week will be an important game for both Inverloch-Kongwak and Kilcunda Bass.

Sitting seventh and sixth on the ladder respectively, these local rivals are equal on points and will be fighting for that sixth spot.

Set to be played at the Bass Recreation Reserve, Kilcunda Bass is also coming off a loss and will be prepared to keep their finals window open.

Inverloch-Kongwak can take heart in the fact that it did a lot of things right against Cora Lynn, although the scoreline did not reflect it.

The Sea Eagles will be focusing on maintaining their work ethic, training strategies and confidence for the full four quarters.

WEST GIPPSLAND
COMPETITION
RESULTS

RND
13

KORUMBURRA BENA FOOTBALL CLUB

PHILLIP ISLAND FOOTBALL CLUB

28

125

KORUMBURRA BENA	PHILLIP ISLAND
Kor-Bena	1.1 2.2 2.4 4.4 (28)
Phillip Island	4.5 7.7 13.13 18.17 (125)
GOALS, Kor-Bena: J Cuman 3, J Hopkins 1	
BEST: G Dickson, J Hopkins, J Ceppi, J Cuman, B Webb, E Allaway	
GOALS, Phillip Island: J Taylor 4, J Ladson, N Anderson, J Huther, D Thompson, M Walton 2, B Taylor, H Bruce, C O'Garey, C Bruce 1 each	
BEST: H Bruce, M Walton, C Pedersen, T Kleverkamp, D Pearce, J Taylor	
RESERVES	
Kor-Bena	1.1 1.4 2.7 3.7 (25)
Phillip Island	5.2 6.5 7.7 13.8 (86)
GOALS, Kor-Bena: T Derrick 2, L Walker 1	
BEST: J Carpenter, M Kennewell, L Walker, J Macri, T Derrick, M Andrew	
GOALS, Phillip Island: T Woodfield 3, J Nicolaci, O Hibbert 2, A Officer, B Pewtress, J Galvin, E Michaelides, T Niven, F Cousins 1 each	
BEST: J Galvin, F Cousins, M Mattock, T Niven, E Michaelides, J Nicolaci	
THIRDS	
Kor-Bena	0.0 1.0 2.1 2.1 (13)
Phillip Island	6.2 10.4 12.8 17.12 (114)
GOALS, Kor-Bena: N Belvedere 2	
BEST: N Belvedere, B Riddell, H Withall, B Fowles, J Kelly, T Walker	
GOALS, Phillip Island: M Taylor 5, F O'Brien 3, C Walton, M Kelsey, Y Caffieri 2, B Murphy, A Fawaz, B Hennessy 1 each	
BEST: B Hennessy, A Fawaz, M Taylor, N Forrest Mabilia, M Kelsey, F O'Brien	
FOURTHS	
Kor-Bena	2.0 3.1 3.2 3.3 (21)
Phillip Island	0.2 2.3 2.4 3.8 (26)
GOALS, Kor-Bena: C Hansch 2, T Dole 1	
BEST: L Griffin-currie, H Storr, T Mortimer, R Skeen, E Belvedere, C Boulter	
GOALS, Phillip Island: C Cantwell, C Fischer, R Scott 1 each	
BEST: C Fischer, J Mascaros, H Power, R Paterson, S O'Garey, J Moschetti	

INVERLOCH-KONGWAK FOOTBALL CLUB

CORA LYNN

71

116

INVERLOCH-K	CORA LYNN
Inverloch	6.1 6.3 10.8 10.11 (71)
Cora Lynn	4.1 7.4 14.5 18.8 (116)
GOALS, IK: J Ginnane 3, O Toussaint, D Clark 2, N Baltas, J Soumilas, W Turner 1 each	
BEST: N Baltas, E Park, H Butcher, D Clark, P Pattison, O Toussaint	
GOALS, Cora Lynn: N Gardiner 12, T Payne, L Hartley 2, J Briggs, N Villella 1 each	
BEST: N Gardiner, W Thomas, H Briggs, J Briggs, M Ryan, M Briggs	
RESERVES	
Inverloch	3.2 7.3 9.4 11.5 (71)
Cora Lynn	0.2 1.3 1.5 1.7 (13)
GOALS, IK: R Dal Pozzo, D Taylor 3, R Pattison 2, J Williams, J Tomas, L O'Neill 1 each	
BEST: T Leonard, M McCaughan, C O'Flynn, L Williams, S Hawking, J Tomas	
GOALS, Cora Lynn: J Frazer 1	
BEST: L Taylor, C Brook, L Fox, J Ede, K Williams	
THIRDS	
Inverloch	4.6 9.10 12.14 16.17 (113)
Cora Lynn	0.0 0.1 2.1 2.1 (13)
GOALS, IK: J Cousins, H Gleeson 4, J Dugard, A Nowell 2, J Martin, M Scott, C Newman, R Newman 1 each	
BEST: M Scott, J Cousins, H Gleeson, J Martin, C Newman, C Bird	
GOALS, Cora Lynn: J Tobar, Z Taylor 1 each	
BEST: A Mitchell, A Akoi, D Edwards, M Yut, Z Taylor, T Smerdon	

WEST GIPPSLAND COMPETITION LADDERS												ROUND 13							
SENIORS					RESERVES					THIRDS					FOURTHS				
	W	L	%	pts		W	L	%	pts		W	L	%	pts av		W	L	%	pts av
Nar Nar Goon	12	0	282.46	48	Tooradin-Dal	11	1	494.34	44	Phillip Island	10	1	271.43	3.64	Warragul Ind	9	2	382.03	3.27
Tooradin-Dal	11	1	163.90	44	Inverloch-K	9	2	283.15	36	Nar Nar Goon	9	2	214.20	3.27	Nar Nar Goon	9	2	253.85	3.27
Phillip Island	8	4	147.49	32	Nar Nar Goon	9	3	276.90	36	Inverloch-K	7	2	294.72	3.00	Inverloch-K	7	2	194.74	3.11
Cora Lynn	7	4	120.64	28	Phillip Island	8	4	240.48	32	Tooradin-Dal	8	3	131.17	2.91	Tooradin-Dal	8	3	204.45	2.91
Warragul Ind	7	5	84.62	28	Cora Lynn	8	3	153.51	32	Koo Wee Rup	6	4	158.66	2.36	Kilcunda Bass	7	4	102.02	2.55
Kilcunda Bass	5	7	94.66	20	Koo Wee Rup	6	6	91.62	24	Warragul Ind	5	6	108.62	1.82	Phillip Island	5	6	145.50	1.82
Inverloch-K	5	6	87.86	20	Kor-Bena	5	7	55.21	20	Dalyston	3	7	64.07	1.20	Koo Wee Rup	5	6	43.95	1.82
Koo Wee Rup	3	9	78.66	12	Garfield	4	8	60.66	16	Garfield	3	8	71.48	1.09	Kor-Bena	3	8	62.08	1.09
Garfield	3	9	61.67	12	Kilcunda Bass	2	10	37.10	8	Kor-Bena	1	9	18.33	0.40	Dalyston	1	10	31.27	0.36
Kor-Bena	2	10	57.34	8	Dalyston	2	10	31.39	8	Cora Lynn	0	10	19.65	0.00	Garfield	0	11	10.95	0.00
Dalyston	2	10	55.04	8	Warragul Ind	1	11	24.40	4	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)				58	Anthony Mirauta (Tooradin-Dal)				30	Oliver Duggan (Phillip Island)				24	Ky Bannister (Warragul Ind)				28
Dermott Yawney (Nar Nar Goon)				45	Rem Dal Pozzo (Inverloch-K)				24	Tarrant Millar (Nar Nar Goon)				23	Sam O'Garey (Phillip Island)				21
					Lauchlan Gregson (Tooradin-Dal)				23	Chayse Campbell (Tooradin-Dal)				23	Evan Loomes (Nar Nar Goon)				17



One of Leongatha's club favourites, Sean Westaway is chaired off the ground after the Parrots beat Bairnsdale in his double-milestone game. A51_2725

Day of festivities at Parrot Park

SATURDAY was filled with celebrations at Parrot Park as Patrick Ireland booted 12 goals in Sean Westaway's 250th Senior game and 300th for the club, helping Leongatha to a big win over Bairnsdale, festivities spilling over to the netball court, near which a marquee was set up for Ladies Day.

While Westaway has long settled in at the Parrots, and Ireland only joined Leongatha ahead of this season and has aspirations to play footy at a higher level, being listed with VFL side Casey, both remarked on the friendly and welcoming environment at

By Andrew Palocz

Leongatha.

Westaway was quick to sum up what it means to have played so many games for the Parrots.

"It probably just means I'm getting old," he said, the backman loving seeing the progress of young teammates, but a little disappointed to have missed a rare shot for goal in the final term.

He can't recollect anyone kicking as many goals in a game for Leongatha as Ireland since his first season in about 2008 or the following year.

"It's just such a tight-knit family and I really love it," Westy said of the club, explaining why he continues to travel from his Melbourne home to represent the Parrots.

While he hopes to kick on for a couple more seasons, Westaway said he's probably had more injuries this year than any other.

"Everyone says you keep playing until you can't," he said philosophically, determined to get everything he can out of his career.

When the time comes, he is unlikely to have many regrets, grateful to have played a part in such a successful club.

He reckons he's had about six Senior coaches.

"We've been very lucky," he said, reflecting on having played eight consecutive Senior Grand Finals.

"You've got to keep those standards up if you want to keep doing it every year," Westaway said, acknowledging current coach Trent McMicking is always working to get the best out of all his players and ensuring they drive each other to higher standards.

That applies to everyone, whether they are seasoned players or just starting out at senior level.

"It pushes me to keep trying to get a little bit better every day," Westaway said, adding he just has to hope his body holds up.

Parrots fans are no doubt crossing their fingers that they see Westy in the green and yellow for a couple more seasons, and probably also wish he would get a move on and kick a goal.

It's so long since his last, he can no longer recall which season it came in.

Ireland, by contrast, is at home up forward, thrilling Leongatha fans on Saturday with his leads, marks and finishing.

Continued page 64



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