



FORGIVENESS ...AND TEARS

Erin Patterson is escorted into the prison van at the Melbourne Magistrates Court for transfer back to the Dame Phyllis Frost Correctional Centre.

- Triple murderer Erin Patterson faces her victims

IN AN emotion-charged address to the Supreme Court in Melbourne on Monday this week, Korumburra Baptist Pastor Ian Wilkinson made an offer of forgiveness to convicted triple murderer Erin Patterson.

Speaking publicly for the first time since Mrs Patterson was found guilty of the murder of his wife of 44 years, Heather Wilkinson, her sister Gail Patterson and husband Don Patterson, Mr Wilkinson

said that while he could make the offer of forgiveness on his own behalf, he did not speak for other family members.

"For the murders of Don, Gail and Heather, I am, however, compelled to seek justice," he said. "My prayer to her is that she spends her time in prison to make herself a better person."

"I am no longer Erin's victim. She has become a victim of my kindness," Mr

Wilkinson said at the end of his victim impact statement.

He was the first of a number of people to address the court during a scheduled two-day plea hearing before Justice Christopher Beale on Monday and Tuesday this week, but ultimately only one day was needed with the judge setting September 8 as the day he will hand down his sentence.

Continued page 3

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Triple murderer faces her victims

From page 1

Each delivered either their own victim impact statement or read a statement for another family member.

The victim statements were the feature of the plea hearing, followed by brief statements from the prosecution and defence about the sentence and whether or not a non-parole period will be fixed.

Ruth Dubois, daughter of Ian Wilkinson, who attended most days of the 10-week trial in Morwell alongside her father, spoke next, followed by Crown Prosecutor Dr Nanette Rogers, providing a statement on behalf of Lynette Young, sister of Gail Patterson and Heather Wilkinson.

Family member Naomi Gleadow read statements on behalf of Martha Patterson, the centenarian mother of Don Patterson, also from Don's brother Colin and his son Tim Patterson.

Ms Gleadow, cousin of Simon Patterson, the estranged husband of convicted killer Erin Patterson, also read a victim impact statement on behalf of Mr Patterson.

A total of 28 victim impact statements were tendered to the court, 27 from individuals and one from the members of the Korumburra Baptist Church.

While seven of the statements were made public, most were provided in confidence, but according to Justice Beale, will be taken into account when he prepares his sentencing remarks.

Making a statement for the first time since giving evidence on the opening days of the trial, Simon Patterson expressed his deep gratitude to the local community for the way they've supported him and his family following the "incomprehensible" actions of his estranged wife, the mother of his two children.

In his statement, Mr Patterson spoke about his personal loss, the impact on his children and also the "deplorable behaviour" of the media.

But he said the fact that "we live in a compassionate, supportive community" would enable his strong children, if not himself, to overcome the hurdles put in their way by their own mother, and not only survive but ultimately thrive.

"I am thankful for the care we have been shown and the support of friends, family, school, church, neighbours, police, health workers and the general community," he said.

"For the sensitivity shown by



Crown Prosecutor Dr Nanette Rogers, and members of the prosecution team Jane Warren and Sarah Lenthall leave the court after Monday's plea hearing in the Erin Patterson case.

the community in minimising what they've talked about, especially to the media, I am so grateful," he said.

"I miss my parents more than I can say, but comforted also that they are with God.

"If genetics mean anything, Don, Gail and Heather all had 100 years in them... and I will be thinking in 30 years' time that they could still be alive if Erin had not chosen to murder them. I feel incredibly sad that we can't be with them."

But it was the address by his uncle, Ian Wilkinson, the only lunch guest to survive the poisoned meal of Beef Wellington, laced with death cap mushrooms served by Erin Patterson, at her Leongatha home on Saturday, July 29, 2023, that riveted the attention of the packed courtroom.

He started by paying a glowing tribute to his wife; a compassionate, loving, generous and simply delightful person who loved sharing her life with everyone.

Having spent a long life of 44 years together, where it was a privilege to be in her company, he said he felt a great sense of personal loss.

"Together we approached life as a team and delighted in each

other's company. She made up for my shortcomings," he said.

Mr Wilkinson said Heather was a great mother to their four children and after they decided she would be a stay-at-home mum, devoted to their upbringing.

"She believed it was her greatest work," he said.

He said that the way his family had conducted themselves, supporting both himself and Heather, and also Don and Gail through their illness, and in the aftermath of their deaths and through the trial, was testament to the example provided to them by Heather.

He said it was also a great pain to him to see the trauma they experienced at their mother's death, the circumstances of which had left deep wounds.

"I am deeply impacted by their grief," he said.

"Family events are no longer the same now that a very important member of the family is missing.

"Heather was also a fellow traveller with me in my way to Jesus."

He said that the love, joy, perseverance, patience and self-control with which she conducted her life were all fruits of her faith.

"It's a terribly difficult thought

to deal with that someone chose to take her life. I feel I'm only half the person without her."

Mr Wilkinson's voice wavered with emotion at times while he spoke, and he paused to take a glass of water before continuing.

Erin Patterson, who was in the dock in Court 4 at the Supreme Court in Melbourne between two corrections officers, facing Justice Beale, turned her attention to Mr Wilkinson throughout, at one stage taking a tissue and dabbing her face.

Whether there were tears or not wasn't clear.

The public gallery upstairs was filled with up to 100 members of the community, while there were dozens of family and friends in the courtroom and 40-plus members of the media.

Mr Wilkinson continued saying that his only consolation was that he would be reunited with Heather in the afterlife.

He also spoke about what he had lost following the deaths of the two closest people to him, other than Heather, Don and Gail Patterson.

"I have suffered greatly as a result of what Erin did. It took two years, and I praise God, for my miraculous healing, but I have reduced kidney function, ongoing medical issues and less stamina.

"I've had to restructure my life without Heather," he said, noting he no longer had anyone to share the ordinary things of life, no one to debrief with at the end of the day, no one at home.

"I am disturbed that Erin has acted with such callous disregard for the lives of me and my friends, especially towards people who only had good intentions for her."

He said the ripples of her actions had spread wide from his family and friends, to the church community and the general community.

It was then that he made his offer of forgiveness.

Ruth Dubois spoke next about how family and friends were dealing with "this unimaginable horror".

"It's beyond anything I can express in words to think how someone could sit there and watch as people go to their deaths."

Ms Dubois said there were many times along the way when Erin could have withdrawn from her course of action, but she continued on.

Following a break for lunch, the court heard from a corrections officer about Ms Patterson's situation in prison and also from Crown Prosecutor Jane Warren and defence counsel for Ms Patterson, Colin Mandy SC.

"This is very grave offending, and we make no argument that the sentence should be anything other than life imprisonment, but the issue is whether there should be a non-parole period of 30 years," said Mr Mandy.

Mr Mandy said that his client was likely to be held in isolation for a lengthy period of time, if not the entire sentence, due to the notoriety of the case and the potential for other prisoners to make allegations against her.

He said this amounted to very deprived circumstances in the "appalling conditions" of the Gordon Unit at the Dame Phyllis Frost Detention Centre, which should be considered during sentencing.

He also made reference to the court, from the evidence provided during the trial, about Erin Patterson having high-functioning autism, signs of Asperger's and ADHD.

Ms Warren also made submissions about the aggravating circumstances, including whether or not Erin Patterson could have done more to help her gravely sick in-laws.

Among Justice Beale's remarks were that he placed a lot of importance on the evidence about the plates given by Ian Wilkinson.

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

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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 Palocz Bruce Wardley Courtney O'Brien Nicole May Tayla Kershaw

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6 Day
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Forecast

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 TUE Aug 26 Showers increasing. Wind AM: N 20-30km/h Wind PM: NW 25-35km/h 10° 19°	 WED Aug 27 Showers. Windy. Wind AM: NW 25-40km/h Wind PM: NW 25-40km/h 8° 15°	 THUR Aug 28 Showers. Wind AM: W-NW 25-40km/h Wind PM: NW 20-25km/h 6° 14°	 FRI Aug 29 Showers. Windy. Wind AM: NW 30-45km/h Wind PM: W 35-45km/h 6° 12°	 SAT Aug 30 Showers. Wind AM: NW-SW 30-40km/h Wind PM: NW-SW 30-40km/h 4° 13°	 SUN Aug 31 Showers. Wind AM: W-NW 25-35km/h Wind PM: NW 15-20km/h 6° 15°
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IN BRIEF

Mobile clinic to
boost women's health

THE Women's Health Mobile Clinic is available in Foster. Free 10-minute breast screens and women's health consultations are taking place at the South Gippsland Hospital. You can also book a free 45-minute appointment with a nurse to talk about your sexual and reproductive health, general well-being, and get important health checks like cervical and bowel screening. This service is available to women of all ages and teenagers, providing care close to home. The services are available until September 12.

Lights fixed after
medical episode crash

A TRAFFIC light was brought down at the intersection of Bass Highway and Grantville-Glen Alvie Road in Grantville on Thursday, August 21 at 3.30pm after an elderly driver had a medical episode and veered off the highway, eventually coming to a standstill in the nature strip on the south-eastern side. The 81-year-old male driver and his passenger, who were travelling in a Ford Falcon station wagon at the time were uninjured in the crash. The Department of Transport and Planning were quickly on the scene to fix the broken traffic light. Separate to Thursday's accident it is understood the traffic lights at Grantville were on a regular cycle, rather than a pedestrian or east/west vehicle sync, and the Sentinel-Times understands this was also rectified during repairs.

13-year-old medivaced
to Royal Children's

A 13-YEAR-OLD is recovering at the Royal Children's Hospital after sustaining significant injuries in Newhaven on an e-bike. The incident occurred at 4pm on Thursday, August 21 and whilst it's understood the child was wearing a helmet, witnesses' noted speed may have been a contributing factor in the young

individual losing control of the bike on a grassed area. The individual was airlifted with upper body injuries including shoulder and neck trauma with AV and police attending the scene.

New funding for
library upgrades

THE State Government Living Libraries Infrastructure Program is transforming public libraries across the state, with the next round of funding now open for applications. Successful applicants are set to receive between \$10,000 and \$1 million to upgrade libraries across Victoria. Funding can be used to support a range of library upgrades and services, including refurbishments, expansion of children's areas, installation of technology hubs, and improvements to access and engagement for local communities. Grant applications for the 2025-26 Living Libraries Infrastructure Program are now open and will close on September 19, 2025. For more information visit localgovernment.vic.gov.au/grants.

Learn how the circular
economy redefines the
approach to resources
and waste

THE Phillip Island Community Orchard (PICO) is part of the Living Lightly sustainable living partnership project, and on Saturday, August 30, from 10am -11.30am, guest presenter Harriett Pellizzer will hold the Sharing, Reusing and Repairing at Home workshop. Talia Newton, Climate Emergency Project Officer at Bass Coast Shire Council, said this workshop will focus on ways to reduce waste and save money, promoting a circular economy and encouraging people to make the most of their existing possessions. Members of the public are welcome to join the PICO members to learn about and share

ideas on the subject. Bookings can be made through the Bass Coast Shire website. A delicious morning tea will be served by the hosts using fresh, organic produce. PICO runs four specialist workshops and demonstrations with expert presenters annually. The workshops cover practical information around growing and caring for fruit trees and vegetables, soil care and planting for success, harvesting and preserving homegrown produce and recycling compostable garden waste.

The Living Lightly partnership project, initiated by Bass Coast Shire Council and Bass Coast Adult Learning and Community Gardens in the region, is focused on sustainability, with both online and in-person sessions held across Bass Coast.

Free resources and
support to help you
explore your family tree

MY Community Library (MYLI) is teaming up with the Phillip Island and District Genealogical Society for a 'Starting a Family History Journey' free session at Phillip Island Library today, Tuesday, August 26, at 2pm. The session is perfect for beginners or anyone looking to expand their research. The event will show participants how to use the library's free resources to explore their family history. Participants will also learn how the Society can guide and offer ongoing support with research. This event will be held to celebrate National Family History Month in August. Visit myli.org/events to register or for any further information, contact 5952 2842.

Only half as satisfied
with council?

THE results of the annual Community Satisfaction Survey are out and there's been an uptick in how the community scored the Bass Coast Shire Council. But, if you accept the concerns

of one local resident, you'd have to take the outcome with a grain of salt. During question time at the council meeting last Wednesday, Terry Parkin wanted to know why only 400 local residents were surveyed when it's always been 800 people and whether this had ultimately distorted the results.

But the response from council was that it's not their survey. "This is a State-wide Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey. Councils have various options regarding content of the questionnaire and the sample sizes to be surveyed," was the response from CEO Greg Box. "The smaller survey sample is still reflective of the diverse demographics of the Bass Coast community, and the quality of data is not compromised," he said. "Council has undertaken significant community engagement over the last 12 months to inform the preparation of key strategic plans. Additional survey questions will be added to future surveys so that Council can track its progress delivering on the priorities of its new Council Plan."

Not quite a
founding member

IN LAST week's Sentinel-Times on page 72, "Celebrating 45 years of fun in Wonthaggi" it was noted that Steve Dunn was a founding member of both the South Gippsland Dive Club and South Eastern Area Board Riders Club. Mr Dunn was not a founding member of the board riders club, he became a member when it reformed in the 80s but wasn't a founding member initially in the 60s.

Friends of Inverloch
Library welcome Lia Hills

Poet, novelist and translator Lia Hills joins Friends of Inverloch Library on Friday, September 5 at 6pm for a evening of discussion. To book visit trybooking.com/DEDEW.

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Bayview Avenue resident, Lewis Stone, with Jack Russell 'Pippa' is delighted with the drainage work by the Bass Coast Shire Council, completed on time last Friday, but has questions to ask about South Gippsland water.

How South Gippsland Water left Inverloch in a hole

THE \$3 million-plus Bayview Avenue Drainage Renewal and Flood Mitigation works at Inverloch are finished... or are they?

In an update on the Bass Coast Shire Council's website, the shire says its part of the job was due to be completed by Friday, August 22.

And that's indeed what happened with a brand-spanking new seal on the road by the weekend.

That could have been the happy end of it for local residents, with some bonus work on kerbs and footpaths.

"The opportunity to renew some additional areas of kerb and footpath has been identified within the project work area, resulting in the temporary sealing being delayed,"

said a spokesperson for the council.

"Temporary seal and road opening is currently scheduled to be completed by Friday, August 22. Some additional kerb and footpath renewal works will continue towards William Street in preparation for the extension of the asphalt resurfacing.

"This will be completed under traffic management conditions with the road remaining open."

But oh dear. The shire has been reportedly pleading with South Gippsland Water for months to schedule proposed works to renew the water main at Bayview Avenue at the same time as the road was ripped up for drain renewal and flood works.

But, you guessed it, they couldn't get their act into gear in time and a large swarth of the area, we're told, will have to be ripped up again for the replacement of the water main.

Local residents have praised the Bass Coast Shire Council for committing to the delicate project, which will save dozens of houses in the vicinity from stormwater flooding every time it rains, and also the shire's contractors for the sensitive way they've gone about the project, but they're not happy with South Gippsland Water.

"The work needed to be done to alleviate the flooding problems for some houses from stormwater run-off, but South Gippsland Water

couldn't get their butts into gear in time," said local resident Lewis Stone.

"The shire was already digging up the road for their works and it would have been ideal for South Gippsland Water to do theirs at the same time.

"Now they'll have to dig it all up again and they'll either need to work around the shire's pipes or pull some of it out. How much is that going to cost?"

"It's pretty frustrating when local authorities can't work together, but, from what I've heard, it's not for want of trying by the council."

South Gippsland Water has advised that they are planning to undertake the works in September 2025.

Gippsland first off the block with offshore wind energy

SOUTH Gippsland will not just be one of the early adopters of offshore wind energy, it will be the first in Australia, according to State Energy and Resources Minister Lily D'Ambrosio.

Launching a neighbourhood battery installation on Phillip Island on Friday, Ms D'Ambrosio said she was confident South Gippsland would be a major player in offshore wind farms.

"We know Gippsland has been a powerhouse for decades," said Ms D'Ambrosio.

"Victorians have been a net exporter of energy."

Ms D'Ambrosio said the State Labor Government was committed to establishing the country's first offshore wind energy industry in Gippsland.

Questioned on whether the Port of Hastings would play a role in the offshore wind energy industry, in addition to Barry Beach, Ms D'Ambrosio said all ports would be utilised to help build infrastructure offshore and to maintain it.

"Victoria will lead the way and the country," she said.

"Victoria has reached record levels of renewable energy



State Minister for Energy and Resources Lily D'Ambrosio MP and Member for Bass Jordan Crugnale MP were questioned over offshore wind farms in South Gippsland while officially launching a neighbourhood battery installation in Cowes. B30_3425

generation with more than 42 per cent of the state's electricity produced by renewable energy, putting Victoria well on track to meet its legislated renewable energy target of 40 per cent by the end of the year."

Federal Energy Minister Chris Bowen unveiled new guidelines for research into renewable energy projects to

ensure Australia is at the cutting edge of wind technology.

Licences will be offered in six declared offshore wind zones, including Gippsland.

Founder and chief scientist for Rewiring Australia, Dr Saul Griffith, said the development and testing of this kind of technology was critical.

"If we're going to get the most out of it in Australia, we need

to encourage investment and innovation, and this is one important way to do that," Dr Griffith said.

Projects that could qualify for research funding include monitoring technology to examine the feasibility of offshore wind farms, or projects designed to demonstrate the viability of new technologies, such as deep water technology.

"Australia is in a unique position, we not only have abundant sun to support solar, but with the sixth longest coastline in the world and 85 per cent of our population within 50 kilometres of that coast, we are well placed to scale up our offshore wind capabilities," said Dr Griffith.

"We have the ability to become a renewable energy superpower in Australia and supporting our innovators is one of the best ways to do that.

"With the right framework, Australia can be a leader in this global energy opportunity.

"Harnessing the strong winds out to sea will help deliver clean energy around the clock and help us close down expensive, ageing coal power stations."

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Building approvals tracking well

BUILDING approvals for Bass Coast Shire continue to track ahead of last year shining a positive light on the local building and construction industry.

A total of 516 building applications were approved by Bass Coast Council for the first half of the year compared to 511 for the same period last year.

The number of applications determined within the statutory timeframe continued at 71% last month, well above the state average and the average number of days to final outcome remained steady at 147 days for the year.

Mayor's Message



Cr Rochelle Halstead



ON Friday night, I had the privilege of joining more than 180 business owners and supporters at Silverwater Resort for the 2025 Bass Coast Business Awards – an evening that once again reminded me of the extraordinary calibre of our local business community.

From family-run cafés to innovative start-ups, from tourism ventures to trades and home-based enterprises – the depth of entrepreneurial spirit here in Bass Coast is truly inspiring. It was wonderful to see almost 2,000 people casting their votes for the People's Choice Awards, showing just how proud our community is of the businesses that serve and support them every day.

A highlight of the evening was celebrating The Hills Are Alive Group, who not only entered our Hall of Fame but also took out Business of the Year. Their ability to deliver world-class events with a small, dedicated team is remarkable. To give just one example – they brought Pete Murray to Wonthaggi for a special performance. They couldn't be there on Friday, but I was honoured to read their words to the room on their behalf – a testament to the reach, reputation, and professionalism of this business.

None of this celebration would be possible without the behind-the-scenes efforts of our Business Support team. Their guidance, connections, and encouragement add so much value to our local economy, helping businesses not just to survive but to thrive.

I encourage every business – large or small – to get involved next year. These Awards don't just celebrate winners; they showcase the creativity, resilience, and vision that make Bass Coast such a dynamic place to do live and do business.



Cr Ron Bauer and Deputy Mayor Cr Brett Tessari are inviting residents and ratepayers to have their say with eight separate planning documents released for public consultation. B18_3425

Bass Coast Shire Council in planning overdrive

NO LESS than eight separate planning documents have been released by Bass Coast Shire Council inviting the community to provide feedback on future priorities.

Deputy Mayor Cr Brett Tessari described it as plan overdrive.

"This is your chance to have your say now rather than down the track, and say you never realised what was happening," said Cr Tessari.

"Shape the way these things go forward."

The draft plans now out for public consultation are the result of one of the most extensive community engagement processes ever undertaken by Bass Coast Shire.

Over the past year, Council has worked closely with the community through a 45-member community panel, pop-up events, surveys, focus groups, workshops, and conversations with service providers, community groups and individuals.

"This wide-ranging input has guided the development of each plan," said Bass Coast Mayor Cr Rochelle Halstead.

The list of draft documents now open for community consultation is exhaustive.

Community Vision 2045 sets out the long-term aspirations for Bass Coast over the next 20 years, Council Plan 2025–2029 outlines the strategic objectives that will drive Council's work over the next four years, the Annual Action Plan 2025–2026 details the immediate actions Council will deliver over the next 12 months, and the Domestic Animal Management Plan (DAMP) Plan outlines Council's strategic approach to animal management, addressing responsible pet ownership, compliance, dogs in public places and protection of the natural environment.

The Healthy, Safe and Resilient Bass Coast Plan and



Eight draft plans released by Bass Coast Shire are the result of one of the most extensive community engagement processes Council has ever undertaken.

Council's Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan provide a vision of Council's health and wellbeing priorities and the adoption of a life-course approach to supporting residents of all ages.

The Long Term Financial Plan 2025–2026 to 2034–2035 provides a helicopter view of Council's revenue and expenditure projections over the next decade.

Council's Asset Plan details how more than \$1.47 billion in infrastructure assets will be managed, including roads, drainage, buildings, open space and pathways to meet agreed service levels and community needs.

The Disability Action Plan sets out actions to reduce barriers for people with disability, promote inclusion and participation in community life, and achieve measurable change in attitudes and practices that discriminate against people with disability.

Mayor Cr Rochelle Halstead said the draft plans were based on the community's input.

"The priorities identified by our community are at the heart of these draft plans," said Cr Halstead.

"This consultation is the final check-in, a chance to see how your feedback has been incorporated and to make sure we've captured what matters most before Council considers adoption."

The draft plans provide a clear roadmap to guide Council's decision making taking into account economic, social, environmental factors and community wellbeing.

The closing dates for public feedback are from September 9 to September 14.

Community members can view the drafts and provide feedback via Engage Bass Coast.

For more information, go to engage.basscoast.vic.gov.au/strategic-plans-final-review.

Affordable and manageable housing development for Dalyston

A DIVERSE housing development in Dalyston with 93 lots ranging in size from 350m² to 1100m² has been warmly welcomed by Bass Coast Shire Council.

Cr Mat Morgan said Bass Coast is going above and beyond what is required to free up space for housing to address the current housing crisis.

"We need that housing to be affordable, accessible and public," said Cr Morgan.

The average lot density for the site is approximately nine dwellings per hectare based on the site's land area, including public open space, housing lots and streets.

The development was not

considered to contain an excessive number of lots with lot sizes consistent with existing residential lots in the more established areas of Dalyston, which currently range from 300m² to 4000m².

However, Cr Morgan said there was a need for more public transport.

"If we're going to free up land for 93 new units, we need much better public transport."

Cr Brett Tessari said as someone who grew up with a football ground in his backyard, he could not think of a better place to live.

"What a great spot to live, and who knows, I might pack up my family and move from Wonthaggi out to Dalyston because it is an amazing estate."

"Fabulous footy ground," added Mayor Cr Rochelle Halstead.

"It ticks all the boxes," said Cr Tim O'Brien.

"If we want to look at what might be a gold standard model, this is it."

"Places for kids to play where the car doesn't have to be involved, they just walk out the front door with a footy under the arm or the basketball, or whatever it is and off they go."

A large wetland system has been proposed with buffers for stormwater and an integrated offline high-flow bypass channel for added stormwater resilience.

The ten-hectare site is located on the southern side of Bass Highway to the southwest of the Dalyston Recreation Reserve and seeks to maintain Dalyston as a small residential community with a mix of population densities to accommodate population growth without compromising the town's village character.

Lots with a boundary abutting the Rail Trail Reserve will be required to use a post and rail fence along the boundary shared with the Rail Trail.

To view the planning application online, search for 28 Station Street, Dalyston at basscoast.vic.gov.au/building-planning/planning-scheme/development-plans.

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Love'em or hate'em dogs are here to stay

WHAT dogs do and where they do it attracted a lot more interest around the council table at last Wednesday's Bass Coast Shire Council meeting than most of the weighty planning documents presented on the same day.

Forget the \$9.94 million for the Phillip Island Sporting Precinct over the next eight years or aspirations for two aquatic centres at a cost of \$81 million, one this decade in Wonthaggi and one in the following decade at Cowes, if you can... Dogs, and to a much lesser degree, roaming cats, were the hot button topic at council last Wednesday.

Whereas there were only functional remarks from our elected representatives about the shire's ambitious plans for a massive program of capital works over the next 10 years, set out in the Long Term Financial Plan, five of the councillors wanted a say about the new Domestic Animal Management Plan (DAMP) 2025-2029 which was put out for public consultation.

It stands to reason. There was more feedback on the preparation of the DAMP than just about anything else the council does with more than 800 community members contributing to the consultation, filling out 651 surveys, 111 people attending consultation



Is it Lovers Walk, Lovers Ride or Lovers Dog Walk? Seems to be some controversy about who, what and when you can use 'Lovers Walk' in Cowes.

pop-ups at Wonthaggi, Cowes, Inverloch and Corinella and contributing 19 written submissions from key stakeholders and local organisations.

Phew, it's been a lot! Cr Jan Thompson acknowledged that for many, dogs were an important member of the family and she welcomed the commitment to two new fenced dog parks, one at Inverloch and Cowes.

Cr Jon Temby said responsible pet ownership, especially of dogs, had benefits for mental health, fitness and social interaction but he stressed that "wildlife don't have advocates" and council needed to

ensure the one, two or three per cent of pet owners who caused problems complied.

Cr Tim O'Brien agreed, saying council needed to be able to enforce the conditions in the domestic animal management plan.

"We do see too many dogs in sensitive areas running off leash," he said, disturbing wombats at San Remo and also in Hooded Plover areas. He supported a better compliance effort.

Cr Tracey Bell introduced the subject and moved the motion, which sets out a public consultation period for the new plan from August 20,

2025 to September 14, 2025.

However, while she acknowledged the "pretty phenomenal" level of community feedback, the expansion in dog numbers by almost 27 per cent in four years and the "real benefits to mental health and physical wellbeing", she has raised the ire of dog owners on social media with her remarks about needing "to protect our community and environment from nuisance and risk".

"So, I think we need stronger compliance, and I think the plan is bringing that," said Cr Bell.

"I know there's many places that my son and I kind of avoid riding our bikes because of off-leash dogs. Lovers Lane is one example. It's unsettling to be surprised by dogs off-leash there and feels sort of audacious for owners to be walking their dogs off-leash in that area.

"I just want to be clear that calling for more compliance doesn't make me a dog hater. Most dog owners do the right thing, and I completely acknowledge that, but we kind of have to legislate for those who don't, those who let the dogs run loose in the sand dunes and down the main streets or disturb wildlife, people and other dogs."

Read the full story and comments at sgst.com.au

COUNCIL BRIEFS

\$44,000 for Beachsafe messaging

IN BASS Coast during the summer of 2023-24, six lives were lost to drowning at local beaches. It prompted local authorities, including the shire council, Phillip Island Nature Parks, Parks Victoria and Surf Life-saving Victoria to double down on the beach safety message, especially directing everyone to download the Beachsafe app at beachsafe.org.au/apps. It might still be wintertime, but Bass Coast is looking ahead, putting \$44,000 in its 2025-26 Budget for the rollout of roadside electronic signs, warning of the dangers that exist and promoting the app as part of a comprehensive safety campaign.

Residents to vote on roadworks

THEY might petition the Bass Coast Shire Council for their roads and drainage to be reconstructed to modern standards, but that's not where it ends.

In answer to a question at last week's council meeting from Surf Beach-Sunderland Bay Special Charge Scheme opponent, Susie Wickes, council said residents affected by any new schemes would have a formal vote before the project went ahead.

"Once a petition is received Council officers work with the landowners to confirm their preferred design for the upgrade project. The designs are costed, and a formal vote is conducted as required by the Local Government Act."

No joy rezoning Island sports land

CAMPAIGNER for the development of new sports and aquatic facilities on Phillip Island, Peter McMahon, has asked council to itemise the likely cost of rezoning Hilton Chadwick Reserve on the corner of Phillip Island Road and Ventnor Road.

Responding at last week's council meeting along the same lines as before, council said there was no point starting an amendment process because anticipated users in the next 10 years "either don't need planning permission or can proceed with a permit".

The community is concerned that if the site is not reserved for sports and recreation, parts of it might be put to another use or sold.



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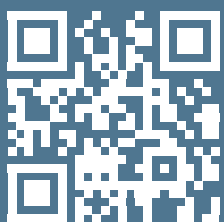


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Don't hold your breath for a new aquatic centre on Phillip Island

THE Bass Coast Shire Council is nothing if not aspirational. The release of its Long-Term Financial Plan 2025-35 last Wednesday and a perusal of its 'Engage Bass Coast' website proves that.

There are literally dozens of projects on the shire's drawing board, at various stages of study and investigation, but few are fully funded.

The Long Term Financial Plan (LTFP) has been put out for a limited period of public consultation, between August 22, 2025 and September 9, 2025, that's just 13 business days to have your say, but is worth a read on the shire's Engage Bass Coast website.

There are a number of feature projects identified in the plan including the former Wonthaggi Secondary College Senior Campus site redevelopment, aquatic centres at both Wonthaggi and Cowes and the Phillip Island Sporting Precinct.

- The redevelopment of the derelict school site calls for \$114.7 million in funding.
- The two pool projects a total of \$81 million, with Wonthaggi's project first cab off the rank and.
- The Phillip Island Sporting Precinct almost \$10 million over the next eight years.

But don't get excited about it yet. The future of all three projects is heavily reliant on securing State and Federal Government funding.

Despite the fact that the



Cr Ron Bauer, chatting with Cape Woolamai council watcher Graham Jolly after last Wednesday's council meeting, was the only Bass Coast Shire Councillor to say anything of substance about one of the shire's most important planning documents.

Department of Education is yet to relinquish control of the old school site, located on the corner of McBride Avenue and Watt Street, Wonthaggi, the Bass Coast Shire Council has commenced detailed pre-feasibility studies about the property's condition, structural integrity, heritage and safety.

And they've allocated \$350,000 in the current budget to begin planning a project that could take decades.

"This funding will allow us to unpack some of the complex planning constraints, establish the necessary frameworks to guide negotiations with potential partners and stakeholders, determine land use options, and further discussions with the State Government before Council can consider the site," says the shire in the report.

Among the uses that might be developed on the centrally-located site include medium-density housing, business and commercial development, car parking and the possible development of new shire offices.

Only one of the nine councillors said anything of substance about the Long Term Financial Plan, its list of projects and when they are expected to be rolled out.

Cr Ron Bauer stressed that the LTFP underscored the need for two aquatic centres while also supporting the Council's own position that a fourth rubbish bin was not needed.

"The two main areas that have been brought into sharp focus in this plan are the Wonthaggi Secondary School site and the Cowes Recreation Reserve. I would like to draw fellow councillors'

attention to the line entry on page 41, and I quote 'Aquatics and Leisure Centres' being plural," said Cr Bauer.

"Although the emphasis is on Wonthaggi and I accept that, the Cowes Aquatic Centre, located at the recreation reserve, is still in the long-term plan.

"There are other line entries in the plan that should be looked at, for example, the transfer station in Gap Road and the budgeted amount for the curb-side waste with \$3.5 million being allocated for the introduction of the purple bin for glass recycling.

"With the glass recycling centres about to take white bottles, I hope that our officers' advocacy to cancel the introduction of the four-bin system will be successful.

"We can then divert the \$3.5 million into the upcoming kerb-side waste contract and get the landfill red bin picked up each week from Christmas to Australia Day.

"We also could have one free 'hard waste collection," said Cr Bauer.

The Mayor, Cr Rochelle Halstead, ruled Cr Bauer's efforts at discussing the substance of the LTFP out of order, but the Island Ward Councillor had made his point.

Now it's up to you, the local ratepayers and residents, to say what you want to see from your local council now and over the next 10 years.

Tree planting set to begin in Graham Street

BASS Coast Shire Council will begin works on the next stage of the Wonthaggi Streetscapes Project, planting 13 Crepe Myrtle trees in Graham Street from this week.

"This project is about enhancing the character of our town, making it more attractive, pedestrian-friendly and connected. It will add both beauty and shade to one of our busiest streets," Mayor Cr Rochelle Halstead said. "It will make a lasting difference in the heart of Wonthaggi."

The project is jointly funded by Regional Development Victoria through the Regional Development Fund and council's Capital Works Program 2024-25.

Works will be delivered by local contractor Bass Coast Civil and Excavation Pty Ltd.

Preliminary works – including site and traffic management – will start on Wednesday, August 27, with scheduled construction to start on Monday, September 1.

Works will take place primarily at night – 9pm to 8am – to minimise disruption. Some daytime concreting may be required due to delivery schedules.

It is anticipated the works will take 13 weeks to complete. The project includes:

- Preparing the site, traffic management service location.
- Removing sections of pavement and creating tree pits.
- Installing Stratavault tree cells with sub-surface drainage.
- Planting 13 Crepe Myrtle trees.
- Restoring the pavement surface.
- Realigning parking bays, including new line marking and signage.

There will be temporary restrictions to car parking in Graham Street, kept to a minimum, through night works.

Some noise, vibration and truck movements can be expected during excavation, concreting and planting.

"We know construction can be disruptive, but most works will take place overnight to minimise impacts on businesses and traffic," Cr Halstead said. "We thank the community for their patience as we make these important improvements."



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South Gippsland Shire Council News

Customer Service Changes

From Monday 1 September, South Gippsland Shire Council will return to a single customer service counter in Leongatha. The decision is shaped by feedback from the community and a close look at how services have been used.

For the past year, Council has operated customer service counters in Leongatha and at the Korumburra Community Hub. While the Korumburra location gave residents another option to make payments and lodge requests, it didn't allow for face-to-face meetings with staff, as they are not based onsite.

After reviewing attendance at both locations and listening to community feedback, Council has determined that consolidating services at a single location, with longer opening hours, will provide a better experience for residents.

Allison Jones, CEO of South Gippsland Shire Council explains, "The second customer

service counter was a genuine effort to improve resident access to services. However, after carefully reviewing community feedback and usage patterns, it's clear that a single, centralised service point provides a more efficient and simpler experience for our community."

There will be no change to Council's phone-based services, which remain available Monday to Friday, 8.30am to 5.00pm.

Council's website also continues to offer 24/7 access to a wide range of services and information.

IN SUMMARY

From Monday 1 September the Leongatha customer service counter will be open from Monday to Thursday, 9.00am to 4.00pm.

The ArtCubes are in Leongatha



South Gippsland Shire Council's trio of portable creative spaces have arrived in Leongatha.

Where: The eastern corner of the Woolworths carpark (near the main entrance to the Council office).

What: Freshly painted-murals by renowned street artist TWOONE and a range of artwork and activities within the Cubes.

When: On now until 7 November.

For the full program of what's coming up, visit: www.visitsouthgippsland.com.au/blog/artcubes/

COUNCIL MEETINGS

The next Council Meeting will be held on Wednesday 17 September at 2.00pm.

Details will be available on Council's website:

www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/councilmeetings

To watch the meeting live or when it suits you, visit:

www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/live

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Looking for a new job? We might have the perfect position for you! Check out our current vacant positions here:

www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/vacantpositions

COMMUNITY IMMUNISATION SESSION

When: Wednesday 3 September.

Where: Manna Gum Community House, Foster.

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

www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/immunisation

SGSC PETS FACEBOOK PAGE

The South Gippsland Shire Pets page is where we share the photos and stories of animals who have been separated from their owners and those who need to be rehomed.

To follow the page, visit: facebook.com/sgscpets

REQUEST FOR TENDERS

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

RFT/447 - Roadside Tree Uplifts

Tenders close 2.00pm AEST on Tuesday 2 September 2025.

Documentation is available from Council's e-Tendering Portal

www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/tenders

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Nineteen new Australian citizens call South Gippsland their home

NINETEEN conferees joined together with close family and friends last Wednesday night at Memorial Hall, Leongatha, to officially be welcomed as Australian citizens.

The new citizens hail from countries all around the world, including Canada, Germany, Jamaica, Netherlands, New Zealand, Philippines, United Kingdom, Singapore, South Africa and Vietnam.

South Gippsland Shire Council's CEO Allison Jones opened the ceremony, followed by Mary Aldred MP, Federal Member for Monash, who read a letter from Tony Bourke, the Minister for Immigration and Citizenship, addressing the conferees, with the opening lines:

"In a few moments' time, Australia becomes an even better nation when you make the citizenship pledge and you take on the privileges and responsibilities of the Australian constitution. From that moment, your journey and heritage all become part of our shared Australian story."

Mary went on to say, "In my view, Monash is the best region, in the best country on Earth," and later offered to the new citizens, "I'm here to help, so if at any time over the coming months and years I can do anything to assist you, please don't hesitate to make contact."

Danny O'Brien, Member for Gippsland South, acknowledged that not all new citizens are actually new to Australia, with some having been here for decades and others for shorter periods; nevertheless, he congratulated them all on their choice.

"I'd like to say for those of us lucky enough to be born in Australia, we've won the lottery in life, but you're actually much smarter than us because you've chosen to come and live here, and it is the best country in the world," he said.

"It's also the best state and not only that, the best region and not only that, the best sub-region."

While South Gippsland Shire Mayor John Schelling said, "Becoming an Australian citizen is a momentous occasion, especially for those who have chosen to settle in our beautiful region, South Gippsland. We warmly welcome our newest citizens and celebrate their decision to embrace Australia as their new homeland. Congratulations on your commitment and the exciting journey ahead."

Each new citizen pledged their commitment to Australia and was presented with their Certificate of Citizenship and an Australian native plant to great applause.

The South Gippsland Brass Band played the national anthem and everyone sang along, before the new Australian citizens were congratulated and hugged with great joy, by their family and friends.



Peter Brown from South Africa was happy to officially become an Australian citizen last week, with wife, Marion Brown. ob03_3425



Nieves Malonzo from the Philippines, with partner Sam Barbagallo, who helped to celebrate Nieves becoming an Australian citizen last week. ob04_3425



Officially Australian citizens are Omarsha, Nordia and Kayla who came from Jamaica to make South Gippsland their home. ob06_3425

Proposal for Korumburra Rec Reserve to become Summerfield Oval

THE Korumburra Recreation Reserve Committee (KRRRC) have put forward a proposal to rename the reserve and the oval to honour the late, great, Allen Victor 'Cobra' Summerfield.

Under the proposed change, the Korumburra Recreation Reserve would become the 'Summerfield Recreation Reserve' and/or the oval, the 'Summerfield Oval.'

The KRRRC considers the renaming a deserving recognition of Allen's extraordinary and tireless service and significant contribution through the positions he held at the local clubs, alongside the work Allen undertook in maintaining and developing the recreation reserve and its facilities.

Various sporting clubs that frequent the reserve have written letters of support and endorsed the renaming, as well as Danny O'Brien, Member for Gippsland South, with no objections put forward. The proposal was put to Council at last week's meeting with

Cr Bron Beach giving some insight into what Cobra himself might have thought about it.

"Allen Summerfield, 'Cobra', as most of us knew him, passed away in December 2023. One of my dearest friends... provided care to Cobra for 20 years. He became a quadriplegic around the age of 18," said Cr Beach.

"I asked my friend what she thought Cobra would say about the honour of a local football reserve being named after him, and she said, he'd probably feel a bit embarrassed, actually, because he never liked being the centre of attention, and he was humble and an unassuming guy. He did so much in the background for the community and particularly for young kids.

"She said she wanted to say that 'Cobby' would be so very touched and this would be such a huge legacy for him and the community."

Mayor John Schelling strongly recommended the proposal.

"I grew up as a kid playing cricket against Cobra, and I can tell you, he was a hell of a sportsman. He didn't take any prisoners as a bowler or a batsman," said Cr Schelling, who recalled then coming across Cobra later in life, when Cobra was secretary of the Korumburra Football Club and then secretary of the Korumburra Cricket Club.

"He wrote so many grant applications for the Korumburra community to get stuff for the footy club or the cricket club, or whatever our group was going on there. And he was just a champion bloke."

Councillors voted unanimously to pursue the proposal and Council will now undertake a period of community consultation from Thursday, August 21 to Sunday, September 21, 2025, seeking community input into the suggested renaming of the Korumburra Recreation Reserve oval to 'Summerfield Oval.'

Mayor's Message



Cr John Schelling



OUR August Council Meeting was a ripper – clocking in as the second-longest South Gippsland Shire Council livestream, just 6 minutes shy of the record. It was packed with robust debate and some great decision making.

Proposed renaming of the Korumburra Recreation Reserve Oval

One of the standout moments for me was Council's endorsement to begin community consultation on renaming the Korumburra Recreation Reserve Oval to "Summerfield Oval". This proposed name honours the legacy of Allen Victor Summerfield or "Cobra" as he was commonly known, a cherished figure in the Korumburra community. I encourage everyone to share their thoughts – consultation is open until 21 September at yoursay.southgippsland.vic.gov.au.

Accessible Pontoon at Port Welshpool

We also approved entering a \$750,000 funding agreement with Better Boating Victoria to construct a new Accessible Pontoon at Port Welshpool. This will be a fantastic addition to our region, improving access and inclusivity for all.

Citizenship Ceremony

Last week, we welcomed 19 of Australia's newest citizens at our August Citizenship Ceremony at Memorial Hall in Leongatha. It was a heartwarming evening celebrating the rich cultural diversity that continues to grow in South Gippsland.

Meeniyani Community Hub

We also officially opened the Meeniyani Community Hub, a brilliant new community asset. It's wonderful to see our capital works projects coming to life after significant planning and partnership with our community.

Funding for South Gippsland

I had the pleasure of meeting with Tom McIntosh MP to celebrate some exciting State Government funding announcements:

- \$1 million for the Korumburra Tennis Club Pavilion Redevelopment Project
 - \$2 million towards employee accommodation at Woorayl Lodge in Leongatha
- Congratulations to both organisations, these investments will have lasting impacts.

Road Safety

I also want to gently remind everyone about road safety, especially when operating slow-moving vehicles. If you're driving one, please do so safely – consider pulling over to let others pass, avoid peak traffic times, and always be mindful of visibility and speed. These small actions can prevent serious accidents and keep our rural roads safe for everyone.

South East Australian Transport Strategy (SEATS)

Recently, I attended the South East Australian Transport Strategy (SEATS) meeting, where we continued advocating for improved transport infrastructure across our region. It's encouraging to see our priorities being recognised at a broader level.

Marinus Link

Deputy Mayor Sarah Gilligan, Councillor Brad Snell, and Director Strategy and Partnerships Christian Stefani represented South Gippsland at the recent Marinus Link Meeting. Their involvement highlighted the strong advocacy our Council has maintained around energy infrastructure and regional benefits.

Decommissioning Works

Councillor Clare Williams attended an ExxonMobil platforms and pipeline decommissioning information session last Wednesday evening. It provided a good opportunity to learn more about what is involved and next steps.

Council Induction Day

I also had the pleasure of welcoming our newest staff members at Council's employee induction morning. It's always a pleasure to meet the people who help drive our organisation forward.

Meeting with Ministers

Finally, we caught up with Bev McArthur MP, Shadow Minister for Local Government and Scrutiny of Government, and Renee Heath MP, Shadow Assistant Minister for

Multicultural Affairs and Victims of Family Violence. We discussed key issues including cost-shifting, asset management, and the challenges of Council-managed roads. These conversations are crucial as we continue to advocate for fairer outcomes for local government.

It's been a busy and productive few weeks, and I'm proud of the work we're doing across all levels of government to deliver for South Gippsland.



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Port Welshpool to get new \$750K pontoon for all abilities access

PORT Welshpool will be getting a new floating pontoon jetty, which will improve access to boating for people with mobility issues, under an agreement between the Victorian Fisheries Authority (VFA) and the South Gippsland Shire Council.

Under the agreement, the VFA (branded as Better Boating Victoria) will be funding the total cost of the project, at \$750,000 a pop.

The existing floating pontoon at the Port Welshpool boating facility is problematic from a maintenance perspective, as it breaks apart in rough weather.

A new all-abilities access pontoon will improve the functionality, safety and asset life, providing better opportunities for boating, for people of all abilities.

For the project, Council will be required to remove the current pontoon, install the new pontoon and manage and maintain the new access hoist on an ongoing basis.

While the project doesn't require any financial contribution from Council at the outset, the cost and burden of ongoing maintenance does – much to the consternation of Councillors.

In last week's Council meeting, Mayor John



Cr Clare Williams believes the new pontoon for Port Welshpool is a good opportunity for Council to support access and inclusion. ob02_3425

Schelling put forward an alternative recommendation for the ongoing maintenance, once the project has been completed.

"First, fabulous to receive \$750,000 from Boating Victoria or the Victorian Fisheries Authority to upgrade what is now a broken pontoon. Secondly, a wonderful attribute to have a hoist on it to allow for full accessibility for all people to use it," said Cr Schelling.

"Unfortunately, that comes with cost. And so, what I'm aiming to do here is to share some of

the responsibility with such groups as the Coast Guards, Gippsland Ports, the Port Welshpool community, to take on board some of this, because we can't have council officers down there every day watching over who's going to go in and out of their boat at what time."

Maintenance of the facility may include annual inspections and lubrication of the hoist, implementing a system that ensures secure and safe use, which may include a lock box, induction for use, and potentially partnering

with a third party to manage access and oversight – tasks which has not been accommodated for in the funding allocation.

While ongoing costs may present an issue for Council, Cr Clare Williams believes this project is an opportunity to make inroads into greater access and inclusion across the shire.

"We do not punch above our weight when we are talking about access and inclusion; we are extremely low, a little bit embarrassing, but we're getting there," she said.

"This is such a small hoist in my investigation, and in return, we're getting \$750,000. This is fantastic."

Better Boating Victoria carried out community engagement with Council's support in late 2022, with key stakeholders and a community meeting held at the Port Welshpool Old Ferry Terminal.

Additional community consultation will be conducted prior to works to help manage disruption to boat ramp users as the project will likely require closure of the boat ramp for several weeks.

Council have stated they will endeavour to time the work to avoid peak periods and to help avoid disruption to users.

Local councils get \$4.7M renewable energy dividend

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

The funding will enable both councils to strategically plan for potential renewable energy projects, including offshore wind. Importantly, it will support planning for anticipated workforce and population growth, helping to identify where people may live and what services and infrastructure will be needed to support local communities.

In welcoming the grant, Mayor South Gippsland Shire Council, Cr John Schelling, stressed the impact of the renewable energy rollout on local communities needed to be considered.

"While many details are still to be confirmed, the Australian Government's announcement of Gippsland as an offshore wind zone will inevitably bring change to our region. It's important that we plan proactively — to help guide activity to the most suitable areas and to ensure the needs of our residents are considered," said Mayor Schelling.

"Securing a large grant such as this wouldn't have been possible without dedicated advocacy and a partnership approach and on behalf of Council. I would like to extend our thanks

to Wellington Shire Council, the Gunaikurnai Land and Waters Aboriginal Corporation, One Gippsland, neighbouring councils, and local education providers.

"I'd also like to thank the Australian Government for their support and for recognising the vital role local government plays in supporting our communities through this transition."

The announcement of a significant dividend for South Gippsland and Wellington comes at the same time as the release of the final 2025 Victorian Transmission Plan (VTP) last Sunday, which sets out where the Renewable Energy Zones will be located across the state, including in Gippsland.

Key projects to be delivered as part of the grant funding in South Gippsland include:

- Residential and industrial growth planning, including identifying future road and stormwater infrastructure needs.
- A public infrastructure review in the Corner Inlet area, that will consider the future use of land for public services and facilities.
- A review of the industrial zoned land near the Barry Beach Marine Terminal and Port Anthony to ensure it has the capacity to support long-term offshore wind operation and maintenance.



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Wednesday
September
10th



7pm



Leongatha
RSL Members
Lounge

www.leongatha-rsl.com.au for further information

www.kokodatreks.com

O'Brien demands fix for crumbling Highway

THE Nationals Member for Gippsland South, Danny O'Brien has called on the State Government to urgently repair the South Gippsland Highway between Leongatha and Korumburra, saying locals are fed up with its poor condition.

Raising the issue in State Parliament, Mr O'Brien told the Minister for Roads and Road Safety that the 13-kilometre stretch has been subject to creeping speed reductions and long-term hazard warnings due to the deteriorating road surface.

"This section used to be 100 kilometres an hour, but now large sections are permanently reduced to 80 kilometres an hour with road hazard signs in place," Mr O'Brien said.

"Incredibly, one lane was resealed recently, yet it is that lane which now has permanent 80-kilometre signs and hazard warnings. That same section was the site of a line-marking mistake that has now been rectified.

"Locals are asking what on earth is going on? This has been allowed to drag on for years and it is simply not good enough."

Mr O'Brien said the poor condition of the road is a frustration for commuters, freight operators and tourists alike.

"This road is a vital link, not just for locals, but for visitors heading to Wilsons Promontory, increased livestock traffic since the closure of the Pakenham saleyards, and future industry traffic from the decommissioning of oil and gas facilities and the development of offshore wind at Barry Beach.

"The Minister must act now to restore this section of road to a proper standard and lift these speed restrictions once and for all."

South Gippsland Shire customer service changes

FROM Monday, September 1, South Gippsland Shire Council will return to a single customer service counter in Leongatha, following a review of service usage and community feedback.

Over the past 12 months, Council has operated customer service counters in Leongatha and at the Korumburra Community Hub. While the Korumburra Community Hub provided an additional option for making payments and lodging service requests, in-person meetings with staff were not possible, as staff were not based onsite.

After reviewing community feedback and attendance patterns, Council has determined that consolidating services at a single location – with extended opening hours – will deliver a more consistent, efficient, and straightforward experience for residents.

Allison Jones, CEO of South Gippsland Shire Council, said, "The second customer service counter was a genuine effort to improve resident access to services. However, after carefully reviewing community feedback and usage patterns, it's clear that a single, centralised service point provides a more efficient and simpler experience for our community."

From September 1, the Leongatha customer service counter will be open Monday to Thursday, 9am to 4pm. There will be no change to Council's phone-based services, which remain available Monday to Friday, 8.30am to 5pm.

New Austral Hotel owners realise long held dream

TAKING over ownership of the Austral Hotel in Korumburra has brought to fruition a long-held dream for Mark Brown, with wife, Peta, to get back into the hospitality industry.

Mark ran a pub in Western Victoria a few decades ago and loved it, but then chose to exit the industry and join the army, where he met Peta.

Fast forward 15 years and three kids later, and the timing and opportunity aligned for the pair to finally realise Mark's dream.

"I've always wanted to get back into something where we own our own business. If I've got to fix issues, I might as well fix them for myself," said Mark.

"We were quite ready to try something new, so I said, Let's have a go," added Peta.

Being able to retain all the staff and with the Austral Hotel being one of the oldest buildings in town and full of historic charm and character, were two draw cards that the pair couldn't resist and about a month ago they took it over.

The new publicans have reassured locals that no drastic changes will be made, including to the popular menu, but they do have plans to create more of a family-friendly atmosphere and to hold a range of regular events.

A new kids' corner with toys,



Mark and Peta Brown are the new owners of the Austral Hotel in Korumburra, with chefs Kelly Checkley, Taiha Checkley and Thisura Munasinghe. ob15_3425

tables and chairs, colouring in books and pencils for the kids will go in, and a family night on Wednesdays will start in September with discounted kids' meals and a free drink for parents.

Wednesday Night Family bookings in September will also go into a draw to win a Family ticket to Gumbuya World. A Father's Day hamper will be raffled off on Father's Day with free raffle tickets given to each table booking.

"I go on the theory that people are going to come in and spend

good money on meals – and I'm lucky the meals here are very good and big – but you've also got to give back a little bit, you can't just always take," said Mark.

Regular events such as comedy nights, with comedians from Melbourne, trivia nights, live music – both from local acts and from those further afield will be held; and poker and pool competitions will continue to be hosted at the Austral.

The upstairs room is still available for functions,

whether that be all types of celebrations or even community meetings, the pair are happy to cater for all occasions and events.

Renovations are planned for the upstairs balcony to bring it back to its original condition so patrons will be able to sit up there with a drink on a summer's day and enjoy the views of the rolling hills.

Mark and Peta look forward to meeting and welcoming locals and tourists alike as they come into the Austral hotel.

Thousands petition against decision to demolish Kilcunda Viaduct Bridge

THE community are petitioning against the demolition of the Kilcunda viaduct bridge, sited adjacent to the Nyora-Wonthaggi Rail Trail, urging the Bass Coast Shire Council to preserve and restore the iconic landmark, and the online petition has over 1660 signatures; however, the council stated that the bridge is not heritage-listed and fails to meet key criteria that determine its sustainability for replacement.

What does this mean? Well, more specifically, a spokesperson for the council confirmed the former rail bridge, built in 1910, had not been maintained since the closure of the rail service in 1978 and has not played a transport or recreational function in the community since the closure of the rail line in the late 1970s and does not form part of the Rail Trail open today.

The bridge was taken over by the Council in poor condition in 1994, when part of the

Nyora-Wonthaggi rail corridor was transferred to construct a rail trail between Anderson and Wonthaggi.

A Heritage Council of Victoria report stated that "many of the structures were neglected and unsafe." The Rail Trail path alignment was chosen to avoid using the Viaduct Bridge, and so it has remained unused as a load-bearing structure since 1978.

However, within the petition, the community are questioning the council's plans to demolish it, stating that it is a loss to the historic integrity of Kilcunda.

'Instead of erasing it from our landscape, we demand the bridge to be restored,' the petition states. 'We urge the Council to pursue the option of restoration. To not only preserve the bridge but also dedicate resources towards the restoration of the surrounding vegetation, which is overrun with weeds.'

Council confirmed that in 2024, part of the bridge collapsed, and the remainder is now at risk of imminent structural failure. Despite this, it was stated that Council understands and respects the desire of many community members to see the bridge honoured, confirming that 'Council will investigate opportunities to activate the site post-demolition, with potential for community spaces such as a playground, ball court or interpretive art. Community engagement on the future use of the site will begin once concept options have been developed.'

When questioning the reasoning behind not maintaining the viaduct bridge since being taken over by the Council, the shire stated that 'The money spent on the Viaduct Bridge in recent years to ensure public safety, but without capital improvement, exceeds \$175,000.'

However, now, the Council

stated that specifically, the bridge fails to meet the key guiding principles outlined in the "Asset Management Policy for Infrastructure Assets 2022-2026" in terms of strategic purpose and financial sustainability to justify spending renewal funding on the bridge.

However, local residents, including John and Maxine Wright, continue to question the council's decision, stating that the historic feature should be preserved.

"At this late stage, we hope that the council pause implementing the decision and look at options to preserve," said John and Maxine.

"From our information, no research has been put into possible grants for the restoration of our 115-year-old bridge. Once gone, it's gone forever, and we don't believe that council has left no stone unturned to ensure it could retain the bridge for future generations."



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The late Noelene Lyons receiving her certificate of appreciation for 20 years of service as a volunteer with the Inverloch Cemetery.

Volunteering with the Inverloch Cemetery Trust

DID YOU know that the Inverloch Cemetery is managed by Inverloch locals on a volunteer basis? We see our role as a Cemetery Trust to ensure that the final resting places of our 'passed' community members and friends, are respected in preserved and well-maintained beautiful surrounds. We have set a high standard for which we are very proud of.

Cemeteries are more than burial/resting sites; they are repositories of history and culture. Pictured (middle) is the late Noelene Lyons, receiving her Certificate of Appreciation for 20 years of service as a volunteer with the Inverloch Cemetery, serving in many roles but in particular taking on the mantle of the in-house 'Historian', with such passion. Pictured with Noelene is the current Secretary Terrie Seymour and Lynn Behmer who has taken on the portfolio of Assistant Secretary. Lynn Behmer joined the Trust earlier this year.

"After making the decision to scale back to a part-time job, I felt that I wanted to find something where I could give back to my community, utilising the skills I have. I saw an advertisement for new trust members that piqued my curiosity. I spoke to the secretary about what was involved and with increasing interest met with the secretary and chair for an interview over a coffee and promptly submitted my formal application. I am really enjoying my learning journey and working with such a dedicated team, passionate about serving this need in our community" she said.

The Inverloch Cemetery Trust members (the custodians of this historical site),

believe it is important to be able to provide the community with an affordable final resting place, whilst maintaining its financial viability to continue to preserve our environment where families and friends can honour their loved ones. As volunteer members of the Cemetery Trust, the Cemetery fees are how we are able to sustain this special environment.

Volunteering for a cemetery trust is a powerful and tangible experience. It's one that reminds us of the importance of connection - to history, to community, and to each other. It's an opportunity to contribute to your community, while gaining knowledge, experiences and memories that will stay with you for a lifetime.

If you've been looking for a meaningful way to contribute to your community, consider becoming a part of this vital and rewarding community service. We are particularly looking for new trust members with experience or knowledge in financial management, bookkeeping, administration, horticulture, social media, marketing and communications, although whatever skills you have outside those listed above will be welcomed in assisting the rest of the trust members. Let us know how you might be able to contribute to your local Cemetery.

To gain a better understanding of how the Cemetery operates and help you decide if this is something you would like to volunteer for, why don't you call Frank or send him an email about your queries.

Contact Frank Kisvarda, chairperson on 0418 177505 or chairperson@Inverloch-cemetery.org



Would you like to join the INVERLOCH CEMETERY TRUST?

We are seeking volunteers

to join the current trust members to ensure the cemetery continues to offer their magnificent facilities for the future generations burials and cremations.

There are no specific qualifications required although if you have administration and computer skills and a desire to assist and contribute to the local communities benefit for current & future generations.

All appointees need to be approved by the Department of Health and the term of your appointment would be for 5 years.

If you are interested to discuss ring Frank on 0418 177 505 or email fkisvarda@bigpond.com

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Rezoning decision to take place at September meeting

WITH years of fighting, fact-finding and evidence gathering sought, alongside legal counsel called upon, many meetings and many dollars spent, next month's council meeting could be one for the books.

Councillors will consider a new piece of information, labelled as the 'joint letter,' as an additional item when considering the rezoning of 14 Radovick Street, Korumburra, the previous home of the Senior Citizens Centre, during September's meeting.

The joint letter was produced and considered as urgent business, or otherwise, at the end of last week's meeting.

Eight of the nine Councillors agreed that it was urgent and vital to the consideration that will take place regarding the decision to rezone the site.

"This joint letter has not previously been formally accepted by Council, therefore has not been considered as part of the submissions in our consideration, so therefore I do believe this is urgent," said Cr John Kennedy.

"The documents that have been received, that I've been given, I just think it is a very simple process that Council would give documents that would say the trust has been rescinded and I haven't seen that, and I just think this would solve the whole problem. The Senior Citizens believe they own it and there's a document, 1984 from the Supreme Court Library, and I would say to dissolve a trust – where are those documents? And I think that this would solve the whole thing straight away, if Council can come forward with the documents, it's over. If the Council own it – that's fine," added Cr Kennedy.

Cr Nathan Hersey said there has been a lot of interest around the potential rezoning of the land and the potential future of the site.

"As part of this process, we have already heard from submitters in person and also received correspondence – written. This is something now that I hope we can all agree should be considered as part of that process," he said.

"I do want to acknowledge that this is an effort from the community to get the attention of Council and Councillors and it's because of that that this should be supported today. I want to thank the lead petitioner, to note and acknowledge the names in this joint letter with regards to the senior citizens home in Korumburra and also to consider the letter, the community submission, as part of the matter which is coming before council for a planning scheme amendment C-133, which is to rezone the land. Without a full picture of those in the community that have concerns, it is hard to consider the matter in its entirety, so I'm very happy to support the acceptance of this joint letter today."

However, Mayor John Schelling was of a different view of the document, stating, "I don't believe there's any signatures on the letter, which to me doesn't read quite true, but I'm happy to see where it goes and we'll work from there."

Have your say at Bass Coast Council meetings

COUNCIL meetings may never be the same after Bass Coast Shire adopted an alternative to the new governance rules, which will allow letter writers to read their own letters in the Council Chambers if they wish.

An initial proposal contained in draft governance rules would have compelled anyone submitting a question to Bass Coast Council to be present at the Council Chambers.

Cr Ron Bauer said governance rules were like insurance.

"When things go well, nobody wants to know about them. However, when they go wrong, everybody rushes to them."

Cr Bauer said public question time was the community's opportunity to hold council to account.

"I see no need to distance ourselves from the gallery," he said.

"There's no such thing as perfect rules. They are organic, insofar as they need to change with the changing circumstances."

Cr Bauer explained that rather than a person just submitting a question and having it read by the Chair and answered by the CEO, they would have the ability to stand up and read the question out and have it answered.

Supporting the change Cr Mat Morgan said the community



Bass Coast Shire Cr Ron Bauer and Cr Mat Morgan both supported an alternative to the proposed new governance rules, which will allow letter writers to be present and read their own letters in the Council Chambers if they wish, however, Cr Morgan was highly critical of the symbolism of the mayoral collarette. B14_3425

feedback was quite interesting and he could sympathise with the concerns from people about not having their questions read out in the Council Chamber.

"I hope this is taken as message read that not only will we keep public question time, but if people are in the room they'll be welcome to ask their question."

Cr Morgan urged his colleagues not to extend the time for moving a motion to five minutes unless they have

something good to say.

"Very rarely have I heard a good five-minute speech," said Cr Morgan.

"The most important thing for the community is that you're now welcome now to come into this Chamber and ask a question."

Cr Morgan said, inevitably, it is going to be a tough job at times to chair the meetings.

"A hat tip to the Mayor for being willing to do this."

A proposed amendment to

the governance rules by Cr Meg Edwards, which suggested the mayoral collarette be formally presented to the incoming mayor or was voted down.

Cr Edwards said the collarette was seen as a minimum.

"It may come out from time to time at different events, but it's coming into the Chamber at a minimum of once a year that the incoming mayor would be presented with the collarette."

"It recognises the symbolism of the collarette and of that role," said Cr Edwards.

Cr Mat Morgan said he had to Google what a mayoral collarette was.

"I think our constituents would be horrified if I didn't speak against what I think is a fairly problematic motion," said Cr Morgan.

"Frankly, I don't think I've seen such an out-of-touch idea," he said. "Presenting each other with fancy necklaces? We have a community struggling to put food on the table and keep roofs over their heads... How about we melt down the medals in the collarette, sell it and reinvest the money in community services? Politicians should never be put on a pedestal."

"We're here to serve our community, not our own egos."

Esso sell to Woodside as inquiry into decommissioning oil and gas begins

ESSO, the group responsible for decommissioning oil rigs in the Bass Strait, which will see a huge amount of activity occur at Barry Beach Marine Terminal, have announced they will be transferring operatorship of Gippsland Joint Venture (GBJV) to Woodside.

Esso, otherwise known as Exxon Mobile (EM) announced the sell-off during a stakeholder consultation held at the Leongatha RSL last Wednesday evening.

EM will maintain 50 per cent ownership of GBJV and continue to supply all of its Gippsland gas to the Australian domestic market.

However, EM's team who have been performing the work will transfer to Woodside over the next 12-18 months as decommissioning activities continue.

While decommissioning is taking place, Woodside have identified the potential for expansion and additional gas supply from four new sites.

While Garth Norman, onshore reception centre construction manager for EM, admitted on Wednesday night



Kimmi Sandeman, stakeholder consultation advisor; Garth Norman, onshore reception centre construction manager; and Jess Hommelhoff, stakeholder consultation advisor from Esso, announced a sell-off to Woodside during a stakeholder consultation in Leongatha last week. ob07_3425

to the dozen attendees, that some jobs are safe, there will likely be job losses amidst a restructure, but they are not sure yet how that will roll out.

The Bass Strait production network currently comprises 19 platforms, 400 wells, six subsea facilities, and 800 kilometres of offshore subsea

pipeline.

About 13 of these facilities are reaching their end of life and rigs will be dismantled, transported to Barry Beach and the steel, about 60 thousand tonnes, will be recycled.

Decommissioning activities have been staged to occur between now and 2030 with

remaining lines and structures to be removed after 2030.

The announcement comes amidst a parliamentary inquiry into decommissioning activities.

"We need to make an energy transition in this state away from our historical reliance on coal and gas and towards a renewable future," said Committee Chair Ryan Batchelor.

"This inquiry will get to an important question about how the energy infrastructure in this state is dealt with as part of our energy transition," he said.

The Committee wants to hear from stakeholders and the public on a range of issues, including whether regulatory powers to ensure oil and gas companies deliver planned and timely infrastructure decommissioning are adequate; any actions Victoria can take to ensure oil and gas companies provide sufficient funds to cover decommissioning costs; and opportunities for employment in decommissioning.

More information can be found on the Committee's website at: parliament.vic.gov.au/oilgasinfrastructure.

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Daffodils ready to bloom

EXCITEMENT is building as the Leongatha Daffodil & Floral Show prepares to dazzle and amaze yet again.

Opening this Thursday, show officials and organisers have been busy behind the scenes.

"We are going to have a really big Australian plant section at the show," secretary Sue Thompson said.

"We're getting a local identity to come in and show people how to propagate plants on the Friday.

"That's something we've never done before, so anyone who's interested in native plants should come along on the Friday."

While the show doesn't have pre-entries, locals can fortunately enter on the day.

"People bring their buckets and we have jars, bottles and cones; you can just bring it along and enter it on the day," Sue said.

"You don't have to worry if the flower is going to last and

can pick it on the day.

"A lot of people bring their entries in on the Wednesday, as well as Thursday morning.

"So Wednesday from 3pm you can bring your stuff along, get it all set up, and then it's judged Thursday."

Anyone interested in entering doesn't have to be a member of the Leongatha Horticultural Society.

"There's no cost involved in exhibiting at the show and we do have prize money for the kids. We try to host it more as a community event," Sue said.

The show is held at the Memorial Hall.

Times: Thursday opens 1.30pm with the official opening at 2.30pm closing 5pm, Friday 9am - 5pm and Saturday 9am - 4pm.

RIGHT: Leongatha Horticultural Society members Jean (life member) and Thelma were busy at the flora art group preparing their pieces. Ns3425_02



Myli Library of Things (LOT) offers members the opportunity to borrow a range of items, including an overlocker and sewing machine.

Discover Myli's Library of Things

YOU might be surprised at what you can borrow from your local library. Imagine being able to borrow an ice cream maker for a weekend treat, a GoPro to capture your next adventure, or even a paddleboard for a day out on the water. That's exactly what Myli's Library of Things (LOT) offers.

The Library of Things is a collection of useful, fun and practical items available for Myli members to borrow, just like a book. It's designed to help the community try new experiences, save money, and reduce waste. Instead of buying something you might only use once or twice, you can borrow it from the library.

Some of the most popular items include the Home Energy Efficiency Kit, Thermal Imaging Camera, Cake Tins, Reusable Party Kit, Bird Watching Kits and Digital Film Scanner. Crafty members enjoy borrowing the overlocker and sewing machine, while families love the phonics kits and enjoy movie nights with the outdoor projector.

We're also excited to introduce two brand new additions: an Ice Cream Maker, perfect for experimenting with flavours at home, and a Dungeons and Dragons Kit, which comes with everything you need to start your own adventure. These join a collection that is constantly growing in response to what our community wants.

To borrow from the Library of Things, just sign up for a free LOT membership at your local Myli branch. Complete a quick registration form, then browse and reserve items online for pickup.

The Library of Things is about more than just borrowing. It's about sharing, learning and connecting with your community. Whether you're baking, exploring nature, trying a new hobby or planning a family day out, there's something in the collection for you. For more information, visit our website: myli.au/libraryofthings.

Meeniyan Community Hub officially opened

AFTER many years in the pipeline, the Meeniyan Community Hub was officially opened last Friday by the South Gippsland Shire Council and local MPs.

The new hub replaces the Meeniyan community meeting rooms, storage areas and public toilets, which were in a state of disrepair.

The total cost of the project was \$2.35 million, with \$1.6 million funded through Council grants and \$750,000 funded by the Australian Government.

The building and roofline have been designed to fit in with the surrounding streetscape and to help maintain the character of the town.

It is also one of the first buildings in Victoria to make use of innovative material Hempcrete, which has good thermal properties, is fire resistant and environmentally friendly.

"Projects like this don't happen overnight. They take careful planning, the preparation of detailed grant applications, and often a great deal of patience – and that's all before the first stage of construction even begins. I think we can all agree that it's been well worth the wait," said Mayor



Danny O'Brien MP, South Gippsland Mayor John Schelling, CEO Allison Jones, Mary Aldred MP, Cr Scott Rae and Cr Bron Beach cut the specially created ribbon to open the Meeniyan Community Hub. ob08_3425

Schelling at the opening.

"Meeniyan now has a modern, accessible set of public toilets and a beautiful multi-purpose community space. A place that will no doubt be well used and well loved by

locals and visitors alike."

Allison Jones, CEO of SGSC, together with Mayor John Schelling, Councillors Scott Rae and Bron Beach, Mary Aldred Federal Member for Monash and

Danny O'Brien Member for Gippsland South were present to help cut the ribbon, which had been specially created by Meeniyan Preschool kids and the hub was declared officially open.

Leongatha's Daffodil and Floral Show

Plant Stall | Open Garden | Wide variety of exhibits

Thursday, August 28 | 1.30pm - 5pm

Friday, August 29 | 9am - 5pm

Saturday, August 30 | 9am - 4pm

Leongatha Memorial Hall, 6 - 8 McCartin Street, Leongatha.

Admission: Adults: \$5 | Children: Free

Schedule available at:

www.leongathahorticulturalsociety.com.au

Leongatha Horticultural Society Inc

Enquiries: Phone Sue - 0417 686 336

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SCAN ME



Trevor Heawood and Nathan Leversha took on the outback in a classic 1965 Volkswagen Beetle.

Team Skilled rough it in the outback for charity

THIS year's Mystery Box Rally kicked off in Broken Hill, with the team, Trevor Heawood and Nathan Leversha, taking on the outback in a classic 1965 Volkswagen Beetle. Their goal was to raise money for the Cancer Council, supporting vital research into treatment and, hopefully, a cure.

As always, each day's destination was a mystery. Here's how the adventure unfolded: On day one, it was Broken Hill to Arkaroola (Gammon Ranges National Park).

"We set off into the heart of the outback, arriving in Arkaroola, known for its stunning dark skies. It was a spectacular night of stargazing under a blanket of stars," said Nathan.

Day two was Arkaroola to Roxby Downs (via Marree).

"We hit the legendary Oodnadatta Track, tackling some of the roughest roads of the rally. Despite the challenging terrain, the Beetle powered through, proving its grit."

It was then Roxby Downs to Rawnsley Park Station, driving through the majestic Flinders Ranges.

"We were treated to one of the most scenic drives of the rally. The ridge-top track offered breathtaking panoramic views we'll never forget," Nathan said.

On day four, the team drove Rawnsley Park to Burra and wound their way through the ranges, crossing dry riverbeds and taking in more incredible outback scenery.

"That night, Burra turned on the chill – literally. Nathan woke to find his swag covered in ice!

"Thankfully, massive thanks go to Wonthaggi Aussie Disposals, who donated top-notch sleeping bags. We didn't feel the cold one bit – something many others had to contend with," said Trevor.

"Then on day five, we drove Burra to Broken Hill – the finish line, and we rolled back into Broken Hill, completing the journey with smiles, stories, and a huge sense of accomplishment."

Over 2000 kilometres of rough, remote outback roads – and they only had one puncture!

"Our Beetle performed flawlessly, thanks to the incredible support from Wonthaggi AutoPro, for providing spare parts and gear during preparation and Mark Robertson, for your expertise and commitment to getting the car rally ready.

"Most importantly, thank you to everyone who donated. Together, this year's Mystery Box Rally raised over \$1.2 million for the Cancer Council. We're proud to have been a small part of something so meaningful. Until next time."

Phillip Island batteries a lighthouse for the rest of the state

SIX out of seven completed neighbourhood-scale batteries to power Phillip Island have been officially switched on by the Minister for Energy and Resources Lily D'Ambrosio MP and Member for Bass Jordan Crugnale MP.

The Phillip Island battery installations will help drive down energy bills for local families and make the grid more resilient to extreme weather events by utilising out-of-season rooftop solar energy from vacant Phillip Island holiday homes.

Funded as part of the 100 Neighbourhood Batteries Program, the Phillip Island batteries are a joint project of Mondo Energy, Bass Coast Shire Council and Totally Renewable Phillip Island.

The batteries are predicted to generate thousands of dollars in energy savings, which will be put towards a community fund over 15 years to support local community projects.

Minister for Energy and Resources Lily D'Ambrosio MP said the 100 Neighbourhood



State Minister for Energy and Resources Lily D'Ambrosio MP and Member for Bass Jordan Crugnale MP officially opened six of seven completed neighbourhood-scale batteries on Phillip Island. B29_3425

Batteries Program is helping community organisations capture and store clean, free renewable energy for the benefit of all Victorians.

"Victoria is the home of batteries and we're making sure places like Phillip Island are powered with cheaper,

cleaner energy for local families and communities."

Member for Bass Jordan Crugnale MP said she was pleased to open this significant neighbourhood battery project on Phillip Island, which will deliver broad and long-lasting benefits for the

local community.

"This will help make Phillip Island totally renewable.

"The climate is changing and there are better ways of producing electricity."

Ms D'Ambrosio said it takes a whole village and a community to get batteries in place.

"These batteries store locally produced power and can be used as a community hub."

The Phillip Island batteries were described as a lighthouse for the rest of the state.

"Neighbourhood batteries soak up cheap renewable energy during the day when it's plentiful and deliver it back to households at peak periods when it's needed most."

The seven battery sites located in Cowes and Wimbledon Heights have a combined capacity of 900 kW to 1845 kWh of energy storage, enough to power 1000 average-sized homes.

Afternoon tea and coffee was served after the official opening at Shearwater Reserve in Cowes, utilising water heated by energy stored in the battery installation.

Thomas Hardy takes the helm at Wonthaggi Men's Shed

THE Wonthaggi Men's Shed has entered a new era following the unfortunate passing of long-serving president Trevor Reeves, whose vision and drive significantly helped shape the shed into what it is today.

Trevor was the force behind many of the group's major improvements, including a new kitchen, fresh flooring in the meeting room, and the verandah that now looks out over the railway precinct.

That responsibility now rests with 86-year-old furniture maker Thomas Hardy, a lifelong craftsman who still works with wood most days. Thomas stepped up as president earlier this year after serving as vice president, though he admits the circumstances have been difficult.

"Trevor was a great friend and everyone loved him," Thomas said. "He was very gentle in his approach to things, and it's been hard to take on the role after his passing."

The shed's workshop has gone through a long-awaited extension, which Thomas says has transformed how members use the space.

"It took almost nine years to



New Wonthaggi Men's Shed president Thomas Hardy with fellow members Roger Hodges, Leo, Bob Evans and Michael Hoeboer. W02_3425

get approval, but once it was finished, it opened up a whole new area for us," he explained. "We've been able to move in larger machinery, such as a big table saw, a new drop saw, and hopefully soon a bandsaw, instead of having everything piled up against the walls."

The upgrades mean projects can now be carried out more efficiently, with room to breathe.

The shed also raises funds by repairing and restoring furniture for the public, which not only keeps the machines busy but also brings in steady

support for new equipment.

Thomas has set his sights on further improvements, including upgrading the utility area and replacing old doors, but his primary focus is on people rather than buildings.

"We'd love to have more members and more programs," he said. "We've started opening on Tuesdays, and that's been growing steadily. People come in to learn how to use tools, take on projects, or just sit around and talk."

The group is also proud of welcoming women to the

workshop. One recent visitor arrived with no experience but, within weeks, was confidently using the larger power saws.

"That's the kind of support we give," Thomas said.

"We help each other out and share skills."

Thomas says anyone thinking about joining should simply drop by.

"There's no pressure," he said. "Just come down for a chat and see what we're about. You'll find good-natured people here, no arguments, no judgement."

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Navara STX with Sunroof in White

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Towards a better Bass Coast

Bass Coast Shire Council has released key draft plans that will guide our region's future.

These plans have been shaped by the community through Shire-wide engagement and the work of a 45-member Community Panel. Now it's time for the final check-in – to make sure your voice has been heard before Council adopts them.

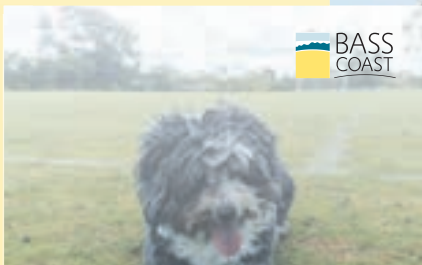
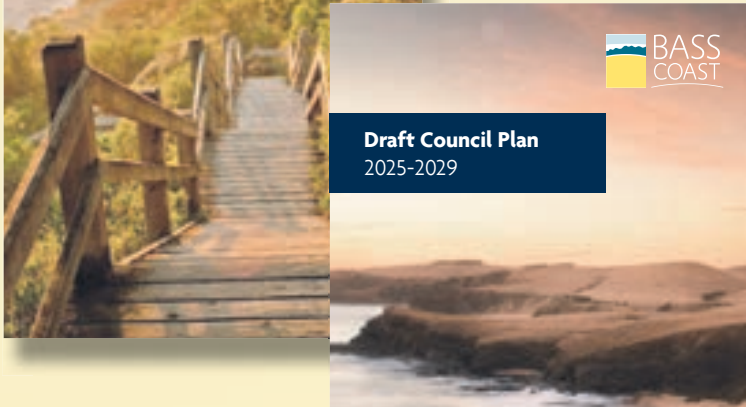
Together, the draft plans set the direction for the next 4 years and beyond, considering our economy, environment, community wellbeing and future growth.

The draft plans are:

- **Community Vision 2045** – long-term aspirations for the next 20 years
- **Council Plan 2025–2029** – objectives to guide Council's work for the next 4 years
- **Annual Action Plan 2025–2026** – immediate actions for the next 12 months
- **Long Term Financial Plan 2025–2035** – how Council will sustainably manage its finances over the next decade
- **Asset Plan 2025–2035** – how Council will manage \$1.47 billion in assets such as roads, parks and pathways
- **Domestic Animal Management Plan 2025–2029** – responsible pet ownership, dogs in public places, and protecting our environment
- **Healthy, Safe and Resilient Bass Coast Plan 2025–2029** – priorities for health and wellbeing across all ages
- **Disability Action Plan 2025–2029** – actions to reduce barriers and promote inclusion

This is your opportunity to shape the future of Bass Coast.

Visit engage.basscoast.vic.gov.au to review the draft plans.



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SN: L101400

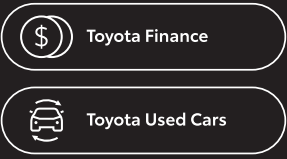


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OH WHAT A FEELING

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



Winners, sponsors and finalists gathered with Bass Coast Mayor Cr Rochelle Halstead at the Silverwater Resort for the 2025 Bass Coast Business Awards. Photo: Karli Michelle Photography.

Celebrating the best in business



Steve and Emily from Beachside Bakehouse enjoying the 2025 Bass Coast Business Awards in San Remo. B38_3425



Alisha and Kim from Destination Phillip Island at the Silverwater Resort San Remo for the 2025 Bass Coast Business Awards. B39_3425



Glen, Melinda, Jenni and Dean at the Bass Coast Business Awards. B41_3425



Jen with Bass Coast Cr Tracey Bell at the Bass Coast Business Awards in San Remo. B40_3425



Tiana and Rhiannon from the Inverloch Running Festival at the Bass Coast Business Awards. B42_3425

THE spotlight was firmly on the best of Bass Coast business for the 2025 Bass Coast Business Awards at the Silverwater Resort in San Remo on Friday night, which brought together 180 business owners, operators and supporters from across the region.

Almost 2000 people's choice votes were cast across seven categories recognising 149 different business champions, all helping to power the local economy, from first-time nominees to long-standing and well-recognised local businesses.

The results spoke for themselves with family-run cafés, creative start-ups and trusted trades all showing just how proud Bass Coast is of its local business community.

The judged categories attracted 46 entries across many sectors, including tourism, events, home-based ventures, hospitality, construction, professional and creative services, and

health and well-being.

Judges commended local businesses not just for their performance in the awards but for the care given to customers, community, and sustainability all year round.

A highlight of the night was The Hills Are Alive Group being inducted into the prestigious Hall of Fame after winning the Event Excellence category three years in a row, recognising their consistency, quality and commitment in raising the bar for regional events.

Bass Coast Mayor Cr Rochelle Halstead said the awards revealed the stories and personalities that have shaped Bass Coast business communities.

"Tonight, we celebrate the incredible talent and passion that makes Bass Coast such a fantastic place to do business," said Mayor Cr Halstead.

"Every story we've heard shows what's possible when hard work meets heart.

"My hope is that every

business, big or small, feels encouraged to share their story next year, because events like these not only celebrate achievement they lift our whole business community."

The Hills Are Alive Group won the coveted Business of the Year award for Ocean Sounds 2025 recognised by the judging panel for their strong vision, impressive results and commitment to innovation.

The judging panel consisting of Chris Francis (Sustainability Victoria), Jennifer Carroll (Go To Solutions), Kim Storey (Destination Phillip Island), Melissa Cashman (Phillip Island Nature Parks), Nicole Harman (Harman Wines), Rebecca Massaro (Interchange Gippsland) and Terry Robinson (Destination Gippsland) praised The Hills Are Alive Group for a highly detailed submission backed by clear data and sustainability efforts and their ability to deliver a major event with a

small but dedicated team.

The judges said The Hills Are Alive Group impressed with a highly detailed submission backed by strong statistics, valuable insights into visitor demographics, impactful sustainability efforts, and a clear, forward-looking vision.

Winners: Judged Awards

Access, Equity and Inclusion: Empowered Lactation Consulting

Business Innovation: Empowered Lactation Consulting

Environmental Sustainability: Phillip Island Tenpin Bowling & Entertainment Centre

Event Excellence: Ocean Sounds 2025 (The Hills Are Alive Group)

Marketing and Communications: Coast to Coast Conveyancing

New Business: Phillip Island Sauna

For the full list of winners and runners-up visit sgst.com.au and check out our Business Awards feature next Tuesday.

The boy who caught the pig-nosed turtle

"You're the boy that got the pig-nosed turtle!" guides exclaimed as they shook 17-year-old Wyatt's hand. The bush telegraph travelling Kakadu.

It was a rare experience for Wyatt and his grandparents, not only are the creatures rare in themselves, but hooking one on a line is near unheard of, and that's what made the adventure a dream come true. An adventure thanks to the Starlight Children's Foundation.

For Wyatt, there's no better place than the great outdoors. Fishing, camping, and four-wheel driving with his Nan, Susan, and Pa, Peter, are his favourite escapes from the challenges of daily life.

Born with Spina Bifida and diagnosed with Chiari Malformation, Wyatt has spent much of his life in and out of hospital undergoing surgeries and ongoing treatment. Despite these challenges, he is known for his happy, caring nature and love of adventure. His face especially lights up when the Supercars are on.

That's why, when Starlight granted Wyatt a wish, a tailor-made adventure was crafted that ticked all the boxes – fishing, four-wheel-driving, a Yellow Water cruise, crocodiles, the best that Kakadu had to offer. And a bonus second adventure that would take the trio to Uluru for an unforgettable adventure in Australia's heart.

"I enjoyed the fishing, the crocs, the buffalos, and the rock," Wyatt stated.

As for the fishing story behind the turtle.

"I thought I caught a big barra as it pulled hard," Wyatt said.

"It was a strange-looking thing, but exciting.

"Even the ranger couldn't believe it," Susan recalled, noting



Wyatt (centre) with his nan, Susan and pa, Peter at Uluru.

the turtle was quickly released back safely.

"Wherever we went afterwards, people wanted to shake Wyatt's hand for catching it."

A brief stopover in Brisbane between Kakadu and Uluru, saw Wyatt, Susan and Peter join Starlight and Virgin Australia in celebrating the milestone 15-year partnership between the two organisations, which has seen the airline help grant 3000 travel wishes.

The trio joined fellow Starlight Wish recipients Lucie and Willow and their families as games, food and entertainment were had in the Virgin Lounge with Captain Starlight before boarding a plane to Uluru for the five-day adventure.

From the wetlands of Kakadu to the red sands of Uluru, the family soaked in breathtaking experiences. A special highlight was the "Sunrise Journeys" experience at Uluru, where they sat wrapped in blankets with hot tea, watching the land come alive with colour and stories of

Country. Later, the family joined other Starlight Wish recipients to walk through the Field of Light installation – thousands of glowing orbs spread across the desert night.

"The light shows at sunrise and sunset," Wyatt said, were amongst some of his best memories, though there was no "favourite moment".

"The best part was getting to know Lucie and Willow."

For Susan she couldn't be more proud of Wyatt.

"I've never seen him walk so far," Susan said.

"At Uluru, he walked everywhere; he just kept walking with Lucie and Willow. I couldn't believe it."

"We had a ball," Peter added.

"It's something we would've put on our bucket list anyway, but sharing it with Wyatt was special."

Not only did the adventure tick off a few new experiences for the trio, but it was also the first time in Wyatt's life that he boarded a plane and soared

into the skies.

"The best part was take-off and landing," Wyatt said.

"Take off was fast, everything is so small from up there."

The wish was supported by the Starlight team and Virgin crew, who ensured every detail was looked after from the moment they stepped out of the car right through to the moment they returned home again.

Back home in Leongatha, Wyatt is still buzzing from his adventure Sunday week ago.

For Book Week on Friday, Wyatt already had his costume pulled together: the Akubra hat and ranger's shirt gifted to him at Uluru by Akubra, Parks Australia and Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park Visitor and Tourism Services, a book of his own adventure.

"At Starlight, we believe happiness matters. And our Wish granting partner Virgin Australia believes this too," Starlight CEO Louise Baxter said.

"Virgin Australia's incredible support has helped Starlight grant over 3000 seriously ill children their life-changing Starlight Wish. Giving them something positive to look forward to and lift their spirits when they are facing the most challenging times. Everyone at Virgin Australia, from the welcoming cabin crew, ground teams and those behind the scenes, go above and beyond to ensure Starlight Wish children have a truly wonderful travel experience. We are so excited to celebrate our 15-year partnership right in the heart of Australia!"

Susan and Peter say they'll be forever grateful for Wyatt's wish.

"We can't thank Starlight, the wish granting team, Virgin, and everyone involved enough. It was wonderful, a really amazing experience!"



Pharmacy Assistant at WholeLife Pharmacy & Healthfoods in Mirboo North, Tiana Giardina was presented the Spotlight Award at the WholeLife 'Power of Possibility Conference 2025'.

WholeLife Spotlight Award in recognition of excellence

AT THE Wholelife Power of Possibility Conference 2025, held in Sydney, Tiana Giardina was awarded the Spotlight Award for her exceptional work at WholeLife Pharmacy & Healthfoods in Mirboo North.

The Spotlight Award shines a light on a team member who consistently goes above and beyond in their role, and upon receiving her award from MC Dave Hughes and being recognised as the only Victorian winner, Tiana said she feels so grateful for all the opportunities this role has given her.

"I truly love my job and the team I work with, and I feel that it is here that I have found my place," Tiana said.

"I believe in the power of positive energy, and what you put out, you will receive in return, and this past week has proven that! I feel so fortunate to have been acknowledged for my work."

Tiana's week was filled with incredible experiences, from climbing the Sydney Harbour Bridge to enjoying a free opera house ticket and connecting with brand representatives.

"It was such a whirlwind, and the insight I picked up during the trade fair is something that I'm eager to bring back to our store."

Mirboo North, WholeLife Pharmacy & Healthfoods, which only opened last year, was also a finalist for both Pharmacy of the Year and the Community Champion Award, and Connie Giardina was nominated for Retail Manager of the Year at the 2025 conference.

Tiana said her commitment extends beyond her day-to-day tasks; she runs the store's social media pages and organises in-store events for the community.

"Being one of ten finalists and the only winner from Victoria is truly surreal," she said, acknowledging the recognition while remaining humble.

Last year, Tiana participated in the Go Girls Foundation program, which played a pivotal role in boosting her self-confidence.

"I've always been a confident person, but the Go Girls Foundation helped me believe in myself."

Looking forward, Tiana is thrilled to take part in the PICAL Women's Health event on September 5, hoping to empower other women.

Newhaven office dog vies for OZTOPDOG title

TWO-year-old Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retriever JLo is in the running to be crowned one of Australia's top office dogs.

The Newhaven pooch has been named a finalist in the 2025 OZTOPDOG awards, which celebrate the incredible dogs who bring joy and companionship to workplaces across the country.

JLo spends her days at the National Vietnam Veterans Museum, where her owner and general manager, Braxton Laine, says she has become a quiet but powerful presence.

"In 2023, I was diagnosed with terminal cancer, and so the dog has come to me as a bit of a helper in a way, but more broadly when she is in here, with the volunteers and staff, she is just remarkably good with people," Mr Laine said.

Her sensitive nature has made her popular with staff and visitors alike, with JLo often drawing curious glances during training sessions inside the museum.

"Because she's a toller, that's probably the first thing people notice, and then they ask about the dog and I become half an



JLo, the Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retriever, with her owner Braxton Laine at the Vietnam Veterans Museum. W03_3425

educator about tollers," Mr Laine said.

He added that JLo has an almost uncanny bond with him.

"Anyone that spends a bit of time around JLo will notice that she consistently looks up at me. She is really well bonded. She will not walk off by herself, and her commitment to me is just staggering."

It is not all serious business, though. JLo has her quirks, particularly when she obeys the command "leave it" or "ignore."

"If you're walking around with JLo and you give the command, she will walk straight past. Most people sort of say, 'did you just tell the dog to ignore me?'" Mr Laine laughed.

When it comes to her favourite

part of the workday, JLo is most interested in the smells drifting out of the museum kitchen. She knows she's not allowed inside, but that doesn't stop her from sitting in the office and watching the chefs at work.

As for cheering people up, JLo relies on her looks. One glance at her expressive face is usually enough to force a smile, with her gentle nature doing the rest.

The OZTOPDOG awards are now in their fifth year, with this year's theme 'Dogs at Work' highlighting the positive impact of canine colleagues in reducing workplace stress, lifting morale and easing isolation.

New research from organisers people2people Recruitment shows 60 per cent of employees believe dogs boost morale even more than Friday drinks, while three in ten would even take a pay cut if it meant bringing their dog to work every day.

JLo will be competing in the Top Office Dog category, with public voting closing at 9am tomorrow. Winners will also be announced tomorrow at 12.30pm via livestream.

If you would like to vote for JLo, visit bit.ly/4lyBWRz.

A riot of colour and fragrance at 35th Annual South Gippsland Orchid Show

REKNOWNED for their vivid colours and long-lasting blooms Cymbidiums are no doubt the most common orchid found in local home gardens, but they're not alone.

Celebrating another year of growing and exhibiting amazing orchids the 35th Annual South Gippsland Orchid Show at the Wonthaggi Workmen's Club promises to be a feast for the eyes and senses.

An amazing variety of orchids will be on display at the show promising a riot of colour and an abundance of flowers to admire.

Show Marshall Julie Kilgour expects over 300 exhibits at this year's show.

"The early bird sales of plants are always popular," said Julie.

"It's like a sale at Myers," she said.

Eager to be first through the door early bird buyers are rarely disappointed.

"People come to see what's available and to get inspiration from the prizewinning orchids on display," said Julie.

Cymbidiums are always a favourite and for good reason, they're showy, have an abundance of blooms, and are sturdy and relatively easy to grow.



Christine Leyshan, Lita Gill, Janet Elsworth and Julie Kilgour preparing for the 35th Annual South Gippsland Orchid Show at the Wonthaggi Workmen's Club. B06_3325

Australian native Dendrobiums are also popular, and for something a little different Zygopetalum is a beautiful and delicately scented orchid.

Champion orchid grower Lita Gill is justly proud of her award winning achievements including Champion Orchid of the Show in 2024 for her Dendrobium Speciosum.

First time exhibitors Christine Leyshan and Janet

Elsworth will have the chance to enter their individual blooms in the novice categories.

The annual South Gippsland Orchid Show is the place to go for advice on orchid selection and growing and for demonstrations of repotting orchids for best results.

The 35th Annual South Gippsland Orchid Show will be open from 9.30am to 4pm at the Wonthaggi Workmen's

Club in Graham Street Wonthaggi from Friday September 12 to Saturday September 13.

"We expect 1,000 people through the doors," said Julie.

"Last year was our biggest show ever."

New members are always welcome.

For more information look for the South Gippsland Orchid Society on Facebook.

Cecily de Gooyer moves into her next stage of performing on The Voice

WITH a desire to pursue a career in music or fine art and inspired by diverse stories and experiences of professionals in the music industry, 18-year-old Year 12 student at Newhaven College, Cecily de Gooyer took the opportunity in front of her and auditioned for The Voice 2025.

"At first, I wasn't too sure. I was really hesitant about it."

The process to even get to the Blind Audition is long, layered, and not something she'd ever imagined herself doing.

"It's such a unique opportunity," said Cecily.

"And when opportunities like that are literally handed to you, I don't know. I just got really excited to see where it could take me."

It was the vulnerability that kept Cecily second-guessing.

"Putting yourself, your art, on a reality show is a different kind of exposure, it's kind of like sharing your art in a really vulnerable way, where you are literally being judged."

The Voice may be about talent, but it is also reality television, and Cecily said the



Watch Cecily's Blind Audition on Tuesday, August 26 at 7.30 pm on The Voice on Seven and 7plus. Photo: Seven Network.

social media opinions and judgment can make the experience daunting – especially for a Year 12 student navigating her studies interstate.

"I spent my first term of Year 12 in Sydney, juggling studies

and time in the studio."

That in itself was a huge decision for Cecily.

Despite the nerves that Cecily said were an adrenaline rush, she has met so many incredibly talented people,

and that has been the most amazing part of the experience.

Living with other contestants, all with their own dreams and stories, gave her a new perspective.

"You get to speak with people who are incredibly passionate and accomplished, and you just learn so much. I realised there are so many pathways into this industry."

For a young artist, that's exactly what she needed to see.

"If you love it, then you will get there," she said.

Cecily has a strong support system – including teacher and mentor, Elly Poletti, a former contestant of The Voice.

"Elly and I had long phone calls while I was interstate. She really helped me keep in the right headspace. She knew what the world was like."

"This experience has really solidified that I want to be in this world – I want to create music, tell stories and make art."

Watch Cecily's Blind Audition on Tuesday, August 26 at 7.30 pm on The Voice on Seven and 7plus.



All accessible picnic table at the Reserve of Agnes Falls.

Agnes Falls has been made more accessible thanks to Parks Victoria

THE Friends of Agnes Falls' last General Meeting was held at the Foster Pub on Thursday, July 24, with several members attending. The members were happy to receive news from Parks Victoria Foster that the two picnic tables at the Reserve, with an open side for wheelchairs, are now both more accessible, having had pathways constructed leading to them from the pathway alongside the shelter.

The following week, the committee received a donation of suitable plants from Parks Victoria for the Carpark Garden Bed, which Friends of Agnes Falls members then planted out at a Working Bee held between 10.30 am and 1 pm on Tuesday, August 12.

Secretary, Kathy Whelan, said, "We hope the welcome rain has helped to establish them, a mixture of native grasses, Lomandra, Bursaria, and Kangaroo Apple. The Reserve entrance is now at the end of this garden bed; the steps have been removed recently by Parks Victoria staff, and the area has been planted out."

The next General Meeting - as well as the AGM - will be held on Thursday, September 25, most likely at the Welshpool Pub. All interested persons are welcome to attend. New memberships can be taken on the night - or anytime - only \$10 per financial year, or \$25 per family with children under 16. Inquiries to Kathy on 0419 344 867 or email: friendsofagnesfalls@gmail.com

• FAITH FACTOR

Waiting on the Lord

By Pastor Sandro Schietroma, Wonthaggi Baptist Church

TO FULLY understand a Bible passage and apply it well to my life, I sometimes look at the original language it was written in – Hebrew in this case. Using a trusted Bible dictionary, I try to uncover the deeper meaning of important words that can be partly lost in English translation. The following is my carefully considered paraphrase of Isaiah 40:31, based on the original Hebrew, to help capture the richness and depth of each word. I trust this will be as helpful and uplifting to you as it has been to me.

"Those who wait upon the Lord – who actively trust, hope for, and expect Him with eager anticipation and steadfast endurance, who patiently cling to Him, binding themselves to Him like strands woven tightly into a cord, trusting in His character, timing, and faithfulness as their only true source of hope – shall exchange their weakness for His strength.

"They will soar high like eagles, not through constant striving, but by riding the currents of the Spirit – lifted by divine power above the weight of earthly troubles, with renewed perspective, freedom, and strength.

"They will run through life's intense seasons without growing weary, and walk through the slow, day-to-day journey without fainting. In both the highs and the lows, God will supply them with supernatural endurance, sustaining them in every season of life."

Inverloch RSL marks Vietnam Veteran's Day with solemn service

ON MONDAY, August 18, the Inverloch RSL held a respectful and dignified Vietnam Veteran's Day service at the town's Cenotaph, commemorating those who served and sacrificed during the Vietnam War. Once marked as Long Tan Day in memory of the pivotal 1966 battle, this day now stands as a broader recognition of all who served in the conflict.

Under a beautiful winter sky, veterans, families, and community members gathered to pay their respects. The service, appropriately brief and solemn, reflected

both the seriousness of the occasion and the deep sense of gratitude felt by all in attendance.

The ceremony's main speaker was Jim Dowson, a Vietnam veteran well known within the community, who served as a tunnel rat – a role considered one of the most perilous of the entire war. Tunnel rats, often tasked with entering the dark, cramped, and booby-trapped tunnels dug by the Viet Cong, faced extraordinary danger with every mission. In his address, Mr Dowson reflected on the courage and camaraderie

of those who served in such roles, honouring not just their bravery but also their enduring spirit.

Wreaths were laid at the Cenotaph, and a moment of silence was observed, allowing those present to reflect on the toll of the conflict and the ongoing legacy it has left on veterans and their families.

The service concluded with the national anthem, the Last Post and a quiet dispersal, leaving attendees with a sense of reverence for those who served, and a reminder of the importance of remem-

bering all facets of Australia's military history. Vietnam Veteran's Day at Inverloch continues to be a meaningful event, ensuring the stories of courage and sacrifice are passed down through generations.

A veteran's lunch was held at the Inverloch RSL afterwards where a somewhat subdued gathering was held as we waited on news of our president Ross Gabb who was in his second day in ICU at Frankston. Our thoughts and best wishes were with Ross and Kellie during the day. Get well soon, mate.



Phillip Island Fire Brigade has joined a growing list of brigades qualified and ready to respond as part of the CFA/AV joint initiative Fire Medical Response program.

Phillip Island Fire Brigade joins lifesaving program

FOUR brigades in Victoria's south east are part of 26 CFA brigades now trained and ready to respond to select medical Triple Zero (000) calls as part of a new program that officially commenced in 2023.

The Fire Medical Response (FMR) program is a joint initiative of CFA and Ambulance Victoria that sees CFA brigades and Ambulance Victoria dispatched simultaneously to cardiac arrests.

Hastings, Phillip Island, Cockatoo, and Emerald fire brigades went live on August 21, with Sorrento and Wonthaggi joining the program

earlier in the month. Ultimately, 50 CFA brigades around Victoria will undertake the FMR role in their communities.

Phillip Island Fire Brigade Captain Lino Drazzi is proud of the brigade for stepping up to further assist the community with 24 members trained and ready to respond.

"We've got a heap of very keen members that want to help the community and saw the opportunity to be FMR trained as a way we could add something else to our skillset to support our community," Captain Drazzi said.

"The training has been very

thorough and intense over the last six to 12 months.

"The brigade and members are ready and trained to respond in the event of any cardiac arrest that AV may need support with."

CFA Assistant Chief Fire Officer Sean Kerr said the program was a natural fit for CFA because of the 52,000 volunteers across the state.

"CFA has more than 1100 volunteer fire stations with more than 52,000 members," Sean said.

"This puts CFA in a unique position to complement the Ambulance Victoria response in 50 locations across Victoria

to help deliver early intervention to cardiac arrests."

Ambulance Victoria Executive Director of Regional Operations, Danielle North, said Victoria has Australia's best cardiac survival rate and the third best anywhere in the world, thanks to high rates of early intervention.

"The Fire Medical Response program will improve survival rates for people in rural and regional Victoria," Danielle said.

"Quick intervention with CPR and a defibrillator has the greatest impact on improving a patient's chances of surviving a cardiac arrest."



Gea Lovell, Rotary Club of Phillip Island and San Remo President, is joined by Kerry Griffiths BCH Capital Works Clinical Liaison and Club member John Tennant, to cut the ribbon to officially open the Rotary Rehabilitation Courtyard at the Phillip Island Community Hospital in Cowes. Joining the celebrations are Rotarians, Bass Coast Health staff and builder Trevor Bowler from TS Constructions.

Rotary Rehabilitation Garden opens at Phillip Island Community Hospital

BASS Coast Health (BCH) and the Rotary Club of Phillip Island and San Remo are proud to officially open the new Rotary Rehabilitation Courtyard at the Phillip Island Community Hospital in Cowes.

The courtyard, made possible by a five-year \$100,000 fundraising commitment from Rotary, will be used by patients recovering from surgery or major health events such as strokes, falls and fractures. It features a variety of surfaces, steps, ramps and textures to help patients rebuild confidence and mobility under the supervision of BCH physiotherapists and other community rehabilitation staff.

BCH Interim CEO Simone Alexander praised the Rotary

Club for their unwavering support.

"This beautiful, purpose-built garden is a testament to what can be achieved through community partnership. It's already proving to be an invaluable part of our rehabilitation service, helping patients transition from hospital to home safely and with confidence," she said.

Rotary Club President Gea Lovell said the club was thrilled to see the vision brought to life.

"This project has been years in the making, and it's been inspiring to watch the community get behind it. The garden isn't just about physical recovery; it's a peaceful space that promotes healing, dignity, and hope for patients and their families," she said.

"We're proud to have sponsored this project and to support the incredible work being done here at Bass Coast Health. This garden is a beautiful example of what can happen when community, care and collaboration come together."

Designed by Island Landscape and Design, the courtyard incorporates gravel paths, paving, textured ramps, handrails and native plants, all tailored to support physical and mental rehabilitation.

Bass Coast Health Physiotherapist Michelle McMahon explained how the space is already benefiting patients.

"Having an outdoor area where patients can practice navigating real-life terrain is a game-changer. We're seeing patients build strength

and confidence much faster. It adds a whole new dimension to our rehabilitation programs," she said.

To date, the Rotary Club has raised more than \$60,000 through events such as the Putting on the Ritz dinner dance and ongoing proceeds from the Rotary Opportunity Shop on Thompson Avenue, Cowes. Fundraising efforts will continue to maintain and enhance the courtyard for years to come.

The Rotary Rehabilitation Courtyard is now open for use by BCH patients and staff as part of the services at the Phillip Island Community Hospital.

For more information about the Phillip Island Community Hospital, visit: basscoasthealth.org.au/pich.

Live4Life highlights mental health gap

THE Live4Life Program partners with young people around aspects of mental health and has been run successfully in South Gippsland for the past three years; however, mental health services remain severely lacking in our area.

The South Gippsland Live4Life Program has trained 483 students in Teen and Youth Mental Health First Aid Training (YMHA), 14 adults in YMHA, and selected up to eight students per Live4Life school to become mental health ambassadors.

The Live4Life program began with seed funding that has been carefully managed for the past three years of the program; however, this funding is nearing its end, and the local partnering organisations will now be responsible for the ongoing financial sustainability of the program.

The ongoing lack of funding for mental health programs like this, and related services, begs the question about what has happened to promised funding by the State Government for more mental health services for our area – and this issue was raised in last week's Council meeting.

While Councillors offered great praise for the Live4Life program and gratitude for the initial funding from the State Government, they pointed out the gross lack of local and accessible services for people experiencing mental health.

"We are under serviced when it comes to mental health support in our region. I was pretty pleased in 2023 to see that the State Government had actually offered to put a new Mental Health Hub into Leongatha. On Monday, the 29th of May, 2023 there was an announcement that says, as part of an overall investment of \$776 million in mental health, the Victorian Government's budget 23/24 will see \$77 million delivered to three new locations, Northcote, Leongatha and Narre Warren, with a further 20 locations planned to date. We haven't seen that investment come to Leongatha," said Cr Nathan Hersey.

"It's something that I know that we've all raised with the Victorian Minister, and we will raise again. No doubt I would actually, as part of this focus on the young people with mental health concerns, highlight that this is a disappointing result so far with the way that our community has been treated. Investing in Live4Life is something, and it is supported and welcomed, but we actually need more for our area."

The committed funding has not, reportedly, been reissued as part of the State Government's most recent budget.

In the meantime, a fundraising subcommittee has been formed to apply for grants and source sponsorship so the successful and beneficial Live4Life program can continue in South Gippsland.

PICAL to empower women's wellbeing

GIPPSLAND Women's Health and Phillip Island Community and Adult Learning Centre (PICAL) are partnering for Women's Health Week 2025 with a free community event in Cowes on Friday, September 5 from 6pm to 8pm. Women from across the region are invited to come together to connect, learn and celebrate the importance of looking after themselves physically, mentally and emotionally.

Guest speakers will include Dr Carmen Brown from Magnolia Women's Health, Kristine Miles a women's health physiotherapist at Balance Health, and Michelle Jobson of the Go Girls Foundation.

Set to share professional advice and real-life experiences, the guest speakers will cover topics including perimenopause, menopause, physical wellbeing and the importance of community connection.

Kate Graham, CEO of Gippsland Women's Health, says the event demonstrates the power of local organisations coming together to support women within their own community.

"When women are supported and have access to good healthcare and wellbeing initiatives, it benefits them and the whole community. This event is about starting conversations, breaking down barriers and giving women in Gippsland the opportunity to come together and prioritise their own health and wellbeing needs."

Bookings essential: Register via ap1.hubs.ly/0bPhp0

Bass Coast College students immerse themselves in Japanese culture

TWENTY-SIX students from Bass Coast College enjoyed the cultural delights during their recent trip to Japan.

The students, ranging from Year 9 to Year 11, spent two weeks in Japan and began their journey with some sightseeing.

They landed in Fukuoka, enjoying a few hours there before they took a Shinkansen to Hiroshima and went across on a ferry to the island of Miyajima, where they stayed in a traditional hotel.

Back in Hiroshima, they were given the opportunity to see the historical sites and learn about the significance of Hiroshima's past.

"We went and looked at the War Memorial Museum and the Hiroshima atomic bomb dome. We saw pictures and heard stories about real life experiences from families, and what they experienced afterwards. It was eye opening," Harvey Welsford said.

They experienced Kyoto, Tokyo and Nara, and a highlight of the sightseeing portion was Universal Studios Japan.

About a dozen of the Year 11 students on the trip were returning to Japan for a second



Bass Coast College students enjoyed sightseeing in Japan.

time, having also travelled to the country in Year 9.

"It was a really cool experience to see everything again. It was so much better this time. We've learnt so much more and were able to apply our knowledge a bit better. We could order food and conversation flowed easier," Lucas McRae said. "We were lucky enough to go to a few different places as well, but it gave us a better understanding of their culture, and we noticed more detail about things we'd already seen before."

Ruby McCartney said she had a deeper appreciation of the cultural side the second time around and got more out

of her experience.

The homestay portion of the trip allowed the students to reconnect with old friends from Hakui High School.

"In Year 9, I stayed with a host brother. This time, I stayed with a host sister, that gave me the opportunity to see a new side of Japan," Harvey said. "Experiencing their day-to-day life was awesome."

Lucas said the traditional school experience was incredible and he enjoyed picking up on the differences to Australian schools.

"In the classroom, they were incredibly accommodating and friendly, and the activities they

had planned for us were really good to help our knowledge," he said. "A lot of their students were really keen to speak English as well. It was awesome to be immediately incorporated into the group, and it was a lot fun."

Outside the classroom, the students got to experience club activities, including basketball, kendo and brass band.

Ruby said the trip had inspired the students to pursue their Japanese studies at home.

"These in-person experiences are really important for motivation, and I've been encouraged to keep studying Japanese with each trip," she said.

Student Engagement Principal Ross Bramley congratulated Bass Coast College's Japanese teacher Kenji Misawa on another successful tour.

"It was a wonderful experience for our students. Kenji does an amazing job, not just planning the lead up to it and the cultural experiences, but as the trip is going, he adapts the program according to student interests and things becoming available," he said.

Mr Bramley also thanked Hakui High School for their role in the students' experience.



Best buds Winter Shepherd, Sunny Jose and Indi Muratore wore 100 pom poms, 100 suns and 100 cherries between them. Celebrating their 100th day at school is a big achievement.

100 Days of Prep at Newhaven College

ON WEDNESDAY, August 13, Newhaven College Prep students celebrated 100 days of school. Students and their teachers, Kerry Lynch and Karen Faulwetter, got into the spirit of the celebrations, arriving at school in their '100' themed costumes.

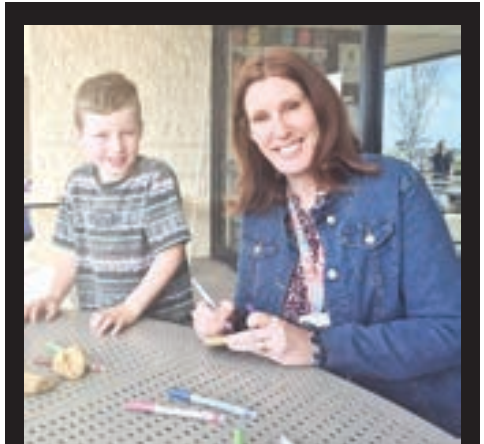
Preps were given the task to decorate their clothes with 100 items. The imagination and creativity that went into creating their outfits are a testament to the dedication of their parents and loved ones. Clothes were adorned with 100 buttons, 100 stars, 100 eyes, 100 pom poms, 100 beads, 100 gemstones, 100 hearts, 100 lollipops, 100 cherries, 100 cats and even 100 balloons on the house from 'Up'!

Dressed in their costumes, the Preps proudly paraded through the Junior School high-fiving Year 1-4 students. They then met up with their Year 6 buddies to continue the celebrations.

As the day progressed, students competed in sports activities and completed several literacy and numeracy activities that involved the number 100. It was a wonderful way to recognise their achievements and make learning fun. As part of the celebration, students indulged in some fairy bread with 100s n 1000s and made special crowns to wear with their buddies.

The College is proud of its Prep students, who have established strong foundations for future learning, adapted smoothly to school routines, and embraced the joy of making new friends. They are confident, active members of the Junior School and thoroughly enjoyed their special day of celebration.

The next Prep Information Session and College Tour will be held on Wednesday, October 15. Contact the Admissions team at admissions@newhavencol.vic.edu.au or call 5956 7505 for more information.



No way to bullying

ON Bullying No Way Day, Our Lady Star of the Sea Primary School came together to stand strong against bullying with the theme: Be Kind, Be Bold, Speak Up. Students learned how to be upstanders by supporting others and speaking out against bullying. Classes took part in activities and discussions about kindness and standing up for what is right. To finish the day, students painted rocks with kind messages and added them to our Kindness Rock Garden, helping to spread positivity across our school.

Bass Valley welcomes new acting principal and his four-legged friend

BASS Valley Primary School has a new leader at the helm, and he's already making waves — alongside his loyal support dog, Chuck.

Aaron Bickery, the school's new Acting Principal, joins Bass Valley from Tulliallan Primary School, one of Victoria's largest and highest-achieving primary schools. Despite being in the role for only a short time, Aaron has made a significant impact, quickly winning over students, staff, and families with his approachable style and commitment to celebrating both student achievement and staff efforts.

"It is an incredible school," Aaron said. "The facilities here are something that you would find at a private school. The sporting results are amazing for a small

rural school, but the academic results and teaching practice are just as impressive."

Aaron has been particularly encouraged by Bass Valley's recent NAPLAN results for Year 3 and 5, describing them as evidence of a school-wide commitment to quality teaching and learning. "The staff's instructional model and the students' willingness to learn have been very effective," he said.

With Chuck often by his side, Aaron is looking forward to continuing the school's strong tradition of excellence while building on its reputation for community spirit and outstanding results.

Bass Valley families say they are excited about the energy and fresh perspective Aaron brings — and they're already fond of Chuck too.



Bass Valley Primary School welcomes Aaron Bickery as their new Acting Principal, along with support dog, Chuck.

Rotary Club of Phillip Island builds community leaders of the future

THE Rotary Club of Phillip Island and San Remo is proving that when schools and community groups join forces, young people thrive.

At the Village School in Ryaston, students didn't just learn geometry in class — they put it to work building a GaGa pit alongside Rotarians. After completing their own, they "paid it forward" by helping construct another at Our Lady Star of the Sea in Cowes. The experience taught them teamwork, leadership, and the satisfaction of serving others.

San Remo Primary and Newhaven Primary students have also felt Rotary's support. Breakfast clubs, pancake mornings, and the club's portable BBQ trailer ensured

kids started their days with full stomachs and big smiles — and teachers report sharper concentration in class.

Two Village School students also took part in a four-day voyage on the Enterprise, a 27-metre replica tall ship. They learned navigation, teamwork, and resilience — and even steered the vessel home themselves.

Club President Gea Lovell said the results speak for themselves.

"Rotary's motto is Service Above Self, and when we bring that spirit into our schools, we're not just building projects — we're building confidence, compassion, and community leaders of the future."

Read the full story at sgst.com.au



Phillip Island Rotary is preparing breakfast for local Primary Schools.



2025 Children's Book Week® 16-23 August



Karmai kindergarten kids had a blast dressing up as their favourite characters and participating in activities at the Korumburra library last week.



Harvey Green as Lenin for Book Week at Bass Coast College.



Head of Newhaven College Junior School, Cath Huther, is joined by Junior School students dressed as Dr Seuss characters, a popular theme of the day.



Cody, Billie, Otis, Delilah and Monty were in the spirit of Book Week at Inverloch Primary School on Friday. Tk03_3425



Savannah, Isla and Noah made a fantastic trio in their mixed costume array, including Wednesday Addams, Fancy Nancy and The Plague Doctor. C06_3425



Award-winning Australian author, sportswriter, podcaster and educator Nicole Hayes visited all three campuses of Bass Coast College from August 19–21, which included author talks and writing workshops.



Koa Johnson and Navy May with Shannyn from the Drouin Library.

See sgst.com.au for more photos and for all the book week stories.

Do It Deadly in Foster

FOSTER Secondary College is proud to present Do It Deadly!

The night of music, art and culture will be held at the Foster Memorial Arts Centre from 5.30pm to 10.30pm on September 6.

This celebration of First Nations Peoples is proudly supported by Bendigo Bank and South Gippsland Shire Council.

A barbecue dinner will be held at the PJ Wilson Reserve from 4.30pm to 5.30pm.

Be sure to book your tickets via Trybooking.

World-class bassoonist Kneale heads to Bass Coast

BASS Coast College's instrumental music program is set to strike a high note this September with the arrival of internationally acclaimed bassoonist Matthew Kneale.

As part of the College's Guest Artist Program, Kneale will lead dynamic band workshops on September 4 and 5, working closely with student musicians to inspire and challenge them. The program will culminate in a special evening performance at the Wonthaggi Workmen's Club on Friday, September 5 at 7pm – an event not to be missed.

Hailed by The Daily Telegraph as "a new star... who wields his instrument with virtuosic skill and with moves you usually associate with a rock guitarist," Kneale is one of Australia's most exciting classical performers. He was the first bassoonist to win the prestigious Freedman Classical Fellowship, embarking on an international tour that redefined the bassoon as a powerful solo and chamber instrument.

Tickets are free but must be booked in advance at trybooking.com/DEKJA.

'Deep Dark Blue' will 'creep into your bones.'

LOCAL Phillip Island artist Mark Howard returns with his second solo album, 'Deep Dark Blue.'

Influenced by the sounds of Nick Cave and Michael Hutchence, Howard's 'Deep Dark Blue' is jammed with atmospheric instrumentals and raw emotion.

Since beginning recording in late 2023, the album depicts Howard's personal story through powerful ballads, encapsulating themes of grief, love and self-discovery.

His first single from the album, released on July 21, titled 'Heaven Doesn't Know You Like I Do', allows listeners to tap into the 'wonderful madness' that his new album encompasses.

"It's a song about grief, about carrying the weight of absence. Most of us know what it's like to lose someone close; it feels impossible to carry on without them. I thought leading with that truth was the most honest thing I could do," said Howard.

Thereafter, 'Heaven Doesn't Need You Like I Do' topped number three on the AMRAP regional charts. The single reached more than 60 local radio stations in Australia, setting him up comfortably to take on his next tour across Australia and Japan.

"I toured Japan years ago with a theatre company, and



Phillip Island-based Mark Howard connects with the ocean while writing his new album 'Deep Dark Blue.'

it left a mark on me. When the opportunity came to tour my own music there, I leapt at it. I'm excited to see how the songs bounce off their walls, how the audiences respond, and to soak up what the local musicians have to say in their language of sound."

Collaborative composition is a key factor when creating a soundtrack. Taking Howard's restlessness and combining it with meticulous producer David Prideaux, together they "push each other to different edges of a map," exploring new

sounds and musical styles.

Howard says that his urge to keep creating comes from "following the wild pull of your own heart and to keep building, even if the ground is a bit shaky."

His 'force of nature' wife, sparked inspiration to write the swaggering and playful track, 'My Girl Is On Fire.' Music has always been a reflector in his life, Howard stating that his lyricism is "kind of a mirror, it reflects back the on things you are going through."

"If I can offer up a chorus

that lingers or a few notes here or there that give someone a glimmer of hope in their day, then the job's worth doing," Howard said proudly.

Mark Howard's album 'Deep Dark Blue' was released today, August 26, and is now available to download or stream on any music platform.

See Mark Howard on tour September 6, at Archies Creek Hotel and at San Remo Tidal Festival on September 21.

Tickets and more tour dates can be found at markhoward-music.com/tour-dates.

Seniors Events Program 2025

UNION THEATRE



Wonthaggi Citizens' Band 2025

SAT 11 OCT / 7:30PM / \$30

Established in 1910, the Wonthaggi Citizens' Band is one of Wonthaggi's longest-running community organisations, proudly enriching the town's cultural fabric for over a century.



The Union Theatre, Wonthaggi

BOOK NOW



Growing Old Ungracefully

TUE 14 OCT / 11:00AM / \$10

David Scheel offers a hilarious take on the ageing process, with nothing off-limits! A show that's both laugh-out-loud funny and musically delightful.



Berninneit, Cowes

BOOK NOW



Damien Leith presents Roy Orbison & Friends

SAT 25 OCT / 7:30PM / \$65

Damien Leith's acoustic tribute to Roy Orbison features his greatest hits and the live debut of songs co-written with Orbison's collaborator Joe Melson.



The Union Theatre, Wonthaggi

BOOK NOW



Victorian State Concert Orchestra

SUN 26 OCT / 2:00PM / \$15

Experience an unforgettable evening with one of Australia's most iconic orchestras, performing everything from Bach and Tchaikovsky to cinematic favourites.



Berninneit, Cowes

BOOK NOW

FREE COMMEMORATIVE PROGRAM

Present this to the kiosk with your booked ticket to one of these shows to redeem a free "It's On At The Union" 2025 Program! *One program redeemable per coupon per show only.

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WONTHAGGI

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 ★

Darkly comic German masterpiece Dying heads to Wonthaggi this weekend

THE Bass Coast Fine Film Group is proud to present the multi-award-winning German film "Dying", a darkly comedic exploration of life-changing events.

Matthias Glasner's "Dying" is a three-hour, five-chapter ensemble drama – part black comedy, part raw emotional odyssey – that dissects the unravelling dynamics of the estranged Lunies family. Featuring powerhouse performances from Corinna Harfouch, Lars Eidinger, Lilith Stangenberg, and Hans-Uwe Bauer, the film premiered at the 74th Berlin International Film Festival and claimed Best Picture at the 2024 German Film Awards.

Lissy (Harfouch) battles terminal cancer and contends with her husband Gerd's (Bauer) deteriorating dementia. Their adult children – Tom, a Berlin-based conductor (Eidinger), and Ellen, a self-destructive dental assistant (Stangenberg) – are too consumed by personal crises to offer support. Yet, death forces them into intermittent, uneasy confrontations.

Despite its heavy themes, the film isn't bleak for the sake of bleakness. Glasner threads through sharply pitch-black humour and tonally rich moments that prevent it from descending into melodrama. It's "a darkly



The Bass Coast Fine Film Group presents Dying, a multi-award-winning German film blending raw emotion with pitch-black humour. Screening Saturday, August 30, 1.30pm at The Union Theatre, Wonthaggi.

comic epic of family dysfunction... in fact a testament to embracing life."

The film is structured episodically – spanning five chapters plus an epilogue – almost like a miniseries, granting depth to each family member's arc. While its pace is languid, critics praise the rhythm of its emotional unfolding. The ensemble's raw authenticity elevates Glasner's unsparing script.

"Dying" is a bold, emotionally daring portrait of a family confronting mortality – and

each other. It forgoes sentimentality in favour of unvarnished honesty and gallows humour. At three hours, it's a demanding watch – but one richly rewarded with psychologically dense characters, unforgettable performances, and a rare insight into the messy beauty of human connections.

It stands as a standout work of modern German cinema – a thoughtful, unsettling, and ultimately life-affirming meditation on decay, estrangement, and the ties that bind.

Screening at the changed time and date (for this screening only) of 1.30pm, on Saturday, August 30 at The Union Theatre, 96 Graham Street, Wonthaggi. BCFFG members entry free, with general public welcome at usual box office prices.

To find out more, visit the website: basscoastfinefilmgroup.weebly.com/current-season, and follow the links to the film.

The Bass Coast Fine Film Group is proudly sponsored by the Bass Coast Shire.

Call for submissions for the Bass Coast Surf Film Festival

THE Bass Coast Surf Film Festival will return in March 2026, and founder Anneli McKinnon is looking for local film submissions.

"We're calling on Bass Coast residents to showcase the vibrant surf scene of our region through film," she said.

"Whether it's short films, documentaries, or creative visual storytelling, we want to see your unique perspective on the waves, the community, and the coastal lifestyle that defines Bass Coast."

Anneli started surfing over six years ago, and her love for it inspired her to share the ocean's beauty and the coastal lifestyle with the community through film.

"What better way than to share what our beautiful coastline has to offer," she said.

Bass Coast Surf Film Festival first launched on the big screen in 2024, sharing the artistry of filmmaking.

"You don't need to be a professional to submit your art; this festival is about celebrating the spirit, stories, and surf of Bass Coast. Let the ocean inspire you!"

Submissions are now open and close on October 14, 2025.

So, if you are keen to receive a submission form, please email: basscoast.surf.film.festival@gmail.com

Selected films will be featured in the Bass Coast Surf Film Festival program at Berninnet, Cowes in March 2026.

"What better way than to showcase local content?"

Get creative this September school holidays

THE Bass Coast Shire Council are running school holiday drop-in activity sessions at the Phillip Island Visitor Information Centre between 11am and 1pm from September 20.

With no booking required, all sessions are organised and run by Bass Coast Shire Council Customer and Visitor Experience officer Nadine Page for \$5 per family, per session.

Weekend crafts:

Sat Sep 20 – Crazy Clay Creatures

Sun Sep 28 – Sea Creature Magnets

Sat Oct 4 – Create a Dreamcatcher

Sun Oct 5 – Paint Your Own Pot

Visit the Phillip Island Visitor Information Centre or contact 1300 366 422 if they have any questions about the activities. All children must be accompanied by an adult.

'If This Couch Could Talk' a chance to see student talent at KSC

COMMUNITY members are encouraged to enjoy the creativity of those at Korumburra Secondary College (KSC) when the school's theatre production 'If This Couch Could Talk' bursts into life on September 5 and 6 at the campus.

The show explores societal changes from the perspective of a couch over the decades, and gives young people the chance to express themselves through performance, both music and drama.

'If This Couch Could Talk' features original music as well as established songs, with the script written by staff member Liesl Reymers, co-worker Rosie Handley taking charge of the musical side of the show, including composing.

"We get the kids involved in as many aspects as possible in our school productions," Rosie said, with over 40 being a part of this year's show, whether responsible for the set, lighting, sound, performing in the band or acting.

Students get a taste of music and drama in Year 7, with a particular focus on contemporary music, and the use of online resource 'Music Futures' that helps kids learn musical skills and achieve success quickly.

Drama at that year level includes realism, improvisation and games.

From Year 8, those choosing to continue with music learn



Students rehearse for 'If This Couch Could Talk'.

about the Blues genre, get into composition work and using software to make music, while in drama students explore Comedia dell'arte, an old style of Italian theatre, looking at character types and personalities and wearing masks.

There is a performing arts elective for Years 9 and 10, providing the chance to learn more about scripting and also how to work as part of a small ensemble or band.

Rosie is running a small Year 12 class this year focused on VCE Contemporary Music.

Director and writer, Liesl provided an insight into the current school production, saying the idea arose early

this year after brainstorming with Rosie, prompted by the fact many couches exist over a long period of time.

"So, I thought let's follow it from brand new on the showroom floor in the seventies when it's purchased," Liesl said, with the production exploring all the decades from then through to the present time.

The couch moves around and is exposed to different people and changing societal expectations, giving students an appreciation of how things today differ from the past.

That includes perceptions of matters such as the pill, and unmarried girls falling pregnant, and attitudes to divorce.

"In each decade we try to

bring up a few social issues that might have been happening at the time and impacting the household," Liesl said of the various scenes in which the couch finds itself.

The couch has a voice and talks to the audience about what it is seeing and how it interprets what has happened to it across time.

KSC stages a production every two years.

Those keen to see the couch spring to life, and to enjoy the talents of students and staff, can visit trybooking.com/events/landing/1441575 for tickets to either session, Friday September 5 or Saturday September 6.

Both sessions run from 7-9pm.



**1.30pm SATURDAY 30TH AUGUST
DYING**

*(Changed time and date
for this screening only)*

A three-hour, five-chapter ensemble drama from Germany, part black comedy, part raw emotional odyssey, that dissects the unraveling dynamics of the estranged Lunies family.

General public welcome. Members Free Entry!

**@ THE UNION THEATRE
96 Graham Street, Wonthaggi.**

**Check the website for more info:
basscoastfinefilmgroup.weebly.com**

Sentinel-Times

COMMENT

What are we doing to fast-track housing?

THE Bass Coast Shire Council's draft Long-Term Financial Plan 2025-35 (LTFP) mentions the word 'housing' once in the 48-page document presently out for public feedback until September 9, 2025.

To be fair, that doesn't mean the council is doing nothing to facilitate the growth of housing in the local area.

Under the heading of "Growth in the Municipality" in the LTFP, the council notes that Bass Coast will continue to attract a steady stream of new residents due to our coastal location and affordable housing availability, with the Wonthaggi North-East Precinct a key initiative of council designed to accommodate a fair slab of new housing demand.

While developers are expected to provide much of the infrastructure within their estates, a significant investment will be needed from council to provide additional drainage works, roads and footpaths, some paid for by developer contributions, but with \$2.5 million in the LTFP to fund the gap.

There's also the growing need for sports facilities and other works and services associated with housing growth.

Other residential estates, including a new area being opened up in Dalyston, are also coming through.

But, in line with remarks by the Federal Housing Minister Clare O'Neil, that "it's too hard to build a home in this country" coming out of last week's productivity summit in Canberra, what is the shire doing to fast-track the housing and development approvals process in this shire?

Two questions about housing put to council during community question time at last week's council meeting provided the ideal opportunity for council to offer a meaningful update on any real progress they are making to alleviate the housing crisis locally.

But the opportunity was lost.

Two other questions, one about the progress being made on infrastructure in the Wonthaggi NE precinct and another about the Old Wonthaggi Secondary College site, may also have prompted remarks about housing.

In answer to Terry Burke's thoughtful question, asking for an update on the 10-point Action Plan included in the Bass Coast Affordable Housing Strategy, council said seven of the actions are "complete or currently being implemented, with the remaining actions on track for delivery".

Which seven? What has the shire done directly to promote the development of housing in Bass Coast? And what about the \$25 million allocated by the Victorian Government to support social and affordable housing projects in the shire as part of its 'Big Housing Build' strategy? How is that going?

It's time the shire got serious about responding to the housing crisis and they could start by providing Mr Burke and the general community with a more comprehensive update on the implementation of their housing strategy and what they are doing to fast-track building and development applications locally.

As Minister O'Neil said: "We want builders on site building houses, not filling in forms to get their approval."

Thank goodness the community still gets the chance to put their questions to council in a public forum, thereby highlighting what matters most to them... and to all of us!

Vox Pop

What would you like to see Bass Coast Shire put in their 10-year plan?



Rob

"Extend the shared bike path from Wonthaggi to Inverloch, to link Cape Paterson to Inverloch and seal Wilson's Road or fix the verge from Cape Paterson to Wonthaggi."



Marianne

"Improve the streetscape of Wonthaggi like other areas, but otherwise I'm happy with what Bass Coast Shire Council does."



Kristy

"Listen to the residents more, I feel they listen, but do what they want to do anyway."



Anj

"Keep the grass down and looking pretty, some of the trees need to be trimmed so they don't overhang houses, otherwise they've been pretty good."

Who's running the state?

SO YOU actually believe politician's have your best interests, health and wellbeing at heart, you special little thing you, Santa and his elves won't be far away.

I sat and watched as the Governor of Victoria incredulously announced that there would be no changes to the self-defence laws in Victoria. I mean here I am looking at what appeared to be a grown adult telling me that everything is just hunky dory and sufficient as it is? When it comes to a Duty of Care to the people of Victoria, I believe the Government have FAILED! And, to top it off there is talk of raising the age of knowing what is right and wrong.

Six-year-old kids know, why do you think they keep pushing the boundaries with their parents for God's sake.

If, and I hope it never happens, someone is intentional and unlawfully on my property or in my home and armed with any sort of weapon I will exercise my God given birth right and defend my own life and the lives of everyone in my home at that time! I will not be asking the offender to wait just a moment while I consider what I think would be the appropriate amount of force I need to use.

My argument in court would be that "I was in fear of my life and those in my care, my response to the situation was spontaneous with the only intent being to stop the intruder from causing harm to myself and those in my care, should the intruder suffer a catastrophic event, it was not my intention."

Who is running the State of Victoria? From the look of things it's a bunch of, known to Police, reoffending teenagers who apparently have no incentive not to repeat crimes, just a pop into the court to say Hi to the magistrate before being out on bail looking for some other mischief to cause harm to the rest of us mugs.

Come on, tell me I'm wrong.

R. Smith, Korumburra

Invisible councillors

ONCE again Bunurong Ward Councillor Meg Edwards has demonstrated that she is the only current elected Bass Coast Shire Councillor who chooses to stand at the head of the community rather than stand at rear of the bureaucrats.

Meg convened last week's Not in Our Name rally at the Wonthaggi Workmens Club, to voice community opposition to the Spring Streets brand new VESF tax.

It's unsurprising that, despite having been invited to address the meeting, our local MP Jordan Crugnale failed to make an appearance. Instead, the meeting was left to be addressed by Opposition MPs including the Shadow Minister for Local Government Bev McArthur.

This rally attracted a large number of community members from across the shire. Even Councillors from South Gippsland,

Baw Baw, Cardinia, and even as far as Shepparton, made the effort to attend this important community meeting.

But, notable for their absence were our other eight Bass Coast Councillors.

And their absence was clearly remarked on by community members in attendance.

Despite having previously opposed this new unfair tax within the confines of their bureaucratic McBride bubble, the missing eight were nowhere to be seen.

And apparently none of them even offered the courtesy of an apology for not being able to attend. How rude and disingenuous of them. Go figure.

Kevin Griffin, Wonthaggi

Have your say on the draft documents

I READ with interest the recent commentary on Council's planning and budget priorities in the South Gippsland Sentinel Times dated August 19. I want to assure our community that we have been thoroughly briefed by Council Officers since the beginning of our Council Term. Deep and careful consideration has been given to the draft plans that Council voted to endorse for community consultation at the last Council Meeting, including the Long Term Financial Plan.

These plans represent the aspirations our community has told us matter most. This message has been clear both through our interactions with Bass Coast residents over the election period and our term to date, and to Council Officers at the many community engagement sessions held as part of the development of these plans.

To dismiss these documents as 'out-of-touch' is disrespectful to the hundreds of Bass Coast residents that helped shape them.

It is important to note when reviewing the strategic documents that Council is responsible for almost \$1.4 billion worth of community assets – from roads and footpaths, to pavilions, halls, parks and reserves. A considerable amount of our capital budget each year is dedicated to keeping these assets in good condition so they remain safe and functional for everyone.

The ratio between capital and operational budgets in Bass Coast is in-line with the sector and Bass Coast remains a comparatively low expenditure regional council. This reflects both the extensive services we deliver for our community and our commitment to maintaining our existing assets while also planning for the future.

This new Council has come together with a clear focus on identifying key priorities, informed by what we have heard directly from our community. Recreation reserves, aquatic facilities, and the protection of our unique environment – including the Western Port Woodlands – are just some of the areas our community has told us are essential.

While this Council faces many challenges

– including State Government cost-shifting, coastal erosion, new taxes – we don't apologise for planning ambitiously for Bass Coast.

The work we are doing now ensures that when funding opportunities arise we are ready to act with well-developed and community-supported projects while continuing to maintain our existing infrastructure.

I strongly encourage community members to have their say on the draft documents prior to their final adoption.

Cr Rochelle Halstead, Bass Coast Shire Mayor

Editor: Having failed to apply for funding in Round 2 of the Federal Government's lucrative Growing Regions Program, which closed on October 10, 2024 offering grants of between \$500,000 and \$15 million (\$207M for 40 projects in Round One), we hope you haven't missed the boat altogether while you get your ducks in-a-row.

Let's maintain our unique environment

I AM dismayed to learn that South Gippsland Shire Council will no longer discount rates for Trust for Nature covenant holders. This is short-sighted.

Landholders who place a covenant on their land are making a long-term commitment to contribute to biodiversity values which safeguard our quality of life, regional landscapes and tourism, water and air quality, soil and productivity, greenhouse gas sequestration, pest control and recreational values.

Covenanted properties protect significant areas of unique vegetation on private land, augmenting public conservation parks and enabling viable populations of flora and fauna. Without these habitat areas, many of the birds, animals and plants that enhance our parks, roadsides, shelter belts, and even urban gardens will disappear.

I ask the Council to reverse their decision. Please do not axe the conservation Covenant rates rebate.

Landholders who manage and maintain covenanted habitat are providing ecosystem services that benefit us all. Rate rebates are a small incentive to lessen the costs they incur. South Gippsland Shire council should support this stewardship to protect our land.

Kate Walsh, Koonwarra

See more 'Your Say' on page 50

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



Faye Tuchtan and Graham Wood from the Bass Coast Branch of the VFF at the Not In Our Name rally against the State Government's Emergency Services Levy in Wonthaggi. B10_3425



Newhaven College Middle School Captains, Lucy Thompson and Indiana Maloney ran the Middle School parade.



Head of Junior School, Cath Huther, dressed as The Cat in the Hat, as did Preps Winter Shepherd and Sophia Behan.



Newhaven College Prep students Madison Lewandowski, Sunny Jose and Pippa Johanson-Neil enjoyed dressing up for the Book Week parade.



Avril Van Wamel and Kathryn Smith from the Meeniyen Progress Association are very happy with the new toilets at the Meeniyen Community Hub. ob09_3425



Jennie Bickford was the first baby weighed on the scales at the old Meeniyen hub, with Marion Dewar. Their grandmother and mother respectively, were involved with the CWA, who built the first hub with rest rooms and maternal and child health. ob10_3425



David Meikle, John Parnell and Brian Hoskings turned out to help celebrate the new Meeniyen Hub and believe it will be a useful facility for the town. ob11_3425



Tony Peterson and Jareth Goss from the South Gippsland Shire Council have been working over the past four to five years to help bring the Meeniyen Community hub to fruition. ob12_3425



Danny O'Brien, Member for Gippsland South is ecstatic that Meeniyen has new, clean restroom facilities he can make use of, with Kay Rodden from Prom Coast News and Mayor John Schelling. ob13_3425

Snapped Out

Pictures of you and your friends at Not In Our Name rally, Official opening of the Meeniyen Community Hub, Newhaven College Book Week and Wonthaggi North Primary School Book Week.



In character were Stella (Harley Quinn), Marymoe (Wednesday Addams), Lily (Lilo) and Torsten (Where's Wally?) C14_3425

Sentinel-Times

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South Gippsland Shire Council CEO Allison Jones with Cr Scott Rae and Allison's budding young photographer capturing the opening of the Meeniyen Community Hub. ob14_3425



The chicken divas of Whitney and Britney. C09_3425



Year 3 students Hazel Werner, Maeve Glen and Harper Van Brummelen brought some colour to the parade.



Year 3 friends Harley Filsell, Eden Bennett and Madison Carter enjoyed dressing up for the annual Book Week parade.



Coming as her hero, Amelia Earhart, Newhaven College Year 2 student Saylor McHenry flew through the Book Week parade with ease.



Year 5 students Indigo Northover and Charli Pope got into the spirit of the Book Week parade.



Wonthaggi North education support officer Lorraine Muir (Thelma the Unicorn) and teacher Sarah McAdam (Scooby Doo - Velma). C12_3425



Panoramic rural retreat

PROUDLY positioned on approximately 43 acres, this much-loved residence offers a rare combination of privacy, space and breathtaking outlooks. Every window captures a panorama over the surrounding farmland to the sparkling waters of Corner Inlet and Bass Strait.

Beautifully maintained throughout, the interior features slate flooring to the spacious living and entertaining areas, opening out to covered verandas on either side. Formal living and dining area ideal for gatherings. Central kitchen with solid timber cabinetry and quality appliances, breakfast bar to the meals area and family room.

Three fitted bedrooms, the master with walk-in robe and an ensuite bathroom. Family bathroom with separate w.c. and laundry with abundant storage.

Peaceful low maintenance garden setting with sheltered areas to enjoy in every season. Versatile land with two flat paddocks – ideal for horses – with a dam and border of established trees for shade and shelter. A hilly grazing paddock offers further scope for running stock.

Access is effortless via a sealed road and bitumen driveway, leading to a double auto garage and parking area. A peaceful and private rural lifestyle, just eight minutes from the Foster township, the ideal blend of comfort and convenience.

To book an inspection, contact Andrea Adams on 0429 822 801.



3 2 2 43 Acres

255 Ogradys Ridge Road,
Foster North
For Sale \$980,000-\$1,080,000
Agent SEJ Real Estate
Andrea Adams 0429 822 801



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FOSTER



- 4 bed, 2 bath
 - Approx. 1 hectare, fenced
 - Superb build quality
 - Eco friendly features
 - Ample shedding, parking
- \$1,185,000**
- Contact Andrea Adams 0429 822 801

RANCEBY



- Grazing block, great location, 6 min. to Korumburra, 30min Warragul
 - 23ha/57acres (approx.) hill country with hay paddocks
 - 5 paddocks with lead up to good quality steel stock yards
 - Water by way of dams, good catchment in high rainfall region
 - Native tree planting in rear gully section, good shelter
 - Ideal for fattening cattle/dairy turnout, an opportunity to step into farming
- \$635,000**
- Contact Irene Walker 0429 045 632

ALBERTON WEST



- 4 bed, 2 bath
 - Approx. 9.7 acres, fenced
 - Architect designed luxury
 - Double garage, 4-bay shed
 - Bore and tank water
- \$1,406,000**
- Contact Andrea Adams 0429 822 801

TOORA NORTH



- 3 bed, 1 bath
 - Approx. 19 acres
 - Pockets of rainforest, creek
 - Open plan interior, decks
 - Quiet peaceful location
- \$730,000**
- Contact Andrea Adams 0429 822 801

NERRENA



- Rural living, just minutes from town with expansive views
 - Charming north facing 4-bedroom, 2 bathroom B/V home
 - Open plan living, with additional formal dining & living room
 - Separate study, gorgeous sunroom overlooking the garden
 - Heavy carrying grazing with 20ha/50acres, (5) paddocks, troughs & dams
 - Good shedding, yards, established gardens in peaceful location
- \$1,900,000**
- Contact Irene Walker 0429 045 632

MARDAN



- Highly productive 52ha/130ac
 - Grazing with home
- Looking to sell?**
- Call your rural specialist
Covering South Gippsland
Irene Walker 0429 045 632

Private and peaceful living on 3.98 acres

NESTLED in a serene bush setting and only eight minutes from the beautiful sea-side township of Inverloch, this well-presented quality-built home is set on prime land, surrounded by established trees and gardens. If you are looking for peace and privacy with an incredible rural outlook, then this property is sure to impress.

The home features four bedrooms, three with built-in robes and the master includes an ensuite with walk-in shower, vanity and toilet and a large walk-in robe.

A spacious kitchen includes an electric oven and cooktop, dishwasher and plenty of storage, and leads into the dining and living area with large windows allowing for an abundance of natural light. The area also includes a free-standing woodfire heater and reverse cycle split system, ensuring comfort all year round. A separate formal living and dining area has high ceilings and leads out to the backyard.

The central bathroom includes a walk-in shower, bath and vanity with a separate toilet and powder room.

Outdoors you will find a paved entertaining area that includes a wood fire pizza oven. The perfect location to enjoy a wood-fire pizza and glass of wine on a perfect summer's night, enjoying the views on offer.

The double carport has an undercover walkway that leads straight to the entrance of the home. There is a three-bay shed and ample water supply to the house.

Why not treat yourself to a lifestyle where you can relax and enjoy the natural beauty that surrounds this property?

For further information or to inspect the property, please contact Sharon Turton on 0447 604 796 or Katrina Griggs on 0428 571 083.

For a Due Diligence Checklist go to: consumer.vic.gov.au/duediligencechecklist



4 2 4 13.98 Acres

965 Lynnes Road, **Outtrim**
For Sale \$1.19 Million
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Korumburra South 10 Acres
Build in the Rolling Hills

- Approx 10 acres, current planning permit
- Colorbond shed with 3-phase power
- Two dams & a 15,000L water tank

Web ID: 300P184581 **\$570,000**

under contract

Bena 925m²
Californian Bungalow in Heart of Bena

- Renovated 3-bed, 2-bath home
- Open-plan living and dining space
- Large, powered shed

Web ID: 300P182807 **\$790,000**

new listing

Loch 119 Acres
Outstanding Quality

- 11 paddocks & all-weather tracks
- Cattle yards with B double access
- Quality fencing powered by solar units

Web ID: 300P179741 **\$1.8 Million**

new listing

Mardan 286 Acres
Red & Grey Soils

- 2 Bed Cottage
- Cattle & Sheep Yards
- Machinery, Hay & Sundry Shedding

Web ID: 300P184219 **\$3.25 Million**

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JAZ2159-V5



Easy to manage 118 acres

IDEALLY suited to graze beef cattle for fattening or breeding, this superb property would make all your country lifestyle dreams come true.

Build your dream home (STCA) with the centre of the property featuring a flat section ideal for a home with views out to the sea whilst also being central to the farm.

The 118 acres (approx.) features 18 paddocks, including four bull paddocks with troughs to all paddocks bar one. A huge dam with a 20-meg licence is used to fill the 10,000-gallon header tank, which gravity feeds to the troughs. There are a number of dams scattered throughout the property.

A laneway is cleverly located along the spine of the property and makes the movement of cattle into the paddocks a breeze, with views to every aspect of the farm.

Much of the land is undulating with only two small steep sections. The acreage would support a minimum of 60 cattle in the winter months and up to 120 in the other seasons. Four of the paddocks can be cut for hay.

There are holding yards, a cattle crush and cattle race near the road for ease of loading stock. The property was last fertilised in 2023.

Features of the property include:

- Undulating farmland
- Secure water supply via 20 meg. irrigation licence
- Seven dams supported by a reliable 35–40-inch annual rainfall
- Excellent electric fencing
- Magnificent gum trees provide shelter for the cattle
- Central laneway for ease of management
- Only 10 minutes to Toora on sealed road

For an inspection, please contact Tony Giles 0407 528 192 or Dick Faulkner 0408 595 174.

Disclaimer: Whilst every care has been taken in preparing the above information, it is to be used as a guide only. Please refer to the appropriate legal documentation to complete your due diligence.

Land

118 Acres

Address on request, **Toora North**
For Sale \$1,300,000
Agent Alex Scott & Staff
Tony Giles 0407 528 192
Dick Faulkner 0408 595 174

Affordable dream sea change

Whether it's quiet serenity, work from home by the beach or a holiday rental, this property offers all the potential.

Set on a generous 663m², very private with a mature native garden, fully fenced and gated, this low-maintenance home has everything to offer.

Enjoy the large open-plan living space that seamlessly blends indoor and outdoor living, thanks to extensive bifold doors and windows that lead to an expansive north-facing deck. Absolutely perfect for entertaining or relaxing in the sun.

The well-appointed kitchen is a delight with ample cupboard space, a gas cooktop, and timber benches. Bifold windows leading to an outdoor bar ensures your guests will be impressed.

Three spacious bedrooms, including a master suite featuring a large luxury spa-style ensuite. The second bathroom is conveniently centrally located and includes a laundry. Need extra space for the boat or van? A three-car carport and extra space, this property is perfect for those who love adventure.

Large bills will be a thing of the past with solar power allowing you to take advantage of the two reverse cycle air conditioners and internal sound system with confidence.

Work from home with high-speed internet and the sound of the ocean in the background.

Cape Paterson's beautiful beaches are a short four-minute walk away, along with an award-winning cafe this location offers everything. A quick five-minute drive to Wonthaggi for all your shopping needs.

Embrace the peace and coastal lifestyle you've always wanted!



3 | 2 | 2

663m²

4 Pinnacle Close, **Cape Paterson**
For Sale \$890,000
Agent Alex Scott & Staff
Mick Chambers 0418 349 783
Cal Nation 0439 334 163



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NERRENA  285 Garvies Road • Stunning northerly views on 1.6ac • Less than 10kms from Leongatha • Updated 3 bed 2 bath with shed \$795,000 Contact: Leongatha Office	KORUMBURRA  29 Isabella Boulevard • 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom brick family home • Double garage, garden shed • Nothing to spend \$650,000 Contact: Korumburra Office	SILVERLEAVES  112 Silverleaves Avenue • Multiple living spaces • Stacker sliding doors to deck • 5 bedroom, 2 bathroom \$880,000 Contact: Cowes Office	WONTHAGGI SOLD  52A Broome Crescent • 620m² block • Laneway access • Fully fenced Sold for \$185,000 Contact: Wonthaggi Office
DUMBALK NORTH  880 Farmers Road • 5 acres with a 28m x 55m horse arena • Charming 2-bedroom cottage • Multiple sheds and separate paddocks \$885,000 Contact: Leongatha Office	KORUMBURRA NEW PRICE  5/6 Ruddville Avenue • Modern 1 bedroom apartment • Fully furnished • Nothing to spend \$375,000 Contact: Korumburra Office	COWES  1/3 Benambra Court • Unique aesthetic, serene coastal living • Peaceful outdoor retreat • 3 bedroom, 1 bathroom, 2 car \$829,000 Contact: Cowes Office	WONTHAGGI SOLD  1/213 Graham Street • 3 bedroom unit • Close to hospital and shopping • On its own title, no body corp Sold for \$405,000 Contact: Wonthaggi Office
LEONGATHA  27 Parr Street • 3 bed, 1 bath, 1 carport, convenient location • Close to park, hospital, short walk to town • Est. gardens and paved outdoor area \$459,000 Contact: Leongatha Office	KORUMBURRA  23 Bridge Street • Grand period home • Prime corner location • 3 bedroom, 3 living \$675,000 Contact: Korumburra Office	COWES  2 Hollydene Court • Open plan kitchen, dining • Versatile block of 669m2 (approx.) • 3 bedroom, 1 bathroom, ample car parking \$800,000 - \$850,000 Contact: Cowes Office	WONTHAGGI SOLD  12 Civic Way • Large 4 bed, 2 bathroom home • Great outdoor living • Parking for van or boat Sold for \$655,000 Contact: Wonthaggi Office

26 YEARS
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Wednesday 3rd & Thursday 4th September 2025 • 10am - 3pm
Korumburra Showgrounds
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120m Foot Race WEARING GUMBOOTS

\$4,000 PRIZE POOL

Thursday 4th September at 1.30pm

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Wednesday 3rd September at 11am

Behind EVERY GREAT GLASS OF MILK is someone Remarkable

Not all heroes wear capes, some wear gumboots...

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.**



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South Gippsland Shire Council



DIAA Gippsland Networking Lunch 2025
Where to from here?
11:30am to 1pm - Thursday 4th September
Showgrounds Football Clubrooms
Gippsland is Australia's powerhouse dairy region!

- Panel Chat: Where to from here?
 - Hear from dairy farmers, workers & processors about what's next for our industry
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PRIZE POOL \$5,000 CASH!

Collect a showbag at the gate for your chance to win some cash!

THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING EXHIBITORS FOR THEIR SUPPORT OF THIS INITIATIVE:

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| • Easy Dairy Automation Systems | • Dairy Shelters Australia | • Travel Managers | • Redei - Renewable Energy Solutions | • Alltech Lienert | • Lely |
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South Gippsland Dairy & Farming Expo

A project of the Lions Club of Strzelecki

Deanne Kennedy Project Secretary Address: PO Box 18, LOCH VIC 3945 Mobile: 0419 878 055 Email: dairyexpo@jaydee.net.au
Website: www.dairyexpo.org.au



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- For over 30 years Burra Foods has represented quality and innovation in the dairy market
- Committed to investing in Gippsland's future



- Gippsland's specialists in dairy automation, supporting 70 local farms with Lely systems
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- Australian wide suppliers of Dairy Effluent equipment
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- The most versatile sprayer in the world
- Apply all your fertiliser in one pass



- A leading dairy processor in Australia
- High quality dairy products for domestic & international markets



- Your farm deserves Australia's leading dairy automation systems proudly backed by the team who designs and builds it
- Over 20 Years of great products and exceptional service

26 YEARS
SHOWCASING THE DAIRY INDUSTRY IN GIPPSLAND

DAIRY & FARMING Expo
www.dairyexpo.org.au

Wednesday 3rd & Thursday 4th September 2025 • 10am - 3pm
Korumburra Showgrounds
Cnr South Gippsland Highway & Charles Streets, Korumburra



Proudly sponsored by Westpac

Where
technology
meets
tradition

Mt Lyall Dairies Farm Tour

Wednesday 3rd September | 3pm - 5pm

Finish your Expo Day with a cutting-edge farm visit. Take a rare opportunity to step behind the scenes of one of Gippsland's most talked-about dairy operations!

Join us for a two-hour tour of the Lancey family's Nyora farm, featuring a new 100-stand rotary dairy and loafing barn — so impressive locals say, "you can see it from Mars."

The tour also includes a live drone demonstration and is a must for anyone interested in modern dairy infrastructure, efficiency and innovation.

A complimentary bus departs the South Gippsland Dairy & Farming Expo at 2:30pm on Wednesday, September 3rd. On-farm parking is also available.



Enjoy networking and afternoon tea thanks to our Platinum Sponsor Westpac, Gold Sponsors GEA, Westfalia Warragul, and Worker Bee Drones, and Trade Sponsors ADF Milking and Yarroweyah Engineering.

Bookings are essential, so reserve your spot now at: www.trybooking.com/DDLVJ

From the Expo to the paddock — your next stop is Mt Lyall Dairies



Worker Bee Drones
SPRAY | SPREAD | MAP



**120m
Foot
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WEARING
GUMBOOTS**

**\$4,000
PRIZE POOL**

Thursday 4th September at 1.30pm

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SOUTH EAST ORGANIC FERTILIZER
"The Natural Alternative in Fertilisers"

PRIZE POOL \$5,000 CASH!

The Udder Truth! SHOWBAG

Collect a showbag at the gate for your chance to win some cash!

THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING EXHIBITORS FOR THEIR SUPPORT OF THIS INITIATIVE:

- | | | | |
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| • Easy Dairy Automation Systems | • East Coast Generators | • Redei - Renewable Energy Solutions | • South East Organic Fertilizer |
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| • Brown's Fertiliser | • Travel Managers - Poowong | • Reid Stockfeeds | • Lely |
| • Dairy Shelters Australia | • Burra Foods | • Alltech Lienert | • Hick Seeds |
| • MaxCare | • Acmea Insurance | • Agriculture Victoria | • NEX Business Farming Wellness |



SOUTH GIPPSLAND DAIRY & FARMING

Expo



The South Gippsland Dairy & Farming Expo, a major industry event, is fast approaching at the Korumburra Showgrounds, bringing together farmers, suppliers, and experts to showcase the latest in dairy innovation.

South Gippsland Dairy Expo offers industry knowledge

THE South Gippsland Dairy & Farming Expo, run by the Strzelecki Lions Club, will showcase the latest innovations, products and services available to those in the dairy industry, on Wednesday, September 3, and the following day at Korumburra Showgrounds.

The event provides the opportunity for suppliers and farmers to communicate in one place, allowing farmers to learn what is available to help run their farms smoothly and giving suppliers the chance to hear farmers' thoughts on their products.

Matt Harms from ONFARM Consulting will host a session on Wednesday at 11am, titled 'Behind EVERY GREAT GLASS OF MILK is Someone Remarkable', demonstrating that not all heroes wear capes, some wear gumboots.

Matt's audience will hear about quiet achievers in the dairy industry and their significant contributions.

The ONFARM Consulting session will be followed by an announcement from the Gippsland Dairy Industry Leadership Group, as it launches its newly completed Gippsland Dairy Industry Strategy.

The Dairy Industry Association of Australia Gippsland Networking Lunch is on Thursday, September 4 from 11.30am until 1pm. Visit diaa.asn.au/events to book.

On Wednesday from 3pm to 5pm there is an opportunity to take a tour of Mt Lyall Dairies in Nyora, where technology meets tradition, getting a behind-the-scenes look at one of Gippsland's most talked about dairy operations.

The Nyora farm, run by the Lancey family, is home to a brand new 100-stand rotary dairy and loafing barn that locals say you can see from Mars.

Attendees will enjoy a live drone



Whether you are in the market for new milking cups or a robotic milker there is plenty on offer at Korumburra Showgrounds. ob44_3724

demonstration on the farm.

It's a must-see tour for anyone interested in modern dairy infrastructure, efficiency, and innovation.

Farmers attending the South Gippsland Dairy & Farming Expo are invited to register their interest in the complimentary bus departing on Wednesday, September 3 at 2.30pm.

Alternatively, on-farm parking will be available at the Lancey farm.

The tour offers a valuable networking opportunity, complemented by a delightful afternoon tea.

To register your interest in attending the tour, please book at trybooking.com/events/landing/1431647

Expo attendees are urged not to miss the chance to win a share of the \$5000 prize pool in the Under Truth Showbag Competition, with the first prize \$3000.

Participants must be farmers aged 18 and over, and all you have to do is collect a showbag at the gate and answer 17 of the 20 questions, requesting stamps on your card from the

corresponding exhibitors.

The first card drawn with 17 correct answers and the necessary stamps will win the major prize, with \$1500 for second place and \$500 for third, the winners to be announced at 2.30pm on Thursday, September 4, with 200 showbags available.

You can dash for cash in The Gumboot Gift at 1.30pm on Thursday, competing over 120 metres, the event having a \$4000 prize pool and men's and women's sections.

Runners must wear authentic farm-type gumboots, with no fitted styles permitted.

Funds raised through the Dairy Expo have allowed the Strzelecki Lions Club to contribute over \$630,000 back to the community and support various Lions projects, with planning for the event beginning each January.

Opening hours will be from 10am until 3pm daily, with an entry fee of \$15 per person and children under 16 free.

For exhibitor or patron inquiries, please contact Deanne Kennedy at 0419 878 055 or email dairyexpo@jaydee.net.au.



Personal Travel Manager Kirra Moon-Curry offers all the products of a larger agent, but with a convenient, personalised and dedicated service. ob23_3723

Travel expertise comes to you

KIRRA Moon-Curry is a personal Travel Manager based in Poowong with over thirty years of experience in travel services.

Being mobile, Kirra goes to her clients, who can enjoy undivided attention at a convenient location, while being able to chat in a relaxed environment about their travel plans.

Kirra offers all the regular services and products of larger travel agent businesses, including customised itineraries, as well as 24/7 support whilst away, making the service she offers highly personalised.

"I'm dedicated to making the planning stress-free, leaving my clients to simply look

forward to their trip," said Kirra.

Having travelled to over 38 countries herself, and extensively through Asia, Vietnam is Kirra's latest love, while America is her specialty, including the sport, the sights and the people.

Mexico is on the list of her favourites for its food and the amazing Mayan culture, while Europe has such an array of wonderful places, with so many to choose from, Kirra said its hard to say which is her favourite, although Paris and Prague are the current ones.

Where are you off to next? Let Kirra help create a dream holiday for you.

Kirra will be located at site 58 during the expo.



Don't miss your opportunity to visit Mt Lyall Dairies in a special on-farm expo experience.

From the Expo to the Paddock

IF YOU think the South Gippsland Dairy & Farming Expo is impressive, wait until you see what's just down the road! This year, you can finish your Expo experience with an exclusive behind-the-scenes visit to one of Gippsland's most talked-about dairy operations, Mt Lyall Dairies.

On Wednesday, September 3rd, climb aboard the complimentary bus at 2.30pm from the Expo and travel to the Lancey family's state-of-the-art Nyora property. This is no ordinary farm, it's home to a brand-new 100-stand rotary dairy and an enormous loafing barn so striking, locals joke, "you can see it from Mars!"

During this two-hour guided tour, you'll see how modern technology and smart infrastructure are transforming dairy farming. From the sheer scale of the rotary platform to the innovation behind cow comfort in the loafing barn, every corner is built for

efficiency, productivity, and sustainability. You'll also witness a live drone demonstration, showcasing how aerial technology is changing the way farmers monitor and manage their herds and land.

But it's not all work – enjoy a relaxed afternoon tea while networking with fellow farmers, industry suppliers, and ag enthusiasts. Thanks to our Platinum Sponsor Westpac, Gold Sponsors GEA, Westfalia Warragul, and Worker Bee Drones, and Trade Sponsors ADF Milking and Yarroweyah Engineering, you'll be well-fed and well-connected.

If you prefer to drive, on-farm parking is available – but bookings are essential to secure your spot. Whether you're a seasoned dairy professional, a newcomer to the industry, or simply curious about the future of farming, this is an event you won't want to miss.

Reserve your place now at: trybooking.com/DDLVJ.



SOUTH GIPPSLAND DAIRY & FARMING

Expo



Shane Warne Legacy health checks

HAVE a crack, play with heart, and get a Shane Warne Legacy Health Check. In four minutes, check your blood pressure, BMI, Heart Age and more. A small step that could make a big difference for you!

Sponsored by Latrobe Health Services' Small Grants Program, the Lions Club of Strzelecki through the South Gippsland Dairy and Farming Expo are honoured to share Shane's legacy by embracing the values and impact he had in life through Shane Warne Legacy Health Checks.

The Shane Warne Legacy Health Checks mission is to strive to reflect Shane's achievements and the positive influence he had on people and places and in everything he did in life, ensuring that his spirit is guided through these favourable actions and decisions. At the heart of their mission lies a profound understanding of the importance of legacy.

Health and wellbeing are vital for our rural communities, where long hours, physical work, and limited access to medical services can make it easy to put personal health last. A simple check can provide peace of mind and highlight any issues early, helping farmers and their families stay strong, safe, and productive.

So come along and visit Site 51 at the South Gippsland Dairy and Farming Expo in Korumburra, September 3-4, to receive your free Shane Warne Legacy Health Check. This confidential and efficient service gives you a quick snapshot of your health status. For more information about the South Gippsland Dairy and Farming Expo, visit dairyexpo.org.au.

Brown's Fertilisers help improve soil quality

WHILE you and your family are the most valuable assets on your farm, your land and soil are crucial to success, with the experts at Brown's Fertilisers ready to provide the right advice on nutrient requirements tailored to your needs.

Soil nutrients can decline over time and lead to pasture deterioration, lower stocking rates and reduced profitability.

Nutrients can be depleted from your farm through leaching into lower levels in the soil profile, being dissolved and carried off the property by water runoff, sold within farm produce or becoming temporarily unavailable due to natural nutrient cycles in the soil.

Therefore, the major nutrients being nitrogen, phosphorus, potassium, sulphur, and calcium, need to be topped up annually to maintain soil fertility.

The establishment of newer pasture varieties combined with strategic fertiliser applications will lead to a more profitable and sustainable farming enterprise.

Brown's agronomy and sales staff can provide advice on various products,



Brad Beyers (agronomist), Andrew Blackney (assistant manager Koo Wee Rup and Leongatha depots), and Tim Manders (agronomist) are some of the friendly and knowledgeable team at Brown's Fertilisers.

and prepare fertiliser and nutrient plans for dairy, sheep, beef and horticulture producers.

Fertilisers can be combined into a complete fertiliser blend to suit the soil on your farm.

They can be delivered in storage bins up to eight-ton capacity, in bulk truckloads, and can be spread with either tractors or four-wheel-drive trucks.

Lime products are also

available to increase calcium and lift soil pH, with lime and gypsum normally delivered and spread on farm during the summer months when paddocks are accessible.

If you require an on-farm visit to discuss your fertiliser requirements or need soil samples taken to determine soil nutrient levels, followed by detailed recommendations, give one of the agronomy team a call.

Come and see the friendly Brown's fertilisers team at the South Gippsland Dairy Expo site near the main gate to complete your "Udder truth quiz question" and chat about your farming needs.

The agronomy team can be contacted on the following numbers:

Jess Ashburner 0408 082 036,
Tim Manders 0417 972 200,
John Bowman 0447 873 888,
Katrina Galindo 0400 879 818,
Brad Beyers 0440 919 168

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Brown's offer a wide range of fertiliser and soil ameliorants, qualified agronomic advice and backed by a trusted spreading and delivery service.

Speak to your local agronomist today to find out how we can help you!

PRODUCTS

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- Full range of limes
- Trace elements
- Tailored fertiliser blends
- Bulka & 25kg bags

SERVICES

- Agronomic advice
- Spreading
- Blending
- Soil & plant tissue testing
- Nutrient budgeting

**Koo Wee Rup (03) 5997 2203
Leongatha (03) 5667 3100
Maffra 0427 220 127
Merton (03) 5778 7490**

**Find out more:
www.brownsfert.com.au**

Organisation



SOUTH GIPPSLAND DAIRY & FARMING

Expo



Dairy Pumping Systems leading the effluent industry

FORMED in 1998, Dairy Pumping Systems (DPS) has built a strong reputation for supplying high quality equipment suitable to meet the demands of the rugged environments that dairy farming and the broader agricultural sector experience.

Based in Leongatha, Matt and Josh bring the expertise and service needed to match the right pumping systems to every customer. They work closely with dealers to achieve the best solutions for farmers, ensuring practical, efficient, and long-term results.

DPS is committed to being one of Australia's leading experts in the dairy effluent space, particularly as the focus increasingly shifts to environmentally sustainable practises to preserve this great country for future generations. By leveraging its trusted supply partners, DPS ensures their customers benefit from proven, innovated solutions backed by experience.

These suppliers offer known brands like Yardmaster, Williams, Bauer, and Reid & Harrison, bringing with them decades of industry and product knowledge.

Of note, the New Zealand



DPS provides localised support from design to installation and ongoing maintenance.

and Austrian based suppliers are experienced working within the tighter environmental compliance rules governing the dairy industry and effluent management in their respective countries, meaning Matt and Josh's Australian clients receive the very best in technology, compliance expertise and system performance.

By operating a nationwide dealer network, DPS delivers localised support for its products throughout the design, installation and maintenance stages.

The business has the flexibility required to adapt to State requirements in Australia and the geographical climatic challenges in each

region.

The well-stocked Leongatha warehouse provides quick availability of the parts and equipment needed.

A mixture of international based supply, nationwide distribution and local support gives DPS a platform to lead the effluent industry in its supply capability.



G & S Farm Services, a family-owned and operated business in South Gippsland.

For all your farming services

G & S FARM Services is a locally owned and operated company offering local dairy farmers friendly and reliable services in semen sales, inseminations, calf dehorning, freeze branding and ultrasound pregnancy testing.

Owner Gus said G & S Farm Services is also an agent for Oringi wet-weather gear and Shoof products. "More recently, we have been working with Gippsland Wraps to supply farmers and contractors with a range of silage wrap, netting and pit covers."

Please call in and see Gus, Jess, Brendan and Shay at Factory 3, 3 Norman Rd, Leongatha or at the South Gippsland Dairy & Farming Expo at site 26 (highway side).

Putting Service First



- ✓ Semen sales & inseminations
- ✓ Calf de-horning
- ✓ Freeze branding
- ✓ Ultrasound pregnancy testing

Gus Kirk 0428 639 873 • Brendan Rigby 0459 068 946
Jess Bolding 0428 639 871 • Shay Davis 0474 706 244

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3rd - 4th SEPTEMBER

VISIT US AT THE EXPO



Wednesday 3rd & Thursday 4th
September 2025 • 10am - 3pm

Korumburra Showgrounds
Cnr South Gippsland Highway & Charles Streets, Korumburra

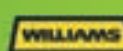
We will have a selection of our industry leading products on display and our helpful staff will be on hand to discuss any product from our extensive range and how they could best suit your effluent system.



EFFLUENT PUMPS EFFLUENT STIRRERS EFFLUENT SEPARATORS



WASH DOWN SYSTEMS IRRIGATORS SYSTEM ACCESSORIES



DPS DAIRY PUMPING SYSTEMS

6 Ashenden St, Leongatha, Victoria
PHONE +61 3 9739 6521
www.dairypumpingsystems.com.au



Grants program blooms as thousands of plants go on sale

COMMUNITY groups across Bass Coast and South Gippsland are being urged to apply for a new Small Grants Program launched by the Wonthaggi Seed Bank and Nursery.

Offering up to \$5000 per successful applicant, the annual program aims to support conservation and biodiversity projects such as wetlands, foreshore plantings and works undertaken by 'friends of' groups, among others. Applications are open now and close on Monday, October 13.

President of the Wonthaggi Seed Bank Committee, Susan Peel said the grants will help groups fund more than just plants.

"We have amassed more money than we need for infrastructure and wanted to give back to the community. These grants will help cover costs for tools, plastic guards, spraying and all the things needed to get biodiversity projects off the ground," she said.

Successful applicants will be announced very shortly after the deadline, with more information and application forms available at wsbn.org.au.



Susan Peel hopes to see every one of these plants in the ground following Wonthaggi Seed Bank's surplus stock sale. W01_3425

The grants come as the nursery gears up for its popular end-of-season surplus stock sale, where plant and garden enthusiasts will be spoiled for choice, taking place on Saturday, September 6, from 10am until noon at the State Coal Mine site in Wonthaggi.

More than 4000 plants will be available from just \$1.50. There will be trees, shrubs,

grasses and groundcovers on offer, including a developing line of wildflower species suited to home gardens.

"These are indigenous garden plants that bring in butterflies and insects and help people create biodiverse backyards," Ms Peel said.

To ensure access for as many people as possible, customers will be limited to ten tubes per

species and 100 tubes in total per family group.

"Last year we sold out in 45 minutes, so we have introduced limits to spread the plants fairly," Ms Peel said.

The nursery asks that customers bring their own box or basket, avoid parking in the café carpark and follow the signs to the Seed Bank. For more information visit wsbn.org.au.

MARKET REPORT

Brought to you by...

CLAAS Harvest Centre **CLAAS**

Stores firm in another strong sale

By SGSAA

AGENTS yarded around 2900 head at this week's VLE Leongatha store sale in another good yarding.

Overall the market was generally firm with some sales a little dearer and odd sales just a shade off recent sales.

Feedlot orders again dominated the mid and heavy weighted steers and operated at similar rates with no one willing to go higher than recent sales apart from a few pens purchased by graziers.

Weaners and Xbreds were again strong with everyone keen to buy a few but many are commenting that they are still needing more rain to fill dams and keep the grass growing.

Leongatha Store Sale on Thursday, August 21, 2025 Steers

Freedom Fields 22 Angus	655kg	\$4.92	\$3230
Stevron Investments 14 Hfd	615kg	\$4.79	\$2950
M & B Harding 12 Angus	583kg	\$5.09	\$2970
JD & JA Kay 14 Angus	543kg	\$5.15	\$2800
C Farmer 10 Hereford	539kg	\$5.10	\$2750
Lee Deal 12 Angus	532kg	\$5.20	\$2770
J MacLachlan P/L 20 Angus	526kg	\$5.26	\$2770
M & C Masterson 14 Angus	517kg	\$5.39	\$2790
C Farmer 11 Angus	516kg	\$5.32	\$2750
G Murray 19 Angus	515kg	\$5.43	\$2800
J MacLachlan P/L 18 Angus	503kg	\$5.32	\$2680
B Paulet 17 Angus	495kg	\$5.33	\$2640
J MacLachlan P/L 18 Angus	479kg	\$5.40	\$2590
J MacLachlan P/L 20 Angus	481kg	\$5.37	\$2590
Harris Farms 12 Angus	477kg	\$5.17	\$2470
Eddies Run P/L 23 Angus	473kg	\$5.43	\$2570
IC & RA Ripper 10 Angus	458kg	\$5.00	\$2290
Df & Tm Foat 11 Angus	456kg	\$5.27	\$2410
Crichton Lodge Agri 16 Angus	450kg	\$5.32	\$2400
R & P Davis 13 Brangus	428kg	\$5.16	\$2110
H & R Need 18 Angus	422kg	\$5.35	\$2260
R J Sandy 10 Angus	418kg	\$5.38	\$2250
J MacLachlan P/L 15 BB	415kg	\$5.51	\$2290
H & R Need 14 BB	415kg	\$5.51	\$2290
Mj Kay 11 Angus	386kg	\$5.09	\$1970
J MacLachlan P/L 17 Angus	380kg	\$5.42	\$2060
H & R Need 16 Angus	357kg	\$5.58	\$2000
Delaney Family Trust 17 Mxd	347kg	\$4.89	\$1700
B Mcleay 11 Herford	335kg	\$4.53	\$1520
H & R Need 12 Angus	323kg	\$5.59	\$1810
Rural Operations Group 14 Hfd	310kg	\$4.54	\$1410
P Davis & D Towns 18 Angus	285kg	\$5.98	\$1710
Mapleton Ag 13 Angus	280kg	\$5.37	\$1510
N Rees & N Savage 22 Angus	280kg	\$5.28	\$1480
D Board 17 Angus	271kg	\$6.12	\$1660
J Giardina 10 Simm	271kg	\$4.87	\$1320
P & A Drew 10 Angus	263kg	\$4.71	\$1240
Riseborough Produce 10 Angus	263kg	\$4.62	\$1220
F & P Miller 10 Angus	257kg	\$4.74	\$1220
G & J Jose 23 Angus	254kg	\$5.61	\$1430
Rural Operations Group 15 Ang	251kg	\$5.73	\$1440
Willow Grove Farms 26 Hfd	248kg	\$5.51	\$1370
M Wright 13 Angus	244kg	\$5.07	\$1240
Double Chin Stud 12 Hfd	240kg	\$5.95	\$1430
Pepperhill Trading Co			
20 Angus & BB	237kg	\$6.07	\$1440
D Board 14 Angus	236kg	\$5.50	\$1300
Tablelands Pastoral 15 Hfd	221kg	\$6.10	\$1350

Heifers			
Watergrass Angus 20 Angus	456kg	\$4.82	\$2200
KJ & Sm Rogers 13 Angus	408kg	\$4.60	\$1880
T & C Howson 11 Angus	360kg	\$4.59	\$1660
AG & AM Eldridge 10 Sim	329kg	\$4.19	\$1380
D & A Gibson 10 Spk	302kg	\$3.44	\$1040
J Giardina 10 Simm	300kg	\$4.43	\$1330
Lj Mccorey 16 Angus	298kg	\$4.89	\$1460
Rj & Pj Derham 17 Hereford	290kg	\$4.55	\$1320
Nicky Reeves Livestock 26 Spk	288kg	\$4.39	\$1270
Yarramlea Pastoral Co 12 Ang	286kg	\$3.14	\$900
J & V Garretto 12 Angus	284kg	\$4.49	\$1280
Blackwood Pastoral Co 15 Ang	281kg	\$4.62	\$1300
D Flack 11 Angus	265kg	\$3.77	\$1000
D Board 11 Angus	263kg	\$4.79	\$1260
P Davis & D Towns 10 Angus	263kg	\$4.37	\$1150
P & A Drew 17 Angus	248kg	\$4.47	\$1110
H & I Edelmaier 12 Angus	228kg	\$4.37	\$1000
D Board 17 Angus	215kg	\$4.65	\$1000
Loch Hills Cattle Farm 14 Ang	165kg	\$4.78	\$790

Xbred Steers			
T Haymes 23 Angus X	489kg	\$4.57	\$2240
Hooper Farms Trust 18 Ang X	447kg	\$4.49	\$2010
Hooper Farms Trust 24 Ang X	369kg	\$4.33	\$1600
Mapleton AG 24 Angus X	309kg	\$4.52	\$1400
J & K Haitsma 12 Angus X	288kg	\$2.84	\$820
Geoff Bain 13 Angus X	276kg	\$4.16	\$1150
K Risstrom 13 XB	253kg	\$3.94	\$1000
Ag & Am Eldridge 18 Xb	245kg	\$3.46	\$850
Yarramlea Pastoral Co 15 XB	239kg	\$3.17	\$760
Ben Elliott 14 Angus X	239kg	\$2.92	\$700

Friesian Steers			
T Haymes 10 Friesian	436kg	\$3.48	\$1510
Pm Otoole 12 Friesian	337kg	\$3.62	\$1220

Visit Landcare at the South Gippsland Dairy Expo

VISIT the Landcare stall to explore the many free resources available to dairy farmers. You'll find practical information on a wide range of workshops offered throughout the year, including weed and pest control, soil health, multi-species pastures, whole farm planning, biofertiliser making, revegetation, and more.

Got a weed you can't identify? Bring along a sample! The

Landcare team will help you figure out what it is and how to manage it.

Keep an eye out for a special guest, the Giant Gippsland Earthworm, who might even have something for the kids!

Members of the Gippsland Threatened Species Action Group will also be there to share updates on local projects, including efforts to protect the Giant Gippsland

Earthworm, an internationally recognised species found only in this region. These rare creatures live under cattle pastures and help maintain healthy soils.

Have you heard the earthworms on your farm? A census is currently underway to better understand their distribution, and feedback from farmers and landholders is crucial.

To make reporting easy, Landcare has developed a free Giant Gippsland Earthworm app. Just look for the cartoon worm logo in your app store (search for Giant Gippsland Earthworm).

Information collected will support future conservation efforts and help interested landholders protect this unique species on their properties.



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LEONGATHA		Brian Vuillermin	0429 436 040
Dane Perczyk - Livestock Manager	0408 176 063	WONTHAGGI	
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		
BERWICK		LANG LANG		KOO WEE RUP	
Tom Gibson	0438 574 472	Scott McKenzie	0427 552 898	Angus Hall	0466 326 487

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Nationals’ Deputy Leader Emma Kealy has highlighted concerns that agricultural research scientists jobs will go as public service jobs in regional areas are targeted.

Fears Ag scientists’ jobs next to go in State’s cost-cutting drive

THE State Government promised no frontline service cuts but, according to the Victorian Nationals, the Premier is now “targeting Victoria’s incredible team of agricultural research scientists”.

That’s according to Emma Kealy MP, Deputy Leader of the State Parliamentary Nationals and Shadow Minister for Agriculture.

“This is a total disregard for the 21,300 farm businesses across Victoria, the lifeblood of our regional communities,” she said.

“They generate well over \$14 billion in agricultural produce and drive around 27 per cent of Australia’s total food and fibre exports, worth \$20.1 billion.”

According to a statement by Ms Kealy, the state government has only budgeted \$537.2 million for Agriculture Victoria in 2025–26, down from \$614.8 million in 2024–25.

“These budget cuts, along with the loss of critical staff, gut the very people who protect Victorian agriculture and the scientists whose blue-sky research is vital to keeping our farmers competitive in a global market,” said Ms Kealy.

“It is a huge blow to an industry already under pressure.

“Adding insult to injury, the Allan Labor Government’s new emergency services tax will hit farmers with a tax increase of up 150 per cent on their rates bills.

“At a time when farmers are grappling with skyrocketing input costs, drought and economic uncertainty, Labor just keeps slugging them harder.

“These cuts to research scientists – on top of the emergency services tax – highlight the contempt the Allan Labor Government has for our hardworking farmers, who are once again paying the price for Labor’s incompetence.

“Victorian agriculture deserves better. Our farmers deserve better.”

News that agricultural research scientist jobs will be lost comes a week after it was reported by the ABC that the Victorian government was planning to cut around 350 jobs as part of a restructure to its Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (DEECA).

The losses are expected to affect public sector workers in a variety of areas, including Agriculture Victoria, Solar Victoria, the First Peoples group and bushfire and forest services.

Community and Public Sector Union (CPSU) secretary Jiselle Hanna said the union had not yet been briefed on the cuts but was concerned about the impact the cuts would have on regional Victoria in particular.

“These people and their services are critical to local communities and economies,” Ms Hanna told the ABC.

Liberal MP for Western Victoria Bev McArthur, who was in Wonthaggi last week to speak at an anti-emergency fund levy meeting, said she was not surprised the government was cutting jobs that affected regional areas.

“They’ve obviously decided they’ve got to make some cuts somewhere, but of course, where do they make them? Outside the tram tracks of Melbourne,” she said.

Eastern Victoria MP Melina Bath said she hadn’t seen the detail of the government’s workforce cuts was especially concerned about reports that front-line bushfire jobs would go.

“My concern is that these cuts will hit Victoria’s bushfire-preparedness. The government is already failing to meet its bushfire management targets and now we hear they are threatening cuts in this crucial service area.”

Learn to manage drought in Meeniyan

A Decisions That Drive Drought Recovery event will be held in Meeniyan on August 27

Join this powerful and practical one-day workshop that focuses 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 crisis/challenges by:

- Learning how to navigate competing priorities for limited resources (family, farm and business).
- Identifying key resource issues, stressors, risks and opportunities for your farm business.

- Learning improved decision-making skills and how to manage key priorities – especially when under pressure and stress.
 - Learning skills to rebuild capacity after battling personal/health and business challenges.
 - Connecting to networks that support recovery and resilience.
- Morning tea and a light lunch will be provided.

The event will take place at the Meeniyan Community Hub, from 9am to 3.30pm.

It is a free event, and registrations can be made at <https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1428925>.

VLE - LEONGATHA

STORE SALE

3000 CATTLE 3000

THURSDAY, AUGUST 28, 2025 - Starting at 9am

PLEASE NOTE: 4PM WEDNESDAY CURFEW APPLIES

GROWN STEERS

A/c Von Pace Pastoral, Giffard (NUTRIEN)
50 Angus steers, 15-16 mths, NE Accred,
By Innesdale & Absolute Angus Bulls
A/c Brentcorp, Glengarry (SEJ)
15 Hereford steers, 22-26 mths
28 Angus steers, 18-20 mths
East Gippsland bred, GF & ABF
A/c Breeder, A Lineham, Vervale (ESB)
40 Angus steers, Ballanee & Sparta blood,
20-22 mths
A/c Ballywarra, Modella (ESB)
40 Angus steers, 18 mths
A/c Bangala Pastoral, Newhaven (PHC)
30 Angus steers, 15-16 mths, By Holmwood Angus Bull
A/c D Frans, Boisdale (NUTRIEN)
30 Angus steers, 16- 18 mths
A/c SL & LM Harrison, Giffard West (PHC)
30 Angus & Angus X steers, 14-15 mths
A/c L Harvey, King Island (NUTRIEN)
30 Hereford, BB & Angus steers, 14-16 mths
A/c Jackson Past, Cowwarr (NUTRIEN)
30 Angus steers, 15-16 mths, Forward condition, VB,
ABF, NE Accred
A/c R & D Egan, Yarram (NUTRIEN)
8 Angus steers, 15 mths
20 Hereford steers, 14-18 mths
Drenched 29/6/25
A/c A & L Dunkley, Yarram (NUTRIEN)
25 Angus steers, 14-16 mths
A/c G & R Scanlon, Warragul (NUTRIEN)
20 Angus steers, rising 2 yo, Local District bred,
forward condition
A/c D Bishoff, Yinnar (NUTRIEN)
20 Angus steers, 20 mths, East Gippsland bred,
Te Mania & Dunoon blood, Drenched Cydectin 20/8
A/c Bannah Beef, Fernbank (SEJ)
18 Angus steers, 16-17 mths, Black Spur & Rosskin
bloodlines, GF, ABF, and very quiet
A/c Melaleuca Past, Ruby (NUTRIEN)
16 Angus steers, 15-16 mths
A/c G Davis, Heyfield (NUTRIEN)
16 Angus steers, 20-22 mths
A/c Frenchs 4 Enterprises P/L, Munro (NUTRIEN)
15 Angus & BB steers, 18 mths
A/c Breeder, M & P Shaw, Moorooduc (ESB)
14 Angus steers, 15 mths
A/c D Brien, Trafalgar Sth (NUTRIEN)
10 Limo X steers, 16 mths
A/c Korumburra-Bena FNC, Korumburra (SEJ)
7 Angus steers, 16-18 mths

GROWN HEIFERS

A/c M Summers, King Island (NUTRIEN)
52 Angus & Red Angus heifers, 14 mths
A/c Lorstan, Hedley (SEJ)
60 Angus heifers, 15-16 mths, Kunuma and Tambo
Valley blood, VB, GF, ABF, NE Accred, Baymec Gold
drench on 31/7
A/c Bangala Pastoral, Newhaven (PHC)
30 Angus heifers, 15-16 mths, By Holmwood Angus Bull
A/c SL & LM Harrison, Giffard West (PHC)
30 Angus & Angus X heifers, 14-15 mths
A/c L Harvey, King Island (NUTRIEN)
30 Hereford, BB & Angus heifers, 14-16 mths
A/c Von Pace Pastoral, Giffard (NUTRIEN)
20 Angus heifers, 15-16 mths, NE Accred, By
Innesdale & Absolute Angus Bulls
A/c K D Opray, Hedley (PHC)
15 Angus heifers, 20 mths, by top Leawood Bulls, had
all treatments
A/c R & E Newnham, Sale (NUTRIEN)
13 Angus/Hereford X heifers, 14-15 mths, Innesdale
blood
A/c Brown & Mangiafico, Dumbalk North (SEJ)
10 Angus heifers, 16 mths
A/c D Brien, Trafalgar South (NUTRIEN)
10 Limo X heifers, 16 mths

WEANERS

A/c G & K Belcher, Woodside (SEJ)
80 Angus steers, 10-13 mths
50 Angus heifers, 10-13 mths
VB, GF & ABF, Sired by Top Banquet Bulls
A/c SL & LM Harrison, Giffard West (PHC)
120 Angus & Angus X mixed sex weaners,
10-12 mths, all by Stud Angus Bulls, weaned
A/c Buneep Park, Bunyip (SEJ)
100 Angus steers, 8-11 mths, weaned, VB, GF & ABF,
NE accredited, Wattlewood & Sparta bloodlines, Drenched
& Multimin 10/8/25
A/c Breeder, Ingle Park, Bannarring (ESB)
100 Angus mix sex weaners, 12-13 mths, yard
weaned by High Indexing Table Top Bulls
A/c ED & HC Moore, Jack River (PHC)
80 Angus & Angus X mixed sex weaners,
10-11 mths, weaned
A/c G & T McColl “Glenfinnan”, Mardan (SEJ)
60 Angus heifers, 10-11 mths, 3 x 5in1, weaned
3 mths, Pinora, Innesdale & Merlewood blood
A/c K D Opray, Hedley (PHC)
50 Angus steers, 12 mths by Top Leawood Bulls, had
all treatments
A/c P. K. Macphail, Hedley (PHC)
40 Angus & Angus-x mixed sex weaners,
10-12 mths, weaned
A/c J & S Kelly, Korumburra (NUTRIEN)
40 Angus weaners, yard weaned, 2x5in1, JB Angus &
Harris blood, NE Accred
A/c N Henderson, Gelantipy (NUTRIEN)
40 Angus steers, Aug/Sept drop, Team Te Mania blood,
weaned, NE Accred
A/c P & T Dowsett, Stradbroke (NUTRIEN)
20 Angus & BB steers
20 Angus & BB heifers
10-12 mths
A/c B Dungey, Traralgon (NUTRIEN)
12 Angus weaner steers
13 Angus weaner heifers
Weaned May 25, 2x5in1, Drenched at weaning,
By Sparta Bulls, NE Accred
A/c J & K Hilliar “Riverview”, Mirboo (SEJ)
25 Angus steers, 7-9 mths, Battersby blood, VB, GF
& ABF
A/c G & L Simmons, Woodside (PHC)
25 Hereford mixed sex weaners, 9-10 mths, Karoonda
blood
A/c R & H White, Fernbank (SEJ)
24 Angus mix sex weaners, 10 mths, VB, GF & ABF,
NE Accred
A/c D&S Burns, Ryanston (SEJ)
15 Angus steers 12 mths, VB, GF, ABF
A/c Gaph Pastoral, Dollar (SEJ)
14 Angus mixed sex, 10 mths, weaned, VB, GF & ABF,
Harris Farm blood
A/c Berry Ridge P/L, Traralgon (NUTRIEN)
10 Angus/Hereford X weaners
A/c Bimbadeen Angus, Phillip Island (NUTRIEN)
10 Angus heifers, 10-12 mths

XBRED & DAIRY

A/c R & C Jennings, Gormandale (NUTRIEN)
43 XB steers
22 XB heifers
12 mths
A/c Hannigan & Irvin, Yanakie (SEJ)
12 Angus X Friesian steers, 18 mths, By AI Sires

COWS & CALVES

A/c Sek Holdings (NUTRIEN)
8x8 Angus cows & calves, 2nd calvers, 2x5in1 & 2 X
Multimin, By Merlewood Bulls, calves marked

BULLS

A/c Bimbadeen Angus, Phillip Island (NUTRIEN)
2 Angus Bulls, rising 2 yo

5662 4033

5662 2291

0429 050 349

5997 1555

SOUTH GIPPSLAND ASSOCIATED AGENTS

SOUTH GIPPSLAND SENTINEL-TIMES | TUESDAY, AUGUST 26, 2025 | 43



Lardner Park Calf Market Report

Monday, August 18, 2025

Jersey & Jersey x\$10 to \$30
Friesian Bulls\$20 to \$105
Beef Bulls\$30 to \$200
Beef Heifers\$28 to \$260
Friesian Heifers\$24 to \$75
Number of Calves: **567**
Number purchased to rear: **143**

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Monday, September 8, 2025

Commencing 12 NOON on Beef Bulls.
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Rob Ould 0408 595 183
David Holden 0428 749 390
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Further details on Bulls to be
featured at our sale on Facebook



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Shadow Minister for Local Government Bev McArthur MP speaking at the 'Not in Our Name' rally at the Wonthaggi Workmen's Club. B05_3425



Meg Edwards, convenor of the Not in Our Name rally protesting against the State Government's Emergency Services Levy at the Wonthaggi Workmen's Club. B01_3425

Anger grows over the State Government Emergency Services Volunteer Levy

By Bruce Wardley

STUNG by a jump in this year's council rates, farmers, householders and business owners gathered with CFA volunteers at the Wonthaggi Workmen's Club to voice their strong opposition to the State Government's new Emergency Services Volunteer Levy.

The Not in Our Name rally, convened by Meg Edwards, attracted vocal support from Liberal and National Party MPs and councillors from throughout Gippsland.

"Say no to more taxes on your rates notice," said Meg Edwards.

Speaking out against the Labor Government's Emergency Services Levy were Gippsland South MP and Victorian Nationals Leader Danny O'Brien, Member for Naracan Wayne Farnham MP, Member for Eastern Victoria Renee Heath MP and Shadow Minister for Local Government Bev McArthur MP.

Councillors from the Shire of Baw Baw and Cardinia Shire joined the Mayor of South Gippsland Shire Cr John Schelling, and Faye Tuchtan and Graham Wood from the Bass Coast Branch of the Victorian Farmers

Federation.

"It's not a levy, it's a tax," said Wayne Farnham MP.

"It will be catastrophic for every farmer in the state," Mr Farnham said.

The tax is a result of total economic mismanagement and will affect every Victorian. "It should have been called the 'we have run out of money tax'," said Mr Farnham.

Claiming the emergency services levy would raise \$5 billion for the state, Mr Farnham said not all that money would go to emergency services.

Nationals Leader Danny O'Brien MP warned that every homeowner will face an increase.

"For farmers, it should be scrapped, not just put off for 12 months.

"There will be new categories for people with a secondary residence and landlords, making it more difficult for renters," said Mr O'Brien.

Shadow Minister for Local Government Bev McArthur MP said the success of the recent rallies in Melbourne had let people 'inside the

tram tracks' know they're in trouble.

"We're in a terrible situation," said Ms McArthur.

"We should not be taxed to keep ourselves safe."

Ms McArthur said local government should stop being the State Government's patsy.

"Local government has become the tax collector for the state.

"If the government wants to introduce a new tax, they should organise it," she said.

"The State Government needs to be held accountable. In so many areas of local government, ratepayers pick up the bill for new government policy.

"Local government has to learn to say no to government."

Ms McArthur said local councils are now speaking with one voice.

"Keep it going," she said.

"This government is addicted to wasteful spending."

Opposition Whip in the Legislative Council and Member for Eastern Victoria, Renee Heath MP, said the Emergency Services Levy bill was immoral and wrong.

"This is something that is not good for the State of Victoria."

Faye Tuchtan and Graham Wood from the Bass Coast Branch of the Victorian Farmers Federation said farmers are the lifeblood of the state.

"It is farmers who organise groups of volunteers and man the CFA trucks," said Mr Wood.

"It's a spirit that has long been championed by the farming community.

"Our reward is a kick in the guts with a new tax."

Mr Wood said it feels like deliberate punishment for the services farmers provide.

"This tax is anything but fair; it's a tax on your assets, not your income.

"Soil is a farmer's working capital," said Mr Wood.

"No way should it be taxed."

Mr Wood accused the State Government of seeing farm assets as a cash cow.

"The value of your farm has no bearing on the money you make.

"This isn't a tax on profit, it's a tax on your very existence.

"It's outrageous. It's a tax on volunteers."

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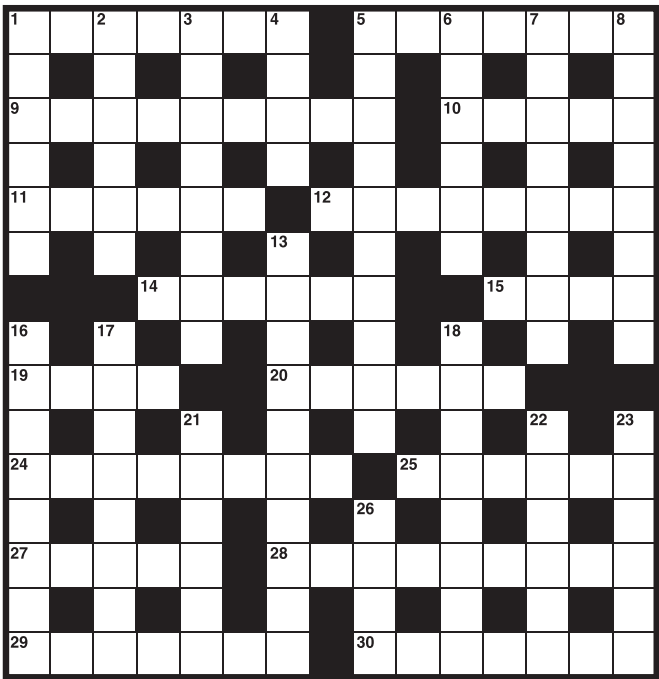
TRAFALGAR
8-14 Saleyards Rd
(03) 5633 1588

MAFFRA
2 Empire Place
(03) 5141 1700



CROSSWORD

No. 295



ACROSS

- 1 Dessert made with milk and eggs (7)
5 Large printed pictures (7)
9 Short pistol (9)
10 System of principles (5)
- 11 Perquisites (6)
12 Confirming (8)
14 Playing cards (6)
15 Brand of car, Mercedes – (4)
19 US state (4)
20 Governing body (6)

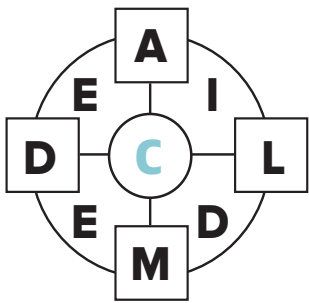
9-LETTER

No. 295

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:

- 17 words: **Good**
25 words: **Very good**
34 words: **Excellent**



- 24 Compelling charm (8)
25 Indian deity (6)
27 Establish by law (5)
28 South American (9)
29 Completely (7)
30 Screw in (7)
- DOWN**
1 Club (6)
2 Spray of liquid (6)
3 Lively (8)
4 Excavates (4)
5 Buying (10)
6 Inveigle (6)
7 Kitchen time measure (8)
8 To daydream (8)
13 Very likely though not known for certain (10)
16 Most rapid (8)
17 Clouded eye lens (8)
18 Featuring as a principal performer (8)
21 Female organ of a flower (6)
22 Economy (6)
23 Large piece of artillery (6)
26 Truth (4)

SOLUTION



medical, mica, mice
lice, mace, milice,
ileac, lace, laced, laic,
dice, diced, iced,
declaim, declaimed,
decide, declaim,
dace, decade,
claimed, clam, clime,
ceded, clad, claim,
came, camel, cede,
caddie, calm, calmed,
aced, acid, acme,

WORDFIT

No. 204

3 LETTERS

- ACE
AGO
ART
BEE
BOA
DEW
DOE
DUE
ILL
LAX
LEE
LIE
MEN
MIX
MYS
PAL
RED
REV
SAC
SEE
TEE
THE
URN
USE

- REST
SLED
SLUG
SOIL
WARD

5 LETTERS

- ABATE
ABBOT
ABODE
ADORE
AFTER
AGENT
ALTOS
AMASS
ARISE
ASIDE
BANAL
BLEND
BLOND
BRACE
CANES
CAROL
CIGAR
CLING
CRATE
DEEDS
EASED
EDGES
ELITE
ENTER
EVERY
FAULT
FRAME
GORES
HENCE

4 LETTERS

- DAME
DRAG
ERRS
GOLF
HEMS
KERB
LABS
LAIR
LOVE

- INANE
ITEMS
KNEES
LOOTS
MEETS
METED
MISER
QUACK
RATIO
REFER
RENTS
RESET
SADLY
SEEDY
- SLOSH
SMOKE
SPATE
TENOR
URBAN
WHALE
WREAK

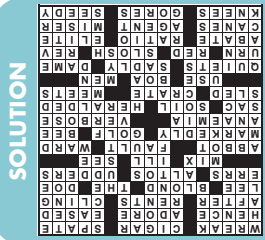
- 7 LETTERS
ANAEMIA
DIOCESE
GONDOLA
HUSTLER
TOASTER
VERBOSE

- 8 LETTERS
HEADLINE
HERALDED
IDENTIFY
MARKEDLY

6 LETTERS

- QUIETS
SECEDE
STRESS
UDDERS

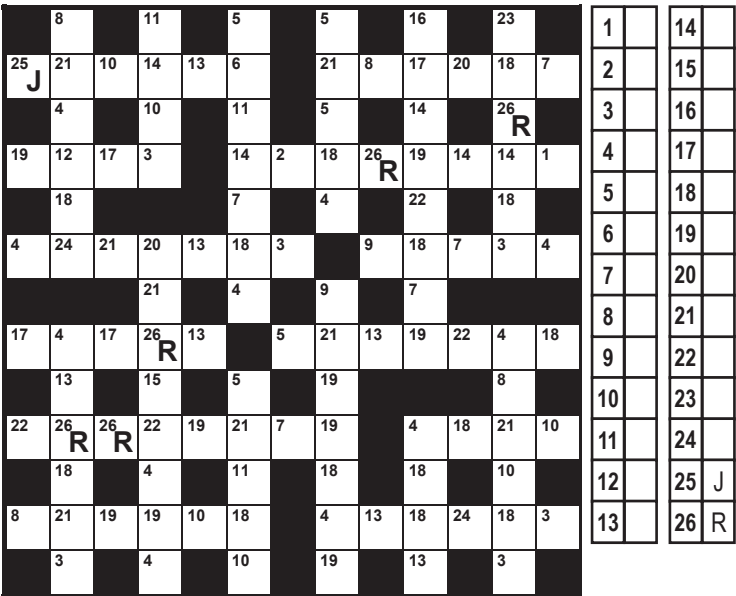
SOLUTION



CODEWORD

No. 285

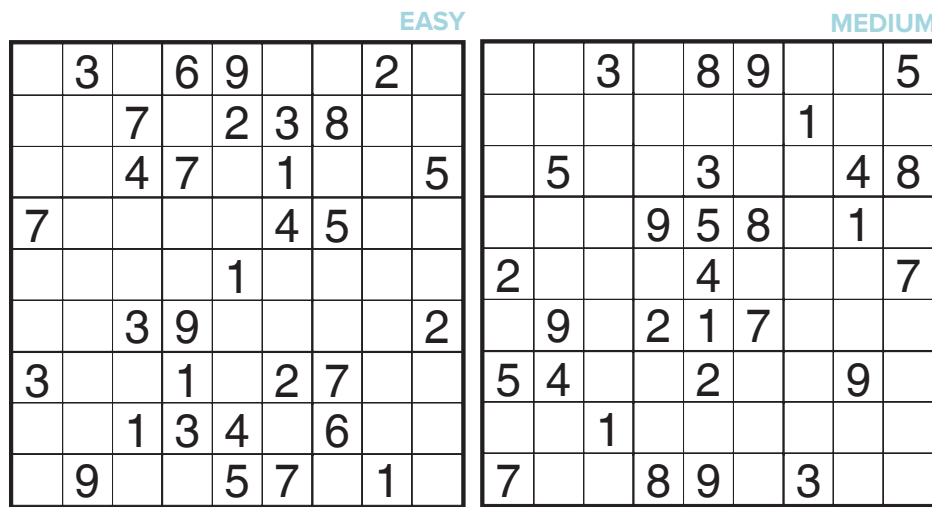
Each number corresponds to a letter of the alphabet. Two have been filled in for you, can you work out the rest?



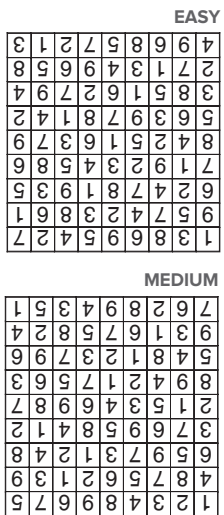
SUDOKU

No. 294

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every number from 1 to 9 must appear in: each of the nine vertical columns, each of the nine horizontal rows and each of the nine 3 x 3 boxes. Remember, no number can occur more than once in any row, column or box.



SOLUTIONS



QUICK QUIZ

- Celine Dion appears in which 2023 rom-com?
- What three colours appear on the Armenian flag?
- Which country borders Nicaragua to the north?
- Who played Atticus Finch in *To Kill a Mockingbird*?
- Where was the 1976 Summer Olympics held?
- US television personality Michael Strahan (pictured) played which sport professionally?
- Is the maximum length of a male or female orca larger?
- Played by Cate Blanchett in film, Lydia Tár was the chief conductor of which orchestra?
- In what year did a structural fire break out at the Notre-Dame?
- In which century was the British Museum established?



ANSWERS: 1. Love Again 2. Red, blue and orange 3. Honduras 4. Gregory Peck 5. Montreal 6. American Football 7. Male 8. Berlin Philharmonic 9. 2019 10. 18th

WORD SEARCH

No. 205

Can you find all the words listed? The leftover letters will spell out a secret message.



- ALLEYCAT
BRITISH
BURMESE
CALICO
CHEETAH
CLAW
COAT
CORNISH REX
COUGAR
FELINE
FISH
FUR
GRUMPY
HISS
JAGUAR
KITTEN
LEOPARD
LION
LITTER
LOAF
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GIPPSLAND's first Orange Sky laundry pod has been opened at the Salvation Army in McKenzie Street providing laundry facilities for those in need twice a week.

Regional Coordinator for Orange Sky Victoria, Emma Anderson, said the Bass Coast laundry pod had been a huge collaborative effort.

"Connecting with local Wonthaggi and Inverloch Rotary groups and Bass Coast Shire over a year and a half ago, it's incredibly rewarding to see this partnership come to fruition after months of work."

Eighteen Orange Sky volunteers will assist with the operation of the laundry pod on Monday and Thursday mornings from 10am to midday at

the rear of the Salvation Army at 149 McKenzie Street.

"Volunteers have one of the most important jobs at Orange Sky to connect with people doing it tough through genuine and non-judgmental conversation," said Ms Anderson. "In the hour that it takes to do a load of laundry, we sit down on our six orange chairs and have a chat, it's a simple opportunity to positively connect with people experiencing hardship, homelessness or loneliness in Wonthaggi."

The innovative Orange Sky laundry pod is a stand-alone structure fitted with two washing machines and two environmentally friendly dryers to provide a free laundry service.

Marking Orange Sky's 50th

location, Bass Coast Mayor Cr Rochelle Halstead officially opened the Wonthaggi laundry pod with the cutting of an orange ribbon, followed by volunteers helping with the first load of laundry.

Mayor Cr Halstead said clean laundry gives people a sense of dignity.

"There's excitement in the air starting with the first load."

"Today marks a special step forward for our community."

"Orange Sky is about dignity and respect. We know life can be tough at times and homelessness can feel overwhelming. Orange Sky will make a difference to so many in our community."

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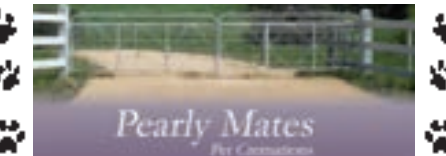
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DEATHS	DEATHS	DEATHS	DEATHS	DEATHS	DEATHS	FUNERALS	THANKS
ALLAN, David: 25.07.1947 - 14.08.2025. Loving brother and brother-in-law to Barrie and Sue, Geoffrey (dec.), Raquel, Wendy and Kim and Janette (dec.) and families. A well-known and liked gentlemen and will be missed by family and friends.	HARVEY, Joseph William: Passed away 17.08.2025. Sister of Lynette, brother-in-law of Neil and his four boys and grandchildren, Jodie and Julie and family.	PFAHLER (nee Bedurftig), Maria Cacia Christiana: Born on December 18, 1937. Passed away August 16, 2025 at Koorooman House Leongatha. Devoted wife of Karl (dec). Resting peacefully together again. Private service as per Maria's wishes (invitation only).	PIZZOL (nee Zanella) Antonia “Nonna”: Loved mum of Giuliano and Deb. Beloved nonna of Lisa and Jon; Alex and Emily; Jess and Karishma and Kai. <i>Forever Cherished.</i>	PIZZOL, Antonia: Over 65 years of friendship, the best neighbour one could wish for. Sending my deepest condolences and love to your family. I will miss you dearly but take comfort knowing we will be neighbours forever. Love Betty and family.	ZANDER, Hazel Daphne: 14.04.1937 - 19.08.2025. Much loved travelling companion and wife of Harry (dec.). Mother of Tina and Trudy, mother-in-law of Ian and David. Grandma to Geoffrey, Tahnee, Nyree, Tristan and Callum. Great grandma to Nicholas, Matilda, Leo, Edie and Paddy. Expressed her creativity to the end. Loved by us all. Privately Cremated.	PIZZOL: Funeral Prayers for Mrs. Antonia Pizzol will be offered at St. Joseph's Catholic Church, Korumburra Road, Wonthaggi on Thursday, August 28, 2025, commencing at 11.30am. At the conclusion of Prayers, the funeral will leave for the Wonthaggi Cemetery. For livestreaming go to www.handleyandandersonfunerals.com.au	IVY SHEP: Thank you to my wonderful daughter Tracee for putting together a beautiful birthday celebration. Thank you to her husband Dom and the rest of my family for coming to celebrate with me. It means a lot. Lots of love, Ivy.
CORLESS, Michael: Born on August 7, 1932. Passed away August 16, 2025. Passed away peacefully on Saturday 16.08.2025 in Alchera House, Korumburra. Much loved husband of Denise for 21 years. Much loved father to Kathleen, Della, Elizabeth (Lisa) and Liam. Loving pop to all his grandchildren and great grandchildren. <i>Fond memories, forever cherished.</i>	HEAD, Philip Harold (Phil): Passed away peacefully on August 19, 2025. Much loved and loving husband of Jan. Beloved father of Chris and Dave, and beloved father-in-law of Renee. Special grandfather of Paris and ‘Silly Grampa’ to Gabriel. Son of Lee and Jack (both dec.). Dearest brother of Kenneth (dec.) and Peter, and brother-in-law of Heather (dec.). Cheeky son-in-law of Pat and Lee (dec.). Cherished by all his extended family. Gone from our sight, but not from our smiles.	PFAHLER, Maria: Passed away 16.8.2025 at Koorooman House. Fond memories of a special friendship Auf Wiedersehen. <i>Until we meet again.</i>	PIZZOL (nee Zanella), Antonia (Antonietta): 06/01/1934 - 17/08/2025. Dearly loved and cherished mother and mother-in-law of Livio and Cindy. Adored nonna to Mathew and Diane and Jenna and Scott. Loving bisnonna to Sophia, Theodore and Luca. <i>“Your life was a blessing, your memory a treasure. You are loved beyond words and missed beyond measure.”</i> In our hearts forever. Rest in our love and Riposa in Pace.	PIZZOL, Antionette: To a wonderful lady who has been a special friend and neighbour to Tina (dec.) and her family for over a lifetime. Our condolences to the family. -- Dina, Anna and family.	FUNERALS CORLESS: The Funeral Service and Committal for Cremation for Mr. Michael Corless will be held at Korumburra Uniting Church, 10/12 Bridge St, Korumburra on Tuesday, August 26, 2025 commencing at 11am. In lieu of flowers, Michael has requested donations to be made to The Royal Eye and Ear Hospital or Lions Club Australia.	SCANDOLERA Funeral Prayers for the Repose of the Soul of Mr. Paul Francis Scandolera will be offered at St Joseph's Catholic Church, 6 Guys Rd, Korumburra on Friday, August 29 at 11.30 am. At the conclusion of Prayers, the Funeral will leave for the Nyora Cemetery.	FOR SALE FILING CABINETS <i>Brand new with an anti-tilt safety feature</i> Available in 2, 3 and 4 drawers. Over 8 colours to choose from. Order now at the Sentinel-Times Wonthaggi office 47 McBride Avenue 5672 1888 FIREWOOD: 2 cubic metre loads. \$300. Contact-5657 3291. HAY: Round bales. Good quality, 10 only, \$200 per bale. Can deliver, ph. 5657 3291.
GREGORY, Mark: Loved husband of Valerie for 34 years, has passed away. A celebration of Mark's life is being held on Sunday August 31, 2025, 1.30pm - 3.30pm, Longwarry Public Hall, 14 Kennedy Street, Longwarry. If you have photos, memories or a message, then please email markslifecelebration@use.startmail.com	LEE-STEERE (nee Wilson), Elizabeth Margaret: Dearly loved sister of Bill (dec.) and Margaret. Wonderful memories from all the Close families. McCABE, Michael: 28.9.1950 - 18.8.2025 Loved father of Luke, Patrick and Katie. Adored pop of Evelyn, Max, and Charlie. <i>Loved and remembered.</i>	PIZZOL (nee Zanella), Antonia: Passed away peacefully in her sleep at home on August 17, 2025. Beloved wife of Gus (dec.). Loving mother and mother-in-law of Giuliano and Deb, Livio and Cindy, Diana and Paul. Adored nonna of seven grandchildren and bis nonna of four great grandchildren. Mum and Dad reunited, <i>Riposi in Pace.</i>	PIZZOL (nee Zanella), Antonia (Antonietta): 06/01/1934 - 17/08/2025. Dearly loved and cherished mother and mother-in-law of Diana and Paulo. Adored nonna of Max and Tom. Loved and remembered always. RIPOSA IN PACE.	REEVES, Trevor: It is with great sadness we announce the passing of our President Trevor Reeves after a sudden illness and treatment at the Alfred hospital. Trevor passed away surrounded by his family on August 12. Trevor's funeral will be at 11am at the Ashburton Uniting Church, only bright colours to be worn. We bid you Godspeed Trevor. The Wonthaggi Men's Shed sends our condolences and love to San and the family at this difficult time.	FUNERALS HEAD: Requiem Mass for the Repose of the Soul for Mr. Philip Harold Head will be offered at St. Joseph's Catholic Church, 16-18 Ridgway, Mirboo North, TOMORROW, Wednesday, August 27, 2025, commencing at 12noon. A private cremation will follow. Phil's service will be live streamed. Please go to www.handleyandandersonfunerals.com.au for details.	IN MEMORIAM JOYCE, Ron: 11.02.1941 - 24.08.2024. One year has passed, miss you everyday. Life is not the same without you. Love you always Nancy, Neil and Liza.	GARAGE SALES WONTHAGGI NORTH: 7 Oxford Way, Saturday and Sunday, August 30 and 31. 8am - 2pm. Household items, kitchen and clothing items. WONTHAGGI: 36 Wishart Street, Saturday, August 30, 9am - 3pm, no early birds. Good prices. Lots of items.



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STEVENS, Craig:

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McCABE:

A Memorial Service to Celebrate the Life of Mr. Michael McCabe will be held at the San Remo Bowls Club, 1A Wynne Road, San Remo on Friday, August 29, 2025 commencing at 1pm.

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Son Robert and John would like to express to the many who sent cards and remembrances of June, over 60 in total.

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Maintenance Supervisor

Rose Lodge is a not-for-profit Aged Care facility located in Wonthaggi that is committed to providing high quality care and support to our residents. We believe that our dedication and compassionate staff are the key to our success.

We are always looking for talented and passionate individuals who are committed to making a positive difference in the lives of others and share our values which are: **Community, Respect, Wellbeing, Accountability and Partnership.** Rose Lodge is currently seeking a Maintenance Supervisor.

- About you:**
- Experience in trades or facility maintenance (health care setting experience a bonus)
 - Hand-on problem solver who works well independently
 - Organised, adaptable & a great communicator
 - Committed to safety and quality work

If you are interested or would like a copy of the Position Description.

Please email your resume and application letter to: education@roselodge.com.au

AF0011

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Much hardship and difficulty is caused to jobseekers by misleading advertisements placed in the employment columns.

Our Positions Vacant / Situations Vacant columns are reserved for advertisements which carry a specific and genuine offer of employment.

Ads for 'Business Opportunities', 'Commission Only/Sales,' training courses and employment services should be submitted under those headings.

Placing misleading job ads is an offence against the ACL and all advertisements are subject to the publisher's approval. For further advice contact the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission on 1300 302 502 or Consumer Affairs Victoria.



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YOUR SAY

A reply to The Editor

AS A somewhat new sitting councillor (Island Ward), I cannot let the misdirected fire in the Sentinel Times (19/08/25) – ‘The Tragedy of Bad Planning’ - pass without comment. I say “somewhat new” because, like six of the nine councillors, I came into Council at the last election, late last year.

The key argument being made by the writer to support that editorial headline rests on supposition about councillors’ capacity to get across the detail of reports placed before them.

Well, yes, we do have an awful lot of reading, but no report comes to us for assent without having been presented to us in briefings – and re-presented – with our input and agreed changes (those reports now going out for community consultation). We’ve been looking at some of those reports for months and wrangling with colleagues in other Wards over the budget and its priorities since November.

For the writer to posit that having a number of reports to give assent to is, ipso facto, evidence of ‘bad planning’ is a very long bow to draw.

And as for Berninneit, the writer is surely not suggesting that we be hoist on that petard; it was a decision of a past council. Whatever the writer’s views of the cultural centre, it is now ‘a fact’. As for my views, I am a supporter of Berninneit, although I question whether that past council, in green-lighting the project when it did, had its community priorities in the correct order.

My view is that the sporting precinct was then and remains now the key project for Phillip Island and Cowes. Had the allocation in this budget been made ten years ago, we wouldn’t be having this discussion. But, the planning works are underway, and we expect it to rapidly gather a head of steam with both council funding and grant funding once the first sod is turned.

The writer may have other views, but how can we possibly expect to garner the tens of millions of grant funding needed for the mooted Cowes Aquatic Centre, if we don’t have the ovals, courts and precinct

underway? The writer also knows that a number of the projects being questioned, “to be overturned”, are legacy projects from the last council and underway with grant funding. Do we stop and give the money back?

As for giving us a whack for a fourth glass bin – a purple one – and the provision in the budget, well, that’s mandated by the Victorian Government (the writer should have known that).

We won’t get everything right, and we won’t please everybody. But we’ll listen, and keep listening, and we’ll do our best to truly reflect community priorities. It doesn’t make the job any easier having to bat away misdirected and unfair fire like that raised in this Sentinel commentary.

Cr Tim O’Brien, Island Ward

EDITOR: Even if, as you claim, you and all of your colleagues are across all of the detail in these weighty reports, how do you expect the community to offer meaningful feedback given the very short consultation period?

Trees vs housing – getting the balance right

BASS Coast Council recently refused an application to remove two condemned trees at Ventnor, despite arborists declaring them dangerous and the applicant offering to replace them.

This kind of rigid thinking raises bigger questions. What if those trees were standing in the way of housing for the homeless? Which would Council choose – the trees, or the chance to provide safe shelter for people in need?

Protecting vegetation is important, but it should never be treated as absolute. Common sense and balance are needed so that environmental concerns are weighed alongside community priorities like safety, housing, and social wellbeing.

That balance is what good governance requires.

Rob Parsons, The Gurdies

Along The Ridge Then and Now

AFTER six long years of research, writer Jeffrey Turnbull is launching his full-colour pictorial book on Mirboo North, titled Along The Ridge Then and Now.

The book features old photos of the towns’ streetscapes and buildings, comparing them with recent shots taken from approximately the same location where the original photographer would have stood. The original images have been colourised to vividly depict scenes from the past, accompanied by brief descriptions of the subjects.

Jeffrey is a retired secondary teacher of English and History who moved to Mirboo North 10 years ago, and the concept of Along The Ridge originated from a previous project that Jeff completed for Waverley

Historical Society in Melbourne. “Over time, I have revised the story and put together a book that is a compliment to the people of Mirboo North and the town, which has adopted us, displaying what the town has created and what it had in the past,” said Jeffrey

The pictorial is a tribute to Mirboo North’s history and the changing streetscape, and Jeffrey will hold a launch and signing at The Wrens Nest, Mirboo North, on Saturday, August 30, from 9 am, where the book will be available for purchase for \$28 in-store.

Along The Ridge Then and Now will also be available from Jeffrey directly for pick-up or delivery (plus postage). Phone: 0452 667 147.

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



HM1262

PUBLIC NOTICES



After much consideration, I would like to inform my valued clients and the general community that FINANCIAL BLUEPRINT PTY LTD at 5B Church Street, Leongatha, will be permanently closing it’s doors on 6th September 2025.

This decision was not made lightly and I want to personally thank everyone for their loyalty and support over the years.

Thank you once again for your trust and friendship, which has been truly rewarding.

Yours Sincerely, Dennis Lim

AF0020

Advertise your job vacancy in the Sentinel-Times and get a FREE listing in our online and searchable directory at www.sgst.com.au

Email your job adverts to: ads@sgst.com.au

DEADLINE: Fridays 3.30pm

Sentinel-Times

AF0009

Lifesavers commemorate the commissioning of HMAS Cape Woolamai

WOOLAMAI Beach Surf Life Saving Club was recently honoured to receive a visit from Lieutenant Commander Danielle Couch – a commanding officer of the HMAS Cape Woolamai.

The HMAS Cape Woolamai was commissioned into the Royal Australian Navy last year.

LCDR Couch presented the club with a small plaque to commemorate the occasion.

The plaque features the ship's insignia and a picture of the iconic Pinnacles at Cape Woolamai.

HMAS Cape Woolamai is based in Darwin and primarily carries out border protection activities and operations.

During the visit, the development of an ongoing relationship between the two organisations was discussed.

“The Woolamai Beach Surf Life Saving Club is thrilled to have made a connection with the HMAS Cape Woolamai, which is one of several Cape-class patrol boats in the Royal Australian Navy,” club president Jason Close said.

“The ship was first accepted into service in 2023, but on December 12, 2024, was commissioned into the Royal Australian Navy and is based in Darwin.

“Although we work at opposite ends of the country, our club is very keen to continue to develop its relationship with the HMAS Cape Woolamai.



Lieutenant Commander Danielle Couch of the Royal Australian Navy visited Woolamai Beach Surf Life Saving Club recently, presenting a plaque to commemorate the commissioning of the HMAS Cape Woolamai.

Our club has a proud history of serving the Phillip Island community at one of Victoria's wildest and most dangerous beaches.

“The ship's motto is ‘Intrepid’, which is a very apt motto. It is a word that describes all that inhabit and thrive in the rugged environment of Woolamai, this includes shearwaters and other wildlife that inhabit the Cape and many of our club's lifesavers who patrol its beaches.

“It is an honour that the ship's crew have recognised our incredible part of the world by wearing an image of Cape Woolamai and its iconic

Pinnacles rock formation on their naval uniforms.”

The club conducted a tour of the clubhouse and presented LCDR Couch with club merchandise – including club beanies knitted by Barb Webb, Graeme Clauscen's club history book Wild about Wooli, club caps and clothing.

LCDR Couch was joined on her visit by her husband LCDR Ben Couch, who is a commanding officer of the HMAS Cape Pillar.

Woolamai Beach Surf Life Saving Club was represented on the day by Mr Close, vice president Fi Blackmore, life

governors John Thomson, Ron Nicholson and Alan McLean, and club historian Graeme Clauscen.

Mr McLean is heading to Darwin this week. He is hoping to visit the HMAS Cape Woolamai and present LCDR Couch with a small commemorative plaque, which will also display the names of both organisations.

According to Mr Close, the club will be keeping in touch with LCDR Couch and looks forward to updates on the activities and experiences of the ship and its crew as it protects the northern borders.



Millie Gold represented the Kilcunda Bass Cricket Club when she played for Victoria in the Junior Girls Strike League recently.

Millie takes on the NT in cricket representing Victoria

KILCUNDA Bass cricketer Millie Gold continued to excel in her sport as she represented Victoria in the Junior Girls Strike League recently.

The 15-year-old has been playing cricket for a year and described her experience playing against the Northern Territory as ‘amazing’.

“It was good to meet new people and experience a different place all while playing a great sport,” Millie said.

Millie is an all-rounder out on the field, but bowling is her strength.

Her best game was the first game of the series – a T20 match in which she dismissed the Northern Territory's third bat LBW.

It was a performance she was proud to deliver.

Victoria won the series after winning four of the five games played.

The games were played at the Northern Territory's Cazalys Arena and DXC Arena from July 7 to July 11.

“I had never done anything like this before, and it was a really good opportunity. I learned some great bowling and batting strategies, and had a lot of support,” Millie said.

Millie said she enjoys playing cricket because of the people around her.

“It's not like other team sports. There's more of a relaxed vibe and you can connect with people differently,” she said.

Last season, Millie played in the U15, women's and C Grade teams for Kilcunda Bass Cricket Club.

“It went pretty well. Everyone was very kind and supportive, and I received the coaches award for the women's team,” she said.

Millie will be looking to play in the women's side and in C Grade again in the 2025/26 season, after she recovers from an injury.

Looking into the future, Millie is determined to pursue a career in cricket and one day play for the Melbourne Renegades.

“I'll be doing some personal coaching, training hard and taking every opportunity as it comes along,” she said.



Reg Poxon won Volunteer of the Year for his efforts with Moe Swim Club.



South Gippsland Bass (SGB) coach Lorri McKenzie with squad, Trinity, Archie, Hannah and Josh at the Swimming Victoria awards night.



South Gippsland Bass (SGB) coach Lorri McKenzie was nominated as an outstanding swim coach.

South Gippsland Bass Swimming Club awarded in the top 10 Victorian Clubs

THE Swimming Victoria awards night was a successful one for the Gippsland nominees, with two nominees coming home with awards.

SGB coach Lorri McKenzie was nominated as an outstanding swim coach. She was recognised for her phenomenal efforts in coaching and having a first-time attendee at the National Age Championships medal. Lorri now has 14 multi-class swimmers training with the club, with

three of them making it to Nationals this year. Several fellow club members were there at the event to help her celebrate.

The other awardee from Gippsland was Reg Poxon, who won Volunteer of the Year for his efforts with the Moe Swim Club. He has been President for seven years and the driving force behind the strategic plan, which has made them an inclusive club where swimmers have the opportunity to swim

for fun, fitness or competition. His Inspirational and proactive leadership has transformed the club to become strong and vibrant in the region.

South Gippsland Bass was also celebrated as a club, receiving an award for being one of the top 10 Victorian-based clubs, coming in at number eight. With over 150 clubs in the state, the club is extremely proud of the award. Gippsland was well represented, with

Traralgon finishing seventh.

Others nominated for awards on the night:

- Janelle Smyth SGB – New Official of the Year
- Janelle Croatto SGB – Volunteer of the Year
- Penny Hunt SGB – Volunteer of the Year
- Zane Poxon Moe – Young Leader of the Year
- Abby Dennison Moe – Young Leader of the Year

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 26	WEDNESDAY August 27	THURSDAY August 28	FRIDAY August 29	SATURDAY August 30	SUNDAY August 31	MONDAY September 1
▲ 1.45am 1.50m	▲ 2.34am 1.55m	▲ 3.17am 1.57m	▲ 3.55am 1.58m	▲ 4.30am 1.57m	▲ 5.03am 1.54m	▲ 5.40am 1.49m
▼ 7.37am 0.46m	▼ 8.18am 0.49m	▼ 8.55am 0.54m	▼ 9.29am 0.59m	▼ 10.02am 0.64m	▼ 10.37am 0.69m	▼ 11.12am 0.74m
▲ 2.20pm 1.61m	▲ 2.53pm 1.61m	▲ 3.21pm 1.59m	▲ 3.48pm 1.57m	▲ 4.15pm 1.54m	▲ 4.45pm 1.51m	▲ 5.16pm 1.46m
▼ 8.11pm 0.52m	▼ 8.47pm 0.45m	▼ 9.21pm 0.41m	▼ 9.54pm 0.39m	▼ 10.26pm 0.39m	▼ 10.59pm 0.40m	▼ 11.33pm 0.42m

Email us your fishing photos

news@sgst.com.au



Chris O'Donnell (skip), Karen Orford (third), George Scott (second) and Bruce Chipchase (lead) were the winners at the Inverloch Bowling Club this week.



Wonthaggi Senior Indoor Bowls' Friday winners were Bill Featherson, Maggie Scapin and Robert McLaren.



Sylvia Mattock, John Rook and Jo McIntyre were the Tuesday winners at Wonthaggi Senior Indoor Bowls.



Wonthaggi Bowls Club's Saturday winners were Jeff Tinkle, Jenny Miller and Ray Hin.



Mike Yeats, John Duscher and Jim Mitchell were the Wednesday winners at the Wonthaggi Bowls Club.

FOSTER

IT WILL be a very busy start to September at the club.

Firstly, Friday night 'Happy Hours' is starting up again Friday, September 5, from 5pm.

Everyone is welcome.

The first Summer Season Triples is on Thursday, September 11, and the opening dinner at the club is on Friday, September 12.

Phone names into Jenny 0408 772 261 by the Wednesday before.

The Opening Day, with an afternoon on the green, is on Saturday, September 13, with a 1pm start.

Names are to be in by 12.30pm and uniforms to be worn.

This will then be followed by four Pennant practice matches, starting Tuesday, September 23, and then Saturday, September 27.

There will also be practice matches on October 4 and 5.

Lists are up in the club to put your name on if you are available to play.

The Pennant season is set to begin with Midweek starting Tuesday, October 14, and Saturdays starting on October 18 – no time to dally.

President Mark and the club look forward to welcoming back all new and old members and seeing in the start of the new season for 2025/26.

Hoping to see you all back at the club happy, healthy and refreshed ready to roll.

INVERLOCH

THE day started at 10.15am with a tutorial workshop highlighting "Reading of the Head" and "Rink Etiquette" upstairs in the club's soon-to-be-completed new first-floor function room.

Thanks to Carol Thorn for putting on this and last week's workshop.

There has been lots of positive feedback from both sessions, so well done, Carol.

A magnificent day was served up by the Thursday Inverloch weather goddess for the 38 enthusiastic bowlers who enjoyed the competition, the camaraderie, and the beautiful spring weather.

A stiff easterly blew across the rinks which kept the bowlers on alert to the change of wide and narrow side as they changed ends.

Ten teams comprising 8 x 4's and 2 x 3's played two games of 10 ends, 10 points for a win and one point for each winning end.

After game one, lunch was served by Jim and Jenny Haydon who provided another gastronomic delight of cauliflower, broccoli, and basil pesto soup to help sustain the bowlers for the second game.

There were three by two game winners, and the points tally made it very easy for the match committee to separate them.

The hard luck story went to the team of Gary Scott (skip), Rod Howard (third), Steve Snelling (second), and one of the newer bowlers, congratulations to Rob Higgins (lead) with 30 points.

Runners-up with 33 points was the team of Keith Cousens (skip), Christine Corrigan (third), Bill Massier (second) and Mean Price (lead).

The overall winning team with 34 points was Chris O'Donnell (skip), Karen Orford (third), George Scott (second) and Bruce Chipchase (lead) a visitor to Inverloch from Lake Macquarie.

Note for your diary, the club Open Day will be on September 4 – all bowlers are welcome.

There is a special entrant list in the clubhouse now.

Please put your name down as soon as possible to assist with planning for the day.

Next social bowls on August 28 – names in by 9am, starting at 11am.

MIDWEEK BOWLS

IT WAS another brilliant day on Thursday as the bowlers met at Lang Lang to once again fight it out for supremacy.

The bowlers were welcomed to the club by Bev and John while Vern arranged the teams.

Once the teams were selected, the bowlers were straight out to the green to get to work.

The green was in excellent condition, as is normally the case at Lang Lang.

There were plenty of happy players, as could be seen by the laughter across the greens.

Lots of friendly banter was among all the great bowling from all the rinks.

There were one or two wrong bias bowls this week, only helping to fill the Royal Children's Hospital tin.

This week's winners on a score of 37 were Peter Taylor (L), Derek Fenn (3) and Phil Wright (S).

Runners-up on a score of 36 were Diane Kessen (L), Max Summers (S), Robyn Coulson (3) and Dave Martin (2).

Best one game on a score of 19 were Al Weeden (L), Mary Pagett (3), Enid Johnston (2) and Vern Elliott (S).

Many thanks to David for preparing the green, also to Marianne for all her hard work behind the bar.

Also, thanks to Marianne, Diane and Laurie for their work in the kitchen as well as cleaning up both inside and out following the game.

Next week, the club will be meeting at Loch 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 capacity, the club will have to be strict on a 10am cut-off time. Meanwhile till then, have fun and stay safe.

WONTHAGGI

AS THE winter season draws to a close, Wednesday saw a fine and sunny day with 31 bowlers ready to play.

The format was three bowls triples with one four.

There were three two game winners with Frank Cimino's team the unlucky one.

The winners were John Duscher, Mike Yeats and Jim Mitchell with 33 points and 15 shots up with the runners-up being Stan Jackson, John Hill and Steve Bruynen with 33 points and 13 shots up.

On Saturday, 25 bowlers graced the green on a sunny but chilly afternoon.

The winners were Ray Hin, Jenny Miller and Jeff Tinkle with 33 points with the runners-up, with 31 points, being John Duscher, Colin Ormerod and Natalie Bright.

Bowls this week:

Wednesday: Social bowls at 12.30pm.

Saturday: Social bowls at 12.30pm.

Don't forget Friday night with the members draw, plus meat packs and lots of other prizes on the night.

Good to see a few more names on the Pennant sheets, but the club still needs more.

Have a good week and enjoyable bowling.

WONTHAGGI INDOOR

THIS week, the club had a total of 45 players.

Tuesday's winners with a plus nine were Sylvia Mattock, John Rook and Jo McIntyre.

Runners-up on plus five were Pat Smith, Ed Henry and Philip Fowler.

Friday's winners on an amazing plus 31 were Bill Featherson, Maggie Scapin and Robert McLaren – well done on a fantastic win.

Runners-up on plus 13 were Judy Sweetnam, Sylvia Mattock and Fred Demenech.

A reminder that the United Bowling Club has its competition on Wednesday night – please be there by 6.30pm.



Wonthaggi Golf Club's grade winners were Carole Sartori and Marg Johnson. Absent: Andrea Grenville.



The winner of the Evans Petroleum Par event at the Leongatha Golf Club was Fay Guilford. Absent: Marg Griffiths.

FOSTER

THERE is only one word that can describe this week's golf, "Wow".

Trevor "Kiwi" Jones has hit the most purple of purple patches with three daily wins in the past 10 days. During Saturday's Stableford event, Kiwi (30) cruised to victory in the B grade section by two points with a resounding 39 points. During Kiwi's round, he claimed nearest to the pin and birdied the sixth with a miraculous tee shot. Ryan Williams (7) was the other big winner on the day with his 40 points; his three-over-par round saw him win A grade narrowly. The exceptional scores continued for the six balls down the line. Leigh Roberts (11) 39 points, Neil Coates (19), Rod Coughran-Lane (32), Will Cashin (32) and Graham Watkins (8), all with 37 points. Max Johnston (32), in his very first golf competition since receiving a handicap, finished eighth in the field of 42 players with a very impressive 36 points. Tony Vanin (4th). Robin Smith (13th), Scott Rathjen (15th) and Phil Schofield (17th) all won balls for their nearest to the pins.

Kiwi's (30) second win for the week was on Tuesday with a highly impressive 37 points. 13 players hit the course, making the most of the exceptional weather. Justin Dubignon (16) finished three points behind Kiwi to finish second. John Walsh (37) came home third and won the final ball down the line with 32 points. Nearest to pins for the day went to Hardy Dusterwald on the sixth and Kylie Collins on the 13th.

Like most weeks, "Chicken Run" was one of our biggest contested comps with 26 entrants. This week, Will Cashin (31) had a blinder around the back nine with 27 magnificent points. Hard done by Ryan "El presidente" Williams (6), cruised into second place with a score that in most weeks would likely be winning, 21 points. Fitting for "Chook Run", Ethan "Rooster" Cockerill (45) ruffled his feathers with 20 points. Continuing the balls down the line, Bernie Esser (18) and young gun, Wilkie Edgelow (19) both carded 19 points. Lloyd McKenzie (9) claimed the final ball on a three-way count back with 17 points. Bernie Esser also went on to win a nearest to the pin with his birdie on the picturesque 17th.

A much smaller field of just eight entered Wednesday's

Stableford event. It was a day out for both the Ladies' captain and vice-captain. Jenny Alexander (30) took out the win with a well-made 33 points. Both the 6th and 17th greens were in play for nearest to the pin, but remained elusive as none of the players could find the green. Elisa Nudelman (22) took out the final prize, a ball down the line with 32 points.

To complete an action-packed week of golf, Mick Connellan (17) was victorious in the 17-player Stableford event on Thursday. Mick's score of 34 points proving strong enough from a host of players on 32 points. Neil Coates (19), Laurie Warfe (17) and Robin Smith (19) all taking out the elusive balls down the line for their efforts. Nearest to pins were set out as fourth and 17th, Robin Smith claiming the fourth and Garry Buckland sneaking in on the 17th.

With this week's weather not looking inviting, I urge as many of you as possible to get out on a course near you and soak up the ambience that comes with a golf course. Although golf can be an infuriating game at times, the saying of "stop and smell the roses" is something that we could all practise more.

KORUMBURRA

RESULTS: Tuesday, August 19. Stableford: 26 players. A Grade: Wayne Knights (16) 39 pts. B Grade: Athol Worthy (32) 43 pts.

NTPs: first Athol Worthy, seventh Iain Riddell, 10th Peter McMaster and 13th Rob Gallagher.

Thursday, August 21: Stableford: 13 players. Winner: Athol Worthy (30) 40 pts.

NTPs: first Steve Duffield, seventh Rob Gallagher, 10th Joseph Salvatore and 13th Shayne Harland.

Saturday, August 23: Sponsor: Don Hislop and Chris Clements.

Men's Ambrose Three Person. Winners: Roy Fleming, Michael Thomas and Jason King 56.

NTPs: first Mat Wrigley, seventh Mick Belvedere, 10th Richard Johnson and 13th Robert Litchfield.

Ladies

FOURTEEN women played a Stableford game, enjoying the warm sunshine, on Wednesday, August 20.

Winner: Karen Sorrell (33)

34 pts.

R/up: Trudy Olden (28) 33 pts. BDTL: Kim Enbom (27) 32 pts c/b, Shelley Snooks (16).

NTPs: first Trudi Mantell (Kelly's Bakery Award), seventh (second shot) Shelley Snooks, 10th Barb Twite and 13th Trudy Olden.

The Nine-Hole Competition had three players with Lynne Schwennessen (54) 10 pts being the winner.

Eight women played in another Stableford competition on Saturday, August 23.

Winner: Shelley Snooks (16) 36 pts.

R/up: Trudy Olden (28) 35 pts. BDTL: Julie Hillberg (20) 31 pts.

NTPs: first Gail Beer (Kelly's Bakery Award), seventh (second shot) Shelley Snooks and 10th Shelley Snooks.

LEONGATHA

TUESDAY, August 19: Stableford.

Tuesday was a Stableford event with a field of 58 members/guests on course and enjoying finer winter conditions.

Overall winner: Chad Clasby (3) with a high score of the day of 39 pts; 72 off the stick with four birdies.

A Grade winner: Chad Clasby (3) with 39 pts.

A Grade r/up: Peter Read (15) with 36 pts.

B Grade winner: Michael Wrigley (19) with 36 pts.

B Grade r/up: David Chugg (18) with 35 pts.

NTP fifth second shot: Rebecca Brown (8) at .90m.

NTP 14th: Jamie Grenville (11) at 1.62m.

NTP 16th: Ken Smirk (12) at 1.88m.

Thursday, August 21: Par.

Thursday's event was a Par event with 62 members/guests hitting off with a shotgun start.

Overall winner: Bernard Skerys (16) with a high score of the day of +4.

A Grade winner: Peter Walsh (13) with +1.

A Grade r/up: John Ryan (9) with 0.

B Grade winner: Bernard Skerys (16) with +4.

B Grade r/up: Jeffrey Brewer (17) with +1 on a countback.

C Grade winner: Alan Briggs (21) with -1.

C Grade r/up: Bob Smith (29) with -3 on a countback.

Two great scores were recorded by Ricky Spinks (4) with eagles on both the 10th and

11th holes.

Great score also by Rod Hopcraft (9) with an eagle on the ninth hole.

NTP fifth second shot: Nicholas Byrne (10) at 4.50m.

NTP 14th: Michael West (6) at 3.47m.

NTP 16th: Jeffrey Brewer (17) at 2.11m.

Saturday, August 23: Stableford.

Another sublime winter's day out for 88 members/guests for Saturday's Stableford event, with the course in excellent condition for this time of year.

Overall winner: Matthew Hildebrand (6) with a score of 38 pts on a countback.

A Grade winner: Matthew Hildebrand (6) with 38 pts.

A Grade r/up: Michael O'Rafferty (12) with 36 pts.

B Grade winner: Gordon Morrison (13) with 38 pts.

B Grade r/up: Ian Blencowe (16) with 35 pts on a countback.

C Grade winner: Timothy Hogan (22) with 36 pts on a countback.

C Grade r/up: David Forbes (17) with 36 pts.

D Grade winner: Bill Wassink (25) with 37 pts.

D Grade r/up: Hayden Power (23) with 35 pts.

NTP fifth second shot: Andrew Seccull (17) at 2.80m. 14th: Jeremy de Silva (6) at .21m. 16th: Ian Blencowe (16) at 4.80m.

Ladies

THE women again enjoyed superb weather and lots of run for the Par event sponsored by Evans Petroleum.

They were fortunate to have enough players to provide Evans Petroleum vouchers to winners and r/up in both A Grade and B Grade.

Fay Guilford finished the day on -1, winning A Grade on a countback from Trish Owen.

Marg Griffiths won B Grade, also with -1, on a countback from Alison Strong.

Down the line balls were won by Delia Perry, Lynda Bassett, Di Williams, Maryanne Gartner, Joc Howson and Jill Moor.

Fran Kearney was the closest to the flag on the 14th.

MIRBOO NORTH

TUESDAY, August 19: Stableford.

A Grade: S. Woodall (9) 39 pts c/b.

B Grade: D. Symons (22) 39 pts.

DTL: P. Woodall 37, M. Payne, SOUTH GIPPSLAND SENTINEL-TIMES

D. Woodall 34 and J. McFarlane 33 c/b.

NTP: fourth D. Symons, sixth S. Woodall and 16th S. McKenzie,

Birdies: fourth D. Symons, sixth S. Woodall, G. Shandley and D. Taylor, and 16th S. McKenzie.

Saturday, August 23: Ambrose (N. Baker – sponsor).

A Grade: N. and T. Baker 62 net.

B Grade: M. Payne, D. Taylor and R. Clark 60.3.

Mixed ladies: A. Moscato and M. Jarvis 68.75.

DTL: J. and C. Gunn 63.5, Tim Traill and N. Bickerton 64, A. Liebe and D. Jerram 64.75, T. Bradshaw and J. Taylor 65.5, and M. and S. Woodall 66.25.

NTP: fourth D. Jerram, sixth S. Beitz and 13th J. McFarlane.

WONTHAGGI

RESULTS: August 21, SR. 71. Competition: Stableford 18-hole.

Winner: Ben Clark 37. R/up: Kevin Loughran 35.

Ball sweep: Chris Wilkinson 35, Mark Morstead 34 and Ian Baker 34.

Results: August 21, SR. 34.5. Competition: Stableford front nine-hole.

Winner: Ray Hender 22. Ball DTL: Paul Cornelis 17.

Results: August 23, SR. 71. Competition: Par.

A Grade: Rod McBride +1. B Grade: Sam Horvath +1. C Grade: Ray Hender +2. BDTL to +1.

Ball sweep: Ricky Brown +2, Rohan McRae +2, Willy Williams +1, Keith Ridout +1, Stephen Judd +1, Messy Chand +1, Joshua Kilgour 0 and Ian Baker 0.

NTPs: Mat Johnson second, Rod McBride fourth, Keith Ridout pro pin eighth, Allan McLean 13th and Peter Brewster money hole 17th.

Ladies

WEDNESDAY was a fabulous sunny day – perfect for a round of Stableford.

With a field of 23 players, three grades were made.

A Grade's winner was Marg Johnson (15) 33 pts, B Grade's winner was Andrea Grenville (27) 30 pts on c/b Robyn Wilkinson, and C Grade winner was Carole Sartori (43) 33 pts.

NTP was claimed on second by Layla Robertson and 17th Marg Johnson.

BDL went to Anne Tschiderer 32, Catherine Bolding 31, Robyn Wilkinson 30, Jenny McRae 29 and Geraldine Prentice 28.

SOUTH GIPPSLAND BRIDGE

DEB Anglim and John French are once again achieving results well above the 60 mark, with 66 per cent, Julie Perriam and Alan Johnston 60.86, Ruth Harvey and Anne Somerville 54. Playing East/West, Hannah Martin and Maureen Stiles 60.42, Ann Rinder and Neville Chapman 57, Denise Allitt and Tom Kudelka 51.92 per cent. on Tuesday 19th August.

In Inverloch on the following Friday, Peter Campbell and John French gained 62.2 per cent in N/S, Philip and Neville Chapman 56.55, Matti Shub and John Quayle 52.68, Alan Johnston and Clive Hope 48.51.

In E/W Anne Rinder and Denise Allitt 59.52, Faye Rowlands and John Currier 56.61, Julie Perriam and Bronwyn Sund 55.29, and Kathy Dowd and Grant Austen 54.5 per cent.

Note that Monday evening play will commence on the September 1 at 6.45pm for 7 o'clock at the Angling Club rooms.

PHILLIP ISLAND BRIDGE CLUB

ROBYN Findlay and Darryl Dowthwaite, visiting from New Zealand, took the opportunity to play bridge while visiting their daughter in Kilcunda on Monday.

Their efforts paid off as they managed to win the competition with an impressive score of 64.5 per cent.

The excitement continued on Wednesday when local members Judy O'Connell and Lorrie Read triumphed over four tables, achieving an even higher score of 65.48 per cent.

The club's Congress, scheduled for Saturday, September 13, (pairs) and Sunday, September 14, (teams), is now open for registration on MyABF.

Interested participants are encouraged to enter online.

LEONGATHA SMALL BORE RIFLE CLUB

2025: 20m Prone Pennant - Section A:

Round nine: Leongatha A 297.18 defeated Sandringham 289.08.

Kenneth Hart 99.07; Jack Sargent 99.06; Christopher Sargent 99.05; Daniel Croatto 92.01.

Round 10: FPTRC Team A 298.15 defeated Leongatha A 294.09.

Kenneth Hart 99.03; Jack Sargent 98.03; Christopher Sargent 97.03; Daniel Croatto 95.03.

Ladder: MCC Team A 36; FPTRC Team A 28; Leongatha A 24; Kyneton A 16; Shepparton 16; Sandringham 0.

2025: 20m Prone Pennant - Section E:

Round nine: Warburton 270.01 defeated Leongatha B 262.01.

Mathew Eldridge 90.00; Bradley Hall 89.01; Kaleb Mee 83.00; Cameron Davidson 78.00.

Round 10: Kyneton C 272.04 defeated Leongatha B 264.01.

Mathew Eldridge 90.00; Cameron Davidson 87.01; Bradley Hall 87.00; Kaleb Mee 86.02.

Ladder: Kyneton C 40; Sale B 28; Warburton 24; Leongatha B 20; MCC Team C 8.

The club shoots Friday nights at 8pm at the rifle club on the Leongatha Recreation Reserve.

Any inquiries, please call R. Spratt 5664 2358.



Hooked on Gatha took out the Awesome 4s title at last week's national rock n roll championships.

Regional Victoria rocks at the National Rock n Roll Finals

LOCAL team, "Hooked on Gatha" comprising Anne and Rein Hermens (Hooked on Rock) from Traralgon and John and Jenny Kerville (J & J Gatha Rock) from Leongatha competed in the National Rock N Roll Championship in Maroochydore

last week and came first in the "Awesome 4s" title.

They competed against competitors from Queensland, Western Australia, South Australia and New South Wales.

The routine for the competition is set to a specific song and

each team choreographed their own routine to the music.

Not only has this team won the Nationals but they also won the regional title in Sale in February and the State title in Melbourne in May this year.

Anne and Rein hold classes at

VRI Hall, Traralgon on a Monday night during school terms and John and Jenny hold classes at the Dakers Centre, Leongatha on a Thursday night during school terms.

Congratulations John and Jenny!

Bass Coast basketballers qualify for state final

BASS Coast College's senior girls' basketball team is set to compete in the state finals on September 18.

The team qualified for the state-level contest after celebrating three straight wins at the Gippsland Region Finals in Traralgon on August 14.

The girls played against Mafra, Bairnsdale and Lowanna on the day.

Lowanna was the only other team going into the final game undefeated and the girls anticipated a close contest.

However, Bass Coast College was able to gain a big early lead, which it was able to maintain to take home the win.

"It was one of those games where we beat them with our teamwork. Their team relied on two or three individuals to do all their work and scoring, whereas our side could rely on everybody scoring and doing a

good job on the court," student engagement principal Ross Bramley said.

"It's a rare opportunity to make a state final, and it is an amazing achievement by our team."

The girls said the secret to their success was working as a cohesive group, whilst still having plenty of fun along the way.

"Something that's really good about our team is we aren't all serious and in our heads when we play. We have a bit of fun and we really encourage each other. It works well for us," Ally Morris said.

The team will be competing in the state final at Parkville on September 18.

For a few of the teammates, this will be their second attempt at the state title, and they are going into the competition with a winning attitude, ready to face the challenge ahead.



Bass Coast College's senior girls' basketball team recently enjoyed a win at the Gippsland Region Finals, which qualified it for the state final in September. Pictured back from left, Isla Walton, Ruby McCartney, Makayla Oates, Eva Garnham, Lara Mullin, student engagement principal Ross Bramley, front from left, Ruby Mewett, Ally Morris, Sophie Carter and Macy Peterson.

SGB represents at World Masters

SINGAPORE was the destination for several Gippsland Masters Swimmers competing at the World Aquatics Masters Championships in Singapore last week.

The event, attracting swimmers from around the world who have swum qualifying times, has swimmers aged from 20-95 competing in events in all four strokes in distances from 50 to 400 metres.

Traralgon Master Blasters representatives were Shannon Lorimer, Andrew Somerville, Charlie Pragnell and Natasha Hughes, and South Gippsland

Bass was represented by Janice Legg. They represented their Club with great pride both individually and in relays.

All the Traralgon swimmers swam PBs with Shannon the highest placegetter – 11th in the 40-44 age group 200 fly.

Janice's results

Placing WORLD 65-69 age group. 100 Breaststroke – 22nd 1:57.44 (PB by 0.95 sec), 50 Freestyle – 36th 44.64 sec, 50 Backstroke – 22nd 52.02 sec (1.81 sec PB), 50 Breaststroke – 26th 52.22 sec (1 sec PB)



Traralgon Master Blasters representatives Shannon Lorimer, Andrew Somerville, Charlie Pragnell and Natasha Hughes with Australian swimmer and dual Olympian, Geoff Huegill.



Leongatha's captain Bernie Fitzgerald (who celebrated her 50th game with the club) presses for possession.

Knights draw in second last round before finals

IN THE second last round of the regular playing season, Leongatha Knight's women's team travelled to Trafalgar to play a second v third on the ladder bout.

A glaring sun made for tough playing conditions on Trafalgar's large pitch with the home team capitalising on the width for a well-placed attack from their number 16 scoring the opening goal early in the game.

The Knights were temporarily thrown off kilter but soon regained their attacking momentum, challenging Trafalgar's composed defence.

A free kick taken by Trafalgar's number 8 scored a beautiful second goal for the home team and saw them lead with the advantage at half time.

The Knights returned to the pitch for the second half with focus and determination. A sensational battle in their attacking third resulted in a composed goal from captain Bernie Fitzgerald who celebrated her 50th game with the club this round. A subsequent delightful goal from forward Amaya Sande saw the game conclude with a well-deserved draw for the Knights who fought hard in the second half to regain their momentum.

RIGHT: Leongatha's Stella defends against her Phillip Island opponent.



Leongatha's Henry Mbuthia played a stellar game on the wing.

GIPPSLAND SOCCER LEAGUE

ROUND 17 RESULTS - AUGUST 24

SENIOR Mens:

Trafalgar Victory 3 d Leongatha Knights 1
Phillip Island Breakers 6 d Lang Lang United 0
Korumburra City 7 d Drouin Dragons Maroon 0

Senior Womens:

Inverloch Stars 3 d Mirboo North United 0
Trafalgar Victory 2 drew Leongatha Knights 2
Phillip Island Breakers 3 d Lang Lang United 0
Drouin Dragons Maroon 4 d Korumburra City 0

Mens Reserves:

Trafalgar Victory 5 d Leongatha Knights 1

Under 17 Mixed:

Inverloch Stars 8 d Mirboo North United 2
PI Breakers 5 d L'gatha Knights White 1
Drouin Maroon Yellow 5 d Wonthaggi United 1
Drouin Dragons Maroon 6 d Korumburra City 0

Under 15 Girls:

Korumburra City 4 d Drouin Dragons Maroon 0
Phillip Island Breakers 7 d Leongatha Knights 1
Drouin Dragons Yellow 6 d Wonthaggi United 0

Under 14 Mixed:

Inverloch Stars 3 d Mirboo North United 2
Phillip Island Penguins 6 d Lang Lang United 0
Wonthaggi United 8 d Drouin Maroon Yellow 2
Drouin Maroon 5 d Korumburra City 2
Leongatha Knights 5 d Phillip Island Stingrays 2

Under 12 Girls:

Phillip Island Breakers 8 d Lang Lang United 2
Drouin Dragons Maroon 6 d Korumburra City 2

Under 12A Mixed:

Wonthaggi United 7 d Drouin Maroon Yellow 1
Drouin Dragons Maroon 7 d Korumburra City 1
Inverloch Stars 3 d Mirboo North United 0
Phillip Island Breakers 3 d Lang Lang United 0

Under 12B Mixed:

Trafalgar Victory 3 drew L'gatha Knights White 3
Drouin White 3 d Phillip Island Penguins 2
Phillip Island Stingrays 3 d Wonthaggi United 0

ROUND 18 DRAW - SUNDAY, AUGUST 30 -31

Senior Mens:

Drouin Dragons Maroon v Wonthaggi United,
Leongatha Knights v Korumburra City
Lang Lang United v Inverloch Stars

Senior Womens:

Drouin Dragons Maroon v Wonthaggi United
Lang Lang United v Inverloch Stars
Mirboo North United v Phillip Island Breakers
Leongatha Knights v Korumburra City

Mens Reserves:

Phillip Island Breakers v Trafalgar Victory

Under 17 Mixed:

Drouin Dragons Maroon v Wonthaggi United
Leongatha Knights Blue v Korumburra City
Leongatha Knights White v Inverloch Stars
Mirboo North United v Phillip Island Breakers

Under 15 Girls:

Drouin Dragons Maroon v Wonthaggi United
Drouin Dragons Yellow v Phillip Island Breakers
Leongatha Knights v Korumburra City

Under 14 Mixed:

Drouin Dragons Maroon v Wonthaggi United
Leongatha Knights v Korumburra City
Lang Lang United v Inverloch Stars
Drouin Maroon Yellow v Phillip Island Stingrays
Mirboo North United v Phillip Island Penguins

Under 12 Girls:

Drouin Dragons Maroon v Wonthaggi United
Leongatha Knights v Korumburra City
Lang Lang United v Inverloch Stars

Under 12A Mixed:

Drouin Dragons Maroon v Wonthaggi United
Leongatha Knights Blue v Korumburra City
Lang Lang United v Inverloch Stars
Mirboo North United v Phillip Island Breakers

Under 12B Mixed:

Drouin Dragons Yellow v Wonthaggi United
Drouin Dragons White v Inverloch Stars
Phillip Island Stingrays v Trafalgar Victory



Gemma Fischer takes a set shot, registering a behind. Photo: Gippsland Times.



Bethany Grenness scans inside 50 as she prepares a kick from the right forward pocket. Photo: Gippsland Times.



Incredible father-son achievement

ANDREW 'Stringbean' McCaughan and Clinton 'Toss' McCaughan are the only father-son duo to have both played 200 seniors games for Inverloch-Kongwak Football Club. Inverloch and Kongwak merged for the 1957 season and beyond. Remarkably, in almost 70 years, no other father-son has achieved this milestone. Both men have played in premierships, but the 'old Bean' has it over Clinton with three senior premierships to Clinton's two premierships. 'Bean' also has three senior B&F, while Clinton's best is a runner-up senior B&F. How's that for a father-son duo achievement? Well done, Clint and Stringbean (and Tiny too).



Warragul Industrials under 16s girls celebrating their victory over Phillip Island.

Bulldogs U16 girls shine in grand final at Traralgon



Olivia Holmes nails a goal for Phillip Island. Photo: Gippsland Times.



The Phillip Island girls took to the field in the Southwest Gippsland U16 girls grand final. Photo: Gippsland Times.

IN GLORIOUS sunshine, the Phillip Island Bulldogs U16 Girls ran out for their Grand Final clash against Warragul Industrials. While the result didn't swing their way, the Bulldogs' effort, teamwork, and skill left no doubt that they belonged on the big stage.

From the first bounce, the girls gave their all. Warragul made the early running, but Phillip Island dug deep, showing determination and spirit across the ground. Every contest was hard fought, and the Bulldogs pushed right to the final siren, proving how much they had grown as a side throughout the season.

Much of that growth has been credited to coaches Diddy Cuthbertson and Justin Tilley, who guided the group with passion and belief. Under their leadership, the girls developed their skills, game sense, and resilience week after week, and it showed in the way they handled the pressure of a grand final.

Leaders stood tall all day – captain Ruby Kent-Ford set the tone with her encouragement and energy, rallying her teammates at every break. Gisele Smith and Lily O'Loughlin played tough, determined football, Mia Ward and Sadie Davies worked tirelessly to keep the ball moving forward, while Lily (Elbow) Bow and Tess Ricardo provided strength and composure in defence. Up forward, Gemma Fischer and Olivia Holmes capitalised on their chances and gave the Bulldogs a spark.

Though the scoreboard read in Warragul's favour, every Bulldog played their role and showed the character that has defined their season. The girls may not have taken home the premiership, but they earned the respect of all who watched them play.

Coach Cuthbertson summed it up perfectly after the game: "This team has improved out of sight this year. Every single girl has grown in confidence and skill, and today they played with real heart. We couldn't be prouder."

Final Score: Warragul Industrials 3.7.25 def Phillip Island 1.1.7

Best: Gisele Smith, Olivia Holmes, Lily (Elbow) Bow, Bethany Grenness, Gemma Fischer, Lilli O'Loughlin, Mackenzie Marr, Tess Ricardo.

Goals: Olivia Holmes

Leongatha netballer represented in second-placed state squad

LEONGATHA'S Lacy Fennell was a proud member of Victorian U15 netball team that came in second at the recent School Sport Australia Games in Moreton Bay.

The team competed well together, playing two games per day and beating New South Wales in the semi-final.

A competitive game was played in the grand final, but the match ultimately went to South Australia.

"South Australia was the only team that beat us during the competition. The game started close, but they got away from us in the fourth quarter," Lacy said.

Lacy played goal defence, centre and wing defence – a new position for her.

"All the games were very different, and I enjoyed playing a few different roles. I liked playing wing defence, because it was my first opportunity to try it out. I was a little scared because I wasn't sure what to do, but I warmed to the position quickly. It was a really good experience," she said.

"The whole thing was a lot of fun, and I made a lot of great connections with other players and coaches. I loved playing at such a high level of competition."

Since making the team, Lacy has learned a lot from coaches Tracy Howard and Olivia Templeton.

Lacy is still deciding where her netball journey will take her, and she will continue to explore options as they appear.

Most recently, her pathway took her to trial for the Future Demons Training Program with Casey yesterday (Monday, August 25).



Leongatha's Lacy Fennell playing centre for Victoria at the School Sport Australia Games in Moreton Bay recently.

Hard fought battles at Wonthaggi Table Tennis

AS THE world's angry men, citing history as motive whilst drooling dollar signs, claim other people's lands no bigger than greater Wonthaggi, the table tennis players bunker down in the safe haven of the humble hall to safeguard their sanity and celebrate fun times.

Sanctuary, sanctuary cried the Parisian church bell ringer.

We hear you Quasimodo.

Whilst Russia's 11 time zones are clearly not enough, Donic's young Charley only needs her own, loping in at game time and nearly knocking over the undefeated Double Fish with zero warm up.

Donic remains anchored to the bottom but only one warm-up away from their first win.

Double Fish defeated Donic three to two.

Radak's Warren and Fred did warm up and notched their first win of the season.

Doubles match went beyond warm in an enthralling duel, Butterfly's David and Mick eventually succumbing 11 to eight in the decider.

Radak defeated Butterfly three to two.

Stiga's Tim and Trish are reliving golden times and continued their stellar form with a hard-fought victory against Nittaku's Braden and Jake.

Stiga defeated Nittaku three to two.

Andro had the bye.

Ladder: Stiga 16; Double Fish 16; Andro 8; Nittaku 8; Butterfly 4; Radak 4; Donic 0.

Leading players: Luke 6; Brad 6; Tim 5; David 5.

WIN A CAR

Kilcunda Bass Football Netball Club Inc.

GRAND PRIZE RAFFLE



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SCAN FOR TICKETS

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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.

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We are also looking for historical treasures and photos to display, if you want to contribute please contact 0488 040 028



We are also hosting our annual
Wonni 4's tournament on the same
weekend, use this QR code to find out
more and register



RESULTS

ELLINBANK

Qualifying Final
A Grade: Nilma Darnum 54 d Ellinbank 51
B Grade: Bunyip 30 lt Neerim South 39
C Grade: Neerim South 42 d Trafalgar 36
17 & Under: Nilma Darnum 31 lt Lang Lang 38
15 & Under: Poowong 22 d Lang Lang 21
13 & Under: Trafalgar 17 lt Buln Buln 26
Elimination Final
A Grade: Trafalgar 32 d Longwarry 31
B Grade: Lang Lang 34 lt Nilma Darnum 41
C Grade: Buln Buln 34 d Longwarry 28
17 & Under: Catani 41 d Poowong 38
15 & Under: Neerim South 36 d Bunyip 18
13 & Under: Bunyip 25 d Nilma Darnum 10

MID GIPPSLAND

Elimination Final
A Grade: Yinnar 48 d Toora 37
B Grade: Yinnar 49 d Toora 40
C Grade: Foster 24 lt MDU 33
D Grade: Toora 43 d Newborough 24
17 & Under: Mirboo North 46 d Hill End 18
15 & Under: Hill End 40 d Newborough 28
13 & Under: Tarwin 24 d Mirboo North 21
Elimination Final
A Grade: Mirboo North 54 lt MDU 60
B Grade: Newborough 57 d Mirboo North 42
C Grade: Boolarra 36 lt Fish Creek 47
D Grade: Tarwin 24 lt Fish Creek 35
17 & Under: Yinnar 49 lt Toora 50
15 & Under: Boolarra 53 d Foster 35
13 & Under: Boolarra 33 d Fish Creek 22

THIS WEEKEND’S GAMES

ELLINBANK

2nd Semi Final - Catani (Sat, Aug. 30)
A Grade: Neerim South v Nilma Darnum
B Grade: Ellinbank v Neerim South
C Grade: Ellinbank v Neerim South
17 & Under: Longwarry v Lang Lang
15 & Under: Catani v Poowong
13 & Under: Lang Lang v Buln Buln
1st Semi Final - Nyora (Sun, Aug. 31)
A Grade: Ellinbank v Trafalgar
B Grade: Bunyip v Nilma Darnum
C Grade: Trafalgar v Buln Buln
17 & Under: Nilma Darnum v Catani
15 & Under: Lang Lang v Neerim South
13 & Under: Trafalgar v Bunyip

MID GIPPSLAND

2nd Semi Final - Stony Creek (Sat, Aug. 30)
A Grade: Foster v Fish Creek
B Grade: Foster v Fish Creek
C Grade: Yinnar v Newborough
D Grade: Mirboo North v Yinnar
17 & Under: Boolarra v MDU
15 & Under: Yinnar v Toora
13 & Under: Yinnar v Newborough
1st Semi Final - Thorpdale (Sun, Aug. 31)
A Grade: Yinnar v MDU
B Grade: Yinnar v Newborough
C Grade: MDU v Fish Creek
D Grade: Toora v Fish Creek
17 & Under: Mirboo North v Toora
15 & Under: Hill End v Boolarra
13 & Under: Tarwin v Boolarra

GIPPSLAND

Qualifiying Final - Maffra (Sat, Aug. 30)
A Grade: Warragul v Morwell
B Grade: Leongatha v Moe
C Grade: Leongatha v Wonthaggi
17 & Under: Bairnsdale v Sale
15 & Under: Sale v Moe
13 & Under: Sale v Moe
Elimination Final - Wonthaggi (Sun, Aug. 31)
A Grade: Drouin v Bairnsdale
B Grade: Traralgon v Warragul
C Grade: Drouin v Moe
17 & Under: Drouin v Leongatha
15 & Under: Warragul v Leongatha
13 & Under: Maffra v Traralgon

WEST GIPPSLAND

Elim. Final - Nar Nar Goon (Sat, Aug. 30)
A Grade: Inverloch-Kongwak v Tooradin-Dal
B Grade: Cora Lynn v Inverloch-Kongwak
C Grade: Warragul Industrials v Nar Nar Goon
D Grade: Garfield v Inverloch-Kongwak
17 & Under: Phillip Island v Koo Wee Rup
15 & Under: Cora Lynn v Kilcunda Bass
13 & Under: Nar Nar Goon v Phillip Island
11 & Under: Koo Wee Rup v Nar Nar Goon
Elimination Final - Bass (Sun, Aug. 31)
A Grade: Cora Lynn v Dalyston
B Grade: Dalyston v Kilcunda Bass
C Grade: Tooradin-Dal v Inverloch Kongwak
D Grade: Koo Wee Rup v Tooradin-Dalmore
17 & Under: Tooradin Dalmore v Warragul Ind
15 & Under: Phillip Island v Koo Wee Rup
13 & Under: Koo Wee Rup v Garfield
11 & Under: Inverloch-Kongwak v Phillip Island
58 | TUESDAY, AUGUST 26, 2025 | SOUTH GIPPSLAND SENTINEL-TIMES



Nicola Fort lands as she looks for an opening in the 15 & Under clash against Lang Lang on Saturday. Poowong heads to the semis next weekend against Catani. Photo: Jeff Tull.



Mia Stone stands strong in defence for Toora in the 17 & Unders. Photo: Bec Casey Sports Photography.



Even the loss of a shoe doesn't stop Coby Elmore from controlling the ball. Photo: Bec Casey Sports Photography.



Pallas Jackman-Riches catches the rebound from the Tigers in the 15 & Under netball. Photo: Jeff Tull.



Daisy Whitcher puts up a strong defence for Toora. Photo: Bec Casey Sports Photography.



Fish Creek didn't let Tarwin in on Sunday with a strong 70 to 47 finish at Terrill Park. Photo: Bec Casey Sports Photography.



Alahna Arnason sets herself up under the goal for MDU. Photo: Bec Casey Sports Photography.



Natalie Rayson lines up a goal for MDU. Photo: Bec Casey Sports Photography.



Fish Creek's shooting was on spot on Sunday. Photo: Bec Casey Sports Photography.

GIPPSLAND

RESULTS

A GRADE			17 & UNDER			A GRADE			C GRADE			15 & UNDER		
Leongatha	78 d	Maffra 32	Leongatha	55 d	Maffra 27	Moe	185.94	72	Morwell	161.26	66	Traralgon	252.71	72
Bairnsdale	35 lt	Morwell 40	Bairnsdale	70 d	Morwell 14	Warragul	176.30	64	Leongatha	131.81	58	Sale	147.69	62
Sale	41 lt	Traralgon 65	Sale	36 lt	Traralgon 38	Morwell	124.57	56	Wonthaggi	145.36	54	Moe	141.54	50
Moe	108 d	Wonthaggi 20	Moe	38 d	Wonthaggi 23	Drouin	119.17	42	Drouin	109.90	48	Warragul	142.78	48
Drouin	46 lt	Warragul 71	Drouin	44 d	Warragul 23	Bairnsdale	97.56	36	Moe	99.22	38	Leongatha	112.85	36
B GRADE			15 & UNDER			Leongatha	102.98	34	Bairnsdale	104.41	36	Bairnsdale	113.83	34
Leongatha	75 d	Maffra 32	Leongatha	48 d	Maffra 19	Traralgon	93.17	32	Traralgon	105.72	32	Drouin	95.27	28
Bairnsdale	52 lt	Morwell 63	Bairnsdale	40 d	Morwell 5	Wonthaggi	63.53	12	Sale	75.19	12	Maffra	67.57	22
Sale	35 lt	Traralgon 76	Sale	35 lt	Traralgon 58	Sale	60.87	8	Warragul	66.00	12	Morwell	44.24	8
Moe	37 lt	Wonthaggi 41	Moe	69 d	Wonthaggi 9	Maffra	46.46	4	Maffra	51.85	4	Wonthaggi	11.47	0
Drouin	47 lt	Warragul 51	Drouin	35 lt	Warragul 39	B GRADE			17 & UNDER			13 & UNDER		
C GRADE			13 & UNDER			Wonthaggi	160.14	68	Traralgon	219.28	68	Leongatha	261.54	72
Leongatha	68 d	Maffra 27	Leongatha	37 d	Maffra 28	Leongatha	165.22	64	Bairnsdale	195.40	68	Sale	175.47	54
Bairnsdale	35 lt	Morwell 53	Bairnsdale	32 d	Morwell 18	Moe	132.10	54	Sale	123.30	56	Moe	153.85	54
Sale	25 lt	Traralgon 36	Sale	23 lt	Traralgon 31	Traralgon	116.80	44	Drouin	95.76	38	Maffra	134.47	46
Moe	36 drew	Wonthaggi 36	Moe	33 d	Wonthaggi 10	Warragul	118.24	42	Leongatha	97.34	36	Traralgon	141.48	44
Drouin	32 d	Warragul 27	Drouin	22 d	Warragul 15	Drouin	90.52	32	Moe	87.53	34	Bairnsdale	137.50	38
						Morwell	89.31	32	Maffra	82.36	28	Drouin	74.72	20
						Maffra	64.29	16	Warragul	72.53	18	Morwell	68.27	20
						Bairnsdale	70.71	6	Wonthaggi	61.06	8	Wonthaggi	39.39	8
						Sale	58.26	2	Morwell	52.55	6	Warragul	18.19	4



Leongatha's Amy Scott takes her shot. Ns3425_12



Jayde Hall looks for an opening. Ns3425_100



Lara Gill reaches for the ball at full stretch. Ns3425_14



Allison Carter releases the pass through centre court as the Panthers transition into attack during the B Grade match.



Emma Felsovary holds strong in front position to receive the pass as her Garfield opponent applies pressure.



Kira Hamilton looks for options in the Panthers attacking third during B Grade.



Emily Andrew drives onto the circle edge, moving the Panthers closer to goal in the A Grade contest.



Wonthaggi B Grade wing attack, Sonia Seuren, looks to drive the ball down the court in a tight contest with finals contenders Moe.



Joanne Duscher does her best to hold back the avalanche of goals from Moe's goal attack, Georgia Moody and her goaling partner, Ash Mawer.



Wonthaggi's wing attack, Ellie Bates could see the funny side of it after straying offside into the opposition's goal to compete with their talented goalers, including Ashlea Mawer, who finished the day with 78 goals. In her defence, Ellie had just swapped bids with GA Macey Peterson.

WEST GIPPSLAND

RESULTS

A GRADE		17 & UNDER	
Warragul-I 29	It KWR 42	Dalyston 23	It Tooradin-Dal 26
Dalyston 49	d Tooradin-Dal 48	Warragul-I 25	It KWR 31
P-Island 34	It IK 52	K-Bass 17	It Garfield 30
K-Bass 62	d Garfield 51	P-Island 56	d IK 14
NNG 42	d Cora Lynn 40	NNG 37	It Cora Lynn 47
B GRADE		15 & UNDER	
Warragul-I 19	It KWR 66	Warragul-I 27	d KWR 22
Dalyston 40	It Tooradin-Dal 47	K-Bass 48	d Garfield 18
K-Bass 54	d Garfield 42	NNG 38	d Cora Lynn 36
P-Island 37	drew IK 37	P-Island 26	It IK 30
NNG 50	d Cora Lynn 42	Dalyston 5	It Tooradin-Dal 49
C GRADE		13 & UNDER	
Warragul-I 54	d KWR 32	K-Bass 16	It Garfield 28
Dalyston 11	It Tooradin-Dal 33	P-Island 21	d IK 17
P-Island 22	It IK 32	Dalyston 9	It Tooradin-Dal 38
K-Bass 27	It Garfield 47	NNG 24	It Cora Lynn 38
NNG 28	It Cora Lynn 29	Warragul-I 3	It KWR 38
D GRADE		11 & UNDER	
Warragul-I 13	It KWR 46	Dalyston 15	It Tooradin-Dal 23
Dalyston 9	It Tooradin-Dal 41	K-Bass 10	It Garfield 44
NNG 34	d Cora Lynn 23	NNG 9	It Cora Lynn 37
K-Bass 32	d Garfield 29	P-Island 10	It IK 22
P-Island 24	It IK 32	Warragul-I 3	It KWR 42

LADDERS

A GRADE			%	pts	C GRADE			%	pts	17 & UNDER			%	pts	13 & UNDER			%	pts
Kor-Bena		145.02	72	Cora Lynn		175.14	76	Cora Lynn		184.06	76	Cora Lynn		325.44	80				
Nar Nar Goon		129.93	64	Garfield		137.25	72	Nar Nar Goon		143.19	72	Tooradin-Dal		242.13	70				
Inverloch-K		121.73	64	Warragul Ind		127.96	60	Phillip Island		169.70	60	Nar Nar Goon		209.16	66				
Cora Lynn		119.68	60	Tooradin-Dal		122.65	58	Tooradin-Dal		123.71	60	Koo Wee Rup		121.01	60				
Dalyston		118.97	60	Inverloch-K		128.45	54	Warragul Ind		137.88	50	Garfield		126.62	52				
Tooradin-Dal		108.48	46	Nar Nar Goon		132.73	48	Koo Wee Rup		108.54	46	Phillip Island		76.84	40				
Phillip Island		95.91	34	Kilcunda Bass		96.82	40	Dalyston		105.33	36	Kor-Bena		99.07	36				
Kilcunda Bass		95.49	32	Phillip Island		67.99	28	Kor-Bena		74.57	28	Kilcunda Bass		76.17	32				
Koo Wee Rup		74.76	22	Koo Wee Rup		64.06	20	Inverloch-K		69.70	28	Inverloch-K		52.88	24				
Garfield		73.66	22	Kor-Bena		61.97	16	Garfield		54.58	18	Warragul Ind		42.50	16				
Warragul Ind		57.69	8	Dalyston		49.77	12	Kilcunda Bass		28.27	10	Dalyston		15.86	8				
B GRADE					D GRADE					15 & UNDER					11 & UNDER				
Tooradin-Dal		163.52	74	Nar Nar Goon		167.65	72	Tooradin-Dal		276.63	72	Cora Lynn		295.56	76				
Nar Nar Goon		157.76	74	Cora Lynn		169.75	70	Nar Nar Goon		273.45	72	Garfield		284.41	72				
Cora Lynn		134.91	62	Garfield		142.70	60	Cora Lynn		247.84	72	Koo Wee Rup		261.14	68				
Dalyston		134.10	60	Koo Wee Rup		142.25	58	Phillip Island		92.74	48	Inverloch-K		207.04	64				
Kilcunda Bass		116.18	44	Tooradin-Dal		116.14	52	Koo Wee Rup		90.64	46	Phillip Island		122.99	50				
Inverloch-K		105.21	44	Inverloch-K		96.37	44	Kilcunda Bass		79.32	44	Nar Nar Goon		96.82	42				
Koo Wee Rup		100.37	40	Kilcunda Bass		99.00	40	Warragul Ind		74.26	38	Tooradin-Dal		89.55	36				
Phillip Island		90.31	34	Kor-Bena		94.06	36	Inverloch-K		65.65	34	Kor-Bena		73.14	32				
Garfield		84.97	24	Phillip Island		76.88	28	Garfield		59.10	30	Warragul Ind		20.19	16				
Kor-Bena		69.18	20	Warragul Ind		44.33	14	Dalyston		42.66	20	Dalyston		34.19	14				
Warragul Ind		30.44	8	Dalyston		41.54	10	Kor-Bena		0.00	0	Kilcunda Bass		25.99	14				



148

BEN FISHER

2025 Premiers:
Geelong

2025 Runner-up:
Brisbane

Norm Smith Medallist:
Jeremy Cameron

Brownlow Medallist:
Noah Anderson

2025 Rising Star:
Daniel Curtin

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 6



81 Commercial Street,
Korumburra
5655 1024



136

DANIEL CHETLAND

2025 Premiers:
Brisbane

2025 Runner-up:
Geelong

Norm Smith Medallist:
Josh Dunkley

Brownlow Medallist:
Jordan Dawson

2025 Rising Star:
Connor O'Sullivan

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 7



119 Graham Street,
Wonthaggi
5672 1027



147

CARL LINDSAY

2025 Premiers:
Brisbane

2025 Runner-up:
Geelong

Norm Smith Medallist:
Cam Rayner

Brownlow Medallist:
Nick Daicos

2025 Rising Star:
Xavier Lindsay

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 6



145 Graham Street,
Wonthaggi
5672 1137



147

ALEX GEYER

2025 Premiers:
Geelong

2025 Runner-up:
Adelaide

Norm Smith Medallist:
Max Holmes

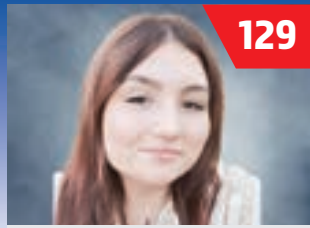
Brownlow Medallist:
Max Holmes

2025 Rising Star:
Murphy Reid

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 6



Wonthaggi 5672 5522
Leongatha 5662 2941



129

JAE DAVEY

2025 Premiers:
Geelong

2025 Runner-up:
Brisbane

Norm Smith Medallist:
Jeremy Cameron

Brownlow Medallist:
Nick Daicos

2025 Rising Star:
Daniel Curtin

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 8



62-64 McBride Avenue,
Wonthaggi
7051 0720



150

DARRYL MCGANNON

2025 Premiers:
Geelong

2025 Runner-up:
Adelaide

Norm Smith Medallist:
Patrick Dangerfield

Brownlow Medallist:
Nick Daicos

2025 Rising Star:
Murphy Reid

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 7



1 Roughead Street,
Leongatha
5662 2327



147

KRIS BAKER

2025 Premiers:
Brisbane

2025 Runner-up:
Adelaide

Norm Smith Medallist:
Hugh McCluggage

Brownlow Medallist:
Nick Daicos

2025 Rising Star:
Murphy Reid

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 7



78-80 Watt Street,
Wonthaggi
5672 5760



133

RYAN SHANE

2025 Premiers:
Hawthorn

2025 Runner-up:
Brisbane Lions

Norm Smith Medallist:
Jai Newcombe

Brownlow Medallist:
Jordan Dawson

2025 Rising Star:
Isaac Kako

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 6



Leongatha Toyota

7-13 Hughes Street,
Leongatha
5662 2302



131

**CRAIG FARRINGTON
DARREN TILEY**

2025 Premiers:
Adelaide

2025 Runner-up:
Geelong

Norm Smith Medallist:
Taylor Walker

Brownlow Medallist:
Noah Anderson

2025 Rising Star:
Levi Ashcroft

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 5



6/5 Cyclone Street,
Wonthaggi
Darren 0405 603 569
Craig 0415 641 845



145

ADAM WARE

2025 Premiers:
Geelong

2025 Runner-up:
Adelaide

Norm Smith Medallist:
Jeremy Cameron

Brownlow Medallist:
Jordan Dawson

2025 Rising Star:
Levi Ashcroft

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 6



2/88-98 Watt Street,
Wonthaggi
1800 358 131



151

JUSTIN CAPORALE

2025 Premiers:
Adelaide

2025 Runner-up:
Brisbane

Norm Smith Medallist:
Jordan Dawson

Brownlow Medallist:
Noah Anderson

2025 Rising Star:
Murphy Reid

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 8



41 McCartin Street,
Leongatha
5662 2529



126

LEIGH DONOHUE

2025 Premiers:
Adelaide

2025 Runner-up:
Brisbane

Norm Smith Medallist:
Jordan Dawson

Brownlow Medallist:
Nick Daicos

2025 Rising Star:
Luke Trainor

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 6



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AFTER ROUND 24

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Phil Hardy	154
Liam Sawyer	152
Justin Caporale	151
Darryl McGannon	150
Dylan Clark	150
Peter Fort	150
Ben Fisher	148
Alex Geyer	147
Carl Lindsay	147
Kris Baker	147
Adam Ware	145
Brad Hodson	144
Warren Stewart	144
Keith & Eddie	143
Brett Jacobs	140
Daniel Chetland	136
David England	136
Ryan Shane	133
Craig & Darren	131
Jae Davey	129
Hayden Poppe	128
Leigh Donohue	126



144

WARREN STEWART

2025 Premiers:
Collingwood

2025 Runner-up:
Geelong

Norm Smith Medallist:
Nick Daicos

Brownlow Medallist:
Nick Daicos

2025 Rising Star:
Dan Curtin

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 7



Wonthaggi Toyota
346 Bass Highway,
Wonthaggi
5632 3503



154

PHIL HARDY

2025 Premiers:
Adelaide

2025 Runner-up:
Collingwood

Norm Smith Medallist:
Jordan Dawson

Brownlow Medallist:
Nick Daicos

2025 Rising Star:
Murphy Reid

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 7



Bass Coast **LIGHT ENGINES**
317 White Road,
Wonthaggi
5672 4017



150

DYLAN CLARK

2025 Premiers:
Geelong

2025 Runner-up:
Brisbane

Norm Smith Medallist:
Jeremy Cameron

Brownlow Medallist:
Noah Anderson

2025 Rising Star:
Levi Ashcroft

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 7



1 A'Beckett Street
Inverloch
5674 1432



136

DAVID ENGLAND

2025 Premiers:
Geelong

2025 Runner-up:
Brisbane

Norm Smith Medallist:
Bailey Smith

Brownlow Medallist:
Jordan Dawson

2025 Rising Star:
Levi Ashcroft

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 2



3/45-61 McKenzie St,
Wonthaggi
5644 2080



150

PETER FORT

2025 Premiers:
Geelong

2025 Runner-up:
Brisbane

Norm Smith Medallist:
Bailey Smith

Brownlow Medallist:
Nick Daicos

2025 Rising Star:
Levi Ashcroft

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 6



47 Station Street,
Korumburra
0417 332 141



143

KEITH KELLY **EDDIE CHANDLER**

2025 Premiers:
Brisbane

2025 Runner-up:
Adelaide

Norm Smith Medallist:
Lachie Neale

Brownlow Medallist:
Jordan Dawson

2025 Rising Star:
Levi Ashcroft

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 8



54 Graham Street,
Wonthaggi
5672 1311



152

LIAM SAWYER

2025 Premiers:
Geelong

2025 Runner-up:
GWS

Norm Smith Medallist:
Max Holmes

Brownlow Medallist:
Jordan Dawson

2025 Rising Star:
Murphy Reid

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 7



16 McBride Avenue,
Wonthaggi
5672 1007



154

AARON MCGREGOR

2025 Premiers:
Geelong

2025 Runner-up:
Western Bulldogs

Norm Smith Medallist:
Jeremy Cameron

Brownlow Medallist:
Nick Daicos

2025 Rising Star:
Connor O'Sullivan

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 7



24 Inverloch Road,
Wonthaggi
5672 5906



144

BRAD HODSON

2025 Premiers:
Geelong

2025 Runner-up:
Brisbane

Norm Smith Medallist:
Bailey Smith

Brownlow Medallist:
Nick Daicos

2025 Rising Star:
Levi Ashcroft

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 7



15/17 Murray Street,
Wonthaggi
5672 5878



140

BRETT JACOBS

2025 Premiers:
Hawthorn

2025 Runner-up:
Adelaide

Norm Smith Medallist:
Jai Newcombe

Brownlow Medallist:
Nick Daicos

2025 Rising Star:
Dan Curtin

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 7



28 Inverloch Road,
Wonthaggi
5672 4770



128

HAYDEN POPPE

2025 Premiers:
Brisbane

2025 Runner-up:
Geelong

Norm Smith Medallist:
Will Ashcroft

Brownlow Medallist:
Jordan Dawson

2025 Rising Star:
Levi Ashcroft

LAST WEEK'S TIPS 7



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QUALIFYING FINAL

72 61

LONGWARRY		TRAFALGAR	
Longwarry	2.2 6.3 8.5 11.6 (72)	Trafalgar	5.2 6.3 7.6 9.7 (61)
GOALS Longwarry: J Wells 4, K Taylor 2, F Fox, N Fry, B McHugh, J Serong, B Stephens 1 each			
BEST: F Fox, B Stephens, J Wells, A Adamiak, N Fry, L Willis			
GOALS Trafalgar: B Slater 4, M Devon 2, D Brewster, I Caroleo, W Claridge 1 each			
BEST: B Hoffmann, B Slater, M Ablett, L Coulthard, K Butler, D Gauci			

RESERVES			
Longwarry	1.1 2.4 3.6 3.8 (26)		
Trafalgar	5.2 5.3 7.7 9.8 (62)		
GOALS Longwarry: B Cuckson, A Fazackerley, C Wells 1 each			
BEST: B Hamilton, L Clarkson, B Cuckson, S Davies, K Willis, J Gilbert			
GOALS Trafalgar: T Hall 3, K Tullett 2, H Brock, B Cameron, L O'Neill 1 each			
BEST: D Brock, K Tullett, B Cameron, B Cunico, L O'Neill, T Hall			

THIRDS			
Longwarry	3.0 7.0 10.4 13.4 (82)		
Buln Buln	2.1 4.2 4.5 5.7 (37)		
GOALS Longwarry: H Mills 3, J Cantwell, T van der Heyden, W Van der Heyden 2, H Colvin, J Doyle, B Hill, G Morgan 1 each			
BEST: J Doyle, H Mylius, J Cantwell, E Seskis, H Mills, S Hudson			
GOALS Buln Buln: H Jones, C Kilmartin, J Olsson, A Pickthall, J Stuckey 1 each			
BEST: Z Nakamura, J Stuckey, A Davidson, M Steenholt, F Bravington, C Kilmartin			

FOURTHS			
Bunyip	3.1 8.1 11.3 12.9 (81)		
Poowong	1.0 1.0 1.1 2.1 (13)		
GOALS Bunyip: K Jones 3, S Blackley, L Clark 2, C Cunningham, C Hout, B Interlandi, N McCaughey, H Sheehan 1 each			
BEST: B Interlandi, L Clark, S Blackley, C Cunningham, N McCaughey, K Jones,			
GOALS Poowong: D Waide, K Zealley 1 each			
BEST: M Cawcutt, L Wilson, D Canavan, J Mackin, G Edwards, D Watson			

ELIMINATION FINAL

70 35

BULN BULN		ELLINBANK	
Buln Buln	3.1 4.5 8.5 10.10 (70)	Ellinbank	1.1 3.1 4.2 5.5 (35)
GOALS Buln Buln: S Batson 5, A Mitchell, N Tutton 2, M Gray 1			
BEST: M Gray, S Batson, J Kos, D Axford, N Tutton, B Allen			
GOALS Ellinbank: M Urie 2, A Battista, A Debenham, T Mashado 1 each			
BEST: J Walker, A Clarke, B Joyce, B Dixon, T Mashado, L Anderson			

RESERVES			
Neerim South	3.3 5.4 6.5 7.5 (47)		
Ellinbank	2.1 3.2 6.3 8.6 (54)		
GOALS Neerim South: K Salerno 3, T Bayne 2, D Norton, P Sheehan 1 each			
BEST: T Zeldenryk, A White, L Smith, K Salerno, I Guy, B Lockett			
GOALS Ellinbank: S Phelan 3, L Finnegan, T Wright 2, J Cole 1			
BEST: S Phelan, A Quirk, T Wright, S Barwick, T Bingham, J Cole			

THIRDS			
N-Darnum	3.0 5.3 6.3 7.5 (47)		
Poowong	1.1 1.2 7.5 7.6 (48)		
GOALS Nilma Darnum: J Patterson 2, A McAuley, B Meggetto, K Rossborough, C Wettenhall 1 each			
BEST: A McAuley, M Ireland, J Patterson, B Meggetto, J Egan, P Brown			
GOALS Poowong: C Deal, K Mandemaker 2, B Broadmore, G Monson, K Zealley 1 each			
BEST: J Blackwood, G Monson, M Cook, A Damon, B Broadmore, J Hall			

FOURTHS			
Ellinbank	0.2 1.6 2.10 4.11 (35)		
Yarragon	1.2 1.2 3.2 4.3 (27)		
GOALS Ellinbank: O Jenkins, B Schuurmans 1 each			
BEST: O Jenkins, B Bingham, J Tylee, X Ridsdale, J Baxter, J Smart			
GOALS Yarragon: C Bannister 2, A Frost, S Mackenlay 1 each			
BEST: T Bastin, B Boothman, B Johns, C Smith, } N Hollensen, S Mackenlay			

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Who will score a ticket straight through to the grand final

By Rob Popplestone

Foster v Fish Creek

Last time they met: Round 8: Fish Creek 7-7-49 defeated Foster 7-6-48.

What the coaches said at the time:

Jarrad Walker, Fish Creek: A gritty win, a genuine arm wrestle all day with neither team able to kick back-to-back goals. Both teams defended really well, making a low-scoring affair, and we just fell on the right side at the final siren.

Sam Davies, Foster: Just a game that got away unfortunately and a game that we definitely lost from our mistakes rather than they won from playing good footy. High stop-page scrap for a lot of the day, and we just failed to execute late, which led to turnover or poor decision-making. We'll learn and take a lot away from it, but we need to be better in certain areas.

Round 18: Foster 7-4-46 defeated Fish Creek 4-4-28

Sam Davies, Foster: 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.

Jarrad Walker, Fish Creek: 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 6 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



Bodhi Abernethy lines up the kick down the field for Tarwin in their spectacular win over Toora in the Elimination Finals on Sunday. Photo: Bec Casey Sports Photography.

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.

Yinnar v MDU

Last time they met: Round 6: MDU 15-9-99 defeated Yinnar 15-6-96

What the coaches said at the time:

Rhett Kelly, MDU: Another great game of footy yesterday, we understood that it was going to be a huge challenge to take on Yinnar on their home deck, but I knew the lads were up to it after playing some good footy the last few weeks. I thought we started that game really well, but to Yinnar's credit, they kept spreading hard from the contest and put some pressure on us across the second and third quarters. I asked the boys for a big effort in the last quarter, which is what they delivered. The game

could have gone either way, but I am proud that we fought it out till the end. Yinnar is a solid team, and we look forward to another hit out in the second half of the year.

Sam McCulloch, Yinnar: Very disappointing loss. We played some really good footy at different periods throughout the day, but weren't able to maintain it for 4 quarters, which won't win games against good opposition.

Will learn a lot from the game and work on the areas which let us down.

Round 15: MDU 14-10-94 defeated Yinnar 10-5-65

Rhett Kelly, MDU: It was great to get back on the winning list. I was really proud of how the lad's responded after a couple of challenging weeks. We identified a few areas of our game that needed quick attention. Those areas were a big focus for us during the week and yesterday's game, and to the guys' credit, they got it done, playing a solid four-quarter game. Yinnar is a quality team, and we knew that we had to be at our best to beat them.

Sam McCulloch, Yinnar: MDU certainly came to play

and were out to redeem themselves after a loss last week. We struggled to get our game going and were out-worked for a large portion of the game. Credit to MDU for the way they applied themselves and their attitude for 4 quarters.

With the bye coming next week, it's a real opportunity for us to regroup and have a good look at some areas of our game that are letting us down.

What do the coaches have to say heading into this weekend?

Sam McCulloch, Yinnar: The composure of the group throughout these moments of our first final was very pleasing. Another big challenge coming up, we will have to be on our game to progress through to the preliminary and know that MDU will be a tough game.

Rhett Kelly, MDU: We've been lucky to have beaten Yinnar twice this season, so if there is an edge, maybe it's a mental edge, but the fact is, we all know this is now a completely different challenge for both teams. I'm looking forward to it, and so is the club.



Kade Zealley scored one of only two goals for Poowong in the U16 match up against Bunyip in the first round of the finals. Photos: Jeff Tull.



Poowong vice-captain Jett Blackwood clears the ball from the Bombers end in the U18s one-point win on Sunday. Poowong will take on Buln Buln at Nyora this Sunday in the semi-finals.

MDU overcome persistent Thorpdale

A fourth-place MDU, coming off a confidence-building win just seven days earlier, seemed ready to go against what appeared to be a fragile Thorpdale team.

The Blues had been given a footballing lesson in the last round of the home and away season, but that loss masked a pre-planned decision to rest many of their first choice players in order to give the underdogs the best possible chance of surprising the favoured Demons, and for a period of the afternoon it seemed the Blues strategy might pay off.

The heat was on from both sides early, the intensity an expected high for an elimination final that had several lead changes within the first thirty minutes, but three goals deep into time gave the Demons some breathing space and a quarter-time lead of twenty-one points.

The scoreline MDU 5-5-35 to the Blues 2-2-14.

The Blues were never going to turn this one up, however, and the second quarter saw Thorpdale dig deep in an attempt to claw their way back into the game, the margin back to just eight points at the main break.

The third, the “premier-ship” quarter, saw the best of the Blues, lifting their level of pressure, showing composure when it counted and arresting the lead by a five-point margin with thirty minutes to go.

This is where the favoured MDU really flexed and found

By Rob Popplestone

what was needed; the Demons finally managed to shrug off a courageous Thorpdale side to win by twenty points.

MDU 12-14-86 to Thorpdale 9-12-66.

“What a great game, I thought we had the edge on them early, but to their credit they just fought and fought and fought their way back into the game, but I was just so happy that our boys could find something in the last thirty minutes and get the prize of another step forward in the finals,” Rhett Kelly, MDU coach said.

“Always disappointing when the season comes to an end, but proud we made the finals and put in a decent performance,” Daniel Taylor, Thorpdale coach, said.

“We got outplayed in the first quarter, and at quarter time, it probably looked like MDU by how far. Proud that we got ourselves back into the contest, and I felt like we had the game on our terms in the third quarter, but probably didn’t capitalise enough on the scoreboard. Full credit to MDU, though; they finished the game a lot better and were deserving winners.

“In my opinion, the best four teams are still in it, which is good for the competition. I’m looking forward to seeing how it pans out.”

The final four clubs are now Foster, Fish Creek, Yinnar and MDU, the field wide open for premiership glory.



A tackle from behind doesn’t deter Jason Kennedy from the mark. Photo: Bec Casey Sports Photography.

MID GIPPSLAND LEAGUE RESULTS

ELIMINATION FINAL (3v6)

	105		74
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YINNAR	BOOLARRA
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Yinnar	4.4	7.4	12.7	16.9 (105)
Boolarra	2.1	6.3	8.6	11.8 (74)
GOALS, Yinnar: H McKay 7, K Grinstead-Jones 6, J Bugeja 3, M Geary 2, B Cheffers, N Hall, J Notman, B Van Der Meer 1 each				
BEST: K Grinstead-Jones, B Chapman, N Hall, B Cheffers, H McKay, T Robertson				
GOALS, Boolarra: B Flanigan, J Holmes, B Mason, M Porykali, L Smith 2, M Hebbard 1				
BEST: B Mason, B Flanigan, S Noy, J Mason, J Holmes, M Dyer				

RESERVES

MDU	0.3	4.5	8.5	10.8 (68)
Stony Creek	1.2	2.2	2.3	2.3 (15)
GOALS, MDU: L Wright 5, H Fennell 2, J Brydon, L Harris, M Smith 1 each				
BEST: H Fennell, L Wright, T Ruedin, J Whiteside, S Bright, T Harris				
GOALS, Stony Crk: S Roche, A Wright 1 each				
BEST: R Baudinette, T Davies, A Wright, J Stuart, S Roche, C Batten				

THIRDS

Hill End	3.3	6.3	7.5	9.10 (64)
Tarwin	0.3	1.5	3.6	6.6 (42)
GOALS, Hill End: J Winduss 5, S Damschke, M Hasthorpe, M Johnston, D Paul 1 each				
BEST: D van der Stoep, M Hasthorpe, A Cooper, D Paul, B Stephens, J Winduss				
GOALS, Tarwin: H Guymer 3, J Andronaco, N Belvedere, B Trevena 1 each				
BEST: N Belvedere, H Guymer, J Andronaco, J Lowe, C Mallia, E Gundlapalli				

ELIMINATION FINAL (4v5)

	86		66
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MDU	THORPDALE
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MDU	5.5	7.7	8.11	12.14 (86)
Thorpdale	2.2	6.5	9.10	9.12 (66)
GOALS, MDU: N Nagel 7, J Hickey, T McRae, W Stewart, B Tomada, B VanderZalm 1 each				
BEST: S Wilson, T Corry, N Nagel, J Kennedy, A Battersby, F Kelly				
GOALS, Thorpdale: J Patullo 3, H Britten, H Ferguson, C Millsom, T Patten, S Pickering, B Pisa 1 each				
BEST: G Low, J Patullo, S Falla, B Melbourne, J Burgess, B Britten				

RESERVES

Toora	3.1	5.1	6.3	7.4 (46)
Tarwin	2.1	4.2	6.4	8.6 (54)
GOALS, Toora: A Rhodes 3, J Gukanovic 2, J Coulthard, J Mabilia 1 each				
BEST: A Rhodes, M Hoppner, S Vening, L de Boer, J Griffin, J Cripps				
GOALS, Tarwin: B Senior-Gibson, R Waddell 3, A Bell, D Leggo 1 each				
BEST: J Chalmers, R Waddell, S Griffin, T Cameron, L Keily, D Cardy				

THIRDS

Yinnar	1.2	2.2	5.3	7.5 (47)
Mirboo North	3.4	9.7	13.11	16.12 (108)
GOALS, Yinnar: B Beecher, H Berechree, B Durea, X McCafferty, H McCulloch, P Mills, G Ryan 1 each.				
BEST: B Ransom, D Hobbs, H Bugeja, M Moore, G Ryan, B Durea				
GOALS, Mirboo Nth: T McDuffie 6, C Crutchfield 3, O Mahoney 2, M Briscoe, J Conlan, M McConachy, T Williams, A Woodall 1 each				
BEST: T McDuffie, A Woodall, O Mahoney, C Crutchfield, J Conlan, M Briscoe				



Steve Forrester escapes the clutches of his Thorpdale opponent in the senior’s clash on Sunday. Photo: Bec Casey Sports Photography.



Mirboo North U18s walked away with a 61-point win over Yinnar at Terrill Park on Sunday. Photo: Bec Casey Sports Photography.



Leigh De Boer prepares to kick the ball as Tarwin aims for the tackle. Photo: Bec Casey Sports Photography.



MDU won by 53 points against sixth-placed Stony Creek in the reserves. Photo: G. S. Bruning.

Local football

South Gippsland and Bass Coast

Sentinel-Times



www.sgst.com.au

Maffra and Wonthaggi venues for Gippsland finals

SEEMS strange for the Senior Football Qualifying Final in the Gippsland League, between Traralgon and Moe, to be held at Maffra next Saturday, August 30, away from the population centre in the Latrobe Valley.

The choice of venues was hotly criticised on TRFM's Gippsland Live program last Saturday.

But, when you consider Traralgon's ground is out of action while building works progress, and both venues at Morwell and Moe will be used the following week for the semi-finals, with Morwell the grand final venue, there may not have been much of an option.

Next Sunday's round of finals will be hosted by Wonthaggi.

Leongatha teams will feature in four finals at Maffra next Saturday; the Leongatha Reserves, Thirds and B Grade netball teams against Moe and local rivals, Leongatha and Wonthaggi, facing off in the C Grade netball qualifying final.

On Sunday at Wonthaggi, the local Wonthaggi Power Reserves will have the home-ground advantage against Maffra, and would expect to be strengthened by six or more players dropping back from the Seniors after the club used 38 players in the top team this year.

Leongatha will have two netball teams in Sunday's games at Wonthaggi, their Under 17 and Under 15 netball teams playing Drouin and Warragul, respectively.

The following week, Leongatha's Seniors and Under 13 netball teams, together with Wonthaggi's B Grade netballers have already booked their places in the second Semi-Final at Morwell on Saturday, September 6.

Here are the 2025 Alinta Energy Gippsland League Finals Series venues: Week 1:

- Qualifying Final: Saturday, August 30th – Maffra Recreation Reserve
- Elimination Final: Sunday, August 31st – Wonthaggi Recreation Reserve

Week 2:

- 2nd Semi Final: Saturday, September 6th – Morwell Recreation Reserve
- 1st Semi Final: Sunday, September 7th – Ted Summerton Reserve, Moe

Week 3:

- Preliminary Final: Saturday, September 13th – Sale Oval

Week 4:

- Grand Final: Saturday, September 20th – Morwell Recreation Reserve

Parrots league benchmark

LEONGATHA has played off in every Gippsland League grand final since 2015, winning three, and being awarded the "minor premiership" in 2021, while arguably having the best list when the 2020 season was called off for COVID.

That's some record! In fact, the last time Leongatha missed the grand final was in 2014 when Wonthaggi played off against Morwell, losing by three goals.

They finished top of the ladder this year, after Saturday's final round match against Maffra, securing a clear run through to the second semi-final at Morwell on Saturday, September 6.

They may not go into the finals as outright favourite, however, with reigning premiers Traralgon hitting their straps in recent weeks. But they had something like the team that might take them there in a 107-point demolition of Maffra with the likes of Dyson Heppell there for his qualifying fourth match and two former premiership heroes, Tom Marriott and Jackson Harry, making their way back through the Reserves.

Power crush Moe in 70-point statement win

From page 68

Kaj Patterson got it forward to Cooper McInnes, who should have been awarded a 50-metre penalty. A point was the result, but Anthony Anastasio scooped up the loose ball out on the boundary and kicked an absolute beauty. Power was hard at the contest, harassing in numbers and making the most of their chances, Harry Dawson kicking one from 50 metres to extend the lead.

Sitting on the sidelines for Wonthaggi was talented forward Noah Anderson with a hamstring injury and a broken finger, while Kyle Reid was running water for the players. They both liked what they were seeing from their teammates.

Finally, Moe had their first set shot at goal, via big Nick Prowse, but Jaxon Williams cleared it off the last time, starting a transition that saw Cooper McInnes open his account at the other end.

Brodie Mabilia was controlling distribution from the ruck, where Aiden Lindsay, Sparkes, Kaj Patterson and Anastasio were dominant.

Jordan Shields was playing something of a lone hand, trying to hold back the tide, but another by McInnes, set up by Anastasio and another to Shannon Bray, floating forward, made it seven goals to nil at quarter time, the result already in Wonthaggi's keeping.

Moe's sharpshooter Ben Crocker wasn't getting the delivery he had been accustomed to this year, and the home side simply



Ride'em cowboy! Wonthaggi's Kaj Patterson tries to stop Moe's Alex Dijkstra breaking away from the stoppage with Jye Gilmour in support.

didn't have the cattle to compete with a Power side winning in all positions on the ground.

The game continued in that vein, Wonthaggi winning every quarter to stretch the result to a 70-point win at the end.

The Power named Ryan Sparkes, Brodie Mabilia, Cooper McInnes, Anthony Anastasio, Jarvis Harvey and the coach himself, Jarryd Blair, as best on the day, but you could just as easily have added Isaac Chugg,

Hunter Tiziani, Josh Schulz, Aiden Lindsay, Harry Dawson and several others to an impressive, four-quarter, team performance.

Final scores: Wonthaggi 17.13.115 to Moe 6.9.45.

Power out but 'something special ahead', says Blair

"ACROSS the year we've had our challenges, but we kept turning up, and in the end, we've missed out on playing in the finals by percentage, a couple of goals over the whole season."

That was how Wonthaggi coach Jarryd Blair summed up the disappointment of missing out on the finals, after finishing the season in equal fourth place, together with Morwell and Warragul on 11 wins, but four per cent behind Warragul in sixth place.

It was the first time the club has missed the finals in four years, but it was an upbeat Blair who addressed the players in the rooms after humbling a third-placed, but heavily undermanned, Moe by 70 points.

The challenges for Wonthaggi have included playing 38 different players in the seniors this year with only three team members: Ryan Sparkes, Jaxon Williams and Cooper McInnes playing all 18 games.

Injuries to the likes of Jakeb Thomas, Shannon Bray, Aiden Lindsay and Fergus O'Connor, plus the limited availability of Ethan Dickinson, Brodie Mabilia and Kyle Reid, were factors but the absences allowed the club to blood a group of promising youngsters and also to give more responsibility to the likes of Jaxon Williams, Noah Anderson, Cooper McInnes, Jarvis Harvey and



Wonthaggi Power coach, Jarryd Blair, was upbeat about the future after the club's seniors bowed out of the race for the 2025 premiership, despite wins over contenders Leongatha and Moe in the past fortnight.

Jai Williams.

It prompted Blair and his highly rated assistant coach, Tristan Francis, to declare that "the foundations have been laid for something special" next year.

"Well done boys, how good was that? The last two weeks should fill us with so much energy, that when you do the basics right, sticking to task and playing our way, you're opening up space ahead of the ball and getting that sort of result," said Blair.

"Across the year we've had our challenges, but we kept turning up. We're in a competition that is unforgiving when you don't get it right and we've missed finals by percentage, a

couple of goals across the season.

"But you're here because you want to strive to be the best you can be and for the footy club. That's why we are here in this league.

"Next month, make sure we stick together as a footy club. We've got the Bs and Cs and also reserves in, and it's our chance to show them the sort of support that they've been giving us.

"Spend time together, get around them and enjoy each other's company. Lot of times before you get sustained success, your reserves do well, which is next Sunday at Wonthaggi.

"I don't want to individualise because across the year everyone has stood up when they've needed to," he said.

The team's captain, Josh Bates, who was also missing through injury on Saturday, said it was great to see the growth coming out of the reserves and juniors.

Tristan Francis agreed. "It's disappointing not to be there, but we've had a lot of young blokes come through and there's a lot to build on next year. It's exciting looking forward. If we all stick together, we've got a lot to look forward to," said Francis.

Jarryd finished on the same positive note.

"We've got the foundations laid for something special. See this as an opportunity to recharge your batteries. I feel like we've been working hard for the past five years, but when the whips are cracking, in November, we want to remember the past two weeks, the fun we've had, and what it takes to be ready to snap those goals, slip the tackles and get into the clear."

Wins over premiership contenders Traralgon, while severely undermanned earlier in the year, and lately Leongatha and Moe have been undoubted high points, but a one-point loss to Warragul in round one and a soul-destroying defeat by Drouin last month were decisive.



The Parrots pull off an impressive goal off the boot. Ns3425_09

Parrots glide into the semis with a 107-point win

THE Leongatha Parrots delivered a dominating performance in Round 18, crushing Maffra by a staggering 107 points and securing their place in the Gippsland League semi-finals.

The Parrots' 141 points to Maffra's 34 was a dominating win at home. Coach Trent McMicking said he thought the Parrots moved the ball as good as they've moved it for a few weeks, and this was led by Aaron Heppell, Dyson Heppell and Kim Drew in the middle of the ground.

"We got some really good marking from our key forwards in Jenson Garnham and Patrick Ireland, and played a much better brand of footy," said Trent.

Jenson Garnham and Patrick Ireland opened up the scoring in all four quarters, which Trent said was just luck of the draw, with good, strong leads.

"They were marking beautifully and kicking really well, and it was one of the few times that we've had most of our forwards available."

The dominant display came off the back of a disappointing loss, and Trent said the Parrots were eager to respond.

"We tried to win it at the



Jenson Garnham kicked six goals for the Parrots. Ns3425_10

source and just use our skills and drive. We wanted to use our skills a bit better and kick the ball well through our forwards, and it paid off.

"It's a great lead into the final series," said Trent.

"We've just got to make sure we recover well before we take on either Moe or Traralgon

for a shot at the grand final, which should be pretty amazing, considering the years we've had with injuries."

Match breakdown: Leongatha flexed its premiership credentials with a ruthless 107-point demolition of Maffra on Saturday, running out winners 21.15 (141)

to 5.4 (34).

The Parrots set the tone early, kicking the opening four goals before Maffra found its first through Jack McQuillen late in the quarter. From there, however, it was all one-way traffic. Jenson Garnham was electric inside 50, booting four goals in the second term alone as Leongatha piled on seven unanswered majors to open a commanding 73 to 13 lead at halftime.

The onslaught continued after the break, with Patrick Ireland joining the goal party. Ireland's accuracy and work rate saw him finish with a bag of seven, while Aaron Heppell provided drive through the middle and chipped in with two of his own. Sam Forrester and Jack Hume also added scoreboard pressure as Leongatha extended the margin to triple figures by the final change.

To their credit, Maffra battled hard and found late goals through Harper Walker, Alex Carr and McQuillen, but the contest had long been decided. Leongatha's defensive pressure and relentless ball movement proved far too much, stamping them as a formidable force heading into finals.

GIPPSLAND LEAGUE RESULTS

RND 18

LEONGATHA FOOTBALL CLUB

141

34

LEONGATHA	MAFFRA
Leongatha 4.5 11.7 18.11 21.15 (141)	Maffra 1.0 2.1 2.2 5.4 (34)

GOALS, Leongatha: P Ireland 7, J Garnham 6, T Brill, J Hume, A Heppell 2, S Forrester, K Drew 1 each

BEST: A Heppell, P Ireland, J Garnham, J Hume, B Harding, J Walker

GOALS, Maffra: J McQuillen 2, N Christy, H Walker, A Carr 1 each

BEST: A Carr, A McKenzie, D Bedggood, D Butcher, T Scott, J McQuillen

RESERVES

Leongatha 5.2 7.4 12.7 16.10 (106)	Maffra 0.0 0.5 0.5 0.8 (8)
------------------------------------	----------------------------

GOALS, Leongatha: F Materia 4, C Watson, T Marriott, T Gannon, M De Kleuver, B Davidson 2, M Sheahan, B Fort 1 each

BEST: X Bolge, B Davidson, J Warne, T Marriott, J Harry, T Gannon

BEST, Maffra: W Ross, J Lambourn, S Tudor, W Gieschen, S Pendergast, B Missen

THIRDS

Leongatha 0.2 0.4 2.5 3.7 (25)	Maffra 2.3 6.4 6.4 8.9 (57)
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GOALS, Leongatha: M Sheahan 2, A Williams 1

BEST: F Donohue, K McGrath, M Sheahan, A Gannon, C Reid, H Bowler

GOALS, Maffra: B Cottrell 2, M Pendergast, J Dowsett, D Scott, T Phillips, A Stobie, W Ruthberg 1 each

BEST: T Phillips, S Richards, J Henry, B Cottrell, D Scott, L Harrington

FOURTHS

Leongatha 2.2 2.6 2.8 3.8 (26)	Maffra 1.3 4.5 6.7 10.7 (67)
--------------------------------	------------------------------

BEST, Leongatha: E Reardon, N Bradley, E Berryman, F Livingstone, C Bickerton, N Cameron

Best, Maffra: L Stephenson, M Pendergast, A Weatherley, H Bartlett, J Linford, C Kelly

WONTHAGGI FOOTBALL CLUB

45

115

MOE	WONTHAGGI
Moe 0.0 0.4 4.7 6.9 (45)	Wonthaggi 7.5 8.8 14.9 17.13 (115)

GOALS, Moe: K Holt 2, M Moroney, N Prowse, H Pepper, B Crocker 1 each

BEST: T Blackshaw, J Shields, B Maslen, B Daniher, A Paxton, A Dijkstra

GOALS, Wonthaggi: C McInnes 6, R Sparkes 2, H Tiziani, K Patterson, S Bray, J Williams, J Lewis, J Blair, H Dawson, B Mabilia, A Anastasio 1 each

BEST: No best players selected

RESERVES

Moe 2.3 2.7 5.9 7.13 (55)	Wonthaggi 0.2 2.3 2.3 3.5 (23)
---------------------------	--------------------------------

GOALS, Moe: B Holt 3, W Hester, W Robinson, B Wardle, B Sword 1 each

BEST: B Morrow, W Luke, N Battley, B Sword, J Riddle, W Robinson

GOALS, Wonthaggi: J Brouwers, A Busana, O Dawson 1 each

BEST: C Dawson, O Dawson, A McNeel, S O'Halloran, J Williamson, J Brouwers

THIRDS

Moe 3.3 8.6 14.8 18.9 (117)	Wonthaggi 1.2 1.2 2.3 4.5 (29)
-----------------------------	--------------------------------

GOALS, Moe: K Micallef, M Malady, D Walsh, K Holmes 3, M McQualter 2, A Carlson, A Jones, M Parise 1 each

BEST: M McQualter, T Paltridge, K Budnik, K Micallef, A Carlson, E Wildblood

GOALS, Wonthaggi: W Simmons, B Wyhoon, L Lidstone, N Tack 1 each

BEST: W Simmons, W Hullick, J Brouwers, L Ton, M Ori, L Lidstone

FOURTHS

Moe 5.4 6.10 11.11 16.13 (109)	Wonthaggi 0.0 0.2 0.3 2.4 (16)
--------------------------------	--------------------------------

BEST, Moe: A Nardone, A Abuan, K Micallef, N Romeril, E Romano, L Willis

BEST, Wonthaggi: W Simmons, R Tack, M Plenkovich, A Luke, H Bowen, B Wyhoon

IN OTHER GAMES...

SENIORS				
Traralgon	22.21.153	d Sale	11.9.75	
Morwell	16.10.106	d Bairnsdale	7.4.46	
Warragul	18.12.120	d Drouin	11.11.77	

RESERVES				
Traralgon	18.12.120	d Sale	4.2.26	
Morwell	10.9.69	d Bairnsdale	8.2.50	
Warragul	5.7.37	d Drouin	1.4.10	

THIRDS				
Bairnsdale	19.15.129	d Morwell	4.8.32	
Warragul	8.9.57	d Drouin	8.7.55	
Traralgon	10.8.68	d Sale	6.4.40	

FOURTHS				
Bairnsdale	13.11.89	d Morwell	4.10.34	
Warragul	17.13.115	d Drouin	3.2.20	
Traralgon	15.18.108	d Sale	3.5.23	

GIPPSLAND LEAGUE LADDERS

ROUND 18

SENIORS	W	L	%	pts
Leongatha	15	3	191.92	60
Traralgon	13	5	164.86	52
Moe	13	5	154.59	52
Morwell	11	7	129.60	44
Warragul	11	7	113.60	44
Wonthaggi	11	7	109.58	44
Maffra	6	12	70.65	24
Bairnsdale	5	13	78.74	20
Sale	4	14	68.23	16
Drouin	1	17	41.81	4

LEADING GOAL KICKERS

Ben Crocker (Moe)	86
Patrick Ireland (Leongatha)	56
Dylan Loprese (Traralgon)	49

RESERVES	W	L	%	pts
Traralgon	17	1	457.55	68
Leongatha	16	2	383.07	64
Moe	14	4	214.22	56
Maffra	13	5	200.33	52
Wonthaggi	8	10	95.37	32
Sale	7	11	83.31	28
Morwell	6	12	79.18	24
Warragul	6	12	40.51	24
Bairnsdale	3	15	59.72	12
Drouin	0	18	8.98	0

LEADING GOAL KICKERS

Damien Hough (Traralgon)	40
Flynn Materia (Leongatha)	35
Brendan Holt (Moe)	34

THIRDS	W	L	%	pts
Maffra	14	3	266.05	58
Leongatha	14	4	137.29	56
Moe	13	5	181.49	52
Traralgon	11	6	155.32	46
Warragul	11	6	151.36	46
Bairnsdale	11	6	123.64	46
Drouin	6	12	94.69	24
Sale	4	14	46.66	16
Wonthaggi	3	15	53.48	12
Morwell	1	17	26.15	4

LEADING GOAL KICKERS

Rylie Baker (Drouin)	68
Cameron Thompson (Warragul)	38
Archer Stobie (Maffra)	38

FOURTHS	W	L	%	pts
Traralgon	18	0	870.59	72
Maffra	15	3	201.19	60
Warragul	14	4	165.65	56
Moe	12	6	155.19	48
Bairnsdale	9	9	85.32	36
Leongatha	8	10	74.33	32
Morwell	5	13	48.38	20
Wonthaggi	4	13	39.22	18
Sale	3	15	43.01	12
Drouin	1	16	42.93	6

LEADING GOAL KICKERS

Brody Stevenson (Traralgon)	81
Fraser Aubrey (Warragul)	74
Bill De Araugo (Warragul)	62

FOOTBALL

SCOREBOARD

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WEST GIPPSLAND COMPETITION

Nar Nar Goon 20.11.131 d Cora Lynn 5.5.35

Tooradin-Dalmore 15.21.111 d Dalyston 8.5.53

Koo Wee Rup 8.7.55 d Warragul Industrials 6.11.47

Phillip Island 29.14.188 d Inverloch-Kongwak 6.9.45

Kilcunda Bass 9.15.69 d Garfield 8.10.58

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WEST GIPPSLAND COMPETITION RESULTS

RND 20

KILCUNDA BASS FOOTBALL CLUB

69 58

KILCUNDA-BASS

GARFIELD

K-Bass

Garfield

GOALS, K-Bass:

T Gunn 3, A Daraio 2, D Mcrae, T Cartmel, J Soroczynski, T Tuck 1 each

BEST: N Foote, D Mcrae, T Tuck, D Gawley, S Scott, T Gunn

GOALS, Garfield:

J Pinkerton, M Johnson 2, W Pickering, J Murphy, A Emery, B Tenace-Greenall 1 each

BEST: A Emery, E Morris, W Cole, J Harrison, F Hower

RESERVES

K-Bass

Garfield

GOALS, K-Bass:

B Connelly 4, D Lewandowski 2, T Stuckey, B Simpson 1 each

BEST: Z Storry, W Luke, J Jones, M Davey, B Sungalis, S Coldebella

GOALS, Garfield:

J Van Den Berghe 2, K Kelsey, O Whibley 1 each

BEST: J Van Den Berghe, O Whibley, J Kellett, J Gallie, B Scamporlino, B Hower

FOURTHS

Kilcunda Bass d Garfield (Forfeit)

THIS WEEKEND'S DRAW

SAT, AUGUST 30 & SUN, AUGUST 31

GIPPSLAND

1ST ROUND FINALS

Qualifying Final - Saturday, August 30

Maffra Recreation Reserve

Seniors: Traralgon v Moe

Reserves: Leongatha v Moe

U18: Leongatha v Moe

U16: Maffar v Warragul

Elimination Final - Sunday, August 31

Wonthaggi Recreation Reserve

Seniors: Morwell v Warragul

Reserves: Maffra v Wonthaggi

U18: Traralgon v Warragul

U16: Moe v Bairnsdale

WEST GIPPSLAND

ELIMINATION FINALS

Elimination - Saturday, August 30

Nar Nar Goon Recreation Reserve

Seniors: Phillip Island v Kilcunda Bass

Reserves: Cora Lynn v Koo Wee Rup

U18: Nar Nar Goon v Warragul Industrials

U16: Inverloch-Kongwak v Kilcunda Bass

Elimination - Sunday, August 31

Bass Recreation Reserve

Seniors: Cora Lynn v Warragul Industrials

Reserves: Phillip Island v Inverloch-Kongwak

U18: Tooradin-Dalmore v Koo Wee Rup

U16: Tooradin-Dalmore v Phillip Island

ELLINBANK

SEMI FINALS

2nd Semi Final - Saturday, August 30

Catani Recreation Reserve

Seniors: Neerim South v Longwarry

Reserves: Lang Lang v Trafalgar

U18: Ellinbank v Longwarry

U16: Trafalgar v Bunyip

1st Semi Final - Sunday, August 31

Nyora Recreation Reserve

Seniors: Trafalgar v Buln Buln

Reserves: Longwarry v Ellinbank

U18: Buln Buln v Poowong

U16: Poowong v Ellinbank

MID GIPPSLAND

SEMI FINALS

2nd Semi - Saturday, August 30

Stony Creek Racecourse

Seniors: Foster v Fish Creek

Reserves: Yinnar v Morwell East

U18: MDU v Newborough

1st Semi Final - Sunday, August 31

Thorpdale Recreation Reserve

Seniors: Yinnar v MDU

Reserves: MDU v Tarwin

U18: Hill End v Mirboo North

Panthers ready to launch their finals campaign



Timothy Gunn breaks clear and launches a kick at goal. Photos: Anna Carson



Club best and fairest Nathan Foote was dominant in the Panther's midfield.

AFTER an arm wrestle with Inverloch-Kongwak for sixth spot on the ladder for much of the second half of the season, Kilcunda Bass booked its appearance in the 2025 finals series with an 11-point win over Garfield.

The Panthers welcomed their biggest crowd of the year at the Bass Recreation Reserve, with supporters coming out of the woodwork to enjoy the beautiful weather and the Garfield faithful celebrating the last game of the season.

Kilcunda Bass was thrilled to have sealed its fate to continue its 2025 campaign, but the opposition certainly made it work for its finals ticket.

The Panthers got a jump on the Stars with two goals three in the first few minutes of the game.

They could've been five goals ahead from the get-go, but inaccurate kicking would prove to be an issue for both sides throughout the game.

Kilcunda Bass found it difficult to find the scoreboard through the second quarter, but was lucky as Garfield recorded six behinds.

Going into the long break, it was still unclear which way the game was going to go.

Scoring was tricky in third quarter and Garfield managed to gain more ground, coming within five points of Kilcunda Bass with one quarter to go.

The Panthers were going to have to really dig deep and prove how much they wanted it.

The game broke open in the fourth quarter and the Panthers found some breathing room.

They were 23 points ahead when Garfield found one last burst of adrenaline.

Garfield piled on a couple more goals at the 25-minute mark, bringing the margin back to 11 points.

Nathan Foote capped off another sensational home and away series with a dominant performance in the last game, Tim Gunn led the Panthers' goal-kicking efforts with three for the game, Travis Tuck was once again instrumental up forward and through the middle, and Steven Scott led the strong backline.

Kilcunda Bass is thrilled to be going into its elimination final against Phillip Island with a little bit of winning momentum.

The elimination final will be held at Nar Nar Goon next Saturday.

Playing on the nice, big ground, Kilcunda Bass is going in with youth on its side.

Phillip Island defeated Kilcunda Bass by just 18 points in a close contest in round three.

The Bulldogs managed to take better control of the game during the round 16 match, where Phillip Island won by 59 points.

Kilcunda Bass will approach this match with quiet confidence, knowing finals is a whole new ball game and ready to put it all on the line.

Kilcunda Bass held its vote count after the Garfield game on Saturday night.

Foote won the Seniors' best and fairest for the third time in a row – a testament to him as a player and record event for the club.



Brendan Kimber flies in for the ball against Jack Butcher. Photos: Carol Ratcliff.



Jordy Patullo takes the mark for Phillip Island in the last round before finals kick off this weekend.

Dogs slaughter the Sea Eagles at the Kennel

PHILLIP Island seniors stormed into the finals with a massive 143-point victory over Inverloch-Kongwak. From the first bounce, the Bulldogs were switched on, moving the ball with pace and precision while applying relentless pressure all over the ground. It was a complete team performance that showcased why the side will be a serious contender in September.

Up forward, Billy Taylor was unstoppable, finishing with eight goals in a commanding display. Cameron Pedersen also proved too strong with six majors, while

Brendan Kimber (4), Gianni Caffieri (3), Nick Anderson (3), Jack Huther (2), and singles to Jordy Patullo, Connor Thompson and Jack Taylor rounded out the big scoring day.

The best players list was headlined by Taylor and Pedersen, with Jordy Patullo, Hayden Bruce, Gianni Caffieri and Zak Vernon also among the standout contributors. It was also a special milestone for Jordy Patullo, who played his 100th senior game for the club – a huge achievement and a proud moment for Jordy and his family.

For Inverloch-Kongwak, it

was always going to be a tough day at the office. The Sea Eagles struggled to make an impact early, registering just three behinds in the opening term through Oscar Tousseint (2) and Xavier Hughes.

Their persistence was rewarded in the second quarter when Maxwell Scott slotted their first major, quickly followed by a goal to Toby Mahoney that lifted spirits. Inverloch-Kongwak continued to battle hard and added four more goals and six behinds across the remainder of the contest, showing patches of fight but ultimately unable to bridge the gap after Phillip

Island's blistering start.

While the heavy defeat confirmed the end of the Sea Eagles' finals hopes, it also marks a chance for the club to reset and look ahead to 2026. With a number of experienced players finishing up at the end of the 2024 season, it's been a year for rebuilding.

The Bulldogs now turn their focus to finals football, with an Elimination Final against Kilcunda Bass on Saturday, August 30 at Nar Nar Goon Recreation Reserve. With strong form and belief within the group, the boys are determined to make a big statement in September.

Dalyston put the pressure on Tooradin-Dalmore

DALYSTON celebrated the end of its season by not going down without a fight to premiership dark horse Tooradin-Dalmore.

In perfect conditions at the Dalyston Recreation Reserve, the Magpies kept up the pace alongside the second-ranked team.

For the last six weeks, Dalyston has played competitively against the best and looked to be right in it at halftime.

Blake Carew helped lead the charge, kicking accurately early on and putting three

goals on the board for the game.

Despite a few missed opportunities, Tooradin-Dalmore secured a 22-point lead at the first break.

The second quarter saw Dalyston continue to apply intense defensive pressure to stifle the Sea Gulls dominance.

The Magpies worked the ball with precision allowing their forwards clean possession. Dalyston recorded four goals to Tooradin Dalmore's two leaving them just 10 points behind at half-time.

Tooradin-Dalmore cracked into gear from that point, reminding Dalyston of its strength and fitness to emphasise why it is a contender for the 2025 premiership.

Although the margin was pushed out to a 58-points Dalyston kept competing all the way through.

Louis Armstrong, Dino Karamoshos and Hayden Wallis were the Magpies' best while Ben Lewis gave another strong performance, capping up a consistent season.

Dalyston brought the season home with its reverse

draw on Saturday night.

Many tickets were sold, ensuring a huge crowd at the clubrooms to finish the 2025 season on a high note.

For the next few weeks, Dalyston will be supporting its A and B Grade netballers in the finals and will be hosting the preliminary final.

The ground is in good nick ahead of the big event.

Looking ahead to 2026, Dalyston will be looking to continue to develop its young players to bolster more depth in the Seniors to deliver a competitive season next year.

WEST GIPPSLAND COMPETITION RESULTS

RND 20

PHILLIP ISLAND FOOTBALL CLUB

INVERLOCH-KONGWAK FOOTBALL CLUB

188 42

PHILLIP ISLAND INVERLOCH-K

Phillip Island 8.3 13.5 19.11 29.14 (188)
Inverloch-K 0.3 3.6 4.7 6.9 (45)

GOALS, Phillip Island: B Taylor 8, C Pedersen 6, B Kimber 4, N Anderson, Y Caffieri 3, J Huther 2, C Thompson, J Patullo, J Taylor 1 each

BEST: B Taylor, C Pedersen, J Patullo, H Bruce, Y Caffieri, Z Vernon

GOALS, IK: T Mahoney 2, T Cumming, P Pattison, M Scott, E Park 1 each

BEST: P Pattison, E Park, X Hughes, T Cumming, M Eales, N Baltas

RESERVES

Phillip Island 2.1 4.4 5.6 10.7 (67)
Inverloch-K 0.1 0.2 0.3 1.3 (9)

GOALS, Phillip Island: B Ross 4, T Woodfield 3, L Chihotski 2, D Thompson 1

BEST: M Paulsen, D Thompson, J Galvin, T Woodfield, O Hibbert, A Officer

GOALS, IK: D Taylor 1

BEST: S Hawking, T Bergmeier, T Leonard, B Withers, J Williams, D Lawton

THIRDS

Phillip Island 0.2 1.4 3.5 4.8 (32)
Inverloch-K 2.1 4.3 5.4 7.5 (47)

GOALS, Phillip Island: M Taylor, O Duggan 2 each

BEST: B Chihotski, J Briggs, N Forrest Mabilia, I Savona, M Taylor, J Kennedy

GOALS, IK: J O'Neill, J Dugard 3, J Cousins 1

BEST: A Finsterer, A Mankhong, F Soumilas, J O'Neill, M Ward, H Foster

FOURTHS

Phillip Island 2.0 6.0 6.3 6.7 (43)
Inverloch-K 4.4 6.4 7.6 8.6 (54)

GOALS, Phillip Island: F Bathgate 2, L De Fazio, A Williams, L Addison, C Cantwell 1 each

BEST: R Scott, F Bathgate, S O'Garey, A Williams, M Jess, J Kelsey

GOALS, IK: M Tonkin 4, J Martin, F O'Halloran 2 each

BEST: O Close, A Rayner, J Martin, J Brown, F O'Halloran, C Newman

DALYSTON FOOTBALL CLUB

53 111

DALYSTON TOORADIN-DAL

Dalyston 2.1 6.3 7.4 8.5 (53)
Tooradin-Dal 5.5 7.7 13.15 15.21 (111)

GOALS, Dalyston: B Carew 3, H Wallis 2, M Hallahan, B Tilley, D Karamoshos 1 each

BEST: No best players have been selected

GOALS, Tooradin-Dal: A Dean, X Shinnars, L Adams, J Craven 2, B Hamilton, D Ahern, L Downe, C O'Riordan, S Savage, R Neate, A Oxley 1 each

BEST: No best players have been selected

RESERVES

Dalyston 0.0 0.0 1.0 1.1 (7)
Tooradin-Dal 5.2 7.4 10.6 13.10 (88)

GOALS, Dalyston: D O'Toole 1

BEST: Z Storry, W Luke, J JONES, M Davey, B Sungalis, S Coldebella

GOALS, Tooradin-Dal: L Gregson 5, A Mirauta 4, B Campbell, A Proctor, J Grist, C Whittam 1 each

BEST: B Coffey, L Gregson, C Whittam, A Mirauta, J Grist, W Lumby

THIRDS

Dalyston 1.1 1.1 1.1 1.1 (7)
Tooradin-Dal 1.1 2.7 5.10 10.14 (74)

GOALS, Dalyston: N Shepherd 1

BEST: B Anderson, R Brinkman, A Rosenow, C Shepherd, M Cameron, M Toler

GOALS, Tooradin-Dal: J Cochrane, J Worrall 2, J Carroll, R Cooper, J Darose, B Griffiths, K Kerslake, H Rogers 1 each

BEST: J Worrall, R Cooper, J Cochrane, J Brearley, J Carroll, B Griffiths

FOURTHS

Dalyston 0.0 1.0 1.0 2.1 (13)
Tooradin-Dal 2.4 5.6 8.12 9.15 (69)

GOALS, Dalyston: No goal scorers listed.

BEST: F McNally, L Franks, J Howell, B Magro, A Donohue, J Hynes

GOALS, Tooradin-Dal: M Tonkin 4, J Martin, F O'Halloran 2 each

BEST: W Setford, C Hudson Sibilla, C Webb, N Baker, D Freeman, B Howlett

IN OTHER GAMES...

SENIORS

Nar Nar Goon 20.11.131 d Cora Lynn 5.5.35
Koo Wee Rup 8.7.55 d Warragul Ind 6.11.47

RESERVES

Cora Lynn 6.10.46 d Nar Nar Goon 5.8.38
Koo Wee Rup 19.10.124 d Warragul Ind 4.6.30

THIRDS

Koo Wee Rup 5.13.43 d Warragul Ind 3.5.23
Nar Nar Goon 16.11.107 d Cora Lynn 1.4.10

FOURTHS

Warragul Ind 16.7.103 d Koo Wee Rup 0.2.2

WEST GIPPSLAND COMPETITION LADDERS

ROUND 20

SENIORS

	W	L	%	pts
Nar Nar Goon	18	0	307.53	72
Tooradin-Dal	15	3	157.24	60
Phillip Island	13	5	163.63	52
Cora Lynn	12	6	125.25	48
Warragul Ind	10	8	85.96	40
Kilcunda Bass	8	10	89.07	32
Inverloch-K	7	11	79.99	28
Koo Wee Rup	5	13	78.91	20
Garfield	5	13	63.68	20
Dalyston	3	15	53.98	12
Kor-Bena	3	15	53.09	12

LEADING GOAL KICKERS

Nathan Gardiner (Cora Lynn)	96
Dermott Yawney (Nar Nar Goon)	80
Billy Taylor (Phillip Island)	44

RESERVES

	W	L	%	pts
Tooradin-Dal	15	3	388.29	60
Nar Nar Goon	14	4	299.36	56
Cora Lynn	14	4	164.16	56
Phillip Island	13	5	278.56	52
Inverloch-K	13	5	191.95	52
Koo Wee Rup	10	8	118.48	40
Kor-Bena	7	11	61.82	28
Garfield	6	12	62.29	24
Kilcunda Bass	3	15	35.17	12
Warragul Ind	2	16	30.03	8
Dalyston	2	16	25.76	8

LEADING GOAL KICKERS

Anthony Mirauta (Tooradin-Dal)	43
Brady Ross (Phillip Island)	38
Lauchlan Gregson (Tooradin-Dal)	36

THIRDS

	W	L	%	pts av
Phillip Island	14	2	269.59	3.50
Inverloch-K	13	2	248.47	3.38
Nar Nar Goon	13	4	226.78	3.06
Tooradin-Dal	12	5	175.76	2.82
Koo Wee Rup	10	5	153.46	2.63
Warragul Ind	7	9	103.41	1.75
Dalyston	5	11	51.16	1.25
Garfield	4	12	64.66	1.00
Kor-Bena	2	14	26.38	0.50
Cora Lynn	0	16	21.45	0.00
Kilcunda-Bass	0	0	0.00	0.00

LEADING GOAL KICKERS

Tarrant Millar (Nar Nar Goon)	41
Oliver Duggan (Phillip Island)	35
Chayse Campbell (Tooradin-Dal)	30

FOURTHS

	W	L	%	pts av
Warragul Ind	15	2	404.38	3.53
Nar Nar Goon	13	3	246.65	3.25
Inverloch-K	12	4	215.57	3.00
Tooradin-Dal	11	5	243.60	2.75
Phillip Island	8	8	141.83	2.00
Kilcunda Bass	8	8	67.26	2.00
Koo Wee Rup	7	9	47.36	1.75
Kor-Bena	4	12	43.17	1.00
Dalyston	3	13	34.61	0.75
Garfield	0	13	10.61	0.00
Cora Lynn	0	0	0.00	0.00

LEADING GOAL KICKERS

Ky Bannister (Warragul Ind)	32
Max Tonkin (Inverloch-K)	32
Sam O'Garey (Phillip Island)	23



Anthony Anastasio made a welcome return to Wonthaggi, typically dashing away from the packs, to provide drive all day for the Power at Moe.

Power crush Moe in 70-point statement win

THEY couldn't all have been injured.

So, did Moe do the right thing when they made eight changes to the team that beat finals' contender Warragul the week before when they met the visiting Wonthaggi Power side on Saturday?

They already had second or third spot on the ladder locked away, and a date set with Traralgon in the Qualifying Final at Maffra next Saturday. So, what was the upside of playing them?

Missing were Jaryn Makepeace, Trent Baldi, the coach Leigh Pohlke, Matt Heywood, Scott Vandyke, ruckman Chris Prowse, Callum Nash and Nathan Scagliarini, the latter suffering a broken jaw and fractured eye socket the week before and unlikely to return.

Also missing was intercept-machine Declan Keilty, set to return on Saturday, but with at least two of those eight changes clearing the way for first-choice players, including Harrison

Sim and Ben Daniher, it wasn't as bad as it seemed.

But a committed Wonthaggi side made the opposition look terrible on the day, in front of their fans, with the Power defence led by Jaxon Williams, Isaac Chugg, Shannon Bray and Jye Gilmour, on the likes of Ben Crocker, Nick Prowse and Harrison Pepper especially miserly. They stopped them from kicking a major until the 20-minute mark of the third quarter.

Only time will tell if they've

flirted with winning form or rested players in order to make an impact in September.

Wonthaggi, however, showed no mercy from the outset, controlling the play until Ryan Sparkes opened their account from the angle after just three minutes.

Power was switched on, front to back, Jaxon Williams putting his stamp on the defence with several clearances, Isaac Chugg punching clear and covering the ground between contests and the

tackling was ferocious.

Jasper Shone copped one over the shoulder but young James Lewis took the initiative, ran on and slotted the second.

Just as a thrilling B Grade netball match, between two finals contenders was being decided in Wonthaggi's favour, allowing them to finish top in the ladder, Power continued to pepper the scoring zone on the footy field, and rob Moe of all opportunities to reply.

Continued page 64

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