



Sports clubs terrorised by thieves

THE latest sporting club in South Gippsland to be the target of brazen thieves and vandals is the Tarwin Sharks Football Netball Club.

They've been hit three or four times in the past couple of months, initially breaking into the cool room and canteen in search of alcohol, but in the early hours of Monday last week, August 11, the shameless marauders smashed through the glass front doors of the clubrooms, smashed internal doors and fridge doors and stole alcohol but left a trail of damage and destruction in their wake.

"The biggest thing is the damage they've caused and the mess they've made," said a spokesperson for the club, Kieran O'Loughlin.

"They've smashed the fridges, left the freezer door open and all the kitchen cupboards and then got the fire extinguishers out and sprayed them all around, leaving dust and mess in every room.

"We've got CCTV of them, and the lights were on, but they don't seem to worry about that. They've been there for half an hour, in the rooms and driving around in a car, seemingly not worried if anyone came or not.

"We've cut down on what we have on the premises now, just a minimum amount of each drink, but it still adds up.

"We cleaned up and were back in there by Thursday and we had a function there on Saturday night after the Meeniyana game but it's a lot of work and a lot of expense.

"We've got a full security system there now which we hope deters them, but the fear is what happens next? Will they continue to target us or now that our season is over, will they move on to a bowls club or golf club in the area.

"We thought we were a bit out of the way down here, that it mightn't get to us, but just about every club in the area has had to deal with this."

Police have reported that they are investigating a burglary and theft in Tarwin Lower on August 11.

"It is believed a window was smashed to gain entry to a sporting club on Walkerville Road about 1am," said Police Media.

Anyone who witnessed the incident, has CCTV/dashcam footage or any information that could assist police is urged to contact Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000 or submit a confidential report online at www.crimestoppersvic.com.au

- Crash highlights Island access problems again

A THREE-car pile-up on Phillip Island Road last Saturday, August 16, at its intersection with Punch Bowl Road east of San Remo, has again highlighted access problems, getting on and off the island, and the dangers that exist at intersections in and around San Remo.

In an incident which occurred at about 1pm on Saturday, believed to have involved a car waiting to turn right into Punch Bowl Road, and two other cars, the drivers and passengers of two of the cars escaped uninjured.

But the driver of a late model Toyota Camry, which was shunted from behind, sustained non-life-threatening head injuries from his airbag when his head struck the side interior of his car.

He was transferred to hospital by ambulance.

The road was closed in both directions for the best part of one and a half hours, with traffic banked up to the San Remo Bridge and beyond, well out past the merge with the Bass Highway and on the Wonthaggi slip road, back to the

Anderson roundabout.

Drivers and passengers waited patiently in the traffic jam while police, ambulance, SES, fire brigades from San Remo, Cowes and Kilcunda and tow truck drivers cleared the scene of cars and debris. But a number expressed their frustrations at the lack of alternative access, additional passing lanes and turning lanes for drivers trying to get on and off Phillip Island Road.

Continued page 3
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Rate rises hit struggle street

PEOPLE are hurting. Between the rises in energy costs, housing, low wage increases and all the rest, there's a real squeeze on the household budget.

Which is why, when shire rate notices started arriving in Bass Coast last week, and the same is coming for South Gippsland residents this week, there was a collective pause before opening the envelope or clicking the e-notice box.

Farmers not so much. Back in May, when thousands rallied on the steps of State Parliament, the Victorian government announced a temporary backdown on its controversial Emergency Services and Volunteers Fund (ESVF) levy.

The levy has been capped at the 2024/25 rate for all primary production properties across the state for the coming financial year, but an increase in the levy, from several hundred dollars to several thousand dollars, is coming.

For now, it's the homeowners and business owners who are getting sluggish. Here's some examples:

- Shop in Wonthaggi (CIV \$410,000): This year's rates \$2511.26, last year \$2104.88. General rate: \$947.96



Rates notices started arriving in local letterboxes this week but the main shock is yet to hit home.

(\$875.39). Garbage rate: \$743 (\$690.25). Fire/emergency levy: \$820.30 (\$539.24).

- House in Wonthaggi (CIV \$460,000): This year's rates \$1897.14 (\$1751.59). General rate: \$1063.56 (\$1003.49). Garbage rate: \$618 (\$575.21). Fire/emergency levy: \$215.58 (\$172.89).

• Vacant block in San Remo: Total rates: \$32331.02. Vacant land rate: \$2947.97. Fire/emergency levy: \$283.05. President of the Victorian

Farmers Federation Bass Coast branch, Bill Cleeland, told the Sentinel-Times this week that his rates notice had arrived, not showing much of an increase over last year. But he's aware the day of reckoning is coming.

"Farms aren't selling, so we've seen no increase in values, a settling back if anything. So, not much of an increase (in rates) this time around, and the emergency levy has been capped," he said.

"But rate increases for farms have been running at much higher than for residential and commercial which is why we believe the fairest thing would be reducing the farm rate differential to 60% (compared to the 80% in place now)."

Mr Cleeland has already turned his attention to the promised review of Council's rating strategy and differential rates this year, for which a budget allocation of \$35,000 has been allocated.

"Hopefully, they'll have it in place for next year, before the new Emergency Services and Volunteers Levy hits."

Notwithstanding the fact that the ESVF levy hasn't hit farmers this year, it has hit business owners and homeowners, with the issue associated with the levy to be aired at a public meeting in the Wonthaggi Workmen's Club on Tuesday, August 19 at 7pm.

Bev McArthur, the Shadow Minister for Local Government, will be speaking at the event, as well as Nathan Murphy from the United Firefighters Union. The Minister for Consumer Affairs, Minister for Local Government, the Hon Nick Staikos has also be invited to attend.

Crash highlights Island access problems again

From page 1

"The most important thing is that there wasn't a fatality but serious accidents on this road are a regular occurrence and when it's one way in and one way out, there's no where to go. Traffic to the island is increasing year on year," said one of those caught in the traffic snarl.

The Nationals' Member for Eastern Victoria, Melina Bath, who was visiting the area on Saturday said she heard about the accident and traffic delays, saying improvements to Phillip Island Road at San Remo were one of the highest priorities for the 'One Gippsland' group of six local government councils.

"The volume of traffic on that road is ever increasing and the government needs to keep pace with necessary safety improvements including intersection improvements and passing lanes," said Ms Bath.

She has called for a review of access problems for Phillip Island and San Remo, especially those involving Phillip Island Road.

Chair of One Gippsland, Cr Nathan Hersey of the South Gippsland Shire Council, said recently that "the visitor economy is key to diversifying Gippsland's future economic base and creating new jobs" while highlighting priority road projects in the region.

"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.

The Bass Coast Shire Council also adopted 'San Remo intersection works' as one of its high priorities for advocacy to the State Government, pitching for \$26 million for traffic lights to be installed on the Back Beach Road access into the township of San Remo.

But that's just for starters. "Access to San Remo township is significantly impacted by the lack of gaps available in traffic along Phillip Island Road due to the ever-increasing visitors and associated continuous streams of vehicular traffic along Phillip Island Road, the only route to Phillip Island," said the shire.

"There will continue to be an increase of risk taking and consequential vehicle crashes and serious injuries if no action is taken to improve the intersection access to San Remo from Phillip Island Road."

Transport Victoria, which has responsibility for Phillip Island Road has been asked for comment.

Not willing to pass on this Leongatha road hazard

AFTER 111,538 views on Facebook, 180 comments and 25 shares, the Department of Transport is well aware of what the drivers of Leongatha and district think about the oopsy on the Korumburra side of town.

It would be funny if it weren't such a serious accident risk.

A Transport Victoria contractor, who to date remains nameless, has painted the passing lanes just outside Leongatha all wrong. Instead of the middle lane continuing, and the left lane merging, they've painted it the other way around, with the left lane continuing.

One of those responding to the post pointed to one of the biggest risks:

- Tania Not Tracy: If there is an urgency of a last-minute merge, the person in the right-hand lane will be forced into oncoming traffic as opposed to the person in the left-hand lane being forced onto the verge. The same emergency situation resulting in a very different outcome.

South Gippsland Shire Councillor Nathan Hersey was the one



Beware when using the middle lane of the passing lanes on the Korumburra side of Leongatha that it's the middle lane that ends, not the left lane as is common practice (see Vicroads' diagram).

who drew the Sentinel-Times' attention to the issue, and also joined the social-media pile-on over the weekend.

"Thanks for bringing attention to this safety issue," said Cr Hersey.

"I witnessed a driver caught out, who ended up crossing the line into the opposite lane. The markings are clear, the logic is not," he said.

Cr Hersey also provided a

video clip which clearly illustrates the problem: A van driver continuing along the highway, in the right (middle) lane, fails to indicate when the right lanes is discontinued and he finds himself crossing the line, a blue car following does the same, while a red car continues on along the outside lane.

Other Facebook contributors highlighted their concerns:

- Adrian Gale: It's an



This diagram from Vicroads' Facebook page indicates how it should be done, the left lane ending and the passing lane continuing.

accident waiting to happen, almost caught me out the other day as there's no warning.

- Emma Saul: Sign still says: "left lane ends". Definitely more of a "road hazard" there now to justify the new speed.

• Danny O'Brien MP: I've raised this with VicRoads who are aware of the mistake and advise it will be fixed next week.

Transport Victoria has been contacted for comment.

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CONTACT

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

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6 Day
Weather
Forecast

SOUTH
GIPPSLAND



TUE | Aug 19

Sunny.
Wind AM: Light
Wind PM: Light

2° 15°



WED | Aug 20

Sunny.
Wind AM: Light
Wind PM: Light

3° 16°



THUR | Aug 21

Sunny.
Wind AM: Light
Wind PM: Light

4° 18°



FRI | Aug 22

Shower or two.
Wind AM: Light
Wind PM: Light

7° 18°



SAT | Aug 23

Showers.
Wind AM: Light
Wind PM: W-NW 15-20km/h

9° 15°



SUN | Aug 24

Shower or two.
Wind AM: Light
Wind PM: W-SW 15-20km/h

6° 15°

IN BRIEF

Meeniyani Community
Hub opening

THE Meeniyani Community Hub is a new facility replacing the Meeniyani community meeting rooms, storage areas and public toilets and will officially open this Friday.

The new facility has created more usable open space and connects seamlessly with the Meeniyani Hall via a series of verandas. It features a sustainable design including the use of an innovative, and environmentally friendly material, Hempcrete.

Council thanks the Meeniyani Progress Association, Meeniyani Tourism and Traders Association, Meeniyani Historical Society and the Meeniyani Hall Committee for their support during the project.

The total cost of the Hub was \$2.35 million with \$1.6 million contributed via Council's Capital Works Program and \$750,000 funded by the Australian Government's Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program.

Police appeal for help
after axes drawn in
Wonthaggi carjacking

DETECTIVES from the Bass Coast Crime Investigation Unit are investigating a carjacking and related damage to a passerby's vehicle, which occurred in Wonthaggi Tuesday, August 12, 2025.

Police have been told that at a time between about 9pm and 9:15pm, multiple offenders, armed with what were believed to axes, have assaulted a 33-year-old male from North Wonthaggi and stole a 2024 grey Kia Cerato sedan.

It is believed that the incident commenced in Watt Street near the intersection of Durham Lane, and then escalated in the area of McKenzie Street, between the intersections of Watt Street and Baillieu Street East.

The incident has been reported on the Bass Coast Police Area Eyewitness page on Facebook.

"A vehicle, which was driven by a good-natured person who

stopped to assist the victim, had several windows broken by the offenders," said police.

"It is believed that the victim of the carjacking and offenders may have been known to each other. The vehicle has since been found," they said.

If you have any information regarding this matter, please contact Crime Stoppers Victoria on 1800 333 000 or on their website. Information can be provided anonymously.

New post and boast
laws pass parliament

CRIMINALS who share their disturbing crimes on social media will face extra jail time under new laws passed by the State Government. The Crimes Amendment (Performance Crime) Act 2025 outlaws the cowardly behaviour of 'posting and boasting' about certain crimes on social media and messaging apps. The new offence targets those who publish content bragging about their involvement in serious crimes such as affray, burglary and robbery, car theft, carjacking, home invasions and violent disorder. This includes anyone encouraging or facilitating these crimes. These laws respond to the dangerous trend among young people chasing clout on Tik Tok and Snapchat about their heinous crimes which encourages copycat offending, retraumatizes victims and deeply disturbs the community. Anyone found guilty of a specified serious offence who has also posted and boasted, will face up to two years' jail time on top of any other penalty imposed for the original offence. The laws will be in effect upon Royal Assent later this month.

Forum on regional
housing supply

THE Regional Australia Institute (RAI) is heading to Gippsland for the next stop in our national Regions Rising series and this time we're putting the spotlight on the people behind policy, innovation and action.

Join RAI on Friday 22 August 2025 at Federation University - Gippsland Campus for a full-day forum featuring a powerhouse lineup of speakers: industry leaders, policy experts, and community champions who are shaping the future of housing in regional Australia.

From bold reforms to grassroots solutions, these speakers bring the insights, experience and energy needed to tackle one of our most pressing challenges, regional housing supply. With the Federal Government's target of 1.2 million new homes by 2030, the time for action is now.

Whether you're a policymaker, practitioner, or passionate local, this is your chance to hear directly from the people making a difference.

Erin's victims to be heard

NEXT Monday and Tuesday, August 25 and 26, the family members and friends of the Korumburra people murdered by mushroom cook Erin Patterson get their chance to be heard about the impact on them of this heinous crime.

At a directions hearing in the Supreme Court in Melbourne, Justice Beale set the date for a plea hearing, ahead of sentencing on a date yet to be fixed, at which a large number of Victim Impact Statements are expected to be submitted, many of which will be read out in court.

They are expected to dominate day one of the plea hearing with statements by the prosecution and defence to follow.

Erin Patterson is required to attend court either in person or video link.

The hearing will also be held in the Supreme Court in Melbourne while renovation works continue at the Latrobe Valley Law Courts in Morwell.

Scrap the tax Bass Coast

For those who have recently received their rates notice and are unhappy about the huge increases on the State Governments Emergency Services and

Volunteers Fund (ESVF) levy, a community forum against the \$5 billion ESVF will be held at the Wonthaggi Workmen's Club on Tuesday, August 19, at 7 pm.

Farmers, firefighters, industry, community representatives and homeowners will come together to oppose the Allan Government's \$5.14 billion tax grab, with speakers Bev McArthur MP, Shadow Minister for Local Government and Shadow Minister for Scrutiny of Government, Nathan Murphy from Not In Our Name - A Community Alliance Against the Tax, Graham Wood from the Victorian Farmers Federation and Faye Tuchtan from Victorian Farmers Federation.

\$8 million contract for
Cowes streetscape project

MELBOURNE based Fulton Hogan Construction has won the contract for the much anticipated first stage of \$8.26 million Cowes streetscape project.

The streetscape redevelopment works will result in significant changes to the function and amenity of Cowes by flipping the transport hierarchy, creating streets for people and connecting the northern and southern ends of the town centre.

Stage 1 works will incorporate road upgrades, minor drainage works, water main realignment, landscaping and footpath construction in Thompson Avenue North (between Chapel Street and The Esplanade) and The Esplanade (between Warley Avenue and Bass Avenue).

Work will start in September 2025 and be completed by October 2026.

Bass Coast Shire Council will contribute \$1.6 million to the project as part of its long term financial plan and funding of \$8 million has been secured from the Federal Government.

The final cost of Stage 1 including contingencies, project management and design consultancy fees, phased across two financial years is budgeted at \$3.67 million for 2025/26 and \$5.92 million in 2026/27.

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Plan details Gippsland's role in renewable energy rollout

THE release of the 2025 Victorian Transmission Plan (VTP) on Sunday this week, represents a major milestone in Victoria's energy transition, according to the Minister for Energy and Resources, The Hon. Lily D'Ambrosio MP.

"As coal-fired power stations close and we move further toward a future powered by renewables, we need to support this transformational change with a plan that balances the long-term interests of all Victorians," Ms D'Ambrosio said.

"The Victorian Transmission Plan is the cornerstone of a new approach – one that reflects not just engineering and economics, but also the values and voices of communities who host our energy infrastructure."

There's lots of stuff in the 134-page report, including that the proposed Gippsland Renewable Energy Zone (REZ), an area identified as the best places to host renewable energy infrastructure including transmission lines for onshore renewable generation that "stretches from Morwell in the west towards Sale in the east. It will cover parts of the Wellington, LaTrobe, Baw Baw and South Gippsland local government areas".

It notes that "community members and local governments asked us to consider South Gippsland's high



VicGrid has continued to rule out the possibility offshore wind energy will come ashore at Waratah Bay where the underground Marinus Link from Tasmania arrives.

dwelling density, which adds complexity to developing wind projects".

And that "the size and location of the proposed Gippsland REZ takes into account South Gippsland's high dwelling density and the habitat of the giant earthworm".

"It has been shaped by significant landscapes including along the Bass Coast, Wilsons Promontory, the Strzelecki ranges and coastal reserves and wetlands," it says.

However, while the new report explains that the proposed Gippsland Shoreline REZ is to be located in the region's south, near the towns of Woodside and Giffard, and between the coastline and the South Gippsland Highway, there's also a map included with a concerning green, dotted line described as "Transmission projects

under development".

The asterisk offers some explanation: * "The map shows transmission projects under development including transmission projects defined as Committed and Anticipated or Actionable under the Australian Energy Market Operator's 2024 Integrated System Plan. This map displays the proposed alignment for Marinus Link."

In State Parliament, in February this year, Gippsland South MP, Danny O'Brien said this:

"My adjournment this evening is for the Minister for Energy and Resources, and the action I seek is for the minister to immediately rule out a second onshore connection point for offshore wind through Waratah Bay and South Gippsland."

It took until April 2, 2025

for one of the offshore wind farm proponents, Gippsland Skies, to rule out their proposed "northern route" for overhead, high-voltage transmission lines, coming ashore at Waratah Bay and marching across the South Gippsland landscape to Driffield in the Latrobe Valley.

"Taking into consideration the large volume of community feedback received, Gippsland Skies will not be surveying the proposed offshore northern grid connection cable route," they said at the time.

However, they didn't rule it out completely, leaving it to VicGrid to decide.

"Any further marine surveys of potential alternative offshore grid connection corridors by Gippsland Skies will be informed by further information being provided on additional future connection points for offshore wind including through the Victorian Transmission Plan being developed by VicGrid."

The latest report from VicGrid doesn't include an onshore crossing at Waratah Bay, nor does it rule such a development out completely.

The Sentinel-Times has asked VicGrid for clarification. Here's what they said:

"That's Marinus Link, no change to the transmission projects set out in the draft, so no plans for transmission lines through Waratah Bay."

Good to know.

Inverloch SLSC hangs on despite damaging weekend storms

INVERLOCH SLSC has been left exposed after a weekend storm ripped away most of the loose sand remaining to protect the eastern end of the life-saving clubhouse.

Former Woorayl Shire Engineer Keith Godridge and former State Liberal Party Leader Alan Brown both members of the Inverloch Foreshore Action Group (IFAG) have warned the outlook for Inverloch is ominous.

"The State Government must act immediately to address the recommendations of the Victorian Parliamentary Climate Resilience Inquiry," said IFAG.

The Inverloch Foreshore Action Group praised the inquiry's report for identifying what community members have long claimed has been woeful inaction to address what is a clear crisis regarding the loss of much of the Inverloch foreshore over the past decade.

Addressing the Parliamentary Inquiry Dr Kimberley Reid Research Fellow from the University of Melbourne School of Geography, Earth and Atmospheric Sciences warned that global sea levels had already risen by 20cm with an additional 20cm expected in the next few decades.

"When that forecast rise occurs, not only will the Inverloch SLSC clubhouse and abutting roads be lost, but houses in Surf Parade, Lohr Avenue and beyond together with Inverloch's sewerage system will all be inundated" said Mr Godridge.

Mr Brown said it was a scandal that the Victorian Gov-



Weekend storms have taken their toll on what little sand was left to protect the Inverloch SLSC after renourishment works in June. B09_3325

ernment had established the Cape to Cape Resilience Project nearly five years ago with a budget exceeding \$1million and a timeframe of two years to provide a report, and yet nearly five years later no final report had been handed down."

"They are now in their fifth year of having consultants compile endless reports and have done not one thing to permanently protect the Inverloch foreshore," Mr Brown said.

"They have effectively wasted around \$2million dollars with no results to permanently protect our foreshore and that is an utter disgrace," he said.

Mr Godridge highlighted the fact that the former Morrison Federal Government provided the Victorian State Government with a grant of \$3.3 million dollars four years ago, yet not one cent of that money had

been spent to permanently protect the foreshore.

"I have presented a comprehensive report to the public outlining the case to utilise rock bags to protect the foreshore which has been done in Inverloch near the boat ramp with complete success, and at numerous other locations on the Victorian coast.

"Past attempts by DEECA including four wet sand fences of which three were washed away, sandbags failing prematurely and sacrificial sand have all been dismal failures.

"Only the rock revetment by Rural Roads Victoria has been successful," said Mr Godridge.

The Victorian Parliament Climate Resilience Inquiry found the current Cape to Cape Resilience Project did not adequately reflect the immediacy of the threat faced by Inverloch and surrounding

communities.

The inquiry found that key assumptions were outdated and risk classifications were too low to trigger timely interventions. The Parliamentary Report recommended the Victorian Government urgently revise the Cape to Cape Resilience plan to incorporate updated environmental data, recent storm impacts and local stakeholder input, and short term engineered protection options alongside longer term adaption strategies.

The report said that delays in implementing erosion control measures at Inverloch are increasing the risk to infrastructure, community safety and local economies.

Interim works such as sandbagging have met with limited success the inquiry found.

Most concerningly according to IFAG the present proposal from DEECA to pump sand from Anderson Inlet to the Inverloch surf beach does not meet the recommendation of the Parliamentary Committee.

The Parliamentary Report effectively condemns DEECA led inaction over the last five years and recommends urgent action be undertaken.

The IFAG has called on the Victorian Government to remove DEECA as the entity responsible for addressing the erosion crisis.

"DEECA has proven to be out of their depth, incompetent and incapable of handling this issue and the State Government needs to appoint another lead agency," said Mr Brown and Mr Godridge.

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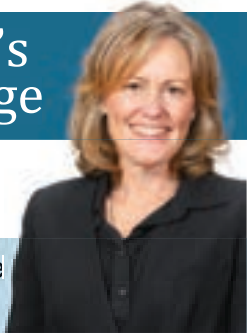


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Mayor's Message



Cr Rochelle Halstead



EARLIER this month, we marked National Homelessness Week – a time when communities across Australia come together to raise awareness and push for action. This year's theme, Homelessness Action Now, really spoke to us here in Bass Coast, where we've been working collectively with community groups, service providers and volunteers to better understand and respond to the challenges of homelessness.

Locally, Housing Matters Bass Coast, Wonthaggi Neighbourhood Centre and the Rotary Club of Wonthaggi hosted a community event in Apex Park, while Council also joined the Gippsland Homelessness Network in Traralgon to advocate for more housing and support across our region. These activities are part of a growing effort in Bass Coast to focus on the people in our community experiencing homelessness and to strengthen the services needed to support them.

We've already seen some positive steps forward. The Bass Coast Winter Shelter opened its doors last month, providing safe overnight accommodation during the colder months. And now, I'm incredibly pleased to share another important milestone – the launch of Orange Sky in Wonthaggi on Sunday, August 25.

Orange Sky is a mobile laundry service that also provides a welcoming space for conversation and connection. While it offers free washing and drying, its real strength lies in the way it helps people feel supported and included.

From 25 August, Orange Sky will run twice a week at the Salvation Army's newly refurbished building in Wonthaggi – on Mondays and Thursdays from 10am–12pm. Having the service co-located at the Salvos will make it easier for people to access laundry facilities, enjoy a friendly chat, and connect with further support if needed.

I want to thank Orange Sky, The Salvation Army Wonthaggi, and all the community partners who have worked together to make this possible. This service was made possible through community support. This is just another example of the positive impact that volunteers have on Bass Coast and making the place we live inclusive and livable for all.

Two new dog parks part of the plan

THE keenly awaited review of the Bass Coast Shire Council's Domestic Animal Management Plan (DAMP) dropped on the Council's website last Friday.

And at first glance, there doesn't appear to be anything controversial.

There is, however, some good news for dog owners, especially those in the Inverloch area and on Phillip Island.

Among the key recommendations in the new DAMP is the establishment of a fenced dog park on the mainland of Bass Coast at Inverloch and the same on Phillip Island.

President of the Phillip Island Bass Coast Dog Owners Group Cheryl Owens has generally welcomed the report, on first glance, saying that she received assurances that dog owners would not lose any of their existing privileges relating to dogs-on-leash and dogs-off-leash beach areas.

"We had previously heard that they would be looking to establish fenced dog parks at Inverloch and on Phillip Island and it's good to see this is a key objective of council," said Mrs Owens.

"Obviously, the 'Carnival Land' would be the preferred site for a fenced dog park sometime in the future but because that's likely to be years away, we have discussed other sites.



There are no additional opportunities to walk your dog along Bass Coast beaches, but the Bass Coast Shire's new Domestic Animal Management Plan doesn't propose a reduction in exiting off-leash and on-leash beach areas.

"We recently visited an undulating site at Wimbledon Heights which wouldn't be suitable for soccer or other sports, but it would be ideal for dogs. But it's yet to be confirmed where the fenced dog park will be on the Island.

"We would certainly welcome a dedicated dog park at Inverloch as there's a significant need there."

Mrs Owens said she would have more to say once she studied the report that was only released at 4pm on Friday, August 15.

There are a number of objectives outlined in the draft report which will go before the

council on Wednesday, August 20 where the following motion is expected to be voted on, approving the draft for a period of public consultation:

1. Approve the draft Domestic Animal Management Plan 2025-2029 for a period of community consultation from 20 August 2025 to 14 September 2025; and,

2. Consider adoption of the final Domestic Animal Management Plan 2025-2029 at a future Council Meeting before 31 October 2025.

Among the recommendations are those contained in Objective 7:

- Develop a strategic and

consistent approach to leash free and dog prohibited areas

- Develop a Dogs in Public Places Guidelines (leash free and dog prohibited areas) that provides a consistent approach to assess the suitability and design of designated leash free and dog prohibited areas on shire-managed land

- Identify and deliver a fenced dog park on the mainland of Bass Coast Shire (Inverloch). Signage changes to reflect any changes made to regulations

- Identify and deliver a suitable location for a dog park on Phillip Island. Signage changes to reflect any changes made to regulations

- Undertake a signage review and audit of dog controls

- Continue to partner with the Dog Off Leash Working Group, including bi-annual meetings to discuss community matters that relate to the management of dogs in Bass Coast Shire.

There are numerous references to improving management of domestic animals via increased community education, training for authorised officers and an increased effort at compliance.

See a copy of the draft report on the Engage Bass Coast website or with the attachments for the August 20, 2025 council meeting.

Question time backflip by Bass Coast Shire Council

THE proposed idea that people submitting questions to Bass Coast Council meetings should be present to have their questions heard has been firmly ditched.

So overwhelming was the backlash from ratepayers and residents Bass Coast Council will vote on amended governance rules this week with little or no change to question time.

It would have been a denial of democratic process to be required to attend council meetings to present a question according to the Bass Coast Ratepayers Association.

"They don't like question time," said Ratepayers Association Treasurer Graham Jolly.

Requiring a person to be present at a council meeting to have their question heard was considered discriminatory and a possible violation of human rights.

Opponents of the proposed

By Bruce Wardley

changes were scathing in their criticism.

"I think it is appalling that the person submitting a question must be present at the meeting, this discriminates against those who can't get out of the house or be in social settings for physical or mental health reasons."

"It could mean having to take time off work for many."

A suggestion to extend the word limit for questions from 50 to 60 words was also rejected.

"Fifty words is too short," said Mr Jolly.

As was a request to extend question time from 30 minutes to 60 minutes.

"The time limit of 30 minutes is insufficient and signals contempt for ratepayers."

It was claimed requiring physical presence at a 1pm council meeting would exclude a wide

range of residents, farmers, shift workers, carers, people with disabilities, non-drivers, elderly citizens, nursing home residents and more.

"Restricting questions read and answered during council meetings to only those people who are present, feels like a deliberate move to silence ratepayers."

"If Councillors do not need to be at meetings why do community members?"

"The changes are designed to ignore the voice of the ratepayer."

Another proposal that all unread remaining questions be made available via the Engage website was described as ridiculous.

"The current use of BCSC's Engage website lacks clarity, transparency and responsiveness, functioning in a way that allows council to dictate and avoid personal communication."

Mr Jolly said there were real

problems with having to use Engage Bass Coast.

"Posting unanswered questions online is ineffective when the platform is poorly maintained, opaque, and rarely updated," said one resident.

"Bring back community meetings on important projects and decisions."

"If ratepayers are interested enough to ask questions then they should be answered."

Further amendments to Bass Coast Council's governance rules included new provisions for community members to present their petitions to council, greater clarity around remote participation for councillors, prohibiting multiple items from being moved at the same time, and new provisions around the display of props, placards, and posters.

Proposed changes to security at council meetings has also drawn wide criticism.

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

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Can the turbines keep turning?

PERCHED just a few kilometres west of Wonthaggi, six towering turbines have been spinning for nearly 20 years. They've become a familiar feature in the local landscape, though not without their fair share of controversy. Now, as the Wonthaggi Wind Farm approaches the end of its original lifespan, the question is no longer whether they should be there, but whether they should stay.

Commissioned in 2005, the Wonthaggi Wind Farm is owned and operated by EDL Australia and generates enough electricity to power roughly 4,300 homes each year. But as these six 2MW turbines reach their use-by date, EDL is working with the original manufacturer to assess their condition and decide if they can safely continue operating.

For some, like sustainability expert Werner Theinert, the wind farm has more than earned its place.

"It's a great advertisement for wind turbines," Werner said. "You can toy with the idea that it's playing a part in supplying energy to the area and to Eastern Australia. It's doing its bit."



Commissioned in 2005, the six wind turbines at Wonthaggi are now nearing the end of their expected lifespan. W02_3225

Werner believes the next logical step is repowering. That would involve keeping the towers in place but replacing the blades and mechanical systems with newer, more efficient technology.

"It's a very windy site. Instead of putting 2MW at the top of them, they could maybe put two and a half or even 3MW. It is marginal, but it does make it more efficient," he said.

He also pointed out that building an entirely new wind

farm could take years of permit applications and environmental assessments. Repowering, on the other hand, would allow continued use of an already-approved site.

Werner's sustainability credentials run deep. He worked for decades in the power industry, including the Latrobe Valley power stations and in the Middle East at the world's largest aluminium smelter. These days, he teaches courses on renewables and resilience through U3A Wonthaggi

and BCAL. At home, he's embraced the transition to clean energy, with solar panels, a home battery system, and even an electric car.

But not everyone shares the same enthusiasm. Lois Townsend, who lives next to the turbines, has opposed the wind farm from the very beginning.

"I wasn't even told they were going there," she said. "I found out when I went to a panel hearing. A woman there just turned to me and said, 'Well you're here, so you know now.'"

Lois is still against the turbines nearly two decades later. She described the noise as sometimes noticeable, especially at night.

"Our power bill hasn't gone down," she added. "And we've lost a beautiful coastline view. But some people like them, and some people don't."

With a decision on the future of the turbines looming, opinions in the community remain split. Whether EDL chooses to decommission, extend, or repower the site, it is clear that over the years the Wonthaggi Wind Farm has stirred a bit more than just the air around it.



Tony Sergi performs at Sunday's concert in Inverloch, helping create awareness of services available to military veterans and generate funds to support them. A62_3325

Inverloch concert aids military veteran support

SUNDAY entertainment from musicians including Reece Mastin and Tony Sergi was reason enough for an afternoon out at The Inlet Hotel, Inverloch, coming with the added benefit of supporting military veterans locally and further afield.

Fiona and Mick Quinn were delighted with the well-attended event, being ex-service personnel and passionate about veterans' welfare. Funds raised on Sunday will assist the Veterans Advocacy Centre in Boronia, with which the Quinns are involved, to continue providing support for veterans, with Fiona running an Op Shop in that suburb to generate an income for the Centre.

The organisation's assistance has benefited veterans in the Bass Coast and South Gippsland region along with those in many other places, either face-to-face in Boronia or remotely.

"If they need claims done and haven't got an advocate down here to do it, we can do it over the phone," Fiona said, explaining the Centre provides its advocacy work at no cost to the veterans.

The website for the Aussie Veterans Association and Facebook page for the Aussie Veterans Op Shop provide a selection of contacts.

Many veterans ringing the Aussie Veterans Op Shop are referred to the Advocacy Centre.

Years of dealing with bureaucracy and compensation delays following her military career drove Fiona's move into veterans' advocacy.

Veteran Laurence Quinn, who served in Afghanistan, was also at Sunday's event and spoke of its importance in creating awareness of available veterans' assistance as well as fundraising.

He explained the relaxed atmosphere of a concert is a great environment for local veterans to find out about available support in a non-clinical setting.

He noted the effectiveness of the Veterans Advocacy Centre and the important relationships it has with other services such as rehabilitation centres.

Enabling veterans to look forward to a more positive future and understand the plans for managing their case to achieve positive outcomes are keys to success.

Those involved in providing Sunday's entertainment were happy to give their time for a worthy cause.

"Any kind of charity work - I'm in," singer Reece said, noting any chance to make people's lives better with music appeals to him.

Underground tours popular despite slow progress on upgrades

UNDERGROUND stabilisation works at the State Coal Mine in Wonthaggi have been blamed for slow progress on critical safety upgrades to the Main Heading shaft.

Parks Victoria have undertaken extensive planning work to deliver critical safety upgrades to ensure the State Coal Mine remains open and accessible for visitors.

"Working underground is technical and complex due to its high-risk nature and is required to meet the same safety standards as a modern working mine," said a spokesperson for Parks Victoria.

Recently completed planning work includes the appointment of a heritage advisor in preparation of a Heritage Victoria permit application to undertake works at the site.

A tender for these works was released in May 2025 and is still being evaluated.

An experienced amusement ride engineer has been appointed to design ways to bring the drift car up to modern standards to make it



The unique underground mine tours at the Wonthaggi State Coal Mine are still as popular as ever according to Friends of the State Coal Mine Rod McLean (Underground Tour Guide) and Dave Walters (Above Ground Tour Guide). B02_3325

safer as well as being easier to maintain.

Engineering inspections in 2020 revealed the rail drift car which was used to carry people in and out of the mine no longer met modern safety standards.

The only one of its kind in the southern hemisphere the State Coal Mine drift car is a specially adapted mine cart

once enjoyed by more than 10,000 people a year.

Once the safety upgrades are completed the updated drift car will be pulled up and down the drift by a winch rather than using the mine's large winder allowing it to be operated by one person.

The mine's tracks, timber sleepers and ballast for the drift car will be replaced with

new concrete sleepers, improved drainage, and a maintenance inspection pit.

Mining engineers have designed ways to make the main tunnel safer with rock bolts and full coverage of the ceiling with shotcrete or a similar product.

The mine's historic timber braces will be maintained, and Parks Victoria is now waiting on a permit from Heritage Victoria before starting work on the Main Heading.

Remnants of the Number 5 Brace building are not located within the main visitor centre and will not be made accessible to the public for safety reasons.

The State Coal Mine at Wonthaggi operated from 1909 until 1968 producing almost seventeen million tonnes of coal for Victorian industry and the Victorian Railways (VR).

Underground tours of the State Coal Mine continue to be as popular as ever according to volunteer tour guides Rod McLean and Dave Walters.

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Heralding Spring at Leongatha Daffodil & Floral Show

POPULAR local identity and South Gippsland Citizen of the Year Ian Rasmussen has the honour of opening the Leongatha Daffodil & Floral Show on Thursday August 28, the colourful event continuing Friday and Saturday.

As treasurer of the Leongatha Horticultural Society, which runs the show, and having been a member for over 20 years, he's an ideal choice.

Along with an abundance of daffodil classes, the event features other flowers, photography, pot plants, including a section for those in quirky containers, cut shrubs and trees, fruit and vegetables, school entries and floral art.

The Rodney Emerson Trophy for the Most Successful Exhibitor will be awarded, named in honour of the late and greatly missed Leongatha Horticultural Society member renowned for his daffodils, which he was passionate about growing from a young age.

Deep Creek Nursery will run a plant stall in the courtyard during the show, in addition to the Leongatha Horticultural Society's own plant sale.

While Hancock's Daffodils, which normally brings a selection of bulbs to the show, is unable to attend, cut daffodils will be available through Blyth Brothers Flower Growers, which is based in Ellinbank.

The Australian Plant Society is running plant propagation sessions each day, with times to be confirmed, that being a new feature of the show this year.



Leongatha Horticultural Society president Shirley Turton can't wait for the Leongatha Daffodil & Floral Show to open. A02_3325

There will be an open garden on Friday August 29 and the following day, between 10am and 4pm, located within 10 minutes' drive of Leongatha Memorial Hall, the garden's address to be provided at the show.

St Peter's Anglican Church Ladies Guild is again keeping showgoers fed, offering soup served with a roll, a selection of cakes, gluten free options, and free tea and coffee.

Anyone bringing a large group to enjoy the Guild's hospitality

is requested to call Coral Johnston on 0409 165 227 to arrange a time so that overall customer numbers are kept to a manageable level throughout.

There'll be floral arrangements from the town's churches on display, and an eclectic mix of items from St Peter's Op Shop available to buy, the latter including clothes, tablecloths, lamps and china.

St Peters opens from 12-5pm on Thursday and 10am-5pm on Saturday and Sunday.

Berrys Creek artist Melanie Caple has donated her time to design the poster for the show, as has been the case previously.

"It encapsulates the beauty of Spring," Leongatha Horticultural Society publicity officer Wendy McDonald said of Melanie's design, expressing appreciation for her generosity and noting the show only covers its costs.

Visit leongathahorticultural-society.com.au to view the show schedule that lists competition categories, with hard copies of the schedule 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.

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.

Doors open at 1.30pm on Thursday August 28, with the official opening at 2.30pm.



A Field of Daffodils will be planted in the garden along the main corridor of Gippsland Southern Health Service's Leongatha hospital for Daffodil Day, this Thursday.

Field of daffodils for a good cause

LEONGATHA community can play their part in supporting cancer research while enjoying a morning tea at Leongatha Hospital this week.

A Field of Daffodils will be planted in the garden along the main corridor of Gippsland Southern Health Service's (GSHS) Leongatha hospital for the Daffodil Day morning tea from 10.30am on Thursday August 21.

It is part of the health service's ongoing commitment to supporting people with cancer, which includes a local chemotherapy service.

Daffodil Day is Cancer Council's most iconic and much-loved annual campaign that raises life-saving funds for world-class cancer research. It's a time of hope; where people come together

to show support for the 150,000 Australians diagnosed with cancer each year.

GSHS nurse educator Linda Fiddelaers said the South Gippsland region was well aware of the need for cancer research.

"There are many families in our community who have been affected by cancer in one form or another, and this is an opportunity for people to support the Cancer Council's Daffodil Day which raises much-needed funds for research," Ms Fiddelaers said.

People will be able to donate to the Cancer Council during the morning tea.

The daffodils will be on display and people are encouraged to visit the hospital and help to plant them.

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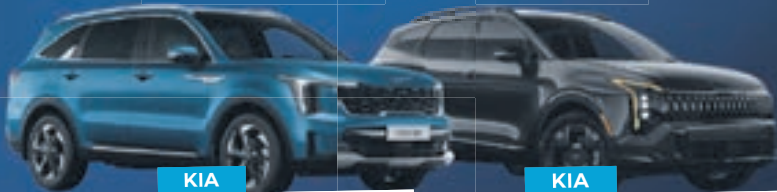
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5th PRIZE: \$1000 Foodworks Grantville Voucher

6th PRIZE: \$1000 IGA San Remo Voucher



TICKETS: \$20 each | 3 for \$50 | 6 for \$100

VGCCC Raffle Permit No: **10222/25** for 14400 tickets in total. Name of permit holder: **KILCUNDA BASS FOOTBALL NETBALL CLUB INC** Raffle will be drawn Saturday, October 4, 2025 5PM at Bass and District Sports Club, 100 Hade Avenue, Bass, VIC, 3991. Prize winners will be notified by phone & email. Prize winners names will be published on the Kilcunda Bass Football Netball Club Website & facebook within 3 days of being drawn. All entrants must be over 18 years of age. Vehicles proudly supplied by Bay City Auto Group. Mitsubishi vehicles displayed at Mitsubishi Frankston. Kia vehicles displayed at Kia Frankston. Vehicles will be displayed at KBFNC home games. First prize valued at \$69,077.

Leongatha Daffodil and Floral Show

Thursday, August 28

1.30pm - 5pm

Friday, August 29

9am - 5pm

Saturday, August 30

9am-4pm

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Leongatha Horticultural Society

Artwork by Melanie Caple



South Gippsland Shire Council News

Funding Announcement

South Gippsland Shire Council, in partnership with Wellington Shire Council, has successfully secured \$4.7 million in funding through the Australian Government’s *Regional Precincts and Partnerships Program*. This significant investment will support both councils to strategically plan for renewable energy projects, including offshore wind.

The Australian Government’s declaration of Gippsland as an offshore wind zone marks a pivotal shift for our region. While many decisions are yet to be made – including the announcement of successful project proponents – what’s clear is the need to plan proactively.

We’re committed to ensuring this transformation happens with our communities, not simply to them. This funding will help prepare land and infrastructure across the region, laying the groundwork for the renewable energy industry and ensuring our townships are active participants in shaping the future – not just bystanders affected by it.

As home to the two ports closest to the designated offshore wind area – Barry Beach Marine Terminal and Port Anthony – South Gippsland will play a leading role in Victoria’s renewable energy future.

This grant is the result of strong advocacy by South Gippsland and Wellington Shire Councils, helping to turn the recommendations from our Renewable Energy Impact and Readiness Study into meaningful action. It also reflects the strength of our partnerships – including with the Gunaikurnai Land and Waters Aboriginal Corporation, One Gippsland, neighbouring councils, and education providers like TAFE Gippsland and Federation University. Their advocacy also helped to ensure the success of our application and we thank them for their support.

Together, we are positioning Gippsland as a national leader in renewable energy. This funding marks a major step forward – supporting local jobs, sustainable economic growth, and a resilient future for our region.

Drought Support Information



Agriculture Victoria are hosting a powerful and practical one-day workshop on how to build resilience, navigate crisis and adapt to change.

Feel confident and equipped to make the decisions necessary to navigate your farm business through the current seasonal challenges.

When: Wednesday 27 August 2025
Where: Meeniyah Community Hub

To register, or for more information on drought support events and resources, visit:
www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/dry_season

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

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

REQUEST FOR TENDERS

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

RFT/447 - Roadside Tree Uplift

Tenders close 2.00pm AEST on Tuesday 2 September 2025.

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

JOINT TENDER

Council is partnering with the Central Victorian Greenhouse Alliance and nine other regional Victorian councils to deliver the Powering Resilience in the Regions project. The Project is funded through the Victorian Government’s 100 Neighbourhood Batteries Program.

A Request for Tender is now open on the Ararat Rural City Council’s eProcure portal. <https://app.eprocure.com.au/ararat>

CONTACT US

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South Gippsland Shire Council Mayor John Schelling, Woorayl Lodge Board members Peter McAlpine and Dennis Swan, Co-CEOs Andrew Ross and Jaimee Bryden, Upper House Member for Eastern Victoria Tom McIntosh, Woorayl Lodge Board Chair Linda Fiddelaers and council CEO Allison Jones celebrate the announcement of funding for worker accommodation. A67_3325

Worker accommodation boost for Woorayl Lodge

WITH employee accommodation a major challenge in attracting aged care staff to regional areas, those in charge of Leongatha's Woorayl Lodge are delighted to be receiving State Government funding to alleviate that problem locally.

The project will provide 14 residences with a total of 25 bedrooms alongside the McCartin Street based Lodge, the government providing around \$2 million, with a substantial but not yet disclosed contribution from Woorayl Lodge.

Upper House Member for Eastern Victoria Tom McIntosh visited the Lodge on Monday, chatting to staff, board members and South Gippsland Shire Council representatives.

The government contribution is from the Regional Worker Accommodation Fund.

"It's dealing with the issue of employers in our regions being unable to get workforce housed," Tom said, noting the importance of getting the staff needed to support aged care residents and enable them to remain in their community.

Tom highlighted the fact that some of the Woorayl Lodge residents were born on the site when it was a hospital, now returning in the later stages of their lives.

As well as providing housing for aged care workers and potentially other providers of essential services in town, the planned development will alleviate some of the

pressure on the broader housing sector locally.

"It's a double win, where you can get staff into care for locals but free up houses for local families," Tom said.

Woorayl Lodge Board Chair Linda Fiddelaers explained the broader significance of the planned worker accommodation, saying it will assist plans for growth.

That ties in with the intended Boags Road development that will eventually replace the current Lodge.

The Boags Road project will ultimately provide more aged care places locally, but is awaiting the securing of required Federal Government funding.

The support of South Gippsland Shire Council was

required to secure the State Government funding towards the worker accommodation, due to the conditions of the grant.

Council's Director of Strategy and Partnerships, Christian Stefani, remarked that its support of the initiative is consistent with its Economic Development Strategy and Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan.

"This project supports all those caveats that relate to promoting growth, local employment and supporting people in health services and aged care," he said, praising Woorayl Lodge's Co-CEO's Andrew Ross and Jaimee Brydon and the members of the Board for leading the project.

Councillors to consider Soldiers Road development in Fish Creek

COUNCILLORS will decide on what happens next regarding the proposed 252 Soldiers Road Fish Creek development that entails the creation of group accommodation, the five submissions received from objectors meaning the decision is taken out of the hands of council officers.

The current proposal is that the group accommodation will consist of the existing five bedroom dwelling and five new cabins containing two bedrooms each.

The recommendation before councillors at Wednesday's meeting is to issue a Notice of Decision to grant a Planning Permit for the project.

Objections lodged outlined a

mixture of concerns about the planned development, some of which are noise impacts, traffic management and vehicle movements, unsatisfactory effluent treatment arrangements, and drainage issues and impacts on surrounding properties.

Subject to council approval, a string of requirements are detailed in council's August meeting agenda.

They include the need for the existing driveway crossover on Soldiers Road to be sealed prior to the commencement of using the land for group accommodation, and the need for an approved onsite wastewater management system to be installed, with wastewater hav-

ing to be treated and retained within the property boundary.

Each building intended for group accommodation use must be connected to a reticulated sewerage system and a reticulated potable water supply.

The number of residents in each building is capped at four people for those with two bedrooms and 10 people in the five bedroom building.

Fire safety requirements and adequate emergency vehicle access are among the host of specifications outlined.

More details can be viewed in the latest council meeting agenda and associated documents showing the Current Application, Officer Report, Referral Responses and Plan-

ning Property Report.

All these documents can be seen by visiting the South Gippsland Shire Council website, selecting 'Council Meetings', then 'Meetings and Agendas' and the appropriate meeting date.

Should councillors vote to issue a Notice of Decision to Grant a Planning Permit for the Soldiers Road development, any objector will have the right to lodge an application for review with the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (VCAT).

Should councillors vote to refuse the planning application, the permit applicant may seek a review through VCAT.

Korumburra drainage works spark easement acquisition dispute

FLOODING issues at 2 North Railway Crescent Korumburra and associated drainage works by council have prompted a recommendation to councillors to support the compulsory acquisition of a specified piece of land for drainage easement.

That follows ongoing localised inundation problems at the property, including the outcome of a rain event on July 15 last year that forced one of its owners to obtain SES assistance to temporarily divert

water by using sandbags.

"Council officers investigated the ongoing issues, proposed and subsequently implemented drainage works intended to redirect stormwater away from the house and improve drainage during heavy rain," council states, with those works undertaken by its maintenance teams in late November 2024.

"The completed drainage works necessitate the creation of a formal drainage easement in favour of South Gippsland Shire Council," it is noted.

Typically, the easement process would have been initiated prior to commencing such drainage works, but an exception was made due to the urgency of the ongoing flooding issues at the property.

"While the works were welcomed by the occupying property owner, the other owners of the property have now advised that they are unwilling to undertake the process to create the easement in favour of council," it is stated by way of explanation for council

pursuing compulsory acquisition of the easement.

It is stressed that creating an easement will ensure council has a clear legal right to maintain and control any of the assets already installed, such as drainage pipes.

It is noted that council has paid for the drainage works, the surveyed plan of easement and initial desktop valuation and will be required to pay compensation for the easement, along with some other associated expenses.

Shire Message



Cr Steve Finlay



WELCOME to this week's Councillor Message. This week, Mayor Schelling is giving me the opportunity to have a chat to you. I'd like to take this opportunity to say a few words about being on Council and how things are going, but first I would like to share this week's updates.

\$4.7 million funding for South Gippsland

First up, some great news for our region. South Gippsland Shire Council, in partnership with Wellington Shire Council, has been successful in securing \$4.7 million in funding through the Australian Government's Regional Precincts and Partnerships Program. This funding will help us get land and infrastructure ready for renewable energy projects. It's a big step, change is coming and we need to be ready – but always with our community front and centre.

Community Grants

Last week I attended our Community Grants Presentation night. It was a great evening where we awarded over \$130,000 to local community groups. This funding will support projects with a combined value of \$464,032.60 – a huge investment into South Gippsland. If you're part of a volunteer, community or not-for-profit group and need funding, please apply for the next round of grants. They're open until Sunday 31 August. You can apply here: www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/grants

Arts and culture

Over the weekend, Council supported an all-ages musical comedy called ARTEMIS: UTTER MESS at the Meenivan Town Hall. Shows like this are just one of the ways we support our arts and culture in South Gippsland. To stay in the loop with upcoming events, please check out: visitsouthgippsland.com.au/events

Youth Mental Health First Aid

Also, a quick note for those with a Youth Mental Health First Aid certificate due to expire. Council is running an in-person refresher course. It'll renew your certificate for another three years and refresh your skills in supporting young people through mental health challenges.

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

If you've made it this far – thank you. Before I sign off, I want to share a bit about my time at Council thus far. Since being elected, I've been busy learning the ropes and how things work. Your councillors come from all walks of life and backgrounds and represent the diversity of South Gippsland. The Councillor group comes together with a broad range of interests, yet we all want what is best for South Gippsland. But change takes time... aaaargghhhh.

One area I think we're making progress in is how we communicate and connect with our community. Councillors have been re-imagining the way meetings and briefings are conducted, and while we're making headway, we also acknowledge that some trial and error is part of the process.

I want to emphasise that my fellow councillors and I are here to represent you and act on behalf of our region. If you have concerns or constructive feedback, please get in touch – send us an email. We want to hear from you. www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/councillors

Bass Coast Winter Shelter opens its doors to provide warmth, safety and support

THE Bass Coast Winter Shelter is now open and welcoming guests for the 2025 winter season, offering people experiencing homelessness a safe, warm and caring place to stay. Running Wednesday, Thursday and Friday nights in Cowes, the winter shelter offers much more than just a bed. Guests receive:

- A friendly pick-up from Cowes Transit Centre
- A hot, home-cooked evening meal
- A safe place to sleep
- Access to showers and laundry facilities
- A light breakfast before heading off in the morning.

An initiative of the Inter Church Council Phillip Island, the winter shelter is run entirely by local volunteers - people from across the community who have stepped forward, trained up and are ready to offer a listening ear, a warm meal and a welcoming space.

“We know that building trust takes time,” said Wendy Elson, Project Coordinator. “We’re here when people are ready. We’re not just providing beds - we’re offering consistency, safety and human connection.”

While it’s been a gentle start - with just a few bookings and some cancellations - the team sees that as a positive. It’s given time to train volunteers, test systems and get things running smoothly.

“We expected a gentle start, as guests need time to build



A guest is warmly welcomed by volunteers to the Bass Coast Winter Shelter.

the confidence to give it a go. We also know that some people experiencing homelessness prefer to hear about others’ experiences before deciding to stay at shelters,” explains Wendy.

Wendy adds, “The past few weeks have been a great opportunity to fine-tune everything and make sure we’re ready for the weeks ahead, and we are. The winter shelter is now fully equipped and ready, with new facilities like a portable shower up and running.”

Anyone wanting to stay at the winter shelter must first complete a simple assessment with The Salvation Army Homelessness Services - Gippsland. To make an

appointment, call 03 5667 5220, 9 am to 4 pm Monday to Friday, and ask to be assessed for the Bass Coast Winter Shelter.

Community support has been fundamental to the establishment of the winter shelter

“We’ve been blown away by the support received from the community. Locals have really stepped up - volunteering, donating and spreading the word. It’s been nothing short of amazing. The winter shelter would be impossible without this support,” Wendy said.

The Inter Church Council of Phillip Island has also been guided by Stable One, a Victorian charity that helps

communities set up winter shelters. Stable One’s support and experience have been instrumental in getting the Bass Coast Winter Shelter off the ground.

While the winter shelter team encourages public awareness, community members are asked not to directly approach individuals experiencing homelessness or pressure them to call. The team asks locals to simply help spread the word that the Bass Coast Winter Shelter is open and ready to support.

For more information or to become a trained volunteer for the overnight shift, contact Wendy Elson on 0492 859 637.

Barry Beach Marine Terminal: Supporting Australia’s gas supplies for nearly 60 years

August Update: Plug and Abandonment in Bass Strait

For over 50 years, Esso Australia has been a trusted energy provider, powering homes, businesses, and industries throughout south-east Australia. Today, as we responsibly retire infrastructure that has reached the end of its productive life, we’re undertaking the largest offshore decommissioning project in ExxonMobil’s global history—right here in Bass Strait.

Central to this effort is our Plug and Abandonment program, which permanently seals wells to prevent any future release of hydrocarbons. To date, we’ve safely plugged and abandoned over 200 offshore wells, using specialised equipment to install cement plugs at depths equivalent to a 20-storey building. These plugs undergo rigorous pressure testing—exceeding ten times the pressure of a standard car tyre—to ensure long-term integrity and environmental protection.

To guide this work, our team developed a first-of-its-kind Well Operations Management Plan, ensuring all plug and abandonment activities meet strict regulatory requirements and adhere to the highest safety standards. This plan draws on ExxonMobil’s global experience managing successful decommissioning campaigns in Canada, the United States, and the North Sea, while also incorporating innovative practices that improve both efficiency and environmental outcomes.

Our Bass Strait well plug and abandonment program is among the largest of its kind globally. The program relies on close collaboration across a multidisciplinary team—including geoscientists, well integrity engineers,

reservoir specialists, regulatory experts, and safety, health and environment professionals—working together to ensure each well is retired safely, responsibly, and in full compliance with environmental expectations.

Once all wells have been safely plugged and abandoned, each platform is placed in a safe state until it is ready to be removed and safely transported to Barry Beach Marine Terminal for dismantling.

We remain committed to transparent engagement with our community—keeping stakeholders informed and ensuring our work aligns with local expectations. If you have any questions or would like more information, please don’t hesitate to reach out via consultation@exxonmobil.com.



The VALARIS 107 jack-up rig currently completing plug and abandonment work in the Gippsland Basin



Wonthaggi Cenotaph to go blue for men with prostate cancer

WONTHAGGI Cenotaph and the Wonthaggi RSL Hall in Graham Street will light up blue on Monday September 1 in support of local men and families with prostate cancer. The initiative supports Prostate Cancer Awareness Month, which runs throughout September.

The initiative has been organised by the Bass Coast Prostate Cancer Support Group in a bid to improve local awareness and connect men with much-needed support. Group Convenor Kevin Walsh urged men and families to reach out. “We’d love to see everyone get behind us and get active in the fight against prostate cancer during September.

“Prostate cancer is the most commonly diagnosed cancer in our local region, although many men and families lack the support they need to cope with the diagnosis.

“Our hope is to raise greater awareness of early detection, which is the key to achieving better results and to connect with men in our community who may need support.

“Our group provides men and their partners with information about navigating the prostate cancer journey, and the type of comfort that can only come from others who have been through the disease.”

The Bass Coast Prostate Cancer Support Group is affiliated with the Prostate Cancer Foundation of Australia. PCFA CEO, Anne Savage, said peer support was vital to survivorship.

“Members of Bass Coast Prostate Cancer Support Group know the difference that face-to-face support can make when a diagnosis of prostate cancer strikes.

“We strongly urge local men and families to connect with the Group and get involved in Prostate Cancer Awareness month by helping us raise awareness of early detection.”

Bass Coast Prostate Cancer Support Group Convenor Kevin Walsh urges interested members of the Bass Coast Community who can attend this month’s meeting to do so.

“We alternate between day and night meetings as we have found people who are still working find it difficult to attend day meetings.”

“The next meeting of the Bass Coast Prostate Cancer Support Group will be held at the Wonthaggi RSL, 60 Graham Street, Wonthaggi at 2.00 pm on Thursday, September 25. It will include an information session by Linley Watson the Community Engagement Manager for Southern Region of the Prostate Cancer Foundation of Australia, and it is open to members of the public.”

People are encouraged to visit the PCFA website for regular meeting times. People can contact the Support Group via 0423 581 481. To get involved in PCFA’s other campaigns for September, visit www.the-longrun.org.au. For more information on prostate cancer, visit www.prostate.org.au or call PCFA on 1800 22 00 99.

Shout out for Bandicoot recovery

MINISTER for the environment Steve Dimopolous gave a “big congrats” to Phillip Island Nature Parks, recently who are celebrating 10 years since beginning a project that brought the Eastern barred bandicoot from the brink of extinction.

In 2015, the Eastern Barred Bandicoot Recovery Team released 20 bandicoots on Churchill Island. Before that point, they only survived within three reserves in Victoria. They were classified as extinct in the wild.

Now there are over 150 bandicoots on Churchill Island and many more on Phillip Island, after the program was extended eight years ago. In an Australia first, they were reclassified as endangered from extinct in the wild.

“A huge shoutout to PINP, Zoos Victoria, Parks Victoria, DEECA and other conservation organisations for their work in caring for these gorgeous marsupials,” wrote the MP.

Ashwood Accounting opens new office

ASHWOOD Accounting is excited to announce the opening of its new office in the ANZ Arcade, Shop E, 32 Bair Street, Leongatha.

Since 2018, the firm has been supporting businesses across South Gippsland and beyond, and this new space will allow the team to continue providing tailored, professional accounting services to its growing client base.

Director Shannyn Ashwood brings almost 20 years of experience in tax compliance and specialist business advisory. Raised in Bairnsdale in a family of business owners, Shannyn developed a deep understanding of the challenges and opportunities faced by small and medium enterprises. She holds a Bachelor of Business (Commerce) from Monash University, a Master of Professional Accounting, and is a qualified CPA.

After more than a decade working with respected accounting firms in Melbourne, including a large international practice, Shannyn returned to country life, settling in Leongatha with her husband, a Leongatha local, and their children.



Ashwood Accounting Director Shannyn Ashwood with Administrative Officer Krystle Schodde, who now have a new and conveniently located office in Bair Street Leongatha.

Since establishing Ashwood Accounting, Shannyn has earned a reputation for personable, plain-spoken advice. "We don't speak 'accountant,'" she said.

"Clients feel comfortable asking questions and know they'll get clear, practical answers. Our focus is on helping them manage

and grow their businesses while also achieving their personal financial goals."

The firm works with a broad range of clients, from primary producers and retailers to trades, logistics, and service-based businesses, providing proactive advice year-round, not just

at tax time.

"Many of our clients work incredibly hard and are so focused on day-to-day operations that it can be difficult to step back and take a bigger-picture view. That's where we come in - helping them stay focused, plan ahead and get the best outcomes possible."

Shannyn understands the current economic pressures facing regional businesses, including cashflow management, skills shortages, and rapidly evolving technology. "It's a challenging time, but also an exciting one," she notes. "With the right support and timely advice, regional businesses can adapt, grow, and stay competitive."

Ashwood Accounting looks forward to welcoming both new and existing clients to its Leongatha office, continuing its commitment to delivering trusted advice, strong client relationships, and results-driven support.

To celebrate the opening, Ashwood Accounting is currently offering a complimentary initial appointment for all new prospective clients. To book, call Ashwood Accounting on (03) 5609 4001 and one of their friendly team is ready to help.

City centric focus fails Gippsland women

THE Nationals' Melina Bath has called on Labor's Minister for Women to ensure Gippsland women have fairer access to free period poverty support to match what is available in metropolitan Melbourne.

Speaking in State Parliament Ms Bath criticised the apparent imbalance in the rollout of free sanitary product vending machines in rural and regional areas highlighting a city-centric bias.

"The State Government claims to be tackling period poverty and easing cost-of-living pressures for all Victorian women, yet it is installing these expensive vending machines to dispense free sanitary products at elite city venues like the MCG and Rod Laver Arena."

"Access should be prioritised at locations that support disadvantaged women regardless of their postcode including Foodbanks, Neighbourhood Houses, Aboriginal Corporations, The Orange Door, regional transport hubs, bush nursing centres, and community health services."

According to Ms Bath an analysis of vending machine locations revealed a neglect of regional Victoria with only 5% of the machines in Gippsland and none located on Phillip Island.

"Gippsland covers 20 per cent of Victoria's landmass but to date only 13 period poverty vending machines have been installed to service 390 regional and rural towns."

"Gippsland drives Victoria's economy yet Labor continues to sideline our region."

"Local families are facing real financial pressure and the Allan Government's ongoing failure to deliver targeted and meaningful cost-of-living support is a blatant dismissal of rural Victoria's needs."

"If Labor is serious about supporting all women it must abandon its Melbourne-first mentality and deliver fair, statewide access to an essential women's health resources."

Vietnam Veterans' Day commemorated in Leongatha

VIETNAM Veterans' Day was marked by a service at the Leongatha war monument on Monday, attendees hearing about the Vietnam campaign and the service of Australians and Kiwis in the Battle of Long Tan.

Lieutenant Colonel (retired) Dr John Blunt, a member of the Leongatha RSL Committee of Management, spoke of that 1966 battle, the August 18 anniversary of which is the date for commemorating Vietnam Veterans' Day.

He reflected on how heavily outnumbered the Australians and New Zealanders were and the wet and muddy conditions prevailing where the battle raged.

Delta Company, comprising 105 Australian soldiers of the 6th Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment and three Kiwis from the 161 Battery, Royal New Zealand

Artillery fought for almost four hours against soldiers of the North Vietnamese army, being outnumbered 10 to 1.

Seventeen Australians were killed in action with another subsequently dying of his wounds, and over 20 others wounded.

"The Battle of Long Tan was the fiercest battle fought by the Australians in South Vietnam," Dr Blunt said.

"We remember the sacrifices of those who died, were wounded and have suffered since, and say thank you to the almost 60,000 Australians who served during the 10 years of our involvement in the Vietnam War, Australia's longest military engagement of the Twentieth Century."

Almost 3,000 Australians were wounded during the war and 524 died during their service,



Lieutenant Colonel (retired) Dr John Blunt speaks about Vietnam Veterans' Day and the Battle of Long Tan. A63_3325

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State government failures exposed in minority report on climate action

By Bruce Wardley

A MINORITY report to the State Government’s Climate Resilience Inquiry has uncovered repeated failures by the State Government to deliver practical, community-led solutions to erosion on the Bass Coast.

The Nationals claim the State Government has offered little more than delays and excuses.

“The State Government is all talk and no action,” said Nationals’ MP Melina Bath.

“Bass Coast needs urgent real solutions (including) protection from erosion and infrastructure that can withstand future disasters,” said Ms Bath.

“Coastal communities are watching as erosion threatens infrastructure and public safety, we need action not more studies.”

The Nationals have called for a coordinated coastal erosion strategy.

“We’ve put forward practical, community-led solutions,” Ms Bath said.

Glenn Arnold President of the Inverloch Surf Lifesaving Club told the Climate Resilience Inquiry layers of bureaucracy were ultimately crippling decision-making and paralysing any action moving forward.

Liberal and National Party members of the Legislative Assembly Environment and Planning Committee (EPC) said they fundamentally supported efforts to strengthen Victoria’s resilience in the face of continued climate change.

“Regional communities are being left behind and rural councils in particular are being loaded with responsibilities without resources.

“This is not leadership, it is cost shifting dressed up as reform.”

In considering the recommendations of the EPC the Liberals and Nationals said it was important the State Government recognise the complex challenges faced in building climate resilience including limited financial resources, competing infrastructure needs, insufficient data to assist long term planning and the unpredictable nature of extreme weather events.

Increased regulation was seen as a potential blocker for climate resilience.

The minority report claimed the State Government had neglected and mismanaged Victoria’s climate adaptation response particularly in rural and coastal areas.

Coastal erosion posed a profound threat to communities according to The Nationals and Liberals particularly when it undermined critical infrastructure and public safety.

“The Inverloch Surf Life Saving Club was a stark illustration of this.”

The EPC heard that since 2013 the loss of over sixty metres of protective dune at Inverloch had exposed vital assets to the elements jeopardising not only physical structures but also the lives of those who rely on them.

This is having a cascading effect across Victorian coastal communities according to the State Opposition damaging public and private infrastructure, threatening tourism and local businesses, and eroding community confidence.

“Coastal erosion requires a coordinated response supported by consistent funding and shared urgency, a balanced strategy combining appropriate engineered infrastructure with ecosystem-based adaptations such as dune restoration, and wetlands to provide both immediate protection and long-term resilience.

“Solutions must be - site specific, adaptable and flexible, to accommodate future climate scenarios with collaboration between governments, communities, and experts using best practice.”

The EPC heard local councils were being increasingly burdened by unfunded mandates leaving them financially ill-equipped to meet growing infrastructure and climate adaptation demands.

Bass Coast Shire Council told the inquiry that within the last five years the cost of reconstruction of assets had doubled without factoring in climate change.

Marinus Link jobs bonanza at what cost?

Special report by Bruce Wardley

EXPRESSIONS of Interest have been called for jobseekers wanting work with the Marinus Link undersea electricity interconnector from Tasmania to Waratah Bay.

Hundreds of workers are expected to be recruited for the project which is expected to provide an employment boost for South Gippsland but also push up rental costs.

Marinus Link is currently preparing a workforce development plan which will outline the expected roles and workforce numbers required to deliver this major contract including converter station supply and cable installation.

Marinus Link is looking for electrical, mechanical, civil and environmental engineers, project managers, and people with experience in construction, environment and sustainability, people and culture (HR), safety and wellbeing, governance, legal and compliance, finance and commercial, communications, stakeholder engagement and digital and I.T. personnel.

The project workforce is anticipated to swell to 350 during the construction period with half the workers expected to be sourced locally but the remainder coming from other areas of Victoria or further afield if necessary.

Significant opportunities are expected for local businesses according to Marinus Link who anticipate signing-on their final major contractor in the coming months to lead the project’s civil and construction works.

An Environment Effects Statement (EES) for the project concluded Marinus Link would benefit local communities by creating short-term employment, local business opportunities to supply good and services, local and regional training and development, demand for short-term accommodation by construction workers, and employment opportunities for First Peoples, women, youth and socially vulnerable groups.

Increased demand for



Cable-laying vessel Leonardo da Vinci contracted for the Marinus Link project.

skilled labour in the region could however impact on the agricultural, forestry and fisheries sectors, and local health and emergency services.

To minimise the impact on health services Marinus Link was asked to provide a first response medical capability for potential workplace incidents during construction

The need for short-term accommodation for the construction workforce was forecast to impact seriously on the availability and affordability of local housing depending on potential overlap with other projects such as the Delburn and Star of the South offshore wind farms.

Rental vacancy rates in Fish Creek, Sandy Point and Mirboo North were found to be currently below 1% indicating a shortage of rental properties which could force up rents and price low-income households out of the market, according to the EES.

The average income in South Gippsland was 28% lower than the state average reinforcing concern about rental supply particularly for households sensitive to rental price increases.

A joint Inquiry and Advisory Committee (IAC) into Marinus Link noted the likely adverse impact on housing availability and affordability was difficult to avoid.

“There is little that any individual project can be expected to do other than develop a worker and accommodation

strategy,” IAC concluded.

Short-term effects which may occur during construction of Marinus Link included traffic disruptions and reduced access to recreational areas, but IAC considered these could be minimised or avoided through ongoing community consultation.

Employment opportunities were predicted to become more subdued once the link was fully operational with the ongoing benefit to local communities likely to be limited to broader economic activity and investment in community infrastructure.

A complaint handling system was suggested to provide ongoing communication with stakeholders to avoid potential adverse effects regarding the timing and duration of the Marinus Link project, and a community benefit sharing scheme possibly offering sponsorship, investment and training opportunities.

Positive assessment of the project by the Victorian Planning Minister was welcomed by Marinus Link as a significant milestone in the project’s approvals pathway.

Project Director Mike Carter said the outcome reflected a rigorous and transparent regulatory process and a dedicated team committed to respecting the environment.

“This is a major step forward for the project and a testament to the dedication of our Environment and Sustainability team and expert

advisors.

“We want to thank the Minister for acknowledging the years of planning and design refinement that have gone into the proposed route, which largely avoids native vegetation on land, and rocky outcrops and reefs in the marine environment.”

When complete Marinus Link will provide a two-way 1500MW capacity dual underground cable and subsea electricity connection between Tasmania and Victoria.

The project includes 255km of undersea cables across Bass Strait and 90km of underground cables in Gippsland coming onshore at Waratah Bay about 3km west of Sandy Point.

A coastal transition station and communications building is planned for Waratah Bay with underground cables running approximately 90km northwards towards the Valley.

The land-based cable components are also predicted to result in the removal of 6.75 hectares of remnant native vegetation along roadsides, waterways and in paddocks.

The offshore marine cable has been designed to avoid rocky outcrops and reefs however the subsea cable alignment was likely to see the removal of approximately 0.3 hectares of endangered Tasman grass-wrath sea grass.

The loss of the sea grass was considered to be unavoidable but not likely to significantly affect regeneration of the species once construction was complete.

The Victorian Planning Minister was satisfied any adverse social impact from the project apart from housing affordability and availability could be managed satisfactorily.

Employment and contracting opportunities will be the responsibility of Marinus Link’s major contractors with current vacancies available at marinuslink.com.au/careers/

For more information on the Marinus Link environmental approval process go to planning.vic.gov.au/environmental-assessments/browse-projects/marinus-link

Bath backs Landcare and its vital environmental work



DURING National Landcare Week, The Nationals’ Melina Bath is standing firmly behind Landcare and the thousands of volunteers and facilitators who dedicate their time and energy to restoring and enhancing our environment.

Ms Bath who is also the Shadow Minister for Public Land Management said the program deserved improved certainty from the Allan Government so it could make long term planning goals to benefit the environment into the future.

“This innovative program effectively empowers communities at the grassroots level and improves local ecosystems in regional communities.

“Facilitators and volunteers

undertake tree planting, weed and pest control, erosion prevention, and habitat restoration – all essential in creating healthy landscapes on public and private land.”

Ms Bath said Landcare is an impressive organisation – the program notably achieves a \$31.5 million economic return from just \$4.5 million in investment.

“Despite its documented success, Landcare is continuing to have to lobby the state government for a long term commitment and a budget uplift that reflects the impacts it has.

“It makes no sense that Labor chooses to only deliver short term base-level funding to Landcare when it consistently has a high return on investment.

“Labor’s lack of long-term vision for community-led environmental stewardship is highly disappointing.

“It is imperative that the critical role Landcare plays in building resilient landscapes, supporting biodiversity, and empowering our regional communities across the state is recognised and rewarded.

“The Nationals remain strong supporters of Landcare and back the program as a highly effective environmental organisation.”

LEFT: The Nationals’ Melina Bath backs in Landcare for its success in helping restore and protect local ecosystems in regional communities at the grassroots levels

Have your say on a future vision for Phillip Island Nature Parks

PHILLIP Island Nature Parks (PINP) oversee an area of significant environmental, cultural, and community value, as such they have developed a Strategic Plan with a 10-year horizon and are seeking community feedback.

As land managers and tourism leaders, PINP have a responsibility to help shape a healthy and thriving environment for the island's wildlife, the community, and for all who visit.

Under the Crown Land (Reserves) Act 1978 and under the Marine and Coastal Act 2018 they have obligations to fulfil and aspire for Phillip Island to have a healthy ecosystem that supports its economy and community.

The Strategic Plan is aimed at having a positive impact on the environment, the community and the economy.



Phillip Island and Bass Coast locals are invited to have their say on Phillip Island Nature Parks 10 year strategic plan.

It has been developed with the help of the Bunurong Land Council Aboriginal Corporation, Reconciliation Advisory Committee, Community and Environment Advisory Committee, key stakeholders, staff and volunteers.

The Phillip Island and Bass

Coast community are now being invited to have their say.

There are six priorities that have been outlined and these are: Bigger and better natural areas : Working together, using a regenerative approach.

Thriving wildlife: Phillip Island (Milawul) is a sanctuary

for diverse wildlife.

Bunurong self-determination: The Nature Parks will support current and future generations of Traditional Owners to care for and respect Country.

Excellence in regenerative tourism.

Support a vibrant community; and finally: A Strong organisational foundation.

The local community are invited to share their thoughts to help shape PINP. Feedback submissions close at 5 pm Tuesday 19 August 2025.

The draft plan can be viewed at: <https://www.penguins.org.au/about/our-community/projects-and-maintenance/planning-our-future>. A survey can be completed at: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/QCC7LXK> or thoughts can be emailed to community@penguins.org.au.

Wonthaggi Rotary Club changeover at the State Coal Mine

THE Rotary Club of Wonthaggi proudly hosted its annual changeover event on Saturday gathering at the Wonthaggi State Coal Mine to celebrate fellowship, leadership, and service to the community.

This year's celebration carried a particularly meaningful focus launching the Rotary International theme for 2025-26 of Unite for Good.

The changeover is always an opportunity to reflect on the achievements of the past Rotary year while also setting the vision for the year ahead.

The message of Unite for Good resonated strongly throughout the evening with conversations centred on collaboration, kindness, and building stronger connections across the region.

A highlight of the event was the recognition of President Leah Montebello who continues to serve as Club President for another year.

Leah was warmly celebrated for her commitment, energy, and leadership throughout the past year which has seen the club achieve strong community partnerships and impactful projects.

Leah's ongoing presidency promises continuity, stability, and renewed enthusiasm as the club embraces the Unite for Good theme.

The event also marked a special milestone when President Montebello welcomed new member Bek Eastman into the club. Bek recently attended the Rotary Youth Leadership Award (RYLA) proudly sponsored by the Rotary Club of Wonthaggi.

Bek Eastman shared with attendees the personal growth and leadership skills she developed through the program along with the lasting friendships she formed.

Bek's reflections were both heartfelt and inspiring, demonstrating the life-changing impact of Rotary's youth programs and the value of investing in the next generation of leaders.

In keeping with the Rotary tradition of 'service above self' the event also highlighted the tangible contributions made by the club to causes both locally and globally.

The club proudly announced donations of \$500 each to Bunurong Wildlife Care, Wonthaggi Lifesaving Club, Bass Coast Winter Shelter, and Wonthaggi Food Pantry. An additional \$1,000 was donated to Rotary International's End Polio campaign further demonstrating Rotary's commitment to international service.

Camp out for a cause supports Flying Fox charity this August



Camp out on Saturday August 30 to help raise money for Flying Fox. To book your site and be part of something special, visit: www.parklaneholidayparks.com.au/blog/one-night-outside-camp-cause

FAMILIES, friends, and community groups are invited to roll out the swags and join in One Night Outside, a feel-good fundraising event at Park Lane Holiday Parks on Saturday 30 August 2025.

Held simultaneously across multiple Park Lane Holiday Park locations, One Night Outside offers guests the chance to enjoy an unforgettable night of camping, connection, and community, all while raising funds for Flying Fox, a not-for-profit organisation that delivers life-changing experiences for young people with and without disability.

"We're so grateful and excited to be the charity partner for Park Lane's 2025 One Night Outside," says Dean Cohen OAM, founder of Flying Fox. "We've had the privilege to host many of our overnight programs at Park Lane's exceptional parks, and we feel lucky to be supported by such a strong, generous

community coming together to camp for a cause."

There's something for everyone, with kids activities, a fundraising BBQ, hot chocolate stations, music, entertainment, and of course, a classic Aussie campout atmosphere.

"It's all about bringing people together in a relaxed setting, having a great time, and supporting a really important cause," says Dan Wallwork from Park Lane Holiday Parks.

"This is a chance to make memories with your family or friends while helping Flying Fox continue their incredible work."

100% of camping site fees and 10% of all glamping and cabin proceeds from the night will be donated to Flying Fox.

Local participating parks include: BIG4 Phillip Island Park Lane Holiday Park and BIG4 Wonthaggi Park Lane Holiday Park. Spaces are limited and bookings are filling fast.

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Electric vehicle sales on the rise

AUSTRALIA'S record-breaking quarter for electric vehicle sales underscores the importance of retaining incentives and policies to sustain uptake and drive emissions down, the Electric Vehicle Council said.

Figures from the Australian Automobile Association show 41,146 electric vehicles (EVs) were sold across the country in quarter two 2025.

This includes 29,244 battery electric vehicles (BEV) and 11,902 plug-in hybrid electric vehicles (PHEV).

It represents 13.1 per cent of all new car sales for the quarter and is up by 37 per cent on quarter two 2024 when 30,028 EVs were sold and represented 9.59 per cent of sales.

"Australian drivers are discovering what early adopters already knew – electric vehicles are better for the family budget. They're great to drive, better for the environment, and cheaper to run," Electric Vehicle Council CEO Julie Delvecchio said.

"It's encouraging to see EV sales climb, but we're still in the early stages of the transition, and numbers remain well short of what's needed for a self-sustaining market. Electric vehicles need to make up at least 30 per cent of all new car sales in Australia before governments can responsibly consider withdrawing incentives of imposing taxes.

"These figures show good progress, but with the Productivity Commission calling for removal of the FBT incentive and road user charges being discusses, this risks slamming the brakes on growth. These proposed changes will abruptly stall the shift to EVs, which benefit everyone through lower energy bills and cleaner air.

"Australia's strongest quarter for EV sales yet is a testament to the current federal policies and incentives fueling this growth. The New Vehicle Efficiency Standard is giving Australians more choice than ever before in low and zero emission cars. Combined with the discount on EVs through the FBT exemption, more everyday Australians are making the switch – and once they go electric, they don't look back."

Ms Delvecchio said Australia now offers electric vehicles for every lifestyle and preference, including utes, SUVs, sedans and hatchbacks.

"With transport set to become Australia's largest emissions source by 2030, it's essential to keep supporting and motivating Australians to choose electric vehicles," she said.

"More electric vehicles on our roads benefit everyone – they cut emissions, improve air quality, create quieter streets, reduce Australia's reliance on foreign oil and help build a stronger energy grid. These collective benefits make electric vehicles essential for a more sustainable, healthier and resilient future."

Big names, big ute, big interest

CALLING in big name athletes like Ash Barty, Rafael Nadal, Luc Longley and Pat Rafter in their recent advertising campaign may be paying off for Kia, as Wonthaggi Kia's General Sales Manager Warren Stewart says the brand's first ute, the Kia Tasman, is drawing plenty of attention locally.

"We have had lots of interest in it," Warren said. The looks are a bit polarising, some people love it, and some people hate it, but everyone who drives it loves it."

The Tasman marks Kia's entry into the competitive ute market, going head-to-head with well-established heavy hitters like the Toyota HiLux and Ford Ranger. Warren believes the Tasman has been designed to compete with the best.

"They have targeted the car to be on par, or better in certain aspects than its rivals: they have made it bigger, taller, wider and with more ground clearance than competitors, so they are gunning for top place in the market," he said.



Warren Stewart says the new Kia Tasman is already turning heads locally. W08_3325

Warren said the dealership has already had strong early sales.

"We have multiple in stock, and we have already delivered multiple," he said. "We have them in stock ready to test drive at the dealership in both Wonthaggi and Leongatha."

Off-road performance is one of the Tasman's biggest drawcards. "In the top-of-the-range X-Line and X-Pro models, it's probably all the off-road features that get people excited,"

Warren said. "There are cameras under the car, a dedicated crawl mode, and they are built to be taken off-road."

Kia has packed the Tasman with features to make it a serious contender for drivers who want capability and comfort. It offers switchable all-wheel drive, a rear electronic locking differential, and multiple terrain modes for different conditions. The ute boasts up to 252mm of ground clearance, with approach, departure and

ramp-over angles that make it ready for challenging terrain.

Under the bonnet, the Tasman has a 2.2-litre diesel engine paired with an eight-speed automatic transmission, producing 210PS and 441Nm of torque. It has a towing capacity of 3,500kg and payload up to 1,151kg.

Inside, the Tasman offers spacious second-row seating with class-leading legroom, a quiet cabin design, and many tech features. Cargo is catered for with a reinforced bed, tie-down hooks, divider slots, side-mounted lighting and a 220V inverter.

Warren believes these features will appeal to a new range of buyers. "It is something completely different on the market, and the tech inside is miles ahead," he said.

For anyone curious about Kia's first foray into the ute segment, Warren says the best way to judge it is to get behind the wheel. Test drives are available now at both Wonthaggi and Leongatha Kia dealerships.

Falcon flies again thanks to Michael Westaway

YOU could almost say Michael Westaway has petrol running through his veins.

A third-generation car man, Michael has spent most of his life surrounded by engines, dealerships, and racetracks. His love of cars is as natural to him as breathing. So, when he decided to restore a 1969 Ford Falcon XT GT back in 2004, it wasn't a question of if he would finish it, but when.

The project took 17 years to complete, with progress unfolding slowly in between work and family life. But the result is something Michael takes pride in.

"My long-standing love of classic cars inspired me to take it on," he said. "And the best way to own one and know what I had was to build it myself. After searching for the right project within my budget, I started the rebuild."

He found the car in South Australia. It was in driveable condition at the time, but far from perfect.

"I trucked it to Melbourne then drove the vehicle from Melbourne to Leongatha where I dismantled it ready for restoration," he said.

The XT GT was built but solid, and the engine number matched the body, a good



Michael Westaway brought this Falcon GT back to life with a full restoration that began in 2004. W03_3225

foundation for a major restoration. The vehicle's original gold colour also appealed to Michael, as it reflected the look of authentic GT Falcons.

While he took the lead on the project, it wasn't all solo work.

"My brother assisted when needed," he said. "I had assistance rebuilding the engine and gearbox, and the vehicle was professionally resprayed in the original colour."

Michael prioritised original parts wherever possible and only turned to reproduction components when absolutely necessary.

The hardest part wasn't the

rust, or the sourcing of parts, but rather the time.

"Time was sometimes difficult to find between running a business and family commitments," he said.

Even so, the idea of not finishing never crossed his mind.

"I was determined to see the project come to fruition," he said. "And when I eventually retired, I managed to complete the restoration."

These days, the Falcon comes out once a month when the weather allows. Michael has shown it at a few local Show n Shine events in Leongatha over the years, but mostly it's just for the joy of

the drive.

"Relief and satisfaction," he said, when asked how it feels to see the car finally finished. "The joy from driving it is immeasurable."

Michael's interest in cars started early.

"I grew up around cars," he said. "With my father and grandfather running local dealerships throughout my youth. I went to work after school in the dealership and was always a keen motor enthusiast."

His first car was a 1974 Mitsubishi Lancer, and he still remembers the moment that made him really fall in love with working on cars.

"Hearing the engine roar the first time you turn it over after installing a new engine," he said. "That's a favourite memory."

Outside the garage, Michael has also spent plenty of time behind the wheel of a race car. Since 2006, he's raced a Porsche 944 at some of Australia's best-known circuits.

"I have raced at most major Victorian tracks including Winton, Phillip Island, Sandown and Bathurst," he said. "And Oran Park in NSW and The Bend in South Australia." Read the full story at sgst.com.au

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Trudi Dale and Donna Russell are pleased to accept a grant of \$4,000 on behalf of Hallston Mechanics Institute, towards gutter and downpipe replacement. A13_3325



Lyn Skillern and Neil Breeden of Leongatha & District Historical Society accept \$2,500 towards the Tracking Down the Past initiative, with a book to be published on the history of early surveyor tracks in the South Gippsland region. A18_3325



Kevin Dowling of Leongatha Table Tennis Association is pleased with a \$4,174 grant that will pay most of the cost of the organisation's Strategic Plan, with councillors Nathan Hersey, Steve Finlay and Brad Snell. A26_3325

Community Grants to benefit South Gippsland Shire communities



Corner Inlet Pony Club was granted \$6,000 towards its Jumps for the Sky program, with a couple of pleased members attending the presentation evening. A31_3325

A VARIETY of community projects will benefit from a total of \$134,557 awarded to 23 successful applicants through Round 2 of South Gippsland Shire Council's 2024/2025 Community Grants Program, with representatives of recipient organisations celebrating at Wednesday's presentation evening in Leongatha.

The funding will contribute to projects with a combined value of just over \$464,000.

Council CEO Allison Jones said the Community Grants Program provides a direct and impactful way for council to support local initiatives.

She spoke of the diverse range of projects supported, including facility

By Andrew Paloczi

upgrades and community events.

Mayor John Schelling congratulated the large contingent of volunteers in the room and those in the local groups and clubs they represent.

"South Gippsland wouldn't be the same without your dedication," he declared, adding that council is excited to support their projects and events.

The grants were awarded across three broad categories, 'Developing Community Assets' (\$54,501), 'Building Community Capacity and Culture' (\$36,967) and 'Strengthening Community Sport' (\$43,089).



Sue Loughridge and Pat Kennedy of Loch and District Bowling Club are pleased to get \$6,476 to assist with the cost of purchasing new tables and chairs for the clubhouse, the certificate presented by councillors Clare Williams and Scott Rae. A11_3325



Koonwarra / Leongatha RSL Cricket Club's Ash Boxall and Matt Boswell are pleased to get \$10,000 towards the cost of stage 2 of the Cougars' irrigation project. A15_3325



Gary Sauvarin of Imperials Cricket Club looks forward to seeing improved nets with the help of a \$5,982 grant. A32_3325



Steve and Rozz Busana receive \$3,000 on behalf of the Leongatha Business Association to help with the cost of running Biketoberfest. A19_3325



Nadine Smith and Ken Myers of Korumburra Bena Football Netball Club appreciate a \$10,000 council contribution to assist with the cost of behind goal netting. A28_3325



A \$3,350 grant went to Friends of Woodford Reserve towards an initiative to restore nature there for improved community health and wellbeing, Rosemary Lyne, and Tony and Wendy Twining representing the Friends group. A20_3325



Cr Bron Beach, Greig Barry and Roly Jones of Loch Public Hall which received \$3,000 towards the cost of a book to commemorate the town's 150-year journey, and councillors John Kennedy and Sarah Gilligan. A17_3325

High praise for community-oriented distillery

IT has been an exciting time for the award-winning Mates Distillery, with more passion projects in the pipeline. The distillery is coming off a thrilling triumph at Melbourne Royal Australian International Spirit Awards, where it was awarded gold, silver and two bronze.

Mates Distillery founder Kim Richardson initially entered the awards to find out where her gins sat within the industry benchmark.

“We’ve manufactured four different gins to date. They are all very different and we love them. I just wanted a bit of feedback on how we were going and how they ranked in terms of profile,” she said.

“I’d never entered any awards before, and the Melbourne Royal are the best awards to enter that I’m aware of because they provide great feedback.

“For all four to come away with an award was just mind blowing.”

Kim’s personal favourite Sweet Surrender won the gold in the Best New World/Contemporary Gin category.

“It took us a long time to get the right blend. It has a honey finish in it, and I wanted to have a local honey,” she said.

“I think I tried every Bass Coast-made honey and got it down to just a few.”

Forty-seven different variations were blind tested before the final product was bottled.

“It was quite the process to get Sweet Surrender to what it is, and we are so rapt that the time and effort paid off,” Kim said.

The Signature Best Dry and Miners Pick received silver and bronze respectively, also in the contemporary category.

Zesty Mates received bronze in the citrus category.

“They tell you if you’ve won gold before the awards night because you need to take more bottles to be used for promotions,” Kim said.

“The other three awards were



Kim Richardson of Mates Distillery at the Melbourne Royal Australian International Spirit Awards.

a complete surprise. I was just blown away.

“The only feedback I’ve had from our customers is ‘why didn’t Miners get a gold?’”

Kim said the awards night was a lovely experience and an exciting time the industry.

The conception for Mates Distillery happened four years ago, with the following year and a half spent finding a place, getting equipment and setting up for production.

The Distillery Door on Wonthaggi’s Inverloch Road opened 18 months ago to a great reception.

Customers have enjoyed the intimate, quiet atmosphere and opportunity for memorable private functions.

It has been a huge journey for Kim, and commercially her attention is now turned to getting bottles of Mates Distillery gin in shops.

She is campaigning with IGA

and has already developed a working relationship with a few bars in town – including The Archaic, the Wonthaggi Club, the Cape Tavern and Archies Creek Hotel – which now stock Mates Distillery gins.

On a more personal level, Kim is focused on continuing her work for charities, for which Mates Distillery is a conduit.

“What inspired me to start this journey had nothing to do with gin. The instigator was wanting to do more for charities,” Kim said.

“The Dream Big Foundation is a charity I established. What they do is they provide experiences for underprivileged children – things like providing music tuition for a foster child who is really passionate about music and was sitting at school watching other children learning instruments and wasn’t able to.

“Being able to fund a year’s worth of music tuition for this

child is what the foundation is about and what my passion is.”

Mates Distillery also donates to local fundraisers, surf life saving clubs and the CFA.

The distillery was established as a social enterprise to help fund these experiences.

“I do have a love of gin, so it seemed like my best way in,” Kim said.

“I read a book by an author named Marcel Thompson, who is an amazing distiller. After reading it, I had a few questions, so I found his email address. He replied and suggested we set up a Zoom, which was so exciting.”

Marcel asked Kim why she wanted to make gin, so she told him her back story and business plan.

It was a response he had never heard before, and he has been mentoring her for the past three years.

Kim said the distillery has two more gins in the works, but the next major project is a gin experience, which was an auction prize at a Melbourne fundraiser.

Alex Makes Meals – a charity established to provide meals for those in need – held a gala event in May and Mates Distillery donated the experience to the event.

“The winning couple is going to come down here and create their own gin flavour profile. They can be as hands on as they like,” Kim said.

“They’ll come down when we’re distilling it, help us do the distillation run, help us bottle it, design the label, and get to keep 10 bottles from the run.

“The remaining bottles will go to market and Alex Makes Meals will get \$10 for every bottle sold. It’s such an exciting project.”

Mates Distillery is also current finalist in the Bass Coast Business Awards.

“We have been happy to have had such great feedback from everyone who has had a gin here or come to a function,” Kim said.

Calling all young artists and water heroes

WESTERNPORT Water is eagerly awaiting entries for this year’s National Water Week Poster Competition from local children that attend kindergartens and primary schools within their service area.

The competition provides a great opportunity for students to put their artistic creativity to the test by creating a colourful A3 poster that celebrates the National Water Week (NWW) theme, ‘Water Heroes: Save Every Drop’.

As our climate becomes hotter and drier, and demand for water increases, it’s more important than ever to use water wisely.

This year’s theme highlights the importance of protecting our water resources by saving every drop and encourages students to see themselves as everyday heroes — people who make small, positive choices that add up to big impacts. Whether it’s turning off the tap, having short showers, or spreading awareness, every action helps.

“The mission is to create a poster that inspires our community to reduce their use and help save our precious water resources. Remember, every little drop counts,” said Westernport Water’s General Manager of Corporate & Community, Gareth Kennedy.

“Water education is essential for everyone, but above all, we must teach the leaders of tomorrow how to protect our water by caring for the environment and using drinking water wisely.”

By becoming Water Heroes, students can lead by example and inspire their families, schools, and communities to value and conserve every drop.

There are great individual and school prizes up for grabs, and local winners will also be entered into the state-wide poster competition and judged against winners of other regions for even greater prizes.

“We are excited to receive the entries for this year’s competition. Our staff look forward to seeing what students create and participate by voting for their favourite posters each year,” said Mr. Kennedy.

Students have until 5pm on Friday, September 12 to enter, and winners will be announced during National Water Week, October 17-23 2025.

All competition guidelines and information on how to enter via the online portal, can be found on the website at www.westernportwater.com.au/learning-centre/education/nww-poster-competition-2025.

Regional Precincts and Partnerships Program Success

SOUTH Gippsland Shire Council, in partnership with Wellington Shire Council, has successfully secured \$4.7 million in funding through the Australian Government’s Regional Precincts and Partnerships Program.

This significant investment will support both councils to strategically plan for renewable energy projects, including offshore wind.

The Australian Government’s declaration of Gippsland as an offshore wind zone marks a pivotal shift for our region. While many decisions are yet to be made — including the announcement of successful project proponents — what’s clear is the need to plan proactively.

Council have stated they are committed to ensuring this transformation happens with the communities, not simply to them.

The funding will help prepare land and infrastructure across the region, laying the groundwork for the renewable energy industry and ensuring townships are active participants in shaping the future — not just bystanders affected by it.

As home to the two ports closest to the designated offshore wind area — Barry Beach Marine Terminal and Port Anthony — South Gippsland will play a leading role in Victoria’s renewable energy future.

This grant is the result of strong advocacy by South Gippsland and Wellington Shire Councils, helping to turn the recommendations from our Renewable Energy Impact and Readiness Study into meaningful action.

It also reflects their partnerships with the Gunaikurnai Land and Waters Aboriginal Corporation, One Gippsland, neighbouring councils, and education providers like TAFE Gippsland and Federation University.

Mirboo North storm-inspired art showcased in Perth exhibition

WORKS of art created in the wake of the devastating Mirboo North storm in February last year by local artist Karen Zipkas, are being displayed in one of Australia’s most prestigious exhibitions in the ‘Hatched: National Graduate Show’ at the Perth Institute of Contemporary Arts (PICA).

Karen Zipkas, is a Federation University Australia visual arts student, and one of just 23 artists from across the country invited to exhibit.

Karen’s work documents the destruction of a beloved local forest and explores ‘solastalgia’: a term describing the distress caused by ecological loss from climate change.

In an attempt to process her grief, Karen modified a box trailer into a large mobile camera obscura and towed it to storm-damaged forest areas in Mirboo North. From inside the moving camera obscura, she filmed the stripped forests, creating blurred and inverted scenes. In the darkness of the closed obscura, she painted the reflected images onto a continuous paper scroll and later documented them digitally.

“This became a meditative and healing experience, allowing me to process the overwhelm of a destroyed and



Art work created from the aftermath of the Mirboo North storm by local artist Karen Zipkas will be exhibited in Perth and then Gippsland in October.

beloved landscape,” Karen said. “Being immersed in near total darkness, the mark making and paint strokes over the reflected image were intuitive and abstract, almost as if attempting to stroke the devastated landscape back to life.”

Her exhibition also features expressionist large-scale mixed media drawings of felled and upended trees, along with sculptures made of glass, concrete and steel that respond to the pressures of capitalist expansion and urbanisation.

“In a nation where deep love of environment is embedded in our cultural psyche, I hope these works resonate with the audience, triggering a pause to reflect on what it might feel like living in a world utterly devoid of nature,” Karen said.

Karen described being selected for Hatched as “extremely gratifying” and credited the support of her lecturer, Julie Reed Henderson, as integral to the experience. She also spoke about the confidence gained from discussing her work with

visitors and designing family activities based on her art.

Federation University Arts Academy Director, Professor Rick Chew, said the University was incredibly proud of her achievements. “The Hatched show is one of the most prestigious platforms for emerging artists across the country and Karen’s selection is a testament to her dedication to this body of work and her studies,” he said.

Now in its 34th year, Hatched showcases the next generation of Australian contemporary artists, covering mediums such as painting, ceramics, drawing, woodwork, printmaking, textiles, metalwork, photography, performance, video, sound and sculpture.

This year’s exhibition is being held for the first time at an offsite venue in the heart of Perth’s CBD, with a light-filled space at Forrest Chase donated by ISPT. The show features works addressing themes such as resistance and transformation, environmental impermanence, performative identities and data and surveillance.

Karen’s work will travel home to Gippsland later this year, with a showing at Latrobe Regional Gallery from late October 2025.

Supporting students to thrive at Wonthaggi North

AT Wonthaggi North Primary School, the strength of the community stands out.

With just over 150 students, Assistant Principal Toby Mahoney says the school's close-knit environment allows every teacher to know every student by name, creating a culture of genuine care and belonging.

"We are quite a small school in the sense of this area, and that is something I see as our strength," Mr Mahoney said.

"Every teacher will know every single student at our school by name. In the yard, every teacher greets every student, and that personal connection is important to us."

Wonthaggi North currently has seven classes and a team of 11 teaching staff, supported by a strong educational support team. The smaller setting allows for close collaboration and thoughtful planning to ensure students are engaged both inside and outside the classroom.

"We have our Prep to Grade 2 students in swimming lessons all term, while at the same time our Grade 3 to 6 students are taking part in Bike Ed," Mr Mahoney said. "It is really good that the kids are getting that learning outside of traditional classrooms."

A unique initiative the school



Wonthaggi North school captains Ella Boyle and Mei Wehi, alongside prep students Zahara Thomson, Tyler Tedge, Eva Atherton, Niko Matsoukas and Assistant Principal Toby Mahoney. W01_3225

takes pride in is its 'Wow Days', which are creative days linked with national celebrations such as NAIDOC Week or Book Week, where families are invited in and students take part in hands-on activities.

"These days are almost like

an alternative learning day where students can be celebrated for what their interests and hobbies are," he said.

Building strong connections with families and the wider town is a big part of the school's identity.

"We want to create a team around every learner. That is why we always invite parents, carers and grandparents into the school to see what is happening."

Mr Mahoney said the school is continuing to grow a positive

culture through the use of supportive, emotion-led language.

"It is just one more layer on our journey to become a restorative culture, where students feel valued and proud to be part of Wonthaggi North Primary."

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CUC Bass Coast supported Rees Guilford in gaining his PhD – with his parents Fay and Jim Guilford at the RMIT University doctoral graduation ceremony.

CUC Bass Coast supports local PhD graduate

COUNTRY Universities Centre (CUC) Bass Coast is proud to celebrate the achievements of local scholar, Dr. Rees Guilford, who recently completed his PhD in Media and Communications, after a decade-long journey of persistence and intellectual curiosity.

Growing up in Wonthaggi and a former student at Wonthaggi Secondary College, Rees' educational journey has taken him far beyond the Bass Coast, but it has also brought him back home for his PhD—a creative practice research project rooted in the region.

"Even though I've spent much of my career in Melbourne, the focus of my PhD was always the Bass Coast. It explored our connections to place, and how our communities, personal histories, and the land

are deeply intertwined," said Rees.

"One of the real values of a place like the CUC is that it provides choice and support for students to pursue their higher education journey from the region, without having to necessarily move away from home."

Rees currently works as Associate Director in the Future Students Division at the University of Melbourne; and while his professional life is based in the city, Rees' PhD was grounded in the Bass Coast and supported locally through CUC Bass Coast.

"There were times when I was almost full-time in the centre, especially in the latter part, as it provided a separation from home and a dedicated space to focus," explained Rees.

"There's also a great community of interesting,

engaged, and likeminded people."

Rees' story highlights how CUC Bass Coast supports students across the full spectrum of higher education, from undergraduate study right through to a PhD.

"One of the advantages metro students often have is being able to live at home while they study, if they choose to. A place like CUC gives students a choice and the opportunity to grow through higher education, without necessarily needing to leave the community." CUC Bass Coast Centre Manager Sarah Bourke said, with Rees being an example of what's possible when regional students are empowered and supported.

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

Tailored learning at Bass Coast Specialist School

BASS Coast Specialist School is teaching students lifelong skills beyond the classroom, providing tailored learning plans and helping develop independence to help them thrive in their future.

Assistant Principal, Caroline Sibly said the school runs a wide range of programs tailored to students and their individual needs. “We’re running a garden to kitchen program at the moment,” said Caroline. “Right now, we’re transitioning our garden into a new area to make way for the new hydrotherapy pool, which we’re hoping will start construction at the end of this term, or early next.”

The hydrotherapy pool, once complete, will be a purpose-built facility for students to access physiotherapy and therapy-based programs. In time, the pool is also expected to open to the broader community.

“This will be a fantastic resource for our students,” Caroline said.

As part of the school’s horticulture program, students will continue to be hands-on in the new garden space, guided by their horticulture therapist who offers one-on-one support, in a calm, outdoor environment.

“It’s more than learning to plant and harvest,” said Caroline.

The students then take their



Students actively tend to the gardens at Bass Coast Specialist School as part of their garden-to-kitchen program.

ingredients into the school kitchen, for use as part of their hospitality program, which includes baking, barista training and running an internal café service.

“We’ve had students complete barista courses and then take orders from staff – complete with sweet treats on the side, and it’s all a part of our effort to build confidence and job readiness skills,” said Caroline.

For secondary students, the transition program prepares

them for life after graduation.

“We have a transition practitioner on staff who works closely with families to ensure students have a solid NDIS plan and are linked to community services or supported employment. Some of our students are working now, while others are connected to volunteer, or engage with programs like Yooralla or Interchange.

“The end goal is to prevent post-school isolation, and we can help by making sure they



Bass Coast Specialist School incorporates sensory activities in the classroom, such as arts, for multi-sensory learning.

leave school with real-world skills and strong support networks in place.”

For incoming students, the school offers a school readiness program starting in October – a four-week transition for kindergarten-aged children and their families.

“It’s about building a relationship with the school, getting to know staff, and helping children feel comfortable in their environment,” said Caroline. “Class

sizes range from four to ten students, depending on needs, and all students have their learning plan aligned with the Victorian curriculum but tailored to their developmental level. It is very individualised, especially in those early years, where we focus on communication, independence and emotional development.”

For information on how to enrol your child at Bass Coast Specialist School, visit www.basscoastss.vic.edu.au

COUNTRY UNIVERSITIES CENTRE BASS COAST

Studying this year?

- At CUC Bass Coast we offer a **FREE** safe, secure study facility located in Wonthaggi for students studying at **ANY** university or higher education institution.
- When you are a registered student at CUC Bass Coast you have access to:
 - A quiet place to study
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REGISTER YOUR INTEREST HERE

21-23 Baillieu Street, Wonthaggi (directly opposite Town Hall)
www.cucbasscoast.edu.au | degrees@cucbasscoast.edu.au | 0472 741 451

Educating our students to communicate, to be kind, to be safe and to be lifelong learners.

Bass Coast Specialist School is a dedicated Prep to Year 12 school located in Wonthaggi, proudly serving students with intellectual disabilities from across the Bass Coast Shire.

With small class sizes ranging from 4 to 12 students and exceptional staffing ratios, we provide highly individualised programs tailored to meet the unique needs of every learner. Our campus features nine vibrant classrooms as well as specialised facilities, including a sensory room, indoor gym, art and music rooms, a consulting space, a teaching kitchen and garden, and fully equipped horticultural sheds.

We offer the Victorian Pathways Certificate (VPC) to prepare senior students for life beyond school, supported by our new purpose-built Senior Education Centre which opened in early 2025. A hydrotherapy pool, currently under construction, will further enhance our specialist services in the near future.

Our multidisciplinary team includes specialist teachers, dedicated classroom support staff, and allied health professionals delivering services and offering consultation in speech pathology, counselling, music therapy, occupational therapy, and physiotherapy.

At Bass Coast Specialist School, we work in close partnership with families and the wider community to build independence and foster full participation in community life.

Please contact us if you would like more information or to make an appointment. 5672 4474

We welcome you to visit our school

www.basscoastss.vic.edu.au

SOUTH GIPPSLAND SENTINEL-TIMES | TUESDAY, AUGUST 19, 2025 | 21



Happy students at the new Corner Inlet College.

Ready to welcome more students in 2026

FOSTER'S Corner Inlet College supports academic students to achieve their best, with manageable class sizes allowing staff to devote attention to each individual, the school is set to expand in 2026 by offering Year 9 classes, with enrolments open for that level as well as Years 7 and 8.

The school recently held its official opening celebration, students and staff having had time to find their feet after the classes began in Term 1 this year.

"We've started small, and they've settled in beautifully," founder and principal Jen Young said of the students and staff, adding there is a family feel to the school community.

While there were some planning challenges to be tackled in establishing the college, Jen is delighted how things have gone since the arrival of its initial 17 students, 10 of whom are in Year 7 and the rest in Year 8.

"It's pretty much exactly where I want it to be," she said, noting the positive culture among staff, students and families.

While the college adheres to the Victorian Curriculum, covering all the key academic learning areas, there is also a strong focus on outdoor education.

"We take our students out every week and do activities like bushwalking, orienteering, surfing, canoeing and fishing," the principal said.

Corner Inlet College students recently taught students at Foster Primary School orienteering skills, building local relationships.

With students from locations around Mirboo North, Leongatha, Sandy Point and Yarram and staff from the local area, there is already a strong community feel.

Corner Inlet College students played a big part in the opening celebration, organising catering, and speaking during the event.

South Gippsland Shire Mayor John Schelling attended the opening, noting in his weekly media column that it was an opportunity to celebrate the college's significant achievements, saying they include welcoming the first students and expanding the school's network after over two years of planning.

Corner Inlet College will add a new year level each year, with Year 12 classes set to be introduced in 2029.

Those keen to learn more about enrolments in Years 7, 8 and 9 for 2026 are encouraged to call principal Jen Young on 0456 821 095.

A foundation for lifelong learning at St Laurence O'Toole

AT ST. LAURENCE O'Toole, we understand that every child learns in their own way and at their own pace. With the support of our dedicated teachers and education staff, we strive to meet the individual needs of each student—whether through one-on-one support, small group work, or whole-class instruction.

The Foundation year is a joyful and important beginning to each child's learning journey. We aim to make it a time filled with wonder, excitement, and new experiences. Our students are encouraged to develop positive attitudes toward learning, laying the groundwork for a lifelong love of school and discovery.



St Laurence O'Toole aim to make the Foundation year it a time filled with wonder, excitement, and new experiences.

Learning in Foundation is hands-on, creative and fun. Through maths games, music, drama, and art, students build essential skills in a way that's engaging and meaningful. In Religious Education, we focus on caring for one another, appreciating our uniqueness, learning about our families, and exploring how we can be stewards of God's creation.

We know that children learn best when they feel safe, happy, and connected. That's why the start of the year is all about building friendships and creating a strong sense of community. Social skills are explicitly taught, and we make sure every child feels that they belong. We aim for each student to have at least two close friends, helping to ensure playtimes are positive and inclusive.

Our small school setting is one of our greatest strengths. Every staff member knows every student by name, and we work together to make sure no child ever feels



St Laurence O'Toole strive to meet the individual needs of each student and put their school motto, Love in Action, into practice every day.

unnoticed. This close-knit environment allows us to truly look out for one another.

Each Foundation student is also paired with a Grade 6 buddy—an older friend and mentor who provides guidance, reassurance and friendship in the playground and beyond. These buddy relationships are nurtured through shared activities like reading, games, and lunch, and often become one of the most treasured aspects of the school year.

At St Laurence O'Toole, we also recognise that parents are a child's first and most important teachers. We welcome families to be active participants in school life, whether through assemblies, classroom events, or other special activities. Building strong home-school partnerships helps us ensure that every child has the support they need to thrive.

YEAR 7 - YEAR 9

2026 ENROLMENTS

NOW OPEN

CORNER INLET COLLEGE

Year 9 Academy Program commencing next year.

Our Corner Inlet College Year 9 Program combines rigorous academic depth with meaningful real-world experiences.

Find out more by visiting www.cornerinletcollege.org/year-9-academy-program

Phone: 0456 821 095

615 Fullers Road, Foster

www.cornerinletcollege.org

ENROLMENTS OPEN NOW

Virtual Tour Online

Visit our website for all information or book a tour

www.stlleongatha.catholic.edu.au | 5662 2192 |

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2026 EDUCATION CHOICES

Rich and varied learning experiences

SAN Remo Primary School takes pride in offering its students as many rich and varied learning experiences as possible, and this term, despite it being a short one, Acting Principal, Lauren Hamer, says, "We are truly excelling in this area."

"We have an exciting calendar ahead, including our school disco run by our wonderful Fundraising Committee, our Whole School Drumming Concert, Book Week celebrations, Science Week activities, special days promoting inclusivity and kindness such as Bullying No Way, and a STEM Together Expo."

As part of the school-wide Positive Behaviour Supports, San Remo Primary have reintroduced Peer Mediators to help supervise and support play around their brand-new Gaga Pit. "These student leaders ensure everyone plays fairly, follows the rules, and respects the equipment," said Lauren.

"Our positive behaviour expectations are shining both in classrooms and the playground, with students showing a strong understanding of processes, procedures, and teamwork." Positive reinforcement in every classroom helps to create a culture of respect and co-operation.

The implementation of the University of Florida Literacy Institute (UFLI) program in junior school aligns seamlessly with the Victorian Curriculum's commitment to evidence-based, structured synthetic phonics instruction.

This daily approach ensures that all students receive consistent, explicit, and systematic teaching in foundational reading skills, laying a strong literacy base from the early years. "Our previous phonics program had already yielded excellent results, as highlighted by our strong NAPLAN performance, and the adoption of UFLI builds on this success by providing a refined and research-backed structure," Tracey Wilson, Literacy Coordinator and Prep Teacher explains.

"Our junior school staff have demonstrated a strong commitment to professional growth by visiting other schools, conducting in-depth research, and seeking advice from paraprofessionals to ensure best practice. By adopting UFLI, we are equipping our students with the tools they need to become confident and capable readers, while fostering a culture of continual improvement and collaboration among educators."



Grade 5/6 students supporting their prep buddies to see the sights of Phillip Island.



Grade 6 Peer Mediator, Lucy, supervising around the new Gaga Pit.

"We were also fortunate to welcome our new Koori Education Support Officer, Sonya Hunt, who shared the importance of gathering as a tribe and sharing stories. Students worked with Sonya to create Yarning Sticks for their classroom Circle Times, bringing culture and connection into the learning space, not just outside."

The San Remo Primary students thrive in their dynamic STEM program, where they dive into exciting activities across Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics. "Last week, we celebrated Science Week with hands-on food experiments led by one of our talented scientist parents, Gabrielle Enness, sparking curiosity and discovery," said Lauren.

"We also hosted STEM Together, a lively STEM Expo where families visited the school to explore the amazing projects their children have been working on and even got to try out some of our interactive STEM resources firsthand. It was a fantastic opportunity to celebrate learning and inspire a passion for STEM within our school community."

As part of the Grade 5/6 Inquiry Learning program, students are engaging in a unit of work titled San Remo: Sand, Sea and Sustainability. This unit explores the unique marine and coastal environment of the area, with a current focus on the positive and negative impacts of human activity.

Recently, students ventured out on the bay to survey local marine and bird life, while also observing San Remo's housing and landforms. They also had the opportunity to meet Samuel, who is sailing from Sydney to Tasmania in his recycled yacht, to learn first-hand about the impact of pollution on marine life. "The unit will conclude with a student-led campaign promoting local beach protection, giving our young learners the chance to turn their knowledge into real-world action."

San Remo Primary School is hosting an open week for prospective families and 2026 preps, running from September 8 to September 12. Families are encouraged to book an appointment for a school tour.



There are many courses and learning opportunities for students at Village High School.

Fresh learning opportunities for Bass Coast youth

VILLAGE High School is calling for expressions of interest from students across the region for a range of hands-on VET (Vocational Education and Training) courses planned for 2026.

You don't have to be a Village High School student to join in – these opportunities are open to all Year 10-12 students from Bass Coast and surrounds.

The proposed line-up includes certificates in:

Horticulture with AJ at The Cape Community Garden - a chance to dig in, get your hands dirty and learn how to grow with purpose.

Events & Tourism – uncover what it takes to plan and run great events, and explore the tourism industry that keeps our region buzzing.

Lab Tech – Food Science – step into the lab to discover the science that makes our food safe, sustainable and innovative.

Information Technology (IT) – develop digital skills for the jobs of today and tomorrow.

"These are exciting courses

that aren't currently available without travelling several hours each day," said Fiona from Village High School. "If we get enough interest, we can bring them here, but we need to hear from students now."

And it's not just students they're looking for. The school is also seeking individuals with related industry experience who already have or are willing to complete their Certificate IV in Training & Assessment to help deliver these programs.

Trainers would work with small, engaged groups for three to four hours each week, around 35 weeks per year, and are supported by VHS staff. VIT registered teachers who have recently left the profession and are currently working in these industries are also encouraged to register with us.

Whether you're a student eager to try something new or a trainer keen to pass on your expertise, now's the moment to get in touch. Find out more at village-highschool.org/vetcourses.



SAN REMO PRIMARY SCHOOL
A Small School with a Big Heart!



San Remo Primary offers quality educational programs that engage and support our children to achieve their best.

- Experienced teachers who deliver evidence based curriculum programs.
- A stimulating and supportive learning environment catering to all students.
- Specialist subjects of Art, Japanese, Music, Physical Education, STEM and Library.
- Dedicated and well resourced Inclusion and Wellbeing program.
- Theircare: Before, After School Care and Holiday Program.

2026 Prep Enrolments NOW OPEN!
Come and see the school in action and the exciting new developments. Coming soon!
Book an appointment for a school tour during our Open Week, September 8-12.

5678 5354 | san.rem.ps@education.vic.gov.au | 22 Bergin Grove, San Remo



ENROLMENTS NOW OPEN

VCE for 2026 (inc. VM)

Wonthaggi Campus

Village High School is inviting applications for VCE, 2026. Join a supportive, innovative learning community that values curiosity, connection, and real-world learning.

Find out more | villagehighschool.org/eoi



100 years of Tarwin Lower Primary School

TARWIN Lower Primary School will celebrate 100 years of teaching and learning this year.

The school officially opened September 28, 1925, and was located in a room at the back of Tarwin Lower Hall, with 26 students on that very first roll and Mr Victor Fisher being the first teacher.

In 1929, a dedicated school building was designed by the Public Works Department and constructed at 34 School Road, Tarwin Lower and the building was used for over 90 years.

It was a typical inter-war, one room school of standard design with a gable roof and an offset projecting gable porch with a side entry door.

It had two sets of tall multi-pane double hung windows to the south and a single set to the north, and there was a pair of four pane windows in the end wall of the porch.

Historically, the school was associated with the development of the township during the inter-war period following the opening of the butter factory, resulting in the need for a permanent school in the township.

Current Principal, Jennifer Cox is welcoming everyone, even those from interstate to the school to help celebrate their centenary on the morning of Saturday November 1, 2025.

“The actual date is on the 28th of September, but we’re having a big celebration at the school on the first of November,” explained Ms. Cox.

The celebration will include opening up a time capsule, school tours of the new school and a display in the Tarwin Lower Hall of photos and objects from across the school’s century. A blues/roots band will be playing and there will be morning tea.

“We’d like anyone to come, if they had any association with the school, we’d love to see them, but even people who haven’t, and they want to come down and have a look, they might be interested in the time capsule or any of the displays. We welcome them all to come down,” said Ms. Cox.



Tarwin Lower Primary School will be celebrating their Centenary this year.



Primrose Knox, Oscar Greely, Ruby Hensler, Emmett Keown, and Edith Tranter having fun together on our playground.

Discover, create and grow

LEONGATHA Community Preschool Centres (LCPC) are truly special places where children are embraced with warmth and encouragement to explore, learn, and grow.

Led by caring and qualified educators, every child is encouraged to discover, create, and grow at their own pace.

The LCPC’s philosophy centres around honouring each child’s unique journey, fostering creativity, and building meaningful connections between educators, children and their families.

At the heart of the preschools’ approach is a commitment to child-centeredness, ensuring that every activity and interaction is tailored to meet the individual interests and developmental needs of each child.

Through a blend of child-initiated play, group activities, and cherished routines like singing and storytelling, children are encouraged to explore, question, and problem-solve in a warm and supportive environment. It’s a place where every child feels valued, celebrated, and inspired to reach their full potential.

“The gains the children get from kindergarten are amazing. The children

make strong progress across all developmental areas from the beginning of their three year old kinder year to the end of their four year old kinder journey. We focus on building resilience, instilling in the children the ability to have a go, keep trying and bounce back. It’s a can do attitude across the two services,” said a spokesperson for the preschool.

“Our programs include lots of incursions, excursions and special days such as footy day, dress up day, pyjama day and special family days.”

The two services are Hassett Street and Allora Kindergarten, where the children enjoy a world of wonder and adventure in the outdoor play spaces.

From the inviting mud kitchen where imaginations run wild to the vibrant vegetable patch where little hands eagerly tend to growing plants at Hassett Street to the sandpit, play structures, and opportunity to care for chickens at Allora Kindergarten.

Parents and children are invited to experience the warmth and magic of Leongatha Community Preschool Centres, where every child is supported to thrive and reach their full potential.

TARWIN LOWER PRIMARY SCHOOL

- Co-operation
- Kindness
- Resilience
- Respect

Tarwin Lower Primary School proudly celebrating 100 years of quality education in our community.

Small school, big opportunities

Our school features:

- Small class sizes, providing individual attention, laying strong foundations in literacy and numeracy & enabling our children to learn in a supportive environment.
- Strong connections with the local and broader community
- Thursday playgroup
- Stephanie Alexander - Kitchen Garden Program
- Strong music program across all year levels
- Visiting specialists for Art, Library and Auslan
- Part of Sporting Schools program providing a wide selection of sporting activities
- Dedicated, professional teachers committed to supporting your child to succeed at school and for life.
- Spacious, modern facilities with plenty of open spaces for children to play, grow and learn.

WE WELCOME ALL ENQUIRIES AND SCHOOL VISITS

School Road, Tarwin Lower p: 5663 5263
e: tarwin.lower.ps@education.vic.gov.au www.tarwinlowerps.vic.edu.au

LEONGATHA COMMUNITY PRESCHOOL CENTRES

PROPOSED PROGRAMS FOR 2026

Three-year-old programs Allora Kindergarten: Wednesday 9am–3pm Friday 9am–3pm Every second Monday 9am–3pm Hassett Street Kindergarten: Tuesday 9am–3pm Thursday 9am–3pm Every second Monday 9am–3pm	Four-year-old programs Allora Kindergarten: Tuesday 9am–3pm Thursday 9am–3pm Every second Monday 9am–3pm Hassett Street Kindergarten: Wednesday 9am–3pm Friday 9am–3pm Every second Monday 9am–3pm
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KINDER ENROLMENTS ARE NOW OPEN
Register at www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/kinder
To organise a tour of our kindergartens please phone 5662 2547

FIND US AT WWW.LEONGATHAPRESCHOOLS.ORG.AU



Inverloch Primary School are eagerly awaiting to meet their new 2026 Prep children, with a supportive transition program already in place.

Inverloch gears up for prep transition and beyond

AT INVERLOCH and Kongwak Primary Schools, we believe in giving our best to be our best.

Our two school communities are eagerly awaiting to meet our new 2026 Prep children. Our staff are already preparing to provide a supportive transition program, our senior students can't wait to be connected as a 'buddy' and the rest of us look forward to the joy and laughter that new Preps inject into our schools each year.

It is such a delight and privilege to have the responsibility of supporting young children as they begin their journey through school and for many parents, carers and guardians, it's their first time in a new role too.

At Inverloch and Kongwak Primary Schools we're committed to providing a supportive experience for our families. We aim to strengthen the relationship between the school and our families so that we can better provide for the individual students in our care.

Our Prep students can expect a warm and welcoming environment where our passionate teachers and committed aides are skilled in making adjustments to ensure our school is inclusive for all people. We offer a high-quality program that covers all the key components of the Victorian Curriculum. On a daily basis our students are immersed in literacy,

numeracy and humanities and each week they engage in visual art, music, STEM, Auslan and PE. Our teachers work within teams to ensure that every student benefits from the collective expertise of our staff. When teachers adopt the collective responsibility for all the children across a cohort, they contribute their strengths to the program and the practice of every teacher improves. To further support the development of our teachers, we invest in having Learning Specialists leading curriculum teams (literacy, numeracy and inclusion/wellbeing) and coaching individuals to improve their practices.

Our school is also incredibly proud of our approach to supporting the social and emotional needs of our students and their families. Our Wellbeing Team supports our staff and families to build the personal and social capability of our students because we feel that it is essential that members of our communities can regulate their emotions, develop empathy for others, build positive relationships and handle challenging situations constructively.

If you're interested in enrolling at either of our two schools, please contact our admin team at our Inverloch office to organise a visit. We'd love to meet you, tour you around our schools and talk more about how we can provide a positive experience for your family.

Community-focused learning environment offering quality education

KONGWAK Primary School is a small country primary school situated in the lovely hamlet of Kongwak, located centrally to the townships of Inverloch (14 kilometres), Korumburra (14 kilometres) and Wonthaggi (16 kilometres).

KPS is a mainstream setting that offers a unique and intimate multi-age learning environment whilst delivering the Victorian Curriculum.

Our junior and senior classroom teachers present a high-quality program using evidence based teaching approaches to provide our students with the essential knowledge and skills to be successful lifelong learners.

We meet our students at their point of need to grow their skills and knowledge in all areas, particularly literacy and numeracy. Our students are active participants in their own learning, working with staff to set goals, work towards achieving them and celebrating success.

The multi-age environment provides ample opportunities for student leadership, voices to be heard and an experience of agency in how the school operates. The hub-annex relationship with Inverloch Primary School means that the two schools share Principal Ben Soumilas, Assistant Principal Mel McRae, Specialist Teachers (visual art, music, PE, STEM and Auslan) and Education Support Staff. Our Kongwak staff work within their own team and are also connected with the



Kongwak Primary School welcomes enquiries from families with primary school aged students at all levels, as well as potential Foundation students for 2026, 2027 and beyond.

teaching teams at Inverloch to ensure the two-way sharing of knowledge and support. That way, all of our students benefit from the collective expertise and strengths of our teachers and aides.

There are also frequent opportunities for collaboration and connections to be made between students from both schools at shared multi-age learning days, camps, excursions, performances, and participation in house teams for inter school sports events.

KPS has a strong focus on sustainability and environment, with 'SUSWAK' (Sustainable Kongwak) being a weekly feature and a favourite for many students. Suswak can include all types of activities such as pruning fruit trees, propagating native plants on National Schools Tree Planting Day, planting vegetable seedlings, soap making and cooking lunch for staff and students.

"I love coming to school at Kongwak because we are

surrounded by nature, we looked after animals and I get to play with my friends from prep to grade six". Andie (prep)

"Kongwak PS is beautiful, we get lots of outside time, the teacher are kind and that's why I think you should come to Kongwak PS". Buley (Year 3)

"Kongwak PS is an adventurous, outdoorsy place to learn and play we have animals that Grade 6 leaders like me get to help take care of". Lucia (Year 6)

"I like Kongwak because its not like other schools the kids are separated in the playground and we all get to play together". Norah (Year 6). Kongwak Primary School welcomes enquiries from families with primary school aged students at all levels, as well as potential Foundation students for 2026, 2027 and beyond.

Please contact the Inverloch PS office on 5674 1253 if you would like to organise a tour – we'd love to have you join us out at Kongwak!

INVERLOCH & KONGWAK PRIMARY SCHOOLS

We Give Our Best To Be Our Best

Be Safe, Be Respectful, Be an Active Learner



For more information or to book a tour at either of our two schools contact Inverloch Primary School

Phone 5674 1253 or visit our website www.inverlochps.vic.edu.au

Principal: Ben Soumilas | Assistant Principal: Mel McRae

HM12558



Care, Lead, Achieve

Welcoming 2026 Prep enrolments and new families.

- Small Class Sizes • Sustainability
- Community - Family orientated • Kitchen Garden/Cooking
- Library Van • Specialist Subjects
- Care for Country • Passionate Staff.

For more information or to book a school tour contact (03) 5674 1253 Inverloch.ps@education.vic.gov.au

HM12558

The staff are family at Newhaven College

WHY do so many Newhaven College staff choose the College for their own children's education?

Families trust in the nurturing and inspiring learning environment at Newhaven College - a trust so strong that, in 2025, 33% of the College's staff have chosen to enrol their own children at the school. Fifty staff members are parents to 83 students, representing every year level from Prep to Year 12 and evenly distributed across all sub-schools.

This statistic speaks volumes. It's a strong endorsement not just of the College's reputation in the community, but how much staff value the school. They believe in it so much, they choose it for their own kids.

Year 1 Teacher, Sarah Pedersen, and her husband, Cameron, a Senior School Teacher, currently have three of their four daughters at the College, "Having our girls at Newhaven College, where we also teach, has been an incredibly rewarding experience. We love how the school genuinely values community, and how our daughters are supported and inspired through the many opportunities, both in and beyond the classroom", says Sarah, "We're really looking forward to next year, knowing all four of our girls (our youngest coming in Prep!) will continue



An astounding 50 staff, who work at Newhaven College have their children enrolled at the school in 2025. This accounts for 33% of all staff at the College, and 83 students ranging from Prep to Year 12.

ue to receive the very best that Newhaven College has to offer. It's a student-centred school we're proud to be part of."

From the Junior School through to the Senior years, Newhaven College offers a well-rounded, values-driven education. The strength of its pastoral care program ensures every student is seen and supported, with a strong focus on wellbeing and personal growth. That's a quality that resonates deeply with staff, many of whom work closely with the people delivering this care.

College Counsellor Emma Gale, whose husband Lachlan

is a Middle School Teacher, says of the College, "I love working at Newhaven College. The staff are brilliant, and we are a real community. You know people care and are there for you. I want that for my children as well, which is why I send them to our school. We love all being at the same beautiful site, and I'm excited about all the opportunities provided here for them."

Beyond the classroom, students have access to a rich range of academic pathways, sporting opportunities, visual and performing arts programs, and outdoor learning experiences. From

the House events to the life-shaping experiences of school camps and expeditions, the College creates opportunities for every student to thrive.

With 56 years of teaching at Newhaven College between them, Geoff and Lauren White have enjoyed having all three of their boys at the school, "It is a privilege to be able to teach where our boys have gone to school. It has been great watching them participate in sports days, music performances and assembly presentations. It has also given us greater insight into the beautiful environment and opportunities they have

experienced," Geoff says.

When staff are happy to work, grow, and raise their families in the same place, you know something special is happening. At Newhaven College, the trust that underpins every student-teacher relationship is echoed in the choices made by those who know the school best. And that speaks louder than any brochure ever could.

To learn more about Newhaven College or for more information, visit the Newhaven College website: 'Book A Tour', or contact admissions@newhavencol.vic.edu.au



"Newhaven College is a student-centred school we're proud to be part of," say parents and teachers Sarah and Cameron Pedersen.

Knowing where opportunities lie

Families trust in the nurturing and inspiring learning environment at Newhaven College - a trust so strong that, in 2025, more than 30% of our staff have chosen to enrol their own children here.

With students from Prep to Year 12, our staff have complete confidence in their colleagues to deliver the highest standard of education, supported by exceptional pastoral care and a rich array of co-curricular opportunities. For parents, this trust in our teaching and support staff is of paramount importance. So, the insider knowledge our staff hold is a powerful endorsement - and well worth listening to.

To find out more contact our Admissions Team on 03 5956 7505 or email admissions@newhavencol.vic.edu.au



1770 Phillip Island Road,
Phillip Island, Victoria
newhavencol.vic.edu.au



Lachlan and Emma Gale, who both work at Newhaven College, enjoy being on the same beautiful site as their children, Mia (Year 3) and Preppy Esther.



Teachers Geoff and Lauren White have enrolled all three of their boys at Newhaven College. The youngest, Mitchell, is now in Year 11. Between them, Geoff and Lauren have taught at Newhaven College for over 50 years. They are a testament to the College as a school and a place to work.

Diverse pathways at Leongatha Secondary College

LEONGATHA Secondary College is committed to ensuring every senior student is equipped with the skills, experiences, and confidence to excel in their chosen pathway, whether that's university, vocational education, apprenticeships, or the workforce.

The school believes student success is built on personalised programs and the ability to choose their own pathway.

"That's why we work closely with students and their families to ensure they are fully informed about all available options," assistant principal Tanya Chalmers said.

From Year 9, students embark on a structured, tailored process of exploring future opportunities.

Dedicated staff support each student by reviewing goals, monitoring progress, and providing targeted guidance right through to the completion of VCE or VCE VM in Year 12.

"This ongoing, individualised support ensures every pathway plan is purposeful, achievable, and aligned with the student's aspirations," Tanya said.

Dedicated Senior College staff recently met with each student and their family to review their aspirations and set up programs for success.

LSC's School-Based Apprenticeship and Traineeship (SBAT) Program continues to open doors for students keen to combine real-world work experience with their studies, providing an early head start in their chosen industries.

Alongside this, the Vocational Major (VM) program has expanded to offer a broader range of elective subjects, allowing students to tailor their learning

to their strengths, interests, and future career goals.

For those seeking academic extension, LSC offers University Immersion camps and VCE University Extension subjects, enabling students to gain early exposure to tertiary learning environments, experience university life, and challenge themselves academically by studying university units while still at school.

"We are extremely proud of our pathways program, which is achieving results well above state averages," Tanya said.

In 2024, 100% of the school's graduating students recorded a successful and positive post-school pathway, whether that was further study through a university or TAFE, employment, or an apprenticeship.

"These outcomes reflect not only the hard work and determination of our students, but also the effectiveness of the college's pathways framework in preparing them for life beyond school," Tanya remarked.

At Leongatha Secondary College, success is not defined by a single destination—it's about giving every student the opportunity, resources, and support to excel in their chosen direction.

"Our programs, staff, and strong community partnerships ensure that every senior student leaves us ready to thrive in the next stage of their journey," Tanya said.

If you are interested in discussing your young person's future pathways and individualised programs offered at LSC, please contact the college administration.



Year 11 School-Based Apprentice Tom Geary stands in front of a silage wagon he is working on at Chapman Machinery Service where he will start fulltime work next year, enjoying the opportunity to make a start in the workforce while still a student at Leongatha Secondary College. A34_3325



Job Skills and Pathways Coordinator Lynn Grabham discusses tertiary options with Year 11 students Ebony Dean and Nyah Gilliatte. A36_3325



LEONGATHA
Secondary College



Pathways WITH PURPOSE

Know your Path

With clear course plans, one-on-one advising, and career-focused mentoring, you'll stay focused and on track throughout your senior studies.

A Community That's Got Your Back

At Leongatha Secondary College, every member of staff is committed to building strong connections with students, supporting and encouraging them every step of the way.

Support That Goes the Extra Mile

LSC students don't just succeed, they thrive. Whether it's academic guidance or personal support, we go above and beyond to help you reach your full potential.

Want to learn more?
To arrange your school tour to see first hand what Leongatha Secondary College can offer, call 5667 2200 to make an appointment.

Broad opportunities at Korumburra Secondary College

KORUMBURRA Secondary College (KSC) offers a great mix of extra-curricular activities and innovative curriculum programs, with students currently preparing for their theatre production 'If This Couch Could Talk', and Science Week going off with a bang.

Over 40 pupils, approximately 10 percent of the school's student population, are participating in the production or filling various support roles, with all year levels represented, including a healthy contingent of Year 12s.

Acting principal Naomi Coleman noted the production is written and produced by school staff members and gives kids the opportunity to get involved in creative arts, providing a well-rounded education alongside academic offerings.

Year 9 students Ryder Humphrey and Noelan Siemering, along with a couple of friends who are also KSC students, formed the band Double Hatchet that has grunge influences, relishing the chance to rehearse at lunchtime and perform in school events.

Receiving such encouragement to pursue their creative interests is a great motivator to attend school.

Science Week was packed with fun and learning, featuring a science party, a Year 8 visit to a



Year 10 students Jack Tran and Jai Polley visit the calves that are part of the Cows Create Careers program at Korumburra Secondary College. A33_3325

couple of local robotic dairies to see the part science and technology play, and a Year 12 master-class at Federation University.

Year 9 students took Korumburra Primary School kids in Grades 1 and 2 through a round robin of science experiments.

A pyrotechnics expert was responsible for Thursday's big bang, after outlining chemical reactions and different types of fireworks and putting on a display.

Burra Foods made butter with the Year 7s, then demonstrated the importance in the food industry of washing your hands by showing how easily bacteria can be transferred, doing so by using a special powder that is only visible under specific lighting.

KSC places ongoing importance on Science, not just during Science Week, its STEM program supported by sponsorship through the locally based Martin Carlson Foundation.

"Their mission is to support technology education and the arts in the local area," Naomi said of the Foundation.

She highlighted a drone program it has sponsored that will run in September, giving students the chance to get their pilot licence, the school encouraging its kids to become involved.

That opportunity is running through the Vocational Education and Training Cluster, which also includes other schools in

the area.

"There are a lot of careers in piloting drones for real estate agents, agriculture, surveying; it's a new industry and we haven't offered that in the past," Naomi said, explaining the school is always looking for new opportunities for its students.

KSC is also a strong supporter of trades, with flexibility for students to pursue their area of interest through the Vocational Major program, be that carpentry, building, business or many other areas.

The school will add to its opportunities in building and construction with the introduction of a course teaching how to use hand tools to create furniture, that opportunity initially being for those in Years 9 and 10 in 2026 before the initiative expands the following year.

"It's much more of a focus on craftsmanship than using nail guns and electric saws," the acting principal said, stressing that such craftsmanship will help give KSC students a competitive edge when pursuing careers in relevant fields.

KSC is participating in the Cows Create Careers program, which offers the chance for Year 10 Applied and VET Science students to care for calves, helping them gain valuable knowledge through practical experience and classroom learning.



Why Korumburra Secondary College?

- Small class sizes
- VCE, VET and VM Pathways
- Like Minds Program, Years 7 & 8
- Activate Learning Program, Years 8 & 9
 - Weekly mentor sessions
- Extracurricular opportunities galore
- Modern new buildings and STEM facilities for optimum learning
 - Close knit community of students, parents and staff



We are Respectful
We are Resilient
We are Kind
We Try our Best

125 Jumbunna Road, Korumburra 3950 | Phone 5655 1566
Acting Principal, Ms Naomi Coleman



Students benefit from specialised facilities including a performing arts area, dedicated STEAM and Italian rooms, and a fully equipped gymnasium, at St. Josephs School Wonthaggi.

A vibrant warm and welcoming community

AT ST. JOSEPHS School, Wonthaggi, we take pride in being a warm and welcoming community where every student is valued for their unique personality, talents, and gifts.

We set high expectations for student achievement and are deeply committed to helping each child reach their full potential. Our engaging curriculum is thoughtfully designed to meet the individual learning needs of every student.

Our classrooms are dynamic, innovative, and age-appropriate, offering vibrant, well-resourced spaces that inspire learning. They feature comfortable, colourful furniture, a wide range of teaching aids, books, learning equipment, and the latest technological tools to enhance engagement and growth.

Students benefit from access to specialised facilities, including a performing arts area, dedicated STEAM and Italian rooms, and a fully equipped

gymnasium, all of which support deep exploration across key learning areas. From Grade Three onwards, students are provided with their own devices, while younger learners in Prep to Grade Two use iPads to support their educational journey.

At St Joseph's, we highly value staff collaboration and shared expertise. Our committed teaching teams work alongside several Education Support Officers who assist students across all year levels. Outside the classroom, our expansive playgrounds offer a wide range of play and sporting opportunities, including two basketball courts, an oval, soccer pitch, sand pits, and a gymnasium.

We warmly invite families interested in joining our vibrant school community to reach out with any questions or to arrange a visit. Together, we create an environment where every student is supported to learn, grow, and thrive.

2026

EDUCATION CHOICES

Growing with heart and purpose at Our Lady Star of the Sea

IN JANUARY 2018, the doors of the first Catholic school on Phillip Island opened to just 18 eager students. Fast forward to today, and Our Lady Star of the Sea in Cowes is thriving—with 113 students and a vibrant, close-knit community where every child and family is known, welcomed, and valued.

Our Lady Star of the Sea Primary School is more than just a place of learning—it's a place of discovery. With flexible indoor and outdoor learning spaces, a dynamic discovery centre and library, four playgrounds, a bird hide, a covered basketball court, and a synthetic oval with three running tracks, students are encouraged to explore, create, and grow in every direction.

Our Lady Star of the Sea principal, Catherine Blackford, said, "Sustainability is woven into the fabric of the school. Our flourishing gardens and green spaces offer hands-on opportunities to study science and environmental stewardship. Students actively participate in planting and maintaining our gardens, learning firsthand how small actions can make a big impact. With solar panels, battery storage, and water tanks, we're proud to be reducing our carbon footprint and inspiring future changemakers."

"But what truly sets Our Lady Star of the Sea apart is our people. The dedicated staff foster a safe, supportive, and engaging environment where every student is challenged to reach their full potential. Specialist programs in science, art, physical education, Auslan, digital technology, drama, and music ensure a rich and well-rounded education, grounded in high expectations and mutual trust."

Enrolments for 2026 are now open! To book a school tour, call (03) 5951 1700 or visit olsscows.catholic.edu.au.



Our Lady Star of the Sea in Cowes is a vibrant primary school with 113 students.



Our Lady Star of the Sea, a place of learning with a dynamic discovery centre.



Our Lady Star of the Sea students actively participate in the flourishing gardens and green spaces.



St Joseph's Primary School Wonthaggi

Faith, compassion, courage and a love of learning





2026 SCHOOL ENROLMENTS

Accepting Enrolments for 2026

Contact the office to schedule an appointment for a tour or to obtain enrolment information. Enrolment packs are available on our website or at the school office.

*Enrolments subject to class size limitations
• Fee concessions available*
* Health Care Card Holders - 2025 Fees & Levies: \$520 per family

stjwonthaggi.catholic.edu.au

03 5672 1052



Our Lady Star of the Sea

Catholic Primary School - Cowes



Courage, Compassion & Creativity

We believe in providing a welcoming, friendly and safe environment where everyone is respected and treated fairly and justly. Taking pride in environmental sustainability, the surrounding wetlands and "green areas" on the school site will engage students in authentic studies within a natural environment.

Offering before and after school care every day

Open day is everyday - phone 5951 1700 to arrange a tour

6 Cowes-Rhyll Road, Cowes

info@olsscows.catholic.edu.au

www.olsscows.catholic.edu.au

SOUTH GIPPSLAND SENTINEL-TIMES | TUESDAY, AUGUST 19, 2025 | 29

Christian education from kinder to Year 12 at Chairo

CHAIRO Christian School is holding a Prep information evening on Wednesday August 27 for parents with children starting school next year, plus a 'discover Chairo day' on Saturday September 13.

The Prep evening will cover topics such as school readiness, orientation program, specialist subjects, buddy program, parent partnership and more.

For the 'discover Chairo day', families with children of all ages can book campus tours via the school website.

With the Australian Curriculum being delivered from a biblical worldview perspective, Chairo provides a distinctly Christian education from kindergarten through to VCE and is constantly expanding its educational programs and increasing enrolment numbers.

Each member of the Chairo Leongatha school community is valued as a uniquely created individual, with specific gifts, talents, challenges, interests and personality.

"Chairo Leongatha encompasses what I deeply value about learning: fostering a supportive and inclusive environment where students can grow in their capability, character and commitment," Principal Amy Stork said.

Chairo Kinder is an integral part of the campus.

In addition to enjoying their own excellent facilities, the children have access to some of those at the specialist school.

The educators seek to prepare kindergarten students for a smooth progression into school and equip them to apply themselves in responsible and capable ways throughout life.

In a welcome development for South Gippsland families, students no longer need to travel to Chairo's Drouin campus for their final years of secondary school, with Years 11 and 12 having now commenced at the Leongatha campus and purpose-built senior secondary facilities currently being constructed.

"We have been blessed with some wonderful, committed and experienced senior secondary teachers, some of whom have transferred from other Chairo campuses to be part of this exciting new program," Head of VCE, Nick McLean said.

Parents interested in finding out more about what Chairo has to offer are encouraged to visit the school website, complete an online enquiry or call 5662 4355.

By visiting the enrolment page on the school's website, families can book personal tours on school days or during the next scheduled 'discover Chairo day' on Saturday September 13.



Chairo Christian School Leongatha Principal Amy Stork and students look forward to welcoming new pupils to its friendly community next year.



PREP INFO NIGHT

Wednesday 27 August, 7.00 pm

An evening for parents with children commencing Prep in 2026

- Introducing Chairo
- School readiness
- Orientation program
- Specialist subjects
- What is Christian education?
- Valuing parent partnership
- Senior/Junior buddy program



Chairo Christian School

101 Horn St, Leongatha • 5662 4355

www.chairo.vic.edu.au



Wonthaggi Primary School students participating in chess club. These informal settings help to build positive and strong school wide relationships.

A safe, respectful learning community

WONTHAGGI Primary School is proud to be a safe and welcoming learning community where every child is ready to learn. Our strong wellbeing structures support students from the moment they arrive, helping them settle in, feel valued, and engage confidently with their day.

A key focus is fostering a culture that aligns with our school values: Be Safe, Be Respectful, and Be a Learner. 'Be Safe' means students know how to look after themselves and each other, with clear routines, trusted adults, and calm spaces where they can seek help. 'Be Respectful' guides our interactions—with peers, teachers, and the wider school community—so everyone feels heard and included. Be a Learner underpins our curriculum, inviting curiosity, effort, and resilience in every subject.

We support self-regulation and emotional and social resilience as essential

foundations for academic success. Through explicit teaching of emotion vocabulary, mindful moments, and routines that promote focus and reflection, children learn to manage big feelings, make thoughtful choices, and bounce back from setbacks. Our wellbeing team, peer mentoring, and inclusive practices ensure students have the tools to stay motivated and engaged, even during challenging tasks.

We also offer a range of lunchtime clubs that are staff-supported, providing structured opportunities for students to connect, collaborate, and build strong, positive social relationships beyond the classroom. At Wonthaggi Primary, we know that when students feel safe, respected, and empowered to learn, their academic growth thrives. Our commitment to wellbeing is a commitment to every child's bright future.

2026 EDUCATION CHOICES



Enjoying art in the dedicated art room at the Korumburra Primary School. B45_3225



Year 3 Teacher Clint Mackie with a mathematics class at Korumburra Primary School. B44_3225

Students aim high to reach their full potential

A SMALL country school with 340 students Korumburra Primary School has a proud history of educating and nurturing the whole child, developing not only academic excellence but also social, emotional, and physical skills.

Korumburra P.S. is dedicated to empowering students to become lifelong learners according to Assistant Principal Nicholas Besley.

"Our school is unique, we provide our students with the highest quality education while fostering a love of learning and

strive to create a safe and nurturing environment where students can thrive and develop into well-rounded individuals.

"Our dedicated staff are committed to helping all students achieve their full potential."

At Korumburra Primary School students are encouraged to aim high, be respectful, be responsible and be resilient to create a positive and inclusive school environment where all students can succeed.

Soon to celebrate 100 days of

learning for their Prep students Korumburra Primary School has small class sizes of less than 20 students in Prep and Grade 1 which according to Mr Besley is greatly appreciated by parents.

"We also offer a variety of clubs and activities to help students explore their interests and develop new skills," said Mr Besley.

Korumburra Primary School offers five specialist classes for students in PE., Italian, Art, Performing Arts and STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering

and Mathematics).

Year 5 and Year 6 students are able to prepare for their transition to secondary school through a connection program with Korumburra Secondary College.

The school is well connected to the community with a Lions Club sensory garden.

"We're expecting a large intake of students next year as the school continues to grow."

Success in obtaining funding grants has allowed the school to achieve smaller class sizes,

provide wood working and cooking groups, and social skills groups run by our well-trained Education Support Officers.

The school's disability inclusion program is one of the highest regarded in the area.

To contact Korumburra Primary School phone 5655 1309 during office hours Monday to Friday 8:15am to 4pm, email korumburra.ps@education.vic.gov.au or arrange a visit to the school in James Street, Korumburra.



Wonthaggi Primary School



Come and join the Wonthaggi Primary School community in 2026

- Step into Prep transition program commencing Week 1 of Term 4
- Onsite Water Safety Program Terms 1 & 4
- Before and After School care offered onsite for all students

Enquiries and enrolments for all ages are welcome
For information or a school tour please contact the office on 5672 1600

Regular updates on student learning on our Facebook Page

Be Safe, Be a Learner, Be Respectful

Enquiries and enrolments for all year levels are welcome 5672 1600
E: wonthaggi.ps@education.vic.gov.au W: www.wonthaggips.vic.edu.au

KORUMBURRA PRIMARY SCHOOL

Our purpose: To empower each individual to reach their full potential & become a lifelong learner.

Our values: Aim High, Be Respectful, Be Responsible, Be Resilient



2026 ENROLMENTS

2026 PREP ENROLMENTS ARE NOW OPEN

To facilitate planning for 2026 classes, we ask parents to please enrol their child by

Friday, September 12, 2025

Enrolments will be accepted after this date.

To enrol please contact the school office on 5655 1309.

Parents are warmly invited to tour our school at 4:30pm on

Monday, September 8, 2025

PRINCIPAL: Nathan Pirouet

Address: 6-16 Mine Road, Korumburra

Email: korumburra.ps@education.vic.gov.au

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL: Nicholas Besley

Telephone: 5655 1309

Website: www.korumburraps.vic.edu.au



Students were creative with their moves during a theatre incursion at Wonthaggi North Primary School. W03_3325

Students move with theatre incursion

WONTHAGGI North Primary School was brimming with energy on Wednesday, August 13, as students took part in a unique theatre workshop delivered by 'Asking for Trouble.'

The event was part of Regional Arts Victoria's 2025 program, which brings performers to regional schools to engage students in The Arts. Visual Art, Drama and ICT teacher Kerry McGennisken said the school selected the incursion from a shortlist last year.

"Regional Arts Victoria help engage students in The Arts and arrange performers to visit schools in regional areas. They offer a range of workshops and performances to inspire and inform students about theatre, music, performance and other key creative areas," she said.

The day's sessions focused on theatre exercises and workshops. For Wonthaggi North students, the program was all about building confidence and learning basic theatre skills.

One activity, called 'honeycomb', quickly became a favourite. It began with one student standing in the middle of a circle.

Others joined in one by one, connecting with the group before freezing in place. The result was a tangled, frozen cluster of students, just like a piece of honeycomb.

"They all seemed to really enjoy it," Kerry said.

The impact of the day was clear from the youngest students' reactions. Prep student Zara said it was "lots of fun" and that she loved "dancing and moving around". Ethan was just as enthusiastic, saying, "We did a kicking dance, and it was really really good!"

Kerry hopes the students left the gym with a "new sense of fun with drama and theatre" and a boost in confidence when performing or moving in front of their peers.

"These types of theatrical incursions are wonderful for student self-expression and to help build confidence. The performers were great at explaining what they wanted the students to do and keeping them engaged. We are very grateful for Christy and Luke from 'Asking for Trouble' for coming to WNPS and sharing their skills and fun with us," she said.

Science is alive at St Joseph's



Zahli, Tilly and Arianna learn about the water cycle.



Alfie and Andy used coding to create these great key chains.



Beau and Kenzie simulate how rain happens.

STUDENTS at Korumburra's St Joseph's Primary School love to explore, discover and innovate and this year's Science Week was no exception.

STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) is a key part of the curriculum, but during Science Week an even brighter light was shone on the importance of science in our lives.

STEM teacher, Megan Smith developed and delivered an array of hands-on science activities, which the students participated in.

The children worked in small, cross-age groups learning about rockets, rain, bubbles, Fibonacci flowers, coding and even lemons!

They were full of curious questions and shared their knowledge with each other.

Lots of "oohs and ahs", laughter and squeals of delight rang out across the school.

Enrolments for all year levels are open for 2026 and the school invites families to visit and experience the St Joseph's difference.

If you would like your child to be part of a nurturing, vibrant learning environment, call the St Joseph's office on 5655 2040 or email principal, Sharon Anderson at principal@sjkorumburra.catholic.edu.au to arrange a tour and a conversation.

Everyone is welcome at St Joseph's.



Enrolments are now open at St Joseph's, Korumburra

We invite you to experience the St Joseph's difference.

We offer...

- A safe, nurturing environment
- A rich curriculum with the addition of Visual Arts, Physical Education, Auslan and STEM
 - A full extra curricular program including camps, excursions, performance opportunities and inter school sport
 - Engaging learning spaces and a beautiful playground
- Smaller class sizes with 2 full time staff members in each space
 - Targeted teaching to meet the needs of every child
- Affordable fees including significant fee reductions for Health Care Card holders

We currently have places available across the school for 2026, including Foundation.

Everyone is welcome at St Joseph's



ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL • 1-3 Bridge Street, Korumburra
Principal - Sharon Anderson • Email: principal@sjkorumburra.catholic.edu.au • Ph: 5655 2040

Leongatha's Mary MacKillop grows with positivity

LEONGATHA'S Mary MacKillop Catholic Regional College is in the process of enrolling new Year 7 students for 2026, with close to 100 already enrolled.

Positive word of mouth and tours of the school have encouraged more families to become part of its community.

Current Year 12 students are about to complete their 13 years of primary and secondary education, with the school celebrating their achievements.

"Many students have already secured employment, further education opportunities, or placements, while the rest are diligently preparing for their upcoming VCE exams, and we wish them all the best and hope they achieve the results they are aiming for," principal John Freeman said.

"We are proud to witness our students achieve some of the best results in the area."

Mr Freeman explained that pupils are supported through a structured program that works collaboratively with them and their families, guiding to ensure subject choices align with each student's short- and long-term academic and career goals.

"Whilst we are not a large secondary school, we endeavour to offer a curriculum relevant to student aspirations that allows

them to engage in a six-year learning journey at the college," Mr Freeman said.

The school also forges positive relationships with employers and other education providers, helping create career and study opportunities for its students.

Mary MacKillop Catholic Regional College offers a range of options to develop each young person in its charge holistically.

That includes having an accelerated VCE program in place for high-achieving academic students, enabling them to commence VCE subjects in Year 10. A vibrant VCE Vocational Major program, along with Vocational Education and Training (VET) options, are offered to students. On-site VET options, in areas such as building and construction, information technology, music industry, textiles, and sport and recreation, enhance both employment and further study opportunities.

The school offers students the chance to participate in sport through its involvement in School Sports Victoria, and the opportunity to take part in a wide variety of academic competitions. Co-curricular opportunities such as performing arts, including music eisteddfods, public speaking, and Tournament of Minds, are also available.



Current Year 12 students are about to complete their 13 years of primary and secondary education, with the school celebrating their achievements.



Mary MacKillop is enrolling Year 7 students now.



Mary MacKillop Catholic Regional College

Grade 5 Discovery Days 2025

Monday 20th October
Grade 5 Students from *St Joseph's Wonthaggi* and *Star of the Sea Cowes*
Information will be provided directly to schools

Thursday 23rd October
Grade 5 Students from *St John's Koo Wee Rup* and *Government Schools*
Visit our website for more information and to register

Monday 27th October
Grade 5 Students from *St Joseph's Korumburra* and *St Laurence O'Toole Leongatha*
Information will be provided directly to schools

For further information or to register please visit our website or contact the College:
03 5662 4255
enrolments@mmcrc.catholic.edu.au



Amanda Vosper and Brett Gay will be volunteer teaching in Fiji this September, helping to strengthen literacy, numeracy and STEM in Fiji's Schools.

Local teachers volunteering to teach in Fijian schools

MIRBOO North teacher Amanda Vosper along with fellow teacher from Kurnai College, Brett Gay will be heading to Fiji this September to do some volunteer teaching.

Working with Fijian educators, Amanda and Brett will support Grade one students in core subjects and Grade 8 students studying for their final year exam before secondary school.

The volunteer program is a new initiative spearheaded by Australian educator Julie Armstrong, who has family ties to Fiji, and was born out of her desire to give back.

Amanda and Brett will stay in Julie's home in Korotogo Village, Sigatoka, where they will live with her family, enjoy home-cooked meals, and immerse themselves in the local community.

"It's something that Amanda and I have both been fairly passionate about, is doing remote teaching or helping out those in need through our personal development and workload skills programs at our college, and so we put our hands up," said Brett.

The pair will be collecting donations of educational and story books, stencils of letters and numbers, times tables posters and ABC posters and other educational materials for the classrooms in Fiji.

"We've got pictures of the schools that show that basically the walls are bare. They just don't have access to up to date, current resources like we do," said Amanda.

A sponsorship from Weet-Bix has also been secured for the program which will supply food to the Fijian students for a breakfast club.

This has given Amanda's VCE/VVM students at Mirboo North an opportunity to get involved and contribute to the program as well. They have been designing,

making and trying recipes using Weet-Bix, so they can create a recipe book for the Breakfast Club.

"We're looking at the staple foods that they have in Fiji that are cheap and easy to access and my students this week have started playing with some recipes. I can tell you that there was some absolutely amazing recipes, and then there was some that are going straight in the bin," laughed Amanda.

It's proved to be a research and problem solving exercise as well as the students discover some ingredients aren't available in Fiji or are too expensive so are having to find substitutes.

Mirboo North students have also been cross collaborating on the project with Kurnai College students.

"We've got kids from both Mirboo North and Kurnai who are working on doing the project. I've never seen kids get so excited. We were working on Friday with my kids, and I'm like, can you go to recess? And they were like, "no - we're really excited, we want to keep working". And if my students are excited, they'll ring Brett and have a conversation with Brett in his class about what's going on."

Brett said this has been beneficial for kids that are generally disengaged and who have been ignited and excited by the program.

This will be Brett's first time involved in volunteer teaching overseas, but it is something Amanda has done a couple of times in the past and said it's a great experience for both the volunteers and the students.

"They're just really grateful and appreciative of the time that you give, and even just the ability to have those different conversations about what life's like from where you're from."

Donations for Fijian students and schools can be dropped off to Mirboo North Secondary School.



VET Cooking and Hospitality. L-R College Principal Leith Cummins, Jasmine, Trish Tayler VET Teacher, Maggie, Zoe, Sara, Penny Morris VET Teacher and Ruby.

Academically, socially and emotionally supported at Bass Coast College

BASS Coast College (BCC) is the heart of public secondary education in the Bass Coast, and student numbers continue to grow, with enrolments tipping over 1700 in 2025. The college remains focused on fostering excellence in Learning and Well-being through a holistic approach to education.

The college is committed to creating a positive, inclusive, and engaging environment where every student feels supported to thrive academically, socially, and emotionally. To achieve this, the staff and teachers are implementing several key initiatives throughout 2025.

At the end of 2024, dedicated staff began training in the Berry Street Education Model, a framework designed to enhance student engagement and wellbeing by addressing the complex needs of learners. This model equips teachers with practical strategies to build stronger relationships, promote self-regulation, and create safe, predictable learning environments. This work complements the School Wide Positive Behaviour Supports that Bass Coast College have been working on over the last 12 months.

"We look forward to seeing the positive impact this approach will have on our classrooms and broader school community," said Principal Leith Cummins.

"In addition to these wellbeing-focused initiatives, our staff remain committed to delivering a dynamic and engaging curriculum that caters to the diverse needs of all learners."

Bass Coast College is continuing to build on the fantastic VCE results from last year and expand the VCE VM offerings and VET opportunities. "This year, we are supporting students in an extensive senior school program with 39 VCE subjects running and nine VET studies delivered on Campus, with Plumbing, Health Services, and Hospitality introduced this year due to the growing demand.



Instrumental music teacher Sara Beale with students Georgia and Thomas at the Arts Showcase.



Year 11 Outdoor Education Student on their Wilsons Prom camp.

"To support this work, we have strategically built strong leadership teams to work with students, staff and the community."

The College is proud of the achievements and the significant success achieved by staff and students in recent years. Growing student population, new campuses, and the addition of many high-quality staff have been rewarding, but throughout it all, the

key focus has been on BCC's academic and holistic support of its students. "This remains our clear focus, and we are particularly well placed for this with this high-quality support team available for students and families."

To enrol at Bass Coast College, contact the general office of the campus your child will be attending. For further information, visit www.basscoast.vic.edu.au

BASS COAST COLLEGE

“Achieving success in a caring and creative environment”

Bass Coast College proudly continuing the 100 year tradition as the area’s government secondary school presence. We remain committed to providing outstanding support for the young people of the Bass Coast area.

DUDLEY CAMPUS

Years 7-9
03 5672 0900

SAN REMO CAMPUS

Years 7-9
03 5610 2020

FLOW CAMPUS

Flexible Learning
Options Years 7-10
03 5672 0999

WONTHAGGI CAMPUS

Years 10-12
03 5611 4000



BASS COAST COLLEGE

BASS COAST COLLEGE
www.basscoast.vic.edu.au

College Principal
Leith Cummins



Misrepresented wombat friends group, they say

I am writing to appeal to your editor to set the record straight about untruths that were published in your paper and online in May 2025 'They'll tell you how to walk the dog', author unknown. This article has only now come to my attention, as I wasn't contacted for comment, even though it mentions our group in it.

In the article your paper misrepresented our group, Friends of San Remo Wombats. I'm a qualified professional writer myself, therefore I'm aware of the importance of balanced and accurate journalism, especially when writing about issues that have the potential to negatively impact the health and well-being of dogs, wildlife and the environment.

Firstly, the article starts with, "...it might come as a complete surprise to many to learn that between December 1 and April 30 each year, you can't go for a stroll along 'Lovers Walk' in Cowes with your dog, on the shared pathway connecting The Esplanade to Stradbroke Avenue.

"Between the hours of 10am and 5pm, and also between 8pm and 7am, dogs are completely prohibited in this area, on leash or not. But regardless of the rules, posted at both ends of the walking path, it remains one of the most popular locations for local residents and visitors to go for a walk with their dogs at all times of the year."

The Sentinel author writes, "It's not civil disobedience, it's simply how it is... people using the pathway to walk up to the Cowes' shops from their homes, holiday houses and other accommodation in the East Cowes area."

They also call the rules for Lovers Walk an 'anomaly'. Was this article submitted by the Phillip Island and Bass Coast Dog Owners Association for publication? It doesn't have an author listed, but reads as an opinion piece rather than an article that was well-researched and true.

While I can't speak for Lovers Walk, many in the community hope that the council has rules (by-laws) in place for good reason - we know they do for people running off-leash dogs on the San Remo back beach. The beach has just a few simple rules that most people follow so we can safely, and ethically, share the beach. But still far too many people break the rules, allowing their dogs in the dunes and vegetation, out of sight of their owners, not under voice control and around wildlife, and sometimes inside wombat burrows.

This activity is not only a breach of the local by-laws, but is a breach of the

Vox Pop

What do you think of the Wonthaggi wind turbines? Should they stay or go?



Carole Ribet

Wonthaggi

"It's environmentally friendly and I don't mind them."



John Fowler

Inverloch

"They should either stay or be replaced. We need them."



Sharon Decker

Venus Bay

"I don't mind the appearance of them, and the wind turbines I've been to aren't too noisy."



Fay Quilford

Wonthaggi

"They're fantastic and they should stay. I fully support any renewables."

Wildlife Act 1975; legislation in place to protect native species. The behaviour of rulebreakers is impacting wombats, including their vulnerable joeys; wombats that are already under pressure dealing with habitat loss, roadkill and the scourge of mange.

I wish our group hadn't (inadvertently) identified this problem with dog owners breaking this beach's rules, but we did, and have been trying to help advocate for the wombats ever since.

The information in your article highlights that some dog walkers ignore local by-laws clearly marked on signage, and walk their dogs in areas that are restricted. In our group's view this is because there is a 'culture of non-compliance' on the Bass Coast in terms of dog walkers not following the few rules that are in place for beaches and other residential areas.

Your article claims the rules in place for Lovers Walk are an 'anomaly', and thus appears to defend people doing the wrong thing, which, in our view, is irresponsible and unhelpful. What other council by-laws are acceptable for some individuals in the community to breach, without penalty, when they don't agree with them?

Nonetheless, your article also misrepresented a few other facts, which is disappointing for a professional and well-respected publication. If you had contacted our group, we would have presented our side and the facts.

Eve Kelly, Friends of San Remo Wombats.

Sentinel-Times

COMMENT

The tragedy of bad planning

HERE'S a question for our nine elected representatives on the Bass Coast Shire Council.

Can each and every one of you honestly say you are across the detail of the key reports and plans to be presented at the council meeting this Wednesday? Here's a selection of them:

- The draft Community Vision 2045
- The draft Council Plan 2025-2029
- The draft Annual Action Plan 2025-2026
- The draft Long Term Financial Plan 2025-2035
- The draft Asset Plan 2025-2029
- The draft Healthy, Safe and Resilient Bass Coast Plan 2025-2029
- The draft Disability Action Plan 2025-2029
- The draft Domestic Animal Management Plan 2025-2029 and
- The Governance Rules and Election Period Policy 2025

And if the readers' eyes have already rolled back with a lack of interest after seeing that list, it was at just such a meeting of council that a disastrous course was set for spending upwards of \$32 million on the Berninnet cultural centre in Cowes, a price we could not afford, especially when we had only \$8.3 million in grant money coming in.

The old cultural centre in Cowes could have been fixed up handsomely for \$2m-\$3m and we'd have had much more capacity to undertake urgently needed projects in a bigger capital works budget and to match grants from government.

That's why Phillip Island will not be getting a new sports oval anytime soon or that work will not commence on a new aquatic centre in Wonthaggi until 2028-29 at the very earliest, with no funding in sight for what is estimated to be a \$41 million-plus project.

The Phillip Island aquatic centre project? Forget it! In the draft Long Term Financial Plan 2025-2035 to be presented to council this week, it's not even listed as an aspiration in the next 10 years.

Those who turned out at the junior football finals at the Cowes oval last Sunday will have been left in no doubt about the urgent need for a new sports oval there.

There was no more room for cars inside the ground from early in the day and a massive crowd of parents, friends and players had assembled to watch the events. It was a great day, a celebration of one of the healthy activities we need to be providing our youth in the

face of rising crime, the rising incidence of mental health disorders and the scourge of screen time that's associated with damaging sedentary behaviour.

But there are a lot of other things in these annual plans and long-term plans which, for example, prioritise \$4 million at \$400,000 a year for the next 10 years for 'Climate Change Action', \$3.5m for a Fourth Bin Glass Recycling system, and \$200,000 for a Phillip Island Transfer Station that isn't planned to be built in the next decade, cost estimate \$13 million, while there's no meaningful funding for work to start on the Phillip Island Sporting Precinct until 2028-29.

The point is that in a \$123.2 million total gross shire budget, funded by \$81.5 million in rates and charges, a total of \$87.5 million is already allocated to support Council services, including employee costs of \$39 million for 351 employees, but with precious little left over for capital works.

In a reported Capital Works budget of \$31.5 million this year, the shire's administration had to be dragged kicking and screaming to allocate \$440,000 to prepare a Functional Layout Plan for the Phillip Island Sporting Precinct, while most of the money went to building maintenance and roads. Highlights of a meagre capX budget included \$1.9 million for the Wonthaggi netball pavilion, \$2m for the Bass netball pavilion and \$3.5m for the Inverloch to Wonthaggi inland pathway. Come on!

Here, for example, are some of the projects in the last LTFP: Cowes Cultural and Community Centre, Aquatics, Phillip Transfer Station and Depot, Bass Coast Dinosaurs Trail and Tracks and Trails, several of which were not funded and, of course, we know what a financial debacle Berninnet turned out to be.

Will we get the same hit rate from the new long-term financial plan?

We're simply not getting any bang for our buck or priority on the projects we desperately need, and if the councillors haven't got time to overturn these out-of-touch plans, they should call in a consultant who can review the proposals and give them some advice on a radically different way forward.

Finances are tight in local government, we know that, especially at a low-rating council like Bass Coast, which is why there needs to be a complete overhaul of the shire's finances, service provision and project priorities.

Just doing the same ol year after year is tragically, getting us nowhere.



NYORA Primary School was bursting with colour and courage as students transformed into superheroes, proudly wearing handmade capes and masks to stand up against bullying last week. The special event aimed to promote kindness, respect, and inclusion, showing that everyone has the power to make a positive difference.



The new Leongatha Red Cross Committee, ready for another big year of fundraising.

Strong growth for Leongatha Red Cross, raising \$14000

THE Leongatha Red Cross Unit is celebrating an outstanding year, raising just over \$14,000 in support of Red Cross Emergency Services and other important causes. The result reflects strong growth from the \$10,000 raised last year, showing both the hard work of members and the generosity of the local community. The Unit held its Annual General Meeting at the Leongatha RSL on Thursday, July 31, with RSL General Manager Greg Nugent chairing the meeting. Greg shared updates on the many changes

at the RSL over the past year that are benefiting the local community. He also thanked Marion Cook for her year as Chair and welcomed Lois Young back into the role, a position which she previously held since 2013. This year's highlights included catering for the Leongatha Embroidery Show, the Leongatha Rose Show and the Citizens Advice Bureau, as well as running the popular Father's Day and Mother's Day raffles. The May Morning Tea drew more than 75 guests, who enjoyed a talk from guest speaker Wendy

Caple on how to be ready in an emergency. Leongatha Red Cross Unit Secretary Cathy Curwood said the success came down to teamwork and community spirit. "Our Unit is a team that is committed to supporting Red Cross Emergency Services and other vulnerable people both nationally and internationally through fundraising. We are also committed to making Red Cross a visible presence in our community," she said. The Leongatha and Korumburra units recently combined, now boasting 24

members. Those who are keen to get involved can drop into the Leongatha RSL Upper Room at 10.30am on the last Thursday of every month. The Unit is currently running a Father's Day Raffle every Wednesday to Saturday morning during August outside Leongatha IGA, Leongatha ALDI or the Leongatha Newsagents. Tickets are \$2, with prizes including a BBQ pack, petrol vouchers and a Panthers Mensland voucher. The raffle will be drawn on Saturday, September 6, with all funds raised going to Emergency Services.



The display this year is titled 'Treasures for You from the Opportunity Shop,' and all items on display may be purchased on the spot.

Enduring church event part of Daffodil Festival

ST PETER'S Anglican Church has been part of the Leongatha Daffodil and Floral Festival every year since inception in 1958. The church event, organised and sponsored by St Peter's Ladies' Guild, is open Thursday 12-5, Friday 9-5 and Saturday 9-4 (the Church is open daily). Entry is free – as is tea and coffee – a gift from the Church. The Church will be decorated with Flowers in Praise – flower arrangements from local churches. The display this year is titled 'Treasures for You from the Opportunity Shop,' and all items on display may be purchased on the spot. Light Refreshments, which are served in the church, will be available all day. This year there will also be a special Prayer Corner. St Peter's Opportunity Shop, next door, is open from 10-4 Wednesday to Friday and on Saturday mornings.

~ NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE & ADULT LEARNING NEWS ~



BASS COAST ADULT LEARNING

THERE'S a lot going on at BCAL right now. New learners have joined the Care and Support pathways course. There are also new faces in the Practical Music group. Bill popped into the class last week to tell them all about his experience playing in the band for Lyric Theatre's production of Footloose. A new literacy and numeracy course has started on Tuesdays in partnership with Bass Coast College, specifically for their learners in the FLOW program. Last Wednesday, a group of learners from Bass Coast College join learners from the Migrant English course in a session on financial literacy presented by Centsible. The session focused on saving money, particularly for a mortgage to buy a home. Participants enjoyed the pre-

sentation, especially the role-play, and came away with some very good tips. The session was presented thanks to the Bass Coast Community Foundation. For more information on all BCAL's courses and services, please visit www.bcal.vic.edu.au or call 5672 3115 to learn more. ■ **WONTHAGGI COMMUNITY GARDEN** Garden volunteers and members say a big thank you to Bunnings, Wonthaggi, for a welcome, surprise donation of mixed veg, flower and herb seedlings. The gift has filled a newly built plot with peas, broad beans, lettuce and kale, as well as filling gaps in spots around the garden. Thanks to Joanne and Loren for thinking of the garden

and for help with selections and suggestions, not to mention two new frames to support snow peas and beans. The garden is looking a treat now with pops of colour and new growth throughout. Join in on a Thursday from 10 to noon for a tour. You can also get involved as a member and/or volunteer. Contact tgordon@westnet.com.au or BCAL on 5672 3115 to learn more. ■ **WONTHAGGI WOODCRAFTERS** There's a lot of work, care, and time which goes into wood before it's ever touched by a chisel. Recently the Woodies acquired a large jacaranda log, which will make great material, but it requires a lot of preparation first. The timber has only recently been cut

which means it's very moist, or green. It needs to be dried before it can be worked on. Left as a log, it would take roughly 12 months per inch of thickness to dry to the point of being workable. To speed up this process, Syd will cut the log into 60mm thickness and then place them on racks where air can circulate around. The pieces will be turned once a month to ensure even drying. From there, it should be ready to work in about six months. For more information, visit www.wonthaggiwoodcrafters.com.au or pop into the workshop. 

• FAITH FACTOR

'Path to Happiness'

Father Darren Howie, Parish Priest St. Joseph's Parish Wonthaggi

IN MATTHEW 10:39 Jesus said, "Whoever finds their life will lose it, and whoever loses their life for my sake will find it." A good first step to understanding this passage is to consider how life works out for people, and those who live with them, who believe that they can find happiness by thinking and living only for themselves. Living only for yourself may bring a lot of excitement and exhilaration, but does it bring long-term joy? Does it make the world such a person lives in a better and happier place to be? It is a fact that people who have a sense of belonging tend to be not only happier people but also have better health outcomes. Jesus who said that he came so that we may have life and have it to the full, claims that a deep personal relationship with him is the key to life. Many people, including myself, claim to have an ongoing relationship with God. The tricky bit is that this relationship can't be scientifically demonstrated, and one has to experience it for themselves. For those who don't have any faith this understandably can seem ludicrous. It may be even more intriguing for people who have no faith to learn that many Christians don't consider faith and reason to be opposed to one another, for example, the atheist lawyer turned pastor, Lee Strobel, or the catholic priest, George Lemaitre, who invented the Big Bang Theory. For someone who is intrigued or interested in learning more about Christianity they might find the Alpha Course, a non-denominational introduction to Christianity, which was pioneered by the Anglican minister, Nicky Gumbel, a way to satisfy their curiosity. This investigation can be done online and anonymously at alpha.org.au



Leongatha remembers a local inspiration

WELL known Leongatha identity, Ann Roughead, who died recently at Alchera House in Korumburra, just three months shy of her 95th birthday, is remembered by her family and friends as a humble and truly inspirational woman who was a role model for living with positivity and optimism, and for treating people with dignity and respect.

Ann was born in Warragul in 1930 to parents Jim and Elizabeth Griffiths who had one older daughter, Mary, born in 1925.

Ann's early years were spent living with her family in Yarragon and Trafalgar, and despite being impacted by the Great Depression and the Second World War, they were happy years. She enjoyed time with extended family and developed a special relationship with her father Jim. From him she developed an appreciation of music and poetry, and for local football and other sports, with Jim taking a young Ann to watch Don Bradman bat at the MCG.

Ann was educated at St Joseph's Primary School in Trafalgar and Our Lady of Sion Convent in Sale, where she was Dux of Form 5, before returning to live in Trafalgar and completing her secondary schooling at Yallourn High School.

Ann then attended Melbourne Teachers College, where she obtained her primary and infant teaching qualifications.

Her first posting as a teacher was to the Leongatha primary school in 1951.

Ann met Jim Roughead, a local sportsman, transport driver and goods carrier very soon after her arrival in Leongatha. They were married in November 1952 in Trafalgar and lived in Leongatha for four years during which time their first two children were born.

In 1956 they purchased a small dairy farm in the hills at Mardan, and after moving to the farm they welcomed a further six children into the world, including twins and a daughter who died soon after birth.

In 1969, Ann returned to teaching, taking up a position four days a week at the newly established Leongatha Technical School.

Staff who worked with Ann talk of her disarming smile and laugh and how it gave her the ability to connect with other teachers and with students.

Along with her work in the library Ann filled the role of pastoral teacher in the school's pastoral care program, and for a period served as a Probation Officer for troubled students who attended the school.

In 1991, after 23 years on staff, Ann retired from her role at Leongatha Technical School.

Following her retirement and Jim's death in 1991, Ann enjoyed many years of adventure and challenge, including travels with family members to New Zealand, Europe, the British Isles, Turkey and India, as well as many parts of Australia.

Jim Roughead and each of her sons played football with Leongatha or other clubs, and Ann enjoyed the success they had winning multiple premierships and individual awards over the years they played.

As much as Ann enjoyed the sporting success of her sons and grandsons, so too did she enjoy and celebrate the achievements and successes of all her children, her grandchildren, and her great-grandchildren.

She left the world on her terms and with no regrets. Ann is survived and greatly missed by her six surviving children, her 13 grandchildren and 18 great-grandchildren, her extended family, and her numerous close friends.

The day the music lived on in Wonthaggi

FOR the past 50 years, the late Fred Heesh has provided the soundtrack of our lives here in Wonthaggi, and around the district.

Whether it was as a teacher at Billson Street or Wonthaggi North primary schools, a travelling music teacher at Loch, Newhaven and most of the schools in the district, a leading light in the Wonthaggi Citizens Band where he was a cornet player, flügelhorn and finally tuba player, junior band trainer and president, as the bugler at dozens of our Anzac Day ceremonies, in the band for the Wonthaggi Theatrical Group's shows or in later years, of a Friday playing for the oldies at Rose Lodge; he was always an up-tempo influence.

However, while Fred died peacefully at Wonthaggi on Sunday, August 3, the music will go on playing.

And we saw the evidence of that at his funeral service at St Joseph's Catholic Church last Tuesday, August 12, when the whole Wonthaggi Citizens Band turned out to play, starting with a haunting rendition of 'Abide With Me', under the baton of one of his former students, Craig Marinus, with a liberal sprinkling of other musicians who had their start with Fred. All it needed was Fred's dulcet tones.

But it was the ultimate tribute to a man of music and education all the same.

Fred was responsible for imparting a love, appreciation and the skills of music to literally hundreds of local children and adults over the years, whether it was Craig Marinus who started out on the recorder in grade 4, going on to serve more than 20 years as the band leader, Josh Hook and others who have earned state and national acclaim, or local kids who got a start with the band, or received a spark of musical inspiration at school.

For more than 30 years, Fred



Former Wonthaggi music teacher, Fred Heesh will be remembered for his years of service to the Wonthaggi Citizens Band but he was also ready with a song on guitar when the opportunity arose.

was the junior band leader, taking practice every week, where anyone who turned up received a uniform, an instrument and free lessons, starting many of them, like his own daughter Robyn, on a life of musical appreciation.

That was Fred. He had an innate ability to make learning fun, a skill honed through more than 30 years in the classroom, but continuing throughout his life with private students after official retirement, or in a voluntary capacity with the band and elsewhere.

At the Australia Day honours presentations in January 2013, it earned him the Wonthaggi Rotary Club's 'Community Service Award' for services to youth, the arts and the community of Wonthaggi and district.

Life for Frederick Charles Heesh started at the Hastings Bush Nursing Hospital on December 22, 1941, born to Bert and Freda Hersh of Crib Point,

in the middle of the war while Bert was serving on HMAS Cerberus and HMAS Vengeance as a dental surgeon.

He went to school at Frankston High School and then Frankston Teachers College, before taking up a role as a relief teacher in all parts of the state, including a memorable spell at the small rural school at Tambo Crossing in East Gippsland and later at Cowes primary school.

Always willing to try something different, Fred answered an advert in the paper in the late 60s for Aussie teachers to go into remote parts of Canada to teach and ended up in Fairview, Alberta, 550km north-west of Edmonton, a town of little more than 1000 people, on the edge of Arctic tundra.

He completed a two-year contract there, created indelible memories of cross-country skiing, snow shoeing and ice skating, in temperatures hitting minus 40 degrees. He also

met his wife Barbara, a young teacher from a local family, they were married on July 2, 1970 and sailed out on the P&O ship the Oriana from Vancouver in October 1970 for a new life in Australia.

They visited relatives in Sydney, taught at schools in Melbourne's west and ultimately opted for a life in the country, by the sea, when jobs and a teachers' house came up in Wonthaggi in 1972.

The couple moved to Storey Street Wonthaggi some years later and have lived in two houses there for more than 40 years while teaching at a number of local schools.

Approached by Don Edwards to play the trombone in the local band on arrival, Fred passed up on that particular offer, and started on a cornet instead, ultimately playing all of the instruments, including a stint on tubas with daughter Robyn.

Memorable performances at the town's Christmas Carols, annual concert and even Moomba followed but it was Fred's greatest honour to play the 'Last Post' on Anzac Day and Remembrance Day, with a special memory for Storey Street residents being the day Fred played a haunting rendition in the gloom of COVID while neighbours stood out the front of their homes with candles to remember the fallen.

Fred served more than 10 years as band president, enjoyed tennis in the early years, outings with Barbara in his MG car, travel overseas and around Australia, the camera club and croquet in recent times.

During a trip to Ireland, he joined musicians in a local pub singing 'There's a part of my heart in Wonthaggi' to universal acclaim.

Fred died peacefully at Wonthaggi on Sunday, August 3. He leaves a loving wife Barbara, two daughters Alison and Robyn and two grandchildren.

Thank you for the music, Fred.

Edo Benetti a gentleman and extraordinary sportsman

KNOWN at the local branch of the State Savings Bank (SSB) as Ed, the young Edo Benetti grew up and was educated in Wonthaggi the town he always loved.

Son of an Italian immigrant and Wonthaggi coal miner Edo played nine senior games as full-forward for Richmond in the early 1960's.

"I was a good seconds player, but I struggled in the Seniors most times," he told Rhett Bartlett in an interview in December 2020.

Richmond's interest in Edo can be traced back to 1958 when in the hunt for a full-forward to replace the lanky Bob Dummett who was battling knee injuries they came across Edo Benetti as 16-year-old booting four goals for South Gippsland against Mornington Peninsula in an interleague final.

Closely watched by Richmond, Edo Benetti won the South Gippsland League goal-kicking and Best and Fairest and played in the Wonthaggi Blues first premiership side in 1959.

Convinced they had found a prized recruit Richmond sent Jack Dyer up to see Benetti at the Wonthaggi High School where Edo signed a three-month permit with the Tigers.

When Edo suffered a minor knee complaint Richmond brought the teenager down to Melbourne for treatment boarding with legendary reserves coach Dick Harris.

Edo booted three goals in 1960 playing in a Richmond reserves game.

Returning to Wonthaggi to complete his schooling and begin employment with the State Bank, Edo saw the season out winning the South Gippsland League Best and Fairest.

Edo's Tigerland debut came in 1961 in Round 8 against Carlton at Princes Park.

Standing tall at 1.8m and weighing 82kg Edo wore the No. 9 Richmond guernsey.

Kicking two goals with his first two kicks in his first Seniors game Edo played another five matches for Richmond before returning homesick to Wonthaggi.

Edo finished with seven goals in his first season for Richmond in the Seniors absent for only one match when he played a tennis final in Wonthaggi.

Transferred to Port Melbourne F.C. in 1963 Edo's career at Richmond was over aged 21.

Playing only a handful of games with Port Melbourne then Yarraville Benetti returned to Wonthaggi after suffering a slipped disc in his back while playing tennis.

Throughout Ed's remarkable sporting career his SBV banking career continued and progressed with promotions and appointments until his career ended prematurely in 1993 when the Commonwealth Bank took over the State Bank of Victoria (SBV).

Ed volunteered with Eastern Health for several years where he enjoyed helping others in need of assistance because of their physical handicap or illness.

A natural and competitive sportsman Edo was Club Singles Champion twice at the



Edo (Ed) Benetti (1941-2025).

Vermont South Bowling Club, Men's Pairs six times, Mixed Pairs six times, Men's Triples, three times, Men's Fours three times and winner of the Victorian Master triples in 2011.

Edo was made a Life Member of Vermont South Bowling Club in September 2021.

Named at centre-half forward in the Wonthaggi Blues Team of the Century Edo Benetti died on March 3, 2025, aged 83 survived by his wife Ronda, children Jan and Paul and his extended family.

Vale Edo Benetti (1941-2025).

James Morrison Quartet coming to Wonthaggi

RENOWNED globally as one of the finest jazz musicians of his generation, James Morrison plays trumpet, trombone, piano, saxophone and double bass.

At the age of six he started on piano, at seven he took up brass, at nine he formed his first band and at thirteen he was playing professionally in nightclubs.

His international career developed just as quickly, making his USA debut at the Monterey Jazz Festival at age sixteen.

Following this were the world's major jazz festivals, playing with many of the legends of jazz – Dizzy Gillespie, Herbie Hancock, Dave Brubeck, Chick Corea, George Benson, Quincy Jones, Ray Charles, B.B. King, Ray Brown and Wynton Marsalis to name a few and he now frequents the world's most famous jazz clubs.

James has been appointed a member of The Order of Australia, has won countless awards and has been inducted into the Australian Jazz Hall of Fame.

He has received several honorary Doctorates and was an



Don't miss the opportunity to experience pure swinging jazz from the best in the business – the James Morrison Quartet at The Union Theatre August 31.

Adjunct Professor at the University of South Australia, leading his own music Academy.

James has recorded with The London Symphony Orchestra, INXS and the European Brass Ensemble, performed at the Royal Albert Hall for the BBC Proms, and much more.

No matter how familiar you may be with James Morrison, you haven't heard him play until you've heard him with the

James Morrison Quartet.

It is a testament to their energy and sheer brilliance that James says his favourite way to play is with his quartet.

"This is what can happen when you have four musicians who all have a will to swing and are of one mind when it comes to the reason they play," James has said.

"Tim Firth is one of the most exciting drummers on the scene today – inventive,

virtuosic, and always so musical. Harry Morrison is a powerhouse on the bass, reminiscent of the Ray Brown approach, swing at all costs – his energy underpins everything the band does. William Morrison not only plays beautiful classic jazz guitar but also writes much of the original material performed by the group and this compositional aspect is always present in his playing".

With his three colleagues covering guitar, bass and drums, James plays anything from trombone, flugel horn and saxophones to piano, and of course the trumpet.

Don't miss this opportunity to experience pure swinging jazz from the best in the business.

The Wonthaggi Citizens' Band will also be performing the opening set at this special centenary event. In April 2025 the Wonthaggi Citizens' Band won the Australian National Band Championships. They are now the National C Grade Band Champions.

James Morrison Quartet at The Union Theatre, Wonthaggi on Sunday August 31 from 2:00pm - 3:30pm.



Tagine of chicken or lamb with preserved lemon

By Meg Viney

YOU are most fortunate if you have a tagine. I gave mine away when I moved to a small home. But you can use a covered casserole or even a lidded pan if you can turn the heat down to very low.

Ingredients

- 8 chicken thighs or 2 racks of lamb
- 2 onions, finely sliced
- A small handful of fresh coriander and of parsley
- 2 teaspoons ginger, grated
- 1 teaspoon white pepper
- 1 teaspoon turmeric
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 teaspoon saffron threads
- 1 teaspoon (butter is fine)
- 1 handful green olives
- 1 preserved lemon, chopped (seeds removed)
- 1/3 cup olive oil

Method

Water as required to prevent drying out

In a large bowl, place the preserved lemon with chicken (or lamb), spices, herbs, and marinate overnight.

To cook, over a very low heat, place the tagine and pour in half the olive oil to warm. Add the meat along with the marinade and arrange the onions around.

Add the olives and the rest of the olive oil.

Cover and cook for about an hour, then turn. Continue to cook until it is tender. The bottom of the meat ought to be caramelised and the liquids reduced. If it is drying out, add a little water.

Serve with Moroccan bread or similar and eat straight from the tagine or pan, or casserole. However, you like, of course.

Australians would probably love some roast potatoes, which you can cook in the tagine if it is big enough. Good luck - it is a special dish...

Photo: kitchenmess.com

Foster to host FAMDA's South Gippsland One Act Play Festival

THEATRE comes to life in Foster on the last weekend in August as FAMDA hosts its 23rd South Gippsland One Act Play Festival.

Generous sponsorship provided by the Toora and Foster Bendigo Community Bank enables FAMDA to offer enticingly generous prizes for participating theatre groups and also a wide variety of plays and low cost tickets for its audience.

One act play festivals have long been a cornerstone of Australia's performing arts scene — providing a platform for both novice and experienced performers to experiment, take risks, and bring powerful stories to life in a compact, engaging format. Run over two action-packed days the South Gippsland Festival provides a smorgasbord of comedy and drama featuring 20 awesome plays spread over five sessions.

There is something for everyone with Foster, Koonwarra



The 2022 Play Festival awardees are bookended by FAMDA award recipients, Edwin Coad, winner of the Playwright's prize (L) and Bruce Crowl (R), most outstanding support actor.

and Phillip Island theatre companies and schools involved as well as groups from Traralgon, Bairnsdale and Melbourne with performers ranging in age from 9 to 99. A fascinating assortment of plays is on offer with dramas and comedies, varying from the feisty to the frivolous, some with a serious message and others whose purpose is simply to entertain.

Every session has at least

two comedies, at least one drama and a new play by an Australian playwright.

The Young Players Festival launches the event at 9am on Saturday morning with a junior as well as a senior section with free entry for children and students. The Open Age Festival begins at 3:15pm on Saturday afternoon and resumes in the evening at 7pm. Sunday sessions start at 11am

and 1:45pm. Check famda.org.au for up-to date scheduling details. It's all happening at the Foster War Memorial Arts Centre on Saturday and Sunday August 30 - 31.

Book now through Trybooking.com/DDOPT or the FAMDA website to enjoy some, or all, of this wonderful weekend of theatrical adventures. Don't miss out. Door sales will also be available both days.

WONTHAGGI BINGO

WEDNESDAY 1pm - 3pm
THURSDAY 7pm - 9pm

Wonthaggi Workmen's Club, 75 Graham Street
Come and join in the laughs at South Coast FM Bingo

★ RAFFLES ★ DOOR PRIZES ★

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

It won't cost a cent to see them in print!

Sandy Point Chatty Cafe

CHATTY Cafe is about building friendly social connections – through simple interactions that may brighten someone's day. Along the way it might also combat social isolation and loneliness, which is a big issue in Australia. Research indicates one in four people experience a sense of loneliness and social disconnection every week.

The focus is very positive, bringing people of all ages together in a comfortable safe social venue to have a chat for as long or as little as they choose. Keep our Sandy Point community connected by dropping into Chatty Cafe for a quick g'day. Proudly supported by SPCC and SP Ebus Committee.

On Saturday August 23 from 9.30am – 11am at the Sandy Point Community Centre – come along for a cuppa... there could also be cake!



Kate Doyle displays some of the beautiful blooms at Oz Wildflowers during the Rail Trail Market. A54_3325



David Gerrard, Lindsay Powney and Andrew Owens help run the Leon-gatha Men's Shed stall at Sunday's market. A49_3325



Val Bremner and Virginia Hall of Leongatha SES are among Sunday's barbecue crew at the town's market. A50_3325



Locals Rose, Lewis and Janelle Downey enjoy the market in Leon-gatha. A51_3325



Rob Musilli and daughter Kylie In-gram brighten up the morning of market attendees with their vibrant Nona Pina's Plants stall at the Leon-gatha market. A52_3325



Landon and Jeff Apps of Gippsland Uggs are ready to greet customers at Sunday's market in Leongatha. A53_3325



Former service personnel Fiona and Mick Quinn are committed to im-proving the lives of military veterans through the Veterans Advocacy Cen-tre, enjoying the chance to chat about the important issue during Sunday's concert in Inverloch. A59_3325



Singer Tony Sergi and Yael Cohn of Roar Music Management were at the Inlet Hotel in Inverloch for a music event to raise funds to support vet-erans, while also creating a social setting in which veterans can learn about available services. A55_3325



Glen Coburn with veteran Andrew Patterson at Sunday's Inverloch concert. A60_3325



Pictures of you and your friends at the Leongatha Rail Trail Community Market, South Gippsland Shire Council's Grants Program and the Reece Mastin event at the Inlet Hotel, Inverloch.



Glenys Paterson and Shahni Hance sell daffodils for the Leongatha Horticultural Society at Sunday's Rail Trail Community Market. A48_3325

Sentinel-Times

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Christine Oliver represents Leon-gatha Girl Guides, which received \$4,400 towards painting the out-side of the Guide Hall, with coun-cillors Clare Williams and Scott Rae. A10_3325



Cr Brad Snell accepts a grant of \$10,000 on behalf of the 1st Mirboo North Scout Group, towards the 'Re-wall Our Hall' project, involving renovating exterior walls, with the group's representative Ashley Morter absent. A12_3325



Ros Griggs is chuffed that Foster Cricket Club was awarded a \$10,000 grant to assist with its drainage up-grade. A16_3325



Charmaine Reader of Manna Gum Community House is happy with a \$2,400 grant towards its Halloween Spooktacular. A21_3325



Rebecca Bone is thrilled to get \$10,000 on behalf of Foster War Memo-rial Arts Centre to help with the cost of its 'Do It Deadly' Indigenous event that will incorporate music, dance, food, storytelling and art. A22_3325



Elena Lazzarotto of Waratah Beach Surf Life Saving Club is happy to re-ceive \$7,500 towards its Strategic Plan. A25_3325

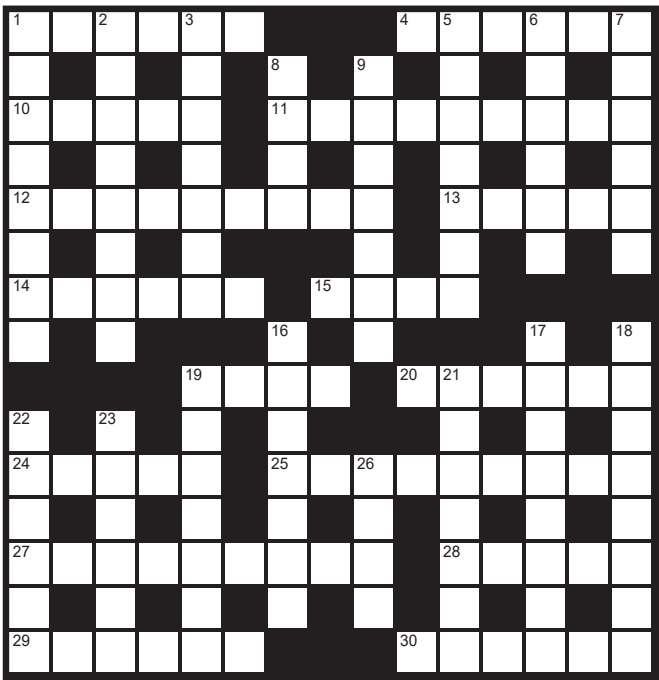


Heartbreak Choir: An Auslan Acces-sible Performance by Leongatha Lyr-ic Theatre will benefit from a \$1,435 grant, accepted by Bron Beach and Karen Thornton. A24_3325



CROSSWORD

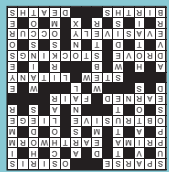
No. 294



- ACROSS**
- 1 Meagre (6)
4 Egyptian god of the afterlife (6)
10 First ballerina (Ital) (5)
11 Pink, wriggly creature that lives in soil (9)
- 12 Unduly prominent (9)
13 Lord (5)
14 Made (6)
15 Comely (4)
19 Potpourri (4)
20 Lengthy recitation (6)
24 Propelled (5)

- 25 Hosiery (9)
27 Elusively (9)
28 Take place (5)
29 Creations (6)
30 Multiple losses of life (6)
- DOWN**
- 1 Assumed (8)
2 Aircraft pilots (8)
3 Ordinance (7)
6, 5-down Oxford student (6,7)
7 Seethe (6)
8 Prefix meaning half (4)
9 Store (7)
16 US dictionary maker (7)
17 Wooden panelling on the lower part of a wall (8)
18 Word to describe very ugly buildings (8)
19 From Stockholm, say (7)
21 Irritating (7)
22 Meaning modifier (6)
23 Lifts balloon (3,3)
26 Black quartz (4)

SOLUTION

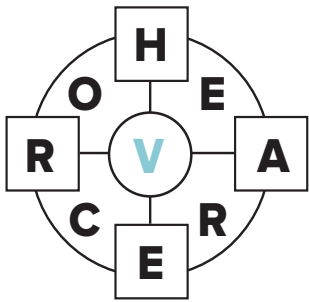


9-LETTER

No. 294

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:
12 words: **Good**
18 words: **Very good**
24 words: **Excellent**

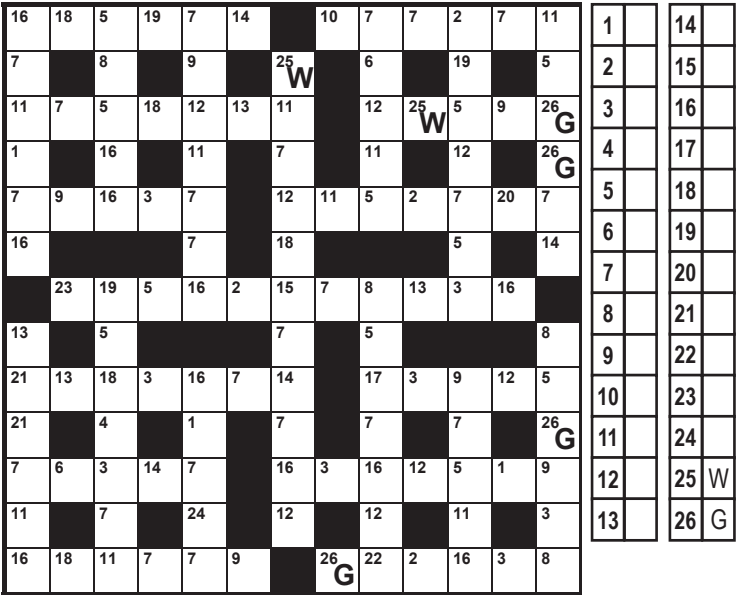


over, carve, carver,
cave, carve, cave,
cover, crave, ever,
have, havoc, heave,
hove, hover, over,
overach, overhear,
overreach, rave,
rave, reave, recover,
rover, veer

CODEWORD

No. 284

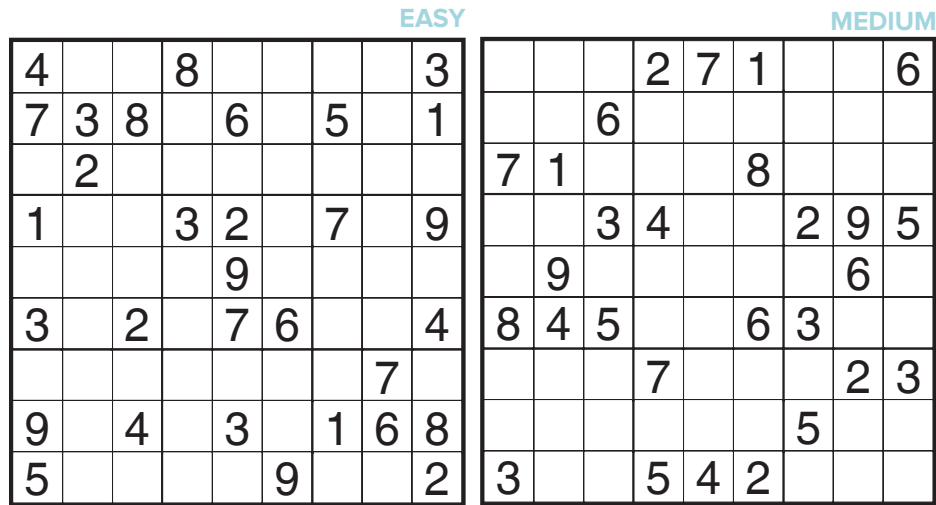
Each number corresponds to a letter of the alphabet. Two have been filled in for you, can you work out the rest?



SUDOKU

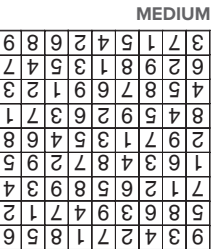
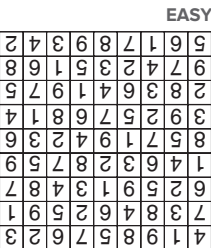
No. 293

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.



1508 | PUZZLES AND PAGINATION © **pagemasters.**

SOLUTIONS



QUICK QUIZ

- What was the first film to be released in the Barbie franchise?
- Which living mammal is the only one covered in scales?
- Which writer is known for their works titled *The Trial*, *The Judgment* and *The Castle*?
- What is the ancient Egyptian underworld called?
- Regarding the character trope in movies, what do the letters MPDG stand for?
- Which Australian men's doubles pair won the 2023 Australian Open title?
- And which Australian pair won the 2022 title?
- What colour is smaragdine?
- In which country is the Lotte World theme park complex located?
- Name the character that J. K. Simmons (pictured) plays that appears in both the original Spider-Man trilogy and the Marvel Cinematic Universe.

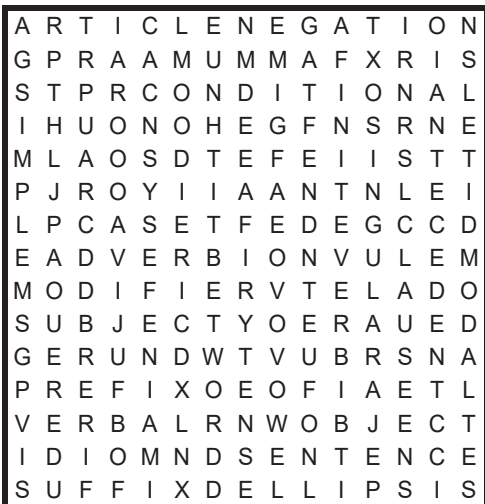


ANSWERS: 1. *Barbie in the Nutcracker* 2. Pangolin 3. Franz Kafka 4. Duat 5. Manic Pixie Dream Girl 6. Rinky Hijikata and Jason Kubler 7. Thanasi Kokkinakis and Nick Kyrgios 8. Green 9. South Korea 10. J. Jonah Jameson

WORD SEARCH

No. 204

Can you find all the words listed? The leftover letters will spell out a secret message.



- | | | |
|-------------|----------|----------|
| ADVERB | GERUND | SENTENCE |
| AFFIX | HEAD | SIMPLE |
| ANTECEDENT | IDIOM | SINGULAR |
| APPOSITIVE | MODAL | SUBJECT |
| ARTICLE | MODIFIER | SUFFIX |
| BASE | MOOD | TENSE |
| CASE | NEGATION | VERBAL |
| CLAUSE | OBJECT | VOWEL |
| CONDITIONAL | PLURAL | WORD |
| ELLIPSIS | PREFIX | |
| FINITE VERB | PRONOUN | |

SECRET MESSAGE: Grammar is the greatest joy in life. don't you find?



Nutrien Harcourts Leongatha friendly sales team, Sales Associate Skye Clothier, Directors and Sales Agents Barry Redmond and Kellie Thomas, and Marketing Manager Monique Wightman.

THE announcement of the Reserve Bank of Australia’s (RBA) 0.25 percentage point reduction marks a positive step for homeowners. Kellie Thomas and Barry Redmond from Nutrien Harcourts Leongatha shared that this latest rate cut has boosted confidence among both vendors and buyers.

Over the past year, they’ve successfully sold and settled over 70 properties, with another 10 expected to settle soon. Kellie explained, “Our dedicated team of local agents are witnessing a shift in the market, and the South Gippsland region and nearby areas remain affordable for buyers,” said Kellie.

“This rate cut will give buyers a little more leeway in their borrowing capacity, and therefore our sales team should see an increase in numbers at inspections,” said Kellie.

The team at Nutrien Harcourts Leongatha have a deep understanding of the local market, and this allows them to facilitate off-market sales before listings even go live. Kellie added that South Gippsland attracts a diverse range of buyers, from first-time homeowners to experienced investors seeking land, residential properties, or acreage.

Surrounded by rolling hills and lush pastures, Leongatha and its surroundings offer a variety of homes—from modern, contemporary builds to charming historic houses on spacious allotments, as well as unit blocks and larger acreage.

According to Realestate.com’s Leongatha property market report, the town has experienced an annual growth rate of 1.1% for houses and 1.7% for units.

“This rate cut should slightly ease the strain on household budgets,” said Kellie. “And as the spring selling season approaches, this could be the right time to sell.”

For a market appraisal or enquiry regarding the sale of your property, contact the expert team at Nutrien Harcourts Leongatha on 03 5662 2292 or visit 47 Bair Street, Leongatha.

Unique Opportunity!

HARCOURTS Leongatha is pleased to offer 70 – 76 Stanley Street Toora for sale by Expressions of Interest. A rare opportunity to secure a prominent freehold building, a quaint 3-bedroom home and a vacant block of land in the main street of the gorgeous village of Toora.

This property consists of two titles, and you have the opportunity to secure the lot, or offers will be considered individually for each title. This versatile site offers exceptional exposure, lane way access and flexible zoning suited to a wide range of uses (STCA). Key Features:

Title One:

- Consisting of a vacant block of approximately 510m²
- Main street frontage
- Side lane access
- Lock up shed 6m x 9m, concrete floor

Title Two:

- Approximately 1,235m² block with the house and garage all on one title.
- Consisting of a lovely 3-bedroom weatherboard home, well maintained and in very good condition
- A functional, lock up garage with main street frontage
- Side lane access into the rear of the property and the side of the garage
- An additional lock up woodshed
- Lovely flat, easy to maintain garden
- An outstanding opportunity to occupy, invest or reposition in a lovely town, with endless prospects.

70-76 Stanley Street Toora is being offered for sale via expression of interest closing on Monday, September 29, 2025 at 5pm.



70-76 Stanley Street, **Toora**
EOI Closing: Mon. Sept 29 at 5pm.
Agent Nutrien Harcourts
Kellie Thomas 0438 647 449
kellie.thomas@nh.com.au



SOLD

16 WELSFORD STREET, MEENIYAN



SOLD

405 OUTTRIM- LEONGATHA STH RD, LEONGATHA STH



SOLD

405 WARES ROAD, INVERLOCH



SOLD

110 BALD HILLS ROAD, TARWIN LOWER



SOLD

350 BEILBYS ROAD, NERRENA



SOLD

79 PARR STREET, LEONGATHA



SOLD

15 BURROWS WAY, LEONGATHA



SOLD

24/17 MACDONALD STREET, LEONGATHA



SOLD
(Off Market)

300 WHITELAW ROAD, KORUMBURRA



SOLD
(Off Market)

1 BLAIR CRESCENT, LEONGATHA



SOLD

405 FAIRBANK ROAD, ARAWATA



UNDER
CONTRACT

14 ECCLES WAY, LEONGATHA



UNDER
CONTRACT

390 KORUMBURRA-WONTHAGGI RD, KORUMBURRA



UNDER
CONTRACT

7 HEATH RISE, FOSTER



UNDER
CONTRACT

19 OLD THORPDALE ROAD, MIRBOO NORTH



Barry Redmond
Director / Estate Agent
0477 622 292



Kellie Thomas
Licensed Estate Agent
0438 647 449



Monique Wightman
Marketing & Administration
(03) 5662 2292



Skye Clothier
Sales Associate
(03) 5662 2292

We are your
real estate specialists

47 Bair Street (03) 5662 2292
nutrien.harcourts.net/au/office/leongatha



Unlock exceptional potential

PERFECTLY positioned just moments from the vibrant main street, local shops and public transport, this character-filled weatherboard home presents an exceptional opportunity for those with vision. Whether you're a renovator looking to restore and personalise or an investor seeking a prime commercial site to redevelop (STCA) this property delivers endless possibilities in a highly convenient location.

Step inside to discover to potential within, beginning with the inviting front living room complete with a reverse cycle air conditioner before flowing through to the generous kitchen featuring gas cooking and plenty of cupboard space. Comprising four generously sized bedrooms, three with built-in robes, provide ample space for family living, while the large bathroom is equipped with a separate bath and shower. At the rear of the home, a second expansive living area with its own fireplace captures peaceful outlooks over the backyard.

Outside, an undercover patio creates the perfect setting for entertaining while a double garage with rear lane access further adds to the property's appeal. The large 1115m2 (approx) block is brimming with potential, offering an abundance of space for future conversion into your new business venture.

Zoned Commercial, this is a rare opportunity to restore this classic home to its former glory or transform the sizeable block into a thriving business premises in a central and sought-after location.

4 1 2 1115m²*

6 Peart Street, **Leongatha**
For Sale \$795,000
Agent Ray White Leongatha
Michael Hanily 0417 311 756
** Approximately*



Brand new home in Foster

BE THE first to live in this beautifully presented, low maintenance 7-star energy rated home at 3 Banksia Rise Foster.

Enjoy waking to the panoramic vista from the home's elevated position with sweeping views over the Foster township and Hoddle Ranges.

Key Features include:

- Open plan kitchen and dining with stone benchtops, upgraded stainless steel appliances and walk-in pantry
- Spacious open plan living with modern colour palette and styling throughout the home
- 3 bedrooms, main with walk in robe and separate ensuite
- Family bathroom with shower and separate bath
- Separate second toilet
- Electric roller door double garage with direct home entry and rear door access to the backyard
- Energy efficient home with 7-star energy rating, double glazing, and solar hot water
- Maintain consistent comfort year round with climate control ducted heating and cooling

The 706sqrm block has also been professionally landscaped with low maintenance gardens, paths and retaining wall areas.

First home buyers take note:

Eligible first home buyers can take advantage of the \$10,000 First Home Owner Grant (FHOG). Calculated stamp duty on this property for first home buyers as their principle place of residence is \$11,109* (*Source: State Revenue Office stamp duty calculator), and eligible pensioners or concession card holders may benefit from stamp duty exemption.

Benefits of buying a new home:

- Steel frame construction backed by a 50 year structural warranty, ensuring lasting durability.
- Colorbond steel roof: Protected by a 45-year warranty.
- Double-glazed windows: Covered by a 10-year warranty for added comfort and insulation.
- Builders Warranty Insurance offering added peace of mind.

Whether you're starting your homeownership journey, seeking a peaceful retirement retreat, or securing a smart investment, this property is ready to impress.

Don't miss this opportunity to own this beautiful brand new home. Contact Wendy Gregson on 0477 665 868 for further information or to arrange an inspection.



3 2 3 706m²

3 Banksia Rise, **Foster**
For Sale \$649,000
Agent Ray White Foster
Wendy Gregson 0477 665 868



Ray White Leongatha
03 5662 5800
15 Bair Street, Leongatha
raywhiteleongatha.com.au

Ray White Foster & Sandy Point
03 5639 9202
17 Main Street, Foster
foster.vic@raywhite.com

Ray White



For Sale

7 Ritchie Street, **Leongatha**

TIMELESS CHARM, MODERN COMFORT!

- Spacious open plan
- Separate bungalow
- Large undercover entertaining
- Rear lane access to powered garage

Kasey Bowman 0439 207 196

\$689,000

5⁺, 2 1



For Sale

1 Royal Place, **Leongatha**

MODERN COUNTRY CHARM

- Split level house with views throughout
- 1041m² allotment
- Open plan kitchen, dining & living
- 2 outdoor decks

David Trotman 0418 589 805

\$699,000

4⁺, 3 2



For Sale

115 Leongatha Nth Rd, **Leongatha Nth**

TIMELESS ELEGANCE

- 8.11 acres of panoramic beauty
- Flexible layout with multiple living areas
- Self cleaning solar heated pool
- Fenced paddocks, cattle rush & race

Michael Hanily 0417 311 756

\$1,450,000

4⁺, 2 2



For Sale

7 Church Street, **Leongatha**

CONTEMPORARY COMFORT

- Spacious & light filled open plan
- Modern kitchen with electric appliances
- Undercover alfresco
- Located in the heart of town

Michael Hanily 0417 311 756

\$730,000

2⁺, 2 1



For Sale

44 Radovick Street, **Korumburra**

CHARACTER & CHARM

- Beautifully renovated
- Open plan family home
- Reverse cycle air conditioning
- Close to shops & schools

David Trotman 0418 589 805

\$539,000

3⁺, 1 1



For Sale

10 Warralong Court, **Leongatha**

DUAL LIVING IN QUEST CUL-DE-SAC

- Fully self-contained unit
- Light-filled open-plan living
- Fully enclosed undercover deck
- Versatile layout in peaceful location

David Trotman 0418 589 805

\$685,000

5⁺, 3 2



For Sale

1 Haw Street, **Leongatha**

TRANQUIL VINTAGE CHARM

- 2227m² allotment
- Views over the Leongatha Wetlands
- Large kitchen
- Underfloor heating & reverse cycle a/c

Michael Hanily 0417 311 756

\$875,000

3⁺, 1 4



For Sale

Shamrock Springs, **Leongatha**

SHAMROCK SPRINGS - NOW TITLED

- Build your dream home, country living
- Walking distance to main street
- Close to parklands and playgrounds
- A welcoming town & great community

Michael Hanily 0417 311 756

Blocks From \$265,000



For Sale

6 Blackwood Drive, **Foster**

BEAUTIFULLY PRESENTED

- Open plan kitchen lounge & dining
- Main BR at rear with ensuite and WIR
- Secure side access for caravan & boat
- Beautiful garden, close to town amenities

Wendy Gregson 0477 665 868

\$745,000

3⁺, 2 2



For Sale

Address on request, **Bennison**

HISTORIC HOMESTEAD 'REWAH'

- Luxurious and restored for modern living
- Period charm with 11ft ceilings
- 14 acres of prime land with river frontages
- Separate self contained cottage

Wendy Gregson 0477 665 868

\$1,850,000

4⁺, 3 5



For Sale

9 Power Street, **Foster**

HUGE FLAT BLOCK

- Recently renovated brick home
- 1484m² block with 12m x 8m shed
- Solar panels with battery
- Fully fenced, low maintenance gardens

Dave County 0417 397 650

\$650,000

3⁺, 2 4



For Sale

4585 South Gippsland Hwy, **Toora**

VIEWS TO THRILL!

- Views to Wilsons Prom & Hoddle Ranges
- Elevated 5 acres with fruit trees
- Light-filled open plan living
- Pizza oven & outdoor hot/cold baths

Wendy Gregson 0477 665 868

\$849,000

2⁺, 2 2



For Sale

2160 Meeniyar Promontory Rd, **Fish Creek**

EAGLE ROCK

- Approx. 220 acres with stone homestead
- 360° views to Wilsons Prom
- Quality shedding & solar power
- Restored gold mine shaft

Peter Bellingham 0439 178 653

Contact Agent

5⁺, 3 12



For Sale

44 Davis Road, **Foster**

EDGE OF TOWN ACREAGE!

- Craftsman built home with recent updates
- Landscaped gardens with ornamental dam
- 4.4 acres approx. ideal for hobby farming
- 12m x 16m shed with office & mezzanine

Dave County 0417 397 650

\$1,500,000

4⁺, 2 2



For Sale

480 Foster Mirboo Rd, **Foster Nth**

NESTLED IN NATURE

- Open plan living, kitchen & dining
- Separate bungalow with bathroom
- Luxurious spa overlooking views
- Large height workshop & garaging

Wendy Gregson 0477 665 868

\$829,000

3⁺, 2 2



For Sale

Address on request, **Inverloch**

OUTSTANDING DAIRY OPPORTUNITY

- Approx. 393 acres across 3 titles
- 25 S/O Herringbone dairy, 450-cow yard
- 2x 30T silos & roller mill with 10,600L vat
- Updated home just 3km from Inverloch

Peter Bellingham 0439 178 653

Sally by Negotiation

4⁺, 2 2



Rates rort hurting farmers

THE Victorian Farmers Federation (VFF) says evidence of some Victorian local government councils slugging huge rate rises on farmers shows the Victorian Government's local government rate capping policy isn't working.

VFF President Brett Hosking said farmers continue to get the raw end of the stick with rate capping failing to deter unfair rate hikes in some regions.

"We won't stand idle and watch the burden of funding key services rely more and more on the agricultural sector. From rates to the fundamentally wrong Emergency Services and Volunteers Fund, farmers are wondering when the financial hits will stop."

"Some farmers face increases in the tens of thousands of dollars with the Emergency Services and Volunteers Fund, and now have surging rates on top of it. We've got a reprieve with the fire services levy increases paused, but it's still looming large, and this rate rort is another kick in the guts."

"When you've got one group of taxpayers in some cases facing double-digit rate increases and little to no increase for others in the same area, there can be no doubt the system is flawed."

"We've long argued for the Victorian Government to require councils to apply the rate cap to each class of land to stop this mess," Mr Hosking said.

Workshops for low emissions farming

ARE you a South Gippsland farmer curious about carbon farming? As markets, banks and insurance companies move to meet their carbon emissions commitments, farmers may increasingly need to demonstrate low-emission practices across their supply chains.

South Gippsland Landcare Network invites local farmers to attend two practical and interactive workshops in Leongatha and Korumburra this September. In session one, local soil scientist Declan McDonald will explain how improving soil health can increase soil carbon.

He will introduce the principles and practices of carbon farming and encourage farmers to bring their questions and discuss current management challenges with a focus on prioritising carbon capture. Nick Dudley, local farmer and presenter with experience on carbon projects for Agriculture Victoria, will demonstrate how to calculate and track farm emissions using carbon accounting tools, and how to develop a tailored action plan.

In session two, Nick will work hands-on with participants to enter farm data into a digital tool to calculate emissions and explore on-farm actions to offset them. Why attend? Declan and Nick are both engaging presenters with over 45 years of combined experience.

Attending both sessions is recommended to gain the full benefit of this independent and free learning opportunity. Morning tea and lunch are provided on both days.

For more information and to register, see www.sgln.net.au/event-calendar or contact Cassie, cassie@sgln.net.au, 0448 739 559.

This project is part of the Victorian Carbon Farming Outreach Program, supported by funding from the Commonwealth of Australia through the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water, under the National Carbon Farming Outreach Program.

It is delivered in partnership with Agriculture Victoria, 10 Catchment Management Authorities, Landcare Victoria, and other organisations.

Migration expertise to help fill your work vacancies

By Andrew Palocz

LEONGATHA North dairy farmer Rob Calder is delighted with the ongoing contribution of his Irish worker Noel O'Donnell, crediting registered migration agent Donna Caneleo for enabling Noel to obtain permanent residency in Australia.

Donna runs local business Vital Migration Australia, having previously worked in that field for large companies, being well established in the industry in which she began in 2018 and having the necessary qualifications and authorisation to provide immigration legal advice.

As well as helping people to obtain working rights in Australia, in turn assisting local employers to fill important positions, she also deals with partner visas, citizenship, as well as carer and parent visas and others.

With a touch of understatement, Rob described the visa process as "fairly involved", glad to have relied on Donna's expertise.

She smoothes the path by determining which visa is suitable for the role and the person concerned, and what documents are required, completing the application and responding to requests from the Department of Home Affairs until an outcome is obtained.

Noel arrived on a tourist visa, with farming experience, and has proved a tremendous asset for Rob's business, having now worked on the dairy farm for five years, Rob sponsoring him to obtain a temporary work visa, then his permanent residency.

"He's just a brilliant worker, and dedicated, and we were really lucky to get him," Rob said.

Donna explained that both the visa applicant and the employer must meet requirements and that while overseas workers without a sponsor can apply to work in Australia, it is much harder to obtain a visa that way.

"There are so many visas and everyone's situation is different," she said, with that including occupation and personal circumstances.

She is well positioned to determine whether the occupation is on a government list and whether the worker has the required experience.

"Every occupation has a different requirement in terms of



Donna Caneleo is ready to help people deal with complex visa requirements, including the process of gaining approval for overseas workers to fill important positions. A03_3425

qualifications," Donna said, noting she checks the legislation.

Being a member of the Migration Institute of Australia ensures she keeps up to date with relevant legislative changes, with such changes being a frequent occurrence.

Donna has helped a wide range of businesses across Gippsland to fill staff shortages, with mechanics, glaziers, dairy farm workers, farm managers, hospitality employees and even engineers on the diverse list of occupations.

"A lot of people don't realise there's this labour shortage across Gippsland in different industries and a lot of businesses don't realise that they can actually sponsor people," she said.

That includes the possibility of sponsoring someone who doesn't fit within the normal visa criteria if you can demonstrate you are otherwise unable to fill a position, but that requires government approval and lengthy, complex labour agreements.

Donna spoke of the mutual benefits that flow from sponsorship despite the need for employers to assist with visa and associated costs, provide fulltime work and meet wage requirements.

"Generally, if you get someone in on a temporary visa, you're good to them and they like the job, they're happy here, often they will stick

around because there's (the prospect of) permanent residency in it for them as well," Donna said.

She finds her job rewarding, particularly when she helps someone deserving obtain permanent residency, or a temporary visa, that enables them to contribute to a local community.

Already very busy, Donna aims to employ other people, including mums like herself who are happy to work hard but need flexibility in terms of their hours.

Her interest in such a complex profession was sparked by her past roles with the Department of Immigration.

Donna offers free 15-minute consultations that people can book through her website, or paid consultations for more complicated inquiries.

Employers can email her a summary of their situation, a position description and an inquiry as to whether they can sponsor someone to do a particular job.

"If they've got someone they'd like to hire, then a position description and the person's CV is great because then I can see if the person matches the visa and the occupation," she said.

Visit vitalmigration.com.au, email advice@vitalmigration.com.au or call 1300 468 403 for further information.

DAIRY & FARMING Expo
www.dairyexpo.org.au

Wednesday 3rd & Thursday 4th September 2025 • 10am - 3pm
Korumburra Showgrounds
Cnr South Gippsland Highway & Charles Streets, Korumburra

Behind EVERY GREAT GLASS OF MILK is someone Remarkable
Not all heroes wear capes, some wear gumboots...

Matt Harms ONFARM CONSULTING
Wednesday 3rd September at 11am

Our dairy industry is characterised by 'Remarkable People', who quietly achieve incredible outcomes. Join us to hear about the *incredible journeys* of **Russell Follett**, **David** and **Penny Conn** - large-scale dairy and beef farmers across multiple states; **Peter Notman** - a seed merchant and dairy farmer; **Colin Wright** - a respected rural accountant and **John Verstedden** - a dairy farmer and industry stalwart. Discover the impactful contributions they have made to our dairy industry.



Where technology meets tradition

Mt Lyall Dairies Farm Tour
Wednesday 3rd September | 3pm - 5pm

Take a rare opportunity to step behind the scenes of one of Gippsland's most talked-about dairy operations!

Join us for a concise two-hour tour of the Lancey family's farm in Nyora — home to a brand new 100-stand rotary dairy and loafing barn that has locals saying, "you can see it from Mars."

From the Expo to the paddock — your next stop is the Mt Lyall Dairies Farm. To find out more or register your interest please visit: www.trybooking.com/DDLVJ

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What it took to get a Woolamai farmer a drought-relief cheque

IT TAKES a lot to prise money out of the State Government, it seems, unless they're trying to plug an \$11.5 billion hole in the \$34.5 billion Suburban Rail Link (East)!

Take the measly \$5000 they're offering under the Farm Drought Support Grants for impacted farmers to implement on-farm drought-proofing infrastructure improvements and undertake essential business activities.

Woolamai farmer Wayne Churchill, with the help of his sister Jenny, applied for one of the grants as soon as they were announced.

"That was three months ago," said Wayne this week.

"We couldn't seem to get anywhere with it, so I phoned Melina Bath, and she raised it in State Parliament last Tuesday, for which we are very grateful.

"You couldn't believe it, but they called Jenny the next morning, on Wednesday, to say it had been approved.

Melina called me and said quite a few of the MPs in there at the time said their local farmers were having similar issues, but that they hadn't heard anyone waiting as long as that."

It's not a hand out! Drought affected farmers have to put up at least a matching amount of \$5000 or more and complete the works within three months.

"We'll be introducing a number of drought-proofing measures. We're grateful for the grant but the delay's been frustrating."

Here's what the Nationals'



Woolamai farmer Wayne Churchill wasted no time this week getting an excavator on site in an effort to catch more of the water that he expects to be a scarce commodity this year unless there's significantly more rain during the spring.

representative for Eastern Victoria Region Melina Bath said in parliament:

"My question is to the Minister for Agriculture. Wayne Churchill, a farmer from Woolamai, applied for a farm drought support grant on June, 24 fulfilling all the obligations, including the declaration of his annual income. Seven weeks have passed, and Mr Churchill is yet to receive any acknowledgement, correspondence or financial assistance.

"This delay has a direct impact on his farm operations. The grant is required in order for him to increase his dam capacity in winter, enabling him to restock for summer – exactly what these grants are supposed to be about.

"Due to the lack of communication and support, his water supply will now be insufficient unless there is above average rainfall. Given the urgency and the seasonal dependency on such infrastructure improvements, can the minister expedite his case and ensure that he gets this grant in a timely manner – this week?"

The Minister for Agriculture Ros Spence, to give her due credit, did more than that, she made it happen the very next day.

But Ms Bath said farmers shouldn't have to go cap-in-hand to the government when they were providing an essential service.

"Gippsland farmers have been facing unacceptable delays

in the processing of the government's emergency drought support scheme applications. In May, the government finally deemed primary producers in Bass Coast, South Gippsland, and Baw Baw Shires eligible to apply. Yet, months later many drought-stricken Gippsland farmers have not received a cent or an acknowledgment of their application.

"It's a poor reflection of the government's priorities. It should not take a question to be asked in parliament for emergency drought support funding to be released to a stricken farmer," said Ms Bath.

"Mr Churchill needed to access drought funding to urgently increase his dam capacity over winter – a critical step to ensure water security and enable restocking during summer," she said.

"Mr Churchill's situation is not isolated – it highlights serious flaws in the government's drought scheme and their ability to support farmers when it matters most. The scheme's serious shortcomings must be urgently addressed by the Allan Government to ensure all applications are processed in a timely and compassionate manner.

"Our primary producers are the backbone of our rural communities – we rely on them for the food on our tables and prosperity in our towns. "Drought inflicts enormous stress on rural farming families and communities – when farmers struggle with drought, everyone suffers."

It never rains but it pours as Bass Coast cops a drenching

By Bruce Wardley

STEADY rain and gale force winds over the weekend did little to assist local farmers still battling a green drought, but it did give the region a good soaking.

Showers along the Central Gippsland Coast delivered the rain farmers desperately needed to fill dams but with maximum temperatures still hovering in the low teens pasture growth has been minimal.

Glen Forbes beef farmer Graeme Hastings said we need more sub-soil moisture.

"In a normal year you would have a lot of mud around but not this year."

"We had above average rainfall in July but that's nothing unusual," he said.

"We had dry periods in the 70's and 80's, and 1998 and 2005 were also very dry."

Farmers are hoping for early rain in spring to signal a recovery according to Mr Hastings.

"If we don't, we'll all be in a terrible mess."

With little or no carry-over feed farmers need to replenish their feed reserves.

"There's no green feed for beef farmers, but we hope it will come," said Mr Hastings.

"South Gippsland has never let us down yet with two bad seasons in a row.

"It's not the end of the world.



Glen Forbes farmer Graeme Hastings says the grass is growing but more sub-soil moisture is needed which will come in September. B03_3325

"Cattle prices have been very high compared to the 70's.

"Anyone who looked after their dams would not have had a problem," he said.

"It's important to take out the mud and keep water levels high."

According to the Victorian Farmers Federation (VFF) the record-breaking drought is far from over and could spell increased prices at the supermarket checkout

"Farmers are facing mounting pressures as they approach the critical spring growing season including soaring costs, depleted pastures and plummeting farm finances," warned VFF President Brett Hosking.

"Pasture levels remain critically low, fodder prices are high, and the cost of getting feed onto farms has never been greater," he said.

The VFF has called for expanded long-term funding from both the Federal and State Governments to provide increased financial support for primary producers.

Farmers are asking for zero interest loans with no repayments for at least two years to give them breathing space after the drought, local government rate relief for farmers, and assistance to help cover the cost of bringing fodder in from greater distances.

"The impact of the drought is

beginning to be felt beyond the farm gate," said Brett Hosking.

"If farmers can't feed livestock or keep herds productive, red meat prices will rise, milk volumes will fall, and ultimately consumers will feel the price-pinch at the checkout."

"Even if significant rain arrives soon, the recovery could last years.

"This isn't a quick fix, we need long-term and sustained drought recovery funding that supports farmers and our regional communities," said Mr Hosking.

"This drought has placed an economic handbrake on regional Victoria.

"Every dollar invested into our regional communities returns at least four dollars and that goes an incredibly long way to keeping us on our feet."

Although July was wetter than normal for Bass Coast and South Gippsland soil moisture continues to be a problem with the ground up to 20% drier than normal.

Further good rains are no means guaranteed with Agriculture Victoria making a cautious assessment of a wetter and warmer spring than normal, but the Bureau of Meteorology forecasting a roughly equal chance of above, below or near-average rainfall.

Little comfort for farmers hoping for a decent spring break.

Lardner Park Calf Market Report

Monday, August 11, 2025

Jersey & Jersey x\$15 to \$32
Friesian Bulls\$25 to \$70
Beef Bulls\$38 to \$200
Beef Heifers\$25 to \$235
Friesian Heifers\$25 to \$80
Number of Calves: **662**
Number purchased to rear: **101**

WANTED

AGISTMENT FOR DAIRY HEIFERS

Lots of 30 or more, up to 200
All locations considered



Rohan McRae 0417 836 664

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

PRELIMINARY NOTICE

69th Annual All Breeds Bull Sale

VLE Leongatha

Monday, September 8, 2025

Commencing 12 NOON on Beef Bulls.

Entries invited.

Early advice of entries appreciated to aid advertising.

Contact your local livestock representative:

Dane Perczyk 0408 176 063
David Ryan 0408 311 895
Jack Curtis 0427 762 670
Dick Faulkner 0408 595 174
Rob Ould 0408 595 183
David Holden 0428 749 390
Alan Bolding 0419 723 255

Further details on Bulls to be featured at our sale on Facebook



Farm news

South Gippsland and Bass Coast

Sentinel-Times



www.sgst.com.au



New opportunity for mixed farmers through Producer Demonstration Sites

MEAT & Livestock Australia (MLA) and the Grains Research and Development Corporation (GRDC) are again joining forces to support mixed farming businesses across Australia through a new round of Producer Demonstration Site (PDS) projects.

Preliminary applications for the 2025 Partnership PDS call open on Monday August 25 and close on Friday October 3.

Building on the success of the 2024 pilot, which supported five projects set to establish 32 new demonstration sites and engage 49 core producers and over 600 observer producers, this renewed initiative continues to target producers operating livestock and grain enterprises across Australia's mixed farming regions.

The program aims to help producers demonstrate, adapt and validate innovative management practices and research outcomes within commercial mixed farming systems. The goal is to drive productivity and profitability gains across both livestock and grain enterprises.

In 2025, four partnership projects commenced, with a fifth due to begin later this year. These five projects will establish 32 demonstration sites, engaging 49 core producers and more than 620 observer producers across the three GRDC growing regions.

Mixed farming producers stand to gain hands-on access to cutting-edge research and practical innovations that can boost productivity and profitability across both livestock and grain enterprises.

By participating in the joint MLA/GRDC PDS Program,



By participating in the joint MLA/GRDC Producer Demonstration Sites (PDS) Program, farming businesses can trial new practices tailored to their unique farming systems. Photo: GRDC.

producers can trial new practices tailored to their unique farming systems, learn directly from peers, and contribute to shaping climate-resilient, sustainable agriculture.

Projects may explore opportunities to optimise pasture and grain crop productivity through improved soil health, targeted plant nutrition, and integrated pest, weed, and disease management. They may look at conducting trials on nutrition or handling practices that improve carcass traits and market premiums.

A focus on climate-resilient systems using crop/pasture rotations and adaptive grazing strategies can also be conducted as part of the collaboration.

Additional opportunities include value-adding in mixed farming systems and whole-of-landscape planning that integrates water, biodiversity, and land use to support sustainable production.

MLA's Project Manager for Producer Demonstration Sites, Alana McEwan, said the partnership with GRDC is a strategic collaboration designed to deliver locally relevant, on-farm projects.

"This program empowers producer groups to explore and implement new practices that are grounded in research and tailored to their unique farming systems," Ms McEwan said. "We know that many farmers produce multiple commodities, and their businesses are highly integrated."

"These PDS projects are targeted at mixed-commodity producers and on outcomes that have crossover between livestock and grain production. The two are often highly complementary, so it makes sense to have this focus on targeted adoption that looks at the whole farm system."

GRDC's Senior Regional Manager South (Acting),

Courtney Ramsey, highlighted the importance of peer-to-peer learning and practical application of R&D.

"By establishing PDS sites, we're enabling producers to engage directly with research in a way that's meaningful and impactful for their operations," Ms Ramsey said. "It allows them to see that research in action and better understand how they can make it work for them."

The MLA/GRDC Partnership PDS Program will see six new sites established, with producer groups aligned and active by June 2026.

Mixed farming operators interested in participating or hosting a PDS are encouraged to: Visit the MLA/GRDC Partnership PDS webpage for updated guidelines, Terms of Reference, and the preliminary application form or submit applications via email to PDS@mha.com.au by Friday October 3, 2025.

MARKET REPORT

Brought to you by...

CLAAS Harvest Centre **CLAAS**

Another strong result

By SGSAA

AGENTS yarded another good offering of 2900 head at this weeks VLE Leongatha store sale. The market continued on its merry way again with prices fully firm on last weeks lift for steers. The tops of the heavy feeders made a tick over \$3000 again with medium weighted feeders trading at \$5.00 to \$5.50 with feedlot orders again taking a large share.

Weaner steers were strong with local orders securing these with prices in the \$5.40 to \$6.00 range. Heifer demand improved for the 400kg Angus heifers with the best pens in the \$5.00 to \$5.20 range and weaners heifers firm to dearer with a few pens of well-bred types purchased for breeders out to \$5.50 with most others \$3.80 to \$4.50. Xbred & dairy types again sold very well with anything with a bit shape making \$4.00 to \$4.80

Leongatha Store Sale On Thursday, August 14, 2025 Steers

A & C Neal 10 Angus	647kg	\$5.26	\$2880
B & J Traill 11 Angus	622kg	\$4.82	\$3000
W J Goddard 14 Hereford	617kg	\$4.82	\$3040
Mt Kirwan 19 Angus	597kg	\$5.07	\$3030
A & C Neal 8 Angus	589kg	\$4.84	\$2850
GM Davis 19 Angus	542kg	\$5.30	\$2880
Est A & F Birss 22 Angus	532kg	\$5.32	\$2790
A & C Neal 10 Angus	520kg	\$5.09	\$2650
B & J Traill 16 Angus	488kg	\$5.15	\$2520
R Cox 16 Angus	466kg	\$4.92	\$2300
B & J Traill 15 Angus	459kg	\$5.11	\$2350
Melaleuca Pastoral 18 Angus	444kg	\$4.94	\$2200
D & T Cameron 12 Angus	430kg	\$5.19	\$2240
Homebush 20 Angus	425kg	\$5.41	\$2300
B & P Svenson 17 Angus	414kg	\$5.23	\$2170
Coonmoor Past 26 Angus	407kg	\$5.54	\$2260
AW & CM O'Mara 21 Angus	380kg	\$5.77	\$2200
B & P Svenson 10 Angus	370kg	\$5.42	\$2010
S Conway 16 Angus	358kg	\$5.51	\$1980
Burwood Hills FT 13 Angus	309kg	\$5.78	\$1790
R&K Telling 63 Angus	306kg	\$6.00	\$1838
Sha-Valley 17 Angus	305kg	\$5.47	\$1670
G & H Little 23 Angus	291kg	\$5.84	\$1700
CM Lord 10 Angus	285kg	\$5.57	\$1590
Grazing Developments 19 Ang	280kg	\$5.30	\$1490
CM Lord 12 Angus	242kg	\$5.65	\$1370
Faulkner Lees 50 Angus	205kg	\$6.03	\$1237

Heifers:

Billy Creek Cattle Co 10 Euro X	409kg	\$4.54	\$1860
Padula P/L 10 Charo	397kg	\$4.65	\$1850
High Voltage 16 Angus	391kg	\$5.08	\$1990
AW & CM O'Mara 22 Angus	356kg	\$5.21	\$1860
Kuch Grazing 18 Angus	349kg	\$5.14	\$1800
P Bourke 21 Angus	344kg	\$4.81	\$1660
B & J Henwood 15 Angus	340kg	\$5.02	\$1710
Eastern Livestock 23 Angus	338kg	\$4.28	\$1450
Kuch Grazing 19 Angus	321kg	\$5.12	\$1650
Kuch Grazing 25 Angus	317kg	\$5.19	\$1650
AW & CM O'Mara 20 Angus	317kg	\$4.73	\$1500
R & D Egan 11 Hereford	314kg	\$4.29	\$1350
R & S Holt 11 Angus	313kg	\$4.31	\$1350
Eastern Livestock 24 Angus	306kg	\$4.04	\$1240
Kuch Grazing 25 Angus	303kg	\$5.43	\$1650
Mountain View Past 28 Angus	302kg	\$4.47	\$1351
Kuch Grazing 25 Angus	317kg	\$5.19	\$1650
G & H Little 12 Angus	272kg	\$4.33	\$1180
Grazing Developments			
13 Angus/BB	265kg	\$4.32	\$1150
G & H Little 15 Angus	248kg	\$4.55	\$1130
M Lee 13 Angus	226kg	\$4.19	\$950



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Livestock Sales

KORUMBURRA		FOSTER	
David Ryan	0408 311 895	Dick Faulkner	0408 595 174
LEONGATHA		WONTHAGGI	
Dane Perczyk - Livestock Manager	0408 176 063	Brian Vuillermin	0429 436 040
Jack Curtis	0427 762 670	Rob Ould - Livestock Manager	0408 595 183
WARRAGUL		David Holden	0428 749 390
Neil Darby - Livestock Manager	0418 595 265	Alan Bolding	0419 723 255
Terry Ahearn	0438 562 816	PAKENHAM	
Jordan Sim	0448 058 435	David Setches - Livestock Manager	0409 443 473
Mark Malacarne	0418 654 590	Glenn Barwick	0408 975 476
Georgie Snell	0417 100 657	Morgan Croucher	0457 001 877
		Tim Gibson	0420 306 599
		Imogen Price	0417 225 498

Real Estate Sales

KORUMBURRA		LEONGATHA		MELBOURNE LAND	
Scott McKenzie	0427 552 898	Andrew Newton	0402 940 320	Matt Koster	0474 781 711
WONTHAGGI		Peter Dwyer	0428 855 244	COWES	
Phillip Hanley	0417 140 508	Emily Hillberg	0422 622 299	Greg Price	0419 337 441
Cal Nation	0439 334 163	Tony Giles	0407 528 192	Brian Silver	0407 347 509
Mick Chambers	0418 349 783	Dan Huther	0418 334 801	Chase Watters	0423 272 819
GRANTVILLE		WARRAGUL		VENUS BAY	
Angus Hall	0466 326 487	Alan Steenholdt	0409 423 822	Daniel Lawrie	0417 631 252
INVERLOCH		PAKENHAM		Sue Lawrie	0419 885 489
Marni Lee Redmond	0403 525 413	Tom Gibson	0438 574 472	KOO WEE RUP	
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Tom Gibson	0438 574 472	Scott McKenzie	0427 552 898	Angus Hall	0466 326 487

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Varroa mite threat arrives in South Gippsland

VARROA destructor may sound like the name of a villain from a science fiction film, but the reality is now much closer to home. Most people know them simply as varroa mites. Though they pose no threat to humans, to our bees, they are nothing short of ruthless, often wiping out entire colonies.

The parasite was first detected in Australia in June 2022 in New South Wales and has been spreading ever since. Much to the dismay, but not to the surprise of local beekeepers, varroa mites were detected in South Gippsland for the first time this week when a case appeared in Yarram.

Local beekeeper and Vice President of the Gippsland Apiarist Association, Peter Gatehouse, said he was not surprised by the news. "I have been preparing for it. It has always been a case of when, not if," he said.

Varroa mite is identified through regular hive monitoring, often using an alcohol wash. "You sample half a cup of bees, which is about 300 bees, and put them in a container with methanol. Unfortunately, the bees die, but it is for the greater good of the colony. The mites will then show up at the bottom of the container," Peter explained.

Peter, who runs about 80 hives, said his own bees remain mite free so far.

According to Peter, there is no way to stop varroa mite from eventually entering a hive. While the BeeMAX map can help some commercial beekeepers avoid high-risk areas when moving their hives, stationary hives will almost certainly become infected.

Once the mites are present, beekeepers can treat hives with non-synthetic or synthetic miticides, along with mechanical methods, to keep numbers



Peter Gatehouse says it was always a matter of when, not if, the varroa mite would reach South Gippsland.

down. Re-queening is another option to prolong control before treatments are needed again.

Peter said there has been a strong effort to prepare beekeepers for this moment. "We have had 25 varroa management workshops across Victoria and there are 12 Varroa Development Officers in the state who help beekeepers of all sizes manage the pest," he said.

The number to contact a VDO is 1800 958 485.

He is concerned that not all local beekeepers are taking the risk seriously. "There are still people who are underestimating the threat. If you wait until it arrives in your hive, you will be scrambling," he said.

Peter believes some recreational beekeepers will likely lose hives and may give up altogether, while commercial operators may need to reduce hive numbers or hire extra hands to manage the workload. The financial toll could be heavy, with treatments costing \$7 to \$12 per hive. For large commercial operations, that figure quickly climbs into the thousands.

The impact on pollination

will also be felt. Varroa mite spreads quickly, not only through managed hives but also wild and unmanaged colonies. As these collapse, managed bees will often raid them for honey, bringing mites back with them. "That will be a big issue for the next three or so years in Australia," Peter said.

Eradication is no longer on the table. Australia is now in what is known as transition to management, meaning the focus is on living with the pest and keeping numbers under control.

Peter encouraged local beekeepers to attend the next South Gippsland Beekeepers club meeting at St Peters Anglican Church Hall in Leongatha on Thursday, September 11 at 7pm, where Varroa Development Officer Ally Driessen will speak about monitoring and management techniques.

He also praised the Yarram beekeeper who came forward with the detection. "Beekeepers should be grateful. Many do not report it, so he should be congratulated as it really helps others know that varroa mite is in the area," Peter said.

Strong prices continue at Leongatha VLE

EXCELLENT prices were on show again at Thursday's Leongatha Store Sale, a couple of pens of Angus steers from Woodside's Richard and Kath Telling achieving over \$6 per kilo.

Prices on their well-bred cattle ranged up to \$6.14 a kilo for a pen of 17 steers weighing an average of 348 kilos and fetching \$2,140 each.

A pen of 15 slightly lighter Telling steers, weighing 319 kilos on average, achieved \$6.08 per kilo, going for \$1,940 a head.

Before selling four pens of Telling cattle, auctioneer Simon Henderson of Phelan & Henderson & Co knocked down a pen of Angus steers bred by Richard and Kath, bought by Simon and grown out by Port Welshpool's Matthew Kirwan, who fattened the 19 head up to an average of 597 kilos.

Matthew was pleased with the \$3,030 per head price achieved, that equating to \$5.07 per kilo.

"I've been waiting for the market to lift and I'm happy that it has," he said.

Matthew was able to hold off for better prices as he takes a conservative approach to the number of stock he runs on his 100 acres, normally having no more than 30 and opting to reduce that on this



Matthew Kirwan fattened Angus steers for auctioneer Simon Henderson, achieving an impressive weight and strong price. A40_3325

occasion to ensure he was right for feed.

"I'd rather have better quality cattle than quantity," he said.

Nutrien South Gippsland Livestock's Brian McCormack sold a mixture of lighter and heavier steers for comfortably over \$5 per kilo, one of the highlights being a pen of 12 Angus steers from AW and CM O'Mara of Glengarry that made \$5.84 a kilo.

Those calves, featuring Bowman and Te Mania Blood, averaged 327 kilos, selling for \$1,910 a head, Brian noting the years of breeding that went into achieving their excellent

quality.

"They're noted doing cattle," he said, remarking that attracts repeat buyers.

The other pen of O'Mara steers containing 21 head, weighing a heavier average of 381 kilos, made \$2,200 each at \$5.77 per kilo.

The O'Mara's couple of pens of Angus heifers also won favour, the 22 head in one pen fetching an excellent \$5.22 per kilo, weighing an average of 356 kilos and attracting a top bid of \$1,860.

The other 20 O'Mara heifers made a strong \$4.73 per kilo, going for \$1,500 a head and weighing an average of 317 kilos.

VLE - LEONGATHA

STORE SALE 2000 CATTLE 2000

THURSDAY, AUGUST 21, 2025 - Starting at 9am

PLEASE NOTE: 4PM WEDNESDAY CURFEW APPLIES

GROWN STEERS

A/c John MacLachlan P/L, "Glencoe", Longford (ELDERS)
130 Angus steers, 16 mths, Banquet & NZ genetics bred, NE Accred & JBS Accred
80 Angus & Black Baldy steers, 16-18 mths, Pure Dunoon blood, NE Accred, JBS Accred
A/c H&R Need, Hazel Park (ELDERS)
15 Angus/Hereford X steers, 20 mths, East Gippsland bred "Skews", GF, ABF, NE Accred, very quiet
45 Angus steers, 16 mths, GF, ABF
A/c T. Dick, Boneo (ALEX SCOTT)
25 Angus steers, 22 mths, By stud "Dunoon" Angus bulls
A/c Glengarry Plant Farm (ALEX SCOTT)
25 Angus steers, 15-18 mths, VB, GF, ABF, NE Accred, 2 x 5in1
A/c Carlene Farmer (ALEX SCOTT)
10 Shorthorn steers
12 Angus steers
22-24 mths, 3 x 5 in 1, VB, GF, ABF, NE Accred
A/c Stevron, Foster (ELDERS)
17 Hereford steers, 2 yo, GF & ABF
A/c M & C Masterson, Warragul (ALEX SCOTT)
14 Angus steers, 20 mths, Adamaluca blood
A/c R & P Davis, "Hidden Springs" (ALEX SCOTT)
12 Brangus steers, 18 mths

WEANERS

A/c Pepper Hill Trading Co, Willow Grove (ALEX SCOTT)
80 Angus & Black Baldy steers, 9- 10 mths by Absolute and Moorunga stud Angus bulls, 2x 5in1, 3x multimin, drenched and weaned, VB
A/c D & F Board, Catani (ALEX SCOTT)
70 Angus mix sex weaners, Pathfinder blood
A/c Kathwal Farm P/L (ELDERS)
50 AA/Char x mix sexes, 12-14 mths
A/c L&L McCoy, Trafalgar (ELDERS)
24 Angus heifers, 10-12 mths, Banquet blood
A/c Tablelands (ALEX SCOTT)
24 Hereford steers, 12 mths, weaned, VB, GF & ABF
A/c J&V Garretto, Gembrook (ELDERS)
20 Angus heifers, 12-14 mths, VB
A/c G Ross (ALEX SCOTT)
20 Angus mixed sex weaners, VB, GF & ABF
A/c R & P Davis, "Hidden Springs" (ALEX SCOTT)
12 Brangus steers, 13 mths
A/c M.W. Farming, Nyora (ALEX SCOTT)
10 Speckle Park mixed sex weaners, 9-10 mths, By purebred Speckle Park Bull

XBRED & DAIRY

A/c B Bransgrove, Neerim North (ELDERS)
60 Angus X mix sexes, 6-15 mths
A/c D & F Board, Catani (ALEX SCOTT)
15 Hereford/Friesian X steers, 10 mths
A/c T&J Allott, Hazel Park (ELDERS)
15 Friesian steers, 5 mths, VB, weaned



5658 1894

5655 1133

5941 4666

SOUTH GIPPSLAND ASSOCIATED AGENTS

What is Urolithiasis in livestock and what causes it?

AS MANY producers have been supplementary feeding for some time a number of related animal health issues may emerge. One of those issues is urolithiasis due to bladder stones.

Bladder stones form as a result of minerals in the urine forming crystals that grow to become stones.

Bladder stones may either pass in the urine or remain in the bladder in which case they are not an issue.

It is when they become stuck in the urethra and cause a blockage that they become a problem

By Dr Jeff Cave, Senior Veterinary Officer

as the animal then cannot urinate. This condition is known as urolithiasis.

Urolithiasis is mainly seen in wethers and feeder steers.

The first sign of urolithiasis is restlessness as the animal attempts to urinate. A swelling is then often seen around the pizzle. Finally, the animal may die due to the toxic effects of not being able to urinate.

Urolithiasis is particularly seen in animals fed primarily grain rations.

Grain is relatively high in phosphate but low in calcium. This imbalance predisposes the production of phosphate-rich stones.

When feeding grain, the most effective way of preventing urolithiasis is to add calcium in the form of ground limestone.

In addition, it is important to ensure that ample water is available to prevent dehydration. The provision of salt will help stimulate water intake.

For further information please contact your local veterinarian or Agriculture Victoria Veterinary or Animal Health Officer.

World-first research into industrial hemp as a livestock forage crop continues

THE INCREDIBLE versatility of industrial hemp is key to its potential for growth as an emerging Australian agricultural industry.

The stalks of the hemp plant can be used for fibre and building materials, while the seeds are a proven super food and were approved for human consumption in Australia in 2017.

There is also significant opportunity to use the whole hemp plant as a livestock forage, but a lack of scientific data has so far restricted this potential due to concerns over the transference of Tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) from the hemp material into meat and milk products.

In recent years, world-first research funded by AgriFutures Australia and led by Dr Bronwyn Blake and Professor Gaye Krebs examined the impact of hemp

forage on sheep and the resulting sheep meat.

"We found no detrimental effects to the animals, so in terms of nutrition and palatability, it is suitable – livestock will eat hemp and they will grow well on it," Dr Blake said.

However, the trials also found there was a transfer of THC into the animal fat which persisted at detectable levels for up to several months after feeding.

These findings had a significant impact on the hemp industry for a number of reasons. Firstly, it confirmed hemp was an unsuitable forage for finishing animals under current Australian regulations, which has zero tolerance for THC in edible animal products.

"So working within those regulations, we can't at this point in time

be feeding hemp forage to livestock that are going to be going straight to market," Dr Blake said.

However, the THC levels detected during the trials were lower than what is currently allowed in hemp seed for human consumption and therefore provided valuable information for industry to rely on as it works with regulators and establishes industry guidelines.

"There is always scope for regulation to change and this allows us to work with regulators to make some important changes that can further de-risk the industry," Dr Blake said.

Former president of the Australian Hemp Council and Tasmanian hemp producer Tim Schmidt said the work was critical to move the hemp industry forward.

"It was ground-breaking research that really defined some parameters in terms of minimum residue levels that were not fully understood by industry," Mr Schmidt said.

"It's created a whole new level of understanding in how to manage and deal with hemp for livestock and it will further open up opportunities for the hemp industry."

Mr Schmidt said the findings would be included in industry submissions to an upcoming senate inquiry into the Australian hemp industry.

"That's a really important process because the hope is that it will initiate regulatory changes at a federal level that will allow the states to change their legislation to accommodate for new uses of hemp," he said.

"All these things have to happen first to allow further progress down the track."

The findings also provided a base line for future research to examine variables that could allow for the safe use of hemp forage within current regulations, such as withholding periods, plant growth stages and the use of hemp-forage for non-meat and milk producing animal groups including wool producing sheep.

Professor Krebs is now continuing this line of research work as part of the AgriFutures Australia Industrial Hemp Program of Research (AIHRPR) team led by Southern Cross University.

One of the projects being carried out under Theme 3 of the AIHRPR is examining the impact of feeding hemp seed cake to cattle.

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DORLING:

Gary and Kelly welcome with love their seventh grandchild, Calsher Reign on August 12, 2025. Congratulations to Brock and Maddy.

16th great grandchild for Toby and Georgia Bolding.

DEATHS

ALLAN, David George:

Born on July 25, 1947. Passed away August 14, 2025.

We are heartbroken to announce the passing of our father, grandfather and great grandfather, David George Allan.

Who passed away peacefully surrounded by his adoring family on 14.08.2025, aged 78 years.

Reunited with his beloved Jo.

Much loved by Nicki and Ian, Kylie and Turtle, Scott and Caitlyn, Tash, Jess, Emma and Lachie, Jordy, Lacey and Blaire.

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DEATHS

GINN (nee Maddock), Joan Scott:

Passed 10.08.2025 92 years.

Daughter of Reg and Rita and sister to Dee (all dec).

Wife to Len (dec).

Mother to Dennis (dec), Howard (dec), Pam, Alan, Jo and Steven and their families.

Nana to Michelle, Drew, Tom, Harry and Aidan.

Great Nana to Maddy, Josh, Kyra and Jasper.

Thank you to Steve for his devoted care and team at Inverloch Coastal Care.

In respect of Joan's wishes, a private service will take place.

MOYES (nee Boyd), Valerie Joyce:

12.06.1935 - 10.08.2025.

Loved wife of Stewart (dec).

Loving mother of Robyn, Ray Greg, Allan and John.

Cherished by their partners and families.

Memorial Service 21.08.2025 at 1pm Settlers Run Country Club, Cranbourne South.

PEARSON, Mark Geoffrey:

Passed away peacefully on August 8, 2025.

Loved by all his family and friends.

Forever in our Hearts.

Reunited with his beloved Diane.

Privately cremated.

DEATHS

REEVES, Trevor David:

Passed away peacefully on August 12, 2025, with loved ones by his side.

A well-loved man who never stopped creating and giving back.

RICHARDSON, Mark (Richo):

Born on November 18, 1962. Passed away July 31, 2025.

Passed away unexpectedly at home on Thursday, July 31, 2025, aged 62 years.

Loving father of Andrew, Dannielle and Roxi.

He would not ask for sadness, he would not ask for tears, just to be remembered, through the coming years.

SCANDOLERA, Paul Francis:

Passed away peacefully on the 10.08.2025.

Son of Bob and Roz (both dec).

Loving partner to Kim.

Our words are few, our thoughts are deep, wonderful memories are ours to keep.

Resting peacefully reunited with his loving parents.

DEATHS

TAYLOR (nee Smith), June Lorraine:

3.10.1940 - 18.7.2025

Dearly loved wife of John (dec), Much loved mother of Colin and Janet, Jenny and Peter and Tricia and Alex.

Cherished Nanna of Adam and Brea, Ben and Jessie; Cameron and Renee, Ryan; Lachlan, Ainsley and Chris, Jared and Melissa, Ellen and Tim and Callum and Annie.

Treasured Grandy / Nanna Taylor of Jack; Nolan; Riley, Lance, Charlotte, Hazel, Angus, Celeste, Audrey, Hattie and Alfie.

Dearly loved and always missed. Now with her John.

THORN, Evan Edward:

Passed away suddenly on August 14, 2025.

Dearly loved by Rhonda.

Dad to Donna, Darren, Tania, Richard and Kelly.

Adored pop of Brodie, Jarrod, Jade, Claire, Hannah, Bryce, Kai and Gemma.

A wonderful husband, father and pop.

A tender thought brings a tear, a silent wish that you were here. Your loving nature and your heart of gold, these are the memories we will always hold.

An informal gathering to celebrate Evan's life will be held at the Kilcunda-Bass Football Netball Club Rooms on Thursday, August 21, 2025 from 12.30pm onwards. All welcome.

DEATHS

THORN, Evan:

Loved brother of Barry (dec) brother-in-law of Sue. Uncle of Bree, Laura and families. Brothers together again.

THORN, Evan:

Dearly loved brother of Carol and brother-in-law of Bill (dec). Uncle of Karen, Greg, Paul and families.

Rest in Peace mate.

WHELAN (nee Frankel), Patricia Merle:

Patricia Merle Whelan passed away on the 5.08.2025.

Loving mother of Dennis (dec), and Michael.

Devoted wife of Brian (dec).

At rest in God's Garden.

WYHOON, Shirley:

Passed away peacefully with family by her side on Friday August 15, aged 88 years.

Loving wife of Laurie.

Loved mother, mother-in-law, nan and great nan to all her loving family.

Loved and remembered always, sadly missed.

FUNERALS

ALLAN:

A Memorial Service to Celebrate the Life of Mr. David George Allan will be held at the Korumburra Amenities Complex (Korumburra Showgrounds), South Gippsland Highway, Korumburra on Wednesday, August 27, 2025 commencing at 1.30pm.

A Private Cremation will precede the above Service.

REEVES:

A Celebration of Life Service will be held at the Ashburton Uniting Church, 3 Ashburn Grove, Ashburton on Friday August 22, 2025, commencing at 11am.

In the gentle care of Greenhaven Funerals (03) 9569 0534.

FUNERALS

RICHARDSON:

A Memorial Service to Celebrate the Life of Mr. Mark (Richo) Richardson will be held at Meeniyani Golf Club, 385 Meeniyani-Promontory Road Meeniyani, on Friday, August 29, 2025 commencing at 2pm.

TAYLOR:

A celebration of the life of Mrs June Lorraine Taylor will be held at St John's Anglican Church, Raglan Street Port Albert at 1pm on Monday, August 25, 2025 followed by burial in the Yarram Cemetery.

For those unable to attend a livestream broadcast will take place.

A Service for Burial will precede the above service at the Leongatha Cemetery commencing at 11am.

IN MEMORIAM

BOLGE, Tania:

August 23, 1978.

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ads@sgst.com.au

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DEADLINES

Classified single column

Mondays 12.00 noon

Classified double column

Fridays 3.00pm

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Phone:
5672 1888



Email:
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47 McBride Ave, Wonthaggi



Mail:
47 McBride Ave, Wonthaggi

Office Hours:
9am-5pm Monday to Friday

Payments accepted:



Advertising conditions:

Full name and address of advertiser must be supplied even though not necessarily included in advertisement.

The publishers reserve the right to omit and alter any advertisement. Please check your ad is correct the first day it appears. While every care is taken to ensure your ad is correct, errors can occur. We regret that we cannot be responsible for any errors beyond the first day if you fail to bring it to our attention.

All advertisements must be prepaid unless client has an existing credit facility. Accounts are due and payable on the due date as shown on the account.

The Motor Car Traders Regulations:

States that from July 1, 1998 all advertisements for used vehicles including motorcycles must include the cash price of vehicle and registration number or engine number if not registered.

Sentinel-Times



29-31 Bear Street, Inverloch, 3996

Qualified Technician/ 3rd or 4th Year Apprentice

Inverloch Marine is one of the largest Marine retail outlets in South Gippsland and the Bass Coast. We are the exclusive Victorian and South Australian distributor of **Extreme Boats** and the largest Extreme dealer in Australia. We are also the **Quintrex** dealer for South Gippsland and Bass Coast and a franchised **Yamaha** outboard dealer.

Servicing the Marine Industry for over 30 years, we pride ourselves on delivering quality products and services to our widespread customer base extending Australia wide.

We are looking for a full time motivated qualified or near qualified technician to join our workshop. Your role will offer a wide variety of work including:

- general service and repairs on Outboard motors, new and used
- outboard repowers
- trailer and caravan repairs
- new boat fit outs
- engine and gearbox reconditioning

Our Service Department also carries out extensive boat fit outs including engine and rigging, electronic fitting and commissioning, lighting, vessel attitude control systems, steering systems, Yamaha's Helm Master EX with Digital Electronic steering and Joystick controls.

Working with a small, experienced team this position would be ideal for a trade qualified technician with a background in either Automotive, Marine, or light engines or 3rd or 4th year apprentice wanting to secure a role and further their career. The position is Monday to Friday, offering a great work life balance, with only the occasional paid overtime. Above award rates make this an excellent opportunity.

If you're ready for a change, we can offer you a stable work environment with a friendly team, ongoing training and development opportunities.

Please submit your resume to
james@inverlochmarine.com.au.

HM1261

Are you our next advertising & print solutions powerhouse?

James Yeates (East Gippsland Newspapers) is seeking a dynamic, enthusiastic professional to join our advertising, communications, and print solutions sales team. You will bring passion and expertise to make a substantial contribution to our company.

Key Selection Criteria:

- Experience in sales and client account management
- An understanding of the advertising and printing industry
- An excellent communicator with strong relationship-building skills
- Organised, efficient, and able to meet deadlines in a fast-paced environment
- Highly computer literate in the MS Office Suite and willing to learn new programs
- Able to work independently and as part of a team
- Excellent writing skills with English as a first language
- A background or qualifications in advertising and/or marketing will be well regarded.

If this sounds like you and you're ready to join a respected local business and make a real impact, we'd love to hear from you.

Send your CV with a cover letter, meeting the key selection criteria to the Advertising & Marketing Manager
advertising@jamesyeates.com.au



James Yeates & Sons Pty Ltd
65 Macleod Street, Bairnsdale
5152 4141

SITUATIONS VACANT

ADVERTISERS PLEASE NOTE:

Much hardship and difficulty is caused to jobseekers by misleading advertisements placed in the employment columns.

Our Positions Vacant / Situations Vacant columns are reserved for advertisements which carry a specific and genuine offer of employment.

Ads for 'Business Opportunities', 'Commission Only/Sales,' training courses and employment services should be submitted under those headings.

Placing misleading job ads is an offence against the ACL and all advertisements are subject to the publisher's approval. For further advice contact the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission on 1300 302 502 or Consumer Affairs Victoria.

invisage

blinds, drapes & awnings

Window Furnishing Sales Consultant

Inverloch

A wonderful opportunity exists for an enthusiastic sales consultant.

Be part of a focused and supportive team who have a passion for quality product and wonderful service.

Invisage blinds, drapes and awnings have an excellent reputation, specialising in medium to high-end window coverings.

Requirements:

Window furnishing sales (measuring / quoting / interior decoration industry) experience is preferred.

- High accuracy and attention to detail.
- Passionate about superior customer service, pro-actively developing face to face customer relationships.
- Highly motivated, enthusiastic and reliable, with outgoing personality traits.
- Excellent design, measuring, mathematic, communicative and written skills.
- Professional presentation, attitude & demeanour.
- Exemplary time management skills.
- Sales and service driven.

In return you will be provided with:

- Quality leads (high repeat/referral/ conversion rate), vehicle and fuel.
- Flexibility and autonomy.
- Full sampling and sales aids.
- Competitive base rate, plus great earning potential with uncapped commission structure.

If you are looking for a challenging and rewarding career with a progressive company and pride yourself on providing excellent customer service and attention to detail, then this position could be for you.

For a confidential conversation about the role, please contact Trina on 0408 585 304 and send us your CV

Email: trina@invisageblinds.com

Applications close: Friday, September 5

Attendees at a local Landcare event earlier this year.

Landcare events coming up

Early detection for pests

THE feralSCAN Webinar will be held on September 4 from 5pm to 6.30pm

Join Peter West from the Department of Primary Industry to hear about how and why recording pest animal sightings on feralSCAN is an easy way to contribute to pest animal management.

Peter has 20 years' experience in pest animal research and management and is responsible for the national feralSCAN program.

Download the feralSCAN app to your phone.

Please contact kirby@sgln.net.au if you need any help.

This project is supported by the Victorian Government through the Partnerships against Pests program.

Keep ahead of the carbon curve

ACROSS Leongatha and Koorumburra, field days will be held to help participants stay ahead of the carbon curve.

As markets, banks and insurance companies seek to meet their carbon emission

commitments, farmers may need to start demonstrating low-emission farming practices through their supply chain.

You can find out all you need to know during the two-day practical and interactive workshop.

Day one:

* Declan McDonald, local soil scientist, on the principles and practices of carbon farming.

* Nick Dudley, local farmer and presenter (who has worked on carbon projects for Ag Vic), on how to calculate and track your farm's emissions.

Day two:

* Nick Dudley will support participants to enter their farm details into a digital tool to calculate emissions and explore on-farm offset actions.

This will take place on September 11 and 18.

Day one will run from 10.30am to 2pm and day two will run from 10.30am to 1pm.

For more info, email cassie@sgln.net.au or call 0448 739 559.

Spotlight on fox control

SANDY Point Community Centre will host a best practice fox control seminar on September 12 from 10am to 2pm.

Foxes can be responsible for up to 30 per cent of lamb losses.

The lead up to lambing season is a great time to plan a control program.

Attendees to this event will have the opportunity to borrow camera traps from South Gippsland Landcare that can be used during a control program or to help you understand your pest animals.

At this event, Aaron Stephens from Bass Coast Landcare Invasive Species team will cover:

- * All available fox control methods.
- * How to integrate methods for the most successful control.
- * What qualifications are required.

Kasun Ekanayake from Bird-life Australia will talk about how fox control along with other methods have been implemented to try and increase the success of Hooded Plover

breeding along the coast.

Learn how you could get involved.

Lunch and refreshments included.

Please email kirby@sgln.net.au if you have questions or dietary requirements.

Speakers set for Landcare Conference

THE 2025 National Landcare Conference will be held from September 21 to 24.

With more than 100 speakers now confirmed, this year's Landcare Conference brings together Indigenous Custodians, grassroots volunteers, leading scientists and agricultural innovators to share ideas shaping sustainable land management. Landcare is especially proud to see SGLN's Nick Stephens on the program.

Nick will showcase practical, field-tested tools—feralSCAN, 4G-enabled cameras and thermal scopes—that are helping the community track feral deer, understand their impacts and coordinate control.

It's a timely session within a program designed to inspire action across the landscapes.

PUBLIC NOTICES

Expressions of Interest sought for water in the Powlett River

Southern Rural Water is calling for expressions of interest in securing winterfill surface water entitlement in the Powlett River catchment.

The total allocation available is 250 megalitres. Winterfill water can only be accessed from 1 July to 31 October in any year.

To be eligible, you must be able to access the water from your land or land you have permission to use.

Sustainable Diversion Limits assessment will determine availability of water at proposed harvesting locations within the catchment. Please note that water is not available in all sub-catchments. Southern Rural Water will assess your eligibility to participate including the need to be landholders or otherwise have access to land in the Powlett River catchment and direct access to the waterway for pumping purposes.

More information and Expressions of Interest forms can be accessed using the QR code below. Completed Expressions of Interest forms must be submitted by Tuesday, 16 September 2025.

For further information please contact 1300 139 510 or srw@srw.com.au



HM12862

PUBLIC NOTICES



The Dumbalk Back To - Easter 2028

A Public Meeting will be held to begin preparations for the Dumbalk Back To - set for Easter 2028

Date: 7.30pm Thursday 28th August 2025

Supper Room, Dumbalk Hall

Everyone is welcome to come along and be part of the planning

54 | TUESDAY, AUGUST 19, 2025 | SOUTH GIPPSLAND SENTINEL-TIMES



Leongatha Women's Artistic Gymnastic athletes Molly Francis, Billi Olden, Samara Parke, Anda Sriraksa, and Annabelle Walkley on the 1st place podium at the Waverley Classic.

Leongatha Gymnastics team shines at Waverley Classic

LEONGATHA'S Women's Artistic Gymnastics (WAG) team has seen a fantastic season for the girls, and at their most recent competition – the Waverley Classic – they placed first overall against some of the best clubs in the state.

What made this event special is that many of these clubs benefit from significant funding and state-of-the-art facilities, while Leongatha Gymnastics Club has proudly operated as a not-for-profit for 32 years, providing affordable, quality classes to the community.

Despite training with second-hand and mismatched equipment, the athletes continue to demonstrate resilience and competitiveness, proving they can match it with the best.

At the Waverley Classic, the team not only secured first place overall but also placed first on every apparatus as a team – Vault, Uneven Bars, Beam, and Floor.

The team now looks ahead to the South-East Regional Championships on September 13-14. This event is the qualifier for the Junior

Victorian Championships – an achievement the club has never reached in its 32 years. To qualify, the WAG team will need to win the entire regional competition, as only the top team advances.

Team athletes include Anda Sriraksa, Annabelle Walkley, Billi Olden, Molly Francis, Samara Parke, with their head coach, Lily Akers, training the WAG level four girls, 12 hours a week.

“The girls began strongly on Vault, followed by standout routines on Uneven Bars – their strongest apparatus,” said Lily.

“On Beam, nerves showed during warm-up, including a heavy fall, but every gymnast pushed through to deliver solid routines when it counted.

“They closed on Floor, showcasing not only technical ability but also artistry and performance. Judges praised the team's routines, providing valuable feedback as they prepare for Regionals.

“Parents, coaches, and the club community are incredibly proud of what these athletes have achieved so far, and we are excited to see how they finish their season.”

Leongatha Small Bore Rifle Club

2025: 20m Prone Pennant - Section A: Round six: Leongatha A 297.11 defeated MCC Team A 293.17.

Kenneth Hart 100.05; Christopher Sargent 99.02; Daniel Croatto 98.04; Jack Sargent 97.03.

Round seven: Leongatha A 295.13 defeated Kyneton A 291.14.

Jack Sargent 99.03; Daniel Croatto 98.05; Christopher Sargent 98.05; Kenneth Hart 97.02.

Round eight: Leongatha A 296.18 defeated Shepparton 295.14.

Jack Sargent 99.06; Kenneth Hart 99.04; Daniel Croatto 98.08; Christopher Sargent 98.04.

Ladder: MCC Team A 28; FPTRC Team A 24; Leongatha A 20; Kyneton A 12; Shepparton 12; Sandringham 0.

2025: 20m Prone Pennant - Section E: Round six: Leongatha B 259.08 defeated MCC Team C 184.03.

Mathew Eldridge 95.04; Bradley Hall 85.03; Cameron Davidson 79.01; Kaleb Mee.

Round seven: Leongatha B 268.05 (bye). Bradley Hall 92.03; Mathew Eldridge 90.02; Cameron Davidson 86.00; Kaleb Mee 78.00.

Round eight: Sale B 278.05 defeated Leongatha B 266.01.

Bradley Hall 90.01; Mathew Eldridge 88.00; Kaleb Mee 88.00; Cameron Davidson 79.00.

Ladder: Kyneton C 32; Sale B 24; Leongatha B 20; Warburton 16; MCC Team C 4.

The club shoots on Friday nights at 8pm at the rifle club on the Leongatha Recreation Reserve.

Any inquiries, please call R. Spratt 5664 2358.

Rising stars at Nyora Football Club

OVER the weekend, for the second year running, Nyora Football Club's under-10s and under-12s teams played finals on their home ground. This year, two of the youngest stars reached personal best milestones.

Little Pocket Rocket, Zara Dike – one of the few girls in the under-10s – played her 50th game. Most of her games have been for Nyora from the start, and she has also occasionally filled in for Hallora Football Club. She's had the privilege of representing Auskick kids at the MCG, Casey Stadium, and Docklands.

“Zara loves her football,” said Coaches Glen Easton and Wayne Packer, who have both shaped her into the tough little footballer she is. It wouldn't be possible without her uncle Andrew, who set her on her path.

Chaise Easton also hit a big milestone, achieving 100 games in junior football. He's played with Nyora and Hallora Football clubs, with Nyora being his home club, where his brothers also play—Blake in the under-10s and Rylie Easton in the under-8s team. Chaise has also played in Interleague, and he's a little gun with 105 goals and 44 best ons.

“This boy is destined to be a football superstar, with big things ahead, and of course he couldn't do it without the support of his mum and dad, who are also the Under-10s Coach and Team Manager, Courtney and Glen Easton,” said Trish Dike of Nyora Football Club.

These two are known as the little rising stars of Nyora Junior Football Club.

Smiths Beach lifesaving tower under repair for the summer season

WOOLAMAI Beach Surf Life Saving Club (WBSLSC) began repairs and maintenance to the Smiths Beach Rescue Base on Monday, August 4, 2025.

WBSLSC are managing the project with works to repair corroded steel on the rescue base structure. During the period of work, the stairs and landing (adjacent to the rescue tower) will be closed.

However, the timber accessibility ramp is planned to remain open, other than a one to three-day closure in mid-August. Access to Smiths Beach will remain open at all times via the western access stairs.

Completion of this stage of the project is likely in mid-September 2025.

Phillip Island Nature Parks will then begin separate upgrade work on the accessibility ramp (late 2025) and stairs and landing in 2026.



Woolamai Beach Surf Life Saving Club (WBSLSC) are managing works to the Smiths Beach rescue base, repairing corroded steel on the rescue base structure, with completion due in mid-September.

WBSLSC President Jason Close confirmed that contractors will do their best to minimise the inconvenience to beachgoers during the works.

The WBSLSC is very grateful for the support of members of the local community, the Smiths Beachcombers Association, Phillip Island and San Remo Rotary, the Victorian State Government's Tiny Towns Grants Program, the

Victorian Emergency Services Equipment Program, Member for Bass Jordan Crugnale and Phillip Island Nature Parks.

“Over the last couple of summers, we've had a few drownings on Phillip Island at nearby beaches, so it is important for us to direct people to a beach with a rescue base and lifesavers patrolling,” Jason said. “We needed to be able to fix up the rescue base so that we can keep doing that; from the rescue base, we can see people from that elevated position, and we've got resuscitation equipment, radios and first aid equipment.”

The club is looking forward to the rescue base being ready for the summer lifesaving season and to the improvements to the landing, staircase and ramp progressing.

TIDE GUIDE

TIDAL PREDICTIONS FROM PORT PHILLIP HEADS

Approx. Tide Variations: Seal Rocks, Venus Bay, Waratah Bay and Cape Woolamai (Same), Tooradin +2hrs 45, Cowes Pier +50, Stony Point +40

TUESDAY August 19	WEDNESDAY August 20	THURSDAY August 21	FRIDAY August 22	SATURDAY August 23	SUNDAY August 24	MONDAY August 25
▼ 12.16am 0.31m	▼ 1.07am 0.36m	▼ 2.11am 0.42m	▼ 3.30am 0.45m	▼ 4.49am 0.46m	▼ 5.55am 0.45m	▲ 12.49am 1.44m
▲ 7.34am 1.50m	▲ 8.41am 1.45m	▲ 9.51am 1.43m	▲ 11.00am 1.44m	▲ 12.03pm 1.48m	▲ 12.57pm 1.54m	▼ 6.50am 0.44m
▼ 12.32pm 0.85m	▼ 1.26pm 0.92m	▼ 2.37pm 0.96m	▼ 4.09pm 0.93m	▼ 5.33pm 0.84m	▼ 6.38pm 0.72m	▲ 1.43pm 1.59m
▲ 6.46pm 1.47m	▲ 7.47pm 1.41m	▲ 9.04pm 1.35m	▲ 10.29pm 1.34m	▲ 11.44pm 1.37m		▼ 7.29pm 0.61m

Email us your fishing photos

news@sgst.com.au

WONTHAGGI
TABLE TENNIS

ROUND 4 results:
When Stiga's number one Tim rolled Radak's number two Fred, the script held. When Stiga's number two Trish knocked over Radak's number one Warren, the script became confetti. When it was three sets all and nine to three in the decider, Trish was marching home and Warren was a puddle of anguish. However, a feisty comeback got Warren to 10 all and the hall held its breath. However again, Trish held serve and nerve only 50 plus years of playing sport can forge and confetti rained. Post Script - Warren defeated Tim in the battle of number ones, earning some consolation. Stiga def Radak 3 to 2.
Butterfly's David, his royal jolliness, plays with such style that Charles Rolls and Henry RoDonic feel envy. Ably supported by newcomer Mick in the doubles act, they prevailed over the plucky Donic, Charley and Michael. Butterfly def Donic 3 to 2.
Despite Andro's Luke bringing the fire and flaming Double Fish in two singles matches, Double Fish got the win. Key match was Leanne defeating Yeti in five tight sets, three going to deuce. Toughness is not always physical. Double Fish def Andro 3 to 2.
Nittaku Bye.
Ladder:Stiga 12, Double Fish 12, Andro 8, Nittaku 8, Butterfly 4, Donic 0, Radak 0.
Leadong Players: Luke 6, Brad 4, Tim 4.

SOUTH GIPPSLAND
BRIDGE CLUB

FIVE and a half tables played bridge on Tuesday, August 12, in Wonthaggi.
In N/S, Deb Anglim and John French are consistent leaders, scoring a convincing 67.19 per cent.
Then Lois Dwyer and Alan Johnston with 63.43, Ruth Harvey and visitor Lef Lazarou 62.5, Ann Rinder and Ruth Stevenson 53.12, and Hannah Martin and Maureen Stiles 52.6 per cent.
Inverloch saw 10 tables on Friday with Deb Anglim and John French scoring 58.56 per cent, Julie and Ian McFee 55.79, Hannah Martin and Ruth Stevenson 55.09, Matti Shub and John Quayle 51.62, and Denise Allitt and Tom Kudelka with 50 per cent in N/S.
Playing in E/W, Philip and Neville Chapman 61.57 per cent, Faye Rowlands and Lef Lazarou 60.19, Julie Perriam and Bronwyn Sund 59.72, Moya Crowley and Michael Dooley 55.56 and in a triple tie, Wendy McKergow and Anne Ferrari, Grant Austen and Kathy Dowd, and Jenny Jacob and Pam Christenson all with 46.76 per cent.

PHILLIP ISLAND
BRIDGE CLUB

ON Monday August 11, winners of 5 Tables were Rob and Margot Kilcullen with 59.72 percent, chased hard by Lorie Read and Neville Chapman on 58.8 percent. Wednesday Aug 13 was Nationwide with Greg Nicholson and Jean Barbour taking the honours over 4 tables with 63.69 percent. Phillip Island Bridge Club Congress places are filling quickly. Go to your My ABF on line to enter. Places are limited.



The Victorian Air Ambulance Helimed flight crew at the briefing with Port Welshpool Coast Guard boat crew (in life jackets).Photo Jonathon Stevenson

Helicopter rescue drill off Wilsons Prom
set to keep boaties safe this summer

COSTING north of \$20 million and weighing more than an elephant, the Victorian Air Ambulance Helimed rescue chopper AW`139 carried out a highly successful off a boat rescue drill in Singapore, Deep south of Port Welshpool in the second week of August.
Since COVID, Wilson Prom waters have been attracting an increasing number of larger offshore craft that head offshore to catch game fish like Blue Fin Tuna.
The increase is being partly driven by Westernport Bay fishers who are bypassing local boat ramps, experiencing hour or more wait times for the far quicker Port Welshpool ramp.
In peak season, like at post-

By Mike Sabey
Christmas, up to 500 boats use the twin ramps, and it results in a sea of parked rigs along the foreshore.
To better handle this increase, Boating Victoria has recently dramatically expanded and sealed the gravel trailer car park and has plans to replace the floating pontoon with a wider, more stable version that will have a hoist to lift people in and out of boats.
The Air Ambulance Victoria AugustaWesland helicopter crew is based at Traralgon Airport and can be tasked to undertake coastal rescues from the NSW border to Phillip Island.
On board the Port Welshpool

Coast Guard rescue cat CG20 involved with the exercise, crewman Jonathon Stevenson of Foster explained, "Having such a very expensive chopper hovering just 10 metres above you whilst being very exciting is extremely loud, as the craft's rotors punch all the noise and wash down onto us on the deck whilst kicking up heaps of spray!
"Our boat crew has to manage the line from the chopper smoothly and efficiently to prevent entanglements. It may look simple, but it requires your full concentration," he added.
If a boat on Prom waters needs help, a mobile call to 000 for help will be put through to the Police Control Centre, which may task the Port Welshpool Coast Guard

to head out to assist.
Acting Port Welshpool Coast Guard Commander Mike Bland says, "Our operational crew regularly undertake joint forty-five-minute training exercises with the Air Ambulance Victoria crews who need to do refresher drills every six months.
"We are looking to attract more volunteers, especially women, to join us to help with the increasing number of recovery assist jobs and more serious offshore rescues we are being tasked with.
"For anyone interested in getting involved with boating but not wanting to go to sea, we have many roles that include radio work, first aid, back office jobs and fundraising," he says.

Inverloch and Venus Bay Lifesaving clubs win gig at awards of excellence

VOLUNTEERS at Inverloch and Venus Bay surf lifesaving clubs received high accolades at Life Saving Victoria's Awards of Excellence.
Long-time Inverloch SLSC member Angela Malan received a Life Saving Victoria Life Membership, recognising nearly two decades of service to her club and the lifesaving movement through initiatives supporting women in lifesaving, leadership development and mental health.
Venus Bay SLSC received the Dr Nigel Taylor ESM Innovation Award for the Public Rescue Equipment station initiative at Venus Bay.
The stations are equipped with a lifesaving rescue tube and 000 emergency call button to assist people in distress at Venus Bay beaches.
Within a month of their launch in December, the stations were activated for two rescues, saving six lives.
LSV's annual Awards of Excellence celebrates the achievements of those who keep the



Venus Bay's Kimberley Gee and Paul Hoffman with the Innovation Award and current LSV President Susan Wolff.



Inverloch SLSC member Angela Malan received a Life Saving Victoria Life Membership - with former LSV President Tom Mollenkopf who also got a Life Membership at the recently held awards night.

Victorian community safe in the water.
Awards recognise LSV volunteers who have excelled in all facets of lifesaving including emergency response, training, education, Nippers, sport, officiating and club administration.
Paid lifeguards, aquatic industry professionals, water safety educators and organisations that contribute to keeping the Victorian community safe were also commended at the awards.
More than 500 people attended the Sofitel Grand Ballroom

in Melbourne's CBD, for the awards presentation. As well as recognising awards recipients, the event is an opportunity for LSV to show its appreciation to all of our volunteers who make an invaluable contribution to keeping Victoria's beaches and waterways safe.



Jenny Harding (L), Louis Magri (S) and Mary Pagett (3) were this week's South West Gippsland Midweek Bowls Group winners.



The runners up for the South West Gippsland Midweek Bowls Group were Steve Edge (S), Peter Thorley (L) and Luke Monckton (3).



South West Gippsland Midweek Bowls Group's best one game winners were Kirk Humphrey (S) and Chris Colson (L). Absent: Gillian Harper (3) and Jaye A-D (3).



Peter Novak, Linda Newman and Brian Newman were the Monday winners at Breakaway Bowls.



Maggie Scapin, Jean Wylde and Ray McCurry were the winners at Wonthaggi Senior Indoor Bowls on Friday.



Tuesday's winners at Wonthaggi Senior Indoor Bowls were Jenny Bakker, Jean Wylde and Jo McIntyre, winning with just one point.



Inverloch Bowling Club's social bowls winners were Rob Howard (skip), Joyce Arnold and Harry Dunn.



Wonthaggi Bowls Club's Wednesday winners were Steve Bruynen and Bob Cornelis.

BREAKAWAY BOWLS

THIS week, the club has had a lot of fun at bowls. It welcomed two new members, Anne and Ahab the Arab, who we have met before. Monday's winners plus nine Peter Novak, Linda Newman and Brian Newman. Friday's winners plus eight Peter Novak, Linda Newman and Helen Gladstone. Another great week of bowling had by all – congratulations to everyone.

FOSTER

TEAM numbers were down a little for the last winter Triples, but the club had a great day, and the sun made an appearance. It was very pleasant and quite warm at times. The day's sponsors were Ian and Lorraine Park, and Oakley White Lawyers. A special thankyou to them both. The winners for the day were Ian McLeod, Daryl Talmash and Malcolm Ellis. Runners up were Kelvin Park, Ian Park and Brian Robinson. The club drew from the rest of the teams' scorecards to give the winners of the lucky wine prizes, donated by Daryl Talmash. They went to Brian Humphries and the team from Inverloch. It has been a reasonably successful winter season at the club, keeping bowlers not on holiday pretty busy at times. A big thank you to all those that helped out in anyway – great job. The club is looking forward to the upcoming season.

INVERLOCH

HIGHLY recommended bowls coach Neville Brown will be coaching at Inverloch on Wednesday, September 10, at 10am. Neville is the Australian Over 60s pairs champion and coach at Pakenham Bowling Club. All players are welcome to attend, particularly those playing Pennants. Thursday social bowls saw 36 bowlers compete in perfect bowling conditions. Three teams finished with two wins. These teams were only separated by a very small margin. On Thursday, the club welcomed two interstate visitors, two new club members and a visitor from East Gippsland. Runners up on two wins and 34 points were Pam Sutcliffe, Joy Brown, Peter Gentsch and Chris Nevill. Winners on the day with two wins and 35 points were Rob Howard (skip), Joyce Arnold and Harry Dunn. The hard luck story of the day went to the team of Martin Hannaford (skip), Jenny Haydon, Bill Massier and Mean Price with two wins and 33 points. Once again, the homemade soup by Jim and Jenny was a great hit. Pennant season is fast approaching. Please ensure your name is on the Tuesday or Saturday list if you wish to play Pennant. Please make yourself aware of any practice games that are scheduled. Pennant starting dates have been amended. Tuesday pennant begins on

October 14 and Saturday pennant begins on October 18. There will be a CPR/ AED update at the club on Thursday, October 2, at 10.30am. If any members wish to practise or roll-up of an evening, please feel free to turn on the lights over the green. Dates for the diary: Season Opening Day: Thursday, September 4. Please write your name on the list if you are interested in playing on that day. Monthly Triples: begins Wednesday, September 18. Please ensure you organise your team before the first date. Christmas Dinner Night: Friday, December 19.

MIDWEEK BOWLS

SUMMER seemed to come early today as 38 of the family of bowlers met at Koo Wee Rup to bask in the sunshine and enjoy some great company, all while playing a couple of games of bowls. A big thank you to Tracey and Stephen for not only unlocking the club and setting up of the green, but also for their hard work behind the bar and in and around the kitchen. The bowlers were signed in by John while Bev and Vern prepared the teams. Then, out they went for some great fun trying to better their great friends for the day. A few wrong bias bowls seemed to be the order of the day, but the Royal Children's Hospital will be grateful for the donations. There was a fair amount of laughter and banter around the green, which always lifts the spirits and seems to improve

everyone's game. The green was in excellent condition – Koo Wee Rup always runs true to form and Thursday was no exception. This week's winners on a score of 33 were Jenny Harding (L), Louis Magri (S) and Mary Pagett (3). Runners up on a score of 24 were Steve Edge (S), Peter Thorley (L) and Luke Monckton (3). Best one game winners on a score of 18 were Kirk Humphrey (S), Chris Colson (L), Gillian Harper (3) and Jaye A-D (3). Next week, the bowlers will be meeting at Lang Lang to once again fight it out for team of the week. Please be on site by 10am to allow time to prepare the teams. 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.

WONTHAGGI

WEDNESDAY was the only day the club was able to bowl this week. On a fine mild day, 20 bowlers played two games of three bowl pairs. There were three teams that were two game winners, with the unlucky teams being Heather Blanch and Colin Binch with a score of two wins and 30 points. The other unlucky team was John Kappler and Frank Cimino with a score of two wins and 32 pts. The winners, with a score of two wins and 34 pts, were Steve Bruynen and Bob Cornelis. Saturday was called off after a hailstorm, and the temperature was only nine degrees at 11.30 am. SOUTH GIPPSLAND SENTINEL-TIMES

Friday once again was a great night with 30 people in attendance. The members draw didn't go off, with Sarah Blackburn's name being called out. Next week, the draw will be \$90. Jeannie was a happy meat tray winner, while Teresa and Jeannie both collected a brekky pack each. Fred, John, Henry and Frank were other winners on the night. Bowls this week: Wednesday: Social bowls at 12.30pm. Saturday: Social bowls at 12.30pm. Don't forget Friday night with the members draw being \$90, plus meat packs and lots of other prizes on the night. Good to see a few more names on the pennant sheets, but we still need more. Have a good week and good bowling.

WONTHAGGI INDOOR

IT was a competitive week this week with Tuesday's winners winning by just one point. On plus 21, the winners were Jenny Bakker, Jean Wylde and Jo McIntyre. The runners up on plus 20 were Sylvia Mattock, Allan Ireland, Ray McCurry and Theo Sholley. Well done to the ladies again. There was another good turn-up on Friday considering the weather. The winners on plus 18, winning two games, were Maggie Scapin, Jean Wylde and Ray McCurry. Runners up on plus 13 with one win only were Thelma Kavanaugh, Pam Russell, Carol Thorpe and John Ferguson. TUESDAY, AUGUST 19, 2025 | 57



Wonthaggi Golf Club's grade winners were Karen Sheerin, Marg Johnson and Jenny McRae.

FOSTER

THERE were some extremely impressive rounds of golf played recently.

On Thursday, August 7, the course was no match to David “Dicky” Knee (10) as he blasted 40 points in his six over par round.

Dicky managed to have a very clean round with 12 pars and just six bogies.

Col Pulham (20) returned to the course for his first round in around three months and claimed the first of two balls down the line with 35 points.

Elisa Nudelman (22) also finished with 35 points to win the final ball amongst the 13 players that entered the Stableford competition.

Elisa’s tee shot on the fourth finished closest and won her nearest to pin.

Meanwhile, Kylie Collins was closest on the 17th.

A slightly larger field of 16 players entered in Tuesday’s Stableford event on August 5.

Mark Avery (21) played to his handicap and took out the win with 36 points.

Starting off his impressive week, David Knee (11) won a ball down the line with 35 points.

Ryan “El Presidente” Williams (7) won the final ball down the line with 34 points.

In a case of Deja Vu, Elisa Nudelman won nearest to pin on the sixth and Kylie Collins on the 13th.

Saturday’s event on August 9 was a two-person Ambrose.

The winners for the day were Michelle Sait-Bennet and Garry Buckland (10.25) with an exceptional 65.75.

The winners finished one shot clear of Kylie Collins & Peter Furborough (4.25) and Tony Vanin and Kiwi Jones (8.25) who both ended the day on 66.75.

Reliable Elisa Nudelman was nearest to pin on the fourth.

Benny Thompson finished the day with two nearest to pins, sixth and 15th.

Leigh Roberts claimed the prize on the 13th with an exceptional tee shot that him and his partner (Vanessa) converted into a birdie.

Bernie Esser finished nearest to pin on the 17th and took out the final prize.

Chook Run this week took place on the back nine.

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Anouar Cunningham (23) entered his round after school on Tuesday and lead the rest of the week.

His exceptional 20 points saw him win from the 27 other entrants for the week.

All four balls down the line went to players who played on Friday.

Ryan Williams (6) finished narrowly behind on 19 points.

Both Lloyd McKenzie (9) and Bernie Esser (18) finished with respectable 18-point scores.

Vanessa Roberts (35) walked away with the final prize for the week with her 17 points.

The winter conditions kept the ladies away on Wednesday, August 6, with the scheduled August medal not taking place.

The Caddy.

KORUMBURRA

RESULTS: Tuesday, August 12. Stableford: 24 players.

A Grade: Greg Wilson (14) 37 points.

B Grade: Simon Perks (19) 38 points.

NTPs: first John Kerr, seventh Iain Riddell 10th Greg Wilson and 13th Shayne Harland.

Thursday, August 14: Stableford: 13 players.

Winner: Wayne Knights (17) 36 points.

NTPs: first Iain Riddell, seventh Greg Wilson and 13th Steve Rose.

Saturday, August 16: No competition due to rain and hail.

Ladies

LAST Wednesday started with low fog and hitting balls out of sight.

Fourteen women played an 18-hole Stableford game.

Congratulations to winner Shelley Snook, playing to her handicap (17) with 36 points.

Runner up and close behind was Pam Evers (36) with 35 points.

BDTL went to Heather Grist (19) 31 points.

NTPs on the first were Shelley (Kelly’s Bakery) and the 13th Trudy Olden.

The nine-hole competition was won by Julie Cole (51) 16 points.

On Saturday, there was no golf due to inclement weather.

The club looks forward to a fine Wednesday.



Woorayl Golf Club runner up Bev Bridge with winner Jo Fennell.

LEONGATHA

TUESDAY, August 12: 4BBB Stableford Event.

Tuesday was a 4BBB Stableford event with a field of 47 members/guests on course and enjoying excellent winter conditions.

A Grade winners:

1. Wayne Kean (15) and Doug Clemann (13) with 43 points.

2. Nicholas Byrne (10) and Rebecca Brown (8) with 41 points on a countback.

3. David Forbes (16) and Ian Barlow (19) with 41 points.

NTP fifth second shot: Bill Wassink (24) at 2.04m.

NTP 14th: Michael Gibbins (30) at 1.08m.

NTP 16th: Connor Hosking (12) at 1.20m.

Thursday, August 14: Stableford.

Thursday’s event was a Stableford event 77 members/guests hitting off with a shotgun start and after the round enjoying a get together in the clubhouse to hear the day’s results.

There was some excellent scoring on the day.

Overall winner: Trevor Moss (33) with high score of the day of 42 points.

A Grade winner: Jamie Grenville (13) with 40 points.

A Grade runner up: Troy Williams (11) with 39 points.

B Grade winner: Andy Bassett (21) with 39 points on a countback.

B Grade runner up: Bryan Roylance (19) with 39 points.

C Grade winner: Trevor Moss (33) with 42 points.

C Grade runner up: Ian Barlow (23) with 36 points.

NTP fifth second shot: Ray Matthews at 1.75m.

NTP 14th: Michael Wrigley at 2.17m.

NTP 16th: Vincent Formosa at 1.60m.

Saturday, August 16: Par Event.

How the conditions have changed since Thursday as cold, wet weather swept through Gippsland for Saturdays’ Par event with a devoted group of 39 members/guests tackling the course.

Overall winner: Matthew Hildebrand (6) with +2.

A Grade winner: Matthew Hildebrand (6) with +2.

A Grade runner up: Riley

Anderson (18) with 0 on a countback.

B Grade winner: Cathy Gifford (45) with +1.

B Grade runner up: Neryl Hopcraft (30) with 0.

NTP 14th: Matthew Hildebrand at .90m.

NTP 16th: Andrew Rowe at 1.35m.

Ladies

THE women were greeted with a course in excellent condition and for mid-winter the run was remarkable.

Thanks again to the Invy Espy for sponsoring this event.

Life member extraordinaire Dot Stubbs finished the day with 38 points.

Jill Moor was runner up with 35 points.

Both winner and runner up received Invy Espy vouchers.

Down the line balls went to 30 points: Neryl Hopcraft, Shirley Welsford, Sue Bowler, Cheryl Borg and Lianne Adamson.

Sue Bowler was the closest to the flag on the fifth, second shot.

MIRBOO NORTH

TUESDAY, August 12: Stableford.

A Grade: P. Woodall (9) 38 points

B Grade: J. Smeriglio (20) 35 points.

DTL: T. Whitelaw 37, C. Porto 36, and G. Renwick and T. Bradshaw 35.

NTP: fourth T. Bradshaw, sixth S. McKenzie, 13th P. Woodall and 16th N. Whichello,

Birdies: fourth Tom Traill, sixth N. Whichello and S McKenzie.

Saturday, August 16: Par.

A Grade: S. Woodall, (9) +2.

B Grade: F. Fernandez (17) sq.

DTL: J. Smeriglio sq, D. Jeram and T. Whitelaw, -2.

NTP: fourth P. Smart, sixth S. Hill-Smith, 13th F. Fernandez and 16th F. Fernandez.

Birdies: sixth S. Woodall, G. Shandley and S. Hill-Smith.

WONTHAGGI

RESULTS: August 14, SR. 71.

Competition: Stableford 18-hole.

Winner: Paul Cornelis 38.

Runner up: Peter Ali 37.

BDTL to 34: Ian Baker 36, Adrian Nixon 36, Stephen Kane



Winner of the Invy Espy Stableford event at the Leongatha Golf Club Dot Stubbs.



Korumburra’s Wednesday winner Shelley Snooks

36 and Peter Brewster 34.

Eagle: Ian Baker 11th.

Results: August 14, SR. 36.

Competition: Stableford nine-hole 10 to 18.

Winner: Ray Hender 17.

BDTL to 16: Bill Howard 16 and Aiden Quilty 16.

Results: August 16, S.R 71.

Competition: Stableford.

A Grade: Kevin Jamieson 34.

B Grade: Andrew Hooton-Shandley 32.

C Grade: Kevin Loughran 31.

Balls down the line to 31: Arron Morris 33, Dean Winning 33, Mathew Wrigley 33, Michael Thomas 32, Stephen Judd 31 and Steven Bromby 31.

NTPs: Ron Pennefather second, Phillip Dynes fourth, Steven Bromby propin eighth, Jim Jordan 13th and not claimed money hole 17th.

Ladies

WEDNESDAY tricked the 21 players with threatening clouds for the first nine-holes then like magic out came the sun and the blue skies for a lovely calm day for a round of Stableford.

The Grade winners were A Grade Marg Johnson (and her magic new clubs) with (15)34 points, B Grade was Jenny McRae (28)35 points. but there was one brilliant score for the C Grade winner Karen Sheerin (34)40 points.

NTP claimed on eighth was Karen Sheerin and 17th Merryn Dear –with a lovely birdie two for four points.

BDL went to Chris Hamilton 35, Carole Sartori 33, Pam Hanley 33, Yvonne Everitt 31 and Merryn Dear 31.

WOORAYL

Ladies

EIGHT ladies enjoyed golf on Wednesday, playing a Stableford game sponsored by Woorayl Golf Club.

The day was overcast with periods of sunshine.

The winner on a count back was Jo Fennell 36 points.

Runner up was Bev Bridge 36 points.

BDL: Elly Berryman 31 points and Ann Poole 29 points.

NTP: eighth 11th and 17th went to Elly Berryman.



Leongatha's Sami played magnificently in the midfield for the U12 Girls game.



Leongatha's Lenny takes the ball away from his opponent in the U12 Blues game.

Knights' under 12s show their progression

Round16 saw the Leongatha Knights welcome Wonthaggi SC to Mary MacKillop College with the day kicking off with a fantastic game between the U12 Girls sides.

The Leongatha U12 Girls started strong with some excellent defending from Maggie and Liberty.

Fantastic midfield play from Samara, Katelyn and Iris ensured that their opponents had plenty of pressure as they tried to attack.

Hannah and Jess made some terrific runs up front with some great support from the mid-field. Halftime saw the home side only down one.

The Knights returned to the pitch, eager to continue their great play. They have been working hard on their passing and positioning in training and it showed in their fantastic passing combinations.

Maddy had a brilliant run up front, dribbling and sending the ball forward. Though the game ultimately went Wonthaggi's way the Knights can be proud of how far they have come over the season.

Player of the day went to Charlotte who played her first game as goal keeper and pulled off some truly spectacular saves.



Leongatha's Ethan Bath has a strong game in midfield for the Senior Men's team.

Gippsland United Under 13's dominate against Casey

Gippsland United's U13 side returned to their brilliant best with an emphatic 11-0 victory over Casey. After last week's disappointing defeat, the home squad made a statement from the first whistle, burying the hatchet on recent setbacks and avenging last year's loss to Casey in the final round. The comprehensive scoreline underlined GUFC's attacking prowess and renewed confidence. For a team chasing a top three finish, this result delivered a crucial boost in goal difference and morale. The first half set the tone for an overwhelming one-sided contest. Within ten minutes, GUFC

grabbed the opener through striker Toby, whose clinical finish from the edge of the box signalled Casey's uphill battle. Jet doubled the lead with a precise tap in at the 18th minute. By half-time, further strikes from Alex and Ryan had pushed the advantage to 4-0, forcing Casey to reshuffle their formation in search of a response.

The second half saw GUFC maintain relentless pressure, rotating their squad without sacrificing intensity. Substitute forward Eddy Marriott scored a neat header from a well struck Ryan corner ball, and Almassi joined the scoring spree with a

late tap in that was setup from some sublime one touch soccer from deep in the back line. Romeo, H and King were linking up line a chain, and I ran out of ink in my pen before getting the names of all the scorers in this goal fest. Eight different players found the net, highlighting the squad's depth and collective ambition.

Defensively, GUFC were equally impressive. The backline marshalled by Full back Bayley kept Casey at bay, securing a clean sheet that was as crucial as the goal haul. Goalkeepers Bailey and Brock were seldom troubled but commanded the

area with authority, ensuring no lapses in concentration. The attacking trio of Will, Mitch, and Ollie orchestrated possession, linking defence and attack seamlessly throughout. This dominant display not only avenged past disappointments but also reaffirmed GUFC's credentials among the U13 elite. With goal difference now significantly healthier, GUFC sit firmly in contention for a top three finish. Confidence surging, they head into next week's clash knowing their clinical performance has set a high bar for the remainder of the season.

GIPPSLAND SOCCER LEAGUE

ROUND 16 RESULTS - SUN, AUG 17

SENIOR Mens:

P-Island Breakers 5 d Drouin Dragons 1
Leongatha Knights 7 d Wonthaggi United 1
Trafalgar Victory 9 d Korumburra City 2

Senior Womens:

P-Island Breakers 3 d Drouin Dragons 1
Leongatha Knights 12 d Wonthaggi United 0
Mirboo North United 3 d Lang Lang United 0
Trafalgar Victory 1 d Korumburra City 0

Mens Reserves:

Drouin Dragons 4 d P- Island Breakers 1

Under 17 Mixed:

Drouin Maroon Yellow 8 d Inverloch Stars 2
Drouin Maroon 5 d P-Island Breakers 0
Leongatha Blue 4 d Wonthaggi United 0
Leongatha White 3 d Mirboo North United 0

Under 15 Girls:

Drouin Dragons 3 d P-Island Breakers 2
Wonthaggi United 4 d Leongatha Knights 1

Under 14 Mixed:

Drouin Maroon Yellow 8 d Inverloch Stars 2
Drouin Maroon 8 d P=Island Penguins 2
Wonthaggi United 8 d Leongatha Knights 2
Mirboo North United 6 d Lang Lang United 0
Korumburra City 5 d Phillip Island Stingrays 4

Under 12 Girls:

P-Island Breakers 5 d Drouin Dragons 0
Wonthaggi United 6 d Leongatha Knights 0

Under 12A Mixed:

Inverloch Stars 2 d Drouin Maroon Yellow 0
P-Island Breakers 1 d Drouin Maroon 0
Mirboo North United 7 d Lang Lang United 1
Leongatha Blue 6 d Wonthaggi United 3

Under 12B Mixed:

P-Island Penguins 3 d Drouin Yellow 0
P-Island Stingrays 6 d Inverloch Stars 3
Leongatha White 4 d Wonthaggi United 2

ROUND 17 DRAW - SUNDAY, AUG 24

Senior Mens:

Trafalgar Victory v Leongatha Knights
Phillip Island Breakers v Lang Lang United
Korumburra City v Drouin Dragons Maroon

Senior Womens:

Inverloch Stars v Mirboo North United
Trafalgar Victory v Leongatha Knights
Phillip Island Breakers v Lang Lang United
Korumburra City v Drouin Dragons Maroon

Mens Reserves:

Trafalgar Victory v Leongatha Knights

Under 17 Mixed:

Inverloch Stars v Mirboo North United
Phillip Island Breakers v Leongatha White
Wonthaggi United v Drouin Maroon Yellow
Korumburra City v Drouin Maroon

Under 15 Girls:

Wonthaggi United v Drouin Dragons Yellow
Korumburra City v Drouin Dragons Maroon
Phillip Island Breakers v Leongatha Knights

Under 14 Mixed:

Inverloch Stars v Mirboo North United
Phillip Island Stingrays v Leongatha Knights
Phillip Island Penguins v Lang Lang United
Wonthaggi United v Drouin Maroon Yellow
Korumburra City v Drouin Dragons Maroon

Under 12 Girls:

Phillip Island Breakers v Lang Lang United
Korumburra City v Drouin Dragons Maroon

Under 12A Mixed:

Inverloch Stars v Mirboo North United
Phillip Island Breakers v Lang Lang United
Wonthaggi United v Drouin Maroon Yellow
Korumburra City v Drouin Dragons Maroon

Under 12B Mixed:

Trafalgar Victory v Leongatha Knights White
P-Island Penguins v Drouin Dragons White
Wonthaggi United v Phillip Island Stingrays

ELLINBANK

RESULTS

A GRADE		17 & UNDER
Bunyip 21 lt Ellinbank 56		Buln Buln 27 drew Neerim Sth 27
Nil-Darn 61 d Trafalgar 31		Bunyip 24 d Ellinbank 22
Nyora 34 lt Longwarry 55		Nil-Darn 51 d Trafalgar 26
Yarragon 60 d Lang Lang 36		Nyora 7 lt Longwarry 60
Poowong 54 d Catani 22		Yarragon 34 lt Lang Lang 43
Buln Buln 25 lt Neerim Sth 74		Poowong 28 lt Catani 36
B GRADE		15 & UNDER
Nil-Darn 49 d Trafalgar 38		Poowong 13 lt Catani 30
Nyora 14 lt Longwarry 46		Bunyip 26 d Ellinbank 10
Yarragon 38 lt Lang Lang 45		Buln Buln 11 lt Neerim Sth 28
Poowong 30 lt Catani 47		Yarragon 2 lt Lang Lang 48
Bunyip 29 d Ellinbank 25		Nyora 4 lt Longwarry 27
Buln Buln 27 lt Neerim Sth 42		Nil-Darn 20 lt Trafalgar 22
C GRADE		13 & UNDER
Buln Buln 24 lt Neerim Sth 27		Nil-Darn 10 lt Trafalgar 36
Bunyip 13 lt Ellinbank 35		Bunyip 37 d Ellinbank 7
Nil-Darn 36 d Trafalgar 32		Nyora 1 lt Longwarry 25
Nyora 5 lt Longwarry 58		Yarragon 6 lt Lang Lang 48
Yarragon 41 d Lang Lang 22		Poowong 18 d Catani 14
Poowong 24 lt Catani 37		Buln Buln 31 d Neerim Sth 6

LADDERS

A GRADE	%	pts	17 & UNDER	%	pts
Neerim South	203.05	72	Longwarry	177.08	72
Nilma Darnum	148.88	64	Nilma Darnum	148.79	58
Ellinbank	152.38	52	Lang Lang	141.06	50
Trafalgar	116.96	52	Catani	123.52	48
Longwarry	122.39	48	Poowong	122.63	48
Lang Lang	84.11	36	Trafalgar	117.71	44
Poowong	92.62	28	Yarragon	112.10	34
Yarragon	89.92	28	Neerim South	95.16	28
Bunyip	78.43	24	Bunyip	73.80	22
Catani	76.93	20	Buln Buln	78.17	18
Buln Buln	60.89	8	Ellinbank	60.00	10
Nyora	53.80	0	Nyora	25.57	0
B GRADE			15 & UNDER		
Ellinbank	170.06	64	Catani	255.20	72
Bunyip	156.62	64	Poowong	195.10	64
Neerim South	165.56	60	Lang Lang	172.29	56
Lang Lang	109.88	52	Neerim South	169.03	54
Nilma Darnum	116.79	48	Bunyip	109.76	40
Catani	119.70	40	Longwarry	100.57	32
Buln Buln	90.36	32	Nilma Darnum	103.36	30
Poowong	87.63	24	Buln Buln	97.85	30
Longwarry	89.21	16	Yarragon	67.93	24
Yarragon	78.44	16	Ellinbank	64.83	16
Trafalgar	79.38	12	Trafalgar	58.90	14
Nyora	30.87	0	Nyora	14.92	0
C GRADE			13 & UNDER		
Ellinbank	188.12	68	Lang Lang	545.99	72
Neerim South	125.28	56	Trafalgar	300.51	68
Trafalgar	136.05	48	Buln Buln	228.14	52
Buln Buln	133.65	48	Bunyip	225.11	52
Longwarry	132.67	48	Nilma Darnum	109.94	44
Nilma Darnum	112.86	42	Longwarry	80.68	34
Catani	115.36	38	Poowong	76.82	32
Yarragon	110.31	36	Yarragon	66.26	20
Poowong	82.71	20	Neerim South	64.59	20
Bunyip	83.05	16	Ellinbank	50.09	20
Lang Lang	70.34	12	Catani	59.29	18
Nyora	12.82	0	Nyora	6.04	0

GIPPSLAND

RESULTS

A GRADE		17 & UNDER
Maffra 28 lt Drouin 85		Maffra 38 lt Drouin 41
Warragul 62 lt Moe 65		Warragul 33 lt Moe 37
Morwell 71 d Sale 34		Morwell 26 lt Sale 42
Traralgon 57 d Bairnsdale 52		Traralgon 51 d Bairnsdale 37
Wonthaggi 33 lt Leongatha 53		Wonthaggi 15 lt Leongatha 37
B GRADE		15 & UNDER
Maffra 43 lt Drouin 55		Maffra 27 d Drouin 25
Warragul 49 drew Moe 49		Warragul 35 lt Moe 37
Morwell 58 d Sale 25		Morwell 12 lt Sale 35
Traralgon 47 d Bairnsdale 45		Traralgon 55 d Bairnsdale 17
Wonthaggi 39 d Leongatha 38		Wonthaggi 6 lt Leongatha 63
C GRADE		13 & UNDER
Maffra 26 lt Drouin 47		Maffra 39 d Drouin 29
Warragul 25 lt Moe 47		Warragul 4 lt Moe 32
Morwell 48 d Sale 23		Morwell 15 lt Sale 43
Traralgon 34 lt Bairnsdale 42		Traralgon 30 d Bairnsdale 13
Wonthaggi 27 lt Leongatha 33		Wonthaggi 13 lt Leongatha 50

LADDERS

A GRADE	%	pts	17 & UNDER	%	pts
Moe	176.38	68	Traralgon	229.27	64
Warragul	177.73	60	Bairnsdale	187.01	64
Morwell	177.73	52	Sale	125.08	56
Drouin	124.16	42	Drouin	92.76	34
Bairnsdale	98.03	36	Leongatha	92.35	32
Leongatha	97.82	30	Moe	85.01	30
Traralgon	90.36	28	Maffra	84.98	28
Wonthaggi	68.25	12	Warragul	73.76	18
Sale	60.73	8	Wonthaggi	61.08	8
Maffra	46.81	4	Morwell	55.66	6
B GRADE			15 & UNDER		
Wonthaggi	163.58	64	Traralgon	260.20	68
Leongatha	161.46	60	Sale	157.74	62
Moe	161.46	54	Moe	130.53	46
Traralgon	112.04	40	Warragul	144.77	44
Warragul	118.87	38	Leongatha	108.39	32
Drouin	90.42	28	Bairnsdale	107.69	30
Morwell	87.37	24	Drouin	95.62	28
Maffra	66.00	16	Maffra	69.63	22
Bairnsdale	69.90	6	Morwell	46.29	8
Sale	59.25	2	Wonthaggi	11.36	0
C GRADE			13 & UNDER		
Morwell	160.95	62	Leongatha	276.33	68
Leongatha	125.30	54	Sale	184.59	54
Wonthaggi	148.83	52	Moe	148.01	50
Drouin	109.52	44	Maffra	139.49	46
Bairnsdale	108.26	36	Traralgon	141.89	40
Moe	99.17	36	Bairnsdale	135.47	34
Traralgon	103.93	28	Morwell	68.95	20
Sale	75.53	12	Drouin	72.64	16
Warragul	65.17	12	Wonthaggi	39.82	8
Maffra	52.93	4	Warragul	16.64	4

SPORT | NETBALL



Wonthaggi's A Grade centre Jess Blair takes it right to the line as she contests this pass on the edge of the Wonthaggi scoring zone.



Sarah Hogan reaches long to secure the ball for Poowong.. Photo: Jeff Tull.



MacKenzie Fort for Poowong snatches the ball out of the air. Photo: Jeff Tull.



Charli Milner is closely guarded by her Longwarry opponent.



Wonthaggi's Macey Peterson is closely guarded by Leongatha's Audrey McGannon during an all-the-way win by Leongatha in A Grade score 53-33.



Leongatha's Lauren Redpath lunges for the ball but Charlie Berry takes the catch at the top of the throw before setting up her shot.



Leongatha's Nicola Marriott is on the move as she accepts this pass in the midcourt during solid match by that Parrots' A Graders at Wonthaggi.



Nyora's Tanasha Walters looks for forward options in the A Grade contest against Longwarry.



Morwell East's Kayla Muller attempts a steal from Stony Creek's Livinia Mandemaker in Mid Gippsland League A Grade. Photo courtesy of Gerard Bruning



Morwell East playing at home at Ronald Reserve in Morwell were too fast for Stony Creek. Photo courtesy of Gerard Bruning



MDU and Tarwin scramble for possession.



Amy Robertson has the ball for Tarwin during its thrilling 39 all draw against MDU in A Grade.



Tarwin and MDU refuse to give an inch as Shark Alex Burke and Demon Sienna Musilli battle for the ball.



Cate Butinar applies pressure for Foster during the Tigers' 52-all draw with Fish Creek in B Grade. Photo: David Bradsworth, Prom Coast News



Best on court Madeline Stewart clears defence for Foster while Fish Creek's Jess Edgar looks on, the Kangaroos winning the A Grade game by six goals. Photo: David Bradsworth, Prom Coast News



It's a balancing act for Fish Creek. Photo: David Bradsworth, Prom Coast News

MID GIPPSLAND

RESULTS

A GRADE MDU 39 drew Tarwin 39 N-borough 65 d Hill End 37 Thorpdale 16 lt Yinnar 84 Mirboo Nth 59 d Boolarra 25 Morwell-E 41 d Stony Crk 38 Foster 31 lt Fish Crk 37	B GRADE Foster 52 drew Fish Crk 52 MDU 47 d Tarwin 35 N-borough 65 d Hill End 27 Thorpdale 21 lt Yinnar 57 Mirboo Nth 61 d Boolarra 27 Morwell-E 28 lt Stony Crk 51	C GRADE Foster 31 lt Fish Crk 32 MDU 29 d Tarwin 27 N-borough 30 d Hill End 26 Mirboo Nth 27 lt Boolarra 34 Thorpdale 8 lt Yinnar 60 Morwell-E 24 d Stony Crk 20	D GRADE Foster 7 lt Fish Crk 43 MDU 19 lt Tarwin 36 N-borough 33 d Hill End 28 Thorpdale 2 lt Yinnar 60 Mirboo Nth 40 d Boolarra 13 Morwell-E 18 lt Stony Crk 28	17 & UNDER N-borough 27 lt Hill End 48 Mirboo Nth 24 d Boolarra 15 MDU 72 d Tarwin 9 Morwell-E 26 lt Stony Crk 29 Foster 10 lt Fish Crk 33	15 & UNDER N-borough 23 lt Hill End 42 MDU 24 lt Tarwin 43 Mirboo Nth 21 lt Boolarra 31 Morwell-E 18 lt Stony Crk 26 Foster 48 d Fish Crk 16	13 & UNDER Mirboo Nth 16 d Boolarra 14 N-borough 39 d Hill End 14 Morwell-E 1 lt Stony Crk 31 MDU 7 lt Tarwin 39 Foster 22 d Fish Crk 20
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LADDERS

A GRADE Foster 186.61 68 Fish Creek 155.92 64 Yinnar 143.25 60 Mirboo North 139.42 52 MDU 120.71 50 Toora 105.89 48 Stony Creek 111.59 40 Morwell East 98.43 36 Tarwin 103.52 34 Newborough 94.82 32 Boolarra 62.93 14 Hill End 49.26 14 Thorpdale 33.03 8	B GRADE Foster 163.87 70 Fish Creek 154.07 62 Yinnar 152.15 60 Newborough 130.47 52 Mirboo North 122.95 52 Toora 137.48 48 Stony Creek 116.64 44 MDU 91.08 32 Morwell East 83.07 32 Hill End 71.64 28 Tarwin 62.40 16 Boolarra 44.61 16 Thorpdale 49.23 8	C GRADE Yinnar 155.95 64 Newborough 137.31 52 Foster 126.24 52 Boolarra 115.84 52 Fish Creek 113.00 52 MDU 122.89 46 Tarwin 124.67 42 Toora 111.96 36 Stony Creek 99.80 34 Mirboo North 90.85 32 Hill End 98.45 30 Morwell East 75.41 20 Thorpdale 19.49 8	D GRADE Mirboo North 198.41 72 Yinnar 218.79 66 Toora 172.97 60 Tarwin 146.26 60 Fish Creek 150.38 50 Newborough 114.51 48 Stony Creek 99.80 36 Morwell East 101.19 32 Hill End 110.34 28 MDU 77.05 24 Foster 56.92 20 Boolarra 67.70 16 Thorpdale 11.34 8	17 & UNDER Boolarra 243.83 68 MDU 249.69 64 Mirboo North 216.25 62 Yinnar 180.58 62 Toora 162.04 52 Hill End 114.46 48 Fish Creek 95.06 40 Stony Creek 65.08 32 Morwell East 42.79 24 Newborough 41.80 24 Tarwin 36.58 20 Foster 33.64 16 Thorpdale 0.00 0	15 & UNDER Yinnar 235.10 72 Toora 238.26 68 Hill End 202.70 60 Boolarra 162.00 56 Foster 115.66 44 Newborough 100.88 44 Mirboo North 88.08 44 MDU 93.80 36 Tarwin 62.02 30 Stony Creek 48.65 20 Morwell East 39.22 20 Fish Creek 37.17 18 Thorpdale 0.00 0	13 & UNDER Yinnar 275.00 64 Newborough 231.63 64 Tarwin 189.16 60 Boolarra 184.96 60 Fish Creek 137.04 48 Mirboo North 127.56 48 Stony Creek 143.59 44 Foster 120.21 44 Hill End 65.03 24 Toora 32.13 24 MDU 21.25 16 Morwell East 17.74 16 Thorpdale 0.00 0
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FOOTY TIPPING



142

BEN FISHER

Carlton
Collingwood
Gold Coast Suns
Adelaide
Geelong
Sydney
GWS
Western Bulldogs
Hawthorn
Gold Coast Suns

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 7



81 Commercial Street,
Korumburra
5655 1024



129

DANIEL CHETLAND

Carlton
Collingwood
Gold Coast Suns
Adelaide
Geelong
Sydney
GWS
Western Bulldogs
Brisbane
Gold Coast Suns

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 6



119 Graham Street,
Wonthaggi
5672 1027



141

CARL LINDSAY

Carlton
Collingwood
Gold Coast Suns
Adelaide
Geelong
Sydney
GWS
Western Bulldogs
Hawthorn
Gold Coast Suns

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 6



145 Graham Street,
Wonthaggi
5672 1137



141

ALEX GEYER

Carlton
Melbourne
Port Adelaide
Adelaide
Geelong
Sydney
GWS
Western Bulldogs
Hawthorn
Gold Coast Suns

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 4



Wonthaggi 5672 5522
Leongatha 5662 2941



121

JAE DAVEY

Carlton
Collingwood
Gold Coast Suns
Adelaide
Geelong
Sydney
GWS
Fremantle
Brisbane
Gold Coast Suns

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 7



62-64 McBride Avenue,
Wonthaggi
7051 0720



143

DARRYL MCGANNON

Carlton
Collingwood
Gold Coast Suns
Adelaide
Geelong
Sydney
GWS
Western Bulldogs
Brisbane
Gold Coast Suns

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 7



1 Roughead Street,
Leongatha
5662 2327

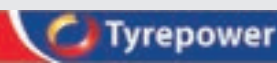


140

KRIS BAKER

Carlton
Collingwood
Gold Coast Suns
Adelaide
Geelong
Sydney
GWS
Western Bulldogs
Brisbane
Gold Coast Suns

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 7



78-80 Watt Street,
Wonthaggi
5672 5760



127

RYAN SHANE

Carlton
Collingwood
Gold Coast Suns
Adelaide
Geelong
Sydney
GWS
Western Bulldogs
Hawthorn
Gold Coast Suns

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 6



Leongatha Toyota

7-13 Hughes Street,
Leongatha
5662 2302



126

**CRAIG FARRINGTON
DARREN TILE**

Essendon
Collingwood
Gold Coast Suns
Adelaide
Geelong
West Coast
GWS
Western Bulldogs
Brisbane
Gold Coast Suns

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 5



6/5 Cyclone Street,
Wonthaggi
Darren 0405 603 569
Craig 0415 641 845



139

ADAM WARE

Essendon
Collingwood
Gold Coast Suns
Adelaide
Geelong
Sydney
GWS
Western Bulldogs
Brisbane
Gold Coast Suns

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 6



2/88-98 Watt Street,
Wonthaggi
1800 358 131



143

JUSTIN CAPORALE

Carlton
Collingwood
Port Adelaide
Adelaide
Geelong
Sydney
GWS
Western Bulldogs
Brisbane
Gold Coast Suns

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 5



41 McCartin Street,
Leongatha
5662 2529



120

LEIGH DONOHUE

Essendon
Collingwood
Gold Coast Suns
Adelaide
Geelong
Sydney
GWS
Fremantle
Hawthorn
Gold Coast Suns

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 5



Wonthaggi
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GA

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LEADERBOARD
AFTER ROUND 23

Aaron McGregor	147
Phil Hardy	147
Liam Sawyer	145
Peter Fort	144
Darryl McGannon	143
Dylan Clark	143
Justin Caporale	143
Ben Fisher	142
Alex Geyer	141
Carl Lindsay	141
Kris Baker	140
Adam Ware	139
Brad Hodson	137
Warren Stewart	137
Keith & Eddie	135
David England	134
Brett Jacobs	133
Daniel Chetland	129
Ryan Shane	127
Craig & Darren	126
Hayden Poppe	121
Jae Davey	121
Leigh Donohue	120



137

WARREN STEWART

- Carlton
- Collingwood
- Gold Coast Suns
- Adelaide
- Geelong
- Sydney
- GWS
- Western Bulldogs
- Brisbane
- Gold Coast Suns

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 7



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Wonthaggi
5632 3503



147

PHIL HARDY

- Carlton
- Collingwood
- Gold Coast Suns
- Adelaide
- Geelong
- Sydney
- GWS
- Western Bulldogs
- Brisbane
- Gold Coast Suns

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 8



Bass Coast LIGHT ENGINES
317 White Road,
Wonthaggi
5672 4017



143

DYLAN CLARK

- Carlton
- Collingwood
- Gold Coast Suns
- Adelaide
- Geelong
- Sydney
- GWS
- Western Bulldogs
- Brisbane
- Gold Coast Suns

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 8



1 A'Beckett Street
Inverloch
5674 1432



134

DAVID ENGLAND

- Essendon
- Melbourne
- Gold Coast Suns
- North Melbourne
- Geelong
- West Coast
- GWS
- Western Bulldogs
- Hawthorn
- Gold Coast Suns

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 7



3/45-61 McKenzie St,
Wonthaggi
5644 2080



144

PETER FORT

- Essendon
- Melbourne
- Port Adelaide
- Adelaide
- Geelong
- Sydney
- GWS
- Western Bulldogs
- Brisbane
- Gold Coast Suns

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 7



47 Station Street,
Korumburra
0417 332 141



135

KEITH KELLY
EDDIE CHANDLER

- Carlton
- Collingwood
- Gold Coast Suns
- Adelaide
- Geelong
- Sydney
- GWS
- Fremantle
- Brisbane
- Gold Coast Suns

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 7



54 Graham Street,
Wonthaggi
5672 1311



145

LIAM SAWYER

- Carlton
- Collingwood
- Gold Coast Suns
- Adelaide
- Geelong
- Sydney
- GWS
- Western Bulldogs
- Brisbane
- Gold Coast Suns

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 7



16 McBride Avenue,
Wonthaggi
5672 1007



147

AARON MCGREGOR

- Carlton
- Collingwood
- Gold Coast Suns
- Adelaide
- Geelong
- Sydney
- GWS
- Western Bulldogs
- Brisbane
- Gold Coast Suns

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 7



24 Inverloch Road,
Wonthaggi
5672 5906



137

BRAD HODSON

- Essendon
- Collingwood
- Gold Coast Suns
- Adelaide
- Geelong
- Sydney
- GWS
- Fremantle
- Brisbane
- Gold Coast Suns

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 7



15/17 Murray Street,
Wonthaggi
5672 5878



133

BRETT JACOBS

- Carlton
- Collingwood
- Port Adelaide
- Adelaide
- Geelong
- Sydney
- GWS
- Western Bulldogs
- Hawthorn
- Gold Coast Suns

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 8



28 Inverloch Road,
Wonthaggi
5672 4770



121

HAYDEN POPPE

- Essendon
- Collingwood
- Port Adelaide
- Adelaide
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LAST WEEK'S TIPS 6



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Inverloch Kongwak and Warragul Industrials scramble for possession early in the B Grade match, comprehensively won by the Sea Eagles. A41_3325



While Inverloch Kongwak dominated the B Grade match, it was too much of a stretch on this occasion. A44_3325



There were plenty of scoring opportunities for Inverloch Kongwak during its 59-goal B Grade victory over the Dusties. A42_3325



Sam Hume has control of the ball for Inverloch Kongwak during the first quarter of its narrow loss to Warragul Industrials in C Grade. A35_3325



Brianna Pupetti has possession for Inverloch Kongwak in its C Grade contest with Warragul Industrials. A36_3325



Jaylee Fitzpatrick assesses her options for Inverloch Kongwak during its C Grade match against Warragul Industrials. A38_3325



Korumburra Bena under pressure from Garfield in West Gippsland A Grade.



Lightning pass down the court by the Giant's Elishia Nicholas in West Gippsland A Grade.



A set shot at goal for the Giant's Mackenna Whiteside in West Gippsland A Grade.

WEST GIPPSLAND

RESULTS

A GRADE		17 & UNDER	
KWR 35 lt Dalyston 45		KWR 21 lt Dalyston 25	
Garfield 33 lt Kor-Bena 86		Garfield 32 d Kor-Bena 29	
Cora Lynn 42 d P-Island 38		Cora Lynn 36 d P-Island 32	
Tooradin-Dal 51 d NNG 48		Tooradin-Dal 32 lt NNG 42	
IK 66 d Warragul-I 24		IK 21 lt Warragul-I 27	
B GRADE		15 & UNDER	
KWR 38 lt Dalyston 57		KWR 14 d Dalyston 12	
Garfield 55 d Kor-Bena 37		Cora Lynn 30 d P-Island 17	
Cora Lynn 59 d P-Island 22		Tooradin-Dal 27 d NNG 22	
IK 69 d Warragul-I 10		IK 22 d Warragul-I 20	
Tooradin-Dal 37 lt NNG 52			
C GRADE		13 & UNDER	
KWR 37 d Dalyston 21		KWR 33 d Dalyston 5	
Tooradin-Dal 27 lt NNG 40		Cora Lynn 30 d P-Island 15	
Garfield 47 d Kor-Bena 30		Tooradin-Dal 25 d NNG 8	
Cora Lynn 44 d P-Island 11		IK 18 d Warragul-I 10	
IK 22 lt Warragul-I 24		Garfield 27 d Kor-Bena 20	
D GRADE		11 & UNDER	
KWR 35 d Dalyston 17		Cora Lynn 28 d P-Island 15	
Garfield 41 d Kor-Bena 19		KWR 31 d Dalyston 3	
Cora Lynn 33 d P-Island 19		Tooradin-Dal 17 lt NNG 25	
Tooradin-Dal 29 d NNG 28		IK 32 d Warragul-I 3	
IK 34 d Warragul-I 10		Garfield 35 d Kor-Bena 6	

LADDERS

A GRADE		%	pts	C GRADE		%	pts	17 & UNDER		%	pts	13 & UNDER		%	pts
Kor-Bena	145.02	68	Cora Lynn	181.29	72	189.07	72	Cora Lynn	345.10	76		Tooradin-Dal	235.51	66	
Nar Nar Goon	131.37	60	Garfield	135.39	68	149.21	72	Tooradin-Dal	235.51	66		Nar Nar Goon	232.77	66	
Cora Lynn	121.45	60	Warragul Ind	125.26	56	162.12	56	Nar Nar Goon	232.77	66		Koo Wee Rup	111.80	56	
Inverloch-K	120.06	60	Tooradin-Dal	118.58	54	124.20	56	Koo Wee Rup	111.80	56		Garfield	124.61	48	
Dalyston	120.44	56	Inverloch-K	127.59	50	141.67	50	Garfield	124.61	48		Phillip Island	75.16	36	
Tooradin-Dal	109.15	46	Nar Nar Goon	134.74	48	107.76	42	Phillip Island	75.16	36		Kor-Bena	99.07	32	
Phillip Island	97.89	34	Kilcunda Bass	100.39	40	106.28	36	Kor-Bena	99.07	32		Kilcunda Bass	77.38	32	
Kilcunda Bass	93.81	28	Phillip Island	67.94	28	74.08	28	Kilcunda Bass	77.38	32		Inverloch-K	51.66	24	
Garfield	73.12	22	Koo Wee Rup	64.49	20	74.57	24	Inverloch-K	51.66	24		Warragul Ind	45.23	16	
Koo Wee Rup	72.13	18	Kor-Bena	61.97	12	51.77	14	Warragul Ind	45.23	16		Dalyston	15.42	8	
Warragul Ind	57.20	8	Dalyston	50.64	12	27.22	10	Dalyston	15.42	8					
B GRADE				D GRADE				15 & UNDER				11 & UNDER			
Tooradin-Dal	166.67	70	Cora Lynn	180.50	70	269.96	72	Cora Lynn	289.47	72		Tooradin-Dal	86.56	32	
Nar Nar Goon	160.43	70	Nar Nar Goon	168.74	68	297.24	68	Garfield	275.57	68		Kor-Bena	73.14	28	
Cora Lynn	139.43	62	Garfield	146.60	60	262.89	68	Koo Wee Rup	241.28	64		Warragul Ind	21.33	16	
Dalyston	137.89	60	Koo Wee Rup	134.63	54	93.19	48	Inverloch-K	206.40	60		Dalyston	32.24	14	
Inverloch-K	105.81	42	Tooradin-Dal	110.02	48	91.29	46	Phillip Island	129.76	50		Kilcunda Bass	26.28	14	
Kilcunda Bass	115.38	40	Kilcunda Bass	94.60	40	72.76	40	Kor-Bena	105.50	42					
Koo Wee Rup	94.39	36	Kilcunda Bass	98.29	36	72.34	34	Tooradin-Dal	86.56	32					
Phillip Island	89.84	32	Kor-Bena	94.06	32	62.85	30	Kor-Bena	73.14	28					
Garfield	85.43	24	Phillip Island	76.99	28	61.24	30	Warragul Ind	21.33	16					
Kor-Bena	69.18	16	Warragul Ind	45.37	14	45.66	20	Dalyston	32.24	14					
Warragul Ind	30.48	8	Dalyston	42.88	10	0.00	0	Kilcunda Bass	26.28	14					

Wintry climax to Poowong's season

By Geoff Wyatt

POOWONG welcomed Catani on Saturday in wintry conditions for Under 16's, Reserves and Seniors Football and Longwarry in the Under 18's, and Catani for all grades of netball for the last round of 2025 Season.

The ground surface overall was good considering the rain that fell prior and during the games, lights were on nearly all day, a big crowd attended the game confirming country football is still popular among the local communities. Poowong had one change, Conor Cunningham, back in for Marty Cook who returned to the Under 18's. Poowong kicked to the Drouin Road end with a slight breeze. Both teams were determined to win the last game of the season, the ball moved up and down the ground with Poowong not making the most of their opportunities and finishing the quarter with 1.4.10 to Catani 3.2.20 with Alex Henshall kicking Poowong's only goal.

The second quarter was again played between defences with Poowong offline as they struggled up forward adding four points while Catani added 3.2 to go in at the big break with a twenty six point lead 6.4.40 to Poowong 1.8.14.

Poowong would need a good third quarter to get back into the game, they had some early



Poowong's Tyran Lord flies through the air to score the mark. Photo: Jeff Tull

opportunities but were once again offline adding three points before Alex Henshall kicked his and Poowong's second goal. Poowong added 1.5 and held Catani scoreless going into the last quarter down by fifteen points 2.13.25 to Catani 6.4.40

Poowong were a chance even though Catani was kicking with the breeze but Poowong would need to get on the board early. Unfortunately Catani added four goals to put the result beyond Poowong, a late goal through Conor Cunningham scored Poowong's third to finish with 3.15 33 to Catani 11.8.74. Both teams had similar scoring shots 19 to 18 but Poowong

could not find the big opening. Entertaining game in the conditions, Poowong showed a lot of improvement over the season especially with this very young side, the on field movement of the ball movement was the area of biggest improvement, need just three or four bigger players to help this young team. The club has good juniors coming through the ranks and can only improve the senior side.

Best players - young gun Thomas Burgess first year in senior football shows great potential and has a bright future in the game, young Bryce Broadmore in his second senior game up from the Under

18's showed he has ability and a future in football. Tyran Lord had his best game for the season, and the three very consistent senior players Mitch van't Hof, Alex Henshall and Joseph Bisnognin all stood up again. Would like to thank Coach Dale Carroll for his help with teams etc and congratulate him on his game preparation.

Poowong Reserves went down by eight points, the reserves won a couple of games through the season, the big thing they gave a lot of new players to the club an opportunity to play football. Poowong 6.3.39 to Catani 6.11.47. The Under 18's went down to Longwarry third on the ladder and will miss the finals unfortunately. 4.6.30 to Longwarry 5.10.40.

The Under 16's had a good win 4.10.34 to Catani 3.9.27 and will play finals - all the best boys.

The Netball Under 13's had a win 19-15 and A Grade 54 to 22 with the under 15's & U17's playing in the finals.

As this is my last report after being involved for about seven or eight years with the Poowong Football Club, enjoyed the experience of writing articles for the club to keep the community informed of Poowong's performances each week, just finding the travel through the hills a bit much over the winter months. All the best to the Under 16's Boys and the Under 15 & Under 17 girls in the finals.

Longwarry flatten Nyora as their season ends



Nyora's Liam Simpson has time and space to caress a pass.

NYORA faced a tough challenge to end its 2025 season, coming up against second-placed Longwarry.

Longwarry was merciless and walked away from the encounter with a 133-point victory.

Nyora hosted the Crows at home, where it hailed during the Reserves but cleared up nicely before the Seniors took to the ground.

The ground held up well despite the wet weather.

Nyora was reasonably competitive in the first quarter, with the defence putting nice pressure on the opposition.

Longwarry was kept to a manageable margin early, with a 23-point lead heading into the first break.

Nyora kept up the same intensity in the second quarter and the play was similar to the first term.

Longwarry continued to chip away at the score, but Nyora stood its ground.

Lewis Kennedy was a stand out for Nyora, taking some

excellent intercept marks.

Jordan Anderson also played well through the midfield, claiming a lot of the ball.

Lachie Fievez, Dante Di Pietro, Dylan Heylen and Tyler Kirkbride also appeared on Nyora's best players list.

Into the second half, fitness began to be a factor and Longwarry kicked away to an 87-point lead with one quarter to go.

The 'end of season' mentality also kicked in, which allowed Longwarry to widen its margin to a very comfortable win.

Despite the loss. Nyora celebrated the end of the season with its reverse draw on Saturday night.

Nyora is now in the throes of looking for a new Senior coach.

Once a coach is appointed, the club will be looking forward to kicking off its preseason training at the end of the year.

Nyora is also looking forward to its presentation night, which will be held on September 13 at the Korumburra Middle Hotel.

ELLINBANK & DISTRICT LEAGUE RESULTS

RND18

POOWONG FOOTBALL CLUB

	33		74	
POOWONG	CATANI			
Poowong	1.4	1.8	2.13	3.15 (33)
Catani	3.2	6.4	6.4	11.8 (74)
GOALS Poowong: A Henshall 2, C Cunningham 1				
BEST: T Burgess, B Broadmore, T Lord, M van't Hof, A Henshall, J Bisognin				
GOALS Catani: J Suarez 3, J Stewart 2, A Splatt, T Adams, A Knight, D Smith, T Keily, L Hetherington 1 each				
BEST: T Adams, A Splatt, D Smith, T Keily, J Stewart, J Williams				
RESERVES				
Poowong	1.0	3.2	3.2	6.3 (39)
Catani	2.3	2.5	6.8	6.11 (47)
GOALS Poowong: No goal scorers listed.				
BEST: D McDonald, A Miller, T Smethurst, M Gowland, B Townsend, J Cawcutt				
GOALS Catani: No goal scorers listed.				
BEST: M Smith, G giacco, L Seppings, W Haysom, B Geyer, J Masset				
THIRDS				
Poowong	2.0	2.1	4.6	4.6 (30)
Longwarry	3.2	4.6	4.6	5.10 (40)
GOALS Poowong: K Zealley, H Bott, J Wilson, B Broadmore 1 each				
BEST: B Broadmore, A Damon, G Monson, M Cook, J Hall, K Mandemaker				
GOALS Longwarry: W Van der Heyden, H Mills, J Doyle, T van der Heyden 1 each				
BEST: H Colvin, R Comben, G Morgan, H Mills, T Hickford, W Van der Heyden				
FOURTHS				
Poowong	1.1	3.3	4.8	4.10 (34)
Catani	1.3	2.3	2.3	3.9 (27)
GOALS Poowong: C Deal 2, D Waide, L Moriarty 1 each				
BEST: K Gilliatte, T Nicholls, L Wilson, L Hulse, M Cawcutt, O Patterson				
GOALS Catani: H Mitchell, R Ludlow, L Pugsley 1 each				
BEST: D Hales, M Bianchin, B Drury, Z Kouris, A Giurgiu, H Smith				

NYORA FOOTBALL CLUB

	17		150	
NYORA	LONGWARRY			
Nyora	1.0	2.1	2.5	2.5 (17)
Longwarry	4.5	9.14	14.20	21.24 (150)
GOALS Nyora: J O'Brien, B Obrien 1 each				
BEST: J Anderson, I Kennedy, L Fievez, D Di Pietro, D Heylen, T Kirkbride				
GOALS Longwarry: J Wells 7, F Fox 5, J Serong 3, B McHugh 2, K Taylor, D Granger, L Willis, H Colvin 1 each				
BEST: F Fox, T Lehman, N Fry, J Serong, J Wells, D Pullen				
RESERVES				
Nyora	1.0	2.0	3.1	3.5 (23)
Longwarry	4.5	7.9	10.13	15.15 (105)
GOALS Nyora: L Koffman, I Boswell, R Simpson 1 each				
BEST: L Forscutt, A Dike, L Brock, B Pugh, T Shiell, R Simpson				
GOALS Longwarry: B Blazevic 10, G Morgan, B Stanfield, J Tabone, P Henwood, A Fazackerley 1 each				
BEST: G Morgan, B Blazevic, B Stanfield, C Wells, B Hamilton, Z Murphy				

IN OTHER GAMES

SENIORS				
Neerim Sth	7.7.49	d	Buln Buln	3.8.26
Lang Lang	14.10.94	d	Yarragon	4.5.29
Trafalgar	17.12.114	d	Nilma Darn	5.8.38
Ellinbank	11.7.73	d	Bunyip	6.4.40
RESERVES				
Lang Lang	16.9.105	d	Yarragon	0.1.1
Trafalgar	11.23.89	d	Nilma Darn	1.0.6
Neerim Sth	15.16.106	d	Buln Buln	1.0.6
Ellinbank	8.11.59	d	Bunyip	0.6.6
THIRDS				
Lang Lang	8.3.51	d	Yarragon	1.2.8
Ellinbank	16.19.115	d	Bunyip	0.1.1
Buln Buln	7.12.54	d	Neerim Sth	5.0.30
Nilma Darnum		d	Trafalgar (forfeit)	
FOURTHS				
Yarragon	12.10.82	d	Lang Lang	5.1.31
Ellinbank	10.3.63	d	Bunyip	7.7.49
Buln Buln	10.7.67	d	Neerim Sth	5.9.39
Trafalgar	12.11.83	d	Nilma Darn	3.2.20

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ELLINBANK & DISTRICT LEAGUE LADDERS												ROUND 18			
SENIORS				W	L	%	pts	RESERVES				W	L	%	pts
Neerim South	18	0	375.73	72				Lang Lang	16	2	601.83	64			
Longwarry	16	2	252.18	64				Longwarry	16	2	516.62	64			
Trafalgar	14	4	276.36	56				Trafalgar	16	2	348.65	64			
Buln Buln	13	5	167.81	52				Neerim South	13	5	400.22	52			
Ellinbank	9	9	138.58	36				Ellinbank	13	5	259.51	52			
Lang Lang	9	9	123.99	36				Bunyip	7	10	81.81	30			
Yarragon	8	10	82.86	32				Buln Buln	7	10	72.04	30			
Catani	7	11	81.26	28				Yarragon	7	11	73.79	28			
Nilma Darnum	6	12	48.61	24				Catani	7	11	60.93	28			
Nyora	4	14	36.46	16				Nyora	2	16	25.81	8			
Bunyip	2	16	43.84	8				Poowong	2	16	10.45	8			
Poowong	2	16	32.58	8				Nilma Darnum	1	17	16.97	4			
LEADING GOAL KICKERS								LEADING GOAL KICKERS							
Jason Wells (Longwarry)				136				Bradley Blazevic (Longwarry)				66			
Mason McGarrit (Neerim South)				106				Kurt Batt (Lang Lang)				58			
Blake Slater (Trafalgar)				67				Toby Bayne (Neerim South)				49			
THIRDS				W	L	%	MR	THIRDS				W	L	%	MR
Ellinbank	17	0	497.49	100.0				Ellinbank	17	0	497.49	100.0			
Longwarry	12	4	160.72	75.00				Longwarry	12	4	160.72	75.00			
Buln Buln	11	6	191.32	64.71				Buln Buln	11	6	191.32	64.71			
Nilma Darn	11	6	148.18	64.71				Nilma Darn	11	6	148.18	64.71			
Poowong	9	7	118.13	56.25				Poowong	9	7	118.13	56.25			
Lang Lang	8	8	134.96	50.00				Lang Lang	8	8	134.96	50.00			
Neerim South	8	9	95.43	47.06				Neerim South	8	9	95.43	47.06			
Trafalgar	4	11	67.77	25.00				Trafalgar	4	11	67.77	25.00			
Yarragon	2	14	37.59	12.50				Yarragon	2	14	37.59	12.50			
Bunyip	0	16	8.33	0.00				Bunyip	0	16	8.33	0.00			
Catani	0	0	0.00	0.00				Catani	0	0	0.00	0.00			
Nyora	0	0	0.00	0.00				Nyora	0	0	0.00	0.00			
FOURTHS				W	L	%	MR	FOURTHS				W	L	%	MR
Trafalgar	14	2	308.21	87.50				Trafalgar	14	2	308.21	87.50			
Bunyip	13	2	282.96	84.38				Bunyip	13	2	282.96	84.38			
Poowong	12	4	160.87	75.00				Poowong	12	4	160.87	75.00			
Ellinbank	12	5	136.67	70.59				Ellinbank	12	5	136.67	70.59			
Yarragon	9	7	125.16	56.25				Yarragon	9	7	125.16	56.25			
Catani	8	8	86.93	50.00				Catani	8	8	86.93	50.00			
Buln Buln	5	11	74.55	32.35				Buln Buln	5	11	74.55	32.35			
Neerim South	5	12	58.67	29.41				Neerim South	5	12	58.67	29.41			
Lang Lang	4	12	45.35	25.00				Lang Lang	4	12	45.35	25.00			
Longwarry	3	12	62.16	21.88				Longwarry	3	12	62.16	21.88			
Nilma Darnum	3	13	45.00	20.59				Nilma Darnum	3	13	45.00	20.59			
Nyora	0	0	0.00	0.00				Nyora	0	0	0.00	0.00			
LEADING GOAL KICKERS								LEADING GOAL KICKERS							
Hudson Grujic (Trafalgar)				46				Hudson Grujic (Trafalgar)				46			
Cruze Deal (Poowong)				41				Cruze Deal (Poowong)				41			
Dylan Strating (Neerim South)				34				Dylan Strating (Neerim South)				34			



Best on Ground Gus Norton is congratulated by Western Bulldogs' Premiership player Tom Boyd who was part of the presentation for the Work Safe Round.



The hard slog of a competitive Senior match in damp conditions is on show as Foster's Michael Greene and Fish Creek's Jaicob Kenny go to ground, the Kangaroos' Brodie Shaw keeping his feet. Photos: David Bradsworth, Prom Coast News

Tigers prevail in pre-finals showdown

By Rob Popplestone

UNLIKE the pressure faced by those clubs fighting for a finals spot, these two teams sat first and second respectively. I guess the only item on offer was the bragging rights of finishing in top position at the end of the home and away, not that many will remember that after the upcoming MGF-NL premiers are determined..

That said it was also a co-incidental chance for each to have a close up look at the other, ahead of their inevitable first finals clash in a fortnight, where the winner of that match will be playing for a direct through to Grand Final day.

The result, Foster too good, winning 7-4-46 to Fish Creek 4-4-28.

Sam Davies, Foster coach, "Really tough game in conditions we haven't really seen or played in this year - I thought they were on top in the first half, they applied great pressure and we panicked a lot with the footy. We didn't adjust too much after half time but came out much more calm and got a lot more speed on the ball which created a lot of opportunities that we took. Both teams will have changes in a fortnight but we will definitely enjoy the week and appreciate the work put in to finish on top."

The Tigers, like their week-end opponent has done earlier in the year, will enjoy their

win for what the win is worth, both coaches knowing what matters in the immediate future takes place in a fortnight.

Jarrad Walker, Fish Creek coach, "A solid hit out against Foster in an interesting weather day. The first half was relatively dry, although hard to score for both teams the ball was moving pretty quickly. With no team able to capitalise on opportunities in the first half, Foster definitely changed that in the third quarter, putting on six goals straight to our one. Something we have been pretty good at is stopping opposition momentum but we just weren't able to in the third quarter, disappointing on our end but hats off to Foster. They were first in and out hunted us. By the end of the third the rain and hail had set in and it was always going to be hard for us to claw them back. We showed a bit at the start of the last quarter for a potential comeback but unfortunately the damage was done. Well done to Foster finishing a year clear on top of the ladder, a very solid year. A week off and will see them again in a couple of weeks."

That first final between these two respected clubs will offer up the chance for a direct route to the 2026 MGFNL Grand Final. The importance of that clash is obvious.



Fish Creek and Foster compete fiercely for the footy, the Tigers coming out on top by 18 points.



While the Tigers couldn't get away from Fish Creek on this occasion, Foster prevailed by three goals.

Last quarter surge lands Boolarra into Elimination equation

By Rover

BOOLARRA powered its way into the Mid Gippsland finals with a strong last quarter against Mirboo North — in front of a bumper crowd at Tigerland on Saturday.

The Demons' 23-point win saw them jump over Tarwin and grab sixth spot on the ladder, after MDU sank the Sharks by 46 points at Meeniyau Recreation Reserve.

Mirboo North concluded its season in eighth place on the table, with seven victories from its 16 matches.

Mirboo North wore black armbands in memory of

Bernie Mercer — its former triple senior premierships player — following his passing during the week.

Overnight rain followed by sporadic morning and afternoon showers, made for slippery playing conditions in bleak eight-degree weather, that challenged both sides throughout the match.

After Mirboo North led by 13 points at quarter-time, Boolarra went to the main break one point ahead of the mighty Tigers.

A feature of the second

quarter was a passage of play where clean marking and accurate kicking by Boolarra's James Holmes, Joel Mason and Mathew Hebbard, saw Hebbard goal from 40 metres and level the scores at 3.4 apiece.

Hebbard finished the day with four majors for the visitors and along with Matt Dyer, Tim Potter and Bailey Flanigan, was a constant thorn in Mirboo North's side.

When Josh Taylor cleverly snapped Mirboo North's fourth goal from a tight angle late in the third term, Mirboo North took a one-point

lead into the three-quarter time huddle

However, that would be the Tigers' last score for 2025, as the Demons booted 3.5 in the final term, to propel themselves into the finals for the first time in three years.

When the game was on the line, Boolarra's successful investment in short delivery options, as well as its long kicks to tall timber down the line, paid huge dividends.

Jesse Chila, Hudson Kerr, Beau Peters, Damien Turner, Patrick Lewis and Will Jaca were Mirboo North's best performers.

MID GIPPSLAND LEAGUE RESULTS

RND 18

FOSTER FOOTBALL CLUB

FISH CREEK FOOTBALL CLUB



46



28

FOSTER	FISH CREEK
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Foster	0.2	0.4	6.4	7.4 (46)
Fish Creek	1.1	1.4	2.4	4.4 (28)

GOALS, Foster: J Flavelle 2, H Flavelle, M Green, M Cooke, M Clark, J Rathjen 1 each
BEST: C Wray, A Norton, M Cooke, J Flavelle, M Allott, T Littore
GOALS, Fish Creek: B Mitchell 1, J Kenny 1, H Smith 1, T Cameron 1,
BEST: K Dorling, L Williams, J Stefani, R Lewis, J Lamers, J Hayes

RESERVES

Foster	0.3	1.3	1.4	2.7 (19)
Fish Creek	0.2	2.5	5.6	5.7 (37)

GOALS, Foster: C Banbury, F Lomax 1 each
BEST: C Banbury, F Lomax, M House, C Garlick, Z House, T Daldy
GOALS, Fish Creek: O Bright, L Moon, B Thomson, P Mueller, A Bright 1 each
BEST: O Straw, J Anderson, J Harry, M Pocklington, L Southwell, L Edgelow

MIRBOO NORTH FOOTBALL CLUB



31



54

MIRBOO NORTH	BOOLARRA
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Mirboo North	3.3	3.5	4.7	4.7 (31)
Boolarra	1.2	3.6	4.6	7.12 (54)

GOALS, Mirboo Nth: P Taylor 2, H Kerr, J Taylor 1 each
BEST: J Chila, H Kerr, B Peters, D Turner, P Lewis, W Jacka
GOALS, Boolarra: M Hebbard 4, J Wilson, J Holmes, J Mason 1 each
BEST: M Dyer, T Potter, B Flanigan, W Flanagan, M Hebbard, D Wilson

RESERVES

Mirboo North	0.0	1.5	2.5	3.6 (24)
Boolarra	1.4	1.8	3.10	4.13 (37)

GOALS, Mirboo Nth: D Pinneri, B Peters, P Gardner 1 each
BEST: T McAllister, B Peters, C Young, J Hysen, D Pinneri, P Gardner
GOALS, Boolarra: G Richards, E Stanton, P Haines, J Gill 1 each
BEST: R Johnstone- McCloud, M Windsor, D Cooper, P Haines, T Beamish, G Richards

THIRDS

Mirboo North	4.7	6.8	6.11	7.12 (54)
Yinnar	0.0	2.0	4.1	5.1 (31)

GOALS, Mirboo Nth: C Crutchfield, T McDuffie 2, S Berquez, T Heislars, L Poljak 1 each
BEST: O Mahoney, L Poljak, N Jackson, C Crutchfield, T Williams, Z Jones
GOALS, Yinnar: X McCafferty 2, T Try, G Ryan, M Berechree 1 each
BEST: H McCulloch, T Try, K Ross, B Ransom, M Moore, D Hobbs

IN OTHER GAMES

SENIORS

Newborough	12.12.84	d	Hill End	11.6.72
Yinnar	13.14.92	d	Thorpdale	2.1.13

RESERVES

Newborough	10.5.65	d	Hill End	7.10.52
Yinnar	18.14.122	d	Thorpdale	0.2.2

THIRDS

Newborough	16.14.110	d	Hill End	3.2.20
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Stony Creek take the last round honours



Tigers takes down Lions player Cameron Stone. Photo: G.S. Bruning

By Rob Popplestone

TWO teams with some work to do in the months between now and the start of 2026, clashed in a game that was all about pride and effort, but for the home team Hawks it was also about grabbing the premiership points that could have them climb from the bottom of the MGFNL ladder, and that, it was hoped might be enough for Morwell East to find that little bit extra, but it wasn't to be.

Troy Shepardson, Stony Creek coach said, "Good way to finish the year with back to back wins, some reward for all the hard work that's being put in over the year."

The Lions have been close so many times this season, only to fall short, too many times, those close losses the difference between playing in the weeks ahead or not. For the Hawks, it's been even more disappointing, probably not even too harsh to say it's been a season to forget.

With the respected Paul Henry stepping down as coach, the Hawks quest to join rival league NGFNL denied a rare wooden spoon in 2025, it appears time for a complete reset for the once mighty Morwell East.

Tarwin's finals dreams extinguished at Meeniyan

By Rob Popplestone

MDU hosted a Tarwin side that could not accept anything less than a win or otherwise the Sharks would jeopardise their sixth placed position just one week short of the finals. Even with a win however it was expected that percentage might also come into play as the Blues continued to be chased by two other contenders. The final scoreline, MDU 11-10-76 to Tarwin's 4-6-30, the comprehensive victory sending the Sharks crashing out of finals contention.

Rhett Kelly, MDU coach, "It was incredibly pleasing to get the win yesterday against Tarwin, especially as they were battling for the last spot in the top six. This wraps up our home and away season, which has certainly had its ups and downs but has been very rewarding overall.

On the weekend, I asked for plenty of energy, effort, and intent from the boys, knowing that Tarwin would come out with everything they had. We were able to absorb their pressure and then started to get to work."

That energy and effort from the Demons is to be rewarded with a finals campaign that promises plenty for MDU,



It was conditions for good old fashioned footy at Meeniyan, the home team handling the challenge impressively to see off Tarwin. Photo: Bec Casey Sports Photography

conversely it serves up an unwanted finish for the Sharks.

Lachie Jones, Tarwin coach, "A bit of a disappointing end to the year. We had a chance to play finals and didn't quite take that opportunity. The game itself was played on a heavy deck at Meeniyan and the contest was there from our guys at times and through passages but we just didn't play four quarters. Credit to MDU, they work as a team and were too classy

for us. Looking forward to 2026 down at Tarwin already."

And while the Sharks are sure to be an even tougher proposition in 26, Demons' coach Rhett Kelly is not only thankful for the support his team has had but is calling for the community to join them on their finals quest.

Kelly, "I also want to take this opportunity to thank our supporters for their commitment this year. Your presence, week in and week out, cheering us on at

both the football ground and the netball courts, means the world to us. The games wouldn't be the same without you all there, and the playing group is incredibly thankful for your support. Let's keep the momentum going! Go Dees!"

That momentum can last a week or a month, the pressure building with each week that passes, and what a privilege it is to be in the midst of that pressure.

MID GIPPSLAND LEAGUE RESULTS

RND 18

STONY CREEK FOOTBALL CLUB

37 49

MORWELL EAST STONY CREEK

Morwell East	0.3	3.5	4.5	5.7 (37)
Stony Creek	3.4	4.7	6.12	6.13 (49)
GOALS, Morwell East: C Wangman, B Marks, B Kimberley, L Towns, N Kyriacou 1 each				
BEST: J Birchall, K Chapman, C Iorangi, K Hearn, J Mackenzie, M Diaz				
GOALS, Stony Crk: T Bernaldo 3, C Michael, C Stone, J Battersby 1 each				
BEST: C Stone, J Riley, J Stone, T Bernaldo, T O'Connor Linke, H Funnell				

RESERVES

Morwell East	6.2	14.4	17.7	24.11 (155)
Stony Creek	0.2	0.2	3.3	3.3 (21)
GOALS, Morwell East: C Wangman 8, F Marks 4, B Marks 3, J Quinn, S Durbano 2, B Darby-Lock, B Atkinson, A Dodd, S Winmar, D Heyden 1 each				
BEST: H Dwyer, F Marks, B Atkinson, J Atkinson, C Lane, J Quinn				
GOALS, Stony Crk: D Zuidema, L Row, B Park 1 each				
BEST: A Wright, G Gray, R Baudinette, M Semken, J Byrnes, C McCaughan				

MDU FOOTBALL CLUB

TARWIN FOOTBALL CLUB

76 30

MDU TARWIN

MDU	3.3	4.6	8.9	11.10 (76)
Tarwin	1.1	1.5	1.5	4.6 (30)
GOALS, MDU: N Nagel 4, W Stewart 3, B Tomada 2, T McRae, S Wilson 1 each				
BEST: T Corry, K Bohn, S Wilson, A Battersby, S Forrester, J Schelling				
GOALS, Tarwin: T Harley 2, J Staley, D Brosnan 1 each				
BEST: M McCall, B Ellen, B Chalmers, L Jones, H Cumming, J Staley				

RESERVES

MDU	2.2	6.4	8.6	8.7 (55)
Tarwin	1.1	3.1	3.1	3.1 (19)
GOALS, MDU: J Brydon 4, T Harris 2, A Trease, K Helms 1 each				
BEST: J Brydon, A Trease, J Whiteside, S Bright, M Hooper, E O'Loughlin				
GOALS, Tarwin: R Waddell 2, B Senior-Gibson 1				
BEST: T O'Loughlin, S Kilbsy, T Cameron, D Cardy, T Brosnan, T Giroud				
THIRDS				
MDU	3.4	6.9	10.12	14.18 (102)
Tarwin	1.1	2.2	3.3	3.3 (21)
GOALS, MDU: L Hamilton 4, R Harrison, B Sellings, J Lambert 2, A McInnes, J Carew, L Duvoisin, C Amor 1 each				
BEST: C Bruce, B Sellings, J Lambert, W Campbell, A Bruce, L Duvoisin				
GOALS, Tarwin: A Francis 2, B Trevena 1				
BEST: Z McRae, C Mallia, A Francis, F Finlay, J Andronaco, E Langstaff				

MID GIPPSLAND LEAGUE LADDERS

ROUND 18

SENIORS	W	L	%	pts
Foster	15	1	245.28	68
Fish Creek	14	2	197.32	64
Yinnar	12	4	173.98	56
MDU	10	6	125.84	48
Thorpdale	9	7	96.66	44
Boolarra	8	8	93.37	40
Tarwin	7	9	91.35	36
Mirboo Nth	7	9	74.68	36
Newborough	7	9	68.59	36
Toora	6	10	82.90	32
Stony Creek	5	11	91.23	28
Hill End	2	14	58.45	16
Morwell East	2	14	53.78	16

LEADING GOAL KICKERS	
Jake Best (Foster)	77
Nick Nagel (MDU)	68
Kane Grinstead-Jones (Yinnar)	59

RESERVES	W	L	%	pts
Yinnar	15	1	491.72	68
Morwell East	13	3	359.38	60
MDU	13	3	327.99	60
Toora	11	5	248.85	52
Tarwin	11	5	204.28	52
Stony Creek	11	5	137.10	52
Fish Creek	10	6	102.87	48
Newborough	5	11	53.95	28
Hill End	4	12	51.42	24
Foster	3	12	40.37	22
Mirboo Nth	3	13	52.18	20
Thorpdale	3	13	19.62	20
Boolarra	1	14	21.01	14

LEADING GOAL KICKERS	
Jarryd Garlick (Yinnar)	63
Adam Bright (Fish Creek)	46
James Maurilli-Pullin (Toora)	43

THIRDS	W	L	%	pts
MDU	12	2	329.92	64
Hill End	9	5	113.57	52
Yinnar	7	7	102.31	44
Mirboo Nth	5	9	78.57	36
Tarwin	4	10	68.77	32
Fish Creek	0	14	23.95	16
Stony Creek	0	0	000	0
Toora	0	0	000	0
Boolarra	0	0	000	0
Thorpdale	0	0	000	0
Morwell East	0	0	000	0
Foster	0	0	000	0

LEADING GOAL KICKERS	
Angus McInnes (MDU)	67
Oscar Hanson (Newborough)	56
Darcy Paul (Hill End)	41



Wonthaggi Power onballer Kaj Patterson skirts the boundary line as he looks to clear the ball forward.

GIPPSLAND LEAGUE RESULTS

WONTHAGGI FOOTBALL CLUB

LEONGATHA FOOTBALL CLUB

51

35

WONTHAGGI

LEONGATHA

Wonthaggi	3.5	4.7	5.8	7.9 (51)
Leongatha	1.0	3.8	3.10	4.11 (35)

GOALS, Wonthaggi: C McInnes 3, A Lindsay, J Blair, J Harvey, H Tiziani 1 each

BEST: J Williams, A Harvey, R Sparkes, B Mabilia, I Chugg, K Patterson

GOALS, Leongatha: N Hanily, J Hume, J Garnham, P Ireland 1 each

BEST: J Pellicano, A Heppell, K Drew, C Maskell, W Littlejohn, N Hanily

RESERVES

Wonthaggi	0.0	0.2	0.3	0.3 (3)
Leongatha	2.5	2.5	3.7	7.9 (51)

BEST, Wonthaggi: A McNeel, J Lewis, N Martin, K Yann, C Lindsay, L Legione

GOALS, Leongatha: F Materia 4, T Gannon 3

BEST: F Materia, J Harry, T Gannon, T Richards, N Clark, J Stewart,

THIRDS

Wonthaggi	0.0	1.2	2.3	3.4 (22)
Leongatha	4.6	6.8	10.15	10.16 (76)

GOALS, Wonthaggi: B Wyhoon 2, J Brouwers 1

BEST: O Feather, H Smith, J Brouwers, N Patch, S Carter, S McBean

GOALS, Leongatha: E Berryman, M Sheahan 2, F Donohue, M Carter, N Bradley, C Bickerton, A Fixter, S Beachley 1 each

BEST: A Williams, F Donohue, C Richards, S Bradley, A Logan, S Beachley

FOURTHS

Wonthaggi	0.0	0.0	0.3	1.5 (11)
Leongatha	4.4	5.6	6.7	8.8 (56)

GOALS, Wonthaggi: M Plenkovich 1

BEST: W Hullick, W Simmons, E Larsen, M Feather, J Godfrey-Jones, R Smith

GOALS, Leongatha: L Chila, J Holt 2, L Read, E Berryman, J Matheson, M Johnston 1 each

BEST: E Reardon, N Cameron, L Misale, A Mahoney, M Hogarth

IN OTHER GAMES...

SENIORS

Moe	10.6.66	d	Warragul	6.14.50
Traralgon	10.14.74	d	Bairnsdale	4.10.34
Maffra	14.9.93	d	Drouin	10.7.67
Morwell	22.12.144	d	Sale	6.7.43

RESERVES

Traralgon	11.17.83	d	Bairnsdale	1.3.9
Morwell	8.5.53	d	Sale	5.8.38
Maffra	16.12.108	d	Drouin	1.1.7
Moe	19.11.125	d	Warragul	2.2.14

THIRDS

Moe	6.9.45	d	Warragul	4.5.29
Traralgon	6.7.43	d	Bairnsdale	3.7.25
Morwell	5.8.38	d	Sale	4.12.36
Maffra	13.15.93	d	Drouin	3.2.20

FOURTHS

Maffra	15.9.99	d	Drouin	1.1.7
Warragul	9.8.62	d	Moe	6.4.40
Morwell	14.9.93	d	Sale	3.7.25
Traralgon	10.15.75	d	Bairnsdale	2.4.16

Has Power turned it on too late?

WONTHAGGI Power have kept alive their slim hopes of making the Gippsland League finals with an upset, 16-point victory over their neighbouring rivals and ladder-leaders Leongatha in a dour struggle at Wonthaggi on Saturday.

Either Warragul or Morwell have to lose games next week against lower ranked opponents, Drouin and Bairnsdale respectively, and Wonthaggi have to repeat the heroics of last Saturday against Moe this week, away at Ted Summerton Reserve, to make it.

But it's a long shot.

So, how did they beat the top side on Saturday when little more than a month ago, they lost to the previously winless Drouin by 11 points?

Power was without the likes of Kyle Reid, Jakeb Thomas, Josh Bates and their recent addition Anthony Anastasio, who was recalled by Port Melbourne, but they also targeted Leongatha's playmakers out of defence, including Sam Forrester and Cade Maskell, locked down on the Parrots' forwards in a masterful display down back, and matched them at the stoppages.

Sounds easy enough but they needed to maintain concentration on that task all day, something they haven't always done in games this year, to pull off a remarkable result.

Not that Leongatha wasn't missing players too with prime movers Luke Bowman and Tom Marriott among those on the sidelines and Sean West-away another of the first-choice players out.

But, no excuses. The teams were well matched on the day, so much so that the play shifted end to end throughout with not much scoring being done, the heavy conditions and occasional showers of rain playing into the defenders' hands where a number of the day's best players featured on both sides.

Wonthaggi's Shannon Bray was well matched on burly Leongatha forward Justin Pellicano, young Jarvis Harvey on returning Leongatha sharp-shooter Jenson Garnham, Jaxon Williams on prolific Parrots' goal kicker Patrick Ireland and the talented Power defender Isaac Chugg playing the clean-up role to perfection.

They had the Parrots' scoring power neutralized for much of the day, allowing them just 4.11 and many of those points being "rushed" but they relied heavily on the ruck-roving of Brodie Mabilia, Ryan Sparkes accountable on Aaron Heppell or Kim Drew and Kaj Patterson busy throughout and Aiden Lindsay stepping up to the midfield

Leongatha's Kim Drew gets his handpass clear under pressure from Wonthaggi's Ryan Sparkes. Both players were influential for their respective teams in a tight tussle at Wonthaggi.

again in the absence of Bates, to stop supply.

In the end, it was Cooper McInnes, leading up strongly to some well-weighted passes that made the difference, kicking three goals in a low scoring affair.

Watching from the sidelines Leongatha champion, Curly Salmon, nailed it at half time, when he said Leongatha was being led to the ball by Wonthaggi, especially in the opening quarter, weren't hard enough at the contest, and needed to get the ball in quickly to their key forwards so their small forwards could go to work.

Leongatha coach Trent McMicking acknowledged it was Wonthaggi's first quarter, in which they peppered the scoring zone for 3.5 to the Parrots' one goal that proved the difference on the day.

"They could have been further in front at that stage," he said later.

Wonthaggi coach Jarryd Blair was full of praise for his team afterwards, especially after the poor showing the week before against Traralgon.

"Just think about how that feels and what it took to get there today," he said singling out a number of players for their roles including Jaxon and Jai Williams and Ryan Sparkes, to name a few.

Match details: Little more than a minute in, Jarryd Blair capitalised on a turnover by Jai Williams and Hunter Tiziani

to run on to the loose ball and kick the opener but it was to be sometime before either side kicked another.

Isaac Chugg was already punching the ball clear in defence and both sides had shots before Patrick Ireland kicked long and straight for the equaliser. But Wonthaggi had more of the play and Aiden Lindsay got the answer quickly followed by a late one to Hunter Tiziani which was reward for effort just before the siren sounded.

To the Parrots' credit, they came back to hit the front in the second quarter with Ned Hanily in the right spot to capitalise on the fall of the ball and later, Tallin Brill passing to Jenson Garnham on the lead. Hanily and Heppell combined in a good scoring chance later but it was touched.

In a key passage of play late, Jarvis Harvey was awarded a free on the wing, but complaints from the Leongatha crowd mostly, resulted in a generous 50 metre penalty and a goal against the run of play for Power.

Cade Maskell was having a purple patch down back and Aaron Heppell was busy but there were to be no more scores with Leongatha attacking at the end of the first half.

There was only five points in it at the long break but in an absorbing man-on-man contest during the third quarter, just one more goal was added after Cade Brown earned a free kick

and found McInnes on the lead with an expert pass.

The sun was coming and going as Leongatha's Kim Drew had a late shot which hit the post, and it was still heavy going as Wonthaggi went into the last quarter 10 points up.

Power had lost young Jayden Burns with an injured ankle and were reduced to one on the bench but coach Blair urged them to redouble their forward pressure when they had it in their scoring zone.

Trent McMicking told his players they needed to make the most of their chances when they came.

Again it was a low-scoring affair with both defences on top and the midfield evenly matched. Crucially Wonthaggi got the first at the 13-minute mark, with Jarryd Blair and Aiden Lindsay linking up and a fine pass to a leading McInnes.

Kim Drew drifted forward and passed to Jack Hume to tighten it again but there were to be no more goals until late, after the play of the day by Wonthaggi.

Isaac Chugg cleared it, instead of marking, Ryan Sparkes tapped it cleverly forward to Jai Williams and they were away through Harry Dawson. Up forward, Jarryd Blair provided the outlet and McInnes ran on for the winning goal.

The siren sounded for a famous Wonthaggi Power victory, against the odds over the Parrots, but will it be enough?

GIPPSLAND LEAGUE LADDERS

ROUND 17

SENIORS	W	L	%	pts	RESERVES	W	L	%	pts	THIRDS	W	L	%	pts	FOURTHS	W	L	%	pts
Leongatha	14	3	183.08	56	Traralgon	16	1	457.29	64	Leongatha	14	3	145.57	56	Traralgon	17	0	910.34	68
Moe	13	4	167.11	52	Leongatha	15	2	363.03	60	Maffra	13	3	268.11	54	Maffra	14	3	198.57	56
Traralgon	12	5	162.02	48	Maffra	13	4	240.63	52	Moe	12	5	170.53	48	Warragul	13	4	154.96	52
Morwell	10	7	125.53	40	Moe	13	4	213.26	52	Warragul	10	6	155.23	42	Moe	11	6	144.58	44
Warragul	10	7	110.96	40	Wonthaggi	8	9	99.11	32	Traralgon	10	6	154.48	42	Bairnsdale	8	9	79.64	32
Wonthaggi	10	7	103.84	40	Sale	7	10	90.02	28	Bairnsdale	10	6	112.88	42	Leongatha	8	9	76.86	32
Maffra	6	11	75.05	24	Morwell	5	12	76.06	20	Drouin	6	11	94.58	24	Morwell	5	12	49.13	20
Bairnsdale	5	12	81.38	20	Warragul	5	12	38.09	20	Sale	4	13	45.98	16	Wonthaggi	4	12	41.31	18
Sale	4	13	69.91	16	Bairnsdale	3	14	58.99	12	Wonthaggi	3	14	56.37	12	Sale	3	14	44.80	12
Drouin	1	16	40.65	4	Drouin	0	17	8.69	0	Morwell	1	16	26.26	4	Drouin	1	15	45.28	6
LEADING GOAL KICKERS					LEADING GOAL KICKERS					LEADING GOAL KICKERS					LEADING GOAL KICKERS				
Ben Crocker (Moe)				85	Damien Hough (Traralgon)				35	Rylie Baker (Drouin)				68	Brody Stevenson (Traralgon)				75
Patrick Ireland (Leongatha)				49	C Watson (Leongatha), B Holt (Moe)				31	Cameron Thompson (Warragul)				37	Fraser Aubrey (Warragul)				67
Dylan Loprese (Traralgon)				44	& F Materia (Leongatha)				31	Archer Stobie (Maffra)				37	Bill De Araugo (Warragul)				59

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Disappointing end for the Giants

KORUMBURRA-BENA and Garfield met on a very cold and rainy day that presented not ideal conditions for play. It was a scrappy and difficult game at the Garfield Recreation Reserve.

Garfield kicked the first two goals of the game.

A free kick was given to the Giants' Matthew Borschman on the 50, and a great mark appeared to be taken by Tom Crocker on the line but was deemed to be a point instead.

It was not a great first quarter and neither was the second.

The Giants only scored two points in the first half to Garfield's 5.5.35.

It was a low scoring effort for both teams due to the weather, but an even more disappointing first half from the Giants.

Strong defensive pressure by Nick Besley, Zach Walker and Guy Dickson kept the Giants in the hunt.

The Giants had more of the ball in their forward line in the second half, with lots of opportunities that only resulted in a few points.

Garfield only scored one goal, much to the Giants' credit.

During their final term of the season, the Giants finally scored a goal from set shot by Kye Benson.

Korumburra-Bena's better players were Borschmann, Codie Anderson, Benson and Dickson.

It was a very disappointing last game from the Giants, but it doesn't reflect the year that they have had.

Many new recruits and young players came into the side, with a lot of potential being shown.

With a bye next week, this brings Korumburra-Bena Giants' season to an end.

It was another tough year on the scoreboard, however it doesn't reflect on the improvements made on and off the field.

This club is heading in the right direction behind Josh Hopkins, who will look to take the Giants to more success in 2026.



Garfield's Joseph Zaccari and the Giants' Jayden Deas look for opportunities as the Giants are dispossessed.



Korumburra Bena's Zachary Barrett boots a solid pass into the midfield during the reserves match with Garfield.

Resilient Magpies overcome their Koo Wee Rup demons

DALYSTON'S bid to be 'stronger for longer' was successful over the weekend, as it defeated Koo Wee Rup by nine points.

Playing at the Koo Wee Rup Recreation Reserve, the Seniors were spurred on by a good win from the U16s and put up a solid effort.

The Magpies have suffered from inconsistency throughout the season but went into Saturday's game with a focus to win multiple quarters – which they delivered.

Defensive pressure on the ball carriers was strong in the first quarter, with Ben Lewis giving the opposition little room to move.

Returned to form, Louis Armstrong was the best defender on the day, putting his heart and soul into stopping Koo Wee Rup's attack.

The forward line also

worked hard, making the most of its opportunities.

The second quarter was where Dalyston let things slip.

Koo Wee Rup eased back into the contest and managed to be three points ahead going into halftime.

A rousing speech from coach Mitch Hallahan had the Magpies fired up to keep the opposition from gaining any more ground.

Through this season, Dalyston have been disappointing in the second half but found the determination to rise to the occasion on Saturday.

A few inconsistencies are there for Dalyston to tidy up later, but mostly the third quarter delivered an excellent result, with the Magpies gaining a 16-point lead.

Fraser West was a standout, having been moved into centre half forward.

West gave it his all and was an asset on the day.

It was also another consistent game from Kyle Kirk, Dino Karamoshos, Kyle Hutchinson and Hayden Wallis.

Club captain, Wallis has been warming back into his role, having been off with an injury for six weeks.

This was his third game back, and he proved why he is a leader amongst the team and why they have come to rely on his skills.

Dalyston also had some luck with the weather in the third quarter.

Black storm clouds threatened the outskirts of the ground all day, causing some showers but not enough to impact the outcome of the game.

The wind was strongest through the third quarter, but

Dalyston kicked with its advantage at that point.

The last quarter was a fight to the finish.

Koo Wee Rup rallied with three quick goals, which caused some concern, but the Magpies dug deep to kick the next four.

The win gave the Dalyston faithful a bit of heart and plenty to celebrate as the season nears its end.

With one round left, Dalyston's final challenge will be against second placed Tooradin-Dalmore.

This will be another massive challenge, but Dalyston have been delivering some excellent performances against the top sides recently and just need to focus on finishing the job.

Win or lose, the Magpies will be celebrating the season that night with their reverse draw.

WEST GIPPSLAND COMPETITION RESULTS

RND 19

DALYSTON FOOTBALL CLUB



KOO WEE RUP DALYSTON

Koo Wee Rup	2.1	4.5	5.5	10.7 (67)
Dalyston	3.1	4.2	7.9	11.10 (76)

GOALS, KWR: S Kors 3, T Miller 2, M Cammarano, T Evans, S Ohehir, T Twite, M Voss 1 each

BEST: N Muratore, S Kors, M Voss, T Bindley, S Ohehir, T Glen

GOALS, Dalyston: B Carew 4, M Hallahan, D Karamoshos 2, R Davey, K Huytchison, A Rosenow 1 each

BEST: L Armstrong, F West, K Kirk, D Karamoshos, K Hutchison, H Wallis

RESERVES

Koo Wee Rup	4.0	8.2	9.5	11.8 (74)
Dalyston	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.2 (2)

GOALS, KWR: M Cameron 3, M Drommel 2, D Alanis, M Alderson, D Ramos, L Edwards, J Commerford, J Anderson 1 each

BEST: No players selected

BEST Dalyston: No players selected

THIRDS

Koo Wee Rup	2.0	5.1	7.1	7.5 (47)
Dalyston	0.1	1.1	1.2	3.3 (21)

GOALS, KWR: L Pirotta, B Robson 2, L Briganti, K Galucho, F Pittard 1 each

BEST: L Pirotta, M Simpson, S Lawler, L Briganti, J Kelly, J Shuttleworth

GOALS, Dalyston: N Shepherd 2, L Harris 1

BEST: B Anderson, R Brinkman, L Harris, M Toler, R Pearson-Rutland, N Shepherd

FOURTHS

Koo Wee Rup	1.2	1.2	2.4	2.5 (17)
Dalyston	1.0	1.2	2.3	2.6 (18)

GOALS, KWR: C Parr, Z Ducasse 1 each

BEST: J Saunders, Z Ducasse, Z Johnson, J Vivian, S Filarski, J Hobson

GOALS, Dalyston: A Benetti 2

BEST: Z Hughes, J Howell, F McNally, J Joma, A Benetti, H Hender

KORUMBURRA BENA FOOTBALL CLUB



GARFIELD KORUMBURRA BENA

Garfield	2.2	5.5	6.5	7.7 (49)
Kor-Bena	0.2	0.2	0.6	1.7 (13)

GOALS, Garfield: L Fernandez, M Johnson 2, J Pinkerton, N Rogers, A Emery 1 each

BEST: J Harrison, J Evans, M Rennie, N Rogers, J Van Den Berghe, S Marsh

GOALS, Kor-Bena: K Benson 1,

BEST: M Borschman, C Anderson, K Benson, G Dickson

RESERVES

Garfield	0.1	2.3	4.4	4.5 (29)
Kor-Bena	3.1	6.3	7.4	9.7 (61)

GOALS, Garfield: R Youssef, J Whibley, S Simpson Brewer, B Scamporlino 1 each

BEST: R Youssef, J Pope, B Scamporlino, J La Frantz, J Pisa

GOALS, Kor-Bena: Z Barrett, W Croatia 3, T Derrick, J Fowles, J Macri 1 each

BEST: L Walker, J Grabham, J Fowles, Z Barrett, B Riddell, J Harris

THIRDS

Garfield	04.7	7.9	7.14	8.16 (64)
Kor-Bena	0.1	0.1	0.2	2.2 (14)

GOALS, Garfield: K Kelsey 5, J Baker 2, J Thomson 1

BEST: K Kelsey, D Dieng, J Baker, N King, C Gregory, J Hayward

GOALS, Kor-Bena: J Douglas 2

BEST: No players selected

FOURTHS

Korumburra Bena d Garfield (forfeit)

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WEST GIPPSLAND COMPETITION	
Nar Nar Goon 8.9.57	d Tooradin-Dalmore 8.8.56
Dalyston 11.10.76	d Koo Wee Rup 10.7.67
Cora Lynn 11.6.72	d Phillip Island 8.7.55
Warragul Industrials 14.8.92	d Inverloch-Kongwak 11.11.77
Garfield 7.7.49	d Korumburra Bena 1.7.13

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THIS WEEKEND'S DRAW

SATURDAY, AUGUST 23

GIPPSLAND	ROUND 18
Leongatha v Maffra	
Bairnsdale v Morwell	
Sale v Traralgon	
Moe v Wonthaggi	
Drouin v Warragul	

WEST GIPPSLAND	ROUND 20
Nar Nar Goon v Cora Lynn	
Phillip Island v Inverloch-Kongwak	
Dalyston v Tooradin-Dalmore	
Kilcunda Bass v Garfield	
Warragul Industrials v Koo Wee Rup	
Korumburra-Bena - BYE	

ELLINBANK	1ST ROUND FINALS
Qualifying Final - Saturday, August 23	
Longwarry Recreation Reserve	
Seniors: Longwarry v Trafalgar	
Reserves: Longwarry v Trafalgar	
U18: Longwarry v Buln Buln	
U16: Bunyip v Poowong	
A Grade: Nilma Darnum v Ellinbank	
B Grade: Bunyip v Neerim South	
C Grade: Neerim South v Trafalgar	
17 & Under: Nilma Darnum v Lang Lang	
15 & Under: Poowong v Lang Lang	
13 & Under: Trafalgar v Buln Buln	
Elimination Final - Sunday, August 24	
Bunyip Recreation Reserve	
Seniors: Buln Buln v Ellinbank	
Reserves: Neerim South v Ellinbank	
U18: Nilma Darnum v Poowong	
U16: Ellinbank v Yarragon	
A Grade: Trafalgar v Longwarry	
B Grade: Lang Lang v Nilma Darnum	
C Grade: Buln Buln v Longwarry	
17 & Under: Catani v Poowong	
15 & Under: Neerim South v Bunyip	
13 & Under: Bunyip v Nilma Darnum	

MID GIPPSLAND	ELIMINATION FINALS
Elimination - Saturday, August 23	
Meeniyah Recreation Reserve	
Seniors: Yinnar v Boolarra	
Reserves: MDU v Stony Creek	
U18: Hill End v Tarwin	
A Grade: Yinnar v Toora	
B Grade: Yinnar v Toora	
C Grade: Foster v MDU	
D Grade: Toora v Newborough	
17 & Under: Mirboo North v Hill End	
15 & Under: Hill End v Newborough	
13 & Under: Tarwin v Mirboo North	
Elimination - Sunday, August 24	
Terrill Park, Fish Creek	
Seniors: MDU v Thorpdale	
Reserves: Toora v Tarwin	
U18: Yinnar v Mirboo North	
A Grade: Mirboo North v MDU	
B Grade: Newborough v Mirboo North	
C Grade: Boolarra v Fish Creek	
D Grade: Tarwin v Fish Creek	
17 & Under: Yinnar v Toora	
15 & Under: Boolarra v Foster	
13 & Under: Boolarra v Fish Creek	

Local football

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Lewis Rankin enjoys the moment after going through the banner marking his 200th senior game. A61_3325

‘Lewie’ soars to game 200

INVERLOCH KONGWAK premiership player and joint captain Lewis Rankin brought up his 200th senior game when he burst through the banner to lead his side out against Warragul Industrials on Saturday.

“You’re one of the most courageous players in the league,”

the Sea Eagles declared in a Facebook post.

Respected by those at his club and throughout the competition, Rankin is now an IK Life Member, being only the twentieth player in the club’s history to achieve the milestone.

Noting that ‘Lewie’ has been

through thick and thin, the club listed his impressive achievements and contributions to the Sea Eagles.

They include playing in two senior premierships, being assistant coach and co-captain of the 2023 Grand Final winning side.

He coached the U16s

through a challenging period, his mentorship helping develop the club’s young players.

While Saturday’s match didn’t go IK’s way, the Sea Eagles were competitive and it was a night of celebration when people gathered over a meal to chat about Lewie’s continuing contribution.

Sea Eagles defeated in important battle

INVERLOCH-KONGWAK was devastated to lose an important game against the Warragul Industrials on Saturday.

A victory against the Dusties may have secured the Sea Eagles’ place in the finals, but now it will come right down to the wire with less than one per cent separating them from Kilcunda Bass.

A good crowd rallied around Inverloch Recreation Reserve as Lewis Rankin played his 200th game, and the team was disappointed to not get the win for him.

The contest was close from the first bounce, but Inverloch-Kongwak’s story of the day was it could not capitalise on its opportunities.

A few missed shots at goal allowed the Dusties to gain a 15-point lead at quarter time.

Inverloch-Kongwak was still feeling confident going into the second quarter, with the Dusties very much within reach.

It was an even struggle with the defence lacking on both sides. Inverloch-Kongwak had a strong midfield, led by Paul Pattison. Oscar Toussaint and Ethan Park were essential through the middle. Harry Butcher also played a solid

game down back.

A similar scene played out during the third quarter, but Inverloch-Kongwak started to gain on the Dusties, ending up just two points behind heading into the last quarter.

The Dusties fought back in the fourth quarter and pushed the score back out to a 20-point margin.

The determined Inverloch-Kongwak side brought it back again, but the Dusties kicked one last goal on the siren to secure its 15-point win.

Inverloch-Kongwak is still in it, but it’s a tough road to the finals with its last round set to be against Phillip Island.

The Sea Eagles will be going into the match at the Cowes Recreation Reserve as if it’s a knockout final.

Should Inverloch-Kongwak lose this match, it will need Kilcunda Bass to lose to Garfield or deliver a score that will maintain its higher percentage.

Inverloch-Kongwak faced Phillip Island in round eight and lost by 100 points – its worst performance of the season.

Not only is this an important game to keep the Sea Eagle’s 2025 campaign alive, but it is also a chance for redemption.



Xavier Hughes rucks for Inverloch Kongwak against Dusties opponent Robert McCallum, with both players named in their teams’ best and Hughes booting a couple of goals. A45_3325

Bulldogs fail the litmus test at the Cobradome

THE BULLDOGS made the trip to Cora Lynn for Round 19 in what proved to be a mixed bag of results. The Thirds were outstanding, recording a big win, while the Reserves and Seniors fought hard but couldn't quite get over the line.

Phillip Island's Thirds continued their strong form with a commanding 71-point victory, 12.15 (87) to 2.4 (16). From the opening bounce, the young Bulldogs stamped their authority on the game, dominating clearances and using their run to stretch Cora Lynn across the ground. The mid-field worked tirelessly to supply the forwards, who capitalised with a spread of nine different goal kickers – a clear sign of the team's even contribution. The backline held firm, restricting Cora Lynn to just two goals for the day.

Best Players: ChaCha Fischer was relentless in the contest, Noah Forrest Mabilia's ball use was a highlight, Archie Ross provided drive from half-back, Noah Williams was dangerous around goal and through the midfield, Jeremy Kelly impressed with his work rate, and Charles O'Garey's strength and composure stood out.

Goal Kickers: Noah Williams 2, Jack Kennedy 1, Oliver Duggan 1, Charlie O'Garey 2, George McCausland 1, Jack Larsson 1, Blake Murphy 2, Max Kelsey 1, Jasper Cashman 1

The Reserves match was a real arm-wrestle, with both sides struggling to find fluency in front of goal. The Bulldogs defended bravely all afternoon and looked like they might steal the win late, but ultimately fell just short, 3.9 (27) to 3.5 (23). Cora Lynn's accuracy in the final quarter proved the difference, but the Island boys can hold their heads high for the effort and commitment shown. It was a contest built on grit, with every possession hard-earned in heavy conditions.

Best Players: Darcy Thompson was outstanding with his run and carry, Oliver Hibbert provided toughness around the ball, Jack Keating worked tirelessly across the ground, James Nicolaci and Mikka Paulsen added valuable composure, while Timothy Niven stood tall in defence.

Goal Kickers: Travis Woodfield 1, Kirby Fuller 1, Bryce Pewtress 1

In the main event, Phillip Island went head-to-head with a strong Cora Lynn side and, despite a brave four-quarter



Bulldog Nick Anderson catches and take down his Cora-Lynn opponent. Photos Rob Gardiner.

effort, were defeated by 17 points, 11.6 (72) to 8.7 (55).

The Bulldogs started well, matching the Cobras in contested ball and tackling pressure. The experience of Cameron Pedersen gave the side a focal point up forward, with his three goals keeping the Island within striking distance. Charlie Bruce and Billy Taylor also provided spark, while the defensive group worked tirelessly to contain Cora Lynn's forward threats. Ultimately, the Cobras were more efficient with their opportunities inside 50 and were able to pull away late in the contest. The Bulldogs, however, showed plenty of fight and will take positives from the performance as they build towards finals.

Best Players: Cameron Pedersen was a standout with his presence around the ground and on the scoreboard, Hayden Bruce battled hard and used the ball well, Mark Collison led from the front with his trademark toughness, Cooper Walton's energy was crucial, Mark Griffin impressed in defence, and Charlie Bruce provided plenty of run.

Goal Kickers: Cameron Pedersen 3, Charlie Bruce 1, Billy Taylor 1, Jay Ladson 1, Jack Taylor 1, Nick Anderson 1

Next Round: The Bulldogs return home for their final round of the season, hosting Inverloch at The Kennel on Saturday August 23.



The Bulldogs team up to punch out the ball.

WEST GIPPSLAND COMPETITION RESULTS

RND 19

PHILLIP ISLAND FOOTBALL CLUB

72 55

CORA LYNN PHILLIP ISLAND

Cora Lynn 2.2 4.5 5.5 11.6 (72)
Phillip Island 1.2 2.5 6.6 8.7 (55)

GOALS, Cora Lynn: L Hartley, J Briggs 3, N Gardiner, T Payne, H Paul, C Machaya, M McDermott 1 each

BEST: H Briggs, L Hartley, W Thomas, J Briggs, J Edwards, N Villella

GOALS, Phillip Island: C Pedersen 3, C Bruce, N Anderson, J Taylor, B Taylor, J Ladson 1 each

BEST: C Pedersen, H Bruce, M Collison, C Walton, M Griffin, C Bruce

RESERVES

Cora Lynn 1.3 2.5 2.7 3.9 (27)
Phillip Island 2.1 3.4 3.5 3.5 (23)

GOALS, Cora Lynn: L Taylor, C Power, D Ross 1 each

BEST: N Pastras, L Taylor, J Boccari, L Taylor, J Ross, C Brook

GOALS, Phillip Island: T Woodfield, K Fuller, B Pewtress 1 each

BEST: D Thompson, O Hibbert, J Keating, J Nicolaci, M Paulsen, T Niven

THIRDS

Cora Lynn 0.0 1.0 1.2 2.4 (16)
Phillip Island 4.5 8.9 8.13 12.15 (87)

GOALS, Cora Lynn: Z Pereira, Z Taylor 1 each

BEST: A Mitchell, H Alexander, T Handley, Z Taylor, Z Pereira, A Ajiing

GOALS, Phillip Island: N Williams, C O'Garey, B Murphy 2, M Kelsey, J Cashman, J Kennedy, G McCausland, J Larsson, O Duggan 1 each

BEST: C Fischer, N Forrest Mabilia, A Ross, N Williams, J Kelly, C O'Garey

INVERLOCH-KONGWAK FOOTBALL CLUB

77 92

INVERLOCH-K WARRAGUL IND

Inverloch-K 0.4 4.8 8.9 11.11 (77)
Warragul Ind 3.1 7.3 9.5 14.8 (92)

GOALS, IK: T Short 3, X Hughes, T Mahoney, T Cumming 2, M Scott, P Pattison 1 each

BEST: P Pattison, O Toussaint, J Bertacco, H Butcher, E Park, X Hughes

GOALS, Warragul Ind: T Hancock 5, T Cornwall 3, L Walker, B Beck 2, T Beck, N Visser 1 each

BEST: T Hancock, N Visser, B Hillard, G Stevenson, R Mccallum, B Nichol

RESERVES

Inverloch-K 7.1 7.4 8.4 12.11 (83)
Warragul Ind 0.2 1.2 1.5 1.5 (11)

GOALS, IK: L O'Neill 4, W Tiesdell-Smith 3, J Williams 2, M Ward, N Harris, D Taylor 1 each

BEST: C Scott, J Williams, L O'Neill, J Long, T Leonard, W Tiesdell-Smith

GOALS, Warragul Ind: M Jameson 1

BEST: Z Reid, T Hemming, C Edwards, H Radcliffe, O Walsh, T Turner

THIRDS

Inverloch-K 1.0 3.4 6.5 11.8 (74)
Warragul Ind 2.3 3.3 5.5 6.5 (41)

GOALS, IK: J Harman 4, J O'Neill, A Finsterer 2, H Gleeson, M Ward, J Dugard 1 each

BEST: J Harman, P Dwyer, C Newman, A Finsterer, M Ward, J O'Neill

GOALS, Warragul Ind: R Awty 3, Z Tepper 2, J Lee 1

BEST: Z Tepper, Z Reid, J West, R Butler, R Awty, J Lee

FOURTHS

Inverloch-K 1.0 2.1 2.4 3.5 (23)
Warragul Ind 0.0 3.1 3.1 6.4 (40)

GOALS, IK: L Aungier, M Tonkin, C Newman 1 each

BEST: N McLennan, Z Bertacco, G Sadler, T Debono, C Newman, J Martin

GOALS, Warragul Ind: O Ireland 2, R Buck, K Bannister, A Ingham, M Cornwall 1 each

BEST: K Bannister, O Ireland, S Oling, A Ingham, M Cornwall, R Matthews

WEST GIPPSLAND COMPETITION LADDERS

ROUND 19

SENIORS	W	L	%	pts
Nar Nar Goon	17	0	304.04	68
Tooradin-Dal	14	3	154.54	56
Phillip Island	12	5	153.40	48
Cora Lynn	12	5	137.51	48
Warragul Ind	10	7	85.98	40
Inverloch-K	7	10	88.41	28
Kilcunda Bass	7	10	87.72	28
Garfield	5	12	62.69	20
Koo Wee Rup	4	13	77.64	16
Dalyston	3	14	54.37	12
Kor-Bena	3	15	53.09	12

LEADING GOAL KICKERS	
Nathan Gardiner (Cora Lynn)	94
Dermott Yawney (Nar Nar Goon)	72
Billy Taylor (Phillip Island)	36

RESERVES	W	L	%	pts
Tooradin-Dal	14	3	370.55	56
Nar Nar Goon	14	3	322.99	56
Inverloch-K	13	4	216.26	52
Cora Lynn	13	4	167.31	52
Phillip Island	12	5	269.75	48
Koo Wee Rup	9	8	106.84	36
Kor-Bena	7	11	61.82	28
Garfield	6	11	62.90	24
Kilcunda Bass	2	15	31.99	8
Warragul Ind	2	15	30.53	8
Dalyston	2	15	27.04	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	14	1	295.60	3.73
Inverloch-K	12	2	256.10	3.33
Nar Nar Goon	12	4	210.69	3.00
Tooradin-Dal	11	5	165.18	2.75
Koo Wee Rup	9	5	152.04	2.53
Warragul Ind	7	8	106.18	1.87
Dalyston	5	10	54.86	1.33
Garfield	4	12	64.66	1.00
Kor-Bena	2	14	26.38	0.50
Cora Lynn	0	15	22.43	0.00
Kilcunda-Bass	0	0	0.00	0.00

LEADING GOAL KICKERS	
Tarrant Millar (Nar Nar Goon)	35
Oliver Duggan (Phillip Island)	33
Chayse Campbell (Tooradin-Dal)	30

FOURTHS	W	L	%	pts av
Warragul Ind	14	2	374.53	3.50
Nar Nar Goon	13	3	246.65	3.25
Inverloch-K	11	4	227.08	2.93
Tooradin-Dal	10	5	234.47	2.67
Phillip Island	8	7	148.94	2.13
Kilcunda Bass	7	8	67.26	1.87
Koo Wee Rup	7	8	53.77	1.87
Kor-Bena	4	12	43.17	1.00
Dalyston	3	12	36.03	0.80
Garfield	0	13	10.61	0.00
Cora Lynn	0	0	0.00	0.00

LEADING GOAL KICKERS	
Ky Bannister (Warragul Ind)	29
Max Tonkin (Inverloch-K)	28
Sam O'Garey (Phillip Island)	23

IN OTHER GAMES...

SENIORS
Nar Nar Goon 8.9.57 d Tooradin-Dal 8.8.56

RESERVES
Nar Nar Goon 3.3.21 d Tooradin-Dal 0.8.8

THIRDS
Tooradin-Dal 6.4.40 d Nar Nar Goon 4.4.28

FOURTHS
Nar Nar Goon 6.1.37 d Tooradin-Dal 1.11.17

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Celebrating 45 years of fun in Wonthaggi

IN 1980, a group of adventurous locals took to the Wonthaggi pool with snorkels, fins, and a lump of lead to push around the bottom of the pool with hand-made wooden sticks.

They didn't know it at the time, but they were launching what would become one of the region's most enduring and unique sporting traditions.

This year, the Wonthaggi Underwater Hockey Club marks its 45th anniversary, a remarkable achievement for a relatively unknown sport. The founding of the club coincided with the opening of the Wonthaggi Pool.

"I started playing in 1980. The first game of underwater hockey at Wonthaggi was a scratch match between the South Gippsland Dive Club and the South Eastern Area Board Riders' Club," Steve Dunn recalls.

"I organised this as I was a founding member of both clubs."

From the very beginning, Octopush (as it was then known) struck a chord locally. In its first year alone, the Wonthaggi club fielded six or seven teams, including Jaws, Apex Club, Inverloch, Older Surfers, and Dive Club. Paul Donohue and Mark Haines coordinated the early competitions.

Steve played, coached, and ran the club for decades before stepping aside about ten years ago. Over the years, the club has experienced highs and lows, yet it continues to attract players from across the Bass Coast and South Gippsland, with regulars travelling from Phillip Island, Foster, and Leongatha. Visiting players also often make the trip from Melbourne to join in.

Given the year-round playing schedule, underwater hockey offers a fun and competitive aquatic outlet, especially in winter. It's a sport that keeps players fit while complementing other water-based activities.

"It makes sense that it's been so popular here given how the water plays such a big part in many people's lives," says long-time member and committee stalwart Karl Scotern, who is coordinating the anniversary celebrations. "The club has attracted surfers,



Wonthaggi Underwater Hockey Club will celebrate 45 years of underwater fun and competition on Saturday September 6.

divers, swimmers, spearos, and those from the lifesaving clubs."

The Wonthaggi club has always punched above its weight in competition, producing a remarkable number of Victorian and Australian representatives. Many junior players have gone on to perform at state, national, and international levels. In many years they often make up the bulk of Victoria's representative teams.

Some alumni have achieved extraordinary success on the world stage. Kirsteen Reid, who learnt to play in Wonthaggi in the late 1980s and early 1990s, has represented Australia in the

Elite Women's division, winning three World Championship gold medals. She shared her first gold medal, won in 2002 at the Calgary World Championships, with two other Wonthaggi players, Micquel Atkinson and Laura Gilliland.

Now in her 50s, Kirsteen is still competing at the highest level — last week taking gold with the Australian Women's Masters team at an international event in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

Rees Guilford, another home-grown player, has won three World Championship gold medals with the Australian Men's

team. He recently returned to the region after more than 20 years away and still occasionally makes it down to Thursday night club games. "I always love getting back in the pool here in Wonthaggi," Rees says.

"It's great to see the club still attracting loads of kids. Water is the great leveller, you'll see women and men playing alongside one another, and juniors often competing against older players."

Karl hopes the upcoming 45-year celebrations will bring together as many past players as possible. "So many people from

across the district have played underwater hockey at some stage. We'd love them to come along to celebrate the club's legacy and achievements."

The club is also calling on the community to help uncover any historical treasures, old photos, programs, or memorabilia, to display on the night.

The 45-year celebration function will be held at the Wonthaggi Golf Club on Saturday September 6, from 6pm. Tickets are \$20 and can be booked via wonthaggiunderwaterhockey@hotmail.com or 0408 804 028.

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