

Sentinel-Times

COVERING SOUTH GIPPSLAND AND BASS COAST

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Tragedy turns to triumph

Veteran fire fighter and road accident rescue service pioneer, John Kennedy, reflects on 70 years in the service and the honour of having Loch's new road rescue and industrial rescue truck named after him.

THE stretch of the South Gippsland Highway between Lang Lang and the other side of Korumburra is known for its serious collisions.

And the network of country roads, from Strzelecki to Inverloch and everywhere else in between, many of them hilly, often wet and winding, and not always in good condition, host their share of crashes too.

Often, the only thing that stands between life and death in those situations is the Loch CFA Road Accident

Rescue Service.

It's been that way for almost 40 years, from humble beginnings, with a handful of tools in a second-hand fire tender, to the arrival three months ago of a \$1.2 million, dedicated Hino, road rescue and industrial rescue truck, which has already been rolled out with distinction to a dozen rescues since it came online.

"It's a known thing, in the ambulance service, with police and road rescue circles, that regrettably this

is an area of serious road accidents, and our response history will tell you that," said Loch Fire and Rescue Captain Len Wyhoon at the weekend.

And it's not just on the road. Many hazards exist on farms and in workplaces in the local area.

"Since the truck came online, we've had a dozen rescues including three entrapments, the first of those coming three days after it was ready to go," said Len.

Continued page 3

Green light for RACV expansion

IT'S basically the reannouncement of a reannouncement.

But it's still major news for Inverloch and the tourist economy in Gippsland and Bass Coast this week, that a long-awaited, \$15 million-\$20 million expansion of the RACV Inverloch Resort will at last go ahead.

On Monday, August 11, the Minister for Tourism, Sport and Major Events Steve Dimopoulos announced the commencement of works on 36 premium ocean view rooms at RACV Inverloch, "thanks to support provided by the Regional Tourism Investment Fund".

Overlooking Bass Strait and the entrance to Andersons Inlet, this project will help bring more visitors to the area, support local tourism operators and boost capacity to deliver large-scale conferences and events in the Bass Coast and Gippsland regions, said the Minister.

"This expansion is giving more visitors the chance to experience one of Victoria's favourite coastal weekend getaways, and it's only 1.5 hours from Melbourne."

But how much the project will receive from the government's Regional Tourism Investment Fund isn't known except that it has been listed in the 'Large Scale Projects' category for grant funds.

The project will also deliver additional car parking, the relocation of an existing villa, and a new wastewater detention storage system, with the new accommodation expected to welcome its first guests by December 2026.

RACV Inverloch Resort attracts an estimated 55,000 overnight visitors to the region annually, with accommodation booked to near-capacity months in advance. The expansion is estimated to raise that number to around 75,000 annual visitors.

According to a statement by the government this week, the expansion project will provide "a massive boost to Gippsland's tourism economy which in 2024 welcomed 6.13 million visitors who stayed 7.39 million nights and spent \$1.44 billion".

Member for Bass Jordan Crugnale said, "This exciting expansion will bring more visitors, more jobs and more opportunities for local businesses right across Inverloch and the Bass Coast."

Continued page 3

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How tragedy turned to triumph for Loch RAR

From page 1

"It's a replacement for the old one, but this one is state of the art, with all the cutters, spreaders and other equipment you need. I'll never see the likes of it again anyway."

The feature of an event last Saturday morning was the dedication of the new rescue vehicle in honour of one of the absolute stalwarts of road accident rescue in Victoria, Loch's own John Kennedy, for almost 70 years a CFA and road rescue volunteer, and thankfully, at somewhere close to 90 years-of-age he was there to see the day.

Veteran rescue operator, Greg Barry, provided the context with a brief history of the unit, from the tragic and compelling circumstances which initiated the local rescue service, to its lowest point, when the group's most knowledgeable operator, Lieutenant Alan Jackson, was killed in a tractor accident, in February 1995 aged 33, and their undisputed high point on Saturday.

"It was 39 years ago last Tuesday, on August 5, 1986, that a girl who went to school at Loch, and also taught there, by then a mother of three,



Strzelecki Ward Councillors Bronwyn Beach and Nathan Hersey congratulated John Kennedy on the naming of the new rescue truck in his honour.

Janette Loughridge (Burgess), was killed in an accident on the Grantville-Glen Alvie Road at Almurta. Two women were trapped and the Loch Fire Brigade turned out, but they had to wait for an hour and a half for a rescue unit to arrive," said Greg. The Loughridge family had only recently adopted three children so the circumstances of the incident could not have been more tragic.

It was too much for John

Kennedy, and the others who attended the scene, driving a single-minded determination to set up a road accident rescue service locally.

John Kennedy joined the Loch Fire Brigade in 1956 and was captain from 1967 to 1994, a period of 27 years.

Having attended several fatal accidents in that time, John was the driving force for setting up the unit, but he had plenty of support, most notably from his

lieutenants Alan Jackson and Peter Izzard, who came back on Saturday, and Officer in Charge of Rescue Paul Knox.

At a general meeting of the Loch CFA in May 1987, the decision was taken to form a combined unit with the Korumburra brigade, but in the event that didn't happen, they would go it alone. The rest, as they say, is history, a legacy of incredible service to the people of South Gippsland and visitors to the area.

John reflected on how the unit started and what it had achieved since, but humbled by the honour, he also offered a simple thank you at the end of the event, attended by CFA District 9 Commander Simon Bloink, and Strzelecki Ward Councillors Nathan Hersey and Bronwyn Beach.

The Minister for Emergency Services and Minister for Natural Disaster Recovery, The Hon Vicki Ward, sent her congratulations to the unit and warm regards to the man of the hour, John Kennedy.

Greg Barry's brief history of the Loch Road Accident Rescue is available online at www.sgst.com.au

Green light for RACV expansion

From page 1

RACV Executive General Manager Leisure Craig Peachey said: "With regional tourism booming post-pandemic, these new premium rooms will help address a significant market gap while elevating Inverloch's status as a premium destination."

The RACV Inverloch Resort expansion will increase visitation to the region while also creating 120 jobs during construction and 15 additional ongoing positions once operational.

What about the road?

In August 2023, the West Gippsland Catchment Authority wrote to the Bass Coast Shire Council opposing the project advising that the development would "increase the amount of people and property exposed to the flood hazard" because the plans do not allow safe vehicle evacuation from the site during a flood event.

"The proposal relies on a low-level access without an alternative ingress/egress point, which in a major flooding event would present unsafe conditions for visitors, vehicles and emergency services personnel," the authority warned.

The advice placed council in an invidious position, of on the one hand, wholeheartedly supporting the important boost to the local economy but also being mindful of exposing ratepayers to the risk of litigation.

In the end, Council came up with a solution and a way forward which was to approve the plans but only on the condition that RACV could satisfy the Catchment Management Authority and "address the risk of climate-induced sea level rises and flooding in its plans".

Presumably, that's what has happened. A spokesperson for the Inverloch Foreshore Action Group, Alan Brown, has warmly welcomed the expansion works at the RACV Inverloch Resort, as the most significant employer in the Inverloch area, and a vital asset to the viability of local commercial and hospitality businesses.

But he asks what has changed with the protection of Cape Paterson-Inverloch Road and Surf Parade?

"The road is under immediate threat as of today. We're not out of winter yet and there could still be a storm event that will cut off that road," Mr Brown said.

"All the government is prepared to do is pump sand in front of that rock wall but that will not save the road," he said.

More permanent solutions area needed, he said, to not only protect the road, which is a vital link to the RACV Resort and Cape Paterson, and a key to the viability of the Inverloch economy, but also to protect the town's infrastructure and the 300 to 400 homes in the firing line.

'A lot of victim statements' expected at Erin Patterson plea hearing

• Mushroom murders

JUSTICE Beale has set aside a whole day of a two-day plea hearing later this month just to hear "a lot" of witness impact statements arising out of the murders of three Korumburra family members, and the attempted murder of a fourth.

On Friday, August 8, the parties to the R v Erin Patterson 'mushroom murder' case returned to the Supreme Court in Melbourne for a directions' hearing and the determination of an application for the release of further details about the case, much of which wasn't presented to the jury during the trial.

Among those details is a video recording of Erin Patterson's police interview at the Wonthaggi Police Station, on Saturday, August 5, 2023, a week after the family lunch at her Leongatha home on Saturday, July 29.

By then, two of the lunch guests, Korumburra sisters Gail Patterson and Heather Wilkinson, had both died in hospital in Melbourne with a clinical diagnosis of amanita mushroom poisoning, the result of eating death cap mushrooms hidden in the meal of beef Wellington by Erin Patterson.

Their husbands, Don Patterson and Ian Wilkinson, were also gravely ill in hospital, with Don Patterson dying later on Saturday night, and Mr Wilkinson only surviving after 54 days in hospital, 21 in intensive care.

As a result of poisoning her husband Simon's in-laws, Erin Patterson was convicted of three counts of murder and one of attempted murder amid a blaze of local and international media coverage at the Latrobe Valley Law Courts on Monday, July 7, 2025.

Ms Patterson attended Friday's

hearing by video link at which Justice Beale set the date for the plea hearing, ahead of sentencing, and also made a determination to release most of the pre-trial information in the case.

Justice Beale set aside two days for the plea hearing, in consultation with Crown Prosecutor Jane Warren who told the court she would need a considerable amount of time just to present the victim impact statements.

"How many?" asked Justice Beale.

"All I can say is there will be a lot," said Ms Warren.

"So, much of the first day will be taken up?" asked Justice Beale.

"Yes. I'll be in a better position next week to say," said Ms Warren.

Both the prosecution and the defence present information to the judge during a plea hearing, to help them decide on

the appropriate sentence. The prosecution will typically read a summary of the facts of the case and highlight any relevant legal principles.

The defence will then present information about the defendant, including their background, any mitigating factors, and potentially evidence from witnesses (including character witnesses, medical professionals).

The judge will consider all of this information, including any victim impact statements, before handing down the sentence.

Justice Beale has set Monday and Tuesday, August 25 and 26 for the plea hearing which he said could not be held in Morwell owing to some renovation works at the Latrobe Valley Law Courts that will not be completed by then.

Neither the date nor the time and place for the sentencing has been set.

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Showers. Wind AM: Light Wind PM: NW 15-20km/h	Shower or two. Wind AM: Light Wind PM: Light	Mostly sunny. Wind AM: Light Wind PM: N 15-20km/h	Showers. Wind AM: N 25-35km/h Wind PM: W-NW 20-30km/h	Showers easing. Wind AM: W-SW 20-25km/h Wind PM: W-SW 20-25km/h	Showers. Wind AM: W 15-25km/h Wind PM: SW 15-20km/h
6° 15°	7° 15°	6° 17°	9° 17°	6° 12°	5° 12°

IN BRIEF

Donate blood

GOT a bit of time next month? Time to give blood and change lives? One in three people in Wonthaggi will need blood, and they need people like you to give it. The Australian Red Cross Lifeblood van will be rolling into town from 9 to 19 September. Stationed at 5 Biggs Drive, near Big W. Don't forget to pre-book your spot at lifeblood.com.au, on the app or on 13 14 95.

Steve Temple at Phillip Island Bowling Club

STEVE Temple is excited to be coming back to play at his favourite Jazz Club and Phillip Island locals are just as excited that he will be back.

Steve will be playing trumpet and his backing group will be Sandra Talty on drums, Richard Mander on bass and tuba, Will Purcell on banjo, Callum Mintzis on trombone and Zac O'Connell on saxophone.

The quality of this group is unquestioned. Each member of the group are talented individuals who come with a reputation of fine musicianship, according to Phillip Island jazz lovers who look forward to the return of Steve and his many friends to entertain them for the afternoon.

Book early if possible to give members an idea on how many tables and chairs they need for the day. Tickets are \$20.00 for members and \$25.00 for visitors

Steve Temple & Friends performing at Phillip Island Bowling Club, 40 Dunsmore Rd, Cowes on Sunday August 17, from 2pm – 4.30pm.

For more information contact: Jill Boyce on 0417 416 300.

Illegal dumping in Newhaven calls for free hard rubbish

IN online questioning recently, the community made mention of free hard rubbish collection as a priority for residents; however, the Bass Coast Shire Council confirmed that Hard Waste Collection for each residential property is \$162.00 for the 2025/26

financial year.

As a result, Newhaven continues to be a hidden dumping ground, with rubbish being illegally thrown behind the bushes near the Gippsland Veterinary Group Newhaven Clinic.

A resident who prefers to remain anonymous confirmed that this is an ongoing issue on council land.

The Bass Coast Shire has numerous facilities, including the Cowes Recycling Bank in Cowes, the Grantville Transfer Station and Landfill, the Inverloch Transfer Station and the Wonthaggi Transfer Station; however, fees apply to dispose of all waste streams unless noted as free on the Bass Coast Shire website.

So, instead of dumping goods on the streets, visit basscoast.vic.gov.au to find out what your nearest waste facility can accept.

Two teens arrested in stolen vehicle

LAST Tuesday, August 5, the Bass Coast Eyewatch Facebook page reported that the Victoria Police's Air Wing had followed a car through the Bass Coast and Baw Baw areas.

Police on the ground followed the vehicle to Warragul, where stop sticks were deployed successfully.

The ute was stopped on the Princes Freeway, Warragul and two occupants fled on foot. Both were taken into police custody a short time later.

Snow memories in Korumburra

WHO could forget the day, 20 years ago, when snow blanketed Korumburra, on Wednesday, August 10, 2005, and many other parts of South Gippsland and Bass Coast, right down to the sea at Inverloch.

The event was remembered on Facebook this week.

Seems a world away now, but you never know what this weekend might bring with top temperatures of 10 degrees predicted for this Saturday and Sunday.

Freight plan key to ag sector success

A PLAN to strengthen Victoria's freight network has been welcomed by the Victorian Farmers Federation (VFF) as a positive step.

VFF President Brett Hosking said farmers appreciated the opportunity to contribute to the development of a strategy to enhance Victoria's freight network.

"As farmers our viability depends on keeping freight costs under control and getting product to customers efficiently.

"Ensuring we have a fit-for-purpose freight network that delivers increased efficiency, productivity and safety is a non-negotiable and this plan must deliver exactly that."

The VFF welcomed measures to improve Victoria's rail freight system and strongly supported the development of a dedicated rail freight strategy.

"Road transport is seen as a vital piece of the puzzle.

"Victorian produce has never been in so demand in the global market and investment in our critical freight infrastructure will help ensure we retain our mantle as Australia's most valuable agriculture exporting state," said Mr Hosking.

The VFF looks forward to ongoing engagement with the Government to ensure the needs of Victorian farmers remain central to the plan's implementation.

Artemis an utter mess coming to Meeniyan

ARTEMIS an Utter Mess is a musical comedy about labels and the difference between words that confine us and words that set us free.

Coming to the Meeniyan Hall on Saturday August 16 at 6.30pm Artemis Munoz will unpack their journey to self-acceptance live on stage.

"It's a show about labels and the difference between words such as non-binary, asexual, bi-racial and neurodivergent that confine us and words that set us free."

Artemis an Utter Mess is described as a show for anyone who has ever wondered where they belong or has been confused about living in a world that takes issue with words.

Tickets are free but must be booked at trybooking.com/events/landing/1447842

Helping families through the drought

MENTAL health has been identified as a key focus for the Victorian Government's \$144 million Drought Support Package.

Targeted mental health programs to support individuals and communities feeling the strain of the prolonged drought have been included in assistance for farmers including the Look Over the Farm Gate program.

Look Over the Farm Gate supports community-led events that promote social connection and mental health awareness through the National Centre for Farmer Health.

Gippsland is one of three areas funded by the Rural Financial Counselling Service for wellbeing counsellors as well as grants of up to \$5,000 to support investment in on-farm drought management activities.

To view the full range of financial, technical and wellbeing support available visit agriculture.vic.gov.au/drought or phone 136 186.

South Gippsland hard waste open for bookings

SOUTH Gippsland Shire hard waste collection is now open for bookings for scheduled pick-ups between October and November 2025.

The fee for hard waste collection is \$162 discounted to \$58 for pension card holders with a maximum of two cubic metres.

The South Gippsland Shire Council hard waste collection service is a user pays system which means you only pay if you use the service.

For more information go to southgippsland.vic.gov.au/hard-waste

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Police stop Phillip Island drug run

STONERS on Phillip Island might have to look elsewhere for their high after police seized a commercial quantity of cannabis and other drugs and charged two Cowes' residents with a range of offences after intercepting their car near Koo Wee Rup on Thursday.

Police have charged two men and two women after they tracked a vehicle allegedly displaying cloned plates through Melbourne's south-east on Thursday morning, August 7.

Operation Trinity officers sighted the silver Ford Falcon on Clyde Road in Berwick and attempted to intercept the car about 2am.

The vehicle allegedly took off, reaching speeds in excess of 160km/h.

Police tracked the Ford towards Tooradin before it stopped outside a shed on Island Road in Koo Wee Rup.

Two men and two women allegedly jumped out of the car and dumped four large bags inside the shed.

Investigators alleged that three of the original occupants got back into the car and continued driving.

Police successfully deployed stop sticks and the vehicle came to a stop on Manks Road.

Two men and two women were arrested close to the scene.

Police searched the four bags and allegedly found a commercial quantity of cannabis.

Officers also located and seized methylamphetamine, MDMA, heroin and a machete during their search of the Ford.

A 28-year-old Cowes man was charged with:

- trafficking cannabis
- possess cannabis
- possess methylamphetamine
- commit indictable offence whilst on bail (x3)
- possess controlled weapon (x2)
- fraudulently use registration plate
- unlicensed driving
- contravene bail condition
- fail to provide information as to driver

He was remanded in custody to appear at Dandenong Magistrates' Court later in the day on Thursday.

A 36-year-old Argyle woman was charged with trafficking cannabis, possess cannabis, possess methylamphetamine and possess MDMA.

She was bailed to appear at the Dandenong Magistrates' Court on November 27.

A 33-year-old Cowes woman and a 40-year-old Argyle man were charged with trafficking cannabis and possess cannabis.

They were both bailed to appear at the Dandenong Magistrates' Court on November 28.

The vehicle was subsequently seized by police and it is expected an application will be made for its forfeiture.

Victoria Police has a dedicated operation targeting burglars and car thieves from dusk to dawn across Melbourne.

On top of standard patrols, there are large numbers of additional police including members of the Dog Squad, Public Order Response and Air Wing, specifically tasked with preventing and responding to burglaries and car thefts each night.

As a result of this intense focus, police arrested 656 burglars and car thieves almost 1700 times in the twelve months to the end of June 2025.

That equates to over five burglars and car thieves arrested every single day.

Operation Trinity is Victoria Police's most well-resourced operation, with over 140,000 policing hours dedicated solely to this operation last year.

On top of this, the Air Wing spent well over a thousand hours in the sky last year tracking burglars and car thieves as part of Trinity.

Don't walk, don't run, don't cross the Bass Highway

"YOU just can't make it, it's a race track," according to one Dalyston resident.

Describing his daily battle to cross the Bass Highway to get to the Dalyston Recreation Reserve 85 year old John Hill said he enjoyed his regular daily walk but not when it comes to crossing the Bass Highway without a pedestrian crossing.

"It's the only way to get the Recreation Reserve and Community Hall.

"It depends on the time of the day, sometimes I just can't make it."

A local resident for 10 years and a local football fan John says it's impossible to cross the highway on game days.

"You can try to cross at Tulloch Street and wait for an opening in the traffic otherwise you have to wait at the crest of the hill towards Wonthaggi.

"Nobody will take any notice," he said.

According to John the population of Dalyston has more than doubled in recent years with 600 people living in the new housing estate with a primary school down the road.

"Dalyston just gets bigger and bigger."

John wants a traffic island and pedestrian crossing opposite the General Store in Daly Street, or opposite Tulloch Street which has a children's playground at the other end.

"Most people live north of the highway but the Dalyston timber supplies store, recreation reserve, basketball and netball courts and the community hall are all on the south side."

John Hill wants a safe pedestrian crossing over the highway.

"If they can build a pedestrian crossing at Kilcunda they can build one in Dalyston," said John.

"They spent a lot of money there, it's the same traffic."

It's almost impossible to cross between the town and the recreation reserve.

"I've seen two bad accidents on the highway," John said.



85 year old Dalyston resident John Hill struggles to cross the Bass Highway without a pedestrian crossing. B42_3225



The Bass Highway at Dalyston described a racetrack by pedestrians trying to access the Dalyston Recreation Reserve.

"It's impossible for kids on bikes to cross the highway and we have a big primary school."

In 2018 Bass Coast Shire in partnership with VicRoads considered a safe pedestrian crossing across the Bass Highway at Dalyston may be a medium to long term project.

"Young families need access to the recreation reserve," said John.

"At the moment you can't get to it."

Recent safety and accessibility upgrades on the Bass Highway at Kilcunda have been welcomed by Kilcunda residents.

"The lights have made our town much safer for pedestrians."

"Sometimes during peak traffic times people trying to cross the highway just gave up."

"During the summer holiday period pedestrians

waiting to cross the road often formed groups of 30 or more people, waiting for a break in the traffic.

"Thank you Transport Victoria for a job well done."

Bass Coast Shire explained the 2018 Dalyston Structure Plan recommended where a signalised pedestrian crossing is not achievable in the short-term. consideration may be given to other design solutions such as median refuge, installation of kerb extension, or application of different colours to establish a pedestrian crossing.

"These could be considered as short-term solutions where a signalised crossing is not immediately achievable, rather than being ruled out in the short term."

Improvements would be subject to the availability of funding in collaboration with the Department of Transport and Planning according to Bass Coast Shire.

Police throw the book at fleeing driver

ON THURSDAY night, August 7, 2025, acting on information supplied by the community regarding poor driving by a person who was not meant to be driving, police from the Foster Police Station located a silver-coloured Holden Commodore sedan driving along the South Gippsland Highway at Foster.

They posted the outcome on the Bass Coast Eye-watch social media page.

The police detected the vehicle being driven at allegedly 124 kilometres an hour 60 zone on Hoddle Road. At the intersection of Fish Creek-Foster Road and Promontory Road, it is alleged that when directed to stop by police, the vehicle rapidly accelerated away and drove dangerously, failing to stop, and travelled towards Fish Creek.

"We can't comment on the reason or motivation for the driver to not stop, but perhaps it had something to do with them allegedly being disqualified from driving or that the vehicle was allegedly unregistered, and they might have thought that police would not find them and give up."

"Well, if they didn't think police would find them or that police wouldn't investigate, they were very wrong, because less than 24-hours later, they were in handcuffs, got a ride in the back of a police car, and their car got a ride on the back of a tow truck."

The driver, a 50-year-old male from Agnes, was bailed to appear at the Korumburra Magistrates' Court on the 18th of December 2025, for charges including: Drive while disqualified, drive unregistered motor vehicle, drive

at a dangerous speed, reckless conduct endangering persons, failing to stop on police direction and negligent driving while pursued by police.

The driver also has a \$1020 account to settle for the tow truck ride.

If you have information regarding this incident or this type of road related crime, please contact Crime Stoppers Victoria on 1800 333 000 or their website at <https://www.crimestoppersvic.com.au/report-a-crime/>

"Your local police in Bass Coast and South Gippsland remain committed to removing unauthorised drivers from our roads and if they decide to or try to run, they are wasting their time, and going to get more charges, and have us take them away. We won't stop or give up."

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SOMETIMES, all it takes is a good chat with someone older and wiser to remind you what's possible. I'm always hearing stories from people or community groups or getting emails that make me pause and think, "wow, that's brilliant".

Whether it's someone picking up pickleball for the first time, learning a new language, starting a walking group, or hosting a cooking class, there's no shortage of energy, creativity and heart in our older community members here in Bass Coast.

This October, the Victorian Seniors Festival returns, and I couldn't be more excited. With the theme Connect, Create, Celebrate, it's a fitting invitation for older Victorians to re-connect with hobbies, explore new interests, and come together with others to share joy.

In Bass Coast, we're proud to support this festival through microgrants of up to \$250 available for community groups that want to host an event. Maybe it's a performance, morning tea, creative workshop or something else entirely. I can't wait to see what you come up with!

We've made the application process easier than ever, but be quick – applications close Sunday, 17 August.

And if you're more about enjoying than organising, there's plenty to enjoy. Highlights of this year's program include the return of international piano comedian David Scheel with Growing Old Ungracefully at Berninnet, the much-loved Wonthaggi Citizens' Band at The Union Theatre, and the always-brilliant Victorian State Concert Orchestra, following last year's standing ovation performance.

There's also a fantastic free opportunity to enjoy Glenn Starr: Forever Classics – Hits of the 60s, with transport to Morwell included, thanks to our partnership with South Gippsland and Latrobe City councils.

For those who love to travel, Victorian Seniors Card holders can enjoy 8 days of free public transport across Victoria from 5 to 12 October. So now's the time to start planning.

Even if you're not applying for a grant, we'd love to help spread the word about your event. Just get in touch and we can help you promote it as a part of our festival program.

You'll find everything you need to know about the Victorian Seniors Festival, including the grant application link and event info, at basscoast.vic.gov.au/healthy-ageing

Bass Coast takes on Canberra with a long wish list of urgent priorities

BASS Coast Mayor Cr Rochelle Halstead was far from shy in putting forward Bass Coast's case for more federal funding during a recent visit to Canberra with CEO Greg Box.

A bucket of money for the Phillip Island Recreation Reserve and Aquatic Centre, more money and an acceptable timeline to fight sand erosion at Inverloch and Silverleaves, and a federally funded initiative to provide social housing, office space and a community centre on the site of the former Wonthaggi Secondary School were all on the agenda.

Not too much to ask? Not enough according to the newly elected Liberal Member for Monash Mary Aldred MP.

Absorbed in her own battle to keep face-to-face banking alive in regional towns like Korumburra the Bendigo Bank was firmly in Ms Aldred's sights when she raised the issue during question time.

"The Bendigo Bank recently announced it would close its Korumburra branch in South Gippsland, a terrible outcome for our community and one that demands the opportunity for a broader national focus."

Supporting Bass Coast Council on the delivery of roads and infrastructure Ms Aldred said she was absolutely committed to delivering adequate funding for the Phillip



Mayor Cr Rochelle Halstead with Monash MP Mary Aldred after taking a long list of priorities from Bass Coast Shire to the decision makers in Canberra. B29_3225

Island Recreation Reserve.

Meeting with Deputy Prime Minister Richard Marles MP, Mayor Halstead said it was about advocating for the regions and putting Bass Coast front of mind.

The Bass Coast delegation also met with the Federal Minister for Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development

and Local Government, Catherine King MP.

"The Cape to Cape Resilience Plan is still being dealt with," said Cr Halstead.

"Silverleaves also needs more attention."

The Wonthaggi Secondary College site also needs to be progressed."

Bass Coast Shire Council

asked for a \$660,000 grant for a feasibility study to ensure the best outcome for the former Wonthaggi Secondary School site including housing, space for the arts and office space.

"What we need is a funding strategy to see how this jigsaw comes together."

"All the councillors are on the same page to ensure we deliver the best possible outcomes," said Cr Halstead.

"The secondary school site is a priority, and its future depends on funding."

Cr Rochelle Halstead also met with Senator Sarah Hanson-Young from the Australian Greens who agreed that coastal erosion was being overlooked by the current Government.

"The solution needs to come from a national level," said Cr Halstead.

While firmly denying she would consider running for a seat in state parliament, Mayor Halstead said next year's state election would be critical for Bass Coast Shire.

"I'm happy where I am," said Cr Halstead.

"Canberra was a very successful trip."

"Canberra listened to the struggle of the Shire being peri-urban."

Peri-urban is defined as an area bordering built-up suburbs and rural landscapes.

'More satisfied' with council, they say in latest survey

RESIDENTS and ratepayers of the Bass Coast Shire Council have rated the overall performance of their local council better than they did last year, better than similar-sized councils and better than the state average.

The modest improvement in the annual 'Community Satisfaction Survey', from a score of 53 to 56 out of 100, which follows the election of a new-look council in November 2024, has been welcomed by Mayor Cr Rochelle Halstead.

"I feel like we're making improvements in a number of areas, so it's good to have that reinforced by the annual independent survey," said Cr Halstead during the week.

Speaking recently, at the council meeting to adopt the shire's budget, Cr Halstead

said it was very obvious, since the election, that "this council wants to take things in a different direction but that there's a process to follow".

"There have been claims made that this is the previous council's budget, but we've got our fingerprints all over this budget," she said, pointing to the \$440,000 allocated for detailed design work of Stage 1 of the Phillip Island Sporting Precinct.

Cr Halstead said there was also \$35,000 allocated for a review of the differential rates paid by Bass Coast famers, the expectation being that they'll be paying less after the review later this year.

But council watcher Graham Jolly said there should have been a bigger lift in satisfaction after voters unloaded all but

three of the former councillors.

"I can understand why Island Ward residents aren't happy though, with the failure of the council to make progress on the new recreation precinct, the carparking problems on the island, the fact they spent money on land for a new transfer station on Gap Road but haven't got on with it and the general waste of money."

In a snapshot of responses to the survey, Bass Coast scored 56% for overall performance, against 53% last year, 50% average for large rural councils and 53% for council's statewide with the local council getting the best score from residents aged 35-49 years, and the worse from those over 65 years.

Value for money was rated the same at 46%, overall

direction of council better at 47%, customer service about the same at 66% bang on the state average, and waste management, sealed local roads, consultation and engagement and community decisions all rated better than last year and better than the state average.

However, the survey results might have been skewed by the fact that 179 of the 401 people surveyed were from Phillip Island where council's performance in a number of areas was ranked lower than by people from the mainland.

They rated the waste management performance and community involvement in decision making poorly, and weren't happy with community consultation, but they weren't as concerned about the condition of local roads as other areas.

Danny O'BRIEN_{MP}

State Member for Gippsland South

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South Coast Community Leadership Program 2025 graduation

THE South Coast Community Leadership Program 2025 has concluded and paved the way for continued leadership. The group of 23 participants from across Bass Coast and South Gippsland Shire came together in March to begin their learning journey and have achieved so much in just five short months.

Participants attended 11 sessions in locations across South Gippsland and Bass Coast. Through these sessions, they were able to develop valuable leadership skills, strengthen local networks, and gain a deeper understanding of their communities.

As part of the program, participants were placed in groups to work together on community projects. This included delivery of the following:

South Coast Playgroup Summit

This team was passionate about improving support and connecting playgroups in the area. The summit brought in guest speakers and an interactive workshop to help build the skills, confidence, and connections of playgroup facilitators and volunteers.

“Shine Online” – Capacity Building for Community Groups

Led by volunteers who knew the challenges first-hand, this project aims to make marketing and promotion easier for community groups. A short, snappy, and easy-to-follow instructional video on how to, as the name suggests, “shine online,” is being produced. This



A group of 23 participants from across Bass Coast and South Gippsland Shire came together for the South Coast leadership program.

will come with a handy and accessible toolkit of handy filming equipment to borrow from MYLI libraries.

Treely Edible

The team brought in a professional to run a workshop on local edible foods and invited the community to come and learn. There was music and food and the planting of an edible garden at the Inverloch Tennis Club.

Rail Trail Activation

Inspired by the Great Southern Rail Trail, this group wants to help promote visitors to events and activities that happen in towns along the trail. Their project is all about shining a

spotlight on local happenings and making the trail even more vibrant and well-used.

The Art Cube Project

This project connects young people with professional visual artists to create artwork for a public exhibition within South Gippsland Shire’s highly successful ArtCubes in September. The theme is community and asks the young people to reflect on what community means to them.

John Schelling, Mayor of South Gippsland Shire Council, said, “This program has been a fantastic opportunity for participants to work closely with their local councils and strengthen their leadership skills.

“It’s been great to watch their

confidence develop over the past few months and a pleasure to offer this opportunity alongside Bass Coast Shire Council. I wish to thank everyone who participated. The skills developed and improved upon during this program can be used through volunteering and leadership roles, having a positive impact on our region.”

Rochelle Halstead, Mayor of Bass Coast Shire Council, said, “This program is a wonderful example of what happens when passionate, community-minded people come together with a shared commitment to learning and growth.

“It’s been inspiring to see participants from across our region build their leadership skills, form strong connections, and

create projects that have a real impact. I congratulate each graduate and look forward to seeing how they continue to shape the future of Bass Coast and South Gippsland.”

To conclude the program, a graduation celebration was held at Berninnet in Cowes on Sunday, August 10 and was attended by program participants, councillors from both shires, and facilitators. The participants were able to present on their projects and reflect on their experience.

Although the graduation marks their completion of the program, for many participants, it has kick-started their leadership journey and their readiness to contribute meaningfully to the future of our region.



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Machete disposal bin in Wonthaggi

THE ban on the sale and possession of machetes will soon be in effect.

From September 1; owning, carrying, using, buying, or selling a machete without a valid exemption or approval will be a criminal offence.

More than 40 safe disposal bins, including at the Wonthaggi Police Station, will be available 24/7 across Victoria to allow people to safely dispose of machetes during the amnesty period, which will run from September 1 to November 30, 2025.

News that safe disposal bins will soon be open across Victoria follows another fearful machete fight at a shopping centre in Werribee over the weekend.

The heavy-duty steel bins are roughly 900 millimetres by 1200 millimetres in size, with a 70 millimetre concrete base to ensure they are secure and have feet to allow for safe removal.

A public awareness campaign calls on Victorians to surrender their machetes during the amnesty or face up to two years imprisonment or a fine of more than \$47,000.

Agricultural workers who use machetes as part of their job and machetes that are used in a traditional, historical, or cultural capacity will be exempted. Anyone covered by an exemption must comply with strict conditions and be able to demonstrate eligibility if asked by police.

The following locations in Gippsland will offer safe disposal facilities: Wonthaggi, Bairnsdale, Morwell, Sale and Warragul.

Job opportunities abound at Bass Coast Jobs and Careers Expos

WITH more employers, more job opportunities and a revolutionary virtual reality careers education platform the 2025 Bass Coast Jobs and Careers Expo at Wonthaggi had something for everyone.

Jobs and Careers Expos at Wonthaggi and Phillip Island have grown to become a vital connection point between local job seekers, education providers and employers.

Now in its fourth year the Jobs Expo provides a direct pathway into a wide range of industries and career opportunities such as tourism, healthcare, construction, education, mining, hospitality and conservation to name just a few.

Delivered by Bass Coast Shire Council in partnership with Workforce Australia and the Victorian Government's Skills and Jobs Centre the free expos provide a range of career opportunities.

Whether you're looking for a first job, a new direction, or additional work the expos provide time and space to chat to local training providers and support services about career pathways, traineeships and apprenticeships.

VIC VICE a revolutionary new virtual reality careers education platform was on display at the expo for the first time providing a smart solution to the growing problem of workforce shortages and widening skills gap.



Apprentice Trainee Consultant Katherine Cousins with Monash MP Mary Aldred at the 2025 Bass Coast Jobs and Careers Expo in the Wonthaggi Town Hall. B18_3225

A jobs board was also on display at the Jobs and Careers Expo in Wonthaggi featuring current vacancies from local employers.

Thanking exhibitors for their support and commitment to the local community Bass Coast Shire Mayor Cr Rochelle Halstead said the expos were a great opportunity for the community to take full advantage of what's on offer.

"We've heard amazing stories of people walking into these expos unsure of what to expect, and walking out with their dream job," said Mayor Halstead.

"That's what this is all about, opening doors and giving you the chance to show up, have a conversation, and discover what's possible.

"Job seekers are looking for meaningful work close

to home.

Mayor Halstead said she knows how challenging recruitment can be.

"Without the right people it can be hard to grow and thrive.

"Our region is growing, and we are a skills exporter.

"People travel outside the region every day for work, we want them here," she said.

From her own experience Cr Halstead said tourism, hospitality and retail are already gearing up for the busiest time of year over summer.

"If you're a job seeker I encourage you to chat to employers," said Cr Halstead.

"Bass Coast Council is proud to lead this event with its business partners.

"It's about making the most of the connections you have and building strong communities."

Hands-on support from the Gippsland Skills and Jobs Centre is available at the expos with free one-on-one advice to help polish your resume and help improve your interview skills.

The Phillip Island Jobs and Careers Expo at Berninnet in Cowes will be held on Friday September 5 from 9.30am to 1.30pm including advice for aspiring entrepreneurs.

For more information go to basscoast.vic.gov.au/jobs-expo

To learn more about VIC VICE go to vicvice.com.au

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New housing for Wonthaggi health workers

THE first sod of earth has been turned to mark the start of construction of new hotel-style accommodation for health workers at the Wonthaggi Hospital.

Member for Bass Jordan Crugnale MP said the new accommodation will make it easier for healthcare workers to live and work where they're needed most.

The new two-storey development will comprise 20 self-contained rooms for healthcare professionals including doctors, nurses, medical specialists and allied healthcare staff funded through the State Government's Regional Worker Accommodation Fund.

The accommodation will feature communal and outdoor living areas and will be built on hospital grounds next to the Kirrak House residential aged care facility, providing staff with easier access to the workplace and reduced travel time for key workers.

"The project is the first health worker initiative to be approved through the State Government's Development Facilitation Program and will play a critical role in attracting and retaining more skilled healthcare workers," said Ms Crugnale.

Bass Coast Health provides a range of hospital and community-based care services across multiple sites including Wonthaggi Hospital, the Phillip Island Community Hospital at Cowes and San Remo.

The new housing complex will accommodate up to 20 healthcare workers freeing up rental properties and hotel rooms currently relied on by Bass Coast Health to house an extensive



Shaun Brooks (CFO BCH) and Ian Thompson (Chair BCH) with Aunty Dr Doseena Fergie OAM, Darelle Van Haaster (BCH), Member for Bass Jordan Crugnale and Sam Issa, Sam Pavlakis and Marc Amad (Izza Group) celebrating the start of construction of health worker accommodation at Wonthaggi Hospital. B06_3225

range of visiting healthcare professionals.

Minister for Regional Development Jaclyn Symes said the Allen Labor Government's Regional Worker Accommodation fund is supporting skilled workers in regional areas.

"Fast-tracking worker accommodation for health professionals in Wonthaggi means more doctors, nurses, and allied health workers can live close to where they're needed most," said Minister Kilkenny.

Jordan Crugnale said making sure health workers have a place to stay near the hospital just

makes sense, it's good for them, good for patients, and good for Wonthaggi.

Bass Coast Health Interim CEO Professor Simone Alexander said the project would benefit the community by helping Bass Coast Health to attract healthcare workers who provide a wide range of specialist medical services locally, enabling our community to have greater access to quality care closer to home.

"We are so fortunate this project will benefit from the Regional Worker Accommodation Fund which has helped make this facility a reality," said Ms Alexander.

The sod turning event to mark the start of construction began with a Welcome to Country and Smoking Ceremony by Bunurong Elder Robert Ogden attended by Aunty Dr Doseena Fergie OAM, Member for Bass Jordan Crugnale MP, Bass Coast Mayor Cr Rochelle Halstead, Bass Coast CEO Greg Box, Ian Thompson (Chair Bass Coast Health) Sam Issa (MD Izza Group) and representatives of Bass Coast Health, Bass Coast Shire and contractors Izza Group.

Elder in Residence Aunty Dr Doseena Fergie OAM said it was wonderful to have the accommodation



Member for Bass Jordan Crugnale MP participating in the smoking ceremony for the start of construction of health worker accommodation at the Wonthaggi Hospital. B08_3225

centre built in Bunurong Country. "One of the hurdles for our Mob is to travel to the city.

"Aboriginal health workers can provide a culturally safe environment for health services," said Aunty Doseena Fergie.

First Nations people have had poor access to health services because of black history according to Aunty Doseena Fergie.

"Bass Coast Health has a reconciliation action plan in place that people trust."

The Bass Coast Health Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) can be found at basscoasthealth.org.au/reconciliation-action-plan

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South Gippsland Shire Council News

Maintaining Your Septic System

How Do I Know If I Have Sewer or Septic?

If you don't pay a wastewater charge on your water bill, you **do** have a septic system. If you're a tenant or renter, it's best to confirm with your landlord.

Why Maintenance Matters

Onsite wastewater systems (septic systems) require regular care and maintenance to function effectively. Knowing where your system is located on your property is essential - so that any issues can be identified and resolved quickly.

Failing to maintain your septic system can result in significant financial, environmental, and health impacts.

However, a well-designed, installed, and properly maintained system can last for many years.

Tips to Extend the Life of Your Septic System

- Reduce water usage: Spread out the use of major water-consuming appliances—such as washing machines—throughout the week to prevent system overload.
- Be mindful of what enters the system: Avoid flushing baby wipes, personal hygiene products, grease, oils, or other non-biodegradable materials.
- Protect your effluent field: Keep vehicles, heavy structures, and livestock off the effluent area to

avoid compaction or damage.

- Maintain healthy bacteria levels: Use septic-safe, low-sodium cleaning and laundry products, and avoid harsh chemicals like bleach that can harm beneficial bacteria.

Warning Signs of a Failing System

- Bad odours near the tank or effluent field
- Slow draining sinks, showers, or baths
- Gurgling sounds in pipes

If you notice any of these signs, your system may need attention.

Service and Compliance

All servicing must be carried out by an authorised service representative. Refer to your Installation Permit for your maintenance obligations specific to your system.

Can't find your permit? Contact Council's Environmental Health Team on 5662 9200 for assistance.

More Information

Ongoing maintenance is essential for effective and safe operation of your septic system.

For more information, visit:

www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/septic

This Park's Alive! Expression of Interest



South Gippsland Shire Council is seeking to engage two artists to each co-develop interactive digital experiences or artworks, as part of This Park's Alive!

This Park's Alive! is a project funded by a VicHealth Growing Healthy Communities Grant. It involves proposing a groundbreaking participative art campaign for South Gippsland, that will engage children from 8 to 11 years of age in new ways with their own local parks.

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

COUNCIL MEETINGS

The next Council Meeting will be held on Wednesday 20 August 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

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www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/vacantpositions

ARTEMIS: UTTER MESS

Artemis is a show about labels and the difference between words that confine us, and words that set us free. Join Artemis Muñoz as they unpack their journey to self-acceptance live on stage.

This show is for anyone who has ever wondered where they belong or has been confused about living in a world that takes issues with words of identity and community.

Date: Saturday 16 August

Time: 6.30pm to 9.00pm

Location: Meeniyah Hall

Tickets are free but must be booked at: www.trybooking.com/DEJUG

REQUEST FOR TENDERS

Council is seeking submissions from qualified companies/applicants for the following:

RFT/424 - Construction of Korumburra Tennis Clubrooms

Tenders close 2.00pm AEST on Tuesday 9 September 2025.

Documentation is available from Council's e-Tendering Portal

www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/tenders

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Homeless Week shines a light on the issue locally

CREATING awareness of homelessness, including in the local area, was the focus at The Salvation Army's Long Street premises in Leongatha, the Wednesday event part of Homelessness Week.

Year 5 students from Leon-gatha Primary School were among those learning about the issue, and how The Salva-tion Army helps support those affected by homelessness.

As well as discovering home-lessness is widespread locally, they saw a display of swags and a tent, illustrating how some people have to live.

Kris, the program manager for homelessness said Home-lessness Week is all about raising community awareness, with the decision made to hold this year's event in South Gippsland Shire instead of Bass Coast Shire, Wonthaggi normally hosting the local Salvos' event.

She spoke of the escalation of homelessness everywhere, including the local region, with The Salvation Army's home-lessness services assisting over 1,000 people in the last year across South Gippsland.

"You've got the lack of afford-able accommodation and pri-vate rentals," Kris said, high-lighting the skyrocketing costs of living and the fact people are getting notices to vacate because they fall behind in payments.

"It's really the cost of living that's escalating everything, so we just help where we can," she



Corps Officer Amanda Hart, Leongatha Primary School students Olly, Jhett, Ben and Nicola, and homelessness program team member Hayley with a tent illustrating how some people live due to the cost of living and other circumstances. A03_3225

said, explaining that eligibility for various types of assistance varies according to a range of circumstances.

For that reason, it is best for those with concerns to visit The Salvation Army team and chat about their situation.

"We just need them to know that we're here," Kris said, with someone generally avail-able Monday to Friday between 9am and 5pm.

If an urgent situation arises at other times, people can contact The Salvation Army Crisis Centre in St Kilda on 9536 7777, which operates homelessness support services

Victoria wide.

Police often help connect people to required services, becoming involved through reports of incidents such as fam-ily violence.

Out of hours calls to The Sal-vation Army Leongatha will put people through to a recorded message detailing help services.

The visiting students enjoyed sausages in bread courtesy of the combined efforts of the lo-cal Rotary and Lions Clubs.

Those wishing to help sup-port services provided by The Salvation Army locally can make donations at its Long Street Leongatha or McKenzie

Street Wonthaggi centres.

Such services include the food relief program, dinners and Christmas support.

Donations can also be made online through community.sal-vationarmy.org.au/o/leongatha-salvos

Captain Amanda Hart, Corps Officer at South Coast Gippsland Salvos, expressed her appreciation to the com-munity for its support of this year's Red Shield Appeal, which raised \$17,500 locally, surpassing the target by \$3,500, but donations are al-ways welcome to help continue providing services locally.

ArtCube collaboration brings Leongatha's flora and fauna to life

By Andrew Paloczi

THE COLLABORATIVE ap-proach between renowned street artist Hiroyasu Tsuru, known as TWOONE, and young South Gippsland locals Eileen Tanaka and Riam Chilver has brought the area's flora and fauna to life on a trio of transformed ArtCubes.

With their new look complete, the ArtCubes, which are currently located in the carpark near Le-on-gatha's South Gippsland Shire Council offices, will continue to host various artists, enabling them to engage with the public and share their creations, council to announce the schedule soon.

While TWOONE mentored Ei-leen and Riam, their contribu-tions blended seamlessly with his, each artist inspired by the work of the others.

The collaboration succeeded because of a flexible approach that involves reflecting on the existing images and adapting to them rather than starting with a fixed final picture in mind.

Hiroyasu's use of a single colour on the white background of each cube and his choice of tools and techniques helped tie the trio's work together effectively, despite Eileen and Riam having never worked on such a large scale previously.

TWOONE'S technique includes using gardening spray bottles to apply a mix of outdoor paint and water, as well as long-handled rollers normally associated with house painting.

"I had a feeling that the final product would have a cohesive



Young locals Eileen Tanaka and Riam Chilver work with respected artist Hiroyasu Tsuru who is widely known as TWOONE. A01_3225

look because of the techniques and the colour," he said, with the trio's agreement to adopt a theme of flora and fauna seen locally, also helping connect the appear-ance of the cubes.

Ikebana, the Japanese art of flower arrangement, is another theme running through the proj-ect.

Promoting thought through physical actions and reflecting on and responding to the work of others has created a natural flow to the images, the artists relying on visual communication rather than stringent verbal directions.

Eileen of Korumburra said it is cool to have Hiroyasu visit the area, remarking that it is excit-ing he works internationally but comes out to regional places.

Council's Arts Development Of-ficer Mary Sullivan mentioned the opportunity to apply to work

alongside TWOONE, something Eileen was keen to do given her enjoyment of art and her Japa-nese heritage.

"Mural work is very different to doing little paintings and draw-ings and you don't get many op-portunities to start drawing on a giant cube," she said.

Leongatha's Riam who had never done an artwork bigger than she could fit on a canvas, explained that the size of the Art-Cubes is only part of the chal-lenge, with adapting to the un-evenly corrugated surfaces of the cubes while learning Hiroyasu's unique techniques adding to the experience.

While that wasn't easy, Riam en-joyed the process.

She noted the importance of stepping back to get a proper per-spective, a contrast to her previ-ous artistic pursuits.

Eileen loved the process of working together, feeling it creat-ed greater variety in the designs, remarking on there being "three different cubes, three different col-ours and three of us", and that it was easy tying them together without losing touches of indi-viduality.

She was pleasantly surprised by the different approaches Hi-royasu takes to his art.

"I didn't think you could use garden spray bottles for art," Ei-leen said, believing it didn't make sense and the nozzles would get clogged up.

"They do a really good job of adding a basic foundation, add-ing texture and value to the back-ground," she said of the effective-ness of the spray bottles.

By value she means shading, creating darkness and lightness in the art.

Eileen said the reduced control the spray approach gives over your art is consistent with Hiroya-su's philosophy of allowing things to take shape rather than always being completely in charge.

She and Riam said the drips and splashes form part of the work.

"You can see it all come together and there's not really any blank spots," Eileen said, observing that even areas that appear su-perficially white, have splashes, sprays, and lines going through them.

"There's something going on ev-erywhere and the more you look, the more it's happening," she said, all of that adding to the in-terest of the overall look.

Mayor's Message



Cr John Schelling



HELLO South Gippsland,
As we step into August, it's a pleasure to reflect on the achieve-ments, advocacy, and commu-nity spirit that continue to shape South Gippsland.

Celebrating Local Leadership

On the weekend, we proudly celebrated the graduation of the South Coast Community Lead-ership Program at Berninnet in Cowes. Councillor Scott Rae and I enjoyed celebrating this mile-stone with the program partici-pants, marking the end of a truly worthwhile initiative that has em-powered emerging leaders across both South Gippsland and Bass Coast. It's inspiring to see the next generation of changemakers stepping forward with confidence, collaboration, and a commitment to their communities.

Supporting Youth Mental Health

We're also thrilled to announce that another South Gippsland school has joined the awardwin-ning Live4Life program – Com-munity College Gippsland. This expansion is a testament to the program's continued success and its vital role in supporting youth mental health. Live4Life equips young people with the tools, knowledge, and peer support they need to thrive and we're proud to see more of our schools embrac-ing this initiative.

Advocating for Coastal Communities

Our Deputy Mayor, Councillor Sarah Gilligan, recently attended the Australian Coastal Councils Association Conference in Moolo-laba, where coastal hazards and climate resilience were front and centre of the conversation. The conference reinforced what many of us already know: a national coastal adaptation strategy and dedicated funding are urgently needed. The Deputy Mayor also participated in the MAV Climate Futures Panel meeting, one of sev-eral panels established to help shape Victoria's future. These meetings continue to provide valuable opportunities for insight, collaboration, and advocacy on behalf of our region.

Capital Works Update

Councillors were briefed this week by Council staff on our Cap-ital Works program, which has reached an impressive 96 per cent completion rate. This is a strong reflection of our commitment to delivering projects that enhance infrastructure, services, and live-ability across South Gippsland.

Advocating for our Roads

This week, I'll be attending the South East Australian Trans-ported Strategy (SEATs) meeting at Lakes Entrance alongside Council staff. Our focus will be on advo-cating for essential improvements to our State road network – something our region desperately needs. We'll be pushing back and pushing forward to ensure South Gippsland's voice is heard loud and clear.

Bass Coast community invited to celebrate Phillip Island (Milawul)

LOCALS will come together to celebrate research, conservation and community at the Phillip Island Nature Parks Community Open Day next month.

The Nature Parks will open the gates of its range of diverse attractions, offering residents free access on Saturday September 13 to celebrate the extraordinary conservation work being undertaken on their doorsteps by committed rangers, volunteers, staff and local community groups. As part of the community festivities, locals can book in to visit the Penguin Parade free-of-charge on either Friday 12 or Saturday 13 September.

Enjoy research and conservation presentations, live music and engage with local community stalls at Churchill Island. Spot koalas and charismatic bush-stone curlews at the Koala Conservation Reserve.

Community Impact Manager at the Nature Parks, Kate Adams said the Community Open Day was a chance for locals to enjoy special access to wildlife and gain a greater insight into the conservation efforts happening in their neighbourhood.

“Milawul has been long loved by locals, and interstate and overseas tourists, and the Nature Parks values greatly the ongoing support of our local community in the work that we do,” Ms Adams said.

“Community Open Day is one way we like to give back and thank locals for their support, which is critical to the success of our initiatives. It also fosters crucial awareness about our important conservation programs and care for flora and fauna.”

Entry to all activities and attractions is free throughout the day for residents, landholders, students and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community members in the Bass Coast Shire.

The event is ticketed, and registration opens on 30 August at penguins.org.au/about/our-community/community-news/community-open-day-2025

Tickets are subject to availability and proof of residency is required.

Offshore platform review off Kilcunda coast opens door to community feedback

BEACH Energy is inviting locals to have their say as it reviews its Environment Plan for the Bass Gas Offshore Operations in Bass Strait.

The five-year review looks at the ongoing operation of the Yolla-A offshore platform, which produces natural gas and condensate from the Yolla gas field. That gas is transported through a 147-kilometre subsea pipeline to the Victorian coastline near Kilcunda, then along a 32-kilometre onshore pipeline to the Lang Lang Gas Plant. From there, it is processed and distributed to homes, businesses and industry.

As part of the review, Beach Energy is asking for feedback from anyone who believes their interests, work or activities might be affected by the project. The consultation period officially opened on Monday, July 14 and will remain open until 5pm on Friday, October 10.

Information about the project is available online through Beach's consultation hub at engage.beachenergy.com.au. The site includes maps, diagrams, photos, questions and answers, and detailed information sheets designed to help the public understand what the project involves and how they can provide input.

Community members are also welcome to attend in-person information sessions, which will be held at the Wonthaggi RSL on Tuesday, August 19 and Wednesday, August 20. On both days, a



What lies beneath: offshore gas activity opens for public discussion. W04_3025

dedicated session for First Nations people will run from 11am to 3pm, followed by an open session for the broader public from 6pm to 8pm.

For those unable to attend in person, Beach Energy is also offering a series of online information sessions. Interested participants are encouraged to email community@beachenergy.com.au to register. The first round of webinars will be held on Tuesday, September 9, with an open session from 2.15pm to 3pm and a dedicated First Nations session from 7pm to 7.45pm. The second round will take place on Wednesday, September 10, with a dedicated First Nations session from 2.15pm to 3pm and an open session from 7pm to 7.45pm.

Beach Energy says the revised Environment Plan

focuses on the safe and ongoing operation of its offshore infrastructure, including regular maintenance and inspections. Under state and federal regulations, the plan must also demonstrate meaningful consultation with relevant people and show how any concerns have been addressed: that's where these information sessions come in.

The Sentinel-Times contacted Beach Energy with several questions about the review. These included how the company plans to manage ageing infrastructure, whether any concerns have been raised during the consultation process so far, what the revised operational timeline looks like, and whether the continuation of the project may bring any economic benefits locally. Beach Energy declined

to respond to those specific questions but stated that the review is occurring in the context of forecast gas shortages in Victoria. A spokesperson added that the Federal Government's Future Gas Strategy has emphasised the importance of ongoing domestic gas exploration and development.

Before operations can continue, the updated Environment Plan must be accepted by both the National Offshore Petroleum Safety and Environmental Management Authority and the Victorian Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action.

To learn more about the project or provide feedback, visit engage.beachenergy.com.au or consultation.nopsema.gov.au.



New Cowes radiology clinic is now open

Located in the heart of Cowes at the Phillip Island Community Hospital

Why choose Imaging Associates Cowes?

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COMMUNITY OPEN DAY

Saturday 13 September

Connect with nature, wildlife and community.

FREE* entry to the Nature Parks attractions:

Churchill Island - Conservation and research presentations, demonstrations, music and stalls.

Koala Conservation Reserve - Enjoy easy walks discovering the wonder of the woodlands and spot koalas.

Penguin Parade - General Viewing Fri 12 and Sat 13 Sep.

Phillip Island NATURE PARKS

Full program and terms and conditions: penguins.org.au/OpenDay
#PhillipsIslandNP f i
Info: community@penguins.org.au or call 5951 2830

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Local groups share in \$31,500

WESTERNPORT Water would like to congratulate the recipients of funding from the 2025-26 Community Support Program, which is helping local community groups, schools and sporting clubs bring their water projects and ideas to life.

This year, thirteen community groups will share in \$31,500 to support local initiatives that promote water efficiency, sustainability and community wellbeing.

Now in its sixth year, the Community Support Program has funded well over \$200,000 in community-led projects that create lasting benefits for the region.

This year, the program focused on five sponsorship packages, including water refill stations, water efficiency and school projects, sports hydration and events.

"I would like to congratulate all recipients that were successful in accessing funds from this year's program. We appreciate the creativity and passion that was present in each application from schools, sporting clubs and community groups across our service area," said Gareth Kennedy, General Manager Corporate & Customer.

"We take great pride in supporting the local community at Westernport Water. We have a long history of doing so, with our support dating back decades."

"I would like to acknowledge the time, effort, and dedication of our community's volunteers and their

commitment to making a positive impact in our community. I wish we could fund all the applications we receive, but for those that missed out, please re-apply next year."

Recipients were presented with a cheque at a dedicated presentation event held in Newhaven on Wednesday, 30 July.

Successful applicants of water refill stations (up to \$7,000) were: Bass Valley Early Learning Centre, Cowes Primary School, Corinella Bowls Club, Grantville Recreation Reserve; of small water efficiency projects (up to \$5,000) were: Phillip Island Village School - Drip irrigation for School Kitchen Garden; schools package (up to \$3,000) were: Bass Coast College - San Remo Campus - Australian Native Edible Garden program; Sports hydration (up to \$500) were: Phillip Island Football Netball Club - 4 x Team water bottles and carriers for the U14 & U16 girls football teams; Events (hydration station, bottles, signage - value up to \$500) were: San Remo District Tourism & Business Inc - TIDAL Seafood Festival, Kilcunda Community Association Incorporated - Kilcunda Lobster Festival, PI Progress Association - Carols by the Bay (Cowes), Arts Society Phillip Island Region Inc. - 2026 Easter Weekend Art Show, Cowes Yacht Club Inc - Around French Island National Catamaran Challenge 2026 (Neil Beddoe Memorial Trophy), WBSLSC - 2026 Channel Challenge.



Jacqui & John Carter from Corinella Bowls Club who were recipients of Westernport Water's water refill stations.



Sarah Tyrrell (Assistant Principal) from Cowes Primary School were recipients of Westernport Water's water refill stations.

New team members welcomed

ONE Gippsland has welcomed two new faces to its team: the interim CEO at Gunaikurnai Land and Waters Aboriginal Corporation (GLaWAC) Charee Smith and new CEO at Food and Fibre Gippsland, Simon Johnson.

One Gippsland Chair Cr Nathan Hersey said Charee and Simon were valued additions to One Gippsland.

"Charee and Simon each bring new insights, perspectives and experience to our team and will further strengthen our advocacy work, particularly on issues of importance to GLaWAC and the food and fibre sector such as growing visitor economy and regional connectivity," Cr Hersey said.

"The region attracts more than 10 million visitors each year, supporting 3,000 businesses and contributing \$2.4 billion to the economy, but Gippsland's natural beauty, Aboriginal culture and unique visitor experiences are under-utilised assets able to drive significant economic growth," Cr Hersey said.

"The visitor economy is key to diversifying Gippsland's future economic base and creating new jobs. Investment in tourism infrastructure and storytelling can help Gippsland stand out in a competitive market," Cr Hersey said.

"That's why One Gippsland will continue to ask for government investment in priority tourism projects, including the Nanjet Gunaikurnai Cultural Tourism Project near Wilson's Promontory. This \$55 million project comprises

the phased development of what will be Victoria's largest Aboriginal cultural tourism experience," Cr Hersey said.

"We are also working with our government partners to secure investment in our priority projects including the San Remo Road Upgrade, stage two of the Leongatha Heavy Vehicle Alternate Route, Sale's Alternate Truck Route and the Traralgon Bypass. These projects are essential for improving safety, efficiency and regional connectivity for all road users," Cr Hersey said.

"Our freight network also must support Gippsland's food and fibre producers and efficient access to airports and ports is vital for our local industries including agriculture, manufacturing and energy."

"During the federal election campaign, Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government Minister Catherine King committed \$3 million to plan for another One Gippsland priority project: essential road network upgrades around Drouin and Warragul," Cr Hersey said.

"We'll be back in Canberra and Spring Street soon and plan to meet with decision makers, including Minister King, to continue to build understanding and support for our funding and policy priorities."

"We're looking forward to having Charee and Simon around the table as we advocate for Gippsland and thank their predecessors Daniel Miller and Ben Gebert for their valuable contribution," Cr Hersey concluded.

Community Support Program

Successful applicants for 2025-26



Tapping into community spirit

Westernport Water is excited to announce thirteen local community groups will share in \$31,500 in sponsorship funding to support local initiatives that promote water efficiency, sustainability and community wellbeing. Congratulations!

Recipients will receive one of 5 sponsorship packages:

Water refill stations:

- Bass Valley Early Learning Centre
- Cowes Primary School
- Corinella Bowls Club
- Grantville Recreation Reserve.

Small water efficiency projects:

- Phillip Island Village School: Drip irrigation for School Kitchen Garden.

Schools package:

- Bass Coast College - San Remo: Australian Native Edible Garden program.

Sports hydration:

- Phillip Island Football Netball Club: U14 & U16 girls football teams.

Events package:

- San Remo District Tourism & Business Inc: 2025 TIDAL Seafood Festival
- Kilcunda Community Association Inc: 2026 Kilcunda Lobster Festival
- PI Progress Assoc: Carols by the Bay
- Arts Society Phillip Island Region Inc: 2026 Easter Weekend Art Show
- Cowes Yacht Club: Around French Island National Catamaran Challenge 2026
- 2026 Channel Challenge.



VIETNAM VETERANS DAY

AUGUST 18



Join us in honoring and recognising the invaluable contribution of Australians who served in the Vietnam War.

- Commemorative Service at the Cenotaph in Leongatha at 11am
- Followed by light refreshments at the Leongatha RSL



Daffodil bulb donor David Blyth (middle) with WGHC staff members Zack Veno (left) and Trevor Jeffrey, on this year's delivery run.

Thirty years of daffodil bulb sales raise over \$420,000

NOW in its 30th year, the beloved Blyth family Daffodil Bulb drive has reached an incredible milestone - raising an estimated \$420,000 since its inception for Allied and Community Health services at West Gippsland Healthcare Group.

This year's effort was no exception, with the 2025 drive raising an impressive \$19,625 supporting a range of local programs and services.

The funds raised support services and resources right across West Gippsland Healthcare Group (WGHC) including: physio and occupational therapies, social work, diabetes education, community health services in rural communities, and services to support individuals with chronic or complex health conditions, disabilities, or those recovering from a hospital stay.

The Blyth Bros Daffodil Farm in El-linbank is one of Australia's largest daffodil producers, growing more than 100 varieties on their 350-hectare farm. Their generous donation of 40,000 bulbs this year, which were available to purchase at local businesses and WGHC healthcare locations across the region.

WGHC Acting Allied and Community Health Director Sally Wilson said, "The impact of the drive over the thirty years it's been running is varied and far-reaching. We're extremely grateful to receive the proceeds year after year, allowing us to purchase equipment and resources that have enhanced the care we provide across multiple programs."

"We have an incredible local community in the businesses that sell bulbs on our behalf, the people who purchase them and the Blyth family who have donated the bulbs for three decades. Thank you to everyone involved."

Time to contribute to Operation Christmas Child

WHILE the festive season is not yet here, Operation Christmas Child is upon us again, with community members who can afford to encouraged to contribute gifts.

Samaritan's Purse delivers the presents to children overseas who are suffering due to extreme poverty, natural disasters, or the effects of war.

"They bring great joy and hope to children and their families, as they realise that someone cares about them, and people packing their gifts find it brings great pleasure to them also," Doreen Western said.

She is a long-term supporter of Operation Christmas Child, in which she involves local schools.

For community members wanting to contribute, brochures explaining the project and shoebox sized Operation Christmas Child boxes are available at the New Beginnings Bookshop in Leongatha.

Filled boxes containing gifts such as stationery, toys, hygiene items and clothes need to be ready by the first week of October and can be left at the Bookshop.

Leongatha ready to bloom

A BURST of vibrant colours will sweep Winter aside when the Leongatha Daffodil & Floral Show hits town between Thursday August 28 and Saturday the 30th at the Memorial Hall.

Shirley Turton, president of the Leongatha Horticultural Society that runs the event, remarked that it heralds the arrival of Spring.

While much work goes into preparing for the show, the enthusiasm of the organisation's members and a unified approach ensure a great spectacle for attendees and the smooth running of competition across a wide range of judging classes.

Sentinel-Times caught up with a few Leongatha Horticultural Society committee members, all of whom enjoy sharing the joy of gardening with others.

President Shirley has been a member for 22 years, having previously filled that role and been secretary, as well as acting as a steward at both daffodil and rose shows.

She also continues to be a keen entrant and is proud to have had many winning exhibits over the years.

However, while everyone is doing their best, fun and camaraderie are at the heart of Leongatha Horticultural Society and its shows.

"I have had so much pleasure with garden members, and all new members would be warmly welcomed," Shirley said.

There's guidance available to anyone wanting to enter exhibits, whether in the numerous daffodil categories, the class for other bulbs such as



Leongatha Horticultural Society committee members are looking forward to welcoming lots of community members and visitors to the Daffodil and Floral Show this month, with Sue Charlton (secretary), Sue Thompson (show secretary), Shirley Turton (president) and Wendy McDonald (publicity officer). A07_3225

hyacinths, tulips and freesias, the cut flower section, camellias, floral art, photography, pot plants and a category for school entries.

Australian Plants, Cut Shrubs and Trees, and Fruit and Vegetables are other competition categories in which entrants can display their endeavours.

Those wanting to enter exhibits can do so at Leongatha Memorial Hall, between 3pm and 8pm on Wednesday August 27 and 8am and 10am the following day, with stewards there to provide guidance on the right

class for their entries.

Visit leongathahorticulturalsociety.com.au/daffodil-festival to download the show schedule containing details of all entry categories.

Hard copies of the schedule are available from Hays Jewellers at 31 Bair Street Leongatha and at the Citizens Advice Bureau on the corner of McCartin Street and Michael Place, Leongatha.

Doors open at 1.30pm on Thursday August 28, until 5pm, with the Official Opening at 2.30pm.

Opening times for the rest of

the show are 9am - 5pm Friday and 9am - 4pm Saturday, with admission just \$5 and children free.

Those interested in joining Leongatha Horticultural Society are encouraged to attend a meeting, held on the fourth Thursday of each month at 2pm at Leongatha's Dakers Centre.

There's not too much formal business during meetings, and members enjoy sharing their knowledge, showing what they have grown, listening to guest speakers and chatting over afternoon tea.



Living Lightly workshop convenor Harriet Pellizzer with Carol, Jessica, May, Ethan, Jenny, Wendy and Richard from the Wonthaggi Men's Shed Garden Group. B10_3225

Fermenting and preserving workshop at Wonthaggi Men's Shed

HAD a great harvest but don't want any of the produce to go to waste?

Don't miss out on the Bass Coast Living Lightly fermenting and preserving workshop at the Wonthaggi Men's Shed on Saturday, August 16.

Discover the fundamentals of preserving and fermenting food as a way of using up excess produce from the garden and providing a delicious range of tasty food items.

This workshop is presented as a part of the Living Lightly partnership between Bass Coast Shire Council, Bass

Coast Adult Learning and local community gardens.

Living Lightly workshops come under four different themes Energy Evolution, Future Foods, Garden Gems and Circular Solutions.

The fermenting and preserving workshop will be presented by Harriet Pellizzer who after 25 years in retail and hospitality now teaches literacy, numeracy, and job skills at Bass Coast Adult Learning (BCAL).

Harriet is passionate about helping people feel stronger and more included by making

their homes and communities more affordable, sustainable and resilient.

Bass Coast Mayor Cr Rochelle Halstead is excited at the variety of topics covered and opportunities offered in the Living Lightly series.

"There are 40 workshops spread throughout the year with so many different and worthwhile subjects covered, so there's something for everyone."

"I'm looking forward to getting my hands dirty at one of the gardening workshops later in the year," said

Cr Halstead.

"I encourage everyone to take advantage of these free workshops and learn something to help you live greener and lighten the load on our planet."

The Living Lightly fermenting and preserving workshop will be held at the Wonthaggi Men's Shed on August 16 from 10am to 11.30am.

The Wonthaggi Men's Shed is located in Wonthaggi Railway Precinct.

For more information go to thecap.com.au/fermenting-and-preserving

Monash MP Mary Aldred goes on the road with a mobile office

HONOURING a promise made soon after she was elected Member for Monash Mary Aldred MP is taking her mobile office on the road to meet Monash residents in their home town.

“If you’d like to speak with me about any issue that matters to you I’ll be in Cowes, Wonthaggi and Inverloch on Wednesday 20 August,” said Ms Aldred.

“Our Monash electorate is part of a big region and a diverse community.

“It is important the Federal representative is available.

“If you need assistance dealing with Centrelink, NDIS, aged care, veterans’ affairs or immigration I’m here to help,” said Ms Aldred.

“Whether it’s cost of living and the economy, agriculture, small business, the environment, mental health, education, tourism or energy policy, I’m also keen to hear your thoughts on issues of national importance,” Ms Aldred said.

“We live in a growing region where our infrastructure base is struggling to keep pace with new population growth, that’s why I’ll continue to advocate for the roads, sporting and health infrastructure I’ve committed to advancing and listen to what’s important to you.”

Ms Aldred said as the Federal Member for Monash she is focused on being an active, attentive and engaged local representative who is a strong and effective voice for our community in Canberra.

“Since the election I’ve hit the ground running, focussing on cost of living relief, speaking about the importance of regional services and supporting our local community and sporting organisations.

“To make the most of your time and to ensure my team and I can best assist you’re encouraged to book an appointment with my office ahead of time.

“Please reach out if you’d like to catch up with me.”

To contact Mary Aldred’s Electorate Office phone 5614 3600 or email Mary.Aldred.MP@aph.gov.au

Bass Coast working to prevent drownings

DROWNING claims more than 300,000 lives globally each year and remains one of the leading causes of death among children and young people – yet drowning is preventable.

The issue hits close to home because during the 2023–24 summer, six lives were tragically lost to drowning in Bass Coast, including four members of one family.

The Bass Coast Shire Council (BCSC) recently attended a presentation at Gurudwara Siri Guru Nanak Darbar (SGND) in Officer as one of the councils that helped initiate the Cross-Council Water Safety Framework; alongside over 58 Councils and related organisations.

The day included a presentation on the grassroots Safely Engaging with Water program, which has already taught hundreds of people vital swimming skills and improved safety outcomes for multicultural communities across the region.

Developed by SGND, the program runs 10-week swimming lessons, with two-thirds of costs subsidised by swim centres and partners. In the past year alone, 226 people have completed the program, many of whom had never been in a pool before.

This collaborative initiative focuses on education, clear and inclusive safety messaging, and outreach to multicultural communities – all aimed at ensuring more people can enjoy our beaches and return home safely.

Over the past year, the BCSC been making sure this message reaches far beyond our coastline – presenting their approach at Royal Life Saving Australia’s National Water Safety Summit 2025 and, more recently, the Emergency Management Conference and the Australian Coastal Councils Conference.

Retirees forced to sleep in cars as Bass Coast housing crisis bites

A SHOCKING number of local retirees are being forced to sleep in cars or in the back of vans as the Bass Coast housing crisis deepens.

Community groups gathered at Apex Park in Wonthaggi heard one in three local retirees have a mortgage on their home and one in ten are forced to rent.

According to community housing advocacy group Housing Matters auspices by Wonthaggi Neighbourhood Centre Bass Coast pensioners and retirees are among the worst affected by the current housing crisis.

Bass Coast Shire Cr Mat Morgan said housing investment models have failed because of Australia’s tax system.

“Young people can’t get a house and retired people live in cars,” said Cr Morgan.

“The housing crisis can only get worse,” he said.

“People are living in homes that are unsafe because of domestic violence.”

Cr Morgan called for mixed use and public housing.

“State and federal governments need to fix this problem.”

Jessica Harrison from Housing Matters said there is a desperate need to build more public housing in Bass Coast.

Another advocate for public housing Beth Banks wants public land in Bass Coast Shire in public ownership to build public housing.

“The magic is public land if it is built on,” said Beth.

“It must always be public land, land is so expensive, and we will never get it back if it is built on without contracts stating it to be public land.”

Carol Maygar from the Wonthaggi Owls Community Pantry offers free groceries and food



Jessica Harrison and Beth Banks (Housing Matters), Bass Coast Shire Cr Mat Morgan, Liz Jacobs (Wonthaggi Owls), Leslie Adamson (Housing Matters) and Nick Grant Collins (Bass Coast Shire) gathered in Apex Park Wonthaggi to support Homelessness Week. B57_3225

to people suffering housing and food insecurity.

“It’s about being able to make food available and affordable for as many people as possible,” said Carol.

“We’re happy with the support we get, but it is frustrating to see so many in need.”

More and more people on pensions are being evicted according to Jessica Harrison.

“Pensioners can’t cover the rent, or their mortgage repayments.”

A lot of people in Wonthaggi are living in cars according to Ms Harrison including women and children, and people who only get occasional work.

According to local welfare agencies, people who are homeless live in car parks.

“People are living in the bush, through no fault of their

own,” said Jessica.

“Mental illness can also lead to homelessness.”

One woman asked how do you live when you are homeless.

“Many have no fixed address and can have trouble accessing government support.

“They are desperate and rely on donations from charities for food and clothing.”

“Even a nurse or a teacher can find housing unaffordable,” said Jessica.

“Unless they have access to the bank of mum and dad.”

A strong advocate for public housing Ms Harrison is opposed to the demolition of public housing towers in Melbourne saying there is not enough public housing.

“My son was told his lease is being terminated and he’s a teacher.”

Twelve people were recently told to leave a Bass Coast village caravan park by December.

“We know summer holiday rentals will push up rents,” said Jessica.

“Tenants have to compete with holidaymakers.”

The Wonthaggi Owls were commended for their free food service.

All the food for the Wonthaggi pantry is donated through a trolley at Woolworths and is picked up daily by the Wonthaggi Owls, sometimes three bags a day.

“Woolworths and the staff at Woolworths donate to the trolley,” said Carol.

Food parcels are available on Wednesdays and Fridays at 11am at the rear of the Anglican Church in McBride Avenue, the Wonthaggi Owl Ute provides food, toiletries and essentials from 1pm to 2pm at the Wonthaggi RSL in Graham Street. The Wonthaggi Neighbourhood Centre has some frozen meals and hosts a community lunch on Wednesdays at 12.30pm outside school holidays, and the YES Youth Hub in Watt Street provides free access to pantry, laundry and shower facilities for young people aged 12 to 25.

An overnight winter shelter for ten guests at a time in Cowes offers crisis accommodation for people aged 25 and over three nights a week.

The winter shelter offers an evening meal, bed and breakfast.

To be assessed for the Bass Coast Winter Shelter contact the Salvation Army Gippsland Homelessness Service, Monday to Friday from 9am to 4pm on 5667 5220.

Taking the bus to nowhere another passenger left stranded at Anderson

By Abigail Farmer and Bruce Wardley

JUST ask Jackie Crompton what it feels like to be left stranded at the Anderson Bus Interchange.

“The driver didn’t care,” said Jackie.

With an inch of water left in her water bottle and no shelter at the bus station 80 year old Jackie had no way of getting home to Cowes and looked like being left stranded.

“It’s not my problem,” the bus driver told Jackie.

Not the first time passengers have been left at Anderson Interchange or Koo Wee Rup.

Jackie was recently forced take the bus to Wonthaggi and wait three hours before she could take the next South Coast Bus back to Cowes with a 20-minute walk home.

Jackie left Cranbourne at 1.30pm and finally arrived home at 7.30pm.

“If South Coast Bus Lines and V/Line are both contracted with PTV why are they more than happy to leave passengers stranded?” asked Jackie.

“How many local citizens are being left stranded by the public transport companies?”

With one kidney and no close relatives to pick her up Jackie relies on the bus service.

On another occasion in March this year Jackie took



Rachelle waiting in Wonthaggi after a connecting bus from Cape Paterson. B39_3225

the Cranbourne bus to the Koo Wee Rup Interchange, but the Melbourne bus was running 25 minutes late.

By the time she eventually arrived at the Anderson Interchange the South Coast bus to Cowes had already departed and another bus wouldn’t arrive for two more hours.

Jackie ended up calling a \$122 taxi to get her home to Cowes.

V/Line said they had no jurisdiction over South Coast Bus Lines, and they couldn’t help.

‘Plan your journey’ V-line suggested.

Jackie’s efforts to contact the Minister Transport and Department of Transport have proved fruitless with PTV claiming they can’t help because it is a Dandenong matter.

The Public Transport Ombudsman (PTO) told Jackie V/Line had advised they only provide a taxi if it is the last bus home.

“There was a bus going into the city to watch the footy and

V/Line provided a taxi for the people from Anderson who didn’t fit on that bus,” said Jackie.

“People who come from an event in the CBD and can’t get a bus home are sometimes provided with alternate transport,” she claimed.

Recent notices inviting public submissions into an upgrade of the Leongatha-Yarram-Koo Wee Rup bus route have failed to address the problems at Wonthaggi and Cowes.

“I’m worried about companies prioritising people to go to entertainment events rather than the safety and security of people using local bus routes.”

In the 18 years Jackie has lived on the Bass Coast she said there have been no upgrades to the bus service.

“Nobody wants to listen.

“I feel if commuters pay their fare surely the bus company has a duty of care to its passengers.”

Jackie said a bus driver told her only last week there had been numerous incidents recently where buses were late and patrons had missed their connection.

“Bass Coast deserves better,” said Jackie.

Transport Victoria is yet to respond to Jackie’s concerns.

Current timetables for V/Line bus services can be found at vline.com.au/Timetables/Train-coach-timetables

ROADWORKS NOTICE



Bass Highway (M420), Grantville Traffic Signals Installation

New traffic signals will be installed at the Dandy Premix Quarries intersection to reduce truck traffic through Grantville and improve safety for pedestrians and motorists using the Bass Highway.

- Works commenced July 2025, approx. 4-month duration
- Lane closures, reduced speed limits, contra-flow traffic
- Deep Creek St and Bass Hwy Service Rd access impacted
- Two bus stops temporarily relocated

COMMENCEMENT AND DURATION OF ROADWORKS

Stage 1 Roadworks confined to the existing quarry intersection commenced early July 2025.

Stage 2 Roadworks on the Bass Highway Northbound carriageway are scheduled to commence on 14 August and are expected to be completed by 19 September 2025.

The **Stage 2 Roadworks** require temporary closure of the Bass Highway Northbound carriageway and the introduction of contra-flow traffic to the Southbound carriageway.

The left lane of the Southbound carriageway will continue to be used for southbound traffic and the second lane for northbound traffic after diversion across the highway median to share the Southbound carriageway. During **Stage 2 Roadworks**, each of the two lanes of the Southbound carriageway will have traffic moving in the opposite direction.

During **Stage 2 Roadworks** there will be reduced speed limits through the Bass Highway construction zone with modified traffic layouts and traffic controls in place to assist motorists.

ROADWORK TIMES AND TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT

Stage 2 Roadworks will generally be undertaken Monday to Saturday (6 days/week) between 7.00am and 7.00pm. Some short-term roadworks may be carried out overnight.

Traffic controls including Variable Message Signs (VMSs), Safety Barriers, Portable Traffic Lights, Traffic Controllers and Truck Mounted Attenuators (TMAs) will be in operation.

ACCESS ARRANGEMENTS

Deep Creek Street and the Bass Highway Service Road traffic will be temporarily impacted during Stage 2 roadworks.

Deep Creek Street: temporary use of Bonney Road for Bass Highway access and egress, including for Smith Street, Broome Court, Stewart Street, Malcolm Drive and Panoramic Drive traffic.

Bass Highway Service Road (northbound, western side of Bass Highway): temporary northbound egress to Bass Highway under traffic controller supervision. This will also impact on traffic from Blackwood Drive, Swan Street, Vision Lane and Lang Street using the



Map data: ©2024 Google, Imagery ©2024 Airbus

Bass Highway Service Road for northbound entry to Bass Highway.

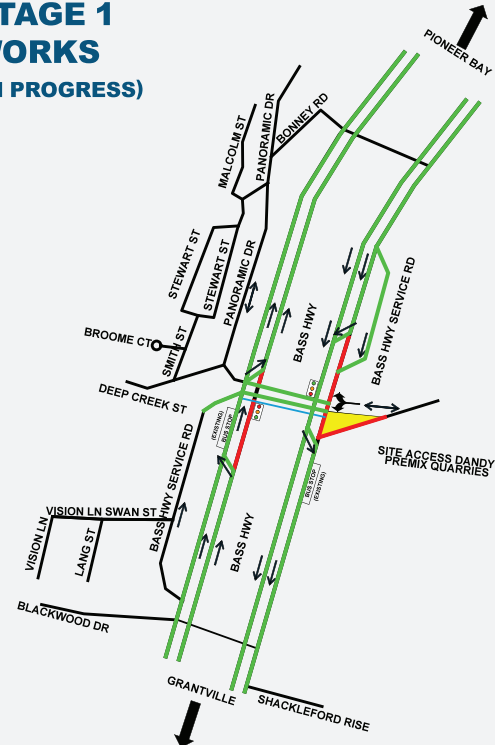
BUS STOP - NORTHBOUND

The Bass HWY northbound bus stop located in the Stage 2 Roadworks construction zone will be temporarily relocated further north (approx. 120m) with signage, waiting area provision and pedestrian protection provided.

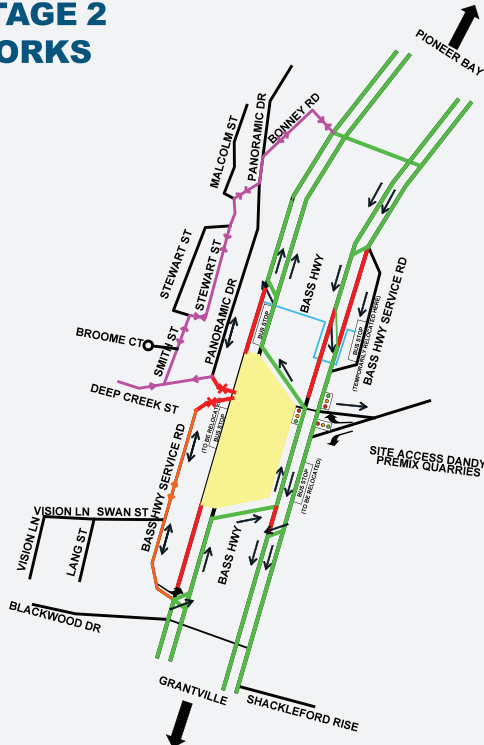
PROJECT OUTCOMES

Installation of the Traffic Signals will enable trucks to turn right, northbound onto Bass Highway, resulting in a major reduction in quarry trucks through Grantville. The Traffic Signals will also improve Bus Stop pedestrian safety and assist safer Deep Creek Street traffic flows onto Bass Highway.

STAGE 1 WORKS (IN PROGRESS)



STAGE 2 WORKS



Motorists are urged to obey speed limits and traffic controls during the roadworks. Your cooperation will greatly assist the safety of workers, pedestrians & other motorists.

Please contact us for further information or to share your feedback.

Applicant

Dandy Premix Quarries Pty Ltd
(Regional Group Australia)
Garry Cranny, Sustainability Manager
Email: gcranny@dandypremix.com
Mob: 0419 587 440

Head Contractor

R&C Asphalt Paving Pty Ltd (Austek Roads)
Simon Varghese, Construction Manager
Email: simonv@rcasphalt.com.au
Mob: 0427 480 668

LEGEND

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------|--|-------------------|
| | ROAD CLOSURE | | TRAFFIC SIGNAL |
| | LANE CLOSURE | | SOUTHBOUND DETOUR |
| | PEDESTRIAN CROSSING | | NORTHBOUND DETOUR |
| | WORK AREA | | |

Gas still flowing from Yolla Platform as decline looms

GAS production in the Bass Basin has held steady in recent months, with Beach Energy confirming a slight increase in output from the region that's long powered homes and heaters across the east coast.

In its fourth quarter activities report, the company said: "Total gas and gas liquids production of 383 kboe was 3% above the prior quarter. Improved performance continued during the quarter following successful wellbore intervention activities." In other words, the team's recent maintenance work seems to have done the trick - for now.

The Lang Lang plant itself, which sits within easy reach of Bass Coast residents, continues to run steadily. "The Lang Lang Gas Plant produced at an average daily rate of 19 TJ/day," the report said, which is exactly the same as the previous quarter.

But while the quarter's results are steady, signs of decline are hard to ignore. Beach Energy confirmed: "Natural field decline of up to 15% is expected in FY26 which will be included in Beach's FY26 production guidance." In plain terms, that means the gas is running out, slowly but surely.

Plans to shut down older infrastructure are already in motion. "Beach's initial phase of activity will also include... plug and abandonment of the White Ibis 1 well in the Bass Basin," the company said.

To locals, the Bass Basin might sound like something that lies far off our radar, but it's very much a part of the energy story that runs beneath our feet. The basin itself sits offshore in Bass Strait, just south of the Bass Coast and South Gippsland coastline.

At the centre of all this lies the Yolla A Platform, a major offshore gas rig that's been standing in the waters of Bass Strait for nearly two decades. It draws gas from the Yolla field, which is then sent via sub-sea pipeline to the Lang Lang Gas Plant in Victoria. Beach Energy reported: "Gas volumes were sold into the spot market to support the East Coast market during a period of elevated demand."

For now, the Yolla platform continues to do its job.

Hoodie volunteers needed for the Bass Coast

A SMALL team of local volunteers under the guidance of BirdLife Australia is seeking more volunteers to help monitor the vulnerable Hooded Plover or Hoodie.

The Bunurong coastline stretching from San Remo to Inverloch is seen as vitally important to the ongoing survival of the Hooded Plover.

The Hoodie's future is threatened by ongoing human-related disturbance, increased coastal use and introduced pests that are placing additional stresses on the bird's breeding success during the nesting season from September to April.

Local volunteers are working with the South Gippsland Conservation Society and the Cape Paterson Residents and Ratepayers Association to manage invasive weeds at Hoodie nesting sites.

With just over 700 birds remaining in Victoria, the section on the coastline from San Remo to Inverloch has the second highest population of breeding Hoodies in the state.

David Hartney, one of three volunteer Beach Team Leaders for the Friends of the Hooded Plover on the Bass Coast from San Remo to Inverloch, is passionate about protecting the Hoodie.

"We are always on the lookout for new blood," said David.

"The retirement of several volunteers this season has created the need for additional volunteers to maintain the group's monitoring capability," he said.

"There are a range of activities you can undertake to help the cause."

For more information on the local Hooded Plover monitoring program or to register your interest in becoming a volunteer, email David Hartney at dwhartney@bigpond.com.

Newhaven College's Japanese student exchange: a host family's perspective

NEWHAVEN College was delighted to host 14 Year 9 students and two teachers from Ibaraki Christian Junior High School, Japan, as part of the ongoing Japanese exchange program. From Sunday 27 July to Thursday 7 August, the visit provided a valuable opportunity for cultural exchange, with students from both schools forming deep connections and broadening their global understanding. For Newhaven College students learning Japanese, the experience offered an authentic and enjoyable way to practise their language skills.

During their stay, the Japanese students were welcomed by College homestay families, embracing the chance to experience the Australian way of life firsthand. Outside of school, many ventured out across Phillip Island, Melbourne, and beyond, to experience Australian life.

While reflecting on the experience, mother of three Newhaven College students and host, Pharrah Underwood, spoke fondly of her and her family's experience. Her reflections were mirrored by other families who kindly welcomed students into their homes.

"Having our Japanese student, Riona, stay with us has been such a rewarding and eye-opening experience for our whole family," says Pharrah. "We've learned so much - not just about Japanese culture, but also about ourselves and how much we can gain by welcoming someone new into our home."

"Riona brought a beautiful sense of calm and presence with her. Through her, we learned about the little details that make Japanese culture so unique - from the rules at school such as not being allowed to whistle or plait their hair, to their deep respect for food and not letting anything go to waste. Mealtimes became a great opportunity for cultural exchange - we introduced her to some of our favourites, and she introduced us to hers. The difference in food portions, ingredients,



Newhaven College VCE Japanese students enjoyed the opportunity to meet and chat with the visiting students from Ibaraki Christian Junior High School.



Newhaven College students Eden Hallas, Ava Kelly and Evelyn Felstead made Japanese exchange student Suzuna Ishikawa feel welcome over lunchtime.

and snacks sparked so many interesting conversations.

"Riona patiently taught us how to use chopsticks the right way, which the kids were especially excited about. In return, our kids have picked up several Japanese words and phrases and have loved learning how different daily life is for Riona back home."

"The language barrier at times challenged us, but it also taught us to slow down, be patient, and find other ways to connect — through gestures, laughter, and shared moments. It was a valuable reminder that communication is about so much more than just words."

"We feel incredibly lucky to have shared this experience. Hosting Riona has left a lasting impact on our family and given us memories we'll cherish forever."

Japanese Exchange Program Coordinator, Mitsuko Horiguchi, was very pleased with this year's exchange, "We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the Japanese students and teachers for enriching our

lives and contributing to the vibrant tapestry of our school community. Special thanks go to our host families for their warmth and generosity in welcoming these students into their homes."

Scheduled for September, the exchange program will continue with 15 Year 10 and 11 Newhaven College students visiting Ibaraki School, again staying with host families. All students participating in the program are anticipating an incredible experience.

Monash hit hard by cost of living according to local MP

Alarmed at the rising cost of living Federal Member for Monash Mary Aldred MP met with financial counsellors from across Gippsland recently to discuss the impact on local families.

"Every day, people in Monash are raising with me the impact of cost of living on household budgets," said Ms Aldred.

"More and more people in our region are experiencing homelessness for the first time."

"I'm hearing more instances of people falling behind on their mortgage repayments, having their cars repossessed or not keeping up with their rent."

"Farmers being forced to sell off stock early."

In the last sitting of Federal Parliament Ms Aldred put a question on energy prices and the cost of living directly to the Prime Minister.



Rural financial counsellors, Anglicare and the CEO of Financial Counselling Victoria meeting with Federal Member for Monash Mary Aldred MP discussing the impact of the cost of living on local families.

"This is a major issue for the Monash electorate, and I will continue to raise the impact on local families and the need to address cost of living as a major national priority," Ms Aldred said.

"We know that over the last three years, the cost of rent has gone up by 32% and electricity has gone up by 30% (ABS statistics)."

"The economy grew just 0.2% last quarter and annual

growth is running at half the long-term average," Ms Aldred added.

"While our food banks do an incredible job, they are also stretched to capacity with demand for their services."

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AWAY

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SN: W102156

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44,990 DRIVE
AWAY

288,757kms, 6 speed sports auto 4x4
SUV SN: W102101

FINANCE
AVAILABLE



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ONE
OF 3



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AWAY

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chassis SN: W102085

Leongatha Toyota

USED VEHICLE SPECIALS

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AVAILABLE



2021 Mitsubishi
Pajero Sport GLS QF

41,990 DRIVE
AWAY

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SUV SN: L101392

FINANCE
AVAILABLE



2020 Toyota
Landcruiser Prado GX

46,990 DRIVE
AWAY

136,758kms, 6 speed CVT auto 4x4
SUV SN: L101393

FINANCE
AVAILABLE



2008 Toyota Landcruiser VX

51,990 DRIVE
AWAY

210,810kms, 6 speed CVT auto 4x4
SUV SN: L101396

FINANCE
AVAILABLE



2013 Toyota Kluger Grande

23,990 DRIVE
AWAY

130,140kms, 5 speed CVT auto AWD
SUV SN: L101399

FINANCE
AVAILABLE



2018 Hyundai Kona Highlander

20,990 DRIVE
AWAY

69,978kms, 6 speed CVT auto SUV
SN: L101360

FINANCE
AVAILABLE



2023 Mitsubishi
Pajero Sport GLS QF

46,990 DRIVE
AWAY

23,583kms, 8 speed CVT auto 4x4
SUV SN: L101378

FINANCE
AVAILABLE



2015 Toyota
Landcruiser Prado GXL

34,990 DRIVE
AWAY

224,470kms, 5 speed CVT auto 4x4
SUV SN: L101342

FINANCE
AVAILABLE



2018 Toyota C-HR Koba

26,990 DRIVE
AWAY

81,347kms, 7 speed CVT auto SUV
SN: L101400

Wonthaggi Toyota

346 Bass Highway,
Wonthaggi VIC 3995
T (03) 5672 1722
LMCT 8179
wonthaggitoyota.com.au

Leongatha Toyota

7-13 Hughes Street,
Leongatha VIC 3953
T (03) 5662 2302
LMCT 8179
leongathatoyota.com.au



Toyota Finance



Toyota Used Cars

OH WHAT A FEELING

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

Sentinel-Times
COMMENT

Compassionate play
also the smart play

AS SOON as police raised their suspicions, within days of the mushroom poisoning incident in Leongatha in July 2023, that it may not have been a case of accidental food poisoning, most local people adopted the approach of leaving the police to do their work.

They showed their support for the Patterson and Wilkinson families by turning out in large numbers at two public memorial services in the Korumburra Recreation Centre in August and October 2023, but other than that, there have been few outward signs and no running commentary from locals in the media about what they were thinking.

It was the only respectful thing to do, not only in relation to the families directly involved, but also the many people in the local community impacted by this unthinkable event.

But it turns out that the compassionate approach was also the smart approach, especially in light of the details released in recent days, that were not able to be included in the trial for various reasons.

Here again, we should reserve our judgement until this whole sorry saga plays out.

Take the decision not to proceed with the three attempted murder charges in relation to alleged food poisoning incidents in November 2021, May 2022 and September 2022 where Simon Patterson was the alleged victim.

It wasn't until the opening day of the trial that Justice Beale revealed for the first time that these charges had been officially dropped by police.

As it turns out though, the police and the Office of Public Prosecutions wanted the charges included in the trial, even to the point of taking it to the Court of Appeal after Justice Beale, a highly experienced criminal court judge, had ruled that the probative value of the "coincidence evidence" was substantially outweighed by the significant danger or risk of unfair prejudice to the respondent, Erin Patterson.

He also ruled in March this year that should the jury find that Ms Patterson deliberately poisoned the four lunch guests, it would create a very significant risk of the jurors misusing or overvaluing the evidence in relation to the charges concerning the alleged incidents of poisoning involving Simon.

So, to protect the integrity of the trial proper, involving the murders of Don and Gail Patterson, and Heather Wilkinson, and also the attempted murder of Ian Wilkinson, the charges relating to Simon should be severed from the central proceedings.

Unfortunately, this left Simon Patterson in an invidious position when it came to giving his own evidence, especially when he was asked in the witness box about his relationship to Erin and the events leading up to the deadly lunch. He even told the judge so when the jury was out of the room.

The apparent lack of a motive or any significant problems between Erin and Simon, also provided the defence with the opportunity to raise all sorts of doubts for the consideration by the jury.

Other potential evidence was also left out, as we have seen revealed in recent days, such as the video of Erin Patterson visiting the Koonwarra Transfer Station, 45 minutes after the lunch guests departed, again because the probative value was outweighed by the prejudicial impact.

Just like many of the media commentators, the jury might have come to the conclusion that the box Ms Patterson dropped off at the tip contained the four grey plates when it might simply have contained household waste.

But just as it's important to have a fair trial, it's also important to be able to protect the verdict from unjust challenges, and even costly retrials because foreseeable mistakes have been made.

It's yet to be seen whether the verdict handed down by the jury on Monday, July 7, 2025 will be confirmed, should Erin Patterson exercise her right to appeal, and there may still be some unexpected twists and turns in the months ahead.

Passing judgement is still better left to the experts at this stage.

Vox Pop

What's your best tip to avoid loneliness?



Caitlyn

"I like to join community groups that bring people together in a sympathetic manner."



Lauren

"Give my friends and family a call and catch up with friends."



Darren

"Talk to the dog and enjoy playing golf with the mates."



Darren

"Open communication, being comfortable being uncomfortable, sparking a connection and engaging with the community."

Council should back off
on land rezoning

On Wednesday, August 6, on behalf of the Strzelecki Ward Citizens Assembly, I attended and represented to the hearings on the rezoning of the Korumburra Mainstreet precinct.

These hearings addressed a proposed change of the zone of the Senior Citizens' land from a public use zone to a commercial use zone. This change of zone use, if Council sells the land, would add substantially to its sale price.

Contrary to normal practice of other councils and our shire's previous practice, these hearings were held in camera without the public being able to be involved and to listen to the arguments.

One may ask what has Council got to hide given that all the submissions are publicly available on their website.

This closed hearing follows a pattern of Council retreating from open transparent democracy. It is disappointing that Council yet again has reverted to secrecy.

Such hearings have been traditionally held in public. Closing this hearing joins the highly restricted question time, the cessation of publishing of the 10-year asset management budget, the stonewalling of serious FOI requests and making South Gippsland Shire the fourth highest council in the state for decisions made behind closed doors (16.8%).

Why are these anti-democratic practices condoned by our elected councillors?

Our group strenuously opposes the proposed rezoning of the Senior Citizens' Centre site to commercial use because there is no merit to the argument and there is more than substantial available unutilised land for commercial use already in this precinct. There would be no publicly available land that is accessible in the precinct if the zoning was changed to meet any future community needs let alone the Senior Citizens' Centre.

Significantly, there is an unresolved legal dispute between the Senior Citizens' Centre and Council in regard to the existence of a Trust that hasn't been dissolved, where Council and the councillors hold the land on behalf of the Senior Citizens' Centre.

The Assembly endorses the argument that the land should have been transferred to the centre when it was incorporated. This matter is currently before the Supreme Court.

Council's opposition to the Senior Citizens' legal case breaches the Model Litigant Rules which Council is a party to. It appears that councillors have not been fully informed or indeed informed at all about what is

going on and what is at stake.

It is clear that the Korumburra community hub is legally an inaccessible site under the Disability Acts and is extremely difficult for anyone with a disability to gain safe access.

Our ward councillors should be seeking a different approach by immediately stopping what is likely to cost council directly over \$100,000 in legal fees and potentially costs awarded to the Senior Citizens when the matter is adjudicated in the Supreme Court. A cost of at least \$150,000.

Mediation is a far more preferable and less expensive option for Council and to accept their legal duties under the existing Trust and transfer the land to them. Our councillors should note that it is a criminal offence to breach the duties of a Trustee.

The rezoning proposal should be put on hold and further Council should mediate and immediately stop its asymmetric legal warfare in breach of the Model Litigant Rules. This would be the first step in healing the relationship between council and the Korumburra community in particular with our senior citizens. Council needs to retreat from its growing anti-democratic stance and restore open democracy.

Andrew McEwen, Co Convener, Strzelecki Ward Citizens Assembly.

Conned by aged care rort!

May I comment via your pages on "Home Care Packages" offered to Australian Seniors.

Most Australians around my age [86] started working early in life and paid their taxes, knowing they would get a government pension when they reached retirement age of 65 or 67.

We worked hard, with two weeks' annual leave and not much else.

I did not spend my hard-earned money in the pub, nor anywhere else.

We did not go for overseas holidays, we camped in the bush.

We saved and bought a house, had kids.

Over the years, like a good citizen, I gave of my time freely to the school committees, the local community health centre, to all sorts of organisations benefiting the ordinary people and our environment.

Closer to retirement, we bought an investment property with our savings.

Now, I would like some "Home Help", cleaning basically, via the widely-promoted government program: "To help seniors stay in their own home."

I was duly "Assessed" and two hours per week were "Approved". But...! It becomes confusing.

There is a means test. No one had told me about that.

It appears I have to pay \$175 per week for the two "Approved" hours of assistance to the Provider.

In addition, the Provider will be paid \$360 per week by the government to "manage" my case, so that I can get two hours per week of home assistance.

It seems the two hours of assistance approved, would cost a total of \$535 per week!

I pointed out to the gentleman, who was trying to persuade me to sign a contract, that I would be able to get two hours labour on the open market for about \$25 to \$40 per hour. He agreed.

He also agreed that it was a crazy package he was trying to get me to sign up for.

After July 2025, he said, there would be a new program introduced and fees would increase!

"But," he said. "That is the way it is". I did not sign.

Is age care more a mirage than a reality?

I still pay tax. I'm very lucky, I know. The harder I worked, the luckier I got, but... How do those politicians get away with it!

When they retire, the Honourable Members receive an enormously lucrative financial package for life. Even after a short stint in Parliament. A package, far in excess of their needs or the needs of a well-off person. Without a means test!

Have I been conned?
G de Jonge, San Remo.

Get ya rocks off

AT THE recent public meeting called to "discuss" the imminent threat to the foreshore of Inverloch the distrust of "experts in the field" was clearly demonstrated. The animosity this breeds sadly reinforced by recent letters to the editor in this paper. I offer the following solution to this apparent impasse.

Firstly, install two or three layers of rock bags in the threatened areas. Next, pump the \$3million worth of sand over the top of them and if the "experts" are right, we will never see them again. However, if they are wrong. The rock bags will still be there to protect what remains of the foreshore.

Neville Drummond, Inverloch

The 'Sentinel-Times' encourages readers to write with issues of interest or concern but letters that have a local reference point will be given priority. Writers are also urged to be brief where possible. Letters may be edited for space and legal reasons, and must be submitted with the author's name and contact details of which only the name and town location will appear.

Bass Coast Community Foundation Gala Dinner

GUESTS turned out in gorgeous elegance for the Bass Coast Community Foundation (BCCF) Gala Dinner on Saturday, July 26. It was an evening of fine dining, inspiring conversation, and community giving at Silverwater Resort for the fundraiser supporting the Bass Coast Community Foundation and all that it does in the Bass Coast community.

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

Throughout the evening, the Foundation's accomplishments were showcased, highlighting success stories and presenting opportunities for guests to make a lasting difference through donations and sponsorships.

Director of BCCF Brett Tessari volunteered his services as auctioneer and had the whole room laughing, cheering and egging on the bidders. And the bidders did not disappoint!

Overall, the fundraising at the event was quite successful and will enable us to push ahead with the financial literacy programs Centsible Teen Talk and the adult related Centsible program developed and delivered by local experts Rebecca Casey and Jackie Newman. The adult program will be run at Bass Coast Adult Learning in Wonthaggi.

A huge thank you to all our guests as well as our sponsors and donors without whom we would not have had the opportunity to raise these most welcome funds and continue to run this invaluable program.



Phil Friedlos (Chair of BCCF), Melina Bath MP, Cr Brett Tessari and Deb Watson (BCCF EO).



Cr Brett Tessari (Director BCCF), Phil Friedlos (Chair of BCCF), Sophie Bolding (Director BCCF) and Beau Vernon.

Funding for food relief programs

THE Nationals Member for Gippsland South, Danny O'Brien, is encouraging local organisations and community groups to apply for funding through the Victorian Government's Community Food Relief Program, as latest data shows many families are struggling to keep food on the table.

Mr O'Brien said the program offers vital support for local food relief programs that many of our most vulnerable Gippslanders rely on.

"I know the cost of living continues to bite and food insecurity is a real concern in many homes," Mr O'Brien said.

"These grants are an opportunity for local neighbourhood houses, volunteer-led organisations, Aboriginal entities, councils, and other community groups to strengthen their food relief programs and continue supporting the people who need it most."

Mr O'Brien said the growing demand for food relief services highlights the importance of this funding.

According to the Foodbank Hunger Report 2024, 48 per cent of low-income households are experiencing food insecurity, and 26 per cent of those are accessing formal food relief regularly, a 12 per cent increase on the previous year.

"This report shows that people are having to cut back on protein and dairy products as well as personal care products because they simply cannot keep up with rising costs.

"It is clear that our local food relief programs are more important than ever, and I am very grateful to those that take the time and make the effort to keep these programs running."

Mr O'Brien is urging eligible groups across Gippsland South to apply before the closing date of 4pm on Tuesday, August 19.

"Whether you're a local community group running a food pantry, a volunteer kitchen providing hot meals, or a neighbourhood house distributing groceries, I encourage you to explore this funding opportunity.

"As always, I am more than happy to provide a letter of support and can be contacted on 5144 1987 or via email at danny.obrien@parliament.vic.gov.au."

Celebrating excellence at the 2025 TAFE Gippsland Education Awards

FRIDAY August 1 marked TAFE Gippsland's first-ever Education Awards, a fantastic evening recognising the achievements, dedication and passion of their students, trainers and industry partners.

The foyer of the Wedge in Sale was buzzing thanks to an array of vibrant performers including Karina Flow dazzling with LED artistry and fire twirling, Becky Bubble and Mr Marmalade adding a touch of magic, who all set the scene for a fun, relaxed night of celebrations.

Inside, the laughs kept coming thanks to legendary comedian Dave O'Neil, whose laid-back humour perfectly matched the upbeat tone of the evening.

Congratulations go to the 2025 award winners:

School Based Apprenticeship Award: Zac McRae (Leongatha Secondary College).

Vocational Student of the Year Awards:

Education – Charlotte Pors (from Mirboo North, attends Leongatha Secondary College).

Business Services – Julie Watson (Leongatha).

Apprentice of the Year Awards:

Plumbing – Paul Atkinson (Korumburra) – employed by Blogg Bros.

Painting & Decorating – Callum Buckland (Leongatha) – employed by Buckland Painting and Decorating.



Callum Buckland (Leongatha) employed by Buckland Painting and Decorating was awarded Apprentice of the Year in Painting & Decorating.



Vocational Student of the Year Awards went to Julie Watson from Leongatha, for Business Services.



Vocational Student of the Year Award for Education went to Charlotte Pors, from Mirboo North, who attends Leongatha Secondary College.



Apprentice of the Year Award in Plumbing went to Paul Atkinson from Korumburra who is employed by Blogg Bros.



Zac McRae (Leongatha Secondary College) was awarded the School Based Apprenticeship Award.

Bena Road, Korumburra long lots consultation

SOUTH Gippsland Shire Council is considering options for how land on the northern side of Bena Road could potentially be subdivided and is seeking feedback from local residents.

Land lots on Bena Road are unique as they are very long but also quite narrow. They have potential for future subdivision, but without a coordinated plan, there is a risk of ad hoc development that could compromise the character of the area. The lots are zoned General Residential and, under the South Gippsland Planning Scheme, may currently be subdivided for residential development without a specified minimum lot size.

Allison Jones, CEO South Gippsland Shire Council, said that she'd like to emphasise that Council has not made any decisions regarding the plan, nor is it promoting or discouraging land subdivision.

To address this, Council has prepared a plan illustrating how coordinated development could take place along Bena Road over the next 20 to 30 years.

"The purpose of the plan is simply to serve as a starting point for discussion and to engage with landowners about their vision for the future of the Bena Road area. I would like to encourage impacted and interested residents to reach out and make contact with the Council's Planning team."

The plan aims to optimise the potential for subdividing the land into lots ranging from 500 to 700 square metres, while also providing a road network that supports safe vehicle and pedestrian movements.



Virtual clinics for women's health to reduce delays

THE State Government's virtual women's health clinic is now open to all Victorian women and girls of any age – offering free, expert medical advice, treatment and care for a range of women's health needs.

Led by specialist nurses, the clinic can provide medical advice remotely via telehealth, either online or on the phone – including endometriosis and pelvic pain care, menstrual health, cervical screening, menopause care, breast health care and abortion.

Women in regional and remote Victoria will benefit the most with services like contraception and abortion traditionally harder to access due to distance from major towns.

Operated in partnership with community health organisation EACH, it will reduce the barriers and delays in accessing care, helping to avoid detrimental impacts on a woman's health, their quality of life and their ability to participate in school and employment.

The team of nurses will deliver an initial health assessment and some treatment, while patients can also be connected with a GP or get referred to a relevant health practitioner as close to home as possible.

In addition to treating immediate health needs, referrals can also be made to various mental health and wellbeing, alcohol and other drugs, and family violence community support services.

The virtual women's clinic is available Monday to Friday from 9am-5pm, by calling 1300 003 224 or via a simple, secure online form on the EACH website: each.com.au/services/virtual-womens-health-clinic.

Share the Dignity is calling on more men

THIS August, Share the Dignity is rallying Australians to donate period products for its dignity drive, while simultaneously calling on men to step up and join the fight for menstrual equity through their new Bro in the Know campaign.

With one in five women, girls and those who menstruate having reported experiencing period poverty, according to their 2024 Bloody Big Survey, Share the Dignity needs the support of Australians to help end period poverty.

Held in partnership with Woolworths, Dignity Drive calls on shoppers to add unopened packets of tampons, pads, period undies and reusable period products to their trolley and donate them at their local collection point.

The August Dignity Drive will run from August 1 to 31, with collection points at all Woolworths supermarkets.



Dr Therese Kang and Professor Wee Loon Ong with members of the Latrobe Biggest Ever Barbecue held recently in Morwell.

BBQ funding supports SABR Gippsland trials

HUNDREDS of men with 'intermediate risk' prostate cancer from across Gippsland will soon have greater access to the newest and arguably most convenient radiation therapy treatment option in the world.

This is thanks in part to the fundraising efforts of the Latrobe's Biggest Ever Blokes Barbecue (LBEBBQ).

The fundraising is supporting a joint Alfred Health and Latrobe Regional Health research project, which is expected to provide a vastly quicker treatment and positively impact local men and their families.

Every year, more than 250 men in Gippsland are diagnosed with prostate cancer, with about half diagnosed as at 'intermediate risk', which requires treatment through either surgery or radiation therapy.

Until recently, men undergoing radiation therapy had to travel to the Gippsland Radiation Oncology (GRO) centre in Traralgon for 20 or more separate daily treatment sessions, each lasting 30-45 minutes, over a four-week period.

Better understanding of radiobiology and advances in

radiation technology have allowed shorter and more efficient courses for patients, while maintaining the safety and effectiveness of the longer version.

LBEBBQ chairman Ian Nethercote said the group has raised more than \$1 million for research, awareness and support of prostate cancer patients in the Latrobe Valley Gippsland region since its inception in 2013.

"We have worked with The Alfred Hospital in the past regarding the incidence of prostate disease in men in the area, and now likewise with this current SABR (stereotactic ablative body radiotherapy) technology," he said.

"The objective is to provide a service to men and their families who are impacted by prostate disease without the need for extra travel and accommodation costs associated with travelling to Melbourne."

Dr Therese Kang, a Clinical Research Fellow who splits her time between The Alfred Hospital in Melbourne and the GRO, said that about 30 men have had the reduced five-session treatment at GRO.

It is hoped that a clinical

trial involving only two treatments will be available in Gippsland before the end of the year.

"The traditional long treatment presents a significant challenge, with a lot of commuting time adding to the physical and emotional toll of cancer treatment," she said.

Traralgon man Wayne Barnes, who was the first patient treated with prostate SABR at GRO, said it was a huge help being able to access his treatment so close to home.

"It makes it easy for me, because I don't have to travel to The Alfred and take time off work," he said.

"The treatment is easy and straightforward. I don't feel any side effects over the course of treatments and after that."

LBEBBQ funding supports essential trial setup, staff training and community engagement through their support for Dr Kang.

"Their contribution has been critical to accelerating the SABR rollout and new clinical trials locally, bringing cutting-edge treatments to regional individuals sooner than would otherwise be

possible," she said.

"I am deeply grateful for their support and proud to translate their support into tangible improvements in local patient experience and outcomes."

Seeing the impact that the fundraising has brought to the region has been "extremely worthwhile," according to Mr Nethercote.

"We've seen the number of people here tested increase and that's due to increased levels of awareness," he said.

"It's also fair to say that we are detecting prostate disease earlier than before, which is important if we are to minimise its impact and hopefully eliminate it before it has a detrimental impact on the people involved."

Dr Kang encourages anyone in the Gippsland area diagnosed with prostate cancer to meet with radiation oncologists to discuss SABR options and clinical trial participation.

"Continued collaboration between community organisations, researchers and clinicians is essential if we are to advance prostate cancer care in regional Australia," she said.

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Outreach services benefit patients and doctors

OUTREACH services are helping paediatrician Dr Tim Walsh keep in touch with the community he loves. While the outreach services help people to access specialist care close to home, they're also good for the doctor.

Based primarily at West Gippsland Healthcare Group at Warragul, Dr Walsh provides outreach services to Gippsland Southern Health Service's children's diabetes clinic, along with a fortnightly general paediatric program.

"I love my work and enjoy outreach work," he says.

"I think I'm very lucky to have landed here."

Originally from Melbourne, Dr Walsh did the bulk of his training in Gippsland as a medical student and was part of the inaugural cohort of the Monash Rural End-to-End Program, graduating in 2011. This included rotations in Gippsland, where he met his wife Tiffany from Inverloch.

Dr Walsh completed his paediatric training at Royal Children's and Monash hospitals and completed his Advanced Training in Paediatrics in Gippsland with 12-month terms at both Warragul and Traralgon.

"I decided that's where I want to be," he said.

"I wanted to stay in Gippsland to give back to the community."

One of his mentors, Dr Michael Nowotny, had conducted



Paediatrician Dr Timothy Walsh and Elise Howell. Dr Walsh provides outreach services to Gippsland South Health Services' children's diabetes clinic and general paediatric program.

outreach services to Leongatha for many years.

"Around the time I started as a consultant in October 2022, he was moving away from clinical practice," Dr Walsh said.

"There was a big need for service coverage in South Gippsland, and I was coming along at the right time. It coincided with my desire to do outreach services and give back to the communities that had supported me."

He enjoys being part of GSHS's multi-disciplinary children's diabetes team, working alongside a diabetes educator,

social worker and dietitian.

"I've always been interested in helping children with type one diabetes, and Credentialed Diabetes Educator Andrea Curtis and the team had such a well-respected, collaborative service already in place that it was just a dream to join. I was pleased to be able to continue the work started by Dr Nowotny. To be part of that process and to help people manage their chronic condition is a privilege."

Dr Walsh also has a general paediatric clinic every second Tuesday at GSHS.

"I get a lot of feedback from

families around the area who are so pleased to have a service that is closer to home because it means they don't have to travel long distances," he said.

"Many families are resource-limited and may not have physical means to get to appointments and could miss out on care if outreach services weren't in place."

Dr Walsh is a past recipient of a Rural Workforce Agency Victoria (RWAV) grant to continue the outreach services and is also supported by Monash Rural Health, Gippsland.

Dr Walsh is also the Children's Health Clinic Lead with Monash Rural Health, Gippsland and is directly responsible for medical students on clinical placements in Warragul, Traralgon and Sale and is involved with students on their GP rotations in South Gippsland.

"They have the opportunity when they do their GP placements to spend time with specialists such as myself to see the challenges and benefits of outreach provision."

Dr Walsh has lived in the area for the past two years.

"It's home," he said.

"The community is really strong, and that's one of the real benefits of living in Gippsland."

"Having that experience as a medical student in those rural localities had a real impact on me."

Confidence lift at Exotique Lashes

LASH lift – why would you have or want one?

A LASH lift is suitable for everyone really – the guys too, if they fancy.

It's a quick and low maintenance service that will leave lashes lifted and pretty for up to eight to 10 weeks before needing to be redone.

A lash lift is a must for those with straight lashes and those who don't want to have extensions.

What is involved in a lash lift?

On arrival at the Exotique Lashes salon, clients will fill out a consultation form to give staff an understanding of their desired outcome for their lashes.

Once this is complete, staff take clients through to the treatment area and apply pads to lower lashes keeping them out of the way of the lift being performed on the top lid lashes.

Rods or shields of the appropriate size are then placed on the top lid and lashes are attached to the rods.

This mimics the curl that will be created.

This step of placing lashes on the rod or shield is crucial to an optimal outcome, so some time is spent to ensure they are perfect in this step.

Once staff are happy with the way lashes are placed on the rod, they will apply a series of solutions to only the base area of the lashes to create the lift.

People may have seen horror stories of over curled lashes?

This method ensures no over processing and avoids that possibility.

It is always important to go to a professional for a beautiful lash lift and for good care of ones natural lashes.

Once the solutions have all been applied, lashes are finished with a keratin hydrating treatment, leaving them in perfect condition.

After this step, for clients who want their lashes tinted, the tint is applied for a beautiful finishing touch.

When it comes to aftercare, lashes will need to be kept dry for a minimum of 24 hours after the lash lift appointment.

This is essential for the lift to hold its position.

Exotique Lashes staff also recommend a nourishing oil be applied each night before bed to keep lashes moisturised and healthy.

Professionally curled and tinted lashes make getting ready for work or school so easy.

Mascara can also be applied too if so desired – it just needs to be removed well at the end of the day to ensure clean lashes and to allow healthy lash growth.

Call Exotique Lashes on 0448 881 016 for bookings.

Join the Ride for the Kids living with brain conditions

EVERY day, 10 children in Australia are diagnosed with a neurological condition – that's 3,000 families each year whose lives are changed forever.

Ride for the Kids is Australia's leading virtual cycling challenge which runs across October to raise vital funds and awareness for Brainwave Australia and kids with childhood brain conditions and the challenges faced by their families.

Every kilometre and dollar raised will support the funding for essential therapy, life-saving equipment, and moments of joy for the more than 1,600 children and their families supported by Brainwave.

The number of families

approaching Brainwave Australia for support has doubled over the last three years and the importance of Ride for the Kids as a means to support these families can't be overstated.

All proceeds raised from Ride for the Kids will go directly to Brainwave Australia, the only national charity that supports kids and families impacted by childhood brain conditions.

Matthew (Matt) Keenan is one of the most recognised voices in international cycling. His passion is making cycling accessible and joyful for others, and his mission is to infect as many people as possible with the bike bug.

"Every kilometre counts. I'm riding to help kids with brain

disorders get the support they deserve – and I hope you'll join us," said Matt.

Here's How to Ride for the Kids in October:

Register – All ages and abilities are encouraged to participate for free. Participants can sign up here at rideforthekids.org.au.

Recruit – Ride on your own and get your friends, families or colleagues to sponsor you or make it a mission to have them join your team and ride together for this powerful cause.

Ride – Get pedalling and raising money from riding a 10km spin around the neighbourhood or at the gym, taking on a challenging 298 km Paris–Roubaix, 1,200km across the

Nullarbor or go even further and complete the 3,320km in the Tour de France route. Whichever distance you decide, every kilometre will go into raising necessary funds for the kids.

Rewards – Get appreciated for your fundraising efforts with custom gear from cult cycling brand, Pedla, including a Kids Water Bottle when you raise \$100, a high-performance Pedla Adventure Tee when you raise \$250 and getting the official Pedla Ride for the Kids Cycling Jersey when you raise \$500. Additionally, when you rally five people to join your team, each of them will score a Ride for the Kids cycling cap.

Register for free at rideforthekids.org.au.

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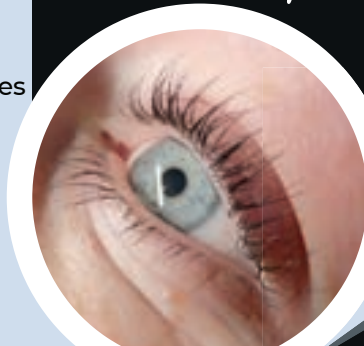
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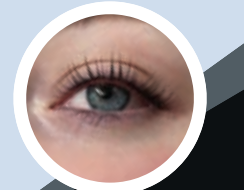
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Stroke patient Geoff Chain works through a rehabilitation session with Physiotherapist Kavin Jayasena and Occupational Therapist Abigail Eastick at Armitage House, Wonthaggi Hospital.

Stroke service enhances care for the community as cases rise

BASS Coast Health's (BCH) new stroke service is helping to meet the growing demand for stroke care in the Bass Coast and South Gippsland.

With National Stroke Week from 4-10 August, BCH is helping stroke patients to undertake their rehabilitation at Wonthaggi Hospital, closer to their home and support networks.

A comprehensive service is led by Ella Roos as Stroke Coordinator and Associate Professor Dr Barry Rawicki, Rehabilitation Physician. The new service provides more integrated care, including the calling of 'Code Stroke' in the event of a stroke event, prompting a multi-disciplinary response from our expert staff.

Ms Roos said from January to March this year, BCH had double the amount of stroke presentations compared to the same period in 2024 - 46 episodes to 22. While the reason is unknown, the region's growing and ageing population - could be factors.

At the same time, care response times at Wonthaggi Hospital have improved following extensive staff training.

"Our Speech Pathologists have also been training and accrediting Emergency Department staff, enabling emergency staff to assess patients' swallowing ability after a stroke, rather than wait for a Speech Pathologist," Ms Roos said.

Stroke patients often receive initial care in metropolitan hospitals before returning to Armitage House rehabilitation service at Wonthaggi Hospital for care provided by a multi-disciplinary team including

Physiotherapists, Occupational Therapists, Speech Pathologists, Social Workers, Dietitians, Nurses and Doctors.

Stroke patient Geoff Chain has been undergoing rehabilitation at Armitage House after two weeks at Monash Health following a stroke.

"It's re-learning things that you've known for 50 years and have lost. I'm progressing slowly but surely, and by listening to the people here, I've slowly regained my mobility and I'm looking forward to going home," he said.

"If it wasn't for the team here, I wouldn't be where I am at the moment."

To learn more about stroke and your risk, go to: <https://strokefoundation.org.au/about-stroke>



Linda Goltz cuts the cake, recognising her 38 years of service and farewell from full-time work with Bass Coast Health. She celebrated the occasion with colleagues.

Nurse Linda is clocking off after 38 years

A NURSE who has helped bring babies into the world, cared for the elderly, and been there for the community in emergencies is looking forward to her next life chapter.

Linda Goltz has retired from full-time work at Bass Coast Health (BCH) after 38 years with the organisation. Most recently, Linda served as Nurse Unit Manager of the Urgent Care Centre at Cowes, enjoying the last few weeks in the new centre within the Phillip Island Community Hospital.

"It's been a long 38 years, but it's gone so fast. Nursing has kept me stimulated, and I've always kept learning," she said.

"I've admired the growth and development of BCH, and the services we're offering from

Cowes are just brilliant for the community."

Before Linda joined Wonthaggi and District Hospital - as the organisation was then known - 38 years ago, she had trained at Royal Melbourne Hospital, worked in maternity at the former Queen Victoria Hospital in the Melbourne CBD and also in maternity at Monash Hospital in Clayton.

Her first role at Wonthaggi was as a midwife, but she also worked in the surgical ward.

After finishing post-graduate studies in family and community nursing, Linda undertook outreach work with the Maternal and Child Health team and became team leader. Linda combined that role with working as a midwife and a health service coordinator, the latter a

role she worked in on and off for 15 years.

Working in the Emergency Department inspired Linda to complete a Master's degree in Advanced Nursing Practice in Emergency, before her career took another trajectory: transforming Armitage House from an aged care facility to a rehabilitation unit.

Her next few years were spent as nurse unit manager of the Maternity and Maternal and Child Health teams.

In 2019, Linda helped to open the 24/7 Minor Injury and Illness Clinic at the Phillip Island Health Hub while the Urgent Care Centre was built.

After a stint managing the Emergency Department at Wonthaggi for eight months during the COVID pandemic,

Linda returned to Cowes as nurse unit manager of the Urgent Care Centre - a role she held until her retirement.

Her passion for learning and studying throughout her career inspired her to offer this tip to young healthcare workers: "Knowledge makes you versatile. You have to keep educating yourself and keep contemporary because it's changing all the time."

"Working in a rural health service, if you have the energy and the capacity to keep educating yourself, it gives you choices."

Patients can still expect to see Linda in scrubs at the Urgent Care Centre as she will help out from time to time, while she pursues her interest in textiles, spinning and weaving.

Auxiliary calls on the next generation of volunteers

GIPPSLAND Southern Health Service's Lyrebird Auxiliary has been giving to the local community for nearly 40 years - and volunteers are asking the community to lend a helping hand.

The auxiliary was formed in 1987, replacing an earlier group that disbanded when its members decided they were too old to continue with the fundraising activities.

A younger group of women in their 40s took on the challenge at the time, but now they are reaching the point where they need to step back and help a new generation of volunteers to step up and support their local hospital.

The youngest auxiliary member is 67, and the oldest is 79, and treasurer Lyndy Elliott says it's time for some new blood.

"As older members, we're quite happy to support new and younger members, but we don't want to stay in the office bearer positions," Mrs Elliott said.

Mrs Elliott joined the auxiliary in 1990 and has been treasurer for 25 years. President Lyn Yeomans has been in her role for 15 years.

The auxiliary has been reduced from more than 20 to about 15 members and today



Lyn Yeomans, Lyndy Elliott, physiotherapist and lymphoedema specialist, Mandy Fletcher, Robyn Powney and Helen Taylor.

mostly relies on donation tins in Leongatha and Korumburra shops to raise money, though that is usually limited to \$500-\$700 a year.

"We haven't got the people on the ground now to hold big events," Mrs Elliott said. "We need new blood and want to encourage younger people to come in."

One of the auxiliary's biggest jobs was selling the contents of a house that had been bequeathed to the hospital in 2021.

Along with funds raised from other events, the auxiliary has contributed \$4000 for SOZO machines for

lymphedema sufferers, helped to establish the Dolly Parton imagination library, purchased five trampolines for physiotherapy, televisions, knee rugs, fusion pumps, chemotherapy furniture, mannikins, large wheelchairs, and helped with upgrades to hospital gardens, among other donations.

Individual members also knit soft toys such as trauma teddies for urgent care and bonnets for premature babies.

"Joining and contributing gives people a sense of belonging to a community," Mrs. Elliott said. "It's our hospital. People can't complain if it doesn't have things if they're

not prepared to raise funds to help out."

The auxiliary also fosters ongoing friendships. "We still have social catchups. That's what it's all about - the camaraderie and friendships that are formed through the auxiliary, plus it's the people you meet in the community when you're selling raffle tickets. You get to be known as the hospital auxiliary."

Anyone interested in joining the auxiliary can contact President Lyn Yeomans on 0419 565711 Lynyeomans1@gmail.com or treasurer Lyndy Elliott 0409 623650 or lyngrae@dcsi.net.au.

South Gippsland members and families thanked for selfless service

OVER 1000 years of service was acknowledged on Saturday at the South Gippsland Group Dinner and Awards night.

A special highlight was the awarding of National Medals to four very deserving recipients.

The National Medal recognises long and diligent service as an operational firefighter in roles that carry inherent risk to self and others that share in the endeavour.

Recipients of the National Medal were: Foster Captain David Jones (third clasp – 45 years operational service), Foster Communications Officer Paul Austin (second clasp – 35 years operational service), Foster firefighter Kaylene Jones (first clasp – 25 years operational service), Tarwin Lower & District Captain Mick Moore (medal – 15 years operational service).

District 9 Commander Andrew McCartney read out the members' service history and some of their achievements.

"Every brigade and every Captain needs a Paul Austin," Commander McCartney said in Paul's preamble. "Paul is that person who can be relied upon to uphold routine servicing and general equipment maintenance. Scheduled checks and tests require a person that can be relied upon to provide availability when the work is there to be done, and Paul is that person for Foster Fire Brigade."

For Kaylene Jones, he continued: "Kaylene first joined Foster Fire Brigade as an auxiliary member on 15/07/1979, then, during a period of change in how CFA managed non-operational membership, Kaylene decided to take this opportunity to expand her duties to responding on the trucks and became an operational member in 1998 – contributing 27 years to operational duties."



National Medal Recipients Paul Austin, David Jones, Kaylene Jones and Mick Moore, flanked by CFA presenters Commander Andrew McCartney (left), and Chief Financial Officer Sam Costanzo.



Presenting Dumbalk's Service Awards were, from left, Commander Andrew McCartney, CFO Sam Costanzo, Captain Dallas Campbell, and recipients Rob Fisher (15 years) and Tony Maruzza (15 years).

For Mick Moore's presentation, Commander McCartney highlighted how quickly the brigade recognised his leadership credentials.

"Mick joined Tarwin Lower & District Fire Brigade on 11/05/2011 and immediately stepped up to take on roles of responsibility and accountability..."

"Mick has now been the enthusiastic, energetic and passionate Brigade Captain for the past 11 years. He leads by example when it comes to community engagement and has residents actively actioning preparedness and risk reduction for their own properties (across three major risk townships in

Walkerville, Tarwin Lower and Venus Bay).

"Mick and his dedicated members have created a vibrant, viable and healthy brigade that are serving their community with great distinction. I am sure there is considerable gratitude for the brigade from all those that call the area home (or holiday home)."

Following the presentation of the National Medals, the evening then turned to the many years of service volunteers have given their communities as firefighters and brigade members.

Special thanks were especially extended to the families of members.

"Tonight we recognise

not only individuals but also celebrate brigades, groups and the families of our members.

"A CFA volunteer's family is every bit as selfless and generous as our valued volunteers."

"Tonight's awards recognise some of those who are challenging themselves with relatively new endeavours, whilst also celebrating those that "have been there and done that".

"Some have contributed what amounts as a lifetime and their service has done a lot to uphold and strengthen the iconic brand that is CFA."

"...CFA, your community and your brigade thank you for your service."

Diligent conduct rewarded at Korumburra Fire Brigade

ON SATURDAY July 25, the Korumburra Fire Brigade held its Annual Presentation night to honour their members.

Captain Shane Maskell welcomed brigade members, their partners and families, and brigade representatives from Poowong Country Fire Authority, Kongwak Fire Brigade and Loch CFA Fire and Rescue along with brigade support officer Pauline, Strzelecki Catchment Commander Simon and DCO Trevor Owen of the CFA South East Region.

Shane acknowledged teamwork as being the cornerstone and the strength of the brigades; and the night was filled with connection and reward for the brigade's hard work over the last 12 months.

Justine Fowles was presented the 2025 Brigade



Sarah Davies was presented with The Rodda Family Fire Fighter of the Year Award.

Encouragement Award. Nicole Creaser, Sarah Davies and Amber McDonald were all presented with a 5 Year Service to CFA certificate. Jarred Haw was presented with a 15 Year Service Medal. Grant Sage and Shane Maskell were presented with a 25 Year Service Medal.

Following the Brigade's Service Awards, Trevor Owen presented members with National Medals and/or Clasps. These awards are for diligent service in Emergency services. Diligent service is defined as service that has been of good standard and conscientious and where the

person has shown good conduct as a member. The Medal is presented with a minimum for 15 years of diligent service and the clasps with a further 10 years per clasp.

David Barton, Graham Denney and Shane Maskell were presented with The National Medal. Michael Austin, Garry Dowel and Matt Haines were presented with The National Medal and 1st clasp. Ross Harris was presented with his first clasp. Kevin McPherson and Bill Rodda were presented with their third clasps.

Bill Rodda then had the honour of presenting The Rodda Family Fire Fighter of the Year Award, which is voted on by the members of the brigade for service to the brigade on and off the fire ground. For the third year running, Sarah Davies was presented with this Award.



Ed Browning received the Captain's Award and is pictured with outgoing stand-in captain Ben Patterson.



Scott Wilkinson received a 20-year Service Award, pictured with Simon Bloink and Ben Patterson.

Leongatha CFA volunteers recognised

LEONGATHA Fire Brigade members recently enjoyed their annual dinner and service recognition evening held at the town's RSL, joined by family and members of neighbouring brigades.

The night was filled with stories, laughter and a few legendary tales from the fireground. Leongatha Fire Brigade extended heartfelt congratulations to 20-year Service Award recipient Scott Wilkinson, five-year Service Award members Phil McIlwaine, Jaye Hopkins, Adele Hunter, Andrea and Corban Davis, Caitlin McFarlane and Lauren Pitts.

The brigade also acknowledged Jack Rayson Encouragement Award recipient Nathan Hawkins and Captain's Award winner Ed Browning.

"We thank all our members for your ongoing commitment and service to the community," the brigade stated.



Nathan Hawkins received the Jack Rayson Encouragement Award, pictured with Ben Patterson.



Jaye Hopkins holds her five-year Service Award, pictured with Ben Patterson and District 9 Commander Simon Bloink.

Bringing mental health awareness to Fish Creek

THE AWARD-winning film *Just A Farmer* will be screening on Friday August 29, at Fish Creek Memorial Hall. This powerful film captures the struggles and triumphs of rural life, with a deep focus on mental health awareness and community resilience.

"Mental health is often a silent struggle in farming communities," says Fish Creek Memorial Hall committee president, Daryl Standfield.

"This film brings that reality to the forefront, starting conversations that can change lives."

"We are very pleased to partner with the South Gippsland Hospital – Foster to present this powerful film. The film's presentation is also supported by Look over the Gate, Southern Stock Feeds, Saputo, SEJ Co, Foster Rotary, Alex Scott, Melina Bath and Danny O'Brien, recognising agriculture is fundamental to South Gippsland and the connection between all of us in our rural community".

The event will feature

special guest speaker Warren Davies, known as The Unbreakable Farmer. Attendees will hear Warren speak on resilience, persistence, determination, and wellbeing, through his lived experience as a farmer.

Why this film matters:

- 1 in 5 Australians experience mental health challenges each year
- Rural communities are at higher risk due to isolation and financial stress
- Conversations can save lives – and that's what this film encourages

There will be dinner provided for all attending, providing an opportunity for everyone to get together and socialise.

Reserve a seat at this free event via Trybooking or email fishy-hall3959@gmail.com.

Held at the Fish Creek Memorial Hall on Friday August 29, with dinner from 6:30pm, Guest speaker at 7:15pm and *Just A Farmer* screening at 7:30pm.

Reece Mastin brings live music to Inverloch Sunday Sessions in support of Veterans

AUSTRALIAN artist Reece Mastin is gearing up for a regional appearance in Inverloch as part of the Sunday Sessions at The Inlet Hotel—a live music event raising funds and awareness for veteran support.

Following the success of last month's launch event, next Sunday, August 17, promises to be even bigger, with Reece teaming up on stage with talent Tristan Ross for a high-energy, heartfelt performance supporting a cause close to home.

"Tristan is fantastic—so when he mentioned this one, I was jumping at it."

Veteran advocate Mick Quinn and his wife Fiona have supported veterans since 2003, offering everything from medical claim assistance to food relief and emergency accommodation and all proceeds from the event will directly support their vital work.

For Reece, the chance to combine music with purpose is a no-brainer.

"Any kind of charity work—I'm in," he said. "I've faced my own tough times in a different way, but any chance to help make life better with some music?"



Former X-Factor winner Reece Mastin will perform live at The Inlet Hotel, Inverloch, next Sunday, August 17.

I'm there."

Fans can expect a mix of Reece's classic hits and newer tracks—though he laughs that the more intense material might stay off the setlist for this one. "I've got new music coming out, but I probably won't be playing that just yet," he said.

"We'll be playing a bunch of my songs, the ones people know, keeping it upbeat and fun."

Reece and Tristan will

team up for much of the night, with both sharing the stage throughout.

"There's only two of us, but Tristan plays drums with his feet while shredding on guitar—it's going to be very, very fun," he said. "We've sent each other the set, and we'll run through it together. He might hop up before me, but we do almost all of it together."

The Inverloch show also marks a bit of a change for

Reece. "I don't think I've played in Inverloch before," he said. "I've done gigs all over, but this will be a first—which is rare for me! So, it's something new for me and the audience, which is great."

With more focus on mental health, homelessness, and veteran challenges, Sunday Sessions is more than just a gig—it's a grassroots effort to raise voices, raise funds, and drive change.

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Raffle ticket with every alcoholic drink purchase for your chance to Jag the Joker.

Each week the Joker is not found the prize grows.

Musical classics coming to Leongatha

THE STRINGZ Costero and the Latrobe Orchestra will assemble in Leongatha this September to present The Magnificent Music Matinee, an afternoon concert of cinematic music, classical greats and Gippsland-composed works.

The concert is a joint project put on by the Latrobe Orchestra and Stringz Costero, and supported by South Gippsland Shire Council, to take place in Leongatha's Memorial Hall.

It will be the first time the Latrobe Orchestra has performed in Leongatha. Musical director Colin Iversen explained that transporting the orchestra's instruments is a big logistical exercise.

"The Latrobe Orchestra will need to use a four-ton truck to move its percussion equipment for this concert, which includes four timpani, a complete drum kit, electric piano, bass drum, xylophone and glockenspiel," he said.

"The many large percussion instruments are just some of what Latrobe Orchestra brings to create 'the magnificent sound of an orchestra in full flight,'" Mr. Iversen said.

It also brings 50 players drawn from across Gippsland, from as far afield as Briagolong and Drouin, as well as from Leongatha.

Started by Kath Teychenne in the 1960s, the community orchestra gives a number of



Stringz Costero is excited to perform with the Latrobe Orchestra in Leongatha in September. Stringz Costero players Juri Jeske of Kongwak, Helen Searle of Wonthaggi, and musical director Dayna Roberts of Outtrim.

concerts every year across the year in Gippsland.

"In presenting The Magnificent Music Matinee with Stringz Costero, the Latrobe Orchestra is continuing its program of collaborating with other performing ensembles and groups, including with the Sale City Band, the Yallourn Singers, and the Gippsland Children's Choir," Mr. Iversen said.

"Such collaborations are really important for community music groups as they widen audiences and generally promote music making and connections across the wider community."

Local chamber music group Stringz Costero is eager to

welcome the larger orchestra. Stringz Costero has around 15 members, most of whom are drawn from South Gippsland and Bass Coast Shires; it has been rehearsing and performing for over 15 years.

The group played at the Rail Trail Community Market Leongatha and the Warrawee Club in May, and in Dalyston Hall in July with vocal group Solace.

"We're excited to collaborate with the Latrobe Orchestra, and we'd like to thank South Gippsland Shire Council for supporting the event," Stringz Costero president Laura Gibb said. "It's great for the musicians to meet and share, and the

sound we can create together for the audience should be something special."

The theme of the concert is movie music. The program includes much-loved music from 'The Pirates of the Caribbean', 'Moon River' from 'Breakfast at Tiffany's', and Elmer Bernstein's score to 'The Magnificent Seven', on which the famous VB ad from the 1980s was based.

"These are full blooded pieces of music which everyone knows, which really adds to the enjoyment for audiences," Mr. Iversen said.

Stringz Costero will add to the movie theme, with oboe soloist Martin Cox playing 'Gabriel's Oboe' by Ennio Morricone, from the film 'The Mission'.

The concert will conclude with the Latrobe Orchestra and Stringz Costero combining to present 'Seize the Sunlight' by Gippsland-born composer Dani Maree Ashmore.

Mr. Iversen describes the piece as "an absolutely delightful expression of musical happiness".

Tickets for The Magnificent Music Matinee are available online at <https://www.trybooking.com/DCTFJ>, or they can be purchased with cash at the door. Adult tickets cost \$15; child tickets cost \$5. The doors of Leongatha Memorial Hall open at 2pm for a 2.30pm concert on Saturday September 6.



Preserved Lemons

By Meg Viney

WHEN lemons are plentiful, I make preserved lemons - useful for all sorts of things. Strange as it may seem, when lemons are scarce, you can pour a little of the liquid into curries and dishes that require the tang of lemon.

Ingredients

- 2 kg lemons
- ½ cup cooking salt
- 2 teaspoons turmeric
- 1 teaspoon white pepper
- ½ teaspoon crushed chilli (optional)
- 1 cup white wine vinegar

Method

You will need a large, wide-mouthed jar with a good seal (op shops)

The day ahead, freeze the lemons for 24 hours, then thaw - makes them very easy to slice.

Mix the vinegar with salt, seasonings and vinegar, stirring to try to dissolve the salt (don't stress).

Cut into quarters lengthwise and place, skin side up, squashing them down hard to eliminate air bubbles. Once full to the top, pour in the vinegar mixture, tapping the jar to release any air bubbles, then seal the jar well. If the lid is metal, place cling wrap over the jar before sealing.

Leave in a warm place for about six weeks, turning or shaking gently every day. Remove to a store cupboard for a further six months (for the best result, but sooner is okay). A small jar of these makes a great Christmas gift.

Photo: AAP Photos.

SUNDAY SESSIONS

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Send us your photos

If you're having a 21st, club function, wedding, or other social event, take some photos, name the people in the snaps and email to news@sgst.com.au

Sentinel-Times

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**WEDNESDAY 1pm - 3pm
THURSDAY 7pm - 9pm**

Wonthaggi Workmen's Club, 75 Graham Street
Come and join in the laughs at South Coast FM Bingo

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Enjoying the Balls and Bubbles ladies appreciation day at the Wonthaggi Football Netball Club on Saturday were Cheryl Gammald, Rachel Coyne, Carla Poletti and Laura Mathieson.



Keeping an eye on the footy while enjoying ladies day at the Wonthaggi Power Football Netball Club on Saturday were Tayla Lindsay, Kealey Lindsay, Chloe Blair, Maddie Dowel and Clair Burns.



Manning the bar for the 'Balls and Bubbles' ladies day at the Wonthaggi Power Football Netball Club was Russ Matthews with Jan Brown and Shaz Liddle.



Michelle Kane, Jodie Ion and Kelley Carter really appreciated the day organised for the women behind the Wonthaggi Power Football Netball Club last Saturday.



Wonthaggi Owls Mary and Jan with a community pantry at Apex Park in Wonthaggi as part of Homelessness Awareness Week. B50_3225



Leah, Gary, Ash and Ray from the Rotary Club of Wonthaggi supporting Homelessness Awareness Week at Apex Park in Wonthaggi. B61_3225



Elishia Siomos and Ali Soleiman (Izza Group), Shaun Brooks (CFO BCH) and Ian Thompson (Chair BCH) marking the start of construction for hotel-style accommodation at Wonthaggi Hospital. B03_3225



Charlie and Catherine from NAB at the Bass Coast Careers and Jobs Expo in Wonthaggi. B20_3225



Mel from At Work Australia with jobseeker Ash at the Bass Coast Jobs and Careers Expo in Wonthaggi. B21_3225

Snapped Out

Pictures of you and your friends at Balls and Bubbles ladies appreciation day at the Wonthaggi Football Netball Club, Homelessness Awareness Week at Apex Park, the start of construction for hotel-style accommodation at Wonthaggi Hospital and Bass Coast Careers and Jobs Expo.



At their table for ladies day on Saturday at the Wonthaggi Power FNC were Brownyn, Mary, Julie, Sahira, Kate, Laura and Kim.

Sentinel-Times

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Kathryn and Lachie from Event Operations Group at the Bass Coast Jobs Expo. B22_3225



Amy and Bre from Bass Coast Health at the 2025 Jobs and Careers Expo in Wonthaggi. B23_3225



Supporting the 'Balls and Bubbles' ladies day at the Wonthaggi Power Football Netball Club on Saturday were Linda Tack and Heather Mabilia.



Event organisers Kirsty and Page from Bass Coast Shire Council at the 2025 Jobs and Careers Expo in Wonthaggi. B31_3225



Meaghan and Virginia from South Gippsland Shire assisting job seekers at the Bass Coast Jobs and Careers Expo. B30_3225



Claudia and Cindy from the Royal Flying Doctor Service at the 2025 Bass Coast Jobs and Careers Expo. B25_3225



Alex from International College of Hotel Management (ICHM) at the Wonthaggi Jobs and Careers Expo offering a degree for people for want to travel. B24_3225

~ Peter Siggins' joy of living recalled ~

5 August 1943 – 28 May 2025

A LOVE of travel and a wicked sense of humour were characteristic of Peter Siggins, a large number of people paying their respects and sharing stories at a Leongatha memorial service for the former co-owner of Bena-way Bed & Breakfast accommodation in Bena.

He bought the business with wife Barbara who is from the area, the appeal of South Gippsland's rolling hills, the charming house, and hosting people from far and wide ensuring he was willing to make the daily return drive to Melbourne for his work as an accountant.

Peter and his daughter Joanne ran P&J Siggins in Melbourne's St Kilda Road, clients and staff among the attendees at the Leongatha RSL, along with Peter's neighbours and friends he made in Bena and Korumburra to which he and Barbara moved.

The Gippsland Southern Health Service, which runs the Leongatha and Korumburra hospitals, benefited from Peter's service as a Board member and treasurer.

But it was the joy of sharing time with Peter that was most apparent as people recalled his company during the brief but moving and often entertaining service.



Peter Siggins with his wife Barbara.

"He seemed to have a bottomless well of stories, experiences and cautionary tales," his grandson John Siggins said.

John credited his grandfather with inspiring family members to chase their dreams and take opportunities and to live life all the way to the end.

Peter's sense of humour was clear in his creative marriage proposal to Barbara.

"We should get married because I reckon you'd be a good tax deduction," he declared.

That moment was shared by his son-in-law Paul McGrory.

"It was classic Peter, always the accountant but with a sense of humour," Paul said.

Peter and Barbara eloped to Vanuatu for their wedding, travel being a shared passion that took them to most corners of the world, sharing stories, souvenirs and unforgettable memories.

"If they had a second home, it would be Turtle Island in Fiji, a place that matched their spirit of adventure and love of the ocean," Paul said.

While describing Peter as

sometimes difficult and always strong willed, he added that "Beneath the bark was a soft-hearted man whose generosity was known by all who crossed his path."

Vesna Delic was one of those who experienced that generosity.

The Serbian was a hospital nurse who helped save Peter's life when he fell ill during a trip, the trio forming a lasting bond and Peter and Barbara later helping her move to Australia.

"You showed me what it feels like to be truly welcomed and with your love, support and heart of gold, you turned a difficult beginning into a beautiful journey I would never trade for anything," she said in tribute to Peter.

"I've known you for 15 years and I've yet to meet anyone quite like you; your sense of humour was one of a kind," she remarked, recalling the special memories of Christmases and Easters and that while far away from her Serbian family, Peter and Barbara ensured she never felt alone.

As a St Kilda supporter, this scribe most recalls Peter's devotion to the Collingwood Football Club and his joy at the Pies winning the 2010 Grand Final, but also his kindness as an employer when working for him and Joanne during that period.



Wonthaggi Probus Club heard from Pam Haigh about life with her seeing eye dog recently.

Pam shares story

WONTHAGGI-Inverloch Probus Club (WPC) recently welcomed Pam Haigh as their special guest to talk about her life with her seeing eye dog. Pam has very little sight and depends on 'Bryn', her faithful friend, for help and support in every way. WPC were treated to a very entertaining and informative talk about Pam's story of having very little sight, but being able to lead as normal life as she can with the help of her 'best friend'.

Pam was also accompanied by Yvonne Mc Conville, her driver, helper and friend, who makes it possible for Pam to go places and even travel overseas with her wonderful dog.

WPC are grateful to Pam for such a wonderful talk on such an important topic.

• FAITH FACTOR

Rest!

Rev. Graeme Liersch, Rector
Anglican Parish of Wonthaggi/
Inverloch.

WHEN was the last time you took a day off, I mean really took a day off and did absolutely nothing?

For us in the Western world this is a real challenge. I get one day off a week and on that day, I have gardening to do and bills to pay, often dispersed with some shopping or socialising.

Essentially that is not a day off, a full day of rest.

For some strange reason we busy ourselves almost to the extent of exhaustion. We cram so much into our lives it is as though we are afraid of missing out (FOMO), which often results in us missing out on that which we really need, rest.

Recently I took 3.5 weeks off to sort of have a restful holiday, but it probably wasn't that restful in the end. It was a good change from the norm, but I was still busy. Over the period I travelled roughly 4,500 Kms, worked on my house and visited family and friends.

The good book, the Bible, says that God created the world in six days, all that lives on it and in it, and on the seventh day He rested.

By the seventh day God had finished the work he had been doing; so on the seventh day He rested from all his work. Then God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it he rested from all the work of creating that he had done. (Genesis 2:2-3 NIV)

Whether you believe it was created in six days or not is not the point here, it is the rest that is important.

God gave us a day to rest and do nothing. He rested and did nothing on the seventh day; therefore, it must be good for us to do nothing at least one day per week.

So, here is a challenge for us – take a day off and do absolutely nothing.

Stay in your PJ's if you like, don't cook or even eat, if you are up for it. Don't answer the phone or communicate with anyone outside your home. Do absolutely nothing and enjoy it.

You never know, you may surprise yourself and be fully refreshed for the week ahead.

Remember God knows what He and we are doing even if we don't. Enjoy your rest!

~ NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE & ADULT LEARNING NEWS ~

MILPARA COMMUNITY HOUSE

ARE you curious about how you can help your community? Milpara is in the process of recruiting new volunteers. There are many ways that volunteers can assist Milpara and the community from helping out in the foodbank or in the office, to leading social activities, being a digital mentor to help people get online, or simply being a listening ear for those needing someone to talk to.

Milpara is appreciative of all the support we receive to help us to support the community.

Call in for a chat if you are curious about how you could help.

Become a Digital Mentor to help our Be Connected Program - Free Tech Tutorials. Tuesdays at 4pm is a free digital skills program for people aged 50+. Drop in weekly for simple, self-paced sessions designed to help you: navigate smartphones or tablets, get online confidently, learn about scam safety, emails, online banking, myGov, and more. Learn a few handy tips and tricks to stay digitally savvy! Please drop in to the Korumburra Hub computer lab on the upper level, if you are curious about being a mentor, or a student.

Milpara Community House is more than a place for

learning and connection—it's also a vital support hub for those in need. If you are struggling to put food on the table, our Emergency Food Bank provides a respectful, safe, and supportive environment for emergency relief. Preferred hours for assistance are Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday from 10 am to 1 pm, or by appointment—please bring your own bags. Additionally, our food produce table welcomes donations of surplus homegrown fruit and vegetables, helping to share fresh produce within our community. Every contribution makes a difference, as donations are the lifeblood of

our food bank.

Our Services Australia agent is available at Milpara to assist with inquiries on Mondays and Thursdays from 10 am to 1 pm, and Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 9:30 am to 2 pm.

For more details or to book your spot at any event, visit milpara.vic.edu.au or call us at 5655 2524 or pop into our friendly office at the lower level of the Korumburra Community Hub.



15 Little Commercial Street, Korumburra PH: (03) 5655 2524 www.milparacommunityhouse.org.au

WONTHAGGI NEIGHBOURHOOD CENTRE

WONTHAGGI Neighbourhood Centre has several upcoming events that might interest you. There will be free hearing tests at Mitchell House on Thursday August 14. The tests will be conducted by Hearing Australia from 10.00 to 1.30pm and will take round 15 minutes each. This test could be 'the first step to rediscovering the sounds you love'. Pop in to Mitchell House or give us a call on 5672 3731 to book your time.

On Tuesday September 2 we have Latrobe Community Health Service running an information session on 'How to live at home for longer.' We all want to remain living in our own home for as long as possible, at this session the experts will explain how we can access government funding to help us stay living at home for longer. The session starts at 2pm here at Wonthaggi Neighbourhood Centre – please RSVP - by phone or in person - by Tuesday August 26.

In other news, the Wonthaggi Food Co-op are back at Mitchell House! Their distributions will now be on the second Saturday of the month, beginning on Saturday September 13, 10.30am – 12.30pm. Their email address is the same as before, so for any further information please email wonthaggi-coop@gmail.com

Our next Renters' Rights session is scheduled for Thursday August 14, so if you would like to find out about

your rights as a tenant, give us a call to book a no cost appointment with a qualified lawyer from Gippsland Legal Service.

Wonthaggi Neighbourhood Centre at Mitchell House is open 9.30am to 4pm Monday to Thursday and 9.30 – 1pm on Fridays.



6 Murray St, Wonthaggi PH: (03) 5672 3731 www.wonthaggi-neighbourhoodcentre.com

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Cleared open areas surround the home, including an orchard, dam, veggie gardens and space for a horse paddock along with extensive shedding, workshop and ample graded parking areas for multiple cars, boats, caravans or floats.

A wide front verandah welcomes you into the stunning contemporary interior with a clean neutral colour palette and delightful rural vistas from every room. Open plan living space with soaring cathedral ceilings and central wood heater in a feature brick hearth. Year round comfort is assured with ducted reverse cycle A/C throughout the home. Country style kitchen features gleaming white cabinetry, upsized 900mm dual fuel range and wide breakfast bar to the adjoining dining area. Doors open out to an expansive entertaining deck, taking in breathtaking views over the surrounding countryside and enjoying total privacy with only cows for neighbours.

A second sitting room is situated at the front of the home, ideal as a playroom, TV room or home office space. There are four fitted bedrooms including a spacious master with doors to the deck, a walk-in robe and modern ensuite bathroom. The magnificent main bathroom includes a free-standing bathtub and frameless shower, and there is also a separate laundry / utility room. Getaway from the everyday to a unique lifestyle, surrounded by nature in a world of your own - only 10 minutes from the villages of Fish Creek or Meeniyan and 20 minutes to the pristine coastline.



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30 | TUESDAY, AUGUST 12, 2025 | SOUTH GIPPSLAND SENTINEL-TIMES

Real Estate

South Gippsland and Bass Coast

Californian bungalow charm in the heart of Bena

IF YOU'RE dreaming of a peaceful lifestyle with modern comforts, this beautifully renovated home in the heart of Bena could be exactly what you've been searching for. Set on a large 925m2 and overlooking rolling farmland, this property offers the perfect balance of serenity and accessibility – located just five minutes from Korumburra and under an hour to Melbourne's South Eastern suburbs.

Step inside and you'll instantly feel at home. Warm timber floors, fresh interiors, and a country charm throughout give this 3-bedroom, 2-bathroom residence a welcoming and relaxed feel. In addition to the main home, the property also includes a versatile downstairs studio making an ideal home office or creative space.

The fully renovated home embraces light-filled interiors and lovely country charm. A spacious master bedroom looks out onto rural views and consists of a large walk-in robe and a beautifully appointed ensuite. There are two additional bedrooms located at the front of the home with built-in-robres.

A stylish renovated kitchen is a feature of the home with modern appliances including a gas cooktop, electric oven, dishwasher plus ample storage and space. The open-plan living and dining space flows seamlessly to the outdoor deck. The beautiful wood heater and split system reverse cycle heating and cooling for year-round comfort.

External access to a versatile downstairs studio or rumpus room – perfect as a home office, gym, or teenage retreat. The elevated north facing deck is ideal for entertaining or enjoying your morning coffee with views over the countryside.

Large, powered shed – great for a workshop, car storage or weekend projects. Established fruit trees and large lawn area. A 22,000-litre water tank supplies the home. In addition to the generous 925m² block, the property also enjoys use of adjoining Crown land, providing even more space to enjoy the peaceful surrounds.

With the Great Southern Rail Trail right at your doorstep, you'll enjoy walking, cycling, and taking in the picturesque surrounds. The property is just 25 minutes to Inverloch's stunning beaches and within easy reach of schools, shops, and transport links.

Whether you're starting a family, downsizing to a quieter life, or looking for a weekend getaway – this move-in-ready home ticks all the boxes.



3

2

4

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Loch

119 Acres

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- Troughs in all paddocks and cattle yards

Web ID: 300P179741

\$1.8 Million

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SOUTH GIPPSLAND SENTINEL-TIMES | TUESDAY, AUGUST 12, 2025 | 31

JAZ231083V4



Fantastic home with abundant outdoor space

WELCOME to this beautifully designed residential home nestled in a quiet part of South Wonthaggi. This spacious home features four generous bedrooms and two well-appointed bathrooms, making it perfect for a large family seeking comfort and privacy. The expansive layout offers ample room for everyone to enjoy their own space.

Step outside to discover a large yard that beckons for outdoor entertaining. With plenty of room for kids to play and adults to relax, this property is an entertainer's dream. The property is complemented by a large shed with power, providing versatility for hobbies, storage, or even a workshop.

Don't miss the opportunity to make this wonderful home yours. With room for the whole family and easy access to local amenities. Come and experience the lifestyle that awaits you in this charming Wonthaggi residence.

Disclaimer: Whilst every care has been taken in preparing the above information, it is to be used as a guide only. Please refer to the appropriate legal documentation to complete your due diligence.



4 2 4 2016m²

147A Reed Crescent, **Wonthaggi**
For Sale \$899,000
Agent Alex Scott & Staff
Cal Nation 0439 334 163
Mick Chambers 0418 349 783

Charming home on a spacious quarter-acre block

LOCATED in a quiet pocket of Corinella, this delightful 3-bedroom, 1-bathroom home offers relaxed coastal living on a generous quarter-acre block.

Set on a solid foundation of concrete stumps, the home features a light-filled open-plan layout combining kitchen, dining, and living areas. The kitchen includes electric cooking, while year-round comfort is provided by a split system and a cosy wood fire heater. All three bedrooms are well-sized, with two featuring built-in robes for added convenience.

Outside, a long concrete driveway leads to a large double garage—ideal for secure parking, a workshop, or extra storage. The expansive backyard offers ample space for gardening, entertaining, or future improvements.

Just moments from the Corinella Foreshore, boat ramp, Fig & The Bay Café, and scenic walking tracks, this property is perfect for first home buyers, downsizers, or those seeking a peaceful coastal lifestyle.

Disclaimer: Whilst every care has been taken in preparing the above information, it is to be used as a guide only. Please refer to the appropriate legal documentation to complete your due diligence.



3 1 3 1,033m²

2 Walpole Street, **Corinella**
For Sale \$590,000 - \$600,000
Agent Alex Scott & Staff
Angus Hall 0466 326 487

LEONGATHA  33 Turner Street • Great entry level home • 3 bed 1 bath with separate shed • Located close to McIndoe Park Vendors inviting offers Contact: Leongatha Office	JEETHO  Coming Soon • Rural hideaway • 4 bedroom, 2 bathroom, 7 acres • Views, shedding \$895,000 Contact: Korumburra Office	GRANTVILLE  1 Deep Creek Street • Snug cottage • Warm, quirky charm by the bay • 3 bedroom, 1 bathroom, spacious block \$539,000 Contact: Grantville Office	WONTHAGGI UNDER CONTRACT  18 Cameron Street • 4 bedroom home • Close to town • Great outdoor Under Contract Contact: Wonthaggi Office
LEONGATHA  2/15 Allison Street • Quality unit in great location • Exceptionally built 2 bed 1 bath 1 car • Walking distance to main street \$499,000 Contact: Leongatha Office	KORUMBURRA  29 Isabella Boulevard • 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom brick family home • Double garage, garden shed • Nothing to spend \$650,000 Contact: Korumburra Office	GRANTVILLE  34A Portview Avenue • Make this modern and low-maintenance house your home • 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom with double garage \$575,000 - \$585,000 Contact: Grantville Office	WONTHAGGI UNDER CONTRACT  13 Dunn Street • ¼ acre block • 3 bedroom weatherboard home • Great development block Under Contract Contact: Wonthaggi Office
LEONGATHA NEW PRICE  16 Greenwood Parade • Located opposite parklands and rail trail • 3 bed WB home plus 2 bed unit to the rear • Priced to sell, book your inspection today \$520,000 Contact: Leongatha Office	KORUMBURRA  5/6 Ruddville Avenue • Modern 1 bedroom apartment • Fully furnished • Nothing to spend \$390,000 Contact: Korumburra Office	CORONET BAY  15 Bowline Court • Spacious, modern and perfectly located for a relaxed coastal lifestyle • 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom with double garage \$720,000 Contact: Grantville Office	WONTHAGGI UNDER CONTRACT  1/213 Graham Street • 3 bedroom unit • Corner block • Close to hospital Under Contract Contact: Wonthaggi Office
LEONGATHA  17 Lee Parade • Elevated spacious family home with views • Generous 794sqm block • Solid home with enormous potential \$587,000 Contact: Leongatha Office	KORUMBURRA  23 Bridge Street • Grand period home • Prime corner location • 3 bedroom, 3 living \$675,000 Contact: Korumburra Office	CORINELLA  1 Hughes Street • Nothing but trees between you and the bay • 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom, peaceful location \$739,000 - \$759,000 Contact: Grantville Office	WONTHAGGI UNDER CONTRACT  12 Civic Way • 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms • Plenty of parking • Only 3 years old Under Contract Contact: Wonthaggi Office

LEONGATHA

5662 0922

41 Bair Street

Andrew Newton 0402 940 320

Emily Hillberg 0422 622 299

Tony Giles 0407 528 192

Dan Huther 0418 334 801

KORUMBURRA

5655 1133

36 Bridge Street

Scott McKenzie 0427 552 898

GRANTVILLE

5678 8433

1505 Bass Highway

Angus Hall 0466 326 487

WONTHAGGI

5672 1911

Cnr Murray & Billson Streets

Cal Nation 0439 334 163

Mick Chambers 0418 349 783

Phil Hanley 0417 140 508

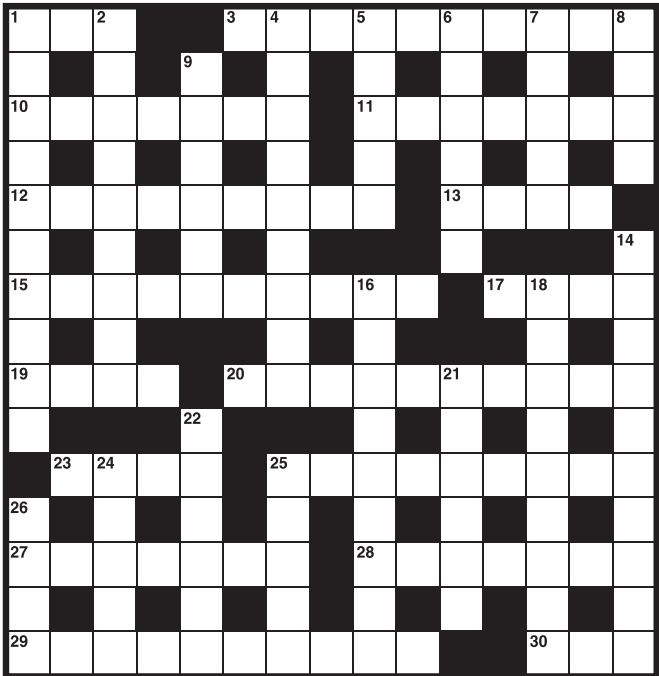
SOUTH GIPPSLAND SENTINEL-TIMES | TUESDAY, AUGUST 12, 2025 | 33

HM12576-V4



CROSSWORD

No. 293



- ACROSS**
- 1 Raincoat (3)
3 Wrongfully entered (10)
10 Ratify (7)
11 Landed properties (7)
12 State of existing in reality (9)

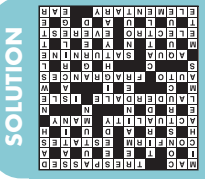
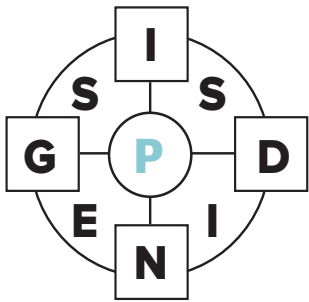
- 13 Oodles (4)
15 Florida fort (10)
17 Island (4)
19 Wheels (4)
20 Scents (10)
23 Prefix meaning water (4)
25 Gloomy (9)

9-LETTER

No. 293

Using the nine letters in the grid, how many words of four letters or more can you list? The centre letter must be included and each letter may only be used once. No colloquial or foreign words. No capitalised nouns, apostrophes or plural nouns ending in 's'.

- Today's Aim:**
15 words: **Good**
22 words: **Very good**
30 words: **Excellent**

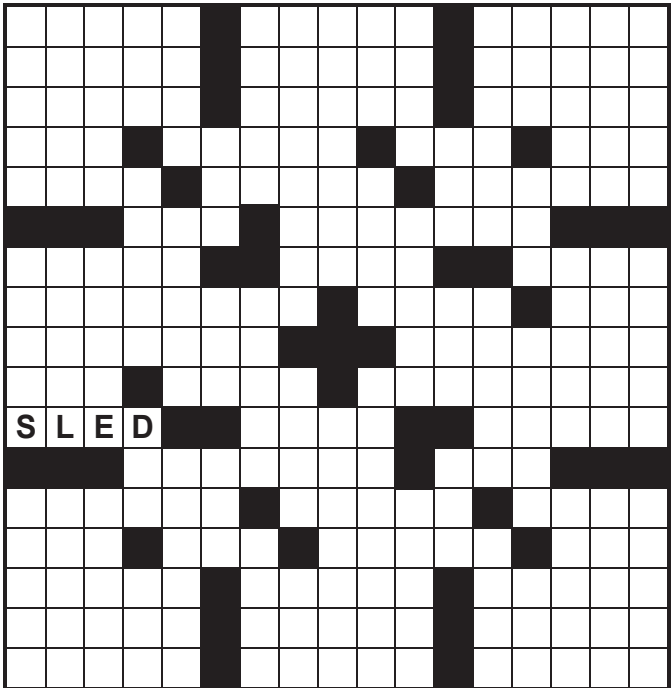


- 27 Comic book villain (7)
28 Highest mountain (7)
29 Simple (10)
30 Organ used to hear (3)
- DOWN**
- 1 The feast of St Michael (10)
2 Compile (9)
4 What's left (9)
5 Ill-reputed (5)
6 Season (6)
7 Glossy fabric (5)
8 Elan (4)
9 Harangue (6)
14 Informal bulletin (10)
16 Distance in space (5-4)
18 Desecration (9)
21 Tallied (6)
22 Farm animals (6)
24 File (5)
25 Schnoz (5)
26 Measure (4)

WORDFIT

No. 202

- 3 LETTERS**
- ADD
ADO
APE
ATE
AVO
COO
CUR
DAD
ERR
HEN
KEN
NAB
NOR
PAS
PEA
PIN
RIG
ROB
SIT
TAN
TOT
USE
UTE
WAR
- 5 LETTERS**
- ABUSE
ADEPT
APTER
ASIDE
ASSET
AVAIL
BLESS
CHOSE
CLONE
DAMES
DODGE
DOERS
ENACT
ETHER
EVENS
EVICT
EXTOL
HAPPY
HASTE
INLET
LEASE
LISPS
LUCKS
MELTS
MERGE
OPERA
PECAN
PRESS
PRUDE

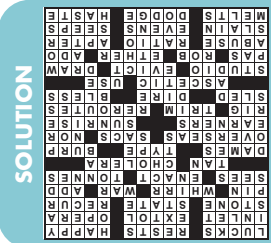


- RATES
RATIO
RECUR
RESIN
RESTS
ROSES
RULED
SEEPS
SLAIN
SNOBS
SPASM
STATE
STERN
STONE

- TABLE
UNITE
UNTIE
USUAL
WHIRR
WORSE
YARDS

- 7 LETTERS**
- ASCETIC
CHOLERA
EARNERS
RIVETED
STARCHY
SUNRISE
- 8 LETTERS**
- EXTRACTS
OVERSEAS
RECITING
REROUTES

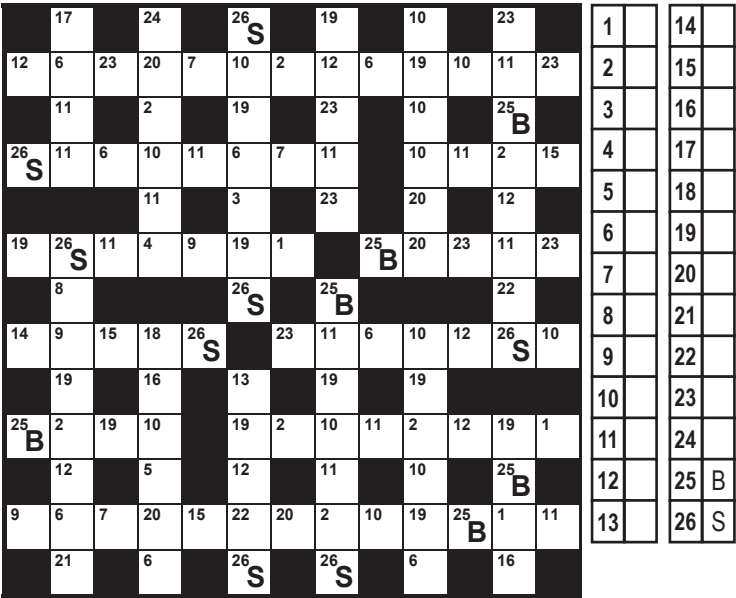
- 6 LETTERS**
- HORROR
SIRENS
STUDIO
TONNES



CODEWORD

No. 283

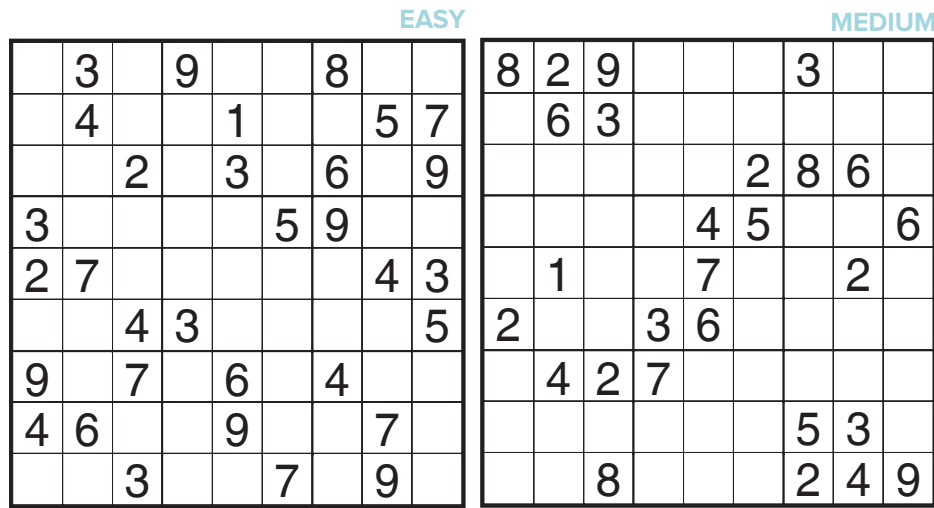
Each number corresponds to a letter of the alphabet. Two have been filled in for you, can you work out the rest?



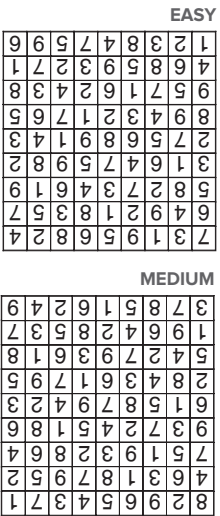
SUDOKU

No. 292

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every number from 1 to 9 must appear in: each of the nine vertical columns, each of the nine horizontal rows and each of the nine 3 x 3 boxes. Remember, no number can occur more than once in any row, column or box.



SOLUTIONS



QUICK QUIZ

- What is the most southerly county of England?
- A cinquain is a poem of how many lines?
- The dime is a US coin worth how many cents?
- Philip J. Fry is a main character in which animated TV series?
- What is the title of actor and comedian Amy Poehler's (pictured) memoir?
- In which country did halloumi cheese originate?
- Which animal has the Latin name Equus africanus asinus?
- Erik Weisz is the birth name of which illusionist?
- Which 2015 movie is based on a novel by US writer David Ebershoff?
- What colour is the 'e' in the Google logo?



WORD SEARCH

No. 203

Can you find all the words listed? The leftover letters will spell out a secret message.



- BLUE
BRIE
CAMEMBERT
CHEVRE
COLBY
CREAM
CUBED
CURD
EDAM
EMMENTAL
FETA
FROMAGE
GOAT
- GOUDA
GRATED
GRUYERE
HARD
JARLSBERG
LACTOSE
MELT
MILK
MOULD
MOZZARELLA
PANEER
PIZZA
PORT SALUT
- QUESO
ROQUEFORT
SHAVED
SHEEP
SHREDDED
SIRENE
SLICED
SOFT
STRING
SWISS
TELEMEA
WHEY

ANSWERS: 1. Cornwall 2. Five 3. 10 4. Futurama 5. Yes Please 6. Cyprus 7. African wild donkey 8. Harry Houdini 9. The Danish Girl 10. Red

SECRET MESSAGE: Age doesn't matter, unless you're a cheese



Latest survey shows beef producers holding firm despite market pressures

AUSTRALIAN beef producers are showing resilience and strategic patience in the face of market and seasonal challenges, according to the latest Beef Producer Intentions Survey from Meat & Livestock Australia (MLA).

The Pulse survey, conducted between 1 and 17 July 2025, provides a mid-year update to the full survey conducted in April and captures producer sentiment and actual outcomes across herd management, calving, and cattle sales.

The survey received responses from 1,295 grassfed beef producers nationwide and found that 84% of producers indicated their intentions have remained the same since April 2025. Only 16% reported a change from the last survey, with 6% now planning to reduce their herd, 7% opting to maintain herd size, and 3% intending to increase.

MLA's Market Information Analyst, Emily Tan, said the level of consistency in herd planning reflected a cautious but deliberate approach from producers.

"Producers are watching the market closely and making decisions that position them well given the market conditions," Ms Tan said.

Autumn calving outcomes slightly exceeded expectations, with producers reporting 2.43 million calves delivered. This was up from the April forecast of 2.39 million calves.

While 38% of producers delivered fewer calves than

expected, 32% delivered more, and 29% met their forecast.

However, cattle sales in the first half of 2025 fell short of expectations. Actual sales totalled 4.03 million head, down from the April forecast of 4.82 million. Nearly half of producers (46%) sold fewer cattle than planned.

"Many producers are holding cattle back, either because they didn't meet weight targets or because they're anticipating stronger prices later in the year," Ms Tan said.

"This aligns with broader industry sentiment that suggests producers are waiting for the right moment to re-enter the market."

Among those who sold fewer cattle than expected, 42% cited weight issues and 21% pointed to price forecasts as key reasons.

Conversely, producers who sold more than expected were driven by stronger-than-anticipated prices (33%), the need for cash flow (29%), and efforts to reduce feeding costs (25%).

"These results show producers are being tactical," Ms Tan said. "They're balancing short-term pressures with long-term opportunities, and that's a sign of confidence in the future."

The Beef Producer Intentions Survey was designed by MLA to support the industry with reliable data and is used by MLA and the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS). It is one of the inputs into the MLA beef industry forecasting models.



Emily Tan, Market Information Analyst, Meat & Livestock Australia, said the level of consistency in herd planning reflected a cautious but deliberate approach from producers.

Aussies urged to throw on a flanno for a farmer

THIS August, Farm Angels is calling on all Australians to throw on their favourite flannelette shirt and stand in solidarity with the people that put food on our table and clothes on our back - Aussie farmers.

The official 'Flanno for a Farmer' day is Friday, August 15th, but Farm Angels are encouraging Australians to support farming families in need and help raise money, throughout the entire month of August.

Aussie farmers are facing a mountain of mental, emotional and financial challenges. While they continue to feed the nation, battle droughts, bushfires, floods and isolation, many farmers

feel undervalued and unappreciated.

The funds raised from 'Flanno for a Farmer' go towards providing essential emotional support, financial assistance, food hampers, care packs and personalised support to thousands of farming families across Australia.

Founder of Farm Angels, Natasha Johnston says backing our farmers has never been more important.

"Too often, our farmers are struggling in silence. They're out there doing one of the toughest jobs in the country, yet many feel forgotten."

Flanno for a Farmer is about saying, 'We see you. We

appreciate you. And we've got your back.' Every dollar raised helps us provide real, practical support for those who need it most," said Natasha.

Ongoing challenges and the increasing number of natural disasters occurring in Australia means many farmers face the devastating risk of losing their livelihoods, and in some cases their lives.

According to a 2021 study, we lose one farmer to suicide every 10 days - 59% higher than the rate among non-farmers. Many farmers impacted by natural disasters can take 3-5 years to recover from the financial, physical, and emotional devastation.

"All proceeds from Flanno

for a Farmer are dedicated to ensuring Farm Angels continue to support farming families nationwide. By wearing your flanno and donating, you're allowing us to continue to support the backbone of our country, and potentially save a life," said Natasha.

By supporting farmers to stay on the land through assistance tailored to their individual needs, Farm Angels contributes to Australia's regional economies, food security and the social wellbeing of rural communities.

'Flanno for a Farmer' is aiming to raise \$500k this year. To Sign Up, Donate or find out more, visit flanno-forafarmer.com.au

Farmers' voices key in shaping future through State to State survey

THE Victorian Farmers Federation is urging farmers and regional Victorians to have their say on the biggest issues and opportunities facing their communities through the first ever State of the State: Farmer Priorities Survey.

Victorian Farmers Federation (VFF) president Brett Hosking said the VFF-led survey comes at a time when frustration in farming communities is reaching a boiling point.

"We know that our members are copping it from all sides, whether it's the drought, conflict over land use, or new taxes. The feedback from communities I visit is that they're not being heard," he said.

"We know we have a big task ahead to cut through with decision makers. This survey is about getting the data to support our advocacy for the next 12 months as we head towards a state election."

"We want the facts and figures to demonstrate where there's widespread concern to help us focus the mind of decision makers. We also want to make sure our advocacy is on-target and delivering maximum impact for members."

Mr Hosking urged people across regional Victoria to take a moment to share their thoughts and share the survey through their networks.

"Five minutes is all it takes to share your thoughts on

issues that could well and truly shape our industry for decades to come," Mr Hosking said.

The survey is open until August 14 and survey participants have the opportunity to win a Combo Smart Antenna and Telstra GO bundle prize pack valued at more than \$1600 from the VFF's generous partners Zetifi and Telstra.

The survey can be accessed by visiting the VFF website.

CFOP workshop and farm walk – Bass Coast

JOIN Agriculture Victoria and Bass Coast Landcare for a Bass Coast Carbon Farming Outreach Program (CFOP) workshop and farm walk.

The event will be held on Friday, August 29 from 10am to 1.30pm at Archies Creek (address provided after registration).

The workshop and walk will be hosted on the Archies Creek property owned by Ric Oldham, and will be supported by expert CFOP presenter Nick Dudley.

Nick has over 15 years of experience in carbon farming and will be speaking on the carbon farming and emissions and will be showcasing Ric Oldham's case study action plan.

Host farmer Ric Oldham will also provide insights into the development of his action plan and showcase some of the works he has implemented on his property during the farm walk.

Morning tea and lunch will be provided. BYO chair and mug. Register by Monday, August 25 at bit.ly/4lXxrKE.

Lardner Park Calf Market Report

Monday, August 4, 2025

Jersey & Jersey x	\$14 to \$43
Friesian Bulls	\$25 to \$64
Beef Bulls	\$25 to \$300
Beef Heifers	\$25 to \$250
Friesian Heifers	\$15 to \$100

Number of Calves: **446**

Number purchased to rear: **121**

Steer & Heifer Store Sale

Steers	\$420 to \$1520
Heifers	\$250 to \$650
Springing Cows	\$1875 to \$2025
Cows & Calves	\$1100 to \$1300

Number: **167**

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Simon Henderson 0428 740 750
Jake Anthony 0467 297 794
David Phelan 0429 050 349

PRELIMINARY NOTICE NUTRIEN SGL ANNUAL ALL BREEDS BULL SALE

**To follow Koonwarra Store Sale
Thursday August 28**

To commence no earlier than 12pm



Contact:

Jack Ginnane 0458 322 615
Cody Loughridge 0477 853 026
Tom Hanrahan 0437 718 055
or your local Nutrien Agent
for entries or further information



Private landholders lead protection for underground threatened species

FORTY years ago, Museum Victoria mailed surveys to farmers in Victoria's Gippsland region, asking about the potential presence of a giant earthworm beneath their soils.

Remarkably, researchers received 600 detailed written responses.

"When walking on my property, I have often heard deep, gurgling sounds, which I have always taken to be worms moving along their holes. I have also come across oval-shaped eggs and wondered if they belong to the Giant Gippsland Earthworm," one farmer said.

This year, the survey is being repeated to help scientists understand where the Giant Gippsland Earthworm, which can grow up to three metres and live up to 10 years, still survives.

By comparison, common garden worms live only for about 12 months.

Many threatened species in Australia benefit from the efforts of private property owners, but for the Giant Gippsland Earthworm, their role is critical.

The majority of the species' known habitat of just 40,000 hectares is on private properties.

The Australian Land Conservation Alliance (ALCA) often talk about how important landholders are in conservation.

In this case, they're likely the only reason this species still exists.

The earthworms still live on David Sutton's South Gippsland property, near Korumburra.

He has planted an incredible



David Sutton is the chair of the Gippsland Threatened Species Action Group and has Giant Gippsland Earthworms living on his property near Korumburra.

140,000 trees and shrubs on its slopes, revegetating and restoring the 17-hectare property to its original glory, known ecologically as Damp Forest.

"I didn't even know the earthworms were here initially when I started planting trees. Now that I know, it's pretty special and the best thing I can do for them is let them be and be careful about planting near their habitat – and not disturb the soil where they are," David said.

While revegetation is often a golden rule for conservation, it can be detrimental to land directly on or adjacent to Giant Gippsland Earthworm habitat because large trees and shrubs initially draw significant amounts of water from the soil, and earthworms rely on moist soils to survive.

With climate change, there is a real risk that the earthworm habitat could dry out.

After years of research, careful revegetation, which encourages native grasses and small shrubs in areas adjacent to earthworm activity, is recommended.

David is chair of the Gippsland Threatened Species Action Group, which, in partnership with Bass Coast, South Gippsland and Latrobe Catchment Landcare Networks, is rolling out the survey to property owners.

At a recent Giant Gippsland Earthworm field day, 60 locals turned up to find out more about the species and understand how to look after them.

The event featured renowned Giant Gippsland Earthworm expert Dr Beverley Van Praagh, who has been studying the creatures for 30 years.

ALCA is the peak representative body for organisations that conserve nature on private land.

The organisation's CEO, Dr Jody Gunn, said it's this type of interest from landholders that has the potential to prevent species decline and extinction.

"Landholders are passionate about the landscapes they steward and take pride in protecting the unique plants and animals that their properties are home to," she said.

The Australian Government's Saving Native Species program has funded three Giant Gippsland Earthworm projects since 2021, but it isn't known if this vital federal program and its funding will continue beyond 2026.

With 60 per cent of Australia privately owned or managed, and home to half of the threatened species, the program has been a lifeline for local conservation across the country.

Dr Gunn urges all levels of government to step up their support for Australians doing the right thing for nature.

"Time and again, we see landholders going above and beyond for Australia's environment. Supporting people on the land to protect species is not just an efficient use of funds, it's an investment in the future of our country's unique biodiversity," she said.

"The Federal Government has committed to a national target of no new extinctions, but without long-term funding certainty, and without a major increase in this limited yet vital support, the future of Australia's unique species – whether big, small or bizarre like the Giant Gippsland Earthworm – will remain merely a target on paper."

MARKET REPORT

Brought to you by...
CLAAS Harvest Centre **CLAAS**

Store market strong

By SGSAA

AGENTS yarded 3400 head at this week's VLE Leongatha store sale in another good of-fering and included a few more cross bred types

The market was again a little dearer with prices edging up each week with local buyers keen to put numbers back into the paddock.

The regular feedlot buyers attended and again secured a large portion of the heavy cattle with a couple of 580kg pens of Angus feeders making more than \$3000.

The better end of the weaner steers traded in the \$5.50 to \$6.00 price range with secondary types and the better crossbreds making \$4.50 to \$5.30.

Heavier heifers ready to feed made \$4.50 to \$5.00 with lighter ones in the \$3.80 to \$4.40 range with a couple of pens angus breeder heifers making \$5.00.

Leongatha Store Sale on Thursday, August 7, 2025 Steers

Bigarra Park 24 Angus	587kg	\$5.17	\$3040
T.Dennis 12 Angus	578kg	\$5.19	\$3000
G.Evenden 13 Angus	569kg	\$5.13	\$2920
TR.Waite 11 Angus	561kg	\$4.84	\$2720
SJ.Bugter 10 Spark	552kg	\$4.92	\$2720
Straining Wire P/L 11 Angus	517kg	\$5.18	\$2680
L.Flanagan 13 Angus	495kg	\$5.29	\$2620
H & R Need 11 Angus	479kg	\$4.69	\$2250
Drew Farming 10 Angus	457kg	\$4.44	\$2030
Kellys Run 30 Angus	455kg	\$5.45	\$2480
D & E Couling 22 Angus	444kg	\$5.33	\$2370
A.Gilbert 18 Angus	401kg	\$5.46	\$2190
Project 33 P/L 14 Angus	381kg	\$5.09	\$1940
I.Batty & C.ferguson 11 Angus	380kg	\$5.31	\$2020
Kathwell 16 Char	377kg	\$4.85	\$1830
PE & NM Garlick 14 Angus	377kg	\$4.98	\$1880
B.Gardiner 16 Angus X	375kg	\$5.04	\$1890
P.Fleming 11 Angus	373kg	\$5.33	\$1990
J.Reid 13 Angus	373kg	\$5.09	\$1900
C.Hempel 25 BB	363kg	\$5.50	\$2000
Calulu Capers 26 Angus	362kg	\$5.60	\$2030
P.Brand 14 Angus X	359kg	\$4.95	\$1780
Rautmans Farms P/L 10 Ang	354kg	\$5.53	\$1960
C.Hempl 10 Hereford	349kg	\$4.61	\$1610
J & V Garretto 12 Angus	342kg	\$5.52	\$1890
RP & PJ Hollonds 13 Angus X	341kg	\$5.42	\$1850
GJ & HT Symons 17 Angus	337kg	\$5.72	\$1930
Q Enterprises 15 Angus	335kg	\$5.61	\$1880
AT & TJ Derham 10 Angus	332kg	\$5.48	\$1820
K & M Garrett 19 Angus	330kg	\$5.60	\$1850
P.Evans 11 Angus	329kg	\$5.71	\$1880
Oaklands 20 Angus	326kg	\$5.76	\$1880
A.Orchard & E.Garth 17 Ang	326kg	\$5.85	\$1910
Calula Capers 14 Char	325kg	\$5.44	\$1770
Calula Capers 21 Angus X	324kg	\$5.64	\$1830
J.Cavill 18 Angus	318kg	\$5.84	\$1860
Jennings F/Trust 10 Angus	308kg	\$4.93	\$1520
JR.Cromb 16 Angus	307kg	\$5.70	\$1750
Three Springs Rural 21 Angus	304kg	\$5.88	\$1790
Tulla Holding 10 Angus	300kg	\$5.20	\$1560
DS.Brown 13 Angus	294kg	\$5.91	\$1740
Hooper Farm Trust 18 Angus X	294kg	\$5.74	\$1690
D.Ogilvy 10 Angus	285kg	\$5.75	\$1640
Westburne P/L 25 Angus	282kg	\$5.78	\$1630
M & K Malacarne 15 Angus	279kg	\$5.62	\$1570
Elite Farrier Service 12 Angus	260kg	\$6.15	\$1600
M & N Williams 10 Angus	256kg	\$6.40	\$1640
Somersleigh Farms 24 Angus	254kg	\$5.31	\$1350

Heifers			
S.Balbo & C.Tan 16 Angus	430kg	\$5.02	\$2160
SW & SW Storr 14 Angus	407kg	\$5.08	\$2070
AT & TJ Derham 14 Angus	395kg	\$4.69	\$1850
Watergrass Angus 20 Angus	392kg	\$4.59	\$1800
B & J Smith 10 Angus	390kg	\$4.48	\$1750
A.Gilbert 24 Angus	368kg	\$5.61	\$1880
P.Evans 13 Angus	336kg	\$4.61	\$1550
Hooper Farms Trust 24 Angus	333kg	\$3.99	\$1330
GJ & HT Symons 15 Angus	331kg	\$4.59	\$1520
Calula Capers 22 Angus	326kg	\$4.53	\$1480
Calula Capers 14 Char	323kg	\$4.64	\$1500
R & C Walker 17 Angus	321kg	\$4.36	\$1400
Tulla Holding 12 Angus	320kg	\$4.37	\$1400
Aylesbury Farms 16 Spk Pk	314kg	\$3.82	\$1200
Galluire P/L 11 Angus	311kg	\$4.63	\$1440
MA & AL Peters 17 Angus	287kg	\$3.90	\$1120
KW & RF Battersby 10 Angus	283kg	\$5.05	\$1430
SJ Bugter 21 Angus	282kg	\$4.82	\$1360
Little Pier Morning 25 Angus	281kg	\$4.27	\$1200
J.Cavill 15 Angus	273kg	\$4.87	\$1330
Yarrara Holdings P/L 10 Ang	266kg	\$4.51	\$1200
K.Farley 24 Char	258kg	\$4.26	\$1100
Westburne P/L 21 Angus	255kg	\$4.15	\$1060
M & N Williams 10 Angus	235kg	\$4.29	\$1010
Three Springs Rural 18 Angus	212kg	\$5.18	\$1100
B.Read 16 Angus	191kg	\$4.13	\$790

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Franklin Downs 15 AA/FF X	351kg	\$4.44	\$1560
Meyer Ag 12 Speck/FF X	337kg	\$4.48	\$1510
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Simon Henderson is confident of solid prices for some time. A06_3225

Market keeps impressing

By Andrew Paloczi

ANGUS steers weighing between 300 and 380 kilos achieved excellent results at Thursday's Leon-gatha Store Sale, livestock agent Simon Henderson of Phelan & Henderson & Co noting prices between \$5.61 and \$5.94 per kilo, many making around \$5.80 a kilo.

He remarked on the sharp rise in prices since Autumn, with a lot of steers having risen by between \$1.50 and \$2 per kilo since then.

Simon said people are buying to a price and that is driving up the recent cents per kilo figures, giving the example of someone willing to pay \$1,800 on cattle weighing 300 kilos, with that resulting in a per kilo price of \$6.

"What that indicates is that there is a lot of depth in the market as far as the buying fraternity goes, because if someone jumps off, someone else will jump in," he said.

That contrasts sharply with the much shallower

buying depth during the Autumn dry, when a commission buyer snapped up 15 pens of cattle with one bid.

Simon stressed that "The market's skipped away but we haven't got a lot of grass," noting things are at a pivotal point and that while recent rain has raised confidence levels, many farmers still need more run off into dams.

Paradoxically, once the grass takes off, it will reduce run off.

Despite such challenges, the outlook is positive.

"The export market is strong and all the indicators are for solid prices and possible price gains from here," Simon said of the current mood, commenting that the high confidence levels driving the market are the opposite of the situation a couple of Springs ago.

Then, the market collapsed due to a lack of confidence following the last boom.

It wasn't only Angus steers making good prices on Thursday.

A pen of 25 Black Baldy steers from C. Hempel of Stony Creek fetched \$2,000 a head, and at an average weight of 364 kilos that came to \$5.49 a kilo, those cattle sold by Anthony Delaney of Elders Delaney Livestock.

Charolais steers he auctioned were also making healthy prices, a pen of 16 from Pakenham South's Kathwal Farm, with Kenmere Charolais Blood, fetching \$1,830 each at \$4.85 per kilo, averaging 377 kilos.

A slightly lighter pen of 14 Charolais from Calulu Capers in East Gippsland achieved \$5.44 per kilo, having an average weight of 325 kilos.

While it wasn't a Phelan & Henderson & Co selling day, Simon was an interested observer on Thursday, joking that he is "now the weekly special comments man", an offer this scribe may just take him up on.

Whether making an astute comment or engaging in some banter, he is always entertaining.

Risk of Red imported fire ant in imported fodder

AGRICULTURE Victoria is urging farmers to be mindful of import requirements and to keep watch for Red imported fire ants (RIFA) when sourcing fodder from interstate.

Agriculture Victoria Acting Chief Plant Health Officer Stephen Dibley said RIFA or Solenopsis invicta, is one of the worst invasive ant species in Australia.

Native to South America, it was first detected in Brisbane in 2001 and while still largely localised to Greater Brisbane, it has also recently been detected in 2 separate zones in New South Wales.

'RIFA is not present in Victoria, and we hope collective efforts continue to ensure that this situation remains unchanged,' Dr Dibley said.

'If RIFA made it into Victoria, it could severely affect the state's economy, agriculture, the environment and the wellbeing of

people and livestock.

'RIFA is mostly spread when it hitchhikes on material that is transported out of an infested area.' He said with drought forcing farmers to source hay and fodder from interstate suppliers there was a real risk they may inadvertently import RIFA.

'We know current conditions mean farmers are dealing with unfamiliar fodder sellers, but we still want to protect our agricultural industry from biosecurity threats.

'Hay and straw are ideal host materials for RIFA, providing shelter, temperature regulation and a food source,' he said.

Dr Dibley said farmers should be aware that hay or straw purchased from anywhere outside of Victoria must come from a location with an accepted RIFA area freedom certificate.

Fodder purchased from the infested zones, must

meet inspection and treatment requirements and be certified by an officer responsible for agriculture in the state or territory of origin.

When coming from these zones, your purchase must also include one of the following types of certificates:

- a Plant Health Certificate (PHC)
- a Plant Health Assurance Certificate (PHAC)
- a Biosecure HACCP Biosecurity Certificate (BHBC)
- a Plant Health Declaration (PHD)

To further protect Victoria, if you suspect that you have found RIFA, report them immediately via the Agriculture Victoria Public Online Reporting Form at agriculture.vic.gov.au/biosecurity/pestinsects-and-mites/report-an-unusual-plant-insect-pest-or-disease or by calling the Exotic Plant Pest Hotline on 1800 084 881.

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A/c Kyle Custom Building, Bena (SEJ)
65 Angus & BB steers, 15-16 mths
A/c A & P Brown, Wattlebank (SEJ)
45 Angus steers, 22-24 mths, Woodside District bred, one mark
A/c AV & C Neal, Bruthen (NUTRIEN)
40 Angus, Angus X & Shorthorn X steers, 24 mths, East Gippsland bred
A/c Vuillermin Pastoral Co, Yanakie (SEJ)
18 Hereford steers, 17-1 8mths
11 Hereford X steers, 16-17 mths
By Karoonda Park Hereford bulls, VB, LT, GF & ABF
A/c B & P Svenson, Berrys Creek (NUTRIEN)
30 Angus steers, 18-20 mths, By Millah Murrah Bulls, NE Accred
A/c W & D Bray, Walkerville (SEJ)
15 Angus steers, 20 mths
11 Speckle Park steers, 20 mths
2 Charolais steers, 2 yo
GF & ABF, NE Accred
A/c EST AA Birss, Stradbroke (NUTRIEN)
24 Angus steers, 2 yo, Kunuma blood
A/c Matthew Kirwan, Welshpool (PHC)
22 Angus steers, Rising 2 yo, Telling bred, Innesdale & Pinora blood
A/c G Davies, Heyfield (NUTRIEN)
20 Angus steers, 20-22 mths, East Gippsland bred
A/c Melaleuca Pastoral, Ruby (NUTRIEN)
16 Angus steers, 16 mths
A/c R Cox, Bairnsdale (NUTRIEN)
15 Angus steers, 16-18 mths, By AI Sire Sterling Pacific 904 & Innesdale Bulls, NE Accred, Full vacc. history
A/c W Goddard, Clydebank (NUTRIEN)
14 Hereford steers, 25 mths, East Gippsland bred, VQ
A/c Bannah Beef, Fernbank (SEJ)
12 Angus steers, 16-18 mths
A/c DT & DJ Cameron, Bushy Park (NUTRIEN)
12 Angus steers, 15 mths, Ex Beasley bred, Hazeldean blood, NE Accred
A/c Grazing Developments P/L, Boolarra (NUTRIEN)
10 Angus & BB steers, 14-16 mths
A/c L Missen, Kilmany (NUTRIEN)
6 Angus steers, 15-16 mths

GROWN HEIFERS

A/c Eastern Livestock, Wy Yung (NUTRIEN)
24 Hereford heifers, 16 mths, Monaro bred, NE Accred
22 Angus X heifers, 14 mths, GF & ABF
A/c High Voltage Consultancy, Flynn's Creek (NUTRIEN)
16 Angus heifers, 15 mths, Leawood blood, VB, NE Accred.
A/c Katelea Past, Glen Alvie (SEJ)
15 Angus heifers, 16-18 mths, VB, GF, ABF Banquet blood
A/c Grazing Developments P/L, Boolarra (NUTRIEN)
10 Angus & BB heifers, 14-16 mths
A/c Vuillermin Pastoral Co, Yanakie (SEJ)
3 Hereford heifers, 16 mths, By Karoonda Park Hereford Bulls, VB, LT, GF & ABF
6 Hereford X heifers, 15-16 mths, By Karoonda Park Hereford Bulls, VB, LT, GF & ABF
A/c L Missen, Kilmany (NUTRIEN)
6 Angus heifers, 15-16 mths

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A/c Kuch Grazing, Darriman (NUTRIEN)
140 Angus heifers, Spring 24 drop, Landfall blood, Weaned, EU & NE Accred
A/c R & K Telling, Woodside (PHC)
60 Angus steers, 9-10 mths, Innesdale & Pinora blood, weaned
A/c AW & CM O'Mara, Glengarry (NUTRIEN)
20 Angus steers
50 Angus heifers
10-12 mths, Bowman & Te Mania blood, weaned
A/c P & J Boddy, Woodside (SEJ)
50 Angus heifers, 12 mths
10 Angus steers, 12 mths
By Pure Dunoon Bulls, weaned February, drenched Cydectin Platinum 2 weeks, VB, GF & ABF, NE Accred
A/c Faulkner Lees, Mardan (PHC)
45 Angus steers, 8-9 mths, Langi Kal Kal blood, weaned

A/c Little & Cummins, Glengarry (NUTRIEN)
40 Angus mixed sex weaners, VB, drenched & Multimin
A/c G Campbell, Mardan (SEJ)
20 Angus steers, 9 mths
15 Angus heifers, 9 mths
Well weaned, 2 x 5in1, Leawood blood
A/c Dryburgh AG, Neerim (SEJ)
30 Angus heifers, 12 mths, Sired by Bowman Angus Bulls, weaned, well handled, VB, GF
A/c Billy Creek Cattle Co, Yinnar (NUTRIEN)
30 AA & Limo mixed sex, 12-14 mths
A/c D & S Burns, Ryanston (SEJ)
30 Angus mixed sex, 8-10 mths
A/c Outtrim Downs, Outtrim (SEJ)
25 Angus mixed sex, 9-10 mths
A/c PG Bourke, Maffra (NUTRIEN)
21 Angus heifers, 13 mths
A/c Lorstan, Hedley (SEJ)
20 Angus steers, 14 mths, Kunuma & Tambo Valley blood, VB, GF & NA, NE Accred
A/c B & J Henwood, Bravington (NUTRIEN)
20 Angus & BB mixed sex, 12 mths, NE Accred
A/c R & A Brough, Jindivick (SEJ)
20 Angus mixed sex, 6mths, Sired by Tibooburra Angus Bull
A/c Hoghton & Sharman, Boolarra (SEJ)
18 Angus weaner steers, 11 mths, VB, ABF, NE Accred
A/c S Williams, Toora (SEJ)
15 Angus heifers, 12 mths, VB, GF & ABF, Harris Farms blood
A/c J Vale, Toora (SEJ)
15 Speckle Park mixed sex, 10-12 mths, VB, GF & ABF
A/c M & M Cattle Co, Powlett River
12 Angus heifers, Battersby blood, 12 mths, drenched, weaned, VB, GF, ABF & NE Accred
A/c T & J Clark, Nerrena (NERRENA)
8 Red Angus steers
3 Red Angus heifers
10 mths
A/c D Dredge, Poowong East (SEJ)
6 Angus heifers, 8-9 mths
5 Angus steers, 8-9 mths
A/c J Giliam, Stony Creek (SEJ)
10 Angus steers, 14mths, By Dunoon Angus Bulls, VB, GF & ABF, NE Accred
A/c Dryburgh Ag, Neerim (SEJ)
10 Angus steers, 12 mths, Bowman blood
A/c Vuillermin Pastoral Co, Yanakie (SEJ)
3 Angus X steers, 10mths, By Fernhill Angus Bulls, VB, LT, GF & ABF

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A/c Foote Dairies, Fish Creek (SEJ)
40 Friesian steers, 16-18 mths
20 Angus Friesian mixed sex, 18 mths
20 Angus Friesian steers, 12 mths
A/c G & G Nicoll, Fish Creek (SEJ)
50 Angus Friesian X steers, 16-18 mths
20 Angus Friesian X heifers, 16-18 mths
A/c Camlee, Foster (SEJ)
12 Angus Friesian X steers, 18 mths
14 Friesian steers, 18 mths
A/c Lorstan, Hedley (SEJ)
20 Angus/ Friesian X steers, 20 mths, VB, GF, NA
A/c Ranleigh, Foster (SEJ)
12 Angus Friesian X steers, 18 mths, VB, GF, NA
8 Angus Friesian X heifers 18 mths, VB, GF, NA
A/c Vening Agriculture, Hedley (PHC)
40 Friesian steers, 10-12 mths
A/c Woorarra Dairy, Woorarra (PHC)
42 Friesian heifers, 14-15 mths N. S. M.

COWS & CALVES

A/c B Chalmers, Callignee (NUTRIEN)
10x10 Angus cows, 5-7 yo with 3 mth Limo X CAF, Opportunity Back to Limo Bull
A/c Stone Pastoral, Drouin (SEJ)
10x10 Angus cows, 3 1/2 yo, with 3 mths old CAF, By Leawood and Bowman Bulls
A/c B & S Couchman, Foster (PHC)
14 x 14 Angus / Friesian-x cows, 3rd CAF. by Breen Angus Bull, not rededpastured



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Surveying the gurgling Giant Gippsland Earthworm



For the person with all the apps, here's one to help record the location of the Giant Gippsland Earthworm.

DID you know the Giant Gippsland Earthworm (GGE) is only found in south-west Gippsland? Growing up to two metres long, this underground giant is a natural wonder – but the future of this threatened species is uncertain. For the first time since 1980, a large-scale census survey is being conducted to map where GGEs are found and landholders can complete a survey online or fill in a paper version (coming soon to mail-boxes in areas within the species' range). A mobile phone app has also been developed to help people record the location of GGE habitat on their properties. "With almost the entire GGE population found on private land, landholders play a critical role in its survival. By reporting where they occur, you'll help scientists understand whether GGEs are thriving or declining in response to climate change – and help guide future conservation efforts," said a spokesperson for the South Gippsland Landcare Network which is helping to deliver the survey. How to get involved:

- Complete the survey: surveymonkey.com/r/GGECensusSurvey
- Download the app: Search 'Giant Gippsland Earthworm' in the Apple or Android app store (select the image of a cartoon worm).
- Learn more: Visit gianteearthworm.org.au for habitat maps and more details.

GGEs spend their entire life in underground burrows, usually near streams or drainage channels,

or on south or west-facing slopes. Many landholders first notice them by the gurgling sound they make underground. This project is led by the Gippsland Threatened Species Action Group in partnership with the South Gippsland, Bass Coast and Latrobe Catchment Landcare Networks, GGE expert Dr Beverley Van Praagh, and a local plant ecologist. The 'Census of the Giant Gippsland Earthworm in South and West Gippsland' is funded by the Australian Government under the Saving Native Species Program. For more information, including where to look for GGEs on your property, go to gianteearthworm.org.au or contact Cassie, cassie@sgln.net.au, 0448 739 559.

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MARRIAGES

HUTTON, Emma and Jesse: Married Sunday August 9, 2025 at Jeetho Hall. Parents to Islah, Kai, Mylo and Ruth. Congratulations, it was a beautiful day surrounded by loving family and friends.

DEATHS

GOODALL (nee Pinkerton) (Nicholls), Elva Mary: 5.10.1935 - 7.8.2025. Loved wife of Lindsay (dec.). Loving mum and mother-in-law of Lyn (Pub), Wayne (Nicko) and Leanne, Jude, Martin, Cathy and Dave, and Michael (dec.). Adored Nan and Old Nan to all her grandchildren and great grandchildren. Reunited with Parp. Forever in our hearts, rest in peace Nan. Passed away peacefully. Loved mother of Lynette (Pud). Adored nan of Brett, Benjamin (dec) and Kasey. Cherished great nan to seven great grandchildren. Although you cannot hear her voice or see her smile no more, your mother walks beside you still just as she did before. Rest easy Mum. Give Ben a big kiss for me. - Love you Pud Xx

DEATHS

GOODALL (nee Pinkerton) (Nicholls), Elva Mary: Nan, an amazing mum and nan who worked so hard and loved her family unconditionally. Cherished mum of Wayne. Beautiful friend to Leanne. Nan to Andrew and Fiona, Brady and Erin. Old Nan to Tait, Layla, Parker, Quinn, Theodore and Henry. Love you. I will miss the catch ups and cherish the memories of Kilcunda, countless chocolate spiders and jelly cakes, the birthday calls every year and your smile and big hugs. - Love Andrew, Fiona, Theodore and Henry. Reunited with Parpie. We will miss you Old Nan. Thank you for every story, every hug, every moment of love. Always remembered. --Brady, Erin, Tait, Layla, Parker and Quinn. Loving mother of Judith, adored nanna of Brandon and Kyle and great nan to William and Parker. To my beautiful Mum you were the best person I've ever known. You were the sun in my sky, my guiding light. I will always miss you, as I loved you so much. -- Your loving daughter Jude.

DEATHS

GOODALL, (Nicholls) (nee. Pinkerton) Elva Mary: In loving memory of my darling sister Elva, I will so miss our everyday chats on the phone. And the quality visits I had with you over the last three years at Shanagolden. All the tears and lonely days are all over, I pray you are resting peaceful now. Until we meet again my darling. Your loving sister Wilma and Family xx

DEATHS

LINLEY, Clive: 13.7.1956 - 7.8. 2025 Passed away peacefully with family by his side, after bravely fighting a long battle with cancer; courageous and determined to the end. Loving partner and husband to Sue. Devoted Dad to Cassie and Trish. Much loved pa to Eva and Max. Loved brother to Michael (dec), Geoffrey, Ian, Richard and Julia (dec). An uncle, great uncle and dear friend. Reunited with Mum Freda and Dad George. Our rock, our saviour, our safe harbour and hero; a firefighter; a talented and creative carpenter, cabinet maker and teacher. With his strength, compassion, kindness and willingness to help when needed, he was admired by all who knew the man he was. In our hearts forever, till we meet again.

DEATHS

LYONS, Noelene. 06.01.1952 - 03.08.2025. Angel Wings. Renee and Vern Loeckenhoff. Gone too soon. No time to say goodbye. THORN, Barry John: Passed away peacefully on August 8, 2025. Loved husband of Sue. Loving dad and father-in-law of Bree and Matt, Laura and Jamie. Adored pop to Georgia, Lucy; and Lilly. Will be sadly missed. Thank you to all the staff in the Nautilus Wing at Seahaven and Dr. Stan for the wonderful care given to Barry and his family. An informal gathering to celebrate Barry's life will be held at the Kilcunda Ocean View Hotel on Thursday, August 14, 2025 from 4pm onwards. All welcome. THORN, Barry: Dearly loved brother of Carol. Brother-in-law of Bill (dec.). Uncle of Karen, Greg, Paul and families. We will miss you, now you can rest in peace. THORN, Barry: You might have left this world behind. But you will never leave our hearts and minds. Barry with his cheeky smile would always say "Thanks for coming." -- Evan and Rhonda.

FUNERALS

McLEAN: A Memorial Service to celebrate the life of Mrs. June McLean will be held at The Wonthaggi Baptist Church, 81 McBride Ave, Wonthaggi. WEDNESDAY WEEK (August 20, 2025) commencing at 11:00am. For live-streaming go to www.handleyand andersonfunerals.com.au. Handley & Anderson Wonthaggi 5672 1074

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FUNERALS

GOODALL: The Funeral Service for Mrs. Elva Mary Goodall will be held at Handley & Anderson Chapel, 3085 Loch-Wonthaggi Road, Wonthaggi on Friday, August 15, 2025 commencing at 10.30am. At the conclusion of the service the funeral will leave for the Inverloch Cemetery. Elva's service will be live streamed, go to www.handleyand andersonfunerals.com.au Handley & Anderson Wonthaggi 5672 1074

LINLEY: The Funeral Service for Mr. Clive Linley will be held at Handley & Anderson Chapel, 3085 Loch-Wonthaggi Road, Wonthaggi on Monday, August 18, 2025 commencing at 11am. A Private Cremation will follow. For live-streaming go to www.handleyand andersonfunerals.com.au Handley & Anderson Wonthaggi 5672 1074

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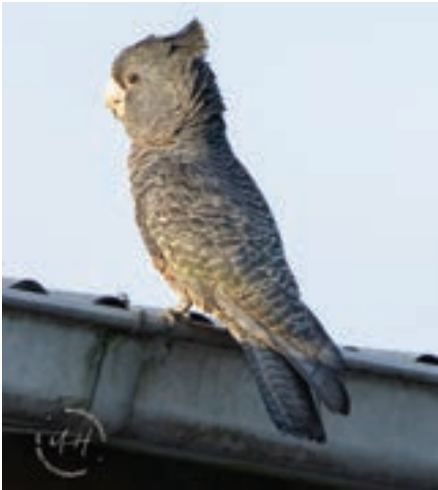
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Sentinel-Times



The beautiful female Gang Gang Cockatoo. Photos: Maureen Harley.



Guardians of Nooramunga Coastal Communities have recently observed the Gang Gang Cockatoo at Gelliondale.

Wind turbines need to be located away from world heritage sites

THE Guardians of Nooramunga Coastal Communities have recently observed the Gang Gang Cockatoo at Gelliondale.

The sightings were photographed by members of the Guardians. Following the devastating 2019–2020 bushfires, there has been a noticeable shift in the distribution of the Gang Gang Cockatoo, a threatened species. These birds, previously not seen in the wooded area adjacent to the proposed wind farm application area, have begun to migrate and settle in those areas.

Notably, Maree Avery, a local landowner and the Guardian's secretary, has observed Gang-Gangs for the last four years on her banksia heathland property. The Gang Gang Cockatoos have been seen to favour both indigenous and introduced species, such as the hawthorn bush and manna gum at Gelliondale.

At Maree's property, the Gang Gang Cockatoo announces their presence with a distinctive "door creaking" call. They have been observed drinking from the house and shed gutters, and the cattle troughs, avoiding the very low ground due to predators. At around 4.20pm each day, 10-20 birds flock to the area around Maree's house, adjacent to the Gelliondale State Forest and the proposed Gelliondale Windfarm.

During the summer months, the Gang Gang Cockatoo reside in the eucalypt woodland forests at higher altitudes, where they search for the perfect tree hollow to raise their young. During the colder months of April to September, the Gang Gang Cockatoo migrates to lower altitudes and coastal areas. The Gelliondale area has become a haven for the Gang Gang Cockatoo, where some of the birds have been sighted with young. These areas are now frequented by the Gang Gang Cockatoo as they fly across the proposed wind turbine area.

The presence of this rare and endangered species must not be eliminated by the proposed wind turbines proposed by Synergy Wind. The wind turbines need to be located away from world heritage sites. The conservation areas of the Nooramunga coast are a safe haven for many rare and endangered species, to be put at risk by the dangerous blades of the wind turbines, and must not be killed when flying into the path of the blades of the wind turbines.



Leadership Graduation Reflection

By author Claire Chitty

SIX months truly can pass in the blink of an eye. From our first gathering in March to our graduation at Bernin-neit on Sunday, the South Coast Community Leadership program has been a transformative journey. Surrounded by 23 passionate participants, previous alumni, council members, and workshop presenters, we celebrated not just the completion of a program but the growth, courage, and community spirit that blossomed along the way.

I vividly remember the nerves of that first week standing in front of strangers, my voice wavering as I presented my cameo, unsure if I belonged. But through playful group activities, shared experiences, and the gentle encouragement of our facilitators, something shifted. By our final presentation, I stood with confidence, clarity, and pride, not just in my voice, but in my belief in what I had to offer.

We had all individually moved from unfamiliar faces to trusted collaborators, forming a united cohort of empowered individuals, ready to contribute more deeply to our communities.

On day one, we were fast-tracked into group dynamics through playful, interactive games that helped break down barriers. While we may have initially gravitated toward familiar faces, by the end we were a united cohort, friends, collaborators, and community leaders.

Over nine workshops, eight venues and 55 hours of immersive learning, we gained invaluable insights from workshops that covered:

- Emotional Intelligence (horse whispering at Wattlebank Farm was a standout!)
- Local Government
- Culture and Inclusion
- Public Engagement and Storytelling
- Values
- Committee Governance
- Project Planning
- Networking
- Strategic Leadership

I met extraordinary volunteers whose selfless acts continue to uplift local communities. Their stories reminded me of the power of grassroots leadership and the ripple effect of small, intentional actions.

Our cohort projects were a testament to creativity and impact:

- Great Southern Rail Trail Regular Events Calendar
- Playgroup Summit
- Treely Edible Garden at Inverloch Tennis Club
- Shine On: A video with a QR code guiding groups on social media promotion (equipment available at Myli Library)
- Art Cube: A vibrant art initiative for children in Leongatha, to be housed in three shipping containers, (details to be shared by South Gippsland and Bass Coast Shire Councils).

More importantly, these collaborative projects are not one-off events. They are living legacies designed to evolve, inspire, and serve future generations. They reflect the heart of community leadership: creating something enduring, inclusive, and empowering.

I walked away from this experience proud, not just of what I achieved, but of the collective difference we made. Leadership isn't about titles; it's about contribution. It's about seeing the big picture and asking, 'What can I do to make a positive difference?'

Thank you to our incredible facilitators, Lucy Cousins and Lucinda Young, for your unwavering support and wisdom. Your guidance helped shape us into confident, community-minded leaders ready to make meaningful change.

• OBITUARY

~ In life and in death she served us well ~

THE late Noelene Lyons of Wonthaggi maintained that you could judge the strength of a community by the way it looked after its former generations.

Which is why she had a life-long passion for and interest in local cemeteries, especially the Inverloch Cemetery, where she was a trustee for more than 20 years, up until a few months before her untimely death on Sunday, August 3 aged 74.

She researched, collated and corrected the records of 18 cemeteries over the past few decades, most of them in Gippsland, including Kilcunda, San Remo, Outtrim, Meeniyah, Foster, Woodside and Greenmount near Yarram but found the state of records at the Wonthaggi Cemetery to be among the worst she had seen.

"Most of the cemeteries have kept meticulous records and are an absolute credit to their trustees and managers but there have been a number of periods of time when the records at Wonthaggi have been poorly kept," she told the Sentinel-Times back in 2023.

"At one stage, the names of the people being buried at Wonthaggi were kept, but incredibly, not the location of their graves.

"It makes it very difficult when you are contacted by family members wanting to know where their relatives have been buried. We do know now all the names of the people who have been buried at Wonthaggi, some 6908, but we don't know where 683 of them are buried and we probably never will."

Ms Lyons said at the time



A former trustee of the Inverloch Cemetery Trust, Noelene Lyons took her passion for meticulous records to all parts of Gippsland but did her best work trying to put records at the Wonthaggi Cemetery in order.

this was a particular problem when trying to identify the graves of ex-service people with which the Commonwealth War Graves Commission took a serious and on-going interest.

"Together with Renee (Loeckenhoff), we have been able to identify the resting place of most of our ex-service personnel and working with the RSL, Renee has been able to pass those records on to the Commonwealth War Graves Commission, and we have been able to have a number of those war graves rededicated."

Her labour of love for

cemeteries, her interest in the stories behind those buried there and the peace it afforded affected family members to finally know where their loved ones were buried is a legacy that will go on.

"It was her passion, like some people have a passion for fishing or golf. There were many nights that I went off to bed while she was still at the computer working on the records until 12 midnight or one in the morning," said her husband of 40 years Ian this week.

"When someone has a passion like that, you've just got to let them go.

"As a young girl, she used to take a drink and a sandwich to the cemetery and sit among the graves. I think she liked the peace and quiet and it's always been an interest.

"I'd hate to know how much time and money she spent on chasing down the proper information, but I know there were a lot of people who were very grateful for the work she did in finding the final resting place of their loved ones.

"She also used to get calls from the funeral parlours to give them the all-clear for their burials after a few mix-ups.

"She put together a lot of folders of cemetery records that we're going to make sure go to the right places.

"Together with a number of other people on the cemetery trust at Inverloch, Noelene was responsible for a lot of the improvements that have been carried out there and she'll have her own place there now, with her mum and dad," he said.

For the complete article go to www.sgst.com.au

The Funeral Service for Noelene May Lyons was held at Handley and Anderson Chapel, 3085 Loch-Wonthaggi Road, Wonthaggi on Monday, August 11 commencing at 10.30am. At the conclusion of the service the funeral left for the Inverloch Cemetery.

Mrs Lyons leaves her husband Ian, five children, three grandchildren and a great grandchild.

She also leaves a grateful community, all the better for her determination to honour our deceased relatives by recording and caring for their final resting places.

Origami homes represent real problems in South Gippsland

The Nationals Member for Gippsland South, Danny O'Brien MP, has used Homelessness Week to call attention to the deepening housing crisis in Victoria, warning that delays in re-letting vacant social housing and a failure to boost supply are worsening homelessness both in Gippsland South and across the state.

Mr O'Brien said his electorate office has been decorated this week by Uniting Wellington with origami houses and posters featuring key facts and statistics to shine a light on the growing need for secure housing.

"Every week I hear from people in our community who are desperate for housing," Mr O'Brien said.

"Here in Gippsland South, we actually have fewer social housing properties now than we did a decade ago. That's a damning indictment of the state's housing policy.

"Every one of the origami houses being displayed around Gippsland South represents an actual home that is needed."

Mr O'Brien said the problem is being compounded by the number of social housing properties left vacant for extended periods, often due to delays in

maintenance work that prevent them from being re-let.

"I wrote to the Minister for Housing in May to raise concerns about reports that local social homes had been left unoccupied for months and received a response confirming these homes had been left vacant while awaiting maintenance.

"At a time when more than 55,000 Victorians are on the public housing waitlist, it is inexcusable that homes are sitting empty simply because basic repairs can't be done."

According to the 2025 Report on Government Services,

Victoria continues to underperform in social housing occupancy rates, with only 95.6% of public housing and 88.4% of community housing tenanted — both below the national average.

Mr O'Brien said Homelessness Week was a chance to reflect, raise awareness, and demand better outcomes.

"Uniting Wellington have done a great job putting a spotlight on this issue in my office this week. But what we really need is meaningful change — because too many Victorians are still waiting for a safe place to call home."

Report reveals urgent action needed on state's national parks

A COMPELLING Parliamentary Intern Report into the state of biodiversity in Victoria's National Parks has found that urgent reform is needed.

The research topic was commissioned by Nationals' MP and Shadow Minister for Public Land Management, Melina Bath through the Victorian Parliamentary Internship Program, and was completed by University of Melbourne student Anastasia Scarpaci.

Following the report's release, Ms Bath called for urgent reform to address the declining biodiversity in

Victoria's national parks.

"This compelling report lays bare the reality that our national parks are struggling to protect the very biodiversity they were created to conserve," said Ms Bath.

"Underfunding, a stretched frontline workforce, and the retention of volunteers have left our parks vulnerable.

"The report identified invasive pests and weeds, inappropriate fire regimes, and habitat fragmentation as major threats to native species, warning that without proper fire management and ecological

monitoring, our wildlife will face even greater risk.

"Monitoring must be more than a tick-box exercise, we need active frameworks that trigger real action.

"Our frontline ranger workforce is stretched too thin after successive cuts to Parks Victoria.

"Expanding Victoria's ranger force and ensuring their permanent presence in our parks is an essential mechanism to protect biodiversity.

"Community and volunteer groups do incredible work, but they need more support."

Ms Bath congratulated Anastasia Scarpaci on her report "Biodiversity in the National Parks Estate: The Effectiveness of Current Systems in Protecting Victoria's Biodiversity" which saw her awarded with first class honours.

"This report is well-researched, drawing from academic, government, and community sources - its rigorous methodology brings credibility to its findings.

"The practical, evidence-based recommendations must be taken seriously by the State Government."

SGB hunts down gold in Bendigo at the Short Course Championships

IT WAS a jam-packed weekend for the SGB team as they headed to Bendigo for the 2025 Country Short Course Championships.

Fifty-nine swimmers achieved qualifying times to compete, making SGB the third biggest team at the meet, and the purple caps of SGB were frequently seen heading up and down the pool. Swimmers ranged from under-11s to the open section, competing in a variety of distances and strokes.

There is always excitement on day one as the swimmers competing in their first countries were presented with their country caps to wear for the first time at the morning Team Meeting.

Racing kicked off early Saturday morning, continuing through the day and finishing with relays. The crew were back early on Sunday again with a full day. The meet, with 636 swimmers from clubs right across regional Victoria, was a busy one with many families from throughout the state descending for the weekend.

SGB featured regularly on the podium, as well as in the top eight. The event was hosted by Bendigo Swimming at the Guru Wanyarra Centre at Kangaroo Flat.

Many families enjoyed the week-



The SGB team in Bendigo for the 2025 Country Short Course Championships.

end away, making the most of the trip and enjoying the local sights. The event generates over \$1million into the local economy, a great boost to the area.

It was an invaluable experience for many, with coaches giving feedback to swimmers for them to take on and work on before the State Short Course Age Championships next month.

Coach Dylan, "The club has swum magnificently. We have had a lot of people put in; it's a real team effort, and they have dug deep and put in when it's needed.

For the swimmers, it seems that the event is as much about being able to catch up and hang out as it is about swimming. It means they are nice and relaxed, and their friends are all there cheering loudly for them on the sidelines."

Coach Sam, "I'd say it's been a very successful meet, we've had a lot of PBs and a handful of state times. All the hard work these kids have put in during training has paid off."

Coach Lori, "I always love seeing the kids who I first had learn-

ing how to tumble turn that have worked their way through junior development squads to racing here on the big stage for the first time. They were amazing. They know that just being here is the first step, and I look forward to seeing them continue on this racing journey."

"The other highlight has been seeing the two multi-class relay teams we have competing. There are not always as many opportunities for them, so it's wonderful that they are getting a chance to compete in these ways."

Bridge enthusiasts shine in recent competitions

IN this week's Phillip Island bridge competition, local players showcased their skills.

On Monday, August 4, Deb Anglim and Shirley Stewart emerged victorious in a competitive field of 5 1/2 tables, achieving an impressive score of 68.52 per cent.

Their performance was a testament to their strategic prowess and teamwork.

Just two days later, on Wednesday, August 6, Jean Barbour and Greg Nicholson claimed the top spot, winning over 5 1/2 tables with a commendable score of 64.35 per cent.

Their victory highlighted their consistency and ability to perform under pressure.

As the Phillip Island Bridge Club Congress approaches, anticipation is building within the bridge community.

Registrations have officially opened on My ABF for the upcoming events scheduled for Saturday, September 13 (pairs) and Sunday, September 14 (teams).

Players are eagerly preparing for what promises to be a thrilling and competitive congress.

South Gippsland Bridge Club

WITH only five tables it was still a good day at Bridge on Tuesday August 5 in Wonthaggi. In N/S Bronwyn Sund and Michael Dooley led with 57.92 per cent, then Lois Dwyer and Alan Johnston, 55. E/W, Deb Anglim and Mary Brewis 56.25, Marie Sands and Ken McKenzie 53.75 per cent.

Ten tables at Inverloch on Friday saw two convincing wins in both directions. N/S Deb Anglim and John French 65.74 percent, Julie and Ian McPhee 56.02, Sean Munley and Bruce Higgs 52.55, Hannah Martin and Ruth Stevenson 51.85, Philip and Neville Chapman 50.93 per cent.

In E/W Bron Sund and Faye Rowlands scored 67.36 per cent! Moya Crowley and Michael Dooley 61.11, Marie Sands and Ken McKenzie 57.64, Lois Dwyer and Robin Egan 54.17, Wendy McKergow and Anne Ferrari 53.01 percent.

Strike League win for junior cricketer

THIRTEEN-year-old cricketer Grace Luff proudly represented Victoria in the Junior Girls Strike League recently.

Grace travelled to Darwin to compete in a week-long contest against the Northern Territory at the Cazalys Arena and DXC Arena.

She played two 50 over games and three T20s.

The Victoria Big Cats won the series, winning four out of the five matches.

Grace was asked to play in the team, and she was thrilled with the opportunity to compete against and alongside the experienced junior cricketers.

"It was my first time playing in this series and I was playing in the U19s," she said.

"I gained a lot of support from the girls on the Victorian team, and I was proud to play with them. It was a good experience."

Grace is an all-rounder, and a highlight of the series was taking two wickets during the last T20 match.

Locally, Grace has played with Glen Alvie Cricket Club for the last five years.

She has played three seasons with the club and also participated in the Woolworths Blast program.

This season, she is set to play in

the women's and U15s teams, and possibly in C Grade.

Her family inspired her to play cricket.

"My dad got me into it, and I've wanted to play since all my siblings joined the club," she said.

"I enjoy every aspect of cricket – the friends you make and competing at competition level."

Grace aims to pursue her cricket career, making her way through the pathways available to get as far competitively as possible.

In the short term, Grace is looking forward to the 2025/26 season and the upcoming trials for Gippsland Pride.



Grace Luff played cricket for Victoria in the Northern Territory Junior Girls Strike League recently.

Back where it all began: Super Bike Masters returns to the Grand Prix

IN A full circle moment for the historic category that first supported the Australian Motorcycle Grand Prix in 1989, the Superbike Masters will return to the Phillip Island Grand Prix circuit this October.

Representing the golden era of Superbike racing, these iconic machines from the 1980s and 90s have been preserved in their original racing condition and showcase an era that laid the foundation for modern MotoGP legends, including Mick Doohan, Chris Vermeulen and Kevin Magee.

Setting the stage for MotoGP as we know it today, these bikes remain in their authentic racing

condition and promise to captivate with a distinctive roar that's sure to turn heads across the circuit. A powerful nod to the pinnacle of racing in their time.

Complementing an already thrilling on track line up with the schedule featuring talented Australians in every category, the Superbike Masters will bring a flare of history and legacy to the circuit, offering fans a chance to witness the raw power of these iconic machines and the precision required to master them.

"It's exciting to see the return of the Superbike Masters at the Phillip Island Grand Prix circuit in 2025. As the very first support

category to feature at the island back in 1999 their comeback is a fitting tribute to the rich history of Australian motorsport," said Australian Grand Prix Corporation Division Manager of motorsport, David Corrigan.

"There's no doubt the unmistakable nostalgic roar of these machines will turn heads across the circuit, these legendary bikes, representing the golden era racing are shorter at a whole new layer for excitement to an already action packed weekend."

The three Superbike Masters races at Phillip Island will cater to Period 6 (1983 to 1990) and Period 7 (1991 to 1999) machines

under Motorcycling Australia (MA) rules and regulations, with the competition to be just as cut-throat as it was when they first graced Australians racetracks.

With the Superbike Masters races at Phillip Island, spanning two decades, a huge variety of makes and models will be on the grid, representing a history lesson for some and a flood of memories for others.

Step back in time and soak up the glory of these historical machines proudly on display at the National Support paddock.

Tickets for the Australian motorcycle Grand Prix are on sale now at motogp.com.au

TIDE GUIDE

TIDAL PREDICTIONS FROM PORT PHILLIP HEADS

Approx. Tide Variations: Seal Rocks, Venus Bay, Waratah Bay and Cape Woolamai (Same), Torradin +2hrs 45, Cowes Pier +50, Stony Point +40

TUESDAY August 12	WEDNESDAY August 13	THURSDAY August 14	FRIDAY August 15	SATURDAY August 16	SUNDAY August 17	MONDAY August 18
▲ 1.30am 1.46m ▼ 7.19am 0.43m ▲ 2.19pm 1.65m ▼ 8.00pm 0.62m	▲ 2.21am 1.54m ▼ 8.04am 0.45m ▲ 2.56pm 1.68m ▼ 8.41pm 0.51m	▲ 3.10am 1.60m ▼ 8.48am 0.49m ▲ 3.30pm 1.68m ▼ 9.22pm 0.41m	▲ 3.58am 1.64m ▼ 9.33am 0.55m ▲ 4.05pm 1.67m ▼ 10.03pm 0.33m	▲ 4.45am 1.64m ▼ 10.17am 0.62m ▲ 4.40pm 1.64m ▼ 10.46pm 0.29m	▲ 5.37am 1.62m ▼ 11.01am 0.69m ▲ 5.17pm 1.59m ▼ 11.30pm 0.29m	▲ 6.32am 1.57m ▼ 11.45am 0.77m ▲ 5.59pm 1.54m

Email us your fishing photos

news@sgst.com.au



The Friday winners at Breakaway Bowls were Peter Novak, Marj Ford, Jan Clarke and Peter Grenville.



Pam Sutcliffe, Chris O'Donnell and Marg Griffin were the winning social bowls team at the Inverloch Bowling Club.



Colin Binch and John Kappler were the Wednesday winners at the Wonthaggi Bowls Club.



The Wonthaggi Bowls Club Saturday winners were Rod Vawdon and Darren Rowe.



Maggie Scapin, John Rook and Pam Russell were the winners at Wonthaggi Senior Indoor Bowls on Friday with plus 23.



Wonthaggi Senior Indoor Bowls Club's Pairs Champions Max Sweetnam and Barb Culph with runners up Jo McIntyre and Allan Ireland.



South West Gippsland Midweek Bowls Group's weekly winners were Bill Sheriff (S), Peter Thorley (L), Derek Fenn (2) and Max Summers (3).

BREAKAWAY BOWLS

BREAKAWAY Bowls was held at the Cape Paterson Community Hall on Monday and Friday with a 1pm start.

It was girl power on Monday when on a plus 32 the winners were Jan Murphy, Marj Ford, Elle Carter, Rhonda Ratterbury.

Friday's winners with plus 24 were Peter Novak, Marj Ford, Jan Clarke and Peter Grenville.

It was another great week – congratulations to everyone.

FOSTER

THE club is really excited to show off the arrival of the three new bowling arms in time for the start of the new season.

Thanks to the very generous sponsorship from the Community Bank, Toora and Foster, the club has been able to purchase three hacksaw bowling arms.

The sponsorship will also be used on the Bendigo Bank Annual Pairs event held in January.

The club has purchased three different sized bowling arms, which will be available to members to use.

They are a bowling aide for those needing assistance with their delivery.

Secretary Sue Waugh said they will be a real asset to the club, as members can practice with them and get the feel for which size or type of bowling arm suits their needs prior to purchasing one.

This Thursday will be the last of the Winter Triples.

Thursday, September 11, sees the start of the new season, Summer Triples. Everyone needs to start getting prepared and into the swing of things with Opening Day and some Pennant Practice matches on the cards soon.

INVERLOCH

THIRTY-EIGHT players enjoyed one of few sunny pre-spring days on the green, but with a slight nip in the air, an extra layer of winter clothing was still the order of the day.

Using wins and ends won, there were three two game winners with all three ending on the same 32 points.

The match committee then resorted to shots up to separate the winners and runners up but there was only one clear winner with 16 shots up,

The other two teams were equal on nine shots up so the eventual runners up had to be decided on percentages.

Overall, the winning team with two wins, 32 points, 16 shots up was that of Chris O'Donnell (skip), Marg Griffin (3rd) and Pam Sutcliffe (Lead).

From the other two, the hard luck story with two wins, 32 points, nine shots up and a percentage of 60 per cent was the

team of Laurel Lee (skip), Terry Seaward (3rd), Peter Gentsch (2nd) and Mean Price (Lead).

The runners up with two wins, 32 points, nine shots up and a percentage of 64.71 per cent was the team of Bill Selby (skip), Gary Scott (3rd) and Christine Corrigan (Lead) with 64.71 per cent - a very close call indeed.

Once again, Jim Haydon put on a magnificent homemade soup for lunch.

Reminder: Next social bowls is August 14, starting at 11am, with names in by 9:30am

MIDWEEK BOWLS

FIFTY-SIX bowlers turned up to San Remo bowls club to enjoy the weekly game of Thursday bowls on a generally fine but chilly winter's day.

President John Nicholson signed everyone in while Bev Elliott and David Talbot prepared the teams.

Once the teams were arranged, the bowlers went out to the green to start the challenge to decide the weekly winners.

With 56 players, there were 14 teams of four bowlers across seven rinks.

It was great to see bowlers coming from Cranbourne, Pakenham and Garfield, as well as the five participating clubs, Loch, Koo Wee Rup, Corinella, Lang Lang and San Remo.

As usual, a few wrong bias bowls helped to fill the Royal Children's Hospital tin.

The winning team with a score of 34 was Bill Sheriff (S), Peter Thorley (L), Derek Fenn (2) and Max Summers (3).

Runners up on a count back also on 34 points was Sue Wright (2), Tammy Humphrey (S), Frank Verco (L) and Luke Monckton (3).

Best one game winner on a score of 20, which equates to winning 10 ends out of 12, was Phil Nielson (S), Aggie Grattan (2), Catherine Bray (3) and Michael Chidley (L).

A big thank you to John Nicholson who set up the green, Peter Grattan behind the bar and the numerous people who helped out in the kitchen, and also helped John to clean up the kitchen area.

Next week, the bowlers will be meeting at Koo Wee Rup to once again fight it out for team of the week.

Please be on site by 10am to allow time to prepare the teams.

Note – as most venues can only operate seven rinks, the club can only cater for a maximum of 56 players.

Unfortunately, with numbers generally reaching the capacity, the club will have to be strict on a 10am cut off time.

Meanwhile till then, have fun and stay safe.



Phil Nielson (S) and Aggie Grattan (2) were South West Gippsland Midweek Bowls Group's best one game winners. Absent: Catherine Bray (3) and Michael Chidley (L).

WONTHAGGI

IT was another good week with two days of social bowls.

Wednesday was a fine but cool day to greet 16 bowlers for two games of three-bowl pairs over 10 ends.

The winners were the team of Colin Binch and John Kappler with a score of two wins and 35 points.

The runners up were the team of Frank Cimino and Colin Ormerod with a score of two wins and 32 points.

Friday night was a success with 30 people enjoying a chat and catching up with friends.

The members draw didn't go off, with Frank Cimino not there to collect \$70, so next week the draw will be \$80.

Teresa was a happy meat tray winner, with Fred and Paul being happy brekky pack winners.

Other winners were Sylvia, Sheila, John and Mick.

Saturday saw a bright sunny day with a slight breeze to greet 28 bowlers for two games of 2-4-2 over 10 ends.

There were three teams that were two-game winners, with the unlucky team being Hans Bischofberger and John Hill.

The runners up were Allan Ireland and David Turnbull with a score of two wins and 32 points and 15 shots up.

The winners were Rod Vawdon and Darren Rowe with a score of two wins and 34 points.

Wonthaggi welcomed Bruce and Pat from Port Macquarie, who played in the event on Saturday.

Bowls this week:

Wednesday: Social bowls at 12.30pm.

Saturday: Social bowls at 12.30pm.

The club still need names on the pennant sheets, so put your name or names on the list.

Don't forget Friday night, with the members draw being \$80 plus meat trays and lots of other prizes to be won.

Doors open at 4pm.

Members draw and raffles at 6pm.

Have a good week and happy bowling.

WONTHAGGI INDOOR

TUESDAY was a fantastic and competitive day for the Pairs Championship with some really close finishes.

The winners on the day were Max Sweetnam and Barb Culph.

Runners up were Jo McIntyre and Allan Ireland.

Congratulations to you all.

Friday saw 26 players compete.

The winners on the day with a plus 23 were Maggie Scapin, Pam Russell and John Rook.

Equal runners up on plus 22 were Thelma Kavanagh, Robert McLaren, Fred Demenech, Barb Culph, Allan Ireland and Theo Sholley.

KORUMBURRA

RESULTS: Tuesday, August 5.
Stableford: 32 Players
A Grade: John Kerr (19) 37 points
B Grade: Bob Newton (32) 33 points
NTPs: first David Sorrell, seventh Paul Turton, 10th Chris “Stooge” Muir and 13th Billy Wrigley.
Thursday, August 7:
Stableford: 14 players.
Winner: Steve Rose (10) 40 points.
NTPs: first Steve Duffield, seventh Wayne Knights 10th Iain Riddell and 13th Peter McMaster.
Saturday, August 9:
Sponsor: Bob Stiff.
Stableford: 30 players.
A Grade: Greg Shuttleworth (13) 38 points.
B Grade: John Kerr (19) 35 points.
NTPs: first Clint Newcombe and 13th Steve Rose.

Ladies

THE August Monthly Medal was played last Wednesday, with the weather up and down having four seasons in one day.
Congratulations to the Medal and Grade winner Jenny Blackmore winning with a good score of 98(23)75net and awarded the Tiny Teapot Cafe voucher.
Runner up was Kerri Besley with 92(15)77 net and winner of best scratch score.
BDTL went to Diarne Maskell and Shelley Snooks both with 81net.
NTP on the first was Merrissa Cosson (Kelly’s Bakery) and closest on the 10th green Shelley Snooks (\$2 Discount Store)
The nine-hole competition had four play, with Lyn Perks winning on 11 points.
On Saturday, the club had 11 women play a Stableford round in beautiful sunshine.
Winning with 33 points was Aliesha Wrigley (22) on a c/b from Merrissa Cosson (10).
BDTL went to Diarne Maskell with 29 points.
NTPs went to Merrissa on the first (Kelly’s Bakery) and 13th greens.

LEONGATHA

TUESDAY: August 5, Stableford.
Tuesday was a Stableford event with a field of 40 members/guests on course.
Overall Winner: Michael Street (24) with 34 points.
A Grade winner: Doug Clemann (13) with 33 points on a countback.
A Grade runner up: Neale Gilin (12) with 33 points.
B Grade winner: Michael Street (24) with 34 points.
B Grade runner up: David Forbes (18) with 33 points on a countback.
NTP fifth second shot: Jeremy de Silva at 1.68m.
NTP 14th: Craig Hutchinson at 2.36m.
NTP 16th: Michael West at 2.61m.
Thursday, August 7: Evans Petroleum Stableford Event.
Thursday’s event was a Stableford event again generously sponsored by Evans Petroleum with 62 members/guests enjoying more favourable playing conditions.
A Grade winner: Nicholas Byrne (11) with 35 points.
A Grade runner up: Christopher Leaver (6) with 33 points on a countback.
B Grade winner: Peter Hodder (14) with 34 points on a countback.
B Grade runner up: David

Richards (14) with 34 points.
C Grade winner: Gerald Free-stone (25) with 37 points.
C Grade runner up: Anthony Giles (26) with 36 points.
NTP fifth second shot: Andrew Seccull at 3.00m.
NTP 14th: Warren Dummett at 1.05m.
NTP 16th: Andrew Seccull at 3.00m.
Saturday, August 9: Stableford.
Saturday was a Stableford event with an excellent field of 96 members/guests playing in sublime winter conditions.
A Grade winner: Nicholas Byrne (11) with 38 points.
A Grade runner up: Daniel Jolley (8) with 36 points.
B Grade winner: Andrew Rowe (18) with 42 points.
B Grade runner up: Ken Wardle (18) with 36 points on a countback.
C Grade winner: Trevor Moss (36) with 33 points.
C Grade runner up: Jenny Teasdale (23) with 32 points on a countback.
Great score by Matthew Hildebrand with an eagle on the 11th hole.
NTP fifth second shot: Matthew Hildebrand at 1.00m.
NTP 14th: Marcus Luscombe at .45m.
NTP 16th: Bill Wassink at 1.25m.

Ladies

CONTRARY to all weather reports, it was a perfect day for the final round of the August Monthly Medal.
Jenny Fraser finished with 107/32/75 to win the Monthly Medal.
Only on Tuesday, Jenny had a lesson with John Payne, the newly appointed golf retail manager.
Her playing partner Bronwyn Debenham was runner up with 105/29/76 on a count back from Ev Indian.
Down the line balls were awarded to Maryanne Gartner 78 net and Dot Stubbs 79 net.
Rebecca Wilson was the only accurate competitor, winning the nearest the pin on the 16th.

MIRBOO NORTH

TUESDAY, August 5: Stableford.
A Grade: M. Payne (11) 37 points.
B Grade: Tom Traill (18) 33 points.
DTL: S. Duff 37, N. Rutledge 36, B. Bradshaw 33 and S. McKenzie 32.
NTP: fourth S. Duff, sixth T. Bradshaw, 13th N. Whichello and 16th N. Rutledge.
Birdies: sixth T. Bradshaw and 16th N. Rutledge.
Saturday, August 9: Stableford.
A Grade: P. Woodall (10) 37 points.
B Grade: N. Duncan (15) 33 points.
C Grade: S. McKenzie (22) 38 points.
DTL: R. Felmingham 36, G. Renwick, D. Felmingham, M. Payne 35 and Cayden Gunn 34.
NTP: fourth J. Coleman, sixth R. Felmingham, 13th P. Woodall and 16th B. Bradshaw.
Birdies: fourth Tim Traill, sixth P. Draper, T. Baker and Cayden Gunn, and 16th P. Draper, S. Duff and G. Shandley.
Hole in one: R. Felmingham sixth hole.

WONTHAGGI

RESULTS: August 7, SR. 71.
Competition: Stableford 18-hole.
Winner: Glen Turner 36.
Runner up: Roger Kilpatrick 34.
Ball sweep: Peter Ali 34, Rod



Leongatha Golf Club's August Monthly Medallist was Jenny Fraser

McBride 34 and Ian McNish 33.
Results: August 7, SR. 34.5.
Competition: Stableford front nine-hole.
Winner: Norm Burne 16.
Ball DTL: John Davis 14.
Results: August 9, S.R 71.
Competition: Stableford.
A Grade: Brad Andrew 37.
B Grade: Sam Horvath 39.
C Grade: Norm Burne 33.
Balls down the line to 32: Jim Jordan 36, Glenn Hewlett 36, Eric Van Agtmaal 36, Mark Tiziani 34, Phillip Dynes 34, Graeme Crawford 34, Glen Rielly 32 and Paul Cornelis 32.
Eagle: Eric Van Agtmaal third hole.
NTPs: Alan Jones second, Hamish Burns fourth, Scott Williams propin eighth, Jim Jordan 13th and Kevin Jamieson money hole 17th.

Ladies

WEDNESDAY was a Bitsa type of weather day –bitsa calm; bitsa rain, out with the umbrellas and coats, bitsa wind.
Why not? It's Wonthaggi.
Coming down the stretch, it was bitsa sun and blue sky.
It was a typical day on the Wonthaggi golf course.
At presentations, there were a few tears in the eyes when the medal winner with the round of the day was the popular Heather Wintle, who won her first Monthly Medal ever –she'd lost a few on countback over the years.
Heather's score of 109(35)74 net won her the medal and C Grade.
A Grade's winner was Catherine Bolding 92(17)75.
B Grade's winner was Merryn Dear 95(20)75.
BDL went to Pam Hanley 75, Geraldine Prentice 77, Yvonne Everitt 79 and Marg Johnson 80.
NTP on second was Merryn Dear and eighth Marg Johnson.
Scratch 92 was Catherine Bolding.
Putting was won by Irene Walsh with 29.

WOORAYL

Ladies

THE August Monthly Medal, sponsored by Lyn De'Laney, was played in very cold and wet conditions.
Nine ladies participated.
The winner of the stroke event/ Monthly Medal was Elly Berryman 76 net.
The runner up was Linda Forrester 77 net.
BDL: Ann Poole 78 net and Kath Davis 83 net.
NTP: eighth Elly Berryman, 11th Heather Sullivan and 17th Jean Hayes.
Ann Poole won the putting with 28 putts.



Korumburra's Saturday winner Aliesha Wrigley.



Korumburra's Wednesday August Monthly Medal winner Jenny Blackmore.



Wonthaggi Golf Club's A Grade winner Catherine Bolding, C Grade and Medal winner Heather Wintle and B Grade winner Merryn Dear.



Woorayl Golf Club's Monthly Medal winner Elly Berryman with runner up Linda Forrester.

GIPPSLAND SOCCER LEAGUE

ROUND 15 RESULTS - SUN, AUG 10

SENIOR Mens:

Drouin Maroon 4 d Lang Lang United 2
Inverloch Stars 2 drew Trafalgar Victory 2
P-Island Breakers 9 d Wonthaggi United 0

Senior Womens:

P-Island Breakers 16 d Wonthaggi United 0
Trafalgar Victory 3 d Inverloch Stars 1
Drouin Maroon 3 d Lang Lang United 0
Leongatha Knights 10 d Mirboo Nth United 0

Mens Reserves:

Inverloch Stars 1 drew Trafalgar Victory 1

Under 17 Mixed:

Drouin Maroon 5 d L'gatha Knights White 0
L'gatha Knights Blue 6 d Mirboo Nth United 0
P-Island Breakers 4 d Wonthaggi United 1
Drouin Maroon Yellow 2 drew Korumburra City 2

Under 15 Girls:

P-Island Breakers 3 d Wonthaggi United 1
Drouin Dragons Yellow 3 d Korumburra City 2

Under 14 Mixed:

Phillip Island Stingrays 3 d Inverloch Stars 2
Drouin Maroon 7 d Lang Lang United 1
P-Island Penguins 2 d Wonthaggi United 1
Mirboo Nth United 1 d Leongatha Knights 0
Drouin Maroon Yellow 2 d Korumburra City 0

Under 12 Girls:

Lang Lang United 5 d Drouin Maroon 2
P-Island Breakers 7 d Wonthaggi United 1

Under 12A Mixed:

Drouin Maroon 7 d Lang Lang United 1
Leongatha Blue 3 d Mirboo Nth United 1
P-Island Breakers 3 d Wonthaggi United 2
Drouin Maroon Yellow 2 d Korumburra City 1

Under 12B Mixed:

Drouin White 2 d Drouin Dragons Yellow 1
P-Island Penguins 8 d Wonthaggi United 2
Trafalgar Victory 6 d Inverloch Stars 0

ROUND 16 DRAW - SUNDAY, AUG 17

Senior Mens:

Drouin Dragons Maroon V P-Island Breakers
Leongatha Knights V Wonthaggi United
Trafalgar Victory V Korumburra City

Senior Womens:

Drouin Dragons Maroon V P-Island Breakers
Leongatha Knights V Wonthaggi United
Lang Lang United V Mirboo North United
Trafalgar Victory V Korumburra City

Mens Reserves:

Drouin Dragons Maroon V P-Island Breakers
Trafalgar Victory V Korumburra City

Under 17 Mixed:

Drouin Maroon Yellow V Inverloch Stars
Drouin Dragons Maroon V P-Island Breakers
Leongatha Knights Blue V Wonthaggi United
Leongatha Knights White V Mirboo Nth United

Under 15 Girls:

Drouin Dragons Maroon V P-Island Breakers
Leongatha Knights V Wonthaggi United

Under 14 Mixed:

Drouin Maroon Yellow V Inverloch Stars
Drouin Dragons Maroon V P-Island Penguins
Leongatha Knights V Wonthaggi United
Lang Lang United V Mirboo North United
Phillip Island Stingrays V Korumburra City

Under 12 Girls:

Drouin Dragons Maroon V P-Island Breakers
Leongatha Knights V Wonthaggi United

Under 12A Mixed:

Drouin Maroon Yellow V Inverloch Stars
Drouin Dragons Maroon V P-Island Breakers
Leongatha Knights Blue V Wonthaggi United
Lang Lang United V Mirboo North United

Under 12B Mixed:

Phillip Island Stingrays V Inverloch Stars
Drouin Dragons Yellow V P-Island Penguins
Leongatha Knights White V Wonthaggi United



Leongatha Knights FC celebrated Jordan Rintoule's 150th senior game for the Knights over the weekend. (Jordan is centre).

Jordan Rintoule makes club history playing 150 senior games

Creating history once again, Jordan Rintoule took to the pitch on Sunday August 10 for her 150th senior game for the Leongatha Knights Women's team. Rintoule is the first player in the club to reach this milestone in the club's 20 year history. Beginning her senior career as a 15 year old, Rintoule has played every season since, rarely missing a game. With the soccer season usually comprising roughly 16 games a season, it has taken Rintoule over 10 years to hit this incredible milestone and in true legend fashion she scored both the opening and closing goal of the game to a roar of applause. The Leongatha Knights would like to congratulate Jordan Rintoule on this immense achievement and look forward to watching her kick goals for the Knights for years to come.



Jordan Rintoule protects possession in Leongatha's attacking third.

Gippsland United U13s show resilience against Chelsea

AFTER a long drive to Chelsea's home ground at Edithvale foggy weather gave way to a beautiful sunny day and perfect football conditions for Gippsland United U13 to play off against Chelsea FC Neymar. Gippsland United kicked off with great energy and structure against Chelsea showing strong communication and intent early on. With Bailey DV in goal the defensive trio of Harry, Edie, and Romeo stood tall absorbing early pressure from Chelsea's pacey forwards. Midfielders Alex and Kingston worked hard to link up play with Mitchell, Almasi, and Jett pushing the ball up front

and in the thirteenth minute Mitchell found the back of the net as a perfect way to acknowledge his birthday. The Gippsland United team celebrated a well-earned lead however Chelsea responded with determination, pressing harder as the half progressed. Despite strong defensive efforts Chelsea equalised with a well-taken goal, exploiting a brief gap on the right side. The rest of the half was a tight contest with both teams pushing for control. The 1-1 scoreline at halftime reflected the balance between the sides. The second half saw Chelsea come out with renewed

aggression. Gippsland's new backline of Harry, Will and Bailey R worked hard under pressure but Chelsea found rhythm and began to take advantage of space in the midfield. Alex and Toby tried hard to move the ball into position for goal, but the Chelsea defenders continued to interfere with the midfielders' charm and flow. A combination of quick counter-attacks and sharp finishing saw Chelsea score three more goals in the second half. Despite the scoreline Gippsland didn't lose their spirit. Ryan, Ollie and Eddie continued to impress spectators with their moves but un-

fortunately they were unable to put the ball in the back of the net. Brock made some key saves to keep the margin from growing. A dangerous trip on Ollie drew a yellow card from the referee and a free kick was awarded just outside the box. A great opportunity but unfortunately the chance was not able to be converted. Tough result for Gippsland United but full of learning moments. The team showed great potential and resilience. Let's keep training hard and come back stronger next weekend. Final Score Gippsland United 1 Chelsea FC Neymar 4



First-gamer for Wonthaggi Power A Grade, Lily Cengia, seizes on the loose ball in the Power attacking zone.



Another Wonthaggi Power A Grade first-gamer, Isabella Tiziani, is all effort in this contest for the ball in the midcourt against Traralgon on Saturday.



Madi Taylor (GA) for Poowong takes a flying catch.



Zara McNair (GD) for Poowong secures the ball.



Joanne Duscher gets a hand in to force a turnover as the Wonthaggi Power B Graders stretch the lead during a strong second quarter.



Gemma Meadley (WD) secures the pass for the Parrots. Photo: The Warragul and Drouin Gazette.



Mikaeli Hilliar (GS) for the Parrots looks for the pass. Photo: The Warragul and Drouin Gazette.



Mikaeli Hilliar (GS) gets set to pass the ball. Photo: The Warragul and Drouin Gazette.

Fun and fundraising success for Power ladies

IT WASN'T just about the fundraising. The 'Balls and Bubbles' ladies day at the Wonthaggi Power Football Netball Club last Saturday was mainly an appreciation event for the women of the Power football club.

As a social occasion, it was a roaring success but it also managed to raise valuable funds towards the \$25,000 commitment the club has made to the overall project cost, for the new netball pavilion, of \$1,536,700, mostly funded by Bass Coast Shire Council but with a significant contribution from the club as well.

"We organised the day to

celebrate the contribution made by the women of the football netball club and I think we've been able to do that really well today," said one of the organisers Carla Poletti.

"But we've also been able to generate some money for the netball rooms as well, and it's a big thank you to those who attended for that."

The event was favoured by some great sponsorship from the businesses of Wonthaggi, Cape Paterson, Inverloch and Phillip Island with major sponsorship by 'Mad As A Platter' and 'Harvey Norman'.



Members of the organising committee for the 'Balls and Bubbles' ladies day at the Wonthaggi Power Football Netball Club last Saturday, Carla Poletti, Jemma Gilmour, Elise de Santis and (absent at netball) Courtney Young, were delighted with the success of the day. mgLadiesComtee2_3325

ELLINBANK		
RESULTS		
A GRADE		
Ellinbank 62 d Buln Buln 29		
Longwarry 53 d Lang Lang 31		
Yarragon 47 d Poowong 44		
Catani 51 d Nyora 42		
Neerim Sth 51 d Nil-Darn 47		
Trafalgar 47 d Bunyip 37		
B GRADE		
Longwarry 43 lt Lang Lang 50		
Trafalgar 25 lt Bunyip 54		
Yarragon 21 lt Poowong 38		
Neerim Sth 46 d Nil-Darn 24		
Catani 57 d Nyora 6		
Ellinbank 55 d Buln Buln 30		
C GRADE		
Yarragon 24 lt Poowong 36		
Longwarry 43 d Lang Lang 25		
Catani 57 d Nyora 13		
Ellinbank 36 d Buln Buln 24		
Neerim Sth 40 d Nil-Darn 28		
Trafalgar 41 d Bunyip 20		
17 & UNDER		
Longwarry 34 d Lang Lang 28		
Yarragon 25 lt Poowong 39		
Catani 40 d Nyora 12		
Ellinbank 28 lt Buln Buln 37		
Trafalgar 47 d Bunyip 24		
Neerim Sth 32 drew Nil-Darn 32		
15 & UNDER		
Catani 66 d Nyora 3		
Longwarry 16 lt Lang Lang 23		
Yarragon 11 lt Poowong 36		
Ellinbank 24 lt Buln Buln 31		
Neerim Sth 22 drew Nil-Darn 22		
Trafalgar 24 drew Bunyip 24		
13 & UNDER		
Yarragon 6 lt Poowong 21		
Neerim Sth 11 lt Nil-Darn 31		
Catani 39 d Nyora 3		
Longwarry 8 lt Lang Lang 36		
Ellinbank 15 lt Buln Buln 44		
Trafalgar 23 d Bunyip 11		

LADDERS					
A GRADE	%	pts	17 & UNDER	%	pts
Neerim South	198.40	68	Longwarry	165.88	68
Nilma Darnum	146.84	60	Nilma Darnum	146.17	54
Trafalgar	122.93	52	Poowong	125.99	48
Ellinbank	148.69	48	Lang Lang	142.02	46
Longwarry	120.46	44	Trafalgar	124.19	44
Lang Lang	85.97	36	Catani	123.21	44
Poowong	88.43	24	Yarragon	114.71	34
Yarragon	86.54	24	Neerim South	94.92	26
Bunyip	81.45	24	Bunyip	72.52	18
Catani	79.38	20	Buln Buln	77.22	16
Buln Buln	63.03	8	Ellinbank	58.89	10
Nyora	53.38	0	Nyora	26.71	0
B GRADE			15 & UNDER		
Ellinbank	175.00	64	Catani	256.39	68
Bunyip	158.56	60	Poowong	212.89	64
Neerim South	166.12	56	Lang Lang	158.01	52
Lang Lang	109.41	48	Neerim South	165.89	50
Nilma Darnum	116.05	44	Bunyip	106.10	36
Catani	117.95	36	Nilma Darnum	104.11	30
Buln Buln	91.82	32	Buln Buln	102.05	30
Poowong	89.24	24	Longwarry	93.95	28
Yarragon	78.08	16	Yarragon	74.67	24
Longwarry	84.49	12	Ellinbank	66.37	16
Trafalgar	79.50	12	Trafalgar	56.82	10
Nyora	30.89	0	Nyora	14.92	0
C GRADE			13 & UNDER		
Ellinbank	185.54	64	Lang Lang	534.35	68
Neerim South	125.87	52	Trafalgar	297.30	64
Trafalgar	139.34	48	Buln Buln	220.44	48
Buln Buln	136.04	48	Bunyip	215.45	48
Longwarry	122.40	44	Nilma Darnum	119.30	44
Nilma Darnum	112.88	38	Longwarry	74.75	30
Catani	113.66	34	Poowong	74.79	28
Yarragon	107.10	32	Yarragon	73.35	20
Poowong	83.91	20	Neerim South	67.82	20
Bunyip	85.97	16	Ellinbank	52.39	20
Lang Lang	71.41	12	Catani	58.57	18
Nyora	13.08	0	Nyora	6.12	0

GIPPSLAND		
RESULTS		
A GRADE		
Wonthaggi 43 lt Traralgon 64		
Bairnsdale 65 d Sale 45		
Maffra 24 lt Warragul 86		
Moe 61 d Morwell 49		
Drouin 49 drew Leongatha 49		
B GRADE		
Wonthaggi 51 d Traralgon 31		
Bairnsdale 46 d Sale 45		
Maffra 39 lt Warragul 69		
Moe 66 d Morwell 42		
Drouin 33 lt Leongatha 55		
C GRADE		
Wonthaggi 44 d Traralgon 26		
Bairnsdale 46 d Sale 19		
Maffra 34 d Warragul 32		
Moe 23 lt Morwell 43		
Drouin 35 lt Leongatha 36		
17 & UNDER		
Wonthaggi 17 lt Traralgon 75		
Bairnsdale 52 d Sale 42		
Maffra 38 drew Warragul 38		
Moe 42 d Morwell 20		
Drouin 36 d Leongatha 29		
15 & UNDER		
Wonthaggi 6 lt Traralgon 80		
Bairnsdale 28 drew Sale 28		
Maffra 24 lt Warragul 65		
Moe 43 d Morwell 9		
Drouin 35 lt Leongatha 39		
13 & UNDER		
Wonthaggi 24 lt Traralgon 43		
Bairnsdale 21 lt Sale 30		
Maffra 49 d Warragul 11		
Moe 34 d Morwell 16		
Drouin 25 lt Leongatha 39		

LADDERS					
A GRADE	%	pts	17 & UNDER	%	pts
Moe	182.92	64	Bairnsdale	199.78	64
Warragul	186.09	60	Traralgon	238.34	60
Morwell	121.21	48	Sale	123.46	52
Drouin	117.43	38	Drouin	91.93	30
Bairnsdale	98.51	36	Leongatha	88.21	28
Leongatha	95.36	26	Maffra	84.50	28
Traralgon	89.25	24	Moe	83.68	26
Wonthaggi	68.58	12	Warragul	72.93	18
Sale	61.69	8	Wonthaggi	62.11	8
Maffra	47.86	4	Morwell	55.28	6
B GRADE			15 & UNDER		
Wonthaggi	168.29	60	Traralgon	257.44	64
Leongatha	166.00	60	Sale	154.47	58
Moe	137.03	52	Warragul	148.36	44
Warragul	120.24	36	Moe	132.35	42
Traralgon	112.54	36	Bairnsdale	116.07	30
Drouin	88.44	28	Leongatha	98.81	28
Morwell	83.01	24	Drouin	95.76	28
Maffra	65.25	16	Maffra	68.10	18
Bairnsdale	68.52	6	Morwell	47.01	8
Sale	60.32	2	Wonthaggi	11.48	0
C GRADE			13 & UNDER		
Morwell	158.45	58	Leongatha	270.26	64
Wonthaggi	153.88	52	Sale	179.94	50
Leongatha	125.48	50	Moe	139.26	46
Drouin	106.28	40	Maffra	139.85	42
Bairnsdale	107.36	32	Traralgon	138.66	36
Moe	95.34	32	Bairnsdale	143.90	34
Traralgon	105.89	28	Morwell	71.73	20
Sale	77.90	12	Drouin	72.50	16
Warragul	66.02	12	Wonthaggi	40.92	8
Maffra	52.77	4	Warragul	16.84	4



Chloe Welsh controls possession for Foster. W19_3225



Brylee Angwin weighs up the passing options before moving the ball forward for Foster. W21_3225



Chloe Welsh steadies before moving the ball into attack. W22_3225



Kaila Hutchinson has her eyes on the ball for Stony Creek against Hill End.



Foster's Ella Rendell searches for an option, and there were plenty on offer for her Tigers. She had a big day, finishing with 37 goals. W20_3225



Marley Wallace showing precision with her passing on a tough day for Mirboo North. W15_3225



Mirboo North's Chloe Hogg, keeping the play moving through the midcourt. W16_3225



Stony Creek and Hill End battle for possession.



Stony Creek Football Netball Club's NetSetGoers and U11s were presented with an amazing opportunity to be involved in the Suncorp Super Netball League grand final. Photo credit: Netball Australia.

Stony Creek's junior netballers on the national stage

STONY Creek Football Netball Club was well represented at the Suncorp Super Netball League grand final recently.

Twenty-five budding netballers from Stony Creek's NetSetGo and U11s program were invited to the grand final, where they had the opportunity to walk onto the court with the players, perform the National Anthem, and present medals to the winners at the end.

It was a fantastic opportunity for the young players to watch on as the Melbourne Vixens took on West Coast Fever at Rod Laver Arena.

"It inspired so many of our juniors to be active and continue to enjoy their netball," Kaila McKnight said.

"The game was exciting with just one goal difference, and they all sang beautifully during the National Anthem."

Around 75 people from the Stony Creek club attended the game, with 50 tickets provided by Netball Australia and an additional 25 tickets purchased by the club.

"We were super grateful that our juniors were given this opportunity," Kaila said.

"We've worked really hard on our junior program and we're looking forward to seeing it continue to grow."

Stony Creek Football Netball Club offers a NetSetGo program and enters two U11 teams in the Leongatha and District Netball Association's competition.

The club is also looking forward to the weekend, when its U13 team will be looking for entry into the finals.



Stony Creek Football Netball Club's NetSetGoers and U11s congratulated the Melbourne Vixens following the Suncorp Super Netball League grand final. Photo credit: Netball Australia.



Medals were presented to the premiership winning Melbourne Vixens by junior netballers from the Stony Creek Football Netball Club. Photo credit: Netball Australia.

MID GIPPSLAND

RESULTS

A GRADE

Fish Crk 41 d MDU 40
Stony Crk 53 d Hill End 29
Thorpdale 24 lt Toora 70
Mirboo Nth 45 lt Foster 72
Yinnar 57 d N-borough 41

B GRADE

Thorpdale 20 lt Toora 68
Fish Crk 52 d MDU 29
Stony Crk 55 d Hill End 33
Yinnar 36 d N-borough 33
Mirboo Nth 44 lt Foster 59

C GRADE

Thorpdale 10 lt Toora 66
Fish Crk 32 d MDU 27
Mirboo Nth 22 lt Foster 38
Stony Crk 30 drew Hill End 30
Yinnar 31 d N-borough 28

D GRADE

Thorpdale 6 lt Toora 68
Stony Crk 29 d Hill End 28
Mirboo Nth 35 d Foster 14
Fish Crk 33 d MDU 31
Yinnar 33 d N-borough 16

17 & UNDER

Yinnar 53 d N-borough 14
Fish Crk 27 lt MDU 58
Mirboo Nth 40 d Foster 11
Stony Crk 32 lt Hill End 43

15 & UNDER

Yinnar 42 d N-borough 24
Fish Crk 14 lt MDU 34
Mirboo Nth 32 d Foster 27
Stony Crk 13 lt Hill End 38

13 & UNDER

Fish Crk 44 d MDU 3
Mirboo Nth 24 d Foster 23
Yinnar 36 d N-borough 19
Stony Crk 30 d Hill End 8

LADDERS

A GRADE

	%	pts
Foster	193.68	68
Fish Creek	158.01	60
Yinnar	133.17	56
Mirboo North	136.10	48
MDU	121.94	48
Toora	105.89	44
Stony Creek	112.62	40
Tarwin	103.70	32
Morwell East	97.93	32
Newborough	91.14	28
Boolarra	64.27	14
Hill End	48.74	14
Thorpdale	34.19	8

B GRADE

	%	pts
Foster	169.37	68
Fish Creek	159.68	60
Yinnar	147.05	56
Newborough	125.61	48
Mirboo North	118.72	48
Toora	137.48	44
Stony Creek	113.63	40
Morwell East	85.06	32
MDU	88.94	28
Hill End	74.46	28
Tarwin	61.57	16
Boolarra	44.63	16
Thorpdale	50.06	8

C GRADE

	%	pts
Yinnar	144.42	60
Foster	128.54	52
Newborough	138.60	48
Boolarra	115.31	48
Fish Creek	113.79	48
Tarwin	126.49	42
Newborough	123.58	42
Morwell East	103.82	32
Stony Creek	100.63	34
Toora	111.96	32
Mirboo North	91.57	32
Hill End	99.18	30
Morwell East	73.71	16
Thorpdale	19.89	8

D GRADE

	%	pts
Mirboo North	193.71	68
Yinnar	200.96	62
Toora	172.97	56
Tarwin	143.86	56
Fish Creek	141.97	46
Newborough	114.29	44
Morwell East	103.82	32
Stony Creek	97.68	32
Hill End	112.53	28
MDU	78.75	24
Foster	60.23	20
Boolarra	70.30	16
Thorpdale	11.88	8

17 & UNDER

	%	pts
Boolarra	258.33	68
MDU	233.97	60
Mirboo North	217.94	58
Yinnar	180.29	58
Toora	162.04	48
Hill End	110.78	44
Fish Creek	90.50	36
Stony Creek	63.38	28
Newborough	40.88	24
Morwell East	40.53	24
Tarwin	39.71	20
Foster	33.82	16
Thorpdale	0.00	0

15 & UNDER

	%	pts
Yinnar	235.10	68
Toora	238.26	64
Hill End	204.40	56
Boolarra	162.92	52
Newborough	105.54	44
Mirboo North	89.67	44
Foster	108.27	40
MDU	99.04	36
Tarwin	55.66	26
Morwell East	37.70	20
Fish Creek	37.50	18
Stony Creek	45.44	16
Thorpdale	0.00	0

13 & UNDER

	%	pts
Yinnar	275.00	60
Newborough	228.02	60
Boolarra	192.38	60
Boolarra	178.51	56
Fish Creek	140.36	48
Mirboo North	128.33	44
Stony Creek	130.90	40
Foster	120.99	40
Hill End	68.50	24
Toora	32.13	20
MDU	21.54	16
Morwell East	18.64	16
Thorpdale	0.00	0



Jess Egan holds her ground under pressure from her Warragul Industrials opponent.



Allison Carter drives the ball into the Panthers' attacking third during the B Grade game.



Ruby McCartney provided a great scoring option for Inverloch-Kongwak in their 51-43 win over Koo Wee Rup. W06_3225



A quick one-two play sees Isabella Santorini combine with Kira Hamilton on the circle to edge closer to the goal ring.



Inverloch's Lara Mullin defended her team's goal well, as they only allowed 43 points. W05_3225



Invy's Jas Williams surveys the court, searching for a passing option. W08_3225



Georgia Martin looking to pass to teammate Jas Williams. W07_3225

KILCUNDA BASS

A GRADE: It was a great hitout against Warragul. The team started strong from the first whistle and pushed all the way to the end. A full team effort allowed us to come away with a big win. Kira and Belle stepped up and were instrumental in the team. Jess Egan and Mel Cullen made their A Grade debut this week too! Award: Emma Felsovary.

B Grade: It was all about team morale and being up and about this week, we had things we wanted to work on and put into place and the girls sure did that. It was a super strong performance through the whole court, with tight one on one defence, strong drives and reoffers all game to come away with a fantastic win Award: Kira Hamilton.

C Grade: The team displayed some great netball and put the pressure on making Warragul fight for their win. The defensive pressure forced turnovers and the goalers showed their strength in the goal circle. The team worked together well and put up a fight to the very end. Awards: Phoebe Steendam and Mel Cullen.

D Grade: It was a tight first quarter with both teams locked at four goals apiece. We then lifted our intensity right across the court, applying strong defensive pressure to force turnovers. This allowed us to capitalise in attack, steadily building a comfortable lead. The team maintained control and the pressure right through to the final whistle. Award: Ro Grayson and Charlotte Adam.

17 & Under: With players out, a stand-in coach and 15 and under fill-ins from our midweek side, putting a team on court was a win in itself, the Dusties unit proved too strong. This group has faced challenges all season, yet every week they show up and that speaks volumes about their resilience, commitment and determination. As their coach for the day, I couldn't have asked for more, they listened, they fought and they gave their all until the final whistle. Award: Maisie Van Der Walt.

15 & Under: We knew this was a must win game for our U15s to secure a place in the final six. It was an even contest for most of the game, we managed to take the lead early and we held that lead until the final siren to take a well deserved five point win. The girls kept their composure under pressure and played their own game for four quarters and never dropped their intensity. One to go girls and then it's finals. Awards: Isabella Stead, Frankie Leary and Lexie Baker.

13 & Under: Wow, what a turnaround from the last time we faced the Dusties! From the moment they stepped out on court, our team took control and never looked back, securing a convincing win. Over the past few weeks, their connection and trust in each other has grown enormously and it's now showing on the scoreboard. Award: Summer Van Steensel.

11 & Under: We have been building to this all year and finally we got our first win for the season! The passages of play this team produced was outstanding, each player stood up and showed what they are really capable of. The whole team was hungry for the win and once they started hitting the scoreboard they just couldn't get enough. Smiles all round! These kids enthusiasm for the game is infectious. Awards: Zeally Effenberg & Matilda Phillips.

WEST GIPPSLAND

RESULTS				LADDERS			
A GRADE		17 & UNDER		A GRADE		17 & UNDER	
Cora Lynn 47 d Tooradin-Dal 35		Cora Lynn 45 d Tooradin-Dal 43		Kor-Bena 139.06	64	Cora Lynn 173.65	68
NNG 53 d Kor-Bena 46		Warragul-I 65 d K-Bass 7		Nar Nar Goon 134.32	60	Garfield 134.13	64
IK 54 d KWR 33		NNG 62 d Kor-Bena 45		Cora Lynn 122.22	56	Tooradin-Dal 123.23	54
Warragul-I 25 lt K-Bass 68		P-Island 64 d Garfield 19		Inverloch-Kong 114.01	56	Warragul Ind 126.03	52
P-Island 64 d Garfield 43		IK 24 lt KWR 33		Dalyston 119.97	52	Inverloch-K 129.68	50
B GRADE		15 & UNDER		B GRADE		15 & UNDER	
Cora Lynn 41 lt Tooradin-Dal 45		Cora Lynn 34 lt Tooradin-Dal 38		Tooradin-Dal 109.34	42	Nar Nar Goon 134.01	44
NNG 78 d Kor-Bena 25		P-Island 33 d Garfield 17		Phillip Island 98.29	34	Kilcunda Bass 100.39	36
Warragul-I 23 lt K-Bass 66		Warragul-I 30 lt K-Bass 35		Kilcunda Bass 93.81	24	Phillip Island 71.68	28
IK 51 d KWR 43		IK 17 lt KWR 28		Garfield 76.45	22	Koo Wee Rup 60.42	16
P-Island 42 d Garfield 38				Koo Wee Rup 71.80	18	Kor-Bena 61.84	12
C GRADE		13 & UNDER		C GRADE		13 & UNDER	
Cora Lynn 27 d Tooradin-Dal 22		Cora Lynn 24 d Tooradin-Dal 21		Tooradin-Dal 175.98	70	Kilcunda Bass 50.25	12
Warragul-I 36 d K-Bass 24		P-Island 21 lt Garfield 34		Nar Nar Goon 161.71	66	D GRADE	
NNG 51 d Kor-Bena 30		IK 18 lt KWR 34		Cora Lynn 134.20	58	Nar Nar Goon 174.10	68
IK 45 d KWR 15		Warragul-I 11 lt K-Bass 32		Dalyston 137.08	56	Cora Lynn 180.92	66
P-Island 28 lt Garfield 34		NNG 20 d Kor-Bena 19		Inverloch-K 96.74	38	Garfield 143.38	56
D GRADE		11 & UNDER		D GRADE		11 & UNDER	
Cora Lynn 24 d Tooradin-Dal 19		P-Island 8 lt Garfield 27		Tooradin-Dal 115.38	36	Nar Nar Goon 314.10	68
Warragul-I 12 lt K-Bass 34		IK 15 lt KWR 17		Koo Wee Rup 96.56	36	Cora Lynn 276.42	68
NNG 47 d Kor-Bena 22		Warragul-I 10 lt K-Bass 29		Phillip Island 94.22	32	Garfield 276.07	64
IK 15 lt KWR 36		NNG 17 d Kor-Bena 15		Garfield 82.53	20	Phillip Island 96.06	48
P-Island 27 lt Garfield 34		Cora Lynn 28 d Tooradin-Dal 11		Kor-Bena 69.30	16	Koo Wee Rup 90.46	42
				Warragul Ind 31.47	8	Nar Nar Goon 72.76	36
						Warragul Ind 71.52	34
						Inverloch-K 60.88	26
						Warragul Ind 57.11	26
						Dalyston 44.57	20
						Kor-Bena 0.00	0
						Kilcunda Bass 26.28	10



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BEN FISHER

St Kilda

Brisbane

Gold Coast Suns

Carlton

Hawthorn

Collingwood

North Melbourne

Geelong

Western Bulldogs

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 7



81 Commercial Street,
Korumburra
5655 1024



123

DANIEL CHETLAND

St Kilda

Fremantle

GWS

Port Adelaide

Hawthorn

Adelaide

North Melbourne

Sydney

Western Bulldogs

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 7



119 Graham Street,
Wonthaggi
5672 1027



135

CARL LINDSAY

St Kilda

Fremantle

Gold Coast Suns

Carlton

Hawthorn

Collingwood

North Melbourne

Geelong

Western Bulldogs

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 7



145 Graham Street,
Wonthaggi
5672 1137



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ALEX GEYER

Essendon

Fremantle

Gold Coast Suns

Carlton

Hawthorn

Adelaide

Richmond

Sydney

Western Bulldogs

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 8



Wonthaggi 5672 5522
Leongatha 5662 2941



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JAE DAVEY

St Kilda

Fremantle

Gold Coast Suns

Carlton

Hawthorn

Adelaide

North Melbourne

Geelong

Western Bulldogs

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 7



62-64 McBride Avenue,
Wonthaggi
7051 0720



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DARRYL MCGANNON

St Kilda

Fremantle

Gold Coast Suns

Carlton

Hawthorn

Adelaide

North Melbourne

Geelong

Western Bulldogs

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 7



1 Roughead Street,
Leongatha
5662 2327



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KRIS BAKER

St Kilda

Fremantle

Gold Coast Suns

Carlton

Hawthorn

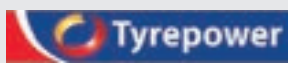
Adelaide

North Melbourne

Geelong

Western Bulldogs

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 6



78-80 Watt Street,
Wonthaggi
5672 5760



121

RYAN SHANE

St Kilda

Fremantle

Gold Coast Suns

Port Adelaide

Hawthorn

Adelaide

North Melbourne

Geelong

Western Bulldogs

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 8



Leongatha Toyota

7-13 Hughes Street,
Leongatha
5662 2302



121

**CRAIG FARRINGTON
DARREN TILE**

Essendon

Fremantle

Gold Coast Suns

Carlton

Hawthorn

Adelaide

Richmond

Geelong

Western Bulldogs

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 3



6/5 Cyclone Street,
Wonthaggi
Darren 0405 603 569
Craig 0415 641 845



133

ADAM WARE

Essendon

Fremantle

Gold Coast Suns

Carlton

Hawthorn

Adelaide

North Melbourne

Geelong

Western Bulldogs

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 8



2/88-98 Watt Street,
Wonthaggi
1800 358 131



138

JUSTIN CAPORALE

St Kilda

Fremantle

Gold Coast Suns

Carlton

Hawthorn

Adelaide

Richmond

Sydney

Western Bulldogs

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 8



41 McCartin Street,
Leongatha
5662 2529



115

LEIGH DONOHUE

St Kilda

Fremantle

Gold Coast Suns

Port Adelaide

Hawthorn

Adelaide

Richmond

Geelong

Western Bulldogs

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 7



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5672 1722

LEADERBOARD
AFTER ROUND 22

Aaron McGregor	140
Phil Hardy	139
Justin Caporale	138
Liam Sawyer	138
Alex Geyer	137
Peter Fort	137
Darryl McGannon	136
Ben Fisher	135
Carl Lindsay	135
Dylan Clark	135
Adam Ware	133
Kris Baker	133
Brad Hodson	130
Warren Stewart	130
Keith & Eddie	128
David England	127
Brett Jacobs	125
Daniel Chetland	123
Craig & Darren	121
Ryan Shane	121
Hayden Poppe	115
Leigh Donohue	115
Jae Davey	114



130

WARREN
STEWART

St Kilda
Brisbane
Gold Coast Suns
Carlton
Hawthorn
Collingwood
North Melbourne
Geelong
Western Bulldogs

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 7



Wonthaggi Toyota
346 Bass Highway,
Wonthaggi
5632 3503



139

PHIL
HARDY

St Kilda
Brisbane
Gold Coast Suns
Carlton
Hawthorn
Adelaide
North Melbourne
Geelong
Western Bulldogs

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 7



Bass Coast LIGHT ENGINES
317 White Road,
Wonthaggi
5672 4017



135

DYLAN
CLARK

St Kilda
Brisbane
Gold Coast Suns
Carlton
Hawthorn
Adelaide
North Melbourne
Geelong
Western Bulldogs

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 7



1 A'Beckett Street
Inverloch
5674 1432

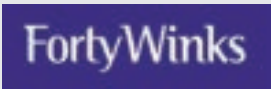


127

DAVID
ENGLAND

St Kilda
Fremantle
Gold Coast Suns
Carlton
Hawthorn
Adelaide
North Melbourne
Geelong
Western Bulldogs

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 7



3/45-61 McKenzie St,
Wonthaggi
5644 2080



137

PETER
FORT

St Kilda
Fremantle
Gold Coast Suns
Carlton
Hawthorn
Adelaide
North Melbourne
Geelong
Western Bulldogs

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 7



47 Station Street,
Korumburra
0417 332 141



128

KEITH
KELLY EDDIE
CHANDLER

St Kilda
Fremantle
GWS
Carlton
Hawthorn
Adelaide
Richmond
Geelong
Western Bulldogs

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 7



54 Graham Street,
Wonthaggi
5672 1311



138

LIAM
SAWYER

St Kilda
Fremantle
Gold Coast Suns
Carlton
Hawthorn
Adelaide
North Melbourne
Geelong
Western Bulldogs

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 7



16 McBride Avenue,
Wonthaggi
5672 1007



140

AARON
McGREGOR

St Kilda
Fremantle
Gold Coast Suns
Carlton
Hawthorn
Adelaide
North Melbourne
Geelong
Western Bulldogs

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 7



24 Inverloch Road,
Wonthaggi
5672 5906



130

BRAD
HODSON

St Kilda
Brisbane
Gold Coast Suns
Port Adelaide
Hawthorn
Adelaide
North Melbourne
Geelong
Western Bulldogs

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 7



15/17 Murray Street,
Wonthaggi
5672 5878



125

BRETT
JACOBS

St Kilda
Brisbane
Gold Coast Suns
Carlton
Hawthorn
Adelaide
North Melbourne
Geelong
Western Bulldogs

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 7



28 Inverloch Road,
Wonthaggi
5672 4770



115

HAYDEN
POPPE

Essendon
Brisbane
GWS
Carlton
Hawthorn
Collingwood
North Melbourne
Sydney
Western Bulldogs

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 5



6/6 Cyclone Street,
Wonthaggi
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MID GIPPSLAND LEAGUE RESULTS

RND 17

MIRBOO NORTH FOOTBALL CLUB

FOSTER FOOTBALL CLUB



18



99

MIRBOO NORTH	FOSTER			
Mirboo Nth	1.1	1.1	2.6	2.6 (18)
Foster	2.5	8.9	9.11	14.15 (99)
GOALS, Mirboo Nth: E Woodall, J Chila 1 each				
BEST: B Peters, J Chila, R Kratzat, H Kerr, H Mahoney, W Jacka				
GOALS, Foster: A Norton, J Flavelle 3, J Best, T Van Dyke, B Flavelle 2, J Rathjen, M Cooke 1 each				
BEST: A Norton, J Thornell, J Rathjen, J Flavelle, B Flavelle, S Chaseling				
RESERVES				
Mirboo Nth	1.2	3.5	4.5	6.9 (45)
Foster	3.3	4.3	8.8	9.8 (62)
GOALS, Mirboo Nth: N Jackson, T Heislars, T McDuffie, T Williams, P Aveling, J Rawlings 1 each				
BEST: J Rawlings, J Hutton, T McDuffie, T Williams, T McAllister, T Basarke				
GOALS, Foster: N Gundrill, B Angwin, A Lacanaria 2, T Daldy, M House, J Davy 1 each				
BEST: A Lacanaria, J Gay, J Davy, C Garlick, W Roffey, B Angwin				
THIRDS				
Mirboo Nth	0.1	2.4	4.5	7.6 (48)
Tarwin	4.2	5.4	7.4	8.6 (54)
GOALS, Mirboo Nth: C Crutchfield 4, G Rutjens, S Berquez, N Jackson 1 each				
BEST: C Crutchfield, Z Jones, L Poljak, N Jackson, C Malady, S Berquez				
GOALS, Tarwin: L Jones 2, H Guymer, J Cameron, K Gow, E Langstaff, J Andronaco, A Francis 1 each				
BEST: I Cameron, A Francis, C Mallia, E Bruning, J Andronaco, H Guymer				

TOORA FOOTBALL CLUB



74



51

THORPDALE	TOORA			
Thorpdale	3.1	6.5	7.8	11.8 (74)
Toora	3.4	3.9	3.10	6.15 (51)
GOALS, Thorpdale: S Pickering, J De Virgilio, H Britten, C Millsom 2, J Monger, B Melbourne, S Falla 1 each				
BEST: J De Virgilio, S Pickering, J Patullo, M Scott, J Patullo, B Melbourne				
GOALS, Toora: L Craig 4, J Gukanovic, J Halsall 1 each				
BEST: J Halsall, S Frawley, J Smart, L Craig, J Pintus, P Grant				
RESERVES				
Thorpdale	0.0	0.1	0.2	1.2 (8)
Toora	3.6	9.9	17.13	21.16 (142)
GOALS, Thorpdale: W Allan 1				
BEST: W Allan, A Raven, T Mackenzie, C Pinkerton, C Westbury, K Dholande				
GOALS, Toora: M Glowrey, R Barlow 4, A Rhodes, T Crawford 3, W Balcombe, J Nicholls 2, J Coulthard, L Dyson, L de Boer 1 each				
BEST: S Vening, R Barlow, A Vening, A Rhodes, M Glowrey, W Balcombe				

THIS WEEKEND'S DRAW

SATURDAY, AUGUST 16

ELLINBANK ROUND 18

Buln Buln v Neerim South
Bunyip v Ellinbank
Nilma Darnum v Trafalgar
Nyora v Longwarry
Lang Lang v Yarragon
Poowong v Catani

GIPPSLAND ROUND 17

Maffra v Drouin
Warragul v Moe
Morwell v Sale
Traralgon v Bairnsdale
Wonthaggi v Leongatha

WEST GIPPSLAND ROUND 19

Tooradin-Dalmore v Nar Nar Goon
Cora Lynn v Phillip Island
Inverloch-Kongwak v Warragul Industrials
Koo Wee Rup v Dalyston
Garfield v Korumbura-Bena
Kilcunda Bass - BYE

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Foster dominates battle of the Tigers



Michael Cooke takes the contested mark, as Foster flex their muscles against a struggling Mirboo North side, leading by 81 points at the final siren. W25_3225



Brandon Watson clunks an uncontested mark, in a rare moment of low pressure for Mirboo North. W27_3225



Archie Woodall sends the ball into Mirboo North's forward 50. W28_3225

By Rover

TOP-OF-THE-TABLE Foster outshone Mirboo North everywhere in its 81-point win in 15-degree sunshine at Tigerland, on Saturday.

Foster's one-sided victory also pushed Mirboo North out of the top six and down to eighth spot on the ladder — after Tarwin and Boolarra gained four points each from their round-17 byes.

If Mirboo North is to play in this year's finals, it must defeat Boolarra at Tigerland this Saturday and hope MDU overcomes Tarwin, in the final home and away round of 2025.

Each of these three teams is currently on 36 points, with seven wins apiece from 15 matches.

After managing just one goal in its 28 June showdown against Foster at the Foster Showgrounds, Mirboo North recorded two majors in the return clash.

The first Mirboo North goal came in the opening term from Ethan Woodall and just before three-quarter time, Jesse Chila, kicked the hometown Tigers' other major.

Mirboo North was without its vice-captain, Riley Oddy, after he was injured in a tackle, a couple of minutes into the contest.

After Foster held a 10-point lead at the first break, the visitors — with the choppy east wind at their backs — blew the game wide open, recording 6.4 to zero in the second quarter, through fast, play-on-at-all-costs, quality football.

By half-time, Foster's overall dominance had turned this battle between Mid Gippsland's two teams of Tigers, into a one-horse race.

Those dominating incessantly for Foster included Angus Norton, Jake Thornell, Jack Rathjen, Jack Flavelle and Billy Flavelle.

Norton finished the afternoon with three goals, whilst Jack and Billy Flavelle booted three and two majors respectively for the visiting Tigers.

Other major goal kickers for Foster — with two apiece — were Troy Van Dyke and vice-captain, Jake Best, who increased his season's tally to 77 majors.

Fortunately for Mirboo North, its defence tightened up in the third quarter, limiting Foster to one goal that reduced its deficit to 47 points at the last change.

However, Foster finished off the match with a strong final term by booting a further five goals, whilst Mirboo North remained scoreless.

Best performers for Mirboo North were Beau Peters, Jesse Chila, Rhys Kratzat, skipper Hudson Kerr, Harry Mahoney and Will Jacka.

Finals bound Thorpdale safely overcome inaccurate Toora

THORPDALE hosted a talented Toora, understanding that anything short of a victory for the Blues could severely compromise their chances of participating in the upcoming finals.

The Magpies in what would be their last game of the year (given they have a bye next week) did what they could to throw the home side's season off track, but ultimately falling short 6-15-51 to Thorpdale 11-8-74.

By Rob Popplestone

Daniel Taylor, Thorpdale coach "Glad to get the win and cement a spot in the top six which has been an aim of ours since the pre season. Tricky conditions with the wind so it wasn't the best spectacle but I was happy enough with how we played. Toora started well and probably let us off the hook early with some inaccurate kicking but after quarter time I

felt we were in control for the rest of the game."

The win by the Blues, was a welcome one, Thorpdale now with a full focus on being ready for the finals, and for Toora 2026 and their reserves finals quest.

Jay Accardi, Toora coach "We came up against a determined Thorpy who were up and about on their home deck. The two 25s went hard at it through the midfield which was great to watch

but unfortunately we fell away and couldn't go with them when it counted. Good luck to Thorpdale and the rest of the teams heading into finals it should be a great end to the season."

After a slow start Toora on field, started to match the club's efforts off field, the Magpies shaking the trees of some good teams. The home and away season has been good, the finals are sure to be great!

Byrnes plays his 300th game

By Rob Popplestone & Tayla Kershew

WITH wins hard to come by for both clubs throughout the season, Hill End and Stony Creek approached the weekend believing the victory was theirs to grab.

The Rovers on their home deck with two wins from their past three matches were slightly favoured against a Lions team that had come close to a win more than a handful of times only to time and time again fall agonisingly short, however the visitors did what they have rarely done this season, flexing their muscle and showing what they indeed are capable of kicking.

Troy Shepardson, Stony Creek coach “Great for our boys today to play four quarters of the footy I know we are capable of playing, and to get back on the winners list.”

The Lions have shown “patches” of what they are capable of throughout the season, but these moments have only kept them in games rather than have them winning them.

One player though, who has shown his dedication throughout the ups and downs is Lucas Byrnes who played his 300th game for the club on Saturday.

Lucas launched his career at the club in 1999 as a grand final netball player in the U13s before jumping over to the footy field to play in the Fourths.

He has been an asset to club, fulfilling the roles of player, coach and team manager over.

Over the years, he has been named Most Consistent across the Fourths, Thirds and the Reserves.

He was awarded Best and Fairest in the Reserves in 2014 and received Most Improved in the Seniors in 2009.

Lucas has coached the Thirds across several seasons, guiding



Stony Creek stalwart Lucas Byrnes getting chaired off after his 300th game. Photos: G.S.Bruning

and mentoring the next generation.

He is a popular figure at club, and the members congratulated him for reaching this incredible milestone.

The Rovers in many ways have also shown at times what they are capable of with a core group of experienced and talented players, surrounded by a young group who will take time to reach the level required to add to their rare wins this year.

Adrian Burns, Hill End coach “Having a young group, a long season, it all means you will have results like we did on the weekend, every week I’ve felt the boys have given their best, and it all helps, win or lose, their development for the season ahead.”

Hill End like their weekend opponents in the Lions have won far less games than they would have liked, but every weekend, the opposition teams also respect that they will have a fight on their hands.



Lucas Byrnes contests the ball in his 300th game for Stony Creek.

Fish Creek take charge over the Demons in second half

A PREVIEW to a potential finals clash in just a few weeks, this was tipped to be somewhat of a chess match in round seventeen. Both teams had already locked away a top six spot so it was considered to be a match where the learnings might just be as important as the result.

The Kangaroos 13-14-92 comfortable forty five point winners over the Demons 7-5-47. The reigning premiers of 2023 and 2024 well placed and on track for their quest for a third premiership

By Rob Popplestone

in a row.

Jarrad Walker, Fish Creek coach “A real grind against MDU, scores even at half time it was on a knife’s edge. MDU were scoring almost every time they went inside 50 so after half time we tightened a few things up, our midfield started to get on top and some better entries into our forward line. Really happy over the last month with our pressure and intensity for four quarters.”

The key for Fish Creek in

many ways is just to be a healthy group as they hit finals, and every club wants the same, but the weekend also exposed that the Demons still need to find something a little extra if they were to meet Fish Creek again.

Rhett Kelly, MDU coach “Another great winter’s day for footy. The first half was solid, with both teams really going hard at it. I thought our pressure was really good. It looked like it would be a tight game, but Fishy took it to another level after the halftime

break, and we just couldn’t match them, which was a bit disappointing. They definitely showed why they’re one of the top teams in the competition. As disappointing as the weekend’s result was, we won’t let just one-half of footy dictate our next game or our finals run, so we learn and move on quickly.”

The excitement, the pressure and the privilege of finals is now just a fortnight away and from there everyone knows that anything can happen.

MID GIPPSLAND LEAGUE RESULTS

RND 17

STONY CREEK FOOTBALL CLUB				
	137		63	
STONY CREEK		HILL END		
Stony Creek	8.4	11.7	17.9	21.11 (137)
Hill End	3.4	3.4	6.6	9.9 (63)
GOALS, Stony Creek: D Atkins 4, T Bernaldo, C Michael, H Bull 3, H Funnell, J Bright 2, T O'Connor Linke, J Battersby, T Stone, N Trotto 1 each				
BEST: C Stone, T Bernaldo, C Loughridge, D Atkins, J Riley, M Rowe				
GOALS, Hill End: B Paul, D Fawcett 2, A Fawcett, H Moore, L Answer, A Forth, N James 1 each				
BEST: E Calway, L Cumiskey, A Fawcett, C Paul, A Daly, N Bain				
RESERVES				
Stony Creek	4.2	13.4	14.6	20.9 (129)
Hill End	0.1	0.1	2.3	2.3 (15)
GOALS, Stony Creek: A Logan 11, L Row, B Park, N Svenson, L Byrnes 2, J Byrnes 1				
BEST: T Davies, L Byrnes, A Logan, R Baudinette, G Batten, C James				
GOALS, Hill End: L Ravenhorst 2				
BEST: L Ravenhorst, J Schiavello, N Bain, B McLachlan, D Russell, H Glibanovic				

FISH CREEK FOOTBALL CLUB				
	92		47	
FISH CREEK		MDU		
Fish Creek	2.3	4.4	9.12	13.14 (92)
MDU	2.1	4.4	4.4	7.5 (47)
GOALS, Fish Creek: D Berryman 5, B Mitchell 3, J Lamers, J Shaw, L Gale, B Shaw, T Vuillermin 1 each				
BEST: J Lamers, D Berryman, B Shaw, M McGannon, S McGannon, R Lewis				
GOALS, MDU: A Battersby, W Stewart, S Wilson, D Thorson, N Nagel, B Perry, H Fennell 1 each				
BEST: J Lacy, D Thorson, J Schelling, S Forrester, A Battersby, J Hoy				
RESERVES				
Fish Creek	1.0	1.1	3.1	6.3 (39)
MDU	2.4	6.4	11.6	15.7 (97)
GOALS, Fish Creek: O Bright 2, J Standfield, R Staley 1, M Pocklington 1 each				
BEST: J Anderson, O Straw, T Sorrell, J Standfield, J Harry, L Edgelow				
GOALS, MDU: L Wright 5, T Harris, K Helms, T Harris 2, J Brydon, L Harris, B Cantwell, B Martin 1 each				
BEST: L Wright, B Cantwell, K Helms, L Harris, M Smith, T Harris				

THIRDS				
Fish Creek	2.0	4.1	4.2	4.3 (27)
MDU	2.6	5.8	10.15	14.17 (101)
GOALS, Fish Creek: H Brewer, L Moon 2 each				
BEST: B Boyd, O Bright, W Edgelow, B Thomson, M Thomson, S Rodda				
GOALS, MDU: A McInnes 5, A Casey, L Duvoisin, B Taylor 2, B Sellings, E Kratz, A Bruce 1 each				
BEST: T Hibberson, L Duvoisin, A Casey, B Taylor, B Smith, A McInnes				

IN OTHER GAMES...				
SENIORS				
Yinnar	19.10.124	d	Newborough	4.4.28
RESERVES				
Yinnar	9.20.134	d	Newborough	0.3.3
THIRDS				
Newborough	16.16.112	d	Yinnar	1.2.8

THIS WEEKEND'S DRAW

SATURDAY, AUGUST 16

MID GIPPSLAND		ROUND 18
Foster v Fish Creek		
MDU v Tarwin		
Mirboo North v Boolarra		
Morwell East v Stony Creek		
Newborough v Hill End		
Thorpdale v Yinnar		
Toora - BYE		

Local football

South Gippsland and Bass Coast

Sentinel-Times



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MID GIPPSLAND LEAGUE LADDERS					ROUND 17				
SENIORS					RESERVES				
Foster	14	1	248.83	64	Yinnar	14	1	457.10	64
Fish Creek	14	1	206.80	64	Morwell East	12	3	340.97	56
Yinnar	11	4	166.18	52	MDU	12	3	329.82	56
MDU	9	6	122.37	44	Tarwin	11	4	221.93	52
Thorpdale	9	6	103.53	44	Stony Creek	11	4	169.61	52
Tarwin	7	8	94.96	36	Toora	11	5	248.85	48
Boolarra	7	8	90.81	36	Fish Creek	9	6	101.22	44
Mirboo Nth	7	8	75.58	36	Newborough	4	11	51.11	24
Newborough	6	9	66.06	32	Hill End	4	11	49.92	24
Toora	6	10	82.90	28	Foster	3	11	40.06	22
Stony Creek	4	11	89.87	24	Mirboo Nth	3	12	51.67	20
Hill End	2	13	56.97	16	Thorpdale	3	12	21.03	20
Morwell East	2	13	53.01	16	Boolarra	0	14	19.01	10
LEADING GOAL KICKERS					LEADING GOAL KICKERS				
Jake Best (Foster)				77	Jarryd Garlick (Yinnar)				63
Nick Nagel (MDU)				64	Adam Bright (Fish Creek)				45
Kane Grinstead-Jones (Yinnar)				57	James Maurilli-Pullin (Toora)				43
THIRDS					LEADING GOAL KICKERS				
MDU	11	2	321.32	60	Angus McInnes (MDU)				66
Newborough	11	2	198.96	60	Oscar Hanson (Newborough)				52
Hill End	9	4	128.72	52	Darcy Paul (Hill End)				40
Yinnar	7	6	105.12	44					
Mirboo Nth	4	9	75.30	32					
Tarwin	4	9	73.97	32					
Fish Creek	0	14	23.95	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					

Start the conversation that might stop suicide

HOW good are country football-netball clubs!

Not only do they provide a fun, fitness and a social outlet for the youth of our towns and districts, and engagement for the parents, friends and supporters, but they're increasingly taking responsibility for social change in our communities as well.

Last Thursday night, netball and footy training, the whole Leongatha Football Netball Club, from 16s through to seniors, stayed around for dinner and a free mental health and suicide prevention workshop.

And it's worth noting there was plenty of support from neighbouring footy clubs including nearest rivals Wonthaggi Power who liked the post on Facebook promoting the event.

The guest speaker was Sean Philip, the founder of The Shaka Project which was created in January 2019 with one goal in mind - ignite the conversation. And that's certainly what Sean did.

By his own admission, parts of the presentation were tough to hear, like the fact that there are nine suicides every day across Australia, 63-a-week of which 44 are men and alarmingly we're losing more 18, 16 and even 14-year-olds, according to Sean.

"My story starts at 12 years of age. Dad sat me and my brother down and told us he was sick. We had just lost our grandmother to cancer, and I thought he was going to tell us that he had cancer as well. I was worried," said Sean.

"But he told us he had depression. He was on medication and seeing a special doctor, but he told us it wasn't going to take him, so I just got on with my life. The only thing I heard from that conversation at the time was that he wasn't going to die from it.

"But as time went on, it destroyed my relationship with my father. Mum and dad divorced, and he got progressively worse. He didn't come to my games, I didn't see that spark in his eyes anymore and by 15, I hated depression, it had destroyed our family.

"At age 16, it took over my life too. I started to see these same things happening to me.

"I realised it was happening to me but that was 18 years ago at a time when there was no one talking about mental health. I realised my dad had given me and my brother the greatest gift. I realised I could talk about it and go and get some help. I realised at last how important that initial conversation was."

"I realised how important it is to talk about it because it can quite literally save a life."

That experience and his own battles with depression led to Sean reaching out to his friends, setting up their own personal self-help group and ultimately starting The Shaka Project to spread the word.

The key takeaway from the night was check on your mates and be prepared to start the conversation if you think something's not right.

The night was free, but the Shaka Project relies on donations and the sale of conversation-starting merchandise to spread the word at more sporting clubs, schools and community organisations. Go to <https://theshakaproject.com/>

For support with depression, several agencies in Australia offer confidential and professional assistance. Lifeline (13 11 14) provides 24/7 crisis support, while Beyond Blue (1300 22 4636) focuses on depression, anxiety, and related disorders.

Finals hopes dashed for error-riddled Power

THE crucial game between Traralgon and Wonthaggi started just as the home side would have wanted it to last Saturday.

The contest was fierce at the first bounce with Jye Gilmour, Ollie Dawson and Jai Williams coming in quickly to help their onballers; Jasper Shone, Ryan Sparkes, Josh Bates and Anthony Anastasio, but it was ultimately Traralgon who got the first clearance.

Matthew North to Connor Ambler was to become a well-worked combination throughout the day but on this occasion, it was key defender Shannon Bray who left his direct opponent Dylan Loprese in his wake to return fire, passing to Noah Anderson and on to Bates who hit up the leading Cooper McInnes in exactly the sort of play Wonthaggi fans hoped to see.

McInnes sprayed his shot wide from 50 metres, but the attack was to lead to the first goal of the day, Wonthaggi kicking to the town end favoured by a two-goal breeze.

The umpires got it right when they awarded a free kick to Shone, after Luis D'Angelo dropped the ball in the tackle, but they missed an incorrect disposal free against North directly in front and failed to pay a mark to Bates, again at close range, after a clever kick from Gilmour.

Mabilia to Tiziani was the Power's first score for a point.

Jai Williams marked the kick-in by Hourigan, dropped it into the hot spot, where McInnes made a good contest for the ball, and a soft bounce favoured Ollie Dawson who finished it off with a clever snap for goal.

It was just what the Power needed after peppering the scoring zone in the opening minutes.

Blake Cornellis was a late inclusion for James Lewis, and did well with two goals. Jack Blair and Jakeb Thomas were still missing with season-ending injuries and Kyle Reid was unavailable, but on the plus side, Port Melbourne recruit Anastasio was in for his third game for the Power and really complementing the team's strengths with pace outside and effort at the stoppages.

Wonthaggi had the first three inside 50s and deserved the first goal, with Traralgon yet to get the ball into their scoring zone in the opening minutes. A great contest looked in prospect, especially given the same start in their corresponding Round 7 contest, with Wonthaggi desperately needing to beat the in-form Traralgon to retain their spot in the five.

The effort by Anastasio was good after the next centre bounce, and the attack on the ball by Jarvis Harvey and Hunter Tiziani, coming off half back and getting the ball across to Jarryd Blair in his 100th senior game for Wonthaggi, was also a promising sign. Anderson to Tiziani for the next shot on goal was reward for effort but again only a point resulted.

At this stage, Wonthaggi was showing the way and Traralgon's players had barely got their hands on the ball.

But all that was about to change, the run of play, you would have to say, ruined



A desperate Ryan Sparkes of Wonthaggi stops the progress of his tagger Luis D'Angelo of Traralgon during an absorbing battle in the midfield.



Wonthaggi Power coach Jarryd Blair takes a shot at goal during his 100th senior game for Wonthaggi on Saturday.

by the trigger finger of an over-zealous umpire.

To give them their due, Traralgon worked it well out of defence through Membrey, Hourigan, Neocleous, Waack, North and finally Willaton who marked the ball but coming down, collided with Jarvis Harvey in an innocuous incident which resulted in a 50-metre penalty that was to change the course of the match.

It was a courageous effort by Willaton, to go for the mark, but he was certainly putting himself in harm's way, as you do, and Harvey was committed as well. It wasn't a 50-metre incident.

From 40 metres out, he missed the shot, but Scholtes marked the kick in, found Jackson McMahon, then Dan McKenna for the first Maroons' goal, and they were on their way.

Not to be deterred, Wonthaggi went into attack again through Shone out of the ruck, Ollie Dawson and the coach Jarryd Blair combining, and with good forward pressure they kept it in their scoring zone, needing to make an impact with the wind advantage.

The Power weren't picking up the dangerous Waack, coming into the stoppages off his wing, but it was the Power which manufactured the next scoring effort, Kaj Patterson into the path of Anastasio who soccered through for a point when a goal would have been more welcome.

But the attack on the ball and forward pressure was

commendable at this stage and forced a kick-out error from Traralgon, with Aiden Lindsay taking a tough shot from the boundary for a point.

Isaac Chugg and Jaxon Williams returned fire, setting up the wall across the centre line as Traralgon tried to clear the ball but a push in the back and 50-metre penalty to Tate Marsh allowed them to get the ball out of the danger zone. A Wonthaggi player had apparently strayed into the exclusion zone, but with the play on the boundary line, there wasn't anywhere else to go.

Chugg was in the action again down back, but it was Traralgon's Dunbar who sharked the ball and found the in-form McMahon, who kicked 10 against Drouin the week before, and he put the visitors in front for the first time in the match.

D'Angelo and Anastasio both had an arm across each other at the next centre bounce, but a tug of the jumper by the Wonthaggi player was seen by the umpires and Traralgon got the free, then a 50-metre penalty when Kaj Patterson followed an opponent into the protected zone. It was there but the harsh penalty resulted in a goal by Tristan Waack running free into the Traralgon 50.

Thereafter, Traralgon started to take control, with Hourigan locking down on his opponent McInnes, providing plenty of drive off half back and the talented Traralgon side more than capable of capitalising on

Power turnovers or errors.

In fact, they held Wonthaggi goalless from there through to half time, leading 9.6 to 1.7 at that stage, and realistically having the game won at the long break.

Wonthaggi narrowly won the second half, and especially at the start of the third quarter and in the last quarter, they played some pretty good footy, but they weren't helped by poor kicking for goal.

Here again though, there were some mystifying umpiring decisions most notably early in the second half when Jasper Shone copped a knock to the head after flying for a mark, before Anastasio took the advantage and kicked a thrilling goal. But the umpires inexplicably called it back.

Asked afterwards if he thought the umpiring ruined a good game, Wonthaggi coach Jarryd Blair said he couldn't say much, but acknowledged it was "disappointing".

"We generated a lot of scoring opportunities, but we didn't help ourselves with poor kicking for goal and too many errors. A good side like Traralgon is going to make you pay," he said afterwards.

With Morwell pulling off an upset win over Moe and having the easier run to the finals through Sale and Bairnsdale, they look well placed to hold on to fifth spot now especially with Wonthaggi needing to beat Leongatha and Moe in consecutive weeks just to stay in the hunt.



Leongatha stalwart, Benny Willis, takes the field at Morwell on Saturday, through a guard of honour and a celebratory banner to rapt applause, for his 200th senior game. Photos: Skewesme Phototgraphy

Ben Willis turns star forward for 200th celebration

BEN Willis made his 200th Senior game for Leongatha one to remember, booting five last quarter goals to surpass opponent Drouin's entire score, with four of those majors resulting from marks.

That helped the Parrots to a 100-point win despite stern opposition from the Hawks for much of the first quarter.

Drouin booted the game's opening major and ensured Leongatha struggled to find time and space early, but as the first term wore on, the Parrots started hitting marking targets, particularly forward Patrick Ireland.

The swag of last quarter goals for popular ruckman Willis was just reward for a player who always gives his all, and showed that while most renowned for his commitment to the team and the contest, he possesses a good measure of skill.

"He's been telling me for years that he's a power forward," Leongatha coach Trent McMicking said, having given him the chance to prove it in Saturday's final quarter and instructing the

By Andrew Palocz

other Parrots to sit the ball on Willis' head.

"Benny did the rest and took four contested marks and got a downfield free kick, and kicked beautifully like he always does," McMicking said.

While Leongatha became increasingly dangerous up forward from late in the first term, despite many committed efforts from the Drouin defence, the Parrots also impressed in their backline, the return of Tim Sauvarin particularly welcome.

His polished performance saw him named Leongatha's second-best player, behind only Aaron Heppell.

Although time away meant Sauvarin hadn't played since Round 7, he returned looking as fit and sharp as ever, showing his usual composure in clearing defence and finding targets.

Zavier Lamers and Ty Hall were others who had plenty of the footy and used it effectively for Leongatha.

Willis also featured in the

winning side's best, giving his all in the ruck against Denver Lund before putting the exclamation mark on his milestone match as a key forward in the final term.

Having played in the Reserves for the opening three rounds of the season, Willis has been a terrific performer at Senior level since his Round 4 return, complementing his wholehearted ruck work by contributing strongly around the ground.

Coach McMicking said Willis' milestone match was a special day for the club, crediting him with being a big part of the Parrots' success for a number of years, and noting that his off field contributions and willingness to help the juniors explain why he is so treasured.

Ireland matched Willis' five goal output for the game, Heppell booting three majors and Lamers and Hall contributing a couple each.

Kye Quirk and Zayne Atkins performed strongly for the outclassed Hawks, being named their side's best, with Aden Quirk unlucky not to

feature on the best players list, having also had plenty of the Sherrin and used it well.

In addition to creating opportunities for teammates, Atkins was one of Drouin's four individual goalkickers for the match, no Hawks managing more than a single major.

While the battle between first and last finished in an unsurprisingly lopsided margin, the final term exploits of Willis will long be remembered.

With Moe stumbling to a narrow loss against Morwell, the Parrots appear assured of finishing on top of the ladder, two wins and a healthy dose of percentage ahead of the Lions, with just two home and away rounds left.

Leongatha visits local rival Wonthaggi in Round 17, Power desperate to win after falling out of the finals places.

However, victory in the final two rounds may not be enough for Wonthaggi, with fifth-placed Morwell a strong chance to see off Sale and Bairnsdale to wrap up its home and away campaign and march into finals.

GIPPSLAND LEAGUE RESULTS

RND 16

LEONGATHA FOOTBALL CLUB

	28		128
DROUIN		LEONGATHA	
Drouin	1.0	3.0	3.3
Leongatha	3.3	9.5	12.7
GOALS, Drouin: Z Atkins, E Croucher, D Lund, T Unferdorben 1 each			
BEST: K Quirk, Z Atkins, R Wierzbicki, P Saddington, C Kleeven, Z Mcmillan			
GOALS, Leongatha: P Ireland, B Willis 5, A Heppell 3, T Hall, Z Lamers 2, B Fort, J Hume, J Pellicano 1 each			
BEST: A Heppell, T Sauvarin, Z Lamers, T Hall, B Willis, P Ireland			
RESERVES			
Drouin	0.0	0.1	0.1
Leongatha	8.3	14.6	19.13
GOALS, Drouin: W Bethune, L Lenders 1 each			
BEST: W Bethune, F Bethune, L Hawke, B Gregg, C Piner, T Buckingham			
GOALS, Leongatha: F Materia 6, B Davidson, C Watson 4, L Marshman 2, J Clark, T Gannon, D Kratzat, C Rickard 1 each			
BEST: F Materia, B Davidson, L Marshman, T Richards, C Watson, I Fox			
THIRDS			
Drouin	1.0	2.2	5.3
Leongatha	3.1	4.2	6.3
GOALS, Drouin: R Baker 6, J Huston 1			
BEST: J Huston, J Welford, J Etchell, R Baker, D Britt, L McDonald			
GOALS, Leongatha: E Berryman 3, C Bickerton, N Bradley 2, H Bowler, F Donohue, C Richards, A Williams 1 each			
BEST: A Williams, A Logan, S Bradley, T McKenzie, F Donohue, C Richards			
FOURTHS			
Drouin	2.0	2.3	3.4
Leongatha	5.3	7.6	9.7
GOALS, Drouin: T Williams, C Croucher, B Hanneyssee, J Ferguson, B Pitt, E Hair			
BEST, Leongatha: L Chila, N Bradley, N Cameron, F Livingstone, L Read			

WONTHAGGI FOOTBALL CLUB

	47		99
WONTHAGGI		TRARALGON	
Wonthaggi	1.5	1.7	4.10
Traralgon	4.2	9.6	12.6
GOALS, Wonthaggi: B Cornelia, C McInnes 2, O Dawson, H Tiziani 1 each			
BEST: J Bates, J Gilmour, J Williams, A Anastasio, J Schulz, S Bray			
GOALS, Traralgon: J McMahon 3, H Dunbar, M Northe, T Waack 2, D Hallyburton, D McKenna, H Neocleous, L Willaton 1 each			
BEST: T Hourigan, H Neocleous, T Waack, H Dunbar, L Willaton, J Scholtes			
RESERVES			
Wonthaggi	1.2	1.2	2.3
Traralgon	2.1	8.4	11.5
GOALS, Wonthaggi: R Cornell, J Williamson 1 each			
BEST: A McNeel, R Cornell, C Dawson, B Ransom, L Legione, S O'Halloran			
GOALS, Traralgon: D Hough 4, H Little 3, A Lovison 2, O Haberl, Jarn Macumber, M Pearce, P Strong, F Watts, J Williams 1 each			
BEST, Traralgon: L Greenhill, H Henry, H Pirie, B Hagley, T Davidson, B Roscoe			
THIRDS			
Wonthaggi	0.0	3.3	4.5
Traralgon	2.4	4.6	8.11
BEST, Wonthaggi: C Macmillan, J Burns, J Brouwers, S McBean, N Patch, L Lidstone			
BEST, Traralgon: C Hole, K Thorley, H Conbeer, K Hart-Theissling, L Pass, W Walker			
FOURTHS			
Wonthaggi	1.5	1.7	4.10
Traralgon	4.2	9.6	12.6
BEST, Wonthaggi: N Pugh, M Plenkovich, A Wintle, W Simmons, E Larsen, A Jobe			
BEST, Traralgon: C Hole, K Thorley, H Conbeer, K Hart-Theissling, L Pass, W Walker			

GIPPSLAND LEAGUE LADDERS														ROUND 16					
SENIORS					RESERVES					THIRDS					FOURTHS				
	W	L	%	pts		W	L	%	pts		W	L	%	pts		W	L	%	pts
Leongatha	14	2	190.32	56	Traralgon	15	1	446.34	60	Leongatha	13	3	138.49	52	Traralgon	16	0	943.06	64
Moe	12	4	168.84	48	Leongatha	14	2	352.28	56	Maffra	12	3	259.18	50	Maffra	13	3	183.21	52
Traralgon	11	5	160.12	44	Maffra	12	4	222.40	48	Moe	11	5	171.33	44	Warragul	12	4	154.96	48
Warragul	10	6	112.95	40	Moe	12	4	196.91	48	Warragul	10	5	161.67	42	Moe	11	5	151.37	44
Morwell	9	7	117.32	36	Wonthaggi	8	8	105.57	32	Bairnsdale	10	5	115.86	42	Bairnsdale	8	8	84.10	32
Wonthaggi	9	7	102.52	36	Sale	7	9	90.94	28	Traralgon	9	6	153.83	38	Leongatha	7	9	71.75	28
Bairnsdale	5	11	83.32	20	Warragul	5	11	40.81	20	Drouin	6	10	102.42	24	Wonthaggi	4	11	42.30	18
Maffra	5	11	72.05	20	Morwell	4	12	73.40	16	Sale	4	12	44.39	16	Morwell	4	12	42.33	16
Sale	4	12	73.50	16	Bairnsdale	3	13	62.53	12	Wonthaggi	3	13	58.29	12	Sale	3	13	46.17	12
Drouin	1	15	39.33	4	Drouin	0	16	8.80	0	Morwell	0	16	24.37	0	Drouin	1	14	48.57	6
LEADING GOAL KICKERS					LEADING GOAL KICKERS					LEADING GOAL KICKERS					LEADING GOAL KICKERS				
Ben Crocker (Moe)				84	Damien Hough (Traralgon)				32	Rylie Baker (Drouin)				68	Brody Stevenson (Traralgon)				72
Patrick Ireland (Leongatha)				48	Connor Watson (Leongatha)				31	Cameron Thompson (Warragul)				36	Fraser Aubrey (Warragul)				62
Jackson McMahon (Traralgon)				41	Brendan Holt (Moe)				31	Archer Stobie (Maffra)				32	Bill De Araugo (Warragul)				56

ELLINBANK & DISTRICT LEAGUE RESULTS

RND 17

POOWONG FOOTBALL CLUB



YARRAGON	2.2	4.3	8.7	12.7 (79)
Poowong	2.1	5.6	5.7	6.10 (46)

GOALS Yarragon: S clebney, B Preuss 2, D Celebey, B Coghill, R Fairlie, Z Keeble, N Mazza, B Waseson 1 each
BEST: No players selected.
GOALS Poowong: J Norton 2, Z Gray, A Henshall, H Hessels, A Orsini 1 each
BEST: M Williams, D O'Neill, J Bisognin, C Ives, T Sherar, A Henshall

RESERVES
Yarragon 6.3 10.5 13.6 15.11 (101)
Poowong 1.1 1.2 2.2 2.2 (14)
GOALS Yarragon: No goal scorers listed,
BEST: No best players selected.
GOALS Poowong: T Smethurst, B Townsend 1 each
BEST: B Townsend, T Smethurst, M Gowland, J Cawcutt, D Gilliatte, R Goddard

THIRDS
Yarragon 1.3 1.4 3.4 3.5 (23)
Poowong 3.2 4.5 7.8 10.11 (71)
GOALS Yarragon: M Armstrong, W Kemp, R McDonald-Flegg 1 each
BEST: R McDonald-Flegg, W Kemp, B Moore, C O'Sullivan, D O'Sullivan, D Spencer
GOALS Poowong: C Deal 3, G Monson, K Zealley 2, A Damon, W Dixon, L Nieuwerth 1 each
BEST: A Damon, L Wilson, H Hessels, J Laing, C Deal, K Mandemaker

FOURTHS
Yarragon 2.2 3.3 4.6 7.6 (48)
Poowong 1.1 2.1 6.1 9.3 (57)
GOALS Yarragon: B John 4, C Munro 2, R Axford 1
BEST: B Johns, B Boothman, A Frost, T Bastin, C Smith, C Isaacs
GOALS Poowong: C Deal 3, K Zealley 2, J Mackin, L Nieuwerth, D Waide 1 each
BEST: C Deal, K Gilliatte, B Warren, D Watson, J Parmeter, T Dowel

NYORA FOOTBALL CLUB



CATANI	4.4	5.7	14.10	20.17 (137)
Nyora	2.4	4.6	5.6	6.6 (42)

GOALS Catani: A Knight, J Suarez 5, L Hetherington 4, J Stewart 2, J Atkins, L Seppings, A Splatt, J White 1 each
BEST: T Adams, A Knight, L Hetherington, A Gorozidis, R Smith, J Suarez
GOALS Nyora: J O'Brien 2, T Dalgleish, L Lee, C McNiff, T White 1 each
BEST: J Anderson, L Kennedy, D Heylen, L Lee, F Kennedy, T Hotchkin

RESERVES
Catani 4.6 7.9 13.12 16.13 (109)
Nyora 1.2 1.4 1.5 5.5 (35)
GOALS Catani: Z Downes 4, W Kouris 3, M Ralph 2, C Allport, D Hobson, D Kelly, C Kibblewhite, R Miller, N rodna, M Smith 1 each
BEST: Z Downes, R Miller, G Giacco, J Masset, M Ralph, K Anand
GOALS Nyora: T Campbell 2, L Brock, R Simpson, J Waixel 1 each
BEST: A Dike, D Norton, T Campbell, R Simpson, L Brock, L Forscutt

IN OTHER GAMES

SENIORS
Longwarry 11.11.77 d Lang Lang 7.12.54
Neerim Sth 30.29.209 d Nilma Darn 2.5.17
Buln Buln 10.12.72 d Ellinbank 7.6.48
Trafalgar 13.13.91 d Bunyip 1.1.7

RESERVES
Ellinbank 10.8.68 d Buln Buln 1.6.12
Trafalgar 13.11.89 d Bunyip 1.3.9
Neerim Sth 30.14.194 d Nilma Darn 0.2.2
Lang Lang 6.8.44 d Longwarry 6.5.41

THIRDS
Trafalgar 25.17.167 d Bunyip 1.1.7
Longwarry 9.6.60 d Lang Lang 6.6.42
Nilma Darn 8.19.67 d Neerim Sth 3.9.27
Ellinbank 12.10.82 d Buln Buln 3.1.19

FOURTHS
Longwarry 7.14.56 d Lang Lang 4.8.32
Neerim Sth 7.16.58 d Nilma Darn 6.7.43
Trafalgar 7.7.49 d Bunyip 5.4.34
Ellinbank 12.7.79 d Buln Buln 3.2.20

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Competitive showing from Poowong

By Geoff Whyatt

POOWONG travelled to Yarragon on Saturday playing in all grades football and netball. The ground was good and the weather was fine with a breeze to the southern end. Yarragon doing a good job hosting football considering the construction in progress.

The second last home and away game for the season 2025 with the last game at home against Catani with the U/18s playing Longwarry, which will be my final game doing write ups, enjoyed doing it but time has come to give someone else a go.

Poowong were forced to make three changes with Connor Cuningham unavailable, Fiachra Staunton returning to Ireland and Jett Blackwood injured replaced by three U/18s Hayden Hessells, Bryce Broadmore and Marly Cook for his first Senior game.

Poowong kicked to the Northern end and were first on the board with a goal to Joel Norton, Yarragon replied before young Anthony Orsini kicked Poowong's second with a good running goal.

Yarragon added one more goal with the breeze to lead at quarter time.

The second quarter opened with a goal to Yarragon before Alex Henshall kicked a long goal for Poowong's third. Yarragon added their fourth goal running into an open goal, Poowongs Hayden Hessells and Zac Gray



Tom Burgess boots it down the field for Poowong. Photo: Jeff Tull

goaled to give Poowong a nine point lead at half-time.

The first half both sides moved the ball well and at half time it was anyone's game, good to see the improvement in the young players for Poowong from the start of the season in disposal and marking very promising for next season.

The third quarter started with both sides moving the ball around but unfortunately Poowong lost Zac Gray with a shoulder injury and this seemed to unsettle Poowong's game plan. Yarragon took

advantage adding four goals for the quarter to Poowongs one point to go into the last quarter with an eighteen point lead.

Poowong came out determined having a lot of opportunities, but they struggled to take advantage of their efforts up forward adding three points. Yarragon added four goals which ensured a win before Joel Norton kicked his second goal.

Best players: Micah Williams continued his good form, David O'Neill has had a very sol-

id season up from the U18s last season, Joseph Bisognin and Connor Ives have been Poowong's most consistent players, Thomas Sherar has played well since making his Senior debut, Alex Henshall has been a good contributor all season.

Poowong Juniors U/16s and Under 18s should make the finals after good wins U/16s 9.3.57 to Yarragon 7.6.48, The Under 18s 10.11.71 to Yarragon 3.5.23. Congratulations to coaches Zac Gray and Alex Henshall with the U/18s and Mitch van't Hof with the Under 16s great effort and commitment for such young players. Poowong juniors are second in the most disciplined club award this is a credit to the coaches and players.

The reserves battled it out going down 15.11.101 to Poowong's 2.2.14. They had a better season and gave a lot of players the opportunity to play football. Netball had wins in all grades except A grade going down by three goals, the Under 15s and Under 17s should play finals.

Remember home this week against Catani followed by the vote count 6.30 in the rooms, note the senior wind up is September 20 in the Poowong Hall. Thanks to all the coaches, trainers and volunteers and canteen staff and supporters for their efforts and support, special thanks to Digrandis Qualty Cut Butchers for the meat tray raffle at home games.

Catani outrun Nyora

NYORA put up a great fight early, but Catani's fitness won out on the day.

It was a beautiful day at the Catani Recreation Reserve and a great crowd turned out as the juniors took to the field before the Seniors.

Nyora opened its match with a solid first half.

Despite a flat first five minutes, the Saints were winning through the middle, led by Lucas Lee and Jordan Anderson.

The work through the middle eased the pressure on the defenders, but Nyora wasn't able to capitalise on its opportunities inside 50.

The intensity continued on through the second quarter and Nyora managed to get within seven points of Catani heading into halftime.

Catani changed tactics coming into the third quarter, and sent someone in to defend Lee, which tagged him out of

the game.

The midfield pressure began to wane and Catani went on a nine-goal rampage.

Fitness continued to be an issue through the fourth quarter and Catani managed to come away with a 95-point win.

Nyora is still battling on the field, with 10 players out with injuries.

The Saints' best players on the day were Anderson, Lewis Kennedy, Dylan Heylen, Lee, Fletcher Kennedy and Tyler Hotchkin.

Nyora has one game left to play in the 2025 season.

It will be ending the season with a tough challenge, coming up against second-placed Longwarry.

Nyora intends to give it their all in the final game, but will be celebrating with its reverse draw that night regardless of the result.



Dylan Heylen was stong in defence all game.

ELLINBANK & DISTRICT LEAGUE LADDERS

ROUND 17

SENIORS	W	L	%	pts
Neerim South	17	0	383.57	68
Longwarry	15	2	239.62	60
Trafalgar	13	4	274.92	52
Buln Buln	13	4	174.87	52
Ellinbank	8	9	136.99	32
Lang Lang	8	9	118.48	32
Yarragon	8	9	86.32	32
Catani	6	11	78.20	24
Nilma Darnum	6	11	49.56	24
Nyora	4	13	38.32	16
Bunyip	2	15	43.43	8
Poowong	2	15	32.17	8

LEADING GOAL KICKERS	
Jason Wells (Longwarry)	129
Mason McGarrit (Neerim South)	106
Blake Slater (Trafalgar)	61

RESERVES	W	L	%	pts
Lang Lang	15	2	571.56	60
Longwarry	15	2	520.86	60
Trafalgar	15	2	333.11	60
Neerim South	12	5	382.04	48
Ellinbank	12	5	251.15	48
Bunyip	7	9	86.27	30
Buln Buln	7	9	78.53	30
Yarragon	7	10	80.51	28
Catani	6	11	59.13	24
Nyora	2	15	26.06	8
Poowong	2	15	9.03	8
Nilma Darnum	1	16	17.48	4

LEADING GOAL KICKERS	
Bradley Blazevic (Longwarry)	56
Kurt Batt (Lang Lang)	52
Toby Bayne (Neerim South)	49

THIRDS	W	L	%	MR
Ellinbank	16	0	466.76	100.0
Longwarry	11	4	162.07	73.33
Buln Buln	10	6	191.89	62.50
Nilma Darnum	10	6	148.18	62.50
Poowong	9	6	120.64	60.00
Neerim South	8	8	97.86	50.00
Lang Lang	7	8	129.30	46.67
Trafalgar	4	11	67.77	26.67
Yarragon	2	13	38.50	13.33
Bunyip	0	15	8.76	0.00
Catani	0	0	0.00	0.00
Nyora	0	0	0.00	0.00

LEADING GOAL KICKERS	
Charlie Armour (Ellinbank)	41
James Patterson (Nilma Darnum)	41
Hugh Cunningham (Ellinbank)	35

FOURTHS	W	L	%	MR
Bunyip	13	1	326.78	90.00
Trafalgar	13	2	302.62	86.67
Poowong	11	4	162.75	73.33
Ellinbank	11	5	137.41	68.75
Yarragon	8	7	117.92	53.33
Catani	8	7	87.29	53.33
Neerim South	5	11	58.70	31.25
Buln Buln	4	11	69.77	28.13
Lang Lang	4	11	46.11	26.67
Longwarry	3	12	62.16	21.88
Nilma Darnum	3	12	46.87	21.88
Nyora	0	0	0.00	0.00

LEADING GOAL KICKERS	
Hudson Grujic (Trafalgar)	45
Cruze Deal (Poowong)	39
Dylan Strating (Neerim South)	32

Sea Eagles secure important win

A SOLID win for Inverloch-Kongwak has tipped the Sea Eagles back into the top six for another week.

The Sea Eagles welcomed Koo Wee Rup to the Inverloch Recreation Reserve on Saturday and ultimately won the day by 34-points.

The home side got the jump early on Koo Wee Rup, as it moved the ball well out of the midfield.

Inverloch-Kongwak's strong opening performance saw it 25 points ahead at the first siren.

Koo Wee Rup fought back in the second quarter, getting within seven points of the Sea Eagles before half time.

The roles reversed and Koo Wee Rup began showing better control of the ball, while the Sea Eagles struggled to capitalise on their opportunities.

The halftime break gave the Sea Eagles a chance to regroup and readjust, which allowed them to play an exceptional third quarter.

Inverloch-Kongwak reverted to its usual style and took control of the game, pushing the ball inside 50 a lot quicker.

Paul Pattison dominated through the midfield and Tate Short played a strong game up forward.

The fourth quarter appeared equal on the scoreboard, but Koo Wee Rup could not get any closer than 20 points away from Inverloch-Kongwak's score.

This week, Inverloch-Kongwak will come up against the Warragul Industrials.

The Dusties are coming off a loss against Kilcunda-Bass, but a loss for the Sea Eagles will see the Panthers secure the sixth spot on the ladder ahead of finals.

Earlier in the season, Inverloch-Kongwak defeated the Dusties by eight points.

This was a tight contest that saw the Sea Eagles come back from 30 points down in the third quarter to win the game.

Inverloch-Kongwak is going into the match confident, but aware of the enormity of playing a strong, consistent game to ensure a win.

It will be spurred on by the excitement of Lewis Rankin playing his 200th game, as well as some premiership reunions as they take on the Dusties at home.



Lucas Allen showing off some bounce, leaping for an intercept mark in Inverloch's backline. W11_3225



Harry Butcher was able to absorb the pressure and find teammate Zak Box in Inverloch-Kongwak's 84-50 Victory. W14_3225



Paul Pattison with a defensive clearing kick. He also contributed two goals to Inverloch-Kongwak's tally. W12_3225

Nar Nar Goon stomps on the Giants in dominant display

IT was a beautiful sunny day over at Nar Nar Goon, but Korumburra-Bena was bracing itself for the oncoming challenge. Coming up against the top team who are yet to be defeated, it was not going to be an easy game for the Giants.

Injured coach Josh Hopkins riled the boys up with excitement and urged his team to play with full effort.

Joel Carpenter played his first senior game, and this

match was a good opportunity for other young players to come up into the seniors.

An expected strong start from Nar Nar Goon saw it score seven goals six to one point in the first quarter.

It was a better second quarter from the Giants as they kicked consecutive goals to slow the Goon's progress.

The first was a set shot free kick to Byron Walker and the second was to Tom Crocker on

the run.

These goals lifted the spirits slightly for the boys.

Will Croatto kicked his first goal of the game after being rewarded a free kick for a strong tackle.

Unfortunately, Nar Nar Goon was far too well-equipped and skilled on the day and continued its undefeated streak.

Full-forward Dermott Yawney was unstoppable kicking ten majors in a standout perfor-

mance.

For Korumburra-Bena, the best players were Croatto, Codie Anderson, Tyler Newton, Boyd Robertson, Jordan Ceppi and Kyle Brown.

Korumburra-Bena is anticipating it will be their week this Saturday, aiming to get their fourth win for the season.

The Giants travel to Garfield for their last game of the season as they end 2025 with a bye.

WEST GIPPSLAND
COMPETITION
RESULTS

RND
18

INVERLOCH-KONGWAK FOOTBALL CLUB

8450

	INVERLOCH-K				KOO WEE RUP			
Inverloch-K	4.2	4.6	8.9	12.12 (84)				
Koo Wee Rup	0.1	3.5	4.7	7.8 (50)				
GOALS, IK:	J Nowell, P Pattison, J Butcher 2, T Short, D Clark, W Turner, H Butcher, J Bertacco, T Cumming 1 each							
BEST:	P Pattison, X Hughes, O Toussaint, E Park, T Short, H Butcher							
GOALS, KWR:	T Miller, S Kors 2, L Pirota, M Voss, S Ohehir 1 each							
BEST:	M Voss, N Voss, L Pirota, T Miller, T Glen, N Bindley							
RESERVES								
Inverloch-K5.2	6.3	9.3	10.5	(65)				
Koo Wee Rup1.1	3.3	4.3	5.4	(34)				
GOALS, IK:	W Tiesdell-Smith 3, R Dal Pozzo, D Lawton 2, H McInnes, T Mahoney, C McCaughan 1 each							
BEST:	W Tiesdell-Smith, C McCaughan, H McInnes, B Withers, T Leonard, D Taylor							
GOALS, KWR:	M Drommel 4, D Alanis 1							
BEST:	M Drommel, D Ramos, S Mihevc, L Pascoe, B Tytler, M Alderson							
THIRDS								
Inverloch-K	0.4	3.10	5.11	7.14 (56)				
Koo Wee Rup	1.1	2.1	4.4	4.6 (30)				
GOALS, IK:	J Dugard 3, T Debono 2, J O'Neill, H Gleeson 1 each							
BEST:	F Anderson, C Newman, A Finsterer, J Aeschlimann, J Dugard, R Newman							
GOALS, KWR:	F Pittard 2, L Briganti, H Monckton 1 each							
BEST:	J Bruin, L Tannahill, M Simpson, K Galucho, B Hobson, R Hunter							
FOURTHS								
Inverloch-K2.3	5.4	7.4	10.7	(67)				
Koo Wee Rup0.1	1.1	2.3	2.4	(16)				
GOALS, IK:	M Tonkin 3, L Aungier, F O'Halloran 2, A Rayner, P OConnell, C Bergmeier 1 each							
BEST:	F O'Halloran, H Aeschlimann, P OConnell, J Wilkinson, L Aungier, M Laubscher							
GOALS, KWR:	N Cuthbertson 2							
BEST:	Z Ducasse, W Neill, J Vivian, K Bertone, N Cuthbertson, H Monckton							

KORUMBURRA BENA FOOTBALL CLUB

18627

	NAR NAR GOON				KORUMBURRA BENA			
Nar Nar Goon	7.6	15.10	20.18	27.24 (186)				
Kor-Bena	0.1	3.1	4.2	4.3 (27)				
GOALS, NNG:	D Yawney 10, C Pursell, T Millar, J Keyzers 3, H Brain, J Smith 2, L Graham, N Pipicelli, M Gentile, R Bromley 1 each							
BEST:	J Smith, N Pipicelli, D Yawney, M Gentile, N Hillard, B Rice							
GOALS, Kor-Bena:	W Croatto, J Ceppi, B Walker, T Crocker 1 each							
BEST:	W Croatto, C Anderson, T Newton, B Robertson, J Ceppi, K Brown							
RESERVES								
Nar Nar Goon	7.4	9.7	11.9	16.10 (106)				
Kor-Bena	1.0	1.1	1.1	2.2 (14)				
GOALS, NNG:	B Bishop-Schoff, M McGreal, O Sutherland 3, T Ferrari, N Bransgrove 2, M Cross, D Cross, T Cramer 1 each							
BEST:	B Bishop-Schoff, E Douglas, R Sutherland, O Sutherland, J Murphy, T Cramer							
GOALS, Kor-Bena:	A Simmons, C Axford 1 each							
BEST:	J Harris, T Walker, J Harris, T Sheedy, J Macri, M Kennewell							
THIRDS								
Nar Nar Goon	5.7	10.11	15.13	17.17 (119)				
Kor-Bena	0.2	2.3	5.3	5.5 (35)				
GOALS, NNG:	W Airdrie 5, O Ratten 4, A Tymensen 3, R Fox 2, B Radosavljevic, B Attard, Z Ferguson 1 each							
BEST:	W Airdrie, K Reynolds, A Schram, R Fox, O Ratten, M Cross							
GOALS, Kor-Bena:	C De Grandi, J Douglas 2, M Fowles 1							
BEST:	T Walker, K McGuinness, M Fowles, J Gollop, C De Grandi, J Douglas							
FOURTHS								
Nar Nar Goon	1.5	2.9	6.10	9.12 (66)				
Kor-Bena	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1 (1)				
GOALS, NNG:	C Hamilton 3, A Patterson 2, J Cross, E Loomes, M Mathews, F Stephens 1 each							
BEST:	A Patterson, J Hall, J Szybkowski, E Loomes, C Hamilton, J Handley							
BEST, Kor-Bena:	K Tucker, K Brown, C Hansch, J Douglas, B Hopwood, K Hansch							

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WEST GIPPSLAND COMPETITION	
Phillip Island 16.12.108 d Garfield 8.8.56	
Inverloch-Kongwak 12.12.84 d Koo Wee Rup 7.8.50	
Kilcunda Bass 15.8.98 d Warragul Industrials 14.4.88	
Nar Nar Goon 27.24.186 d Korumburra Bena 4.3.27	
Tooradin-Dalmore 8.7.55 d Cora Lynn 8.5.53	

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In his 100th senior game for Kilcunda Bass, Sam Watson looks to deliver a safe handball to his teammate.



Dale Gawley breaks free, driving the ball forward for the Panthers.



Timothy Gunn controls the ball in the Panthers' forward line.



Travis Tuck was dominant in the Panthers' win over the Dusties, slotting seven majors. Photos: Anna Carson

Vital win for the Panthers as ladder battle continues

KILCUNDA-BASS claimed a 10-point victory following a close battle with the Warragul Industrials on Saturday.

Regardless, the war for sixth spot on the ladder wages on, as a win for Inverloch-Kongwak against Koo Wee Rup sent the Panthers back into seventh.

It is likely sixth will be decided in the final round of the season.

The Panthers travelled to Warragul's Western Park, where it was close all day, but they managed to get the job done.

Kilcunda-Bass kicked the first goal of the game, but the Dusties gave a strong response and kicked the next three.

The Panthers thought they might be in trouble but went on to kick the next three goals to be ahead at quarter time.

Both sides took the second quarter to figure out each other's game plan, as the game was still in the balance.

The Panthers were 15 points ahead at the 26-minute mark, which gave them a sense of comfort moving into halftime.

However, a late surge from the Dusties saw two more goals kicked before the halftime siren, leaving a mere three-point margin at the long break.

Three goals to four were kicked in the third quarter, giving the Panthers a slight edge.

The quarter itself was played on equal footing, as both sides gave as much as the other.

The Panthers got on top of the Dusties in terms of stoppages and clearances, which gave them quicker use of the ball and more forward entries.

For the Panthers, Travis Tuck led the goal kicking charge with seven for the game.

Due to an ankle injury, Tuck sat forward for most of the game but spurred on the team through the middle in the final quarter.

Tim Gunn kicked four and Anthony Daraio kicked three.

With 10-points in it, the fourth quarter was go-go-go from the first bounce.

The Panthers had to play a controlled final quarter to ensure it would win the game, but it was a thrilling finish as both sides kicked five goals each.

The Dusties had an issue with accuracy, which played into the Panthers' favour.

Kilcunda-Bass kept its 10-point margin and took home the valuable four points.

The Panthers will have a bye this week, as Inverloch-Kongwak has a crack at the Dusties.

A win for the Sea Eagles will see the fight for finals go down to the wire as the Sea Eagles take on Phillip Island and the Panthers play Garfield in the last round of the season.

The Panthers are hopeful Garfield will be a winnable game, but will go into the match as if it's a final.



Phillip Island's Cooper Walton gets a handball away under pressure. Photos: Carol Ratcliff

Bulldogs dominate against Garfield

THE Phillip Island seniors finished Round 18 with a solid four-quarter effort to defeat Garfield by 52 points. The Bulldogs were sharp from the outset, with clean ball movement and a willingness to work hard both ways.

Jack Huther and Jack Taylor both led the charge up forward, each finishing with three goals. The experience of Cameron Pedersen and the craft of Jordy Patullo (two goals each) added to the scoring power, while a spread of single-goal contributors kept Garfield's defence under constant pressure.

Through the middle, Brady Ross backed up his dominant reserves performance with another best-on-ground showing in the Seniors, highlighting his versatility and fitness. Ben Taylor and Alexander Officer were also prolific, while milestone man James Nicolaci featured in the best for a second game on the day — a testament to his endurance and commitment.

The win provides a strong springboard into finals, with the Bulldogs hitting form at just the right time.

Reserves

THE reserves produced a commanding performance, restricting Garfield to just



Seniors Jack Huther takes the mark against Garfield.

five behinds for the match. The Bulldogs' backline was rock solid, repelling every Garfield attack, while the midfield dominated clearances and controlled the tempo.

Up forward, Brady Ross was simply unstoppable, booting a remarkable seven goals and proving a constant

headache for the Garfield defence. Harry Anderson was also dangerous with four goals, and contributions from Travis Woodfield (2), Ben Taylor, Mikka Paulsen, and Finlay Cousins rounded out a well-spread score-board.

It was a particularly

special day for James Nicolaci, who celebrated his 200th game for the club. Nicolaci's milestone was marked with a typically hard-working, team-first performance that epitomised his career in red, white, and blue.

Thirds

THE Phillip Island U18's wrapped up their home-and-away season in fine style with a strong win over Garfield. From the first bounce, the Bulldogs set the tone with hard running and clean ball use. The forwards worked well together, finding space and converting opportunities.

Oliver Duggan and Max Taylor were in excellent form up forward, both kicking three goals each, while Noah Williams continued his consistent season with two majors and a strong presence around the contest. The midfield, led by Isaac Savona and Noah Forrest Mabilia, drove the ball forward with purpose, while Bailey Hennessy and Jeremy Kelly provided great pressure around the ground. Jasper Cashman's work rate and composure under pressure also stood out.

WEST GIPPSLAND COMPETITION RESULTS

RND 18

PHILLIP ISLAND FOOTBALL CLUB



108



56

PHILLIP ISLAND	7.2	9.5	13.9	16.12 (108)
GARFIELD	3.2	5.5	8.8	8.8 (56)

GOALS, Phillip Island: J Taylor, J Huther 3, C Pedersen, J Patullo 2, H Bruce, J Youle, J Ladson, M Collison, B Taylor, N Anderson 1 each
BEST: M Collison, H Bruce, C Bruce, J Taylor, C Pedersen, J Ryan
GOALS, Garfield: C Reilly, A Emery, W Pickering, J Murphy, N Rogers, L Fernandez, J Pinkerton, J Tenace-Greenall 1 each
BEST: E Morris, W Cole, N Rogers, L Fernandez, J Murphy, M Johnson

RESERVES

Phillip Island	3.3	8.7	10.10	16.11 (107)
Garfield	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.5 (5)

GOALS, Phillip Island: B Ross 7, H Anderson 4, T Woodfield 2, M Paulsen, F Cousins, B Taylor 1 each
BEST: B Ross, B Taylor, A Officer, J Nicolaci, F Cousins, T Niven,
GOALS, Garfield: B Ross, B Taylor, A Officer, J Nicolaci, F Cousins, T Niven,
BEST: S Marsh, N vandenbroeck, J Smit, J La Frantz, S Simpson Brewer, K Harper,

THIRDS

Phillip Island	1.2	4.6	7.8	10.9 (69)
Garfield	0.0	1.0	3.0	4.0 (24)

GOALS, Phillip Island: O Duggan, M Taylor 3, N Williams 2, T Newman, C Wilson 1 each
BEST: I Savona, N Forrest Mabilia, B Hennessy, N Williams, J Kelly, J Cashman
GOALS, Garfield: J Thomson 2, J Turner, A Stevenage 1 each
BEST: N King, S Wouters, C Wangkaew, K Kelsey, T Ronaldson, A Stevenage

FOURTHS

Phillip Island Fourths won by forfeit

KILCUNDA BASS FOOTBALL CLUB



88



98

WARRAGUL IND	3.0	6.2	9.3	14.4 (88)
K-Bass	4.2	6.5	10.7	15.8 (98)

GOALS, Warragul Ind: B Beck 4, M Debenham, J Monckton 2, T Beck, Z Tepper, K Jiath, L Walker, B Hillard, G Lok 1 each
BEST: J Monckton, T Beck, T Hancock, B Beck
GOALS, K-Bass: T Tuck 7, T Gunn 4, A Daraio 3, D McRae 1
BEST: N Foote, T Tuck, T Cartmel, T Gunn, N Bradley, J Rosenow

RESERVES

Warragul Ind	5.2	8.5	13.7	19.9 (123)
K-Bass	0.0	0.4	3.5	4.7 (31)

GOALS, Warragul Ind: M Jameson 4, T Hemming 3, A Nicolli, J Crowther, R Ware, R Gates-Crewes 2, H Radcliffe, L Braybon, R Delaney, D Burton 1 each
BEST: T Hemming, D Leslie, A Nicolli, M Jameson, L Braybon, C Edwards
GOALS, K-Bass: G O'Brien, C Simpson, T Stuckey, B Simpson 1 each
BEST: B Simpson, T Stuckey, B Wemyss, J Jose, P Tucker, D Lewandowski

FOURTHS

Warragul Ind	2.2	5.5	8.8	12.9 (81)
K-Bass	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.3 (3)

GOALS, Warragul Ind: J Morgan 4, O Ireland, R Buck 2, M Cornwall, C Vickery, S Oling, C Belsham 1 each
BEST: J Morgan, S Oling, J Huggins, R Buck, S Akarsu, M Cornwall
BEST, K-Bass: A Oats, T Amato, C Burgess, P McKay, B Eden, B McMillan

IN OTHER GAMES...

SENIORS
Tooradin-Dal 8.7.55 d Cora Lynn 8.5.53
RESERVES
Tooradin-Dal 5.5.35 d Cora Lynn 4.6.30
THIRDS
Tooradin-Dal 19.15.129 d Cora Lynn 1.2.8

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WEST GIPPSLAND COMPETITION LADDERS

ROUND 18

SENIORS	W	L	%	pts
Nar Nar Goon	16	0	322.51	64
Tooradin-Dal	14	2	157.85	56
Phillip Island	12	4	158.70	48
Cora Lynn	11	5	137.88	44
Warragul Ind	9	7	84.05	36
Inverloch-K	7	9	88.78	28
Kilcunda Bass	7	10	87.72	28
Koo Wee Rup	4	12	77.04	16
Garfield	4	12	59.80	16
Kor-Bena	3	14	53.92	12
Dalyston	2	14	52.05	8

LEADING GOAL KICKERS	
Nathan Gardiner (Cora Lynn)	93
Dermott Yawney (Nar Nar Goon)	71

RESERVES	W	L	%	pts
Tooradin-Dal	14	2	392.24	56
Nar Nar Goon	13	3	324.15	52
Phillip Island	12	4	280.85	48
Inverloch-K	12	4	203.95	48
Cora Lynn	12	4	169.62	48
Koo Wee Rup	8	8	97.36	32
Garfield	6	10	63.90	24
Kor-Bena	6	11	57.17	24
Kilcunda Bass	2	15	31.99	8
Warragul Ind	2	14	31.58	8
Dalyston	2	14	28.61	8

LEADING GOAL KICKERS	
Anthony Mirauta (Tooradin-Dal)	39
Brady Ross (Phillip Island)	34
Lauchlan Gregson (Tooradin-Dal)	31

THIRDS	W	L	%	pts av
Phillip Island	13	1	284.20	3.71
Inverloch-K	11	2	264.16	3.29
Nar Nar Goon	12	3	222.31	3.20
Tooradin-Dal	10	5	166.31	2.67
Koo Wee Rup	8	5	149.13	2.43
Warragul Ind	7	7	111.52	2.00
Dalyston	5	9	55.47	1.43
Garfield	3	12	58.08	0.80
Kor-Bena	2	13	26.61	0.53
Cora Lynn	0	14	22.72	0.00
Kilcunda-Bass	0	0	0.00	0.00

LEADING GOAL KICKERS	
Tarrant Millar (Nar Nar Goon)	35
Oliver Duggan (Phillip Island)	32
Chayse Campbell (Tooradin-Dal)	29

FOURTHS	W	L	%	pts av
Warragul Ind	13	2	390.17	3.47
Nar Nar Goon	12	3	248.16	3.20
Inverloch-K	11	3	250.00	3.14
Tooradin-Dal	10	4	253.23	2.86
Phillip Island	8	7	148.94	2.13
Koo Wee Rup	7	7	52.74	2.00
Kilcunda Bass	7	8	67.26	1.87
Kor-Bena	3	12	43.17	0.80
Dalyston	2	12	34.45	0.57
Garfield	0	13	10.61	0.00
Cora Lynn	0	0	0.00	0.00

LEADING GOAL KICKERS	
Ky Bannister (Warragul Ind)	28
Max Tonkin (Inverloch-K)	27
Sam O'Garey (Phillip Island)	23



Members of the 2005 Wonthaggi Power premiership team, which defeated a plucky Fish Creek team by 21 points, got together 20 years later at the Wonthaggi versus Traralgon match on Saturday. Among those who returned were, from left, back, Tom Wells, Aaron Ware, Ross Lovett, Jarrod Brusamarello, Tim Hooper, Paul Young, Justin Bright, Dean Wylie, Ashley Beaumont, Greg Peterson, front, Rodney Tack, Adam Mabilia, Andrew Sorenson, Phil Young and Sam Combridge.

Powerful memories and some missing silverware!

YOU could buy a 'spacious 4-bed-room brick veneer home' in Wonthaggi for \$259,000, the Wonthaggi windfarm was under construction and Gippsland Power, featuring the likes of Daisy Thomas, Scott Pendlebury and a young Beau Vernon, won the TAC Cup premiership.

It was September 2005 and a talent-stacked Wonthaggi Power team won the Alberton Senior Grand Final by 21 points, in their first year in the league.

Not that Fish Creek weren't equally well resourced with the likes of Travis Manne, Cameron Brown, Marshall Livingstone, Caine Salmon, Gary Hoskin, Ash Milligan and Brock Anderson on their list. But up against the likes of Justin Bright, Adam Mabilia, Andrew Sorenson, Tom Wells, Aaron Ware, Ross Lovett and co to call

on, they looked at least a match for the benchmark team of the local competition.

But it was Fish Creek which started best, leading by two goals at quarter time and a goal at the long break in a low-scoring affair. Everything was set up for a classic last quarter with only three point in it at the last change.

Adam Mabilia got Wonthaggi going with the first goal of the last quarter and a minute later Ashley Beaumont kicked another, his third for the day. But Fish Creek were far from finished and added the replies through Manne and Salmon to close the gap once more.

The cup was anyone's until Wonthaggi strung the next three goals together, through Adam Sadler, Tim Gilliland and finally Ben Young with the sealer, at the 28-minute

mark to kick off the celebrations.

And not forgetting the two goals-in-a-row by Ben Young late in the third quarter which put the premiership in reach.

Last Saturday, 20 years on from that famous victory, a big contingent of players from that team returned to relive past glories and forget present-day realities for a while.

They were joined by the fourths premiers of that year, led by an emerging Jarryd Blair in an all-the-way win over Inverloch-Kongwak. Lasting friendships were forged in that campaign that remain today although the cup they won and the pennant presented to the club later, have apparently gone missing. Where are the trophies from Wonthaggi's Fourths Premiership of 2005? Maybe you can help.



Wonthaggi Power blitzed IK in the fourths' grand final back in 2005 with future Collingwood premiership player, now Wonthaggi senior coach, Jarryd Blair captain and best on ground on the day. Among those who returned to mark the 20-year anniversary were, from left, Will Bartholomew and Kainen Schrape, Jarryd Blair, Reece Jones and Matt Grech.

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