



STORM SURGE

- Where Monday's blast hit hardest

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FROM the mountains to the sea, the impact of a week of unprecedented windy weather has played havoc with trees and power supplies, access for school buses, trucks and general traffic, forced the cancellation of community events, impacted sporting results and caused significant property damage.

One of the most affected areas has been the surf beach at Inverloch where the beach access ramp at the Inverloch Surf Lifesaving Club Carpark has been eroded

1.5 metres in less than a week and sea water is threatening to break through near the intersection of Surf Parade and Cape Paterson-Inverloch Road, potentially impacting houses and infrastructure.

President of the South Gippsland Conservation Society, Ed Thexton, surveyed the area on Monday afternoon.

"The tide was going down, and the weather was improving and that may be the extent of the damage for now but what this is, is a call to action. It can't be

ignored," Mr Thexton said.

He urged those interested to read the new Cape to Cape Resilience Plan on the Engage Vic website and consider completing the survey or making a submission.

The impact was widespread, however, and some of the most damaging weather came through in the early hours of Monday morning, about the time that wind speeds hit 146km/h at Wilsons Promontory at 2.30am.

Continued page 3

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Storm surge: Where Monday's blast hit hardest

From page 1

Among the worst affected districts in South Gippsland on Monday was the Foster-Toora-Welshpool area where there have been reports of homes losing their roofs, a power pole blocking the South Gippsland Highway at Toora and at the Royal Standard Hotel in the town, a large section of the historic front verandah was lost.

"Yeah, it was wild. My manager was checking on the building until about 4 o'clock this morning but it just became too dangerous to go outside," said Toora hotel publican Steve Swan.

"So, we think the verandah has gone between 4.30am and 5.30am. We're just waiting for the SES to come out and tell us if it's still structurally safe or not."

A freak hail storm also hit Foster in the early hours, damaging roofs and allowing water into the ceilings of a number of units in the Linton Court Retirement Village.

By lunchtime yesterday, there were still thousands of AusNet customers in Gippsland without power, many of them along the main line between Drouin and Sale, but also in South Gippsland.

General Manager Communications and Brand, Karen Winsbury, reported that "the wind has caused significant power outages overnight, with approximately 112,000 people without power."

"The impacts are across the network, but the towns of Moe and Warragul are without power."

"We have crews in the field currently assessing the damage. The weather is still affecting the network, and it is very hazardous, so this may take a little longer than usual."

"We will update estimated restoration times on our Outage Tracker once we've made damage assessments. In terms of the power coming back on, some of these may take longer than 24 hours, particularly in more remote areas."

"We urge people to keep away from any fallen or damaged powerlines and assume any wires are live and to report new faults and emergencies online at www.ausnetservices.com.au/outages/report-a-fault or on



The sandbags in front of the Inverloch Surf Club are doing their work but wave action is eroding the dunes on either side of the bag wall.

13 17 99.

Among the worst outages locally was a 'Critical Outage' affecting the Foster Sub-Station supplying power to Welshpool, Binginwarri, Wonyip, Hedley, Toora North, Woorarra East, Toora, Agnes, Hazel Park, Mount Best, Foster, Grand Ridge, Wonga, and Boolarong.

Power was also out at Mirboo North on Monday, where the town's monthly community market was cancelled on Saturday, as if they haven't copped enough after the devastating storm of February 13 this year.

Parts of Korumburra, Leongatha, Wonthaggi and Phillip Island were also impacted with customers in the Poowong-Nyora, Grantville, Loch and other areas affected.

Sandy Point Community Centre President Daniel Millton took a walk around the town on Monday morning and saw trees down everywhere, some blocking access along roads in the town.

"The wind's been horrendous, up to almost 150km/h again last night at Wilsons Prom and 158km/h out on nearby islands so we've certainly had winds gusting to around the 100km/h mark here as well."

"Reports of building damage here are likely to be from trees. The fence near the parking lot has been blown over but it's mostly trees as far as I can see."

Mr Millton said that while some of the school buses out of the area had been cancelled in the morning, parents were advised that no school buses would run out of Foster on

Monday afternoon.

"They told us to come in and pick up the kids this afternoon. It's just too dangerous for the buses to run," he said.

Power was off again at Poowong and Nyora on Monday morning with customers there advised it was unlikely to be restored until 7.30pm Tuesday.

Power was off over a wide area from Poowong and Nyora through to Drouin and Warragul.

"There were no traffic lights in Warragul and Aldi was closed there also Coles and Woolies in Drouin," said Poowong resident Jim Forbes.

"It's likely to be gum trees falling across powerlines. Why they continue to plant gum trees in residential areas I don't know. They're simply not compatible and the insurance companies will start having a say about it before long," he said.

Meanwhile, early commuters and those driving on the South Gippsland Highway between Leongatha and Korumburra on Monday morning had to navigate around fallen trees in several places, with the road down to half a lane in places until crews arrived to clear a path.

John Schelling at Evans Petroleum said the truck scheduling manager had to make a number of changes to fuel routes because of blocked roads.

"Some of the bulk trucks headed for Melbourne had to come back to depot until the roads were cleared and we had to find alternative routes into Yarram and a couple of other



At the height of Monday morning's storm, part of the front verandah of the historic Royal Standard Hotel at Toora blew off.

locations in Gippsland. Power was off to the petrol station in Mirboo North," Mr Schelling said.

Among the roads that were closed or affected by debris were the following:

- South Gippsland Highway (Gwyther Siding Road, Beilbys Road, Leongatha South)
- South Gippsland Highway (Between Foster and Toora)
- Bass Highway (Between Inverloch and Leongatha)
- Grand Ridge Road (Between Hollins Road and Leongatha-Yarragon Road)
- Dollar-Woorarra West Road Foster North
- Drouin-Korumburra Road
- Main South Road Poowong East
- Meeniyan-Mirboo North Road
- Louise Simon Court, Leongatha

Gale-force winds across the weekend also impacted football and netball finals, especially at Maffra and Bairnsdale on Saturday and Sunday, where Wonthaggi and Leongatha teams were both engaged.

Football goalposts swung wildly and light towers waved worryingly in the wind as both footballers and netballers had trouble hitting their targets and scoring their goals.

But, as we saw overnight on Monday morning, the worst was still to come.

The Bureau of Meteorology is calling for winds (Leongatha) to drop to speeds of 35km/h to 55 km/h on Tuesday and stick around, but moderate further during the week.

POLICE BRIEFS

Another aggravated burglary in Inverloch

BASS Coast Crime Investigation Unit detectives are appealing for public assistance following an aggravated burglary and theft of motor vehicle in Inverloch last week.

It is believed two offenders entered a property on Tamara Crescent about 4.45am on Tuesday, August 27.

Police have been told that the offenders stole personal items and car keys before fleeing the scene in the victim's black Volkswagen Golf with registration 1DC1HJ.

The victim was asleep inside the house at the time.

Detectives have released an image of a man they believe may be able to assist with their enquiries.

He is described as being aged in his early 20s with curly hair and a goatee style beard. He was wearing a 'Hododrich' brand tracksuit.

The second offender was wearing a hooded top and a face covering.

Investigations remain ongoing. Anyone with information about the people involved is urged to call Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000 or log onto crimestoppersvic.com.au

Two killed after car strikes pole

EMERGENCY services responded to a single vehicle crash in Mooropna North on August 24. It's believed a vehicle was travelling along Ardmona Road when it struck a pole just after 6pm.

The driver, a 46-year-old man from the greater Shepparton area, died at the scene. The front seat passenger, a 37-year-old man from South Gippsland, also died at the scene. The backseat passenger, a 34-year-old man from South Gippsland, was airlifted to hospital in a critical condition.

The exact cause of the crash is being investigated.

Police appeal for assistance after two burglaries in Yarram

WELLINGTON Crime Investigation Unit detectives are appealing for public assistance as they investigate two burglaries. The first incident occurred at the supermarket on James Road between 6am and 6.30am on August 13. It is believed an unknown man gained access to the shop by climbing through a roof cavity. Once inside the store, he stole two cash register drawers and cigarettes before fleeing the scene. Police believe he fled the scene in a dark coloured Mazda.

On August 24 between 4.45am and 4.55am, the man gained access to the same store through a roof cavity again.

While inside, he stole a cash register drawer containing cash before fleeing the scene. The man is described as approximately 140-150cm tall with an athletic build. He was wearing a black hoodie, gloves, a face mask, shorts, sneakers and a green backpack.

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6 Day
Weather
Forecast

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TUE | Sep 3
Cloudy.
Wind AM: SW 25-35km/h
Wind PM: W 15-25km/h
8° 16°



WED | Sep 4
Becoming cloudy.
Wind AM: Light
Wind PM: NW 25-35km/h
7° 20°



THUR | Sep 5
Showers.
Wind AM: N 20-25km/h
Wind PM: NW 20-30km/h
13° 22°



FRI | Sep 6
Showers.
Wind AM: Light
Wind PM: W-NW 15-25km/h
11° 20°



SAT | Sep 7
Shower or two.
Wind AM: W 15-20km/h
Wind PM: W 15-20km/h
9° 17°



SUN | Sep 8
Shower or two.
Wind AM: Light
Wind PM: W-NW 20-30km/h
7° 18°

IN BRIEF

Tiny towns
grants open now

RIGHT across Gippsland there are tiny towns that are great places to live and visit and the new Tiny Towns Fund is supporting communities to deliver great projects to make their towns even better.

Towns with populations below 5000 are encouraged to apply for these grants to enhance tourism and undertake community facility projects, such as splash parks and bike trails, playgrounds, community hall and library upgrades, public art and more.

From barbecues to community centres, the Tiny Towns Fund backs community-driven projects that enhance our smallest towns, strengthen community connections and encourage more visitors to all corners of our region.

Grants between \$5000 and \$50,000 are available for each project.

The fund is open to applications from incorporated not-for-profit community organisations and Local Government Authorities that operate in Victoria.

For further information regarding eligibility, funding and applications, go to rdv.vic.gov.au/grants-and-programs/tiny-towns-fund.

Nothing goes to waste

THERE came an interesting response from Bass Coast Council last week to a question from Gina Rosamilia about what the shire does with the old, discontinued play equipment removed when upgrading local playgrounds.

“Council’s old playspaces are carefully removed so they can be catalogued, packed into shipping containers and reused overseas as part of the Rotary Overseas Relocation Project,” said the shire CEO Greg Box.

“Following the recent

upgrades, the old Cape Woolamai playspace is on its way to Cape Town, while the playspace from Outrigger in Inverloch is on its way to Cambodia.”

Pothole hazard
shreds tyre

A GAPING pothole left on the South Gippsland Highway between Whitelaw Road and Warragul Road, Korumburra has claimed another victim.

A fifteen-centimetre gash in the road at the scene of a recent truck rollover shredded the tyre of a motorist travelling to Welshpool.

“We hit the pothole, and the tyre shredded,” said the shaken passenger.

The pothole was not visible to the driver.

“When we hit it, I had no idea what had happened,” the passenger recounted.

The pothole had not been repaired since the truck accident.

“We had to cancel our weekend in Welshpool,” said the driver.

The car lost control although the driver managed to stop safely without further incident.

“Why the heck was the massive hole left from the accident not repaired?” asks both driver and passenger.

“We’re lucky to be alive,” they both agree.

“It (the pothole) may not look deep but it sure is.”

Phillip Island Community
GP Run is back

DEAD4EVA Designs, Trust No One SMC & Phillip Island Toy Run will host The Phillip Island Community GP Run beginning at Caldermeade Farm & Café on Saturday, October 19. This free ride is to replace the original Moto GP Ride that began in Cranbourne that ceased prior to COVID.

Thanks to their generosity, the ride will leave from Caldermeade Farm, 4385

South Gippsland Highway, with stands up at 11am. It will continue along the Highway through to Phillip Island with the option of heading off at the roundabout to the race-track in time for the Moto3 qualifying.

Alternatively, make a day of it and head into town where retailers, cafe owners, restaurateurs and publicans alike have been allocated the lower half of Thompson Avenue in Cowes early on to ease your belly or quench your thirst after the ride.

A community and rider organised event, The Phillip Island Community GP Run will be assisted by Victoria Police, Eastern Region along the way.

For further information, please visit Phillip Island Community GP Run 2024 on Facebook.

Underquoting taskforce a
permanent addition

THE State Government is making its underquoting taskforce permanent so they can continue to crackdown on dodgy conduct in the real estate industry.

Minister for Consumer Affairs Gabrielle Williams made the announcement with inspectors from the underquoting taskforce last Friday before they head off on the weekend to monitor auctions following complaints about agent behaviour in the area.

The taskforce was initially planned as a two-year operation but will now be a permanent enforcement arm of Consumer Affairs Victoria.

It is claimed the taskforce will protect Victorians from the illegal practice of underquoting while creating a fairer market for the many estate agents who do the right thing.

Underquoting can occur when a property is advertised at a price that:

- Is less than the estimated selling price
- Is less than the seller’s

asking price

- Has already been rejected by the seller.

Underquoting is designed to attract a wider field of buyers who might only have been interested at a lower price, but once engaged, might be persuaded to go higher.

But claims against real estate agents were fraught in a rising market when demand drove bids well above the advertised price, prompting would be buyers to cry foul.

“Underquoting is illegal and estate agents who engage in this dodgy practice face tough consequences. Our underquoting taskforce has already issued more than \$1.6 million in fines,” said Minister for Consumer Affairs Victoria Gabrielle Williams.

Feedback wanted
on Silverleaves

THE State Government is calling on the community to provide feedback on the Silverleaves Coastal Processes Study and have their say on future management of the local coastal environment.

The draft study outlines the current state of the Silverleaves coastline, identifies areas at risk from coastal processes and explores potential responses – including natural solutions to mitigate the risk of erosion and protect natural habitats.

The project has developed detailed modelling, analysis and hazard maps to offer a regional perspective on coastal processes and the potential exposure of locations, values, and assets to coastal hazards.

In addition to online information sessions, an in-person information sessions was held last Friday at Berninnet in Cowes.

Community members, local organisations, and stakeholders are invited to review the draft study and share their thoughts on the study from August 29 to September 27.

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Bass Coast submission reveals ‘eventual forced relocation’

THE State Government’s Inquiry into Climate Resilience is starting its public hearings phase this week and the first session will be held in Traralgon on Tuesday, September 3.

Members of the community can head along to hear from local councils, Gippsland environment groups, associate professors, farming representatives, and others as they speak to the Legislative Council Environment and Planning Committee about local climate resilience.

Member for Eastern Victoria Melina Bath is a member of the panel chaired by the Member for Southern Metropolitan Ryan Batchelor.

Bass Coast will be represented by officers, not sure about South Gippsland Shire but given the release last week of the Cape-to-Cape Resilience Plan and ongoing issues of coastal erosion in the past week there would be plenty for them to talk about.

However, while the Cape to Cape Resilience Plan says that the percentage of General Residential Zoned (GRZ) property at risk of permanent inundation in Inverloch is less than one per cent until 2040, then one per cent from 2040 to 2100 when it rises to just two per cent, if sea level rises by 0.8 metres, it may surprise some to hear that Bass Coast is already considering planning controls and “eventual forced relocation” from private property.

The Bass Coast Shire Council’s Acting General Manager Place Making Donna Taylor has made a submission to the inquiry on council’s behalf listing among council’s initiatives for combating climate change, the exhaustive process to establish an independent Environment Fund.

The risks are considerable, she says.

“The major climate change risks to people of the Bass Coast region are rising sea levels, coastal erosion and storm surge that damages coastal foreshore land and community infrastructure and inundates utility networks,



Authorities have failed to draw a distinction between what needs to be done to address the very low risk of permanent inundation to residential land at Inverloch, out beyond 2100, and the measures for dealing with the risks posed by coastal erosion and storm surge. Stormy weather during the past week has done further damage to the dunes and coastal vegetation at Inverloch in the vicinity of the rock wall and Cape Paterson-Inverloch Road, and also around the sand-bag barrier in front of the surf club.

drainage systems and private property,” Ms Taylor says in the shire’s submission.

“The impacts to the built environment are lost access to public and private property, loss of public open space to recreate, service disruptions, uninhabitable and undevelopable private/residential land.

“This causes financial losses and impact to:

- Local Government through repair bills, additional infrastructure resilience measures. Utilities with damage and forced relocation of networks.
- Citizens livelihood through property loss, equity loss and eventual forced relocation.

“Additionally, significant risks from changing rainfall patterns and increasing frequency of wild weather causing more storm events with flash flooding rendering stormwater

networks ineffective and downed trees that impedes access and damages roads, utilities, and private property.

“This causes losses and impact to:

- Local Government through repair bills and increased emergency response and recovery effort.
- Utility outages, disruptions, and unplanned repair bills.
- Citizens impacted living arrangements and increased Insurance and/or repair bills.

“Our community looks to us (Local Government) to keep them safe. Local Government’s current responsibility is to maintain community infrastructure and administer planning controls.

“The expected response to manage impacts to community infrastructure alone will stretch our resources and require financial assistance at

times. Our current response for community infrastructure is to increase resilience where possible and retreat in accordance with State coastal policy.

“While this policy may be appropriate for some community infrastructure, for residential land and service infrastructure such as roads and utilities, the policy falls short.

“For example, a recent case study into the climate change risks impacting a section of the Bass Coast community (Inverloch) revealed a suite of response actions and activities required to support and manage the impacted community. These new roles require significantly more resources than our budgets and revenue-raising capacity currently provide.

“Our funding and resource gap will grow as climate risks materialise and affect our community further as we understand the impacts across all our service areas, service levels will be reduced, or we risk our financial sustainability.

“Legislative frameworks continue to allow for construction of buildings and infrastructure that are ill-prepared for the weather events predicted to occur as a part of the changing climate. In addition, there is no guidance or legislative requirement to demonstrate how to retrofit existing buildings and infrastructure.”

Ms Taylor goes on to say that recognising the urgency of climate change, Bass Coast Shire Council has declared a climate emergency and devised a Climate Change Action Plan 2020-30.

Bass Coast Councillors contacted by the Sentinel-Times were unaware of the State Government’s Inquiry into Climate Resilience hearing at Traralgon on Tuesday or that the shire had made a submission to the inquiry.

The South Gippsland Conservation Society has also made a submission to the inquiry, with a public hearing at the Century Inn Traralgon on Tuesday, September 3, from 10am.

How cost-shifting and rate cap is killing council

NINE years after rate capping was introduced in Victoria “the reality for rural councils is that rate capping is death by a thousand cuts”.

That’s the view of the South Gippsland Shire Council, as expressed in its submission to the State Government’s inquiry into local government funding and service delivery in Victoria.

But the corollary of that is the council needs more money and it either comes from rate increases or an increase in grant funding.

And coming into an election cycle, the prospect of increasing rates isn’t something that’s going to sit well with voters.

So, the government should pay more, according to South Gippsland, especially if both levels of government, State and Federal are going to keep pushing responsibility and cost for programs and services off onto

local government.

A few examples include:

- \$90 million to stop regular flooding of a small township
- Cost of developing and maintaining Early Years Centres
- Rising waste disposal costs
- Emergency management costs
- Gaps in covering the cost of assessing complex planning applications

South Gippsland Shire Council has offered a few suggestions for the inquiry:

- Movement away from the rates system to receiving a direct share of GST
- Implementation of a rate capping system that addresses the inequity that rural councils face under the current system due to their inability to be able to raise the quantum of revenue that metropolitan councils can. The system could be a two or three-tier system with a

metro rate, regional rate and rural rate that helps close the gap.

- Percentage of royalties received by the State Government from mining/quarries to the local government to contribute to impact on infrastructure, community and economy.
- Percentage of state or nationally significant projects for local government to contribute to supporting infrastructure and services i.e. renewable wind farms or offshore wind.
- The creation of a national Coastal Adaptation Strategy, and associated implementation fund, to take existing evidence, data and mapping and turn it into short and long planning that reduces risk and thus council liability, also bringing community, business and industry into the risk and liability conversation.

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Additional coach services for Yarram and Leongatha

ADDITIONAL V/Line coach services to Melbourne from Yarram and Leongatha will commence in 2025 says The Nationals Member for Gippsland South, Danny O'Brien.

Details for the timetable of these additional services, promised in the 2024-2025 State Budget are yet to be finalised and Mr O'Brien is asking Gippslanders to contribute to the discussion.

"I recently wrote to the Minister for Public and Active Transport to seek answers on when the new services to Yarram via Leongatha will be available," Mr O'Brien said.

"The Minister has indicated that the additional coaches will commence in 2025 and that the scope for the timetable changes is yet to be determined.

"While it's frustrating that the Government has not provided any detail, I am encouraging those who are likely to utilise these new services to ensure they are part of the discussion by letting me know what scheduling they feel would be most beneficial to the community."

Mr O'Brien said commuters traveling from Yarram to Leongatha and beyond currently have just three coach services available with four return options on weekdays and just three on weekends.

"Depending on the day of the week, the first coach leaves Yarram sometime between 6-7am, a second mid-morning and the third mid-afternoon.

"The earliest coach travelling from Leongatha towards Yarram is after 11am, with afternoon services differing depending on the day of the week. A late coach departing Leongatha around 9pm is available on weekdays only.

"I would be interested to hear from the local community on how they use the current services as well as how they may benefit from additional services depending on the finalised timetabling."

Mr O'Brien said while he was pleased by the announcement of these additional services for the Yarram community, he would continue to champion calls for a bus service between Yarram and Sale.

State Coal Mine whistle set to blow again

HAVE your hens stopped laying in Wonthaggi?

Pensioners and retirees are you sleeping in and missing lunch?

Fear no longer the Wonthaggi State Coal Mine whistle is set to blow again at midday each day with a fresh head of compressed air.

Friends of the State Coal Mine President Steve Harrop has successfully sourced a replacement for the faulty part which suddenly silenced the one-hundred-year-old whistle in July.

"All we need now is some good weather to allow access to the top of the nine-metre-tall poppet head in Apex Park," said Steve Harrop.

Friends of the State Coal Mine are also waiting on Bass Coast Council to repair an elevated work platform so the job can be done safely.

With thirty active members and hundreds of financial members Friends of the State Coal Mine wasted no time getting to the heart of the problem.

"It was a faulty part taking the compressed air to the whistle," said Steve.

The coal mine whistle, which legend has it could once be heard as far away as Tarwin Lower operates at 135 psi.

In the days when the whistle summoned men to work and signalled their lunch break



State Coal Mine President Steve Harrop with new poly whistle part.



State Coal Mine whistle poppet head.

steam boilers produced twice that pressure.

The whistle was manufactured by John Danks in 1915.

It was built to withstand the pressure of superheated steam and was loud enough to wake up the dayshift and everybody else in Wonthaggi.

It is the same design as the whistle used on the Titanic according to Steve Harrop.

"The fault was a leaking poly fitting on the high-pressure air-line".

Not the first time the whistle has been out of action according to a reliable source.

"Whistle is Back!" screamed the headline of the day in

March 2013.

Once again it seems the whistle had been off-line for some time.

No doubt the strange hissing noise which signalled a fault in the whistle valve this century gave puzzled mine workers in 1913 the same clues on how it could be fixed.

A small part is all that was needed to connect the valve to the whistle then someone brave enough to climb up a nine-metre-high tower to fix it to the top of the powerhouse.

The Powlett Express in 1914 listed seventeen different whistles all signalling

different times of the day but that was later reduced to ten times a day.

Reportedly a saucer-shaped deflector was added to the tower during the Second World War to make the whistle audible as far as Kongwak, Tarwin Lower and Eagles Nest.

It seems the State Coal Mine whistle which has long regulated the lives of mine workers, shopkeepers, school children and housewives alike in Wonthaggi will continue to do so, well into the next century.

"Set your clocks for around mid-September," said Steve Harrop.

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Mat Morgan For Bass Coast Bunurong ward



Authorised by M. Morgan, 166 Reed Cr, Wonthaggi Vic, 3995

Government savaged over Wonthaggi planning fiasco

THE State Government, local MP Jordan Crugnale and to a lesser extent the Bass Coast Shire Council have had their day being lambasted in State Parliament over Wonthaggi's planning fiasco.

It followed the tabling of a 4000-signature strong petition by Eastern Victoria MLC Dr Renee Heath who led the debate in the Legislative Council last Wednesday, August 28.

"For months residents were left in the dark about what the decision meant (to impose Environment Audit Overlays on more than 600 Wonthaggi properties), what effect it would have on the value of their property and how this sudden and retrospective governmental decision could be rectified," said Dr Heath.

"To make this decision even more galling is the fact that not one single property was found to have any historical contamination at all. This whole nightmare was completely unnecessary.

"The local council," she said, "even recommended no gardening until the all-clear had been given.

"I heard terrible stories from people who battled through these past months under enormous stress and uncertainty – families who were uncertain about what

their future held, their homes and their value being their biggest asset.

"One resident wrote: The imposition of this EAO has taken a toll on my health and well-being. Recently diagnosed with type 1 diabetes, the added stress from the EAO has made managing my condition even more challenging. When I purchased my land, I considered it to be one of my biggest achievements and was very proud to call myself a landowner, I now consider it to be the single worst decision of my life (at no fault of my own)."

Dr Heath went on to say what the residents wanted:

(1) They wanted the EAO removed from all existing land throughout the precinct,

(2) They want acknowledgement that there are residents that are still taking medication and are still having counselling to deal with the stress and anxiety that this disaster has caused them, and

(3) They want this government to take responsibility and for the Premier to apologise for what they have been through. These requests would seem to be the very least that this government could do to rectify the damage and stress that they have caused."

Member for Eastern Victoria (Labor) Tom McIntosh

acknowledged it had been a difficult time for all, but he praised the local member Jordan Crugnale leaning in with residents and engaging the minister.

"The minister took briefings on a weekend, understanding the importance of the issue and the importance of getting on with dealing with the issue. Funding was made available to the council for the co-funding of preliminary risk screen assessments. Between the state government, the council, the EPA and the Victorian Planning Authority work was done to audit properties. As I said, it was a matter of urgency to go through and conduct those PRSAs and move through and clear properties to give owners and residents peace of mind about their properties going forward. I think it was really important to go through that process."

But Member for Western Victoria Bev McArthur hotly criticised Ms Crugnale as having completely failed the people of Bass and Wonthaggi in particular for failing to inform them about the imposition of the EAOs.

"She needs to fess up. The only information released was a reference to the decision about the planning amendment in the Government Gazette and a press release from the Victorian

Planning Authority on 18 January. However, both of these failed to mention the environment audit overlay. This government made no effort at all to let people know what was happening, and this lack of information just made the situation worse for many."

Ms McArthur went on to predict that "this will kill her off", that Ms Crugnale will not be the Member for Bass after the next election and she added one or two other names to the list during the debate.

"I am sure government speakers on the other side will stand up today, as Mr McIntosh did, and pat themselves on the back for belatedly addressing this cruel and unnecessary torture they have put the community through. The people who deserve the credit are the local community, and I congratulate them for the way they pulled together to create the enormous response we are debating today," said Ms McArthur.

Ms Heath closed the debate by thanking by name the Wonthaggi committee members who had led the response, and also her colleague Melina Bath for her "incredible contribution" and the efforts of former Liberal Party Leader, Wonthaggi's Alan Brown.

Radical new powers to reform Airbnb

AS PART of negotiations with the Victorian Labor government on the Short Stay Levy Bill 2024, the Greens have secured reforms that will allow local governments to regulate or even ban short-stay accommodation.

Under the new reforms, from early 2025 councils will be able to restrict the number of nights a property can be used as a short stay, impose registration fees, and make all short stay properties require a permit which enables them to be banned in certain areas or altogether.

Bass Coast Shire Council Candidate Mat Morgan welcomed the reforms, fronting media outside Parliament alongside Greens leader Ellen Sandell.

"Bass Coast will always be a beautiful holiday destination, but we have tourists sleeping in homes and locals sleeping in tents. There is a housing crisis unfolding, and the council should have all tools available to address it," Morgan said.

"I won't be proposing Airbnb bans in Bass Coast, but I think any measures that encourage more investors to make their properties available for people to actually live in, is something Bass Coast should be considering."

Victorian Greens Leader Ellen Sandell celebrated the reforms, saying in the middle of a housing crisis, it's not right that 48,000 entire homes are on Airbnb across the state. This pushes up property prices, locks out first home buyers and takes homes away from renters. Renters are struggling to find a place to live while property investors hoard homes for huge profits.

Any regulations will apply only to investment properties, not primary residences. Local governments will have access to data collected by the State Revenue Office to help enforce any rules created.



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Is climate change core for council?

AVID council watcher, Graham Jolly, took issue at the last Bass Coast Council meeting with the effort council puts in on climate change action.

Specifically, he wanted to know why council contributed so strongly to the work of the South East Councils Climate Change Alliance.

“Why has council moved away from its primary responsibility and scope of core duties by having representatives on the South East Councils Climate Change Alliance comprising two councillors (one a chairperson) and two paid council officers dealing with matters connected to the ‘objectives of SECCCA’ a very financial organisation?”

The response: “One Councillor sits on the SECCCA councillor advisory group and one officer on the Management Committee. Council works collaboratively with SECCCA and the eight member Councils to achieve efficiencies in projects which deliver climate change outcomes across the region.”

No committee for complaints

THE Bass Coast Shire Council doesn't have a committee for dealing with complaints. Maybe it should.

Ernie Westergard received that response when he asked a question of council recently about how it deals with complaints.

“During the year 2023/24 how many complaints handling committee meetings were held to resolve complaints?”

Response: “Council does not have a Complaints Handling Committee. Council's Complaints Handling Policy outlines the types of complaints, the escalation process and who the complaint is referred to for assessment.”

Rhyll path is progressing

DURING A BUSY council question time recently, Mario Boffa wanted to know how the shared pathway to Rhyll was going. Would council please provide the progress for the continuation of the shared pathway from Cowes to Rhyll?

Response: “Council is delivering the Cowes-Rhyll Shared Path in partnership with Phillip Island Nature Parks. The project is being delivered in five stages.

“Stage 1 is complete, and Stage 2 is due for completion in September. Stages 3-5 are in various stages of design. Further information on each stage is available on the Engage Bass Coast website Engage Bass Coast.”

Worried about erosion

SILVERLEAVES erosion is a serious worry and local resident John Cantone brought his concerns to the Bass Coast Council last week.

“Would council please explain its role and council's current plan to protect property owners in Silverleaves on Phillip Island's north from foreshore erosion that is advancing at a rapid rate towards residential properties?”

Response: “Council officers and Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (DEECA) representatives met with members of the public at Silverleaves in August to discuss foreshore erosion.

“DEECA have commissioned an adaptation planning project for Silverleaves. The Coastal Processes Study will be made public following DEECA approval. Council will continue to monitor the situation and carry out minor sand renourishment works as needed, prior to the release of the Coastal Processes Study.”

Ready, set, nominate!

NOMINATIONS open for the Victorian local council elections on Monday, September 9 and there looks likely to be a contest in all three wards of both local councils, Bass Coast and South Gippsland.

Four, possibly five of the sitting councillors in Bass Coast and six of the incumbents in South Gippsland have declared they'll be standing again; Ron Bauer, David Rooks, Rochelle Halstead, Leticia Laing and also likely Brett Tessari in Bass Coast and Sarah Gilligan, Scott Rae, Nathan Hersey, Jenni Keerie, John Schelling and Clare Williams in South Gippsland.

But a Melbourne Cup field of candidates is lining up behind them, many yet to declare their intentions, but plenty of others already firmly in the race.

In Bass Coast, Tracey Bell has already posted signs around the Island Ward and avid council watcher John Trig has also thrown his hat into the ring as has a candidate at the last election, Darrell Silva, a local tourism business operator.

There are as many as three or four others for the Island ward alone.

Rochelle Halstead is the only sitting councillor going again in Westernport Ward, with the mayor Clare Le Serve and Geoff Ellis retiring but there are already two or three more candidates including Corinella and District Community Jan Thompson, local resident Jon Temby and health professional Nikole Schellekens.

Bunurong is the interesting one with Leticia Laing declaring early that she has “unfinished business” and will be going again. Brett Tessari is also likely to nominate but is yet to make up his mind and several others have declared including Greens-aligned candidate Mat Morgan and former South Gippsland Councillor Meg Edwards.

Retired former corporate governance officer Brian Robinson, who was on the panel at the recent Inverloch Future night, is also a candidate for Bunurong.

And North-East Community Action Committee Member, Prudence Scholtes, is also likely to stand in Bunurong but is waiting for the committee to table its final report which is expected this week.

Bass Coast Artists Society secretary Glenda Minty has also announced that she will also be a candidate in Bass Coast, in either Bunurong or Western Port.

South Gippsland elections

In South Gippsland, where six of the sitting councillors intend to nominate; Clare Williams and John Schelling in Tarwin Valley, Nathan Hersey and Jenni Keerie in Strzelecki and Scott Rae and Sarah Gilligan in Coastal Promontory, there are



Candidate for the Island ward in the looming Bass Coast Council elections Tracey Bell has wasted no time getting her name and face out there.

several other candidates' names being tossed around but only a few have so far officially nominated.

Health and community services professional Bronwyn Beech has nominated for Strzelecki and Korumburra small business operator John Kennedy has done likewise.

Former South Gippsland councillor now Korumburra resident Andrew McEwan may be a candidate. Other candidates for Strzelecki are expected.

Mirboo North small business operator, Brad Snell, has thrown his hat in the ring for Tarwin Valley and it is expected that others may also, including former South Gippsland mayor Don Hill.

Coastal Promontory is more of an unknown quantity with former mayor Mohya Davies and friends encouraging one or a number of people to run but without any firm names at this stage.

The coastal wards of both shires, altered recently in a boundary change, will likely have a different look this time around with absentee property owners not automatically included on the electoral roll meaning permanent residents will have more say (and more awareness) about their preferred candidates.

Nomination from September 9

Electoral Commissioner Sven Bluemmel has issued a reminder to people thinking about standing for election: “Nominations must be lodged in person during the nomination period, so prospective candidates should act quickly to make sure they are prepared.”

Prospective candidates must make an appointment during business hours with the election manager to lodge their nomination forms in person and pay their \$250 nomination fee. They must be able to provide evidence that they have completed the mandatory candidate training online

through Local Government Victoria (LGV).

Election offices will be open for nominations during business hours from Monday, September 9 until 12 noon on Tuesday, September 17.

To prepare, prospective candidates can:

- Attend a candidate information session
- Complete mandatory candidate training through LGV at localgovernment.vic.gov.au/council-governance/candidate-training
- Call 131 832 from Monday, September 9, to book a nomination appointment
- Complete their nomination forms using the VEC's Candidate Helper at vec.vic.gov.au/council-candidate.
- Prospective candidates are strongly encouraged to attend one of the scheduled information sessions or watch the online video about nominating as a candidate.
- VEC candidate sessions will be held locally as follows:
- Bass Coast Shire Council 7 pm, Wednesday, September 4, Wonthaggi Town Hall, 14 Baillieu Street East, Wonthaggi.
- Bass Coast Shire Council 7 pm, Thursday, September 5, Berninnet, 91-97 Thompson Avenue, Cowes.
- South Gippsland Shire Council 5.30 pm, Wednesday, September 4, Memorial Hall, 6-8 McCartin Street, Leongatha.
- South Gippsland Shire Council 5.30 pm, Thursday, September 5, Korumburra Community Hub, 15 Little Commercial Street, Korumburra.

Further details about the candidate information sessions, including the location and time of each are available at vec.vic.gov.au/candidate-info-sessions

Further information on nominating as a candidate is available at vec.vic.gov.au/council-candidate



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Family first at Mirboo North Fire Brigade

QUALITY time together is just one of the benefits that Charlotte and Daniel Pors have experienced since joining Mirboo North Fire Brigade a year ago.

The father-daughter duo signed up to their local CFA as something to do with one another, and since then have grown both individually and together. Charlotte and Daniel have spent the past 12 months learning new skills and developing relationships with other brigade members.

“From the moment we went to the brigade, we just felt so welcomed. The brigade is just so lovely, and it was such a great experience,” Charlotte said.

Seeing it as a break from usual routine, Daniel said it’s been great to challenge himself alongside his daughter.

“Charlotte has really pulled me out of my comfort zone,” Daniel said.

“Before this I was just working all of the time, and this has been such a great way to get out of the house and meet new people within our community.”

“This is something I wouldn’t have thought of doing five or six years ago, but now I have a group of people who want to keep pushing ourselves to do better and improve.”

Having spent the past year undertaking a variety of courses and learning new skills, the pair say friendly competition helps to build their bond even more.

Charlotte, who recently turned 18, has big ambitions for her time in the brigade alongside her dad.

“My goal at CFA is to become captain. I admire our captain Trent so much, and I’d love to get to that stage one day. If I ever do, I’d want to have dad by my side as Lieutenant and have those leadership

roles together. It would also be amazing for us both to go on a strike team together and build our bond even more,” said Charlotte.

The family aspect of the brigade is something that Mirboo North Captain Trent Venten has been working hard to develop in recent times.

“I’m very proud of how much our brigade feels like a family,” Trent said.

“It makes the brigade run smoother if everyone feels like they’re a part of something, like they’re putting into the community.”

“This has a flow-on benefit to the community because there’s more people responding to incidents and keeping our community safe,” Trent said.

With a long family history in CFA, including grandparents with 120+ years of service between them and multiple family members currently serving across various Gippsland brigades, Trent hopes creating a strong family atmosphere is something that resonates with not only his brigade, but his daughter Sophie, 7.

“I want Sophie to learn the value of volunteering and I hope I’m showing her the importance of that. This was instilled in me from a young age, and I hope that by showing her the importance of it, I’m instilling those same values in her,” Trent said.

While Trent knows the benefits this atmosphere can have for the community, there’s no mistaking that Charlotte and Daniel all have the same attitude.

“We’re there to protect the community,” Charlotte said. “That’s all we’re there for at the end of the day, and everyone’s got that same goal.”



“I’m very proud of how much our brigade feels like a family,” said Mirboo North Captain Trent Venten, with his daughter Sophie, 7.



Charlotte and Daniel Pors have spent the past 12 months learning new skills and developing relationships with other Mirboo North Fire Brigade members.

Top honours at Gippsland Business Awards

FOUNDATION Civil and Mining has won the region’s top business award at the 26th annual Federation University Gippsland Business Awards.

The business was named Business of the Year winner at the Gippsland Business Awards gala dinner at Federation University auditorium where over 300 people from across the region were celebrating the best of the region’s business sector.

Bairnsdale’s Dwyers Group joined an impressive list of Gippsland businesses to be inducted into the Gippsland Business Awards Hall of Fame.

Awards Chair, Graeme Sennett, congratulated all the winners on their achievement.

“Yet again, we are astounded by the calibre of the awards’ participants. The variety and diversity of businesses across the region is truly remarkable,” he remarked. “With such an impressive array of finalists, once again, choosing the winners proved to be a challenging task for the judges.”

Each GBA finalist is assessed and independently rated by five different judges across eight judging criteria.

The category winners came from across the region and are listed below, together with a precis of judges’ comments:

Accommodation - Beachcomber Holiday Units, Lakes Entrance

Beauty and Personal Care - Indulge Yourself Beauty Therapy Skin & Laser Clinic, Moe

Business and Professional Services - Regional Migration Australia, Traralgon
Food & Wine Producers - Maffco Brewery & Distillery, Maffra

Health and Well Being - Baw Baw Physio and Fitness, Drouin

Hospitality - The Vines on Avon, Maffra
Innovation - Native Seed Box, Wonthaggi

Manufacturing - Plasgain, Drouin
Mechanical Trades and Construction - Foundation Civil & Mining, Traralgon South


New Business - The Collective. Co-space, Traralgon

Retail - Moe Fresh Poultry, Moe

Tourism Activities and Attractions - The Berry Dairy, Maffra

Hall of Fame - Dwyers Group, Bairnsdale


For more information refer to gba.org.au (Federation University Gippsland Business Awards website)



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South Gippsland Shire Council News

Australia Day Awards Now Open

The 2025 South Gippsland Australia Day Awards are now open!

This is your chance to shine a spotlight on the incredible residents who make our community so special. The awards celebrate South Gippsland’s unsung heroes who go above and beyond to enrich and contribute to our local area.

This year there are three award categories:

- Citizen of the Year
- Young Citizen of the Year
- Community Event of the Year

Join us in celebrating these outstanding individuals and events at the Australia Day Awards ceremony on Wednesday, 15 January 2025 from 6.30pm at the Meeniyan Town Hall.

Submit your nominations now at: www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/australiaday

Don’t miss out—nominations close Wednesday 6 November 2024.

Let’s come together to honour the heroes of South Gippsland.

SOUTH GIPPSLAND SHIRE COUNCIL

Impounded Livestock



Four tri-coloured sheep from One Chain Road, Kardella, have been impounded by Council in accordance with the *Impounding of Livestock Act 1994*.

If these sheep are not claimed and the relevant fees paid within seven days from the date of this notice, they will be sold.

If these are you sheep, or if you have any enquiries, please contact our Community Safety team on 5662 9200.

COUNCIL MEETINGS	BE A GREAT COMMITTEE MEMBER	RATES NOTICES
<p>Wednesday 11 September 2.00pm (Council Chambers, Leongatha)</p> <p>Dates are also listed on Council’s website at: www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/meeting-dates</p> <p>To watch the ‘open’ part of the meeting live or when it suits you, visit: www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/live</p> <p>Please contact the Governance Team for questions about Council Meetings</p>	<p>Are you new to a community group? Do you want to learn the tips and tricks of good governance?</p> <p>This workshop will run through the basics including legal obligations, committee roles and responsibilities, as well as tips for running effective meetings.</p> <p>This FREE online session will take place Tuesday 10 September from 6.30pm.</p> <p>More information and to register your attendance, please visit:</p> <p>www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/communitytraining</p>	<p>South Gippsland Shire residents can expect to receive their annual rates notice in the mail, or online, very soon.</p> <p>Rates help to provide a number of services to our local community. You might not need or use all of the services at every stage or your life, but paying rates helps to ensure our local communities remain vibrant and well-served.</p> <p>If you have questions about your rates notices, please contact Council’s rates team. Payment plans and assistance is also available. For more information, please go to:</p> <p>www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/rates</p> <p>CONTACT US 9 Smith Street, Leongatha 03 5662 9200 www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au</p>
<p>EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES</p> <p>Looking for a new job? We might have the perfect position for you! Check out our current vacant positions here:</p> <p>www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/vacantpositions</p>		



A newly elected committee has been voted in for the Leongatha Business Association with Martin Reidy, Yellow Brick Road Leongatha as President, Christie Nelson, Christie Nelson Real Estate as Vice President, Scott Cameron, Tricky Tree Works as Secretary and Brenton Williams, BJ's Earthmoving as Treasurer.

New committee elected for the Leongatha Business Association

A NEW committee was recently elected for the Leongatha Business Association (LBA) during last month's annual general meeting, and they have solid plans for the year ahead.

Martin Reidy from Yellow Brick Road in Leongatha was elected as President, after being approached to take the position, and, he thought, why not.

Martin was quick to recruit Christie Nelson to the role of Vice President, as he believes her previous experience with other business groups such as the Southern Business Women's Network will be highly valuable to the LBA.

"She's been heavily involved with and had a lot of experience within that sort of forum. So, she reluctantly - but willingly now - has jumped on board, so we can

get some leverage from her ideas and background."

Together with the newly elected committee members, the president has plans to breathe new life into the association.

"I think there's a lot of scope for the LBA. I think at least since COVID it's been trying to get back on its feet," said Martin.

Prior to COVID, the association had about one hundred members which has fallen to about half since.

"Over the next 12 months a big focus is just going to be back on members and just trying to give them greater value."

The LBA's initial plans are focused on holding regular meetings and promoting greater engagement and value by hosting keynote speakers and providing additional opportunities to

the network by running several non-member events throughout the year.

"An accountant among us might talk about cash flow, or talk about profit and loss, or business structures, things like that, that are relevant to business owners," explained Martin.

"Then there's also a great opportunity to share ideas about how someone's running their business; what's working, what's not working. And I think at times, business owners, we just get stuck in our own little world.

"So, getting to something like that, whether at meetings or a networking type event, you can just break those barriers down and give the business owner a place to hear what other businesses are doing, or even just vent.

"It's not a high cost, it's not a high involvement from

everyone. It's just good learning sessions I think."

Martin looks forward to growing the LBA membership base and extending the network to include business owners who work from home, have success trading locally and internationally and can offer great advice or insights to others.

"There are some great businesses in the area, like those that are internet-based, and we've got these people on our doorstep and we don't even know about them, so it's getting those people involved."

Martin also commended the efforts of the previous committee who kept the association going during a tough stint post-COVID.

"They've worked pretty hard over the last 12 months, so I'd like to thank them," said Martin.

Fairer go for women and girls in sport in South Gippy

WOMEN and girls in sports across the South Gippsland Shire will have a fairer go under a new policy.

During August's council meeting, Councillor Sarah Gilligan said she was very excited by the policy (Council have had to adopt under the Gender Equality Act 2020) and pointed out some of the challenges that women participating in sports, without appropriate facilities in the shire, actually face.

"I thought finally, there's the justification for the state government to help us out with the toilets in Tarwin Lower; because currently, and for many years, we've had girls and women having to change tampons in the bushes, having to

get changed in their cars, because there are no doors on the toilets, and the toilets are just not up to scratch," Cr Gilligan explained.

"So, this says that we are addressing known barriers experienced by women and girls in assessing and using community sports infrastructure."

Councillor Jenni Keerie was also pleased with the policy.

"We all know of stories, and we all know facilities that haven't been developed or constructed with women's participation in mind. We still have legacy items like that throughout the Shire. To be able to be eligible for funding to be able to upgrade facilities, this particular policy is crucial in that,

but it's the bigger message that women have always participated in sport, it just may not necessarily have been a very comfortable experience to be able to participate in their chosen fields."

However, Councillor Adrian Darakai proposed an amendment to the policy item section 3.5, which states: Women and girls should be equitably represented in leadership and governance roles.

"I see the current wording within the policy being proposed and recommended at this time as an overreach. I think it would be impractical to administer and implement (this), at a level within Australia, knowing the context and

the environment within which the recreation and sporting clubs exist," explained Cr Darakai.

"I think it has the potential for it to be used militantly in a way that would be to the detriment of the local recreation clubs at the heart of sport itself, not only sport but other recreation clubs."

"So, it's just taking a step back from that perhaps more extreme perspective, with the potential for detrimental consequences in our community, and just reining it back in."

Cr Darakai's proposed amendment did not get voted in by the other Councillors, but the policy did get adopted by Council.

New garden beds for Leongatha Community Garden

OPEN Gardens Victoria (OGV) has, through their Giving Program 2024, granted the Leongatha Community Garden \$5000 to replace their old timber garden beds with brand-new raised garden beds.

A non-profit organisation OGV provide \$20,000 each year to help fund gardening and horticulture projects being delivered by not-for-profit organisations in Victoria, and this year they received a large number of very worthy proposals.

The Leongatha Community

Garden has been established for over two decades and was fortunate enough to be chosen as one of the recipients of the program this year, which will allow the gardeners to replace 55 of their garden beds.

"It's the first major upgrade since the garden was originally established, and the new beds are going to replace the existing timber beds that are, quite honestly, falling apart," said Leongatha Community Garden President, Neil Barrett.

"We see it as a legacy project, because it's great for

gardeners, less bending over and having to get down to the lower garden beds, so, they're very user friendly. They're great for producing quality produce because there's less pest infiltration. The garden beds provide good protection against the wind, which is very topical."

The new beds are also more sustainable, long-lasting and require minimal maintenance, and the fresh produce grown in them will be available to the local community.

The project was also made possible with an

additional \$7500 from the South Gippsland Shire Council.

"We originally planned to do it over five years, but we'll probably get it done in 12 months," said Neil.

Members of the Leongatha Community Garden aim to engage the community in gardening, education and sustainability while addressing food insecurity and promoting social interaction and healthy living.

They will also use the funding to host regular working bees and BBQs for members.

Mayor's Message



Cr Clare Williams

THIS week has seen some horrific weather hit our region once again. Strong winds, high tides, some heavy rain and power outages meant South Gippslanders from all corners were likely impacted in some way. I hope you all are okay. I'd like to thank the Council staff and first responders who were out at all hours clearing roads so our roads and community can be accessible and safe.

The start of September marks a new season, and two events over the past week celebrated this.

The Leongatha Daffodil and Floral Show took place from Thursday, August 29 to Saturday, August 31. Organised by the Leongatha Horticultural Society, the Show is in its 66th year and encompasses many varieties of flowers, fruit, vegetables, natives, and floral art and photography. Congratulations to Sue Thompson on her John Pascoe Fawcner Award, and the organising committee for continuing this wonderful tradition.

Sunday, September 1 was the New Season, New Hope planting in Mirboo North. The event was organised by the Christian churches in the town and included a tree planting in Baromi Park followed by an afternoon tea. The new tree symbolises new beginnings, regrowth and recovery for Mirboo North. It is important that the town continues to take these opportunities to come together.

Gippsland Business Awards 2024

On Friday evening, the winners of the 2024 Gippsland Business Awards were announced.

Congratulations to our South Gippsland finalists:

- Fleming Berries – Food and Wine Producers category.
- Jessica Greaves Graphic Design – Business and Professional Services category.
- Leongatha Kitchens and Bathrooms – Mechanical Trades and Construction category.

We are privileged to have amazing businesses that choose South Gippsland as their home, with many of these never receiving any formal recognition of their impact on our region. I'd like to extend a warm thank you to everyone who runs a business and contributes to our region.

Cape to Cape Resilience Plan

The draft Cape to Cape Resilience Plan is now available for review and feedback. Prepared by the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action the Plan incorporates the findings from previous public consultation sessions and provides an outline of how coastal townships in South Gippsland and Bass Coast can prepare for future coastal hazards. I strongly encourage everyone to head online to review the Plan and provide feedback. It is important that we all continue to make our voices heard.

Feedback closes on Sunday, September 22, 2024. Provide yours here: <https://engage.vic.gov.au/cape-cape-resilience-project>

Update on Baths Road Reserve and Mirboo North Pool

In some exciting news, after significant work by Council and contractors, the main tracks in the Baths Road Reserve are getting very close to opening. The February 13 storm event ravaged the Reserve, and it is great to see that soon, locals will be able to enjoy it once again. Once reopened, please obey all signage and stick to the open tracks for your safety.

The Mirboo North Pool is a much-loved community meeting place, especially in the warmer months. Council has now appointed a contractor who will conduct the works at the Pool. It is still unclear how long repairs will take, but more information on this will be provided by Council.



Long time residents Ian and Wendy McBurnie surveying storm damage at Inverloch Surf Beach.

Perfect one day, gone the next

FIERCE storms with wind gusts of up to seventy kilometres an hour once again wrought havoc on the shifting sands of Inverloch's main surf beach.

A newly erected sign says it all 'unstable dune, please keep clear'.

Surveying the beach from above the ravaged access path, long-time Inverloch residents Ian and Wendy McBurnie say Inverloch's shifting sands have been well documented.

"Marine surveys have been done," says Wendy McBurnie.

Just days before beachgoers had been basking in unseasonably warm weather while surfers enjoyed off-shore northerly winds picking up a gentle swell.

The Cape-to-Cape Resilience Project for managing future changes to the coastline and building coastal resilience from Cape Paterson to Cape Liptrap is currently taking public submissions.

For more information go to engage.vic.gov.au/cape-cape-resilience-project



Storms raze Inverloch surf beach again.

Sleepy Hollow wildlife shelter blitzed by storm

A WILDLIFE haven in Tooradin decimated by recent violent windstorms needs financial assistance to help rebuild.

Massive trees came down in the yard of Pam Cale's Sleepy Hollow shelter crushing eighty percent of the brand new, specially built wildlife enclosures.

"Pam Cale has already used so much of their money on wildlife so cannot replace everything," according to friends.

The shelter needs urgent financial assistance for enclosures, sheds and cages to continue to help rehabilitate and care for wildlife.

The Cale's have been volunteer wildlife rescuers and carers for fifty-five years caring for hundreds of animals each year.

The damaged enclosures and

cages were being used to house injured and orphaned wildlife until they are well enough to be released back into the wild.

Injured wildlife has included bandicoots, sugar-gliders, koalas, wombats, ringtail and brushtail possums, echidnas, wallabies, kangaroos, microbats, flying foxes, reptiles and all types of native birds including birds of prey, owls and kookaburras.

The purpose-built treatment enclosures and sheds for wildlife included lining, skylights, vents and windows making them difficult to save or repair.

"We have already used all our money on wildlife so we cannot replace them," said Pam.

Donation towards the rebuilding of the animal shelters at Sleepy Hollow can be made to Pam Cale, Tooradin Sleepy Hollow Wildlife Shelter.



Little can be saved from the Sleepy Hollow Wildlife Shelter.

Power lines lying on residential street for over 24 hours

ANOTHER prolonged power outage for some in South Gippsland comes just six months after the last severe storm and power outage and with 10,000 outages over the state, some places, like Leongatha were forced to wait.

Most of the power outages were reported to AusNet early last Wednesday morning, yet hundreds remained without power over 24 hours later, despite AusNet predicting power would be restored by 6pm the same day.

Thirty-eight in Leongatha were still without power on Thursday morning, 130 in Mirboo North, 32 between Stony Creek and Meenyan, 77 in Pound Creek, 28 in Bena and 162 in Foster remained without power.

And power was out again to parts of Leongatha on Monday morning this week, including at Mary MacKillop Catholic Regional College who sent an email out to parents advising them that classes would still be going ahead despite the outage.

Wind gusts that hit South Gippsland causing trees to be uprooted and limbs to fall were measured at up to 83km/hr and are charted as a nine (out of 12) on the Beaufort scale, being classed as a strong gale.

Winds continued at that level or above over the weekend and into Monday with top gusts measured at 146km/h at Wilsons Promontory at 2.30am on Monday morning this week, but gusting over



Downed power lines in Leongatha last week following strong gale-force winds crossed over people's driveways. ob01_3624

the 100km/h mark for much of the day.

Even at Rhyll on Phillip Island, gusts of up to 91km/h were recorded at 12.30am on Monday morning in an area usually sheltered from westerly blasts.

Louise Simon Court in Leongatha bore the brunt of the town's power outage last week, with falling tree branches causing power lines to come down, one of which was still lying alongside the road and across driveways, with others hanging low on Thursday.

Save for a few witch's hats that have been placed at the end of the court around the low-hanging power lines, AusNet were not in attendance.

Advice from Energy Victoria recommends that people

should stay more than eight – 10 metres away from fallen power lines as they can be fatal. They should be treated as live even when they are broken and people should not go near them or anything they may be touching.

Yet the lines were within mere metres of people homes, who had to cross under or over the lines to go about their business.

Matt from Leongatha SES said crews have been busy over the past 48 hours (on Friday) with a constant stream of callouts primarily for trees over roads.

"There's been a couple of trees that have been up against buildings. But the good thing is that there hasn't been any trees on buildings, or any houses lost any roofing, or anything like that."

Matt commented that they had crews resting and other crews available for callouts, which would be good for coming days when strong winds were picking up again and they would be able to rotate the crews.

"We're kind of ramping up ready for the wind that is continuing over the weekend and into early next week. We've just received the forecast for Monday. Monday is going to be another bad day, similar to what Wednesday was."

Matt advised that people could stay safe by securing anything loose around their house, backyards and land.

"Stay away from fallen power lines, and if they need any assistance, obviously just call 132 500," advised Matt.

An announcement from AusNet 12.30pm Wednesday stated: More than 10,000 customers were without power as a result of 78 individual faults at the peak last night, and we anticipate having all those customers who were off supply overnight restored by 6pm today.

They also stated that: The AusNet restoration crew is well-resourced, and we have over 400 people on the ground today responding to incidents.

Unfortunately, they didn't respond to downed and dangerous powerlines on the ground in a residential street in Leongatha until 36 hours later when power was restored just after 11pm on Thursday night.

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Coastal erosion ignored, ITA say

THE Inverloch Tourism Association has expressed strong disappointment with the recently released Cape to Cape Resilience Report, criticising it for failing to address the immediate need for extensive protective measures.

"This report has been delayed for over a year without explanation, despite its pivotal role in the long-term preservation of our town's most valuable asset — our coastline," said Inverloch Tourism Association (ITA) president Glenn Morris.

Morris also highlighted the frustration caused by this delay, noting that it was understandable why the previous ITA committee, along with other key local stakeholders, chose to withdraw from what they perceived as a flawed consultation process.

"The ITA is deeply concerned that the report does not outline an immediate program of works to stabilise our seafront," Morris continued. "The recent storm and tidal surges have caused further damage, underscoring the urgent need for action. Our concern is not about 2040 — it's about right now. The absence of a plan for immediate coastline protection is simply unacceptable."

The report's case study on Inverloch, featured on page 41, quantifies the economic impact of beach erosion, estimating losses between \$2.5 million and \$7.4 million per year if the Surf Beach is closed.

"Yet, here we are with the (Bass Coast Shire) council closing sections of the beach this week, and despite these significant economic impacts, the report fails to call for an immediate action plan," Morris said.

In the medium term, the report advocates for dune strengthening as a protective measure, but Morris warned that the long-term strategy of retreat should raise serious concerns among the community and local businesses.

"The report signals that efforts to preserve our town's best natural asset may not be fully committed. Our message to the government is clear: all necessary resources must be allocated to a coastline protection program that starts immediately. We could begin with a section of dune strengthening to test its effectiveness, alongside a sand replenishment program to address current erosion," he said.

The ITA will be submitting an official response during the report's consultation process and urges all community groups and residents to do the same.

"I know many in the community share my frustration and concern over the lack of an immediate action plan. Only by making our voices heard can we hope to see action. Being given just one month to comment on a report that's over a year late is unfair and raises questions about how seriously our feedback will be considered," Morris said. "We need public forums to discuss this report, and we cannot consider retreat options without fully exploring all other viable solutions, including those not mentioned in the report."

While the ITA plays a significant role in representing Inverloch, Morris emphasised that the broader community must also speak out about the need for an immediate program of works to protect the Inverloch coastline.



Inverloch's Liam Heys surveys the damage after a huge, rotten eucalypt came down in his front yard at the height of last week's storm-force winds, taking out part of the fence and landing on the roof of his house, fortunately without much damage to the house.

Rotten luck as trees come down

YOU'VE gotta love the green leafy character of Inverloch. Most days.

But not when gale force winds hit the coast, as they did last week, gusting up to 154 km/h at Wilsons Promontory at 4.11pm on Wednesday, August 28, and consistently above the 100km/h mark for most of the day.

Even at Rhyll on Phillip Island, usually sheltered from a westerly blast, winds hit the 74km/h mark last Wednesday afternoon.

So, it's hardly surprising that trees were coming down right across the district from Mirboo North, where the impact of last February's storm remains visible everywhere, to Leongatha, Korumburra, and down to Inverloch.

It was here, on Wednesday morning, that local

resident Liam Heys made the call, and took his family to Leongatha to spend the day and night with his parents.

"We've got a couple of trees in the front yard that we weren't sure about and one of them came down during the night," said Liam on Wednesday afternoon.

"We heard it go and so did our next-door neighbour.

"Luckily for us, it fell forwards, across the other neighbour's fence, which wasn't ideal, but if it fell the other way it would have been right across our roof.

"I love living on a treed block but not in those winds.

"While we were in Leongatha, the other part of the tree came down, but fortunately it snapped off half-way up the trunk and only

part of it fell on our roof. I don't think it has done much damage, but it's certainly made a mess."

Liam said he'd called the SES to help cut the tree off the roof and away from blocking the garage, but they said they've been so busy they've had to prioritise the emergency cases first.

"They told us they would get to us but after they've done the more critical jobs, where roofs and cars have been damaged.

"The neighbour came out this morning (Wednesday) and chain-sawed the tree off the fence, but there's still a fair bit of cleaning up to be done.

"The tree turned out to be pretty rotten, so we are going to get the rest of the trees looked at just in case."

It's not bad advice.



Freak hailstorm in Foster leads to roof damage

THE wild weather threw a real brickbat at the Linton Court Retirement Village on Monday this week when an intense hailstorm had its epicentre in the Foster township area.

Retirement Village Manager Lloyd McKenzie received a call from residents at 9.15am to advise that water was coming through the roof and ceiling into a number of units. This was shortly after an intense hailstorm had hit the area follow by a very heavy shower of rain.

It transpired that what had happened was that so much hail had come down so quickly that it had filled the valleys on the tiled roof, and it had clogged these up completely, and this hail then solidified into solid ice blocks.

The rain that followed then flowed over that ice and to the outside of the valleys from where it then entered the roof cavity.

Fortunately, Lloyd was able to quickly identify the issue and clear the roof valleys of ice before too much damage was caused.

Spare a thought for Manns Beach

IT TOOK just six minutes for the tiny town of Manns Beach near Yarram to be inundated with water last Thursday, August 29.

About 12 houses had the abnormally high tide running through and in many cases the contents of their sheds were also destroyed.

Good news, and they needed some, was that a drowning cat was freed from underneath a house where she had been hiding.

But, carefully stacked firewood piles were no more with cut wood seen floating through the streets.

It came the day after Wilson's Promontory recorded wind gusts of up to 154 kilometres the previous night.

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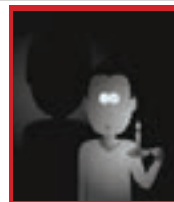
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Local vineyard to become Zen-like retreat

WANDILLA Gippsland, a vineyard in Leongatha North will receive \$500,000 from the State Government to turn their 1000-acre property into a local tourism destination.

The grant provided will go towards completing a detailed design, final investigations and pre-investment steps to enable investment readiness status and to start construction.

A concept design is underway for wellness experiences such as walking tracks and designated areas for meditation and Zen-like experiences, whether self-guided or facilitated retreats.

"The journey of Wandilla Gippsland has been a long and thoughtful one, shaped by a commitment to excellence in three critical areas: Place, People, and Product," said Wandilla Gippsland Joint CEO Glenn Calder.

"These three P's serve as the foundation of our project, ensuring that each element is of the highest quality to guarantee its success."

Wandilla Gippsland was first established as a vineyard in November 2021 with over 12,000 vines planted out in a mix of varieties such as Pinot Noir, Riesling and Chardonnay.

Now, with the grant of \$500,000 from the State Government's Enabling Tourism Fund 2024, the vineyard will also become a fully integrated tourist attraction for people visiting the area.

"The Enabling Tourism Fund has provided more than just financial support for our project; it represents the trust and belief that both the local community and the Victorian State Government have placed in Wandilla Gippsland," said Mr Calder.

The announcement was made by Member for Eastern Victoria Tom McIntosh last week and is one of 29 new infrastructure projects across the state's regional and rural areas to receive a grant from the Enabling Tourism Fund 2024.

"Wandilla Estate will be a drawcard for the region; encouraging people to stay longer, relax, and get back to nature in the incredible environment of South Gippsland," said Mr McIntosh.

The Enabling Tourism Fund is part of a \$170 million investment that aims to create more local jobs, support tourism businesses and attract more people to regional Victoria.

The grants of up to \$500,000 seek to support regional tourism projects to reach investment-ready status by funding feasibility studies and designing future infrastructure.

The Fund is aiming to help strengthen and grow Victoria's tourism industry and forms part of the State Government's Experience Victoria 2033 strategic plan.

The plan outlines five priority areas that leverage Victoria's competitive advantages – including First Peoples-led experiences, Wellness, Arts and Culture, Food and Drink, and Nature.

The State Government believes that all projects awarded funding under the Enabling Tourism Fund demonstrate alignment with these priorities.

2024 Daffodil & Floral Show

Vibrant displays delights all

MANY stunning entries made it into the Leongatha Daffodil and Floral Show this year, proving it to be a wonderful event drawing crowds from all over the region.

With so many great flowers and arrangements it was a difficult time for judges, however, the best-in-show winners were, Beat Ollington with the Champion Daffodil; Lella Brumley, one yellow daffodil and novice daffodil; Sue Thompson, best open daffodil; CL Brumley, one red camellia; Josie Lester, one white camellia; Josie Rutherford, a container of iris; Paige Gardner, year four, design your own daffodil; Josie Rutherford, a container of flowering bulbs; Beat Ollington, a container of cut shrubs or trees; Alita Mellup-Smith, a plate of mixed citrus; Paul and Jenny Sierakoski, a collection of natives in a container; and Anne Larking a container of cut flowers.

This is the third year in a row that Paul Sierakoski has won in the container of cut natives section. He grows many types of bottle brushes on his five-acre property on the outskirts of Leongatha and enjoys placing different colours together to create a striking display.

While Anne Larking was the Chief Steward at this year's Leongatha Daffodil and Floral Show, working tirelessly to set it all up, she did manage to make time to enter a container of cut flowers – and came away with the best in show. Anne has only been entering the show for the last four years and was very pleased to be part of the winner's table this year.

Grown in abundance in her own garden Anne decided to enter her cheerful yellow polyanthus. While she didn't pick them until late on Wednesday, when the winds were tearing through her yard, they were, luckily in a protected spot, so the yellow faces glowed perfectly out from the container.

There were many other first and second-placed flowers at this year's show and Dawn Green, a floral artist entered three pieces – all of which won first place.

A native flower display, a small posy and a 'Clever Contrast and Construction' piece on a pedestal made up the three winning creations.



Beat Ollington won the Champion Daffodil in this years Leongatha Daffodil and Floral Show. ob13_3624



Paul Sierakoski has won best container of cut natives with his striking display of bottlebrush. ob14_3624

"I work in a natural style. I just love to show all the little (elements). I let the flowers do the work themselves rather than trying to make them into something," Dawn said of her smaller floral arrangements.

Pink proteas and purple verbena catch the eye immediately in Dawn's 'Clever Contrast' piece, which is then drawn down by the green foliage to the outstanding orchids as the eye follows it further down to the birch and twisted willow.

The more you look, the more you see.

"You generally have your main flowers and then you have what they call filler, just those light, touches. And they need different textures in the greenery, and then you're trying to highlight bits."

"It's a matter of having a highlight so your eyes are going to be drawn into it. And then the shapes and textures and colours, and for the clever contrast, then you try and get a nice balance," explains Dawn.

"For example, just the very last thing I put in was those two little pieces of the dark colour..."

Dawn enjoys the art of creating with natural elements and also the impermanence of it.

"It's just the inspiration, you're using the beauty of nature and it's just a one-off you create that's there, and you enjoy it and it's wonderful. And then the next thing then it's gone and you move on to create something else. And the flowers have their day of glory."



Anne Larking was the Chief Steward at this year's Leongatha Daffodil and Floral Show and managed to win best container of cut flowers. ob15_3624



Dawn Green entered three creative floral art pieces, all of which won first place. ob16_3624

Success as another year of daffodils comes to a close



JOYFUL pops of yellow emanated from display tables with thirteen different types of daffodils showing off their own unique and glorious properties.

Native flower displays add pinks, oranges, greens, white, purple and reds to the displays and floral art, pot plants fruit and vegetable displays keep the show wonderfully interesting.

A fresh perfume permeated the air pulling another sense into the vibrant visual display.

Locals and those from outside the region filled the hall for three days in a row, to marvel at the flowers, and many entered the best from their own gardens.

Photographs and an array of colourful artwork based on what is grown in the area

adorned tables and walls.

Bunches of daffodils and native plants were available to buy, if you wanted to get an early start on next year's entries or just add some colour to your garden.

The Leongatha Art and Craft Gallery was open and artists were holding their own craft displays and workshops while the show was on.

It proved to be another fabulous Daffodil and Floral Show expertly pulled off by the Leongatha Horticultural Society.

LEFT: Glenys Paterson and Faye Marshman were excited for the opening of the Leongatha Daffodil and Floral Show last Thursday. ob18_3624



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Great Book Swap for Indigenous Literacy Foundation

HELP celebrate Indigenous Literacy Day this week with Myli Libraries right across Gippsland who are holding a Great Book Swap in support of the Indigenous Literacy Foundation.

The Great Book Swap is a way to celebrate reading locally and learning more about Indigenous Languages and culture while raising funds for the Indigenous Literacy Foundation (ILF).

The ILF provides books and learning resources to children living in remote communities across Australia.

They are a community-led organisation that responds to requests from remote communities for culturally relevant books, including early learning board books, resources, and programs to support communities to create and publish their stories in languages of their choice.

This year the ILF are aiming to raise \$180,000 to gift 18,000 new books to some of their 424 remote communities.

Myli are passionate about literacy, literature and lifelong learning and they believe every child, everywhere deserves to be supported and encouraged to develop a love of books and reading, and to see themselves and their culture reflected in those stories.

By being involved in the Great Book Swap people can help to support the ILF and raise funds for a great cause.

Bring along a book or two - or ten - and browse your local Myli's Great Book Swap selection, swap your pre-loved books for some new-to-you reads and make a gold coin donation for each swap you make.

In the lead-up to the Great Book Swap, people can also discover the wonderful First Nations authors and illustrators featured in the Myli collection at myli.org.au/.

The Great Book Swap will be held at the following locations during opening hours:

- Waterline Library: Monday to Friday, September 2 - 6
- Inverloch Library: Monday to Friday, September 2 - 6
- Phillip Island Library: Monday to Friday, September 2 - 6
- Korumburra Library: Monday to Friday, September 2 - 6
- Mirboo North Library: Tuesday to Saturday, September 3- 7
- Wonthaggi Library: Wednesday, September 4

If you require more information about the Swap, visit: myli.au/gbs2024

If people are unable to make it on the day but would like to make a donation towards Myli's ILF fundraising goal, go to: go.greatbookswap.org.au/mylilibrariesgreatbookswap

Samara from (It's no) Drama takes out excellence award

THE EIGHT winners of the national 2024 HESTA Excellence Awards were announced last week, with Samara Cunningham Artistic Director of (It's No) Drama in Fish Creek, taking out one of the awards.

They were selected from almost 400 nominations, a record number of entries.

Samara Cunningham was recognised for her transformative work as the Artistic Director of (It's No) Drama - a regional theatre company helping empower people living with disabilities through performance. Samara's championing of inclusivity and equity in the arts has elevated disability visibility in the community, helped break down stereotypes, and created more opportunities in the arts for people with disabilities.

Ms Cunningham did not expect to win and said it was a huge honour to win the award. "It was such a surprise."

"It fills me with confidence to know that my work at (It's No) Drama is important and worthy of such high praise. I feel incredibly privileged to be able to support people with disabilities in achieving their artistic goals and taking centre stage. It's a wonderful feeling to see others shine," Ms Cunningham said.

"Part of my plan, with the



Jim Giannakopoulos, ME Bank, Mimi Kwa, awards emcee, Kylie Bowden Yooralla, Samara Cunningham Artistic Director of (It's No) Drama and Lisa Samuels from HESTA.

prize money, is to invest in professional development so that I can spend time learning what other inclusive companies (probably around Melbourne), but also regional Victoria, are doing, and then be able to bring new skills back to (It's no) drama and other community projects."

"I'd also like to instigate some community roundtables and building networks between community houses and Disability Support Services, schools and local government, and try to build a network of support

for inclusive arts in our region."

Ms Cunningham sent a video from her hotel room after the awards showing the (It's no) Drama performers the trophy and they sent her back a video congratulating and giving her a round of applause.

"It's really beautiful to share it with them, because it's all well and good to win an individual award, but there's always a team of people behind the work that you do."

Ms Cunningham acknowledged founding member Emily Ardley, and her colleague

Michael for taking the time to make the nomination.

The award winner was looking forward to celebrating the achievement with her family and friends.

Anybody who is interested in being involved in collaborating with (It's no) Drama feel free to get in touch.

The HESTA Excellence Awards honour leading teams and individuals from around Australia working in the Disability, Allied Health, Aged Care, and Community Services sectors.

Everything must go at Rose Lodge Op Shop



Volunteer Janice Coldebella, Treasurer Lyn Martel, volunteer Pam Stokes and President Dianne Willshire slashing prices at the Rose Lodge Opportunity Shop.

ALL STOCK must be sold from the popular Rose Lodge Opportunity Shop in McBride Avenue, Wonthaggi, to make way for renovations including a new front window.

"The front of the shop will be demolished," said Op Shop President Dianne Wilson.

Plans for the newly renovated retail premises include automatic opening doors and more floor space at the front of the shop.

"The entrance will be all glass," said Treasurer Lyn Martell.

The Rose Lodge Op Shop has been in business for over sixty years and nearly fifty years from the current location.

"We contribute over one hundred thousand dollars a year to Rose Lodge," said Ms Martell.

New carpet for Rose Lodge, new curtains and specialised

lifting equipment have all been funded by proceeds from the Opportunity Shop.

"We're all volunteers," said Janice Coldebella from behind the front counter.

Clothing will be sacrificed at half price including new season summer stock.

"Books will be fifty per cent off marked price or more," added Dianne Wilson.

The Op Shop will be closed from September 19 and re-open with a whole new look on December 2.

"Everything's donated," explained volunteer Pam Stokes.

The Rose Lodge Opportunity Shop can be found at 42 McBride Ave, Wonthaggi and is open Monday to Friday from 9am - 4pm and Saturday 9am - 12noon.

Victorian CDE of the Year 2024 awarded to Claire Gatto



Claire Gatto was awarded Victorian Credentialed Diabetes Educator (CDE) of the Year.

CLAIRE Gatto recently attended the Australasian Diabetes Congress held in Perth, organised by the Australian Diabetes Society (ADS) and the Australian Diabetes Educators Association (ADEA). This is the peak professional development event in Australia for all health professionals involved in diabetes care.

She was immensely surprised and humbled when her name was called out at the ADEA AGM. The award recognises "contributions to providing high-quality diabetes education and expert support for people living with diabetes". There is one recipient for each State.

Claire qualified and worked as a nurse in Switzerland. She moved to Australia with her family in 2000. Since then, she has worked at Bass Coast Health as

a general nurse, in dialysis and, for the last 12 years as a credentialed diabetes educator (CDE), after completing the Graduate Certificate of Diabetes Education with Deakin University and the ADEA credentialing process.

She also has a Master of Nursing Practice by research with Deakin University. Claire is passionate about her job and about making a difference for people with diabetes, making every effort to keep abreast of the latest developments in her profession. She still works for Bass Coast Health and one day a week at the Wonthaggi Miners Friendly Society's Dispensary.

A community-minded caring citizen, Claire has been involved in many community groups as she raised her young family. Congratulations Claire.

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35,990 DRIVE AWAY

113,801kms, 8 speed CVT auto 4x4
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2024-25 Community Support Program

Congratulations to this year's successful applicants!



Local community groups who received sponsorship funding for their local community events.



Sharyne Munday (Principal), Ben McKenna (School Council President), and Olivia and Sam (School Captains) of Newhaven Primary School proudly accepted funding for a new Water Refill Station Hydrobank for the school's grounds.



Lana, Georgia and Megan of Phillip Island Breakers Soccer Club accepted funding for a new Water Refill Station Hydrobank for the Soccer club's grounds.



Dona Tantirimudalige (Managing Director of Westernport Water) and Lisa Wangman (Bass Coast Landcare Network), Small Project recipient.



Lija Matthews (Change for Sam) and Dona Tantirimudalige (Managing Director of Westernport Water), Personal Protection devices.



Margaret and Greg from Coronet Bay Community Garden accepted sponsorship for a small project.



Doug O'Keeffe of Phillip Island Golf Club happily accepted funding for a new Water Refill Station for the Golf Club grounds.



Past student Georgia accepted San Remo Primary School's sponsorship.



Darrell Clark from Woolamai Beach Surf Life Saving Club accepted sponsorship for a small project.



Emma Hadrian from Phillip Island & District Basketball Assoc (right) with Dona Tantirimudalige (Managing Director of Westernport Water). PIDBA received funding for sports hydration kits and their upcoming local basketball tournament.



Catherine Gregson (Ventnor Recreation Reserve Committee) and Dona Tantirimudalige (Managing Director of Westernport Water), Small Project recipient.

Westernport Water celebrates Community Support Program

NINETEEN local not-for-profit organisations, including community groups, sports clubs, and schools will receive almost \$44,000 in sponsorship funding through Westernport Water's Community Support Program.

Recipients were invited to a cheque presentation event last Wednesday to celebrate the hard work and great ideas of these mostly volunteer community groups.

The program is one of Westernport Water's key community engagement initiatives, designed to support projects that benefit the wider community and build positive change across the themes of Healthy People, Healthy Communities, and a Healthy Planet.

Successful applicants have been awarded sponsorship funding to support local events and a range of projects such as drinking fountains, water-saving devices, revegetation, and efforts related to environment and water conservation.

"I congratulate all the recipients of our Community Support Program and deeply appreciate the volunteers who took the time to apply. This year, we received more applications than ever, making the decision particularly challenging," Dona Tantirimudalige, Managing Director of Westernport Water said.

"At Westernport Water, we take great pride in supporting our community. We have a long history of doing so, with our support dating back to our early beginnings in the 1960s!"

"Our annual community sponsorship provides about \$50K annually plus in-kind support, to help the outstanding efforts of community volunteers, non-profit groups, and schools to make positive social and environmental change."

Successful applicants:

- Drinking fountains:**
 - Newhaven Primary School
 - Phillip Island Golf Club
 - Phillip Island Soccer Club
- Small projects & initiatives:**
 - Woolamai Beach Surf Life Saving Club Inc.
 - Coronet Bay Community Garden
 - Bass Coast Landcare
 - Ventnor Recreation Reserve Committee of Management
 - Change for Sam
- Events:**
 - Destination Phillip Island
 - San Remo District Tourism & Business Inc
 - Kilcunda Community Association Incorporated
 - PI Progress Association
 - Phillip Island Ukulele Group Incorporation
 - Arts Society Phillip Island Region Inc.
 - Phillip Island & District Railway Modellers Inc.
 - WBCSLC & PIFNC
 - Cowes Yacht Club Inc
 - Phillip Island & District Basketball Assoc
- Sports Hydration:**
 - Phillip Island & District Basketball Assoc
- Schools:**
 - San Remo Primary School

Visualising the tree death process

By Nicholas Rivett,

Forensic Arboricultural Consultant & Nurseryman, Dip Hort 1968 Burnley. R.F.S.Cert Arb.(Eng.) 1973, Cert Arb. 1974 (Merrist Wood Eng.) FAIH, IPPS, RH31, 2015 Fellow of the Australian Institute of Horticulture

Organ by Organ or in Total

THE only way the parts or organs of a tree die is through starvation. When it simply does not have enough energy to sustain itself.

How do we know this is true? When want to reproduce trees or plants selected for a particular reason, flowers, leaf colour, form etc. To retain particular characteristics such plants are, propagated vegetatively, from the parent plant and then repeated with each succession. So plants selected, say in the early 1700s, are still in production today, centuries after the original parent plant died. All its progeny still bear the same characteristics as the original plant.

For this article let us just use a tree as our model, but it applies equally to all woody plants.

My friend Dr Alex Shigo "The father of Modern Arboriculture" defines a tree thus:

- Trees are highly compartmented, woody, shedding, perennial plants.
- Trees generate new tissues in a new place with each growth increment.
- Trees are generally long-lived.

The result of a tree growing a new tree on the outside of the old tree each growth cycle increases in volume. This is why we can vegetatively propagate plants perpetually because each growth cycle is a new tree. So, what causes the tree or its parts to starve and die?

Plants and Trees both produce and use energy. Plants with green chlorophyll produce energy, starch, using sunlight energy to run a chemical process we call photosynthesis. The majority of chlorophyll occurs in the leaves. Plants are living, respiring, organisms, while they produce energy, the living cells respire and grow thus using energy. The starch plants produce sustains cell life and respiration, while any excess is stored. This stored starch is an energy bank, (fat) to cover shortfalls of production over demand as well as seasonal demands.

Starch is stored in mature tissue, in the various specialised storage cells, distributed throughout the total tree, from a twig to the tips of the root system. However, each storage site must fill, before the starch can flow down to the next lower storage site. Fully healthy trees will see this cascade of starch flow down a twig, branch, stem and trunk finally reaching the root tips. Actively respiring (living) tissue, down the tree relies on this cascade of starch to nourish its energy needs. A tree can only load starch down and unload up the system.

Plants and Trees are iterations of themselves. A twig today can potentially become a trunk in the future. While animals are, regenerating organisms, replacing tissue in the same space, plants generate new tissue in a new position. Seen, for example, as a trunk increases in diameter with each growth increment. However, as a tree grows up and out, lower elements, like a branch with twigs and leaves become shaded from the canopy above. This shading gradually reduces starch production in that foliage. The result of shading is that this element has consumed all its starch production with no surplus to cascade down this element, and into twigs, branches, stems etc.

All plants and trees actively manage their energy demand. Deciduous trees, with annual leaf shedding, are generally



When energy production can't meet their demands and sustain reserves, trees and plants face inevitable death through starvation.

better at using energy demand management than trees with more persistent foliage in the case of evergreens. All foliage incorporates a mechanism, the abscission layer, located at the base of the leaf petiole (stem) which eventually facilitates leaf shedding. In deciduous trees, this layer is triggered by water stress within the tree, leaf age or seasonally with minimal if any impact on the connected tissues. In Eucalypts and many Australian Native trees, when foliage sheds, as a result of moisture stress, the small twigs and branchlets tissue is irreparably damaged.

In these new climatic, constantly changing norms, there is an important structure advantage of deciduous tree foliage. It lacks the thick waxy waterproof cuticle (leaf surface) typically seen in Eucalypts. The leaf form and orientation, generally horizontal, allows deciduous trees to take in water, through the foliage, resulting from dew events, mist or light rainfall, where groundwater is limited. The Eucalypt vertical pendulous foliage and thick wax cuticle cannot take advantage of such available moisture to the same extent.

The shedding of spent unproductive parts occurs both within the crown of the tree and the root system. To understand the death, of organs or the whole tree, through starvation, we need to see trees both top-down as well as from the bottom.

Looking from the top down, lower or within the canopy iterations of the tree, become unproductive due to shading. This consequential imbalance between energy production and demand sees such elements' growth rate gradually diminish below the normal rate for that tree.

Where an unproductive element meets a larger fully productive element, branch or trunk etc, such element's connecting tissues, Phloem and Xylem, gradually become disconnected from normal growth rates tissues. By limiting the supply of water and nutrients, the organ's starvation rate escalates due to not only lack of light but also lack of water and nutrients and consequently starch production. That element starves to death, but not until its starch reserves, it contains are exhausted. View this process as a cut flower in a vase, alive but committed to death as it exhausts its starch reserves. Also, note not every flower dies at the same time, different starch levels.

Neither a tree nor its element's growth is a synchronistic process. Rather in all cases, it follows a progression. The first process is to secure nutrients and water supply. The fine-feeding, white, roots grow first, mostly in the autumn (or start of dormancy) when there is warm soil and moisture from the autumn

rains. Such conditions are also beneficial for soil flora to undergo an explosion of growth. These white roots have a close association with specialised fungi, Mycorrhizal roots. The tree provides energy – sugar to sustain the biological processes of the fungi, and the fungi deliver water and nutrients, absorbed from the soil moisture, into the tree's conductive symplast. The symplast is the active outer layer of wood, the symplast is often called sapwood and overlays the mature wood, often called heartwood. This process builds (banks) nutrient storage, that can be readily accessed for the flush of new seasonal growth.

The conductive vessels in the symplast, the xylem vessels and long truncated tubes transport water and nutrients through and up the tree. This nutrient-rich water charges the twigs, buds and leaves. These nutrients provide the requirements for the metabolic process of photosynthesis, which sunlight converts into starch the true tree food. This is the journey up the tree then we start the journey down the tree.

Trees as described are highly compartmented organisms. Trees suffer wounds that range in severity. This induces a response from the tree to isolate the wound, from the rest of the tree. Wounds for example include fire, insect or pathogen attack, storm damage, poor maintenance, pruning, impact, etc. The wounded areas are isolated – compartmentalised, locked up and out of the systems. The starch reserves within those sections and the storage site itself is lost forever. It is important to understand that storage areas are finite and most importantly starch cannot be stored in tissue that

is growing, which is parasitic until fully developed. This means that the current year's growth does not store starch, well not until very close to the end of the growth cycle.

As available resources change all trees, manage their demand-supply equation, which requires energy to achieve. If less-than-ideal conditions prevail, such a tree will continue to produce some starch, but use it locally and not produce enough to cascade down to the roots. Tree roots will also have a reserve of starch and will continue to function, but not enough to support mycorrhizal root associates. The reduction or loss of mycorrhizal association reduces nutrient and water uptake, critical for starch production. While the tree will continue to grow, by up-loading starch from its reserves, to support general and new growth. New growth is effectively parasitic on the tree until its organs are mature and they start to produce starch. Perhaps you have seen trees that have never flowered do so and suddenly die shortly after the foliage starts. It just used the last of its stored starch energy in an effort to reproduce itself. Nothing ever happens suddenly in the life of a tree, it is a progression with an end.

All trees and plants are committed to death through starvation when energy production fails to meet demand and sustain reserves. Any tree will live off its reserves, to sustain it through the time of less than adequate starch production. Dieback is a tree's process to reduce demand, during hard times. If these are of short duration, the tree should reestablish starch production, recharge its reserves and return to its full growth potential. It does this all the time at various degrees of visible evidence.

Decline is the long-term path where the tree does not have the energy to re-establish full productive growth, even if ideal conditions return. Such trees are committed to death once their starch reserves are exhausted. It may well have a dead root system where xylem vessels simply pipe water to the crown with few nutrients. The sparse canopy and remaining foliage provide some local energy but none cascades down the tree to sustain root growth.

Trees in decline, they are everywhere, will not recover and death is inevitable due to starvation. The foliage and roots of a plant are always in balance. If you have a large trunked tree with only a few live branches and a little foliage, perhaps equal to that of a sapling, that is a tree committed to death, just like the flower in a vase.

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Colin Cameron, MC Bass Coast Business of the Year Awards.

Sounds like success at Bass Coast Business Awards

THE OCEAN Sounds Festival held in January each year on Churchill Island was a popular winner of the 2024 Bass Coast Business of the Year Award. The summer sun softly setting over picnic rugs, smiling friends enjoying local wines, gourmet food and some of Australia's most amazing live music... Whilst it certainly wasn't a festival, there were plenty of celebrations, smiling friends, gourmet food and music on Friday, August 23, as Bass Coast businesses enjoyed the night of nights. See the full list of winners and runners-up for the 2024 Bass Coast Business Awards online at sgst.com.au.



Bass Coast Mayor Cr Clare Le Serve at the 2024 Bass Coast Business Awards.



Jasmyn Howell, Amanda Cuttriss and Kelly Rutter from NRMA Phillip Island Beachfront Holiday Park, Winner Marketing and Communications, Runners Up People's Choice Award, Accommodation and Tourism Attraction.



Bass Strait Direct, Newhaven, People's Choice Award Winner Retail and Services.



Jo and Brina Viney from Brinnie T Design Cowes, Runner Up Access, Equity and Inclusion.



Harley Schinagl and Michelle Hawkins from Business Innovation Winners and Hall of Fame Inductees TerraLab.



Bass Coast Shire Cr Leticia Laing, ESI Solutions Pty Ltd's Andrew and Kelly Male, Winner People's Choice Trade Award, with Bass Coast Mayor Cr Clare Le Serve.



NRMA Phillip Island Beachfront Holiday Park, Winner Marketing and Communications, Runners Up People's Choice Award, Accommodation and Tourism Attraction.



Bass Coast Manager Economic Development and Investment Shannan Little with Bass Coast Mayor Cr Clare Le Serve.



Susie Smith and Craig Piper from NRMA Phillip Island Beachfront Holiday Park, Winner Marketing and Communications, Runners Up People's Choice Award, Accommodation and Tourism Attraction.



Natasha and Seth Ballard from Native Seed Box Pty Ltd, Wonthaggi, 2024 Bass Coast Business Award Winner New Business, Runners Up Environmental Sustainability and Runners Up Business Innovation.



Gidget Mirrabelle, Michael Younes, Harley Schinagl and Michelle Hawkins from TerraLab, Winner Business Innovation and Hall of Fame Inductees.



Carolyn and Michael Connell attended the night of nights in support of People's Choice Food and Beverage Winners The Muffin Lady's Bec and Chelsea.

Sixty-five years of fun, family, and award-winning stays

FOR over six decades, Anchor Belle Holiday Park – a cherished family-owned establishment, has been dedicated to exceptional customer service and genuine hospitality.

Third generation owners Amy James and Brad Wolfenden were ecstatic when they received the 2024 Bass Coast Business Award for People's Choice in Accommodation and Tourism Attraction for a second consecutive year.

"We're excited to share that we've won the People's Choice Award in the Accommodation and Tourism sector for the second consecutive year! Since 1960, Anchor Belle Holiday Park has been a beloved destination on Phillip Island, and this award truly showcases our team's dedication to providing exceptional service and creating memorable experiences for our guests," said the duo.

Anchor Belle Holiday Park are deeply honoured to express their gratitude to each and every one of their customers for their support and votes in the People's Choice Awards and to their dedicated team.

"A heartfelt thank you to our incredible staff for their hard work and commitment – this achievement wouldn't be possible without you. And to our guests, we can't thank you enough for your votes. It's



Janine Max, Kelli Love, Amy James and Brad Wolfenden at last year's awards ceremony.
Photo: Kim Keltie.

truly rewarding to be recognised by our community for the effort we put in every day.

"Congratulations to all the nominees and winners in every category!"

Situated in the heart of Cowes, only 90 minutes from Melbourne, Anchor Belle Holiday Park has all local attractions within a 10-minute drive and direct access to the Cowes West beach – just 100 metres away.

Whether you're a camper

or a glamer, the G'Day Park have a range of different accommodation and camping options, including all powered sites, ensuite facilities, and private cabins.

Anchor Belle features well-maintained and landscaped gardens, surrounded by nature with plenty of facilities to keep the whole family entertained – with an indoor pool, jumping pillow and games room fit for all ages.

"As we look ahead, this

achievement serves as a driving force to set higher standards and create even more cherished memories for our guests. We thank everyone for their support and look forward to a future filled with continued growth and excellence."

To book your stay this holiday season visit anchorbelle.com.au or call the friendly staff on 5952 2258. The Phillip Island stay is a pet friendly caravan park.



Meila and Karra Marino, Hair by Karra, Cowes, Winner People's Choice Award Hair and Beauty.

Treat yourself and your hair at Hair by Karra

USING soft tones to enhance women's natural beauty Karra Marino of Hair by Karra has earned a place in the history books as a Bass Coast Business Award Winner for Hair and Beauty.

"I am very proud," said Karra.

"It felt amazing."

A hotly contested category, Hair and Beauty is a People's Choice Award.

"Some people get excited by handbags I get excited by hairbrushes," admits Karra.

Over three thousand votes were cast for the People's Choice Awards indicating the strong support local businesses receive from the Bass Coast community.

"Working with women is my passion," said Karra Marino.

"I work alone which allows me as a single mother to spend time with my daughter."

Karra prides herself on creating a safe space for women in her salon.

"I have clients of all ages from teenagers to retirees."

Creating a work-life balance has been important to Karra.

"I have a playroom for my daughter and children of clients."

With gorgeous styles and body blowwaves, Karra is sure to keep your hair natural and healthy.

"Four-legged friends are always welcome," added Karra.

Coming from a proud Italian family who made Gippsland their home Karra Marino and her family have a long history in the region.

"I love it when clients feel comfortable enough to wear slippers into the salon."

For some 'Me Time' with Hair by Karra make an appointment by phoning 0439 005 927 or through Instagram @hairbykarra.



Fynn Canobio, Shayna Erickson with Steve and Rebecca Clarke from Phillip Island Tenpin Bowling and Entertainment Centre, Marketing and Communications finalist.



Charles and Christopher Tuchtan with Emmy-Lou and Brent Mills from Phillip Island RSL.

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Kathleen Dorset and Christian Szalai from C&K Welding and Fabrication, Cowes, Winner People's Choice Trade Award.

C&K Welding and Fabrication a popular choice

AFTER just three years in business C&K Welding and Fabrication, a small family-run operation from Cowes, has achieved notable recognition as a joint winner of the Bass Coast People's Choice Trade Award.

Husband and wife team Kathleen and Christian who manage the business describe their journey as both challenging and rewarding.

"We feel excited but humbled," Kathleen said reflecting on their award win.

The couple places a strong emphasis on customer service with Kathleen stating, "We treat our customers the way we would like to be treated."

Christian Szalai a certified welder with extensive knowledge of the welding trade adds "I love my work."

C&K Welding and Fabrication is known for delivering high-quality services across the Bass Coast region.

Christian's expertise covers a range of projects including aluminium and stainless-steel applications.

"We're proud of what we do," Kathleen noted.

The business has worked on major local projects including the Rhyll Pier and Phillip Island's new cultural centre, Berninnet.

C&K Welding and Fabrication also handle various small jobs for the general public including repairs on all types of machinery, boats, bikes and caravans.

For aluminium, stainless-steel, mild steel and TIG welding visit C&K Welding and Fabrication at Unit 3/96 Dunsmore Road, Cowes.

For more information email cnkwelding@outlook.com, phone 5900 2995 or go to cnkwelding.com.au

Your local Inverloch doctor caring for the community

LOCAL doctors Inverloch Healthcare 2024 winners of the Bass Coast Business Award for Access, Equity and Inclusion pride themselves on caring for their community.

Inverloch Healthcare is a GP-owned and led medical clinic focused on patient-centred care, collaboration and continuity.

The clinic with seven GPs, three practice nurses and an administrative team of six provides comprehensive healthcare addressing both acute and chronic conditions.

Doctor Sinead de Gooyer described winning the Bass Coast Business Access, Equity and Inclusion Award as fantastic.

"We're really proud of this particular award."

"The primary healthcare landscape is very complex because of funding."

Known for its clinical excellence, staff collaboration and inclusivity Inverloch Healthcare supports Aboriginal and LGBTQIA+ communities prioritising continuity of care.

"Inverloch Healthcare values its high-quality services, fostering a strong, united team and a sustainable business model," says Dr de Gooyer.

Inverloch Healthcare's GP team includes Dr Sue Comerford, Dr Sinead de Gooyer, Dr Roz Giles, Dr Kate Davey, Dr Sarah Smith, Dr Martin Hodgson and Dr Hana Thompson.

Three skilled and passionate practice nurses Robyn, Sue and Denise play a pivotal role in the clinic's patient-centred approach.

"We have a warm and welcoming front office team led by our Practice Manager."

Practice doctors and nurses provide care in all areas of General Practice and health care including children's health and immunisations, chronic disease management and health assessment, contraception and family planning advice, general health checks, men's health and vaccinations.

Appointments can be booked for mental health



Inverloch Healthcare, Winner Bass Coast Business Awards 2024 Access, Equity and Inclusion.

care plan assessments, minor procedures and skin excisions, employment medicals, sexual health screening, skin checks and assessment, travel medicine advice, women's health and recreational and commercial diving medicals.

Dr Sue Comerford worked in Melbourne for several years before making a sea change in 2012. Enjoying all aspects of family medicine Dr Comerford has a particular interest in women's health and preventive care.

Dr Sinead de Gooyer has been working in rural communities since completing her GP training and has a particular interest in adolescent, women's and mental health issues.

Dr Roz Giles has worked in both Leongatha and Inverloch since moving to South Gippsland and takes a holistic approach to health care. Dr Giles is particularly interested in preventive health with a special interest in older people, chronic disease management and palliative care.

Dr Kate Davey is a Senior Lecturer in General Practice

with Melbourne University Rural Clinical School and 2019 winner of the prestigious RACGP Rural GP of the Year Award. Dr Davey has a particular interest in older person and women's health as well as medical education.

Dr Sarah Smith grew up in East Gippsland and after some years as a research scientist decided to swap the microscope for people undertaking her GP training in the Northern Territory. Living in Inverloch with her husband, two young boys and a disobedient labrador named Louis, Dr Smith has a particular interest in paediatrics and chronic disease but enjoys all aspects of rural general practice.

Dr Martin Hodgson started his career with the Royal Australian Navy where he became an Underwater Medicine Specialist. Maintaining a good rapport with children for twenty years Dr Hodgson was involved in problem wound management and hyperbaric medicine with an interest in sports medicine, mental health and men's health issues.

Dr Hana Thompson

specialised in Palliative Medicine before returning to practice and moving to Inverloch.

Clinical Nurse Manager Robyn Butler, the recent winner of the 2024 Rural Workforce Agency of Victoria (RWAV) Rural Practice Nurse of the Year Award, is a highly skilled practice nurse who has been supporting and caring for rural communities for over thirty years. Nurse Butler is passionate about her community, equity of access to care and ensuring that as health providers Inverloch Healthcare never forgets what a privilege it is to be part of someone's health journey.

Inverloch Healthcare offers a flexible appointment system to allow for a range of urgent, non-urgent, complex and health maintenance needs.

Inverloch Healthcare can be found at 18 Reilly Street, Inverloch and offers face-to-face consultations as well as telephone and video appointments.

To make an appointment phone 5674 2700 Monday to Friday or go online to inverlochhealthcare.com.au.

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Sal and Trish Fusca from Haven Wave Café Newhaven, People's Choice Award finalists, Food and Beverage.



Shane and Sarah Long from Empowered Lactation Consulting, New Business finalist.



Christopher Tuchtan and Emmy-Lou Mills from Phillip Island RSL.



People's Choice Awards Health and Lifestyle Winners Cor Pilates, San Remo.

Something for everyone at Cor Pilates

WINNERS of the Bass Coast Business Awards People's Choice Business Award for Health and Lifestyle, Cor Pilates of San Remo believe they have a class for everyone.

"Pilates is for everyone," said business owner Elisha Blake.

"We have clients from aged sixteen to eighty-five."

"They come from San Remo, Cowes, Kilcunda, Inverloch and Wonthaggi," said Elisha.

Cor Pilates is a boutique studio in the heart of San Remo.

It has a variety of classes from the beginner-friendly Reformer Class to Cardio for those wanting to get their heart rate up a little more.

Bumps and Babies for Pre and Postnatal clients and their newest class on the schedule Golden Oldies for the over 55s.

All of their classes on the schedule combine the best things like breathing

technique, strength, balance and stability.

Whether you are just starting on your Pilates journey or a Pilates pro, Elisha Blake and her staff have something for you.

Starting her Pilates business three years ago from a garage Elisha Blake was both surprised and excited to be an award winner.

"Our clients are just the best of the best and the Cor Pilates trainers each bring their own amazing energy and knowledge to the studio."

"This little dream of mine has become such an amazing reality and I couldn't be more grateful for everyone being part of it," said Elisha.

You can find Cor Pilates at 1/107 Marine Parade, San Remo.

To make a class booking download the Cor Pilates app or go to hello@cor-pilates.com.au

The 2024 Business of the Year

OCEAN Sounds, the beloved annual music festival held on Churchill Island, has been awarded the prestigious title of Bass Coast Business of the Year for 2024. The Hills Are Alive Group, the festival's organisers, received high praise from the judges for their detailed submission, which highlighted their impressive visitor profiling, robust sustainability initiatives, and clear vision for the future. Despite operating with a small team, Ocean Sounds has consistently delivered large-scale, unforgettable events that resonate deeply with attendees.

"We are honoured to have been awarded the 2024 Business of the Year," Aidan McLaren, Co-Founder The Hills Are Alive Group, smiled.

"This year's Ocean Sounds was exactly what we envisioned and hoped for when we dreamt up the event six years ago, and to have that recognised through the awards is a testament to all the hard work of our amazing team and the local community's support."

"We'd love to say thank you to every single person that has supported this event to grow into what it is today and to the many



Aidan McLaren, Ocean Sounds Festival, Churchill Island, 2024 Winner Bass Coast Business of the Year with Bass Coast Mayor Cr Clare Le Serve.

local businesses involved in making it possible."

The 2025 festival promises to be another unforgettable experience, inviting families and friends to enjoy a day of music, food, and good vibes against the backdrop of the stunning Phillip Island/Churchill Islands coastlines. Attendees can look forward to a relaxed atmosphere with picnic rugs, delicious local delicacies, and a line-up of top artists.

Set to return bigger and better, 2025 will feature headliners like Birds of Tokyo, Boy & Bear, and

The Cat Empire with a special performance from Millowl Dreaming. The festival will continue to showcase the best of Australian music, along with local wines and gourmet offerings, ensuring that Ocean Sounds remains a must-attend event on the Bass Coast calendar.

Don't miss out on the 2025 event, scheduled for January 11th – mark your calendars for another spectacular day on Phillip Island!

To purchase tickets head to oceansoundsfestival.com.au



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Why COR Pilates?

- Improves strength
- Improves flexibility and mobility
- Builds a strong mind-body connection
- An enjoyable yet challenging workout
- A fun, upbeat and supportive environment

2024 Peoples Choice Winner - Health & Lifestyle

Have you tried one of our classes yet? If not maybe now is the time!

Download our Cor Pilates App and take advantage of our intro offer - \$20 for your first class.

See you in studio. 



TICKETS ON SALE NOW!

Sentinel-Times COMMENT

Local government woes not just about revenue

THE South Gippsland Shire Council has made a submission to the State Government's Inquiry into Local Government Funding and Services and will likely appear at a hearing in Traralgon on Wednesday this week before the Legislative Council Economy and Infrastructure Committee.

A cross-party committee, made up of Legislative Council members, includes one of our local MPs, Eastern Victoria MLC Melina Bath.

However, while the shire has made many good points in its submission about how State and Federal governments are pushing more and more of the cost of land and coastal management, emergency response, planning, hazard mapping, early years education, road maintenance, waste disposal, libraries, pools and all the rest back on councils, they have nobbled their ability to cover those costs with rate capping in recent years.

The shire's submission also focuses on the unfair situation that exists between metropolitan ratepayers and rural ratepayers, not only where we are paying two and three times more in rates than people living in Melbourne's leafy-green suburbs, but also because they have the ability to raise more in revenue from carparking and even from more people attending their pools, libraries and other services, while not having anywhere near the asset maintenance costs.

So, rural councils are getting a bad deal. We get that.

But one thing we do not want to do, as all local council administrations seem to think we should, is to remove the rate cap until a better deal is sorted out or guess what, our rates will go through the roof to meet the incredible amount of cost shifting going on.

And the farmers, who grow the food, will likely be the hardest hit.

It will be a licence for a cash-strapped State Government, for example, to increase taxes by stealth through rates by pushing the cost of these things more and more

onto ratepayers, and we are already seeing that with new requirements for dealing with the contamination risk from stormwater.

But one thing we do not see in the South Gippsland's submission to the funding and services cost inquiry is any reference to the cost of council wages.

This year South Gippsland will be spending \$31 million on wages, increasing by \$1 million a year, and Bass Coast almost \$37 million going to \$39 million next year and a projected \$42 million by 2027-28.

No one is saying that we don't need many of these employees or that they don't do important work. Most of them do. But the wage rates paid, especially to administration staff and management, is way out of kilter with what you'd expect in the private sector locally. (Honestly, you'd also have to question some of the woke roles and job descriptions too).

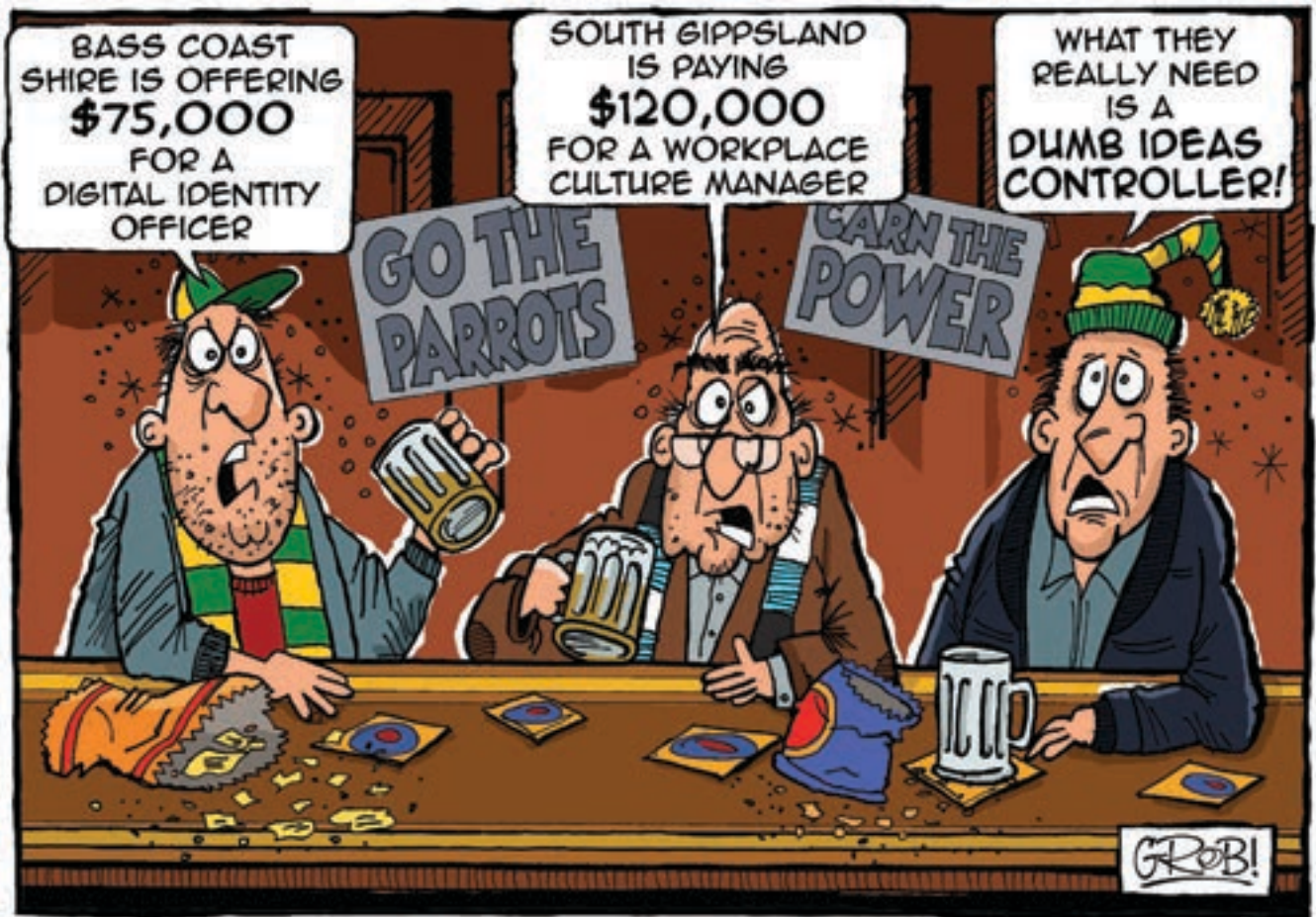
In May 2022, the Victorian Local Government Inspectorate published a report where it found that the average salary for a shire CEO was \$295,000 but many receive much more than that.

For example, former Bass Coast Shire CEO Ali Wastie is on target to receive \$543,000 next financial year at the Geelong City Council. This will increase to \$573,000 the year after, \$595,000 in 2026/27, and \$620,000 in 2027/28.

It compares very favourably with the salary that Prime Minister Anthony Albanese receives of almost \$587,000 a year.

Certainly, something has got to change with the unfair situation for rural ratepayers vis-à-vis city ratepayers, and the lack of funding for local government in regional areas, and South Gippsland Shire's suggestion of a share of GST revenue is a good one, if unlikely.

But you can't abandon the rate cap until some of these issues are sorted or we'll be reopening Pandora's Box, and under the present Local Government Act, ratepayers, residents and even councillors will have virtually no say over what happens next.



Cartoon by Glenn 'Grob' Robinson.

We all deserve a fair go

I WISH to introduce myself as a candidate in the upcoming local government elections for Western Port Ward.

Since moving to North Wonthaggi in 2019 I have noticed the lack of representation on Bass Coast Council by actual residents of Wonthaggi.

Local government is the closest level of government to real people, so must be responsive and representative of as much of the community as possible.

I have always been passionate about education, planning for the future in a sustainable way and ensuring that everyone gets a fair go.

Before retiring to the Bass Coast from North-East Victoria, and 35 years as a secondary science teacher librarian, I was a full-time farmer, ran a BnB, held a liquor license, taught at TAFE, was board member of local co-operatives and a senior office bearer for the CWA.

Along with my current volunteering in this community, I feel I have the skills and life experience to represent residents responsibly and equitably on Council.

Glenda Minty, Wonthaggi (Authorized by Glenda Minty, PO Box 60 Wonthaggi)

Too late to worry about aesthetics

THE report on Council deliberations on the Draft Victorian Grid Transmission Guidelines in your August 27 edition with the NIMBY headline that new energy infrastructure should be built in the desert and not here, indicates just how little sense of urgency there is about the problem that this infrastructure is supposed to solve; you know, global warming, which even for the most intractably obtuse deniers must now be noticeable, even to them.

We are in a lot of climate trouble, and we are running out of time to deal with it.

There is a lot of catastrophising going on about the impact of energy restructuring, none of which has much substance, other than aesthetic offence; you know, 'industrialisation' of the 'pristine' landscape. Last time I heard farms are rural 'industrial facilities' where anything 'pristine' was

taken out a hundred years ago.

Wind turbines are beautiful and a sign of hope that we are realistically coming to grips with the challenges in front of us.

When I was in Denmark some years ago, there were turbines inside townships and no one thought anything of it, because the Danes are serious about changing their energy habits and quick about it.

Windfarms have negligible footprints and zero effect on existing farm uses, while providing very welcome income diversification for those lucky enough to host them and a source of sour grapes for those who miss out, who dress up their resentment and rent-seeking as pseudo-environmental 'concern'.

And behind all that, stirring up the locals, are the fossil fuel lobbyists and the ideological cowboys who have hijacked federal Coalition energy policy, whose embarrassed state opposite numbers try their best to take no notice of.

We have to get serious about climate change, accept that we have left this problem to the last minute, and therefore must hasten not slowly, but fast.

Christopher Nagle, Grantville

Not expected to pick up mistakes

RECENTLY, I raised some issues around errors Council officers have allowed to pass and presented them for our councillors to pass in council meetings.

After asking a question, where I picked up a \$100 million dollar error, which went back to 2019, the CEO's answer was we will get it changed on the file copy. Then I discovered errors in the asset register and below is the officer's correction email.

"Thanks for your time on the phone today. We acknowledge that the figures shown in table 7 on page 25 of the Buildings Asset Management Plan are incorrect and as a result, any reference to these numbers will have an incorrect outcome. We will amend and republish the plan with the correct table as soon as possible.

"Figure 6 on page 28 contains the correct replacement values for each building category. I have double checked the numbers and totals for accuracy.

"We do not expect the community nor councillors to proof our plans or documents, and we appreciate the effort made to bring this to our attention."

Can we be sure anything financial is always correct or do we need to scrutinise everything?

John Trig, Candidate for Island Ward

Expertise is a damp squib, he says

INVERLOCH exposed, says the SGST last week, in getting it right on the release of the Cape to Cape Resilience Plan: "There are no clear recommendations for action, nor funding..."

Many between, and inland of the Capes were optimistic when we saw the depth of analysis being deployed four years ago. With all that expertise, this is truly a damp squib.

The report falls short on prescribing the measured and timely steps needed – some of them this decade. Against anticipated threats from sea incursion, is it intensified natural solutions? Where? Or expensive and risky engineered defences? When? Or the last resort, retreat? Property owners deserve better than soothing reassurances that this is a long way off, and isolated anyway.

A battery of educated specifics across all that was surely appropriate. This report does not encourage faith that our elected leaders will make the right decisions and generate the resources needed to back them.

Perhaps we should follow the recommendation of one aspiring candidate for the SG Council election (P. 4, 27/8) and "Vote 1 – Hope". With our national coal and gas exports booming, our contribution to global carbon emissions is estimated to top nine per cent – far higher than our measured domestic share. High fives to that!

And with the federal government's emissions reduction roll-out looking more unrealistic by the month when measured against its own targets, and the alternative government ignoring them anyway, what else is there but fading hope?

Ken Blackman, Inverloch

Vox Pop

What is your view on the Right to Disconnect reform?



Jaimee Amato
Wonthaggi

"I personally feel it would be difficult for small business owners, especially if everyone is unavailable to contact. I would understand for full time workers though, allowing that time off."



Joe Taranto
Wonthaggi

"For most employees it is good to disconnect, because it can be hard to switch off sometimes, but for business owners it would be hard to operate, not being able to make contact after business hours."



John Beasley
Wonthaggi

"I believe if it's a mutual understanding between the boss and the worker, then fine. There shouldn't have to be a governing body making this decision."



Yvette Davis
Wonthaggi

"Well, this isn't affecting me personally; however, I don't believe that employees should have to be communicating after business hours, or there should at least be a cut off time to be contacted."

What about the mud flats

THE rising tides will also affect the flats at Koo-Wee-Rup where the South Gippsland Highway is. How will that affect everything that travels on the highway and what other way is there for the trucks which transport everything in and out of West Gippsland and Bass etc. What are the politicians offering to do now to alleviate these future problems.

Robyn Newman, Korumburra

pumping station after 2030. Commence small height geotextile sand barrier along the surf beach, say three bags high. Assess result. Place some rock reefs in front of the beach for storm surge protection and review results. Do something and get some real costs data. The policy decision is simple. You either want to preserve Inverloch for the future or not.

Rod Gallagher, Inverloch

are providing a way for communities themselves to take power back into their own hands and force change for the better by participating in their own governance. The teal record so far proves it, and with more teals will come even more responsive, principled local representation.

Tony Walker, Fish Creek

A cost blowout in the making

BASS Coast Shire Council (BCSC) has supplied ratepayers with a diagram relating to the \$7.7 million dollar proposed inland walking/cycling route from Inverloch to Wonthaggi, which terminates with the Inverloch Surf Life Savings Club building. From that point there is no provision for suitable access to the existing pedestrian/cycling trail along Surf Parade, as it ends at Ozone Street which is half a kilometre further east of the Surf Life Savings Club (SLSC).

Recently the appropriate Government Department ruled out any further westerly extension of the trail beyond Ozone Street towards the SLSC due to erosion concerns etc. Currently BCSC has not offered any alternative to pedestrians and cyclists other than to use the Surf Parade roadway to complete their journey to Inverloch itself. If the Government decision can be overturned or an alternative found, it will add to the current projected cost as it does not appear to have been considered.

Additionally, the diagram could be misleading as it does not differentiate between those smaller sections which already have a formed route and those significantly longer sections which are completely "cross country". While work has commenced on the easier sections, it is hard to imagine that the timeline by the BCSC for completion to be done in less than 20 months is likely, even without any problems outside of their control.

It seems likely that ratepayers will again be co-opted into subsidising cost blow-outs for a project given dubious priority over the maintenance of some existing infrastructure.

Rosemary Hutchinson, Inverloch

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

A camel of a report

YOU have to agree with the Sentinel Times Editorial about the "Cape to Cape" sea change report, particularly with respect to Inverloch. It's not so much that the report is a camel, the available strategies are well outlined, what is missing is clear recommendations, which shows no commitment or courage on the part of authors. But, hey I might not get another consultancy if the political masters are upset. The report is 80 odd pages plus five technical papers which regurgitate much information that is already available. This report needed to be a series of recommendations with attached implementation timelines and a cost benefit analysis.

From a cost point of view, with respect to Inverloch strategies, the costs are small beer when compared to some international coastlines under threat, and far less than any cost variations associated with that other white elephant called the outer rail tunnel.

What is clear from the report is that 2040 is a key milestone date. Thereafter engineering or retreat strategies or a combination will have to be put in place to manage local sea level change. And this where the main report recommendation fails. We are past the time for normal government consideration and budgets. You need the next 15 years to start detailed planning and commence remedial strategies, not 2040, which is too late. You need a plan now.

This is my suggestion, you can disagree.

Given my age I will likely be dead in 2040. Retreat from Mahers Landing and compensate land owners, plus a road causeway in that area. A blue carbon benefit. Sheet piling wall at Pymble Av. Realign Cape Paterson Road behind the RACV and let the existing area return to swamp. Again, compensate the landowners. Sewage

The teals have it

IN RESPONDING to my letter about the value of independent members of Parliament, it's interesting that Steve Finlay (S-T 27/8) said he always votes for independents but does not want to see a "teal" in Monash.

The first point to make is that teals are independents. They are not members of any political party, but, rather, representatives chosen first as candidates by their communities, and then by voters to be their local members.

Yes, to set themselves apart from the parties they campaigned under the identifiable teal colour, and that led the media to collectivise them as if they were a party. However, they have consistently shown their commitment to the individual priorities and issues identified by their own communities, while holding to a set of overarching principles that many feel the major parties have long abandoned, if they'd ever signed up to them.

As independents in the current Parliament, the teals cannot ensure legislative change or push through private members' bills to a final vote. Yet they have proved influential in raising issues, improving legislation and, in some cases, stiffening government resolve, as with the public pressure applied to convince Labor to make its 2030 emissions reduction target of 43 per cent a floor rather than a ceiling.

Teals led the way in providing moral leadership – particularly Indi independent Helen Haines – on the establishment of the National Anti-Corruption Commission.

And as we saw just last week, when Warringah independent Zali Steggall took on the behaviour of Peter Dutton and other Opposition members, the teals have been courageous in calling out and resisting the seemingly endemic bullying and misogynistic behaviour that characterises so much of our parliamentary proceedings.

So, I agree with Steve Finlay: we have been let down by the party system. But it's teal independents who

LIFE Moments



She said yes

HE ASKED and she said yes. The Delforce and Cole families are excited to announce the engagement of Matthew Delforce and Nikitta Cole from North Wonthaggi on August 9, 2024. Matthew proposed on a SeaWorld dinner cruise on the Gold Coast whilst enjoying their holiday. Both families couldn't be happier for them both. Congratulations Matthew and Nikitta.



FIRST time parents, Peter and Jade of Inverloch are absolutely delighted to welcome their beautiful baby girl into the world. Born at Gippsland Southern Health Service on August 9, 2024.



SURROUNDED by family and friends, Kathryn (nee. Sloan), formerly of Wonthaggi, and Matt Williams, of Rosebud, said 'I do' on Saturday, August 31, 2024, at Point Nepean National Park.

Send your birthday, anniversary or baby photos to news@sgst.com.au

A warm welcome at WMS Fixit Café

By Hilary Stuchbery

WITH the first of September falling on a Sunday, our next session of WMS Fixit Café falls on September 15. Come rain or shine, our volunteers are ready to check out the items you have at home with a view to giving them a second life and preventing them from going to landfill.

It has been gratifying to see many friendly connections made over a cuppa and cake while customers wait for their repairs to be looked at or completed. Members of the Wonthaggi Men's Shed have been kept busy gluing, sharpening, and generally having a go at fixing all sorts of household articles and treasures. Some come with a fascinating back story.

Depending on which volunteers are available, clothes can be mended, or small alterations done. Our clock mender, Graeme, attends from 11am onwards. Smaller electrical goods can be checked out but our volunteers do not tackle microwave ovens.

Bookings are essential for this service, which is free (but donations gratefully received). The WMS Fixit Café is an activity of the Wonthaggi Men's Shed but bookings can be made at the Wonthaggi Neighbourhood Centre, Mitchell House, either in person or by telephoning 5672 3731. On the day, the Café runs from 10am to 12noon and can be found at the Harvest Centre, behind Mitchell House, or if coming by car, through the Big W carpark and going past the Goods Shed. Please note that you should be able to carry your article and that bookings are essential.

• FAITH FACTOR

God still performs miracles

By Ps Sandro Schietroma, Wonthaggi Baptist Church

John 11: 40 Jesus said to her, "Did I not say to you that if you would believe you would see the glory of God?"

GOD, who parted the Red Sea, rained bread from heaven, caused the walls of Jericho to fall, shut the lions' mouths, healed the sick, raised the dead and calmed the sea, still performs miracles today.

However, some doubt that God wants to work a miracle for them today. They believe that there were miracles when Jesus walked the earth, but they think that the day of miracles is over. They talk about how everything will be perfect one day in the sweet by and by. But God wants us to know that He is still the God of miracles today.

Martha in the bible was a little bit like that. She wondered if Jesus could perform a miracle when her brother Lazarus died. By the time Jesus arrived on the scene, Lazarus had already been dead for four days. So, she thought that Jesus was four days too late. That is why she said, "Lord, if You had been here, my brother would not have died." (John 11:21) Even when Jesus said that Lazarus would rise again, she said, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day." (John 11:24)

Martha believed that Jesus could perform miracles in the past and would do the same in the future, but she did not believe that He could give her a miracle when she needed it, right then. You see, Martha was someone who lived wishing that the past could be changed and believing that the future would be better. But she did not believe that the "I Am" was there to meet her present need.

Today, God stands at the point of your need. What miracle do you need from Him? Believe that Jesus is still the same miracle-working God today. Believe that you will see the glory of God. Jesus said "Everything is possible for him who believes." Mark 9:23

~ NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE & ADULT LEARNING NEWS ~

MILPARA COMMUNITY HOUSE

RUOK? Day is coming up on Thursday, September 12.

A lot can happen in a year, a month, a week. We go through life's ups and downs every day. And you're not alone, with 72 per cent of Australians reporting elevated levels of distress.

Regular, meaningful conversations with the people close to you can help prevent small

things from becoming big things. Milpara will be hosting an OK Cuppa Morning tea at 11am, to bring people together in a safe and supportive environment. Following this, at 12.30pm, we have a guest Mental Health specialist giving advice and information on Mental Health wellness and ADHD Awareness. We hope you will come along to share

in this special talk. Please book your spot for these free events.

On a more casual note, Nolle our Mahjong leader is looking for more players to join her group. For a fun session at the games table, come along on Wednesdays, alternating weekly time of 10am and 1.30pm.

There is also plenty of space

for more in the Milpara book club, also on Wednesday afternoons.

If any of the above are of interest to you, please get in touch, we're happy to help.

15 Little Commercial Street, Korumburra PH: (03) 5655 2524 www.milparacommunityhouse.org.au

YES YOUTH HUB

THE YES Youth Hub is back after a short hiatus! The YYH is a community project managed by the YMCA Bass Coast on behalf of Bass Coast Shire Council, the Bass Coast community, and most importantly – young people. We provide a safe, welcoming and inclusive space for young people aged 12 to 25 living, working, studying and playing in the Bass Coast. Young people are always welcome to come down and check out the space during Drop-In (Monday to Thursday between 2.30pm – 5.30pm) and spend time with the YYH team.

Upcoming Events! During Term 3 the YYH, Y Bass Coast, and FReeZA team will be delivering two incredible

opportunities for young people, funded by Engage!, HEY! YACVic, and VicGov DFFH respectively, these amazing events will deliver new and exciting events for the Bass Coast youth community, and we are super excited to be representing youth voices to deliver these programs on their behalf. First, we have an amazing Youth Trivia Night coming up, being delivered at Ronnie's Restaurant in Wonthaggi. And then, we have our incredible IGNITE! Youth Arts Fest event being held at Beninnet – be sure to check out our socials for more information!

Our newest contributor to the YES Youth Hub article – Taliah – states "The YES Youth Hub is important to the community because we help young

people have a youth voice, and the community at times isn't always focused and inclusive of young people. Being a part of the YES Youth Hub makes me proud that I can contribute to Bass Coast in a positive way, and it helps me feel like young people matter." Bailey – Chairperson of the Youth Advisory Council – shares that "the Youth Advisory Council is excited to engage with local member, Jordan Crugnale, at our upcoming meeting on issues pertaining to local youth and are excited for the opportunity to represent youth voice."

As well as hosting our amazing Drop-In, the YYH also hosts a youth community laundry, youth pantry, music rehearsal

space, Monday Meals, shower facilities, phone charging facilities, and much more to support young people in the Bass Coast community. The YYH extends our heartfelt thanks to the beautiful humans at Country Women's Association – Wonthaggi Owl Women – for their generous donations to the YES Youth Hub community pantry, and their ongoing support of the YES Youth Hub. We're excited for the opportunity to continue to represent the voices of young people in our community.

76 Watt Street, Wonthaggi PH: 0477 224 430 @YESYouthHub

BASS COAST ADULT LEARNING

WITH ambulance wait times being an issue of concern at the moment, it's never been more important to know First Aid and especially CPR. The primary role of the first aider is to provide support and assistance until medical help arrives. This has always been of particular importance in a regional area like Bass Coast and particularly in between major towns with ambulance stations.

BCAL is one of this area's most respected providers of First Aid training. The trainers have a wide range of knowledge and experience, plus they make the topic really interesting. Participants regularly comment on how much fun they've had in the course. It's not about entertainment though – when you have a good experience, you retain

more of what you've learnt.

In the last two months, BCAL has put on additional First Aid courses for Bass Coast Children's Centre, MyPhysio Clinic, and Offshore Surf School.

The next CPR Update and Level 2 Update will be this Friday, September 6. You never know when you might need it.

For more information on all BCAL's courses and services, please visit bcal.vic.edu.au or call 5672 3115 to learn more.

■ WONTHAGGI COMMUNITY GARDEN

Grapes, tomatoes, sunflowers, a good spot for pumpkins and building new raised beds for spring planting were just some of the topics up for discussion at the garden last week. Regular helpers usually

spend a little time each Thursday morning planning ahead, prioritising tasks and adding to their planting wish lists. Then the real work gets underway.

It was weeding, then planting up Marisa's grape vine cuttings, as well as picking and sharing produce.

September is a busy month at the garden, and a good time to visit and get involved. For more info contact tgordon@westnet.com.au, BCAL on 56723115, or drop into the garden on Thursdays between 10am and noon.

■ WONTHAGGI WOODCRAFTERS

The Woodies' membership has hit triple digits and now stands at 102. We can only assume someone read a recent column and took up the offer

to be number 100.

That's over 100 people who will have received the monthly Woodies newsletter which features some fabulous show-and-tell work. This month's edition features a combined table and magazine rack made from a single piece of bent plywood, some kumiko pieces in both traditional and modern designs, some beautiful natural edges turning and... a beer bottle! The humorous turned piece comes complete with a hand-crafted label and is described as "the beer you have when you're not having a beer."

239 White Rd, Wonthaggi PH: (03) 5672 3115 www.bcal.vic.edu.au

WONTHAGGI NEIGHBOURHOOD CENTRE

AFTER a month's hiatus the electrical fixers are back on the job at the Fixit Café this month. Graeme is on the clock mending job too and will attend from 11am onwards. Grandfather clocks are out though due to the 'must be able to carry your item' restriction (however, they may be an interesting clock to fix). The Wonthaggi Men's Shed do such a lot and are kept busy mending people's beloved and useful items. A second life with purpose at the café means no addition to landfill 'out there.' Mending is free but donations are gratefully accepted. You can book through us by phone or in person before the day. The sessions are 30 minutes, one item per person which you must be able to carry. The Café is at the

Harvest Centre, access through the Big W carpark beyond the Goods Shed. There are also hot beverages, cake and conversation available as you wait. It's all very cheery really.

Every second Friday of the month, from 1pm to 2.30pm the Bass Coast Parkinson's Support Group meet for those and their families dealing with this disabling condition. Parkinson's is a neurological disorder with a complex range of symptoms unique to each individual. Living with Parkinson's can be extremely isolating and challenging for both individuals and their families. While the Parkinson's journey is a deeply personal experience, it doesn't have to be undertaken alone. To enrol contact Fight Parkinson's

Vic. on 1800 644 189. They meet next week on Friday, September 13.

It is not always easy to make positive moves in our lives. Sometimes we need help. The AA Support groups meet on Wednesdays 7pm to 8pm and Saturdays 11am to 12.30pm. A good fellowship of men and women who share their experience, strength and hope with each other to help solve their common problem and help others achieve sobriety. Call Sean on 0425 707 480 for Wednesdays and Steve on 0431 700 085 for Saturdays.

Al-Anon helps family and friends of alcoholics to recover from the effects of living with a person whose drinking is a problem. Now they meet on

Fridays 10.30am to 12noon. Call Karen on 0409 354 038

A Narcotics Anonymous group is also available. Help could come in sharing experiences with narcotic addiction within a supportive group. They meet on Mondays 7pm to 8pm. Call Peter on 0456 000 844 for more information.

Please book in for your activities. Call Mitchell House or visit us on Facebook: Wonthaggi Neighbourhood Centre at Mitchell House. Or go to our website: wonthaggineighbourhoodcentre.com.

6 Murray St, Wonthaggi PH: (03) 5672 3731 www.wonthaggineighbourhoodcentre.com

26 | TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2024 | SOUTH GIPPSLAND SENTINEL-TIMES



A group of ambassadors for the Youth Live4Life gathered at the Korumburra Community Hub in August to plan their years activities. Photo: Lisa Burge Photography.

South Gippsland Youth Live4Life ambassadors decide on theme

TWENTY-NINE ambassadors for the Youth Live4Life South Gippsland Crew had the opportunity to get together at the Korumburra Community Hub recently.

This was the first time the crew, who represent all of South Gippsland's secondary schools, had the opportunity to meet all together.

The purpose of the meeting was for the mental health ambassadors to decide on their theme for 2024 – which is 'Check In - Reach Out.'

"So that's all about checking in with each other and then figuring out ways to reach out for those people who might be struggling a little bit, and what you can do to help support

that," explained Sophie Dixon, Manager Community, Customer and Visitor for South Gippsland Shire Council.

The students made a plan for the year, which involves running activities in their own school that promotes positive mental health messaging and run alongside Teen Mental Health First Aid training.

"Which is first aid mental health training specifically for young people, for teenagers, which is a little different from other mental health first aid. It's not about adults taking care of young people. It's about young people taking care of each other, which is a really good first step on a good mental health journey," explained Sophie.

The ambassadors also organise and run a celebration at the end of the year where all schools come together to celebrate their achievements, not just the crew.

The South Gippsland Shire Council in partnership with the Bass Coast Shire Council implement the Live4Life model which offers tools and program assistance around youth and teen mental health. Part of this program involves training local community members in Youth Mental Health First Aid to provide the course. If anyone is interested in taking part in the course, contact the SGSC.

The Youth Live4Life partnership includes the South

Gippsland and Bass Coast Shire Councils, Australian Government Department of Education, Bass Coast Health, Wellways, Mirboo North & District Community Foundation, Bass Coast College Wonthaggi, Mirboo North Secondary College, YMCA Victoria, Korumburra Secondary College, Leongatha Secondary College, South Gippsland Bass Coast Local Learning & Employment Network, Foster Secondary College, Latrobe Regional Health, Victoria Police, Bass Coast Shire Council, Gippsland PHN, headspace Wonthaggi, Australian Red Cross and Mary MacKillop Catholic Regional College, Leongatha.



Secondary students will have access to a dedicated space for study at Korumburra Community Hub these school holidays.

Dedicated study space at Korumburra Community Hub

WITH the September school holidays leading into the important final term of school for VCE students, the Korumburra Community Hub is helping out by providing a dedicated study space.

VCE exams take place in October and November and the upcoming school holidays provide the last solid chance for final-year students to undertake some serious exam and assignment preparation.

Having a dedicated space where students can undertake their reading, writing, note-taking, and reviewing is essential to helping them gain success with their results.

A good study environment can also play a large part in ensuring students are working effectively which not only aids study efficiency but optimises it.

To this end, Milpara House is teaming up with the Korumburra Library to provide a free dedicated and quiet study space for any secondary student who may need it these school holidays.

A large meeting room within the hub will be set up with tables, chairs, access to free Wi-Fi, power points, whiteboards and a relaxation space with beanbags.

It will offer a warm friendly space where students can get some study done without the distractions of home.

Secondary students are encouraged to bring in their books, laptops and study mates to do some focused work before the final term of the school year kicks off.

The room will be available to students from Monday, September 23 to Friday, October 4 from 9.30am to 4.45pm daily.

Forty-year badges, CPR updates and Christmas Shoeboxes

THE next meeting of the Tarwin Lower Red Cross will be Tuesday, September 3 at 1.30pm in the Tarwin Lower Health Centre, School Road.

The members were pleased to have two members of Wonthaggi Ambulance come and give us an update on C.P.R. The techniques used in resuscitation are constantly being upgraded; and it was good to have practice on the dummy models as a reminder on what to do.

During the year two members have been presented with their 40-year badge awards for service in Red Cross – Margaret Fisher and Pam Mercer.

Currently Red Cross members are collecting items for inclusion in the Christmas Shoebox gift program. Items of great value are pens, pencils, paper, small toys, T-shirts (without logos), toothbrushes, etc. as presents for overseas aid to children.

During the year members also collect for local assistance program – Share the Dignity, which provides basic necessities for women and girls in need. – Soap, combs, pens, paper, toothbrushes, toothpaste, period products, etc. The packages are forwarded to the Salvation Army in Leongatha for distribution.

Taj's big chop helps change the lives of others

INVERLOCH'S Taj Burdekin courageously chopped his hair to help change lives recently.

After growing his hair for two years, Taj donated his locks to Hair with Heart through children's charity Variety.

Hair with Heart creates wigs for children who have lost their hair due to medical conditions.

"It's something we have spoken about for a while. We do a fundraiser every year for the Olivia Newton John Cancer Research Centre, and we thought this would link up

nicely with that," Taj's mum Megan said.

"We've been talking about it for some time because he did love his long hair. We explained to him what it was for and that they'll make wigs for kids who couldn't grow hair, and he wanted to help other kids."

Taj cut his hair on Wednesday, August 21, and has since reached his target of \$500.

"A lot of Taj's friends have come on board to support him. We were reading some of the messages they'd sent, and everyone is proud of what he's doing," Megan said.

"We've been really blown away with the support and to raise \$500 is amazing – everyone is really getting around Taj. It's very special and I know Taj will remember it."

The Burdekin family has raised money for the Olivia Newton John Cancer Research Centre every year, and it has become a foundation close to their hearts.

At the time of writing this article, the link to Taj's donation page is still active and has reached a total of \$525.

To donate, be sure to visit hairwithheart.variety.org.au/fundraisers/tajburdekin



Inverloch's Taj Burdekin recently cut his hair in support of Hair with Heart. He is pictured with proud mum Megan.

Foundation students celebrate their achievements

WONTHAGGI Primary School's prep students have had a very eventful and busy start to term three.

They had a fabulous day celebrating 100 days of learning. They also enjoyed a 'Responsible Pet Ownership' incursion.

The students were closely following the Olympics, keeping up with the medal tally and including it in their writing pieces.

Staff have loved listening to their amazing reading.

In maths, the students are learning about addition, and have begun learning about subtraction.



RIGHT: The prep students recently reached their 100 day milestone at Wonthaggi Primary School.



Ride into the Wild West

GUNSLINGERS, bandidos, outlaws and the Wild West. The Most Dangerous Band in Town are riding out to Meeniyan this Spring to perform some of the greatest film music ever composed. Showcasing two sets of iconic Spaghetti Western soundtracks that have been reimagined, rearranged and carefully re-orchestrated for the 10-piece line-up, 'The Counterfeit' delivers a romantic backdrop for the perfect cinematic showdown.

Interpreting themes and title tracks from films such as 'The Good, The Bad & The Ugly', 'A Fistful of Dollars', 'Once Upon a Time in the West' and 'Django', plus an extensive tracklist of new material for those who have seen the posse play before, this is one show not to be missed.

Featuring the vocals of Ballarat's most wanted woman 'Freya Josephine Hollick', The Counterfeit are running hotter than a 10c pistol after a string of sold out shows off the back of their second LP release '14 Killer Bullets from the Spaghetti West - Vol.2'.

Don't get left in the dust folks, wrangle your posse, saddle up, throw on the wide brim and ride out for a gunslinging night in the Spaghetti West.

Meeniyan Town Hall, Saturday, September 7. Doors 7pm, Show 8pm.

For more information and to purchase tickets visit bit.ly/4dENTSA



Mark Caligiuri brings the legends to life at The Wonthaggi Union Community Arts Centre on September 14 with 'The Elvis & Buddy Show.' Experience the energy, charisma, and timeless hits of Elvis Presley and Buddy Holly, backed by The Sensational Memphis Beat Show Band. Don't miss this unforgettable tribute.

Get ready to rock with The Elvis & Buddy Tribute Show

THE Wonthaggi Union Community Arts Centre will host a special event on September 14 as Rock and Roll Sensation - The Elvis & Buddy Show brings a tribute to two of rock 'n' roll's most iconic figures. The performance will feature Mark Caligiuri, who will portray both Elvis Presley and Buddy Holly, accompanied by The Sensational Memphis Beat Show Band.

The show will highlight the music and charisma of Presley and Holly, with Caligiuri performing classic hits such as "Jailhouse Rock," "Hound Dog," "Peggy Sue," and "That'll Be the Day." His dual portrayal aims to offer audiences a dynamic experience of these rock legends' greatest songs.

Feedback for the show has been very positive, ranging from "Had the best night, great show, thank you!!!" to "Wow, so much energy, loved every moment, the engagement with the audience was amazing, you really made me feel part of the show, please come back!!!"

"Put it this way," Mark reflected, "nothing brings me greater joy to watch my audience members light up and express so much fun and joy and happiness and then after the show they show their gratitude, how we made their night, how we gave them an unforgettable night that they will cherish,

always! Helping others is the best feeling in the world, it places me on top of the mountain!!!!"

The event will begin with doors opening at 7pm and the performance starting at 7.30pm. Tickets are available for purchase at the venue, online at linktr.ee/elvisfromtheheart or by calling 5671 2470. For further information about the show, visit facebook.com/markcelvisfromtheheart.

Wonthaggi Union Community Arts Centre
Sat 14 Sept | 7:30pm

ELVIS BUDDY
 Rock & Roll Sensation

96 Graham St, Wonthaggi 3995
 (03) 5671 2211
basscoastculturalvenues.com

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RUDDIGORE
 OR
THE WITCH'S CURSE

14TH SEPTEMBER
CORINELLA PUBLIC HALL
 6:30PM-10PM

Tickets
 \$40 including a light supper
www.trybooking.com/CUQCY

Taking the Back Roads to Wonthaggi

POPULAR ABC television series 'Back Roads' will feature some familiar faces next week when the program visits the 'wild, untamed' Bass Coast region.

In her quest to uncover the coastline's secrets, presenter Heather Ewart claims to have discovered why locals aren't afraid to do things a bit differently and break new ground.

Heather is driven into town by Bass Coast resident Jon Von Goes, a civil celebrant and radio host on Triple R for over thirty years.

Once a self-confessed 'pretentious creative type' living in the inner suburbs of Melbourne Jon was faced with either living in a small apartment in the city when his living circumstances changed five years ago, or a beautiful place in the country.

Jon opted for a home close to the vibrant music scene at Archies Creek and hasn't looked back.

Mel Lowery and Dinosaur Dreaming take Back Roads to Inverloch to discover many of



Heather Ewart underground at the State Coal Mine. Photo: Joffa Hardy

the coastline's ancient secrets.

"Discoveries that are changing what the world knows about dinosaurs."

Veteran Wonthaggi ballet teacher and arts luminary Wendy Crellin is the star of the episode according to Producer Joffa Hardy.

Following the death of her husband Surgeon John Crellin, eighty-two-year-old Wendy

decided to start up a ballet

school run from the old Mine Rescue building in Wonthaggi.

This is no ordinary ballet class as Heather Ewart discovers.

"Everyone is sixty years or older," says Wendy Crellin.

Just four people turned up to Wendy's first class but since then it's gone from strength to strength and the ballet school



Heather Ewart joins Wendy Crellin for a ballet class in Wonthaggi. Photo: Campbell Miller

now has forty pupils.

"Many of the students have wanted to dance ever since they were little," says Wendy.

Now Wendy Crellin has finally given her veteran students the opportunity to pursue their childhood dream.

Backroads Bass Coast can be seen at 8pm Tuesday, September 10 on ABC iview and ABC TV.

Ignite the senses and imagination

THE Bass Coast Shire Council is thrilled to present the "Floor is Lava" exhibition by acclaimed artist Emma Jackson at Berninnet. This vibrant and imaginative showcase will officially open with a celebration on Saturday, September 7, with local residents and visitors invited to explore Jackson's captivating works.

Floor is Lava is an exhibition of ten knotted rugs representing Australian islands with a unique volcanic story due to their proximity to existing and prehistoric magmatic arcs.

Dr Emma Jackson says "the intent of this exhibition is to provide temporary relief from 2024, by immersing the visitor in deep geological time. The ten volcanic islands on display offer a colorful and sumptuous retelling of geological history. They have an important job to do; to increase awareness of earth science and in so doing make caring about our continent contagious.

"This is the first time the island rugs have been on tour, so to have one of them (the Phillip Island rug) showing on home ground is very exciting! And there is a home-ground advantage, in that the geological story can start with the exhibition and continue with a wander around the island."

Community are invited to the Exhibition Opening Celebration on Saturday, September 7, 3pm-5pm at Berninnet.

The Floor is Lava exhibition is free and runs from September 7 - October 20, 2024

Berninnet Art Gallery, 91-97 Thompson Avenue, Cowes. Monday-Friday 9.30am-5pm. Weekends 10am-4pm. For more information visit: bit.ly/4cMYz08

There is nothing better than four cellos in a room

THAT is exactly what you will experience at Prom Recitals' September 2024 concert CelloZ.

The talented cello quartet is coming to Foster War Memorial Hall this Sunday, September 8, with a diverse concert program that spans Bach's Sarabande, from Cello Suite No.6, to Queens Bohemian Rhapsody.

CelloZ members have performed at some of the most prestigious Australian and international venues, including, Sydney Opera House, Chicago Symphony Center and Kerner Hall. They have played a wide variety of events and venues, ranging from smaller quartets and chamber performances across Victoria to the Melbourne and Sydney Symphony Orchestras.

The quartette consists of Richard Narroway, head lecturer in cello at the Melbourne Conservatorium, Josephine Vains, a versatile and engaging performer heard regularly in concerts around



Cello quartet CelloZ will be performing in Foster this Sunday.

Australia and overseas. Kalina Krusteva, an internationally renowned Bulgarian cellist, and Rohan de Korte, who originally studied at the Cologne Hochschule of Music, now resides and performs in Melbourne

The concert is hosted by Prom Recitals, a group of South Gippsland locals who share a love of classical music and this beautiful place we live. The group brings live chamber music performances out of city concert halls and

into our iconic community spaces. Community members are invited to join the Prom Recitals 'Friends' program to support four annual performances, as well as the South Gippsland Secondary Schools music program. For further information head to promrecitals.org.au

The cello was voted Australia's favourite instrument in the 2023 ABC Classic 100. CelloZ will be performing on Sunday, September 8. Doors at the Foster War Memorial Arts Centre open at 2pm and the concert starts at 2.30pm. Adult tickets are \$60; children \$20.

Beautiful music is even more captivating when played on a cello, and this program is a performance not to be missed, with a mix of classics, jazz and rock anthems. Further details on the CelloZ concert and the Prom Recitals Friends program can be found at promrecitals.org.au, or head to trybooking.com/CTZCX to secure your seat.



Golden Syrup Dumplings

By Meg Viney

AND finally, not really a pudding, but dumplings are in the same vein, and this dish can be rustled up in a flash.

Dumplings

- 1 cup S.R. flour
- 40 gm butter
- 1 egg,
- 1 tablespoon milk

Syrup

- 1 cup sugar
- 40 gm butter
- 2 tablesp golden syrup
- 60 ml lemon juice (optional)

Method

In a food processor, beat the flour and butter then beat in the egg and milk.

Put the syrup ingredients in a pot with 2 cups water and bring to a simmer. Once the sugar is dissolved, drop in dessert spoonfuls of the dough.

Cover and simmer for 20 minutes. The dumplings will be light and fluffy and the sauce thick. Cream is imperative!

Garage Sale:

I am having a garage sale on Sunday, September 3, from 9.30, at 2 Wooreen-Mirboo Road, Wooreen. Enquiries vineymeg10@gmail.com

Send us your photos

If you're having a 21st, club function, wedding, or other social event, take some photos, name the people in the snaps and email to news@sgst.com.au

Sentinel-Times

It won't cost a cent to see them in print!



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 ★ LUCKY NUMBER JACKPOT



Jan Curtis and Leanne Stewart were enjoying all of the lovely flowers at the show last week and they didn't know where to look next. ob06_3624



David and Maryanne Jackson from Korumburra worked all morning helping to set up the show and Maryanne even won a few prizes for her floral entries. ob07_3624



Kate is new to town and Christine has been involved with the show for about twenty years and decided to bring Kate along to see how wonderful the floral displays are. ob08_3624



Alison Dunn and Barbara Smith came all the way from Morwell to see the flower displays and were enjoying the lovely scents in the air. ob09_3624



Bobbi Hawking and Belinda Butcher cheered on Inverloch-Kongwak in the junior football grand final.



Kathy Zachrapoulos and Pippa Le Serve wore the Leongatha colours at the junior football grand final on Sunday.



Hannah Cole and Aidan Curtin were supporting Dalyston's Isla Curtin in the U14 girls footy grand final.



Matilda Williams and Ada Houston showed their support for Leongatha at the junior football grand final.



Dalyston's Shyla Munro, Isla Curtin, Molly Munday and Robi Oxley celebrated after winning the U14 girls' footy grand final.



Pictures of you and your friends at Leongatha Daffodil and Floral Show, junior football grand finals at Dalyston and Bass Coast 2024 Business Awards.



Bass Coast Support Work Services, People's Choice Award finalists.



Geraldine and Brian from Wonthaggi, first time visitors at the Daffodil and Floral Show, were overwhelmed with the beauty and bought a few plants to take home. ob10_3624



Dawn and Ken Green worked together with all the other volunteers to set up and make sure the Daffodil and Floral Show was a great success. ob11_3624



Jan Hewitt entered a few daffodils this year as a novice and won a few first prizes. ob17_3624



Andrew and Kelly Male from ESI Solutions Pty Ltd, Winner People's Choice Trade Award.



Emma and Hazel Sorensen, and Trina Anderson were excited to watch Inverloch-Kongwak play in the junior football grand final.



Rose Lodge Opportunity Shop Treasurer Lyn Martel and President Dianne Willshire.



Cape Woolamai resident Chris Franck from Sustainability Victoria.

Sentinel-Times

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CROSSWORD

No. 60 - by 'Johnno2' of Cape Paterson

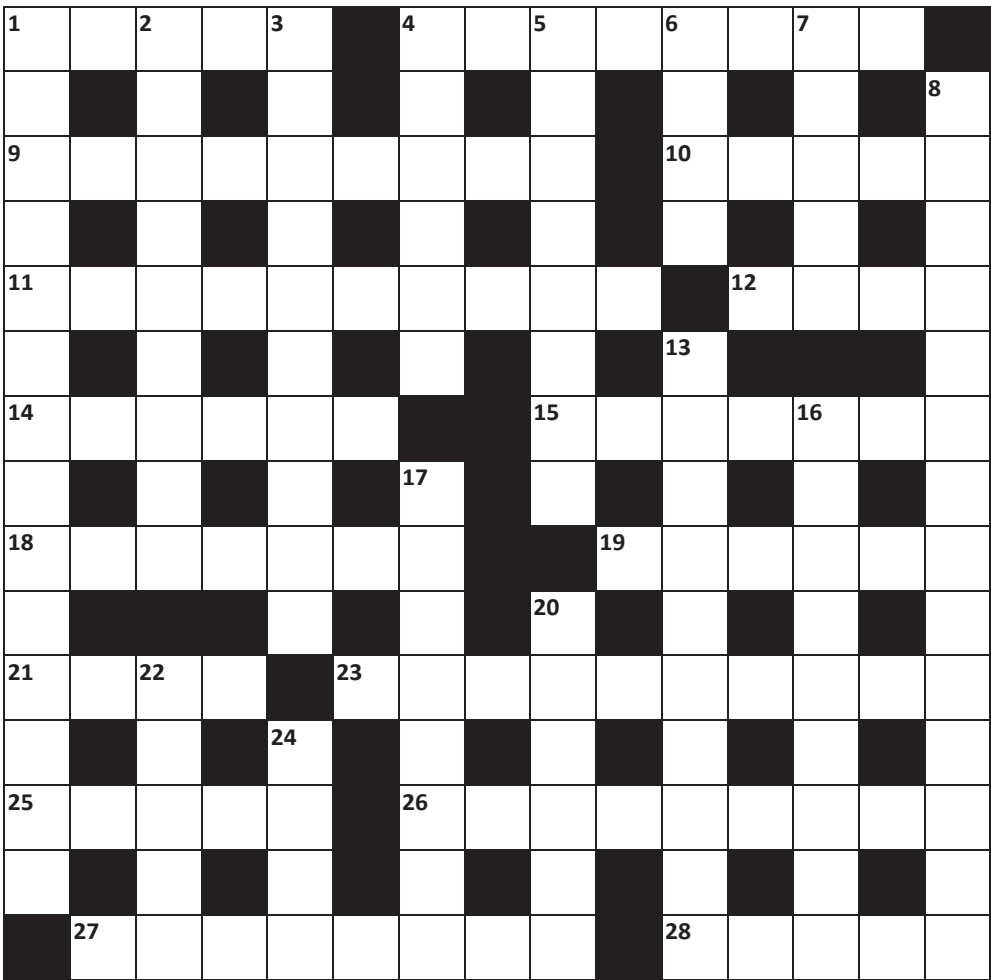
CRYPTIC CLUES

ACROSS

- 1 A line-dancing newcomer (5)
- 4 Projection by Spooner is focus-set (8)
- 9 Monument to speed: 'Locomotive Wings' (5,4)
- 10 Jelly-like, before turning oddly crisp (5)
- 11 Light sticks with light's speed and time, consuming lab (10)
- 12 Light, molten rock, originally lignite by one current measure (4,4)
- 14 It can be taken in as believable, when discredited (6)
- 15 Catch a bit of a cold - a whelming one (7)
- 18 He's no longer bound to fear men punishing? (7)
- 19 Bank on hairstyle being a very odd one (6)
- 21 Too real, solid, embodied (4)
- 23 Treat feast poorly for the sensation it leaves? (10)
- 25 Decoration for head and eyes, of ductile tin and agate, azurite and glass (5)
- 26 A rough tap: bad sign! (9)
- 27 Good man, winning nonchalantly but also irresponsibly (8)
- 28 Tradesman, finishing, surfaces - until error creeps in (5)

DOWN

- 1 Belief in, for example, the silent focuses of ordained brethren? (7,2,5)
- 2 I have followed tennis dust-up in-depth (9)
- 3 Redmond revealed and turned over cloud alias (3,2,5)
- 4 A nice 23-across in full length of the mouth? (6)



- 5 Horsey family member, following fair-tail grey out to pasture (8)
- 6 Pratie-prate? (4)
- 7 Brown sheep, periodically in the midst of trials (5)
- 8 Gather with difficulty; with difficulty gathered (6,8)
- 13 That grew it alarmingly, not having any leaks (10)
- 16 Thwart is in timber, completely (9)
- 17 Daring UN with a full-frontal invasion (8)
- 20 Southgate guard (6)
- 22 Beginning of contracted graffiti? (5)
- 24 See 12-across

STRAIGHT CLUES

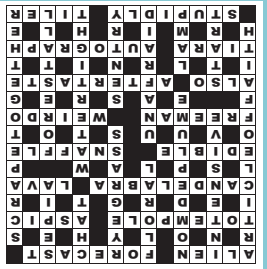
ACROSS

- 1 Newcomer, foreigner (5)
- 4 Projection, outlook (8)
- 9 Monument, generally carved (5,4)
- 10 Savoury jelly (5)
- 11 Grouped candlesticks (10)
- 12 Light (a 60s/70s icon) (4,4)
- 14 Able to be taken in, consumed (6)
- 15 Catch, claim - luckily perhaps (7)
- 18 Person no longer bound as a slave (7)
- 19 Odd person (6)
- 21 Too (4)
- 23 Post-eating mouth sensation (10)
- 25 Jewellery decoration for the head (5)
- 26 Sign, signature (9)
- 27 Shortsightedly, ill-advisedly (8)
- 28 Surface-finishing tradesman (5)

DOWN

- 1 Belief, tenet (7,2,5)
- 2 In-depth, concentrated (9)
- 3 Alias of author (3,2,5)
- 4 A nice 23-across, of flowers (6)
- 5 Pasture type (8)
- 6 A 'pratie'; also, prate, yack (4)
- 7 A shade of brown (5)
- 8 Gather with difficulty (6,8)
- 13 Not having any leaks (10)
- 16 Thwart, prevent (9)
- 17 Daring, without fear (8)
- 20 Guard on duty (6)
- 22 Beginning, commence (5)
- 24 See 12-across

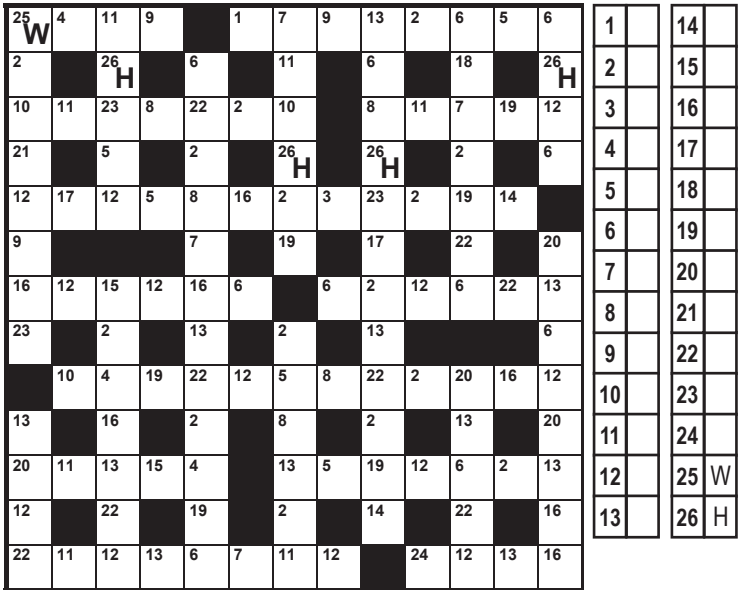
SOLUTION



CODEWORD

No. 203

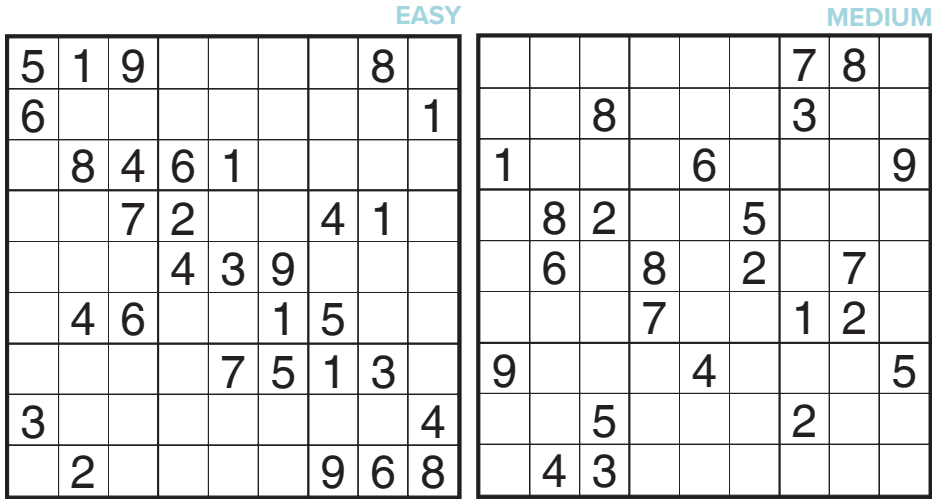
Each number corresponds to a letter of the alphabet. Two have been filled in for you, can you work out the rest?



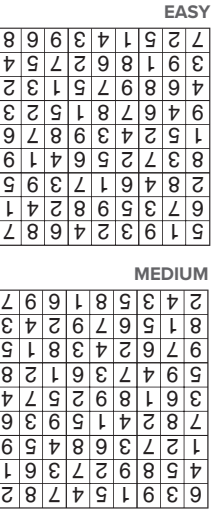
SUDOKU

No. 243

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every number from 1 to 9 must appear in: each of the nine vertical columns, each of the nine horizontal rows and each of the nine 3 x 3 boxes. Remember, no number can occur more than once in any row, column or box.



SOLUTIONS



QUICK QUIZ

1. Dar es Salaam is the largest city in which country?
2. Which female artist released the album *We Are Born* in 2010?
3. Australia's Great Dividing Range runs through which states?
4. What is the name of Sonic's sidekick in the platform game *Sonic the Hedgehog 2*?
5. Which US soap opera centres around the fictional fashion house Forrester Creations?
6. Who is the main character in the children's book *Where the Wild Things Are*?
7. In the film *Now and Then*, Rosie O'Donnell (pictured) played Roberta Martin as an adult; who played the young Roberta?
8. Who wrote *Invisible Man*, published in 1952?
9. What was invented by Scottish mechanic and inventor Alexander Bain?
10. What is the capital of Massachusetts?



ANSWERS: 1. Tanzania 2. Sia 3. Victoria, New South Wales and Queensland 4. Tails 5. The Bold and the Beautiful 6. Max 7. Christina Ricci 8. Ralph Ellison 9. Electric clock 10. Boston

WORD SEARCH

No. 153

Can you find all the words listed? The leftover letters will spell out a secret message.



- ACCOMPANIMENT
- ARRANGER
- BACH
- BALLET
- CELLO
- CHOIR
- CHORUS
- CONSERVATORY
- COVENT
- CYMBAL
- DECCA
- DORSEY
- FLUTE
- HANDEL
- HARP
- HAYDN
- JAZZ
- OBOE
- OPERA
- OPUS
- PIANIST
- PIANO
- PREMIERE
- QUARTET
- REQUIEM
- SALZBURG
- SCALA
- STRING
- TANGO
- TCHAIKOVSKY
- TENOR
- TROMBONE
- TRUMPETER
- VERDI
- VIOLA
- VIOLIN

SECRET MESSAGE: Strike fire from the heart



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‘Eurong Eurong’ An idyllic rural retreat

DISCOVER ‘Eurong Eurong,’ a rare gem perfect for nature enthusiasts, horse lovers, and farmers alike. This exceptional property combines modern comforts with rural charm, located just 13 minutes from the stunning beaches of Inverloch and under two hours from Melbourne’s CBD.

Key Features:

- **Contemporary Residence:** A five-year-old, double-storey home offering warmth and style. The ground floor features an office, guest bedroom with ensuite and walk in storage, kitchen, dining, and living area with a wood fire, reverse cycle air-conditioning, and a gas heater. The open plan kitchen with island includes an integrated dishwasher, cooktop, electric oven and walk-in pantry.
- **Upstairs Comfort:** Three spacious bedrooms, one with a walk-in robe, plus a living room with reverse cycle air-conditioning and a central family bathroom.
- **Land & Paddocks:** Spanning approximately 106 acres, the property showcases a mix of gently undulating terrain and flat land ideal for summer pastures. With eight main paddocks and eight horse paddocks (four with shelters), it’s perfect for equestrian needs. A well-designed laneway system simplifies stock management. The property is watered by five dams with gravity fed troughs and benefits from a consistent fertiliser history.
- **Facilities:** A full 60m x 20m horse arena, a 24m x 12m lock-up shed with concrete floor, power, horse wash-down area, and a 5m x 24m lean-to extension. Heavy-duty stockyards with crush, loading race, and a concrete base enhance functionality. Two additional storage containers and a custom chicken coop with run. Complemented by an established orchard and vegetable garden set in a native garden.
- **Natural Beauty:** Enjoy native bushland with abundant wildlife, including koalas, and a conserved wetland area.
- **Views & Location:** Take in water views over Andersons Inlet and the twinkling lights of Inverloch and Venus Bay. Revel in spectacular sunrises and sunsets from this serene retreat.

‘Eurong Eurong’ is a perfect blend of modern living and rural practicality. Contact Nutrien Harcourts selling agent Kellie Thomas on 0438 647 449 today to experience this unique property firsthand.

Leongatha

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• Lock up shed. Adjacent reserve playground.
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FOR SALE

WOOREEN
Charming Cottage with Stunning Views
• 2 Bed, 1 Bath Cottage with stunning view.
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• Manicured & curated garden on 668m² block.
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Development Opportunity
• Unique investment opportunity, 81-acres.
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• LU garage & private backyard, undercover area.
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• Excellent shedding for the tradesman.
• Situated on 3.3 acres with stunning gardens.
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FOR SALE

MEENIYAN
Spectacular Family Home
• Modern 4 bedroom, 2 bathroom family home.
• Large 16.5 x 9 metre lock-up shed.
• 4355m² block close to village of Meeniyan.
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32 | TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2024 | SOUTH GIPPSLAND SENTINEL-TIMES



Housing Matters Bass Coast in association with Neighbourhood House continue to advocate for public housing to alleviate the issue of homelessness. Credit: AAP Photos.

Advocating for secure and affordable housing locally

IN A time when interest rates are still high, it's important to look at whether the rental crisis in Melbourne is in Bass Coast or whether the rentals are just unaffordable for 'regional Victoria'?

Jessica Harrison of Housing Matters Bass Coast (HMBC) shared that rental rates are notoriously high compared to other areas in regional Victoria, but the reason is unidentified.

Local property managers have confirmed that the inspection numbers are low considering those in need of housing within the region. Although Jessica said landlords with investment properties may not feel as much of a pinch as tenants on fixed incomes and this raises the question of how we can better support those in need of affordable housing.

The Labor Government this week announced the Short Stay Levy Bill 2024 that was introduced into Parliament. The legislation introduces a 7.5 per cent levy from January 1, 2025, on short stay accommodation bookings, including bookings made through platforms such as Airbnb and Stayz.

Although Jessica stated



Are rentals in Bass Coast not in demand or are they just unaffordable?

the Short Stay Levy Bill could be seen by some as a band-aid solution to the housing crisis. Questioning whether this measure will truly have a significant impact on the affordability of housing for those most in need.

The financial strain on tenants is evident, HMBC assisted a tenant where a landlord increased rent from \$125 to \$300 per week

"This drastic jump can be overwhelming for those already struggling to make ends meet," Jessica said.

This puts even more pressure on tenants who are already facing financial difficulties.

"Putting a levy on short stay rentals won't necessarily make an impact to those

facing homelessness."

Jessica emphasised the importance of public housing, where rent is regulated to be 25 per cent of one's income. This provides a safety net for those who may struggle to keep up with rising rental costs in the private market.

As interest rates rise and rental prices increase, finding sustainable solutions to ensure access to safe and affordable housing is essential.

If you or anyone you know is facing housing insecurity there are support services and providers that can offer assistance, including the Wonthaggi Neighbourhood Centre at Mitchell House located at 6 Murray Street, Wonthaggi.

ON THE LAND



Community College Gippsland's Certificate II in Horticulture students gained hands-on experience in sustainable practices during a workshop led by Caroline Hammond from Latrobe Catchment Landcare Network, in collaboration with the West Gippsland Seedbank recently.

Students embrace learning with Landcare

COMMUNITY College Gippsland's (CCG) Certificate II in Horticulture students recently participated in an enriching and interactive workshop focused on sustainable horticulture practices. The workshop, led by Caroline Hammond, Latrobe Catchment Landcare Network Facilitator and Project Officer, and the West Gippsland Seedbank group, provided students with hands-on experience in seed harvesting and propagation.

The workshop began with an informative session where students learned about the sustainable methods used by the West Gippsland Seedbank team to collect seeds from native areas. These seeds are then supplied to growers for propagation and the eventual production of new tubestock plants. The students were actively involved in identifying various plant types and applying seed removal techniques.

"It was a great interactive experience for the students as part of their studies, and the seed they harvested will be sown by the same students as part of our growing program, which will allow them to see the full production cycle," said CCG Horticultural trainer Tony Bundock.

"It was such a fun project to do, but not only that, it was wonderful to see how the students embraced all aspects of the project. I certainly hope that the Learning with Landcare project can continue to connect the students with this aspect of Horticulture for years to come," said Caroline Hammond, Latrobe Catchment Landcare Network Facilitator and Project Officer.

Following the workshop, students took

part in a tree-planting exercise on the CCG Warragul campus grounds. Under the guidance of Caroline Hammond and the Latrobe Catchment Network, the students planted 244 native plants, deepening their connection to the local environment and their understanding of horticultural practices.

The Certificate II in Horticulture course at CCG comprises students from several local schools, including Warragul Regional College, Drouin Secondary College, Chairo Christian School, Mirboo North Secondary College, Marist-Sion College, Kurnai College, and ECG Secondary College. This diverse group of students brings a broad range of perspectives and experiences to the program, enhancing their learning and collaboration.

CCG Business Development Manager, Den Lim expressed gratitude for the collaboration, stating, "We are very grateful for the donation and support provided by Latrobe Catchment Landcare and Baw Baw Shire's rural tree grant. The planting session allowed our students to work collaboratively. They gained knowledge of horticulture and were able to name native plant species afterwards. It's pleasing to partner with local organizations such as Landcare to provide hands-on experience for our students."

The event not only provided valuable practical learning but also fostered a sense of stewardship for the environment among the students, equipping them with skills essential for a sustainable future in horticulture.

For more information about ECG ecg.vic.edu.au | 5622 6000 | info@ecg.vic.gov.au.

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Dale Atherton 0428 888 300



JA22577

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**Friday, September 13
at 10am**

A/c P & P Stanfield
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JA22567

Local author advocates for wildlife in Bass Coast

AUTHOR of 'From The Horse's Mouth' and 'Spuds, Rabbits and Flour Bags', retired senior psychologist, Joy Rainey of San Remo is raising concerns about the loss of habitat occurring in Bass Coast due to development and is requesting the Bass Coast Shire Council consider partnering with 'Gardens For Wildlife Victoria' to foster the municipality's local plants and animals.

"I love our garden. I planted it for the birds, for nature, in dense copses for shelter and nesting - particularly for blue wrens, pardalotes and other little ones. Well, and of course hakeas and casuarinas for the black cockatoos," Joy explained.

But, the loss of habitat occurring in Bass Coast worries her.

"A large tourist-focused development has destroyed shearwater burrows and vegetation. At another location, tall established gums and associated native under growth have been destroyed. In our great zest to attract more visitors, we are in danger of destroying what many of the tourist come for. Isn't enough, enough?"

"How do cities become concrete jungles? Little by little!"

Joy ardently argues that slowly, Bass Coast farmlands and habitat areas are being swallowed into the tourist and housing abyss.

"Here, hardly a week goes by without someone being concerned about the loss of green space and habitat destruction. I worry about farmland in San Remo being taken up with a sea of housing and the dangers Phillip Island farmers are facing, trying to hold on to their very important green space."

When questioned how do we stop the progressive destruction of wildlife habitats? "By giving priority to the environment over development."



Author of 'From The Horse's Mouth' and 'Spuds, Rabbits and Flour Bags' Joy Rainey. Z01_3524

Joy explained that today, all around the world, wildlife is in peril.

"Many species are already extinct or face the threat of extinction because we have destroyed their habitats," said Joy.

In order to soften the impact of development, Joy is advocating for Bass Coast Shire to embrace the successful 'Gardens for Wildlife Victoria' program.

"Approximately thirty councils have adopted this scheme, which is predominantly operated by volunteers, and supported at State and Municipal level," Joy said.

"This is urban Landcare really. It complements rural Landcare currently operating, which has been widely embraced by farmers."

The program is caring for nature on small residential parcels that interconnect to

create corridors that link with remnant habitats.

"A fundamental aspect is the training and empowerment of volunteer garden guides," Joy said.

These guides visit residents in their gardens and provide them with site specific information and support. "Notable are the present efforts to re-introduce endangered species and rid the island of foxes and feral cats. But is there is a contradiction? For example, the re-introduced endangered barred bandicoot has been sighted in residential areas along Forrest Avenue, Newhaven. This winding road along the vegetated foreshore is not wildlife friendly - making the bandicoot vulnerable to motor vehicles. Strong proactive action needs to take place now."

"Let's all vote at the next election for natural areas and

wildlife," Joy said.

A spokesperson for the Bass Coast Shire Council confirmed that Gardens for Wildlife have contacted their Urban Forestry Officer and have had conversations about a partnership.

"All of our partnerships now need to go through an Expressions of Interest (EOI) process to ensure we are entering into partnerships that are beneficial to the community and aligned with our Council Plans and Strategies."

EOIs for the Environmental Partnerships Program are open until September 15, 2024, with successful expressions invited to submit a formal application later in the year.

Following Council-approval, it is expected all successful Partnership Agreements will be signed and funding distributed in the first half of 2025.

DAIRY SALE

**Monday, September 16 at 11am
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SPRING CALVED COWS**

A/c EJ & J Nicholls, Pound Creek.

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Catalogue, breeding & Production details will be made available.



For further details contact:

Andy Grant: 0419 681 897
Michael Robertson: 0484 041 653

JA22584



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Drawing on data to make decisions in difficult seasons

USING data to identify and cull low production and poor performing cows can help cut farm costs in tight seasons. And, in many cases, removing “passengers” from the herd has a positive effect on the farm business bottom-line with feed spreading further and milk production responding.

DataGene Extension Officer Peter Williams said on-farm data – such as herd test, pregnancy test and genomic results – has helped farmers throughout regions such as Western Victoria and South East South Australia make decisions during this difficult season.

“Genomic results have guided young stock culling decisions, while low BPI (Balanced Performance Index) cows have been removed from herds to save feeding and breeding costs,” he said.

“The decision to cull cows or heifers is independent from the return you will get for them from the market, it’s about the money you save by not having them – they cost you if you keep underperforming animals.”

It costs \$1200-1700 to rear a heifer to its first lactation and Peter said this money could be redirected from a poorer, low BPI animal, into other costs on the farm.

High BPI cows produce more milk and last longer in the herd than their low BPI herd mates.

This comes as DataGene released the latest Australian Breeding Values and bull rankings this week (19 August), highlighting Australia’s highest BPI bulls across all the dairy breeds, informing dairy farmers future breeding decisions.

When it comes to breeding, Peter stressed the importance of continuing artificial insemination and choosing DataGene “Good Bulls” to maintain genetic improvement.

“Don’t cut yourself short with your breeding,” he said.

“From past droughts and low farmgate milk price years we know many people regret deviating from their breeding philosophy by introducing herd bulls to try to save money. In the end, because genetic improvement is cumulative, it



Peter Williams, DataGene Extension Officer, emphasises the importance of using on-farm data to identify and cull underperforming cows, helping farmers cut costs and improve herd efficiency during challenging seasons.

ends up costing the business because it sets it back.”

According to the Dairy Farm Monitor Project in 2022-23 AI and herd testing accounted for two per cent of total farm costs.

“Herd improvement is a relatively small cost that contributes to one of your largest, appreciating asset,” Peter said.

DataGene has tools such as the Good Bulls App to help farmers choose bulls that best suit their business and breeding philosophy, with many filters available to narrow or widen search parameters.

Peter said this app makes bull selection easier and by ensuring farmers can choose Good Bulls and get what they want.

“Taking advantage of industry tools such as the Good Bulls App makes even more sense during tough seasons when you have so many extra things to manage on farm,” he said.

For more information contact: DataGene 1800 841 848 or abv@datagene.com.au or datagene.com.au.

DataGene is an initiative of Dairy Australia and the herd improvement industry.

Australia’s milk production continues recovery

AUSTRALIA’S milk production continues to recover, as global supply is forecast to grow at a modest rate in the coming year, Rabobank says in its newly-released Global Dairy Quarterly.

In the Q3 report, titled Market Narratives are Shifting, the global agribusiness bank says positive – though modest – milk supply growth is expected from the world’s major dairy-exporting regions through the remainder of 2024 and in 2025.

Meanwhile, milk production in Australia in the 2023/24 season – which ended in June – was 3.1 per cent higher on the previous year at 8.4 billion litres (an increase of 249 million litres). However, the bank is expecting Australian production to grow at a lower rate in the 2024/25 season – currently forecast at 1.5 per cent.

RaboResearch senior dairy analyst Michael Harvey says Australian milk supply growth has been widespread, with production expanding in all states and regions, with the exception of western Victoria (where dry conditions have constrained production).

New South Wales had “led the charge”, recording impressive growth of 5.3 per cent in milk production for the 2023/24 season.

“Seasonal conditions remain mixed though across the key dairying regions,” Mr Harvey said. “There have been severe rainfall deficiencies so far in 2024 for western Victoria and South Australia, which are sizeable milk production regions. However seasonal

conditions elsewhere have been mostly favourable.”

Global market balance

The global dairy market remains “balanced, but sensitive to change”, the report says.

And the next year could see significant shifts as production increases and markets adjust.

Milk production from the main global export regions had been elusive over recent years, Mr Harvey said.

“Since the second half of 2021, combined milk production from the Big-7 dairy export regions – the EU, US, New Zealand, Australia, Brazil, Argentina and Uruguay – has only grown in three quarters,” he said.

However, high dairy prices in the first half of 2024, plus lower feed costs, have improved farmer margins, encouraging production.

RaboResearch expects milk supply from the major exporting regions to increase a modest 0.14 per cent in 2024 on the previous year.

“With producers seeing improved margins though, milk supply could make a distinct shift upward in 2025,” Mr Harvey said. “Our initial forecasts for 2025 suggest a 0.65 per cent year-on-year production lift from the Big 7, bringing global milk supply from these regions above the five-year average.”

Australia

There have been no major changes to Australian farmgate milk prices since the new season announcements were made, the

Rabobank report says.

“Across the southern export regions, milk prices for those not under contract have fallen more than 10 per cent compared with the previous season,” Mr Harvey said. “In contrast, milk prices in regions producing drinking milk for the domestic market are mostly unchanged.”

As a result of the easing farmgate milk prices, dairy farmers in affected regions are bracing for a margin squeeze, the report said, with softer cull cow prices and a drop in heifer export volumes adding to the margin pressure for some.

In terms of dairy producers’ costs, Mr Harvey said, there is a mixed outlook.

“Grain prices have drifted lower, which is welcome news for dairy farmers, and the outlook for prices for the current Australian winter crop is mostly favourable for purchasers. But in stark contrast, fodder (hay) prices have jumped, driven by supply concerns,” he said.

Retail price inflation for dairy products in Australian supermarket aisles has also continued to decelerate, Mr Harvey said, with the latest (June) quarterly Consumer Price Index showing yearly inflation for milk and cheese tracking at less than three per cent. This was the lowest rate of dairy product inflation since 2021, Mr Harvey said.

Australian dairy exports finished the 2023/24 season on a high note, the report says, helped by increased milk availability and led by strong growth in cheese, skim milk powder and whey.

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Dane Perczyk - Livestock Manager 0408 176 063	Rob Ould - Livestock Manager 0408 595 183		
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	Alan Bolding 0419 723 255		
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	Imogen Price 0417 225 498		

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Mick Chambers 0418 349 783	Dan Huther 0418 334 801	Chase Watters 0423 272 819			
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SUCCESS THROUGH SERVICE



MARKET REPORT

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CLAAS Harvest Centre **CLAAS**

Lardner Park Calf Market Report

Monday, August 26, 2024

Jersey & Jersey x	\$13 to \$65
Friesian Bulls	\$22 to \$88
Friesian Heifers	\$38 to \$75
Beef Bulls	\$40 to \$180
Beef Heifers	\$30 to \$157
Number of Calves:	610
Number purchased to rear:	225

LARDNER PARK ELDERS AND ALEX SCOTT & STAFF DAIRY SALE

NEXT DAIRY SALE:

**Friday, September 6
at 11am**

**A/c - J & A Zurrer, Mrs N.J Coster &
CR Coster - Longwarry Elenan, Jaz &
Rolynga Holsteins**

25 - Magnificent young Holstein cows & heifers calved since July 26 to freshly calved by A.I Samite, Tactic, MVP, Contender Etc with generations of A.I backing. Current herd avg 28 ltrs, 110 BMCC. A great opportunity for anyone to buy cows of this calibre. Individual breeding & production details available prior to sale.

A/c - H & D Dodd - Starcrest Holsteins

10 - July/August calved A.I bred registered Holstein 1st & 2nd calvers. Dams class to Ex, production to 11,576L, 339P, 400F. Cow families include Swamplands Petalks, Wyoming Marymays, Rockwood Park Felicitys, Tui-Glen Johannas, Shormar Prelude Beauty (IMP)

A/c - D.A & V.E Penfold

10 - July/Aug calved Friesian & Aussie Red cows 2-5yrs. Aussie Reds by ARA Primestad

A/c - Wilara Holdings

9 - A.I Bred Holstein cows 2-5yrs, 6 calved July/August, 3 springing to A.I to calve mid-September

A/c - Heggart & Hornby - Final Stage Dispersal

4 - Springing 2yr old heifers by Wifi, Shila & Aussie Red 252NR11033 in calf to Angus

A/c - Manna Valley - Herd Sold

5 - Holstein & Holstein Jersey cross springing heifers in calf to Angus

ATTENTION FARMERS

Please ensure all entries are booked in with your agent prior to sale

5623 4744

Terry Ahearn
0438 562 816

Neil Darby
0418 595 265

5941 0299

Darryl Adams
0408 385 872

Andrew Mumford
0407 803 360



Gumboots at the ready

TWENTY-FIVE years ago, the Strzelecki Lions Club embarked on a mission to support their community by organising an event that highlighted the local dairy industry - a plan that has since exceeded all expectations. Initially, the goal was simply to raise funds, with the club leveraging their expertise in dairy farming as a foundation.

This week, the South Gippsland Dairy Expo proudly celebrates a quarter-century of showcasing the latest innovations, products, and services available to the local dairy industry.

The Expo will feature 110 stallholders, according to Deanne Kennedy, managing director of Jaydee Events and the event's organiser.

Among the usual features are segments supported by Saputo, Burra Foods, and the South Gippsland Shire, including a session titled "This is Your Life" hosted by dairy farm consultant Matt Harms, the Udder Truth Showbag competition, and the popular Gumboot Gift footrace.

ABC Radio's Victorian Country Hour will also be broadcasting live from the expo tomorrow (Wednesday, September 4).

Udder Truth show bag competition

Farmers over the age of 18 will have the chance to win a share of \$5000 in the Udder Truth Show Bag competition, sponsored by South East Organic Fertiliser. To



Last year's winners of the Ladies' Gumboot Gift will be running a handicap this time round with a prize pool of \$4000 up for grabs. ob42_3723

participate, collect a show bag at the gate (only 200 are available), answer 17 of the 20 questions, and get your card stamped by the corresponding exhibitors. The first card drawn at 2.30pm on Thursday with 17 correct answers and the exhibitor stamps will win \$3000, with second and third places receiving \$1500 and \$500, respectively.

Farmers share their stories

On Wednesday at 11am, Matt Harms from OnFarm Consulting will host a session titled "This is Your Life. Everyone has a story to tell." The session will feature a panel of dairy farmers, including

Colin Gray from Nilma, Ancret Shipton from Bega, and Chloe Brown from western Victoria, who will share their personal stories of resilience and adaptation in the face of challenges.

The Gumboot Gift footrace

The 120-metre Gumboot Gift footrace, a highlight of the Expo, will take place on Thursday at 1pm. The race features both male and female categories with a prize pool of \$4000. New rules this year require participants to wear authentic farm-style gumboots, with no fitted gumboots allowed, and last year's winners will be handicapped.

Airy fairy fun and faces

There is something for everyone at the 2024 Dairy Expo, so bring the young kids along and share an opportunity to bring colour and fun to their faces. Proudly brought to you by Poowong Dairy & Hardware.

The South Gippsland Dairy & Farming Expo will be held on Wednesday and Thursday, September 4 and 5, at the Korumburra Showgrounds from 10am to 3pm each day. Admission is \$15, with free entry for children under 16. For more information, contact Deanne Kennedy at 0419 878 055 or via email at dairyexpo@jaydee.net.au.

Spirit of the Bush photography competition now open

AUSTRALIA'S most trusted rural charity has opened its annual photography competition to the public for its fifth year.

Spirit of the Bush is an Australian-wide photography competition run by Rural Aid.

Rural Aid CEO John Warlters said the competition was a great way to get a glimpse into life on the land.

"Our Spirit of the Bush competition is always very popular, attracting hundreds of entrants from across Australia,"

he said.

"The winning 12 photos are turned into a beautiful wall calendar.

"I encourage amateurs, professionals and everyone in between to submit their photographs to the 2024 competition.

"Spirit of the Bush is a wonderful celebration of the highs and lows of life on the land."

Mr Warlters urged photographers wishing to enter to get in quickly.

"This year we've shortened

the competition window slightly, so if you'd like to take part, make sure you don't dilly-dally," he said.

"It's our fifth year running this iconic competition, and we'd love it to be bigger than ever.

"We've already received some amazing high-quality images from previous entrants, but we'd love to see some new faces on board before the comp closes on October 1."

Winners will be featured in Rural Aid's 2025 wall calendar

and will also receive a \$250 pre-paid VISA card.

The competition closes October 1.

Entrants must submit a high-resolution, landscape image via Instagram or Facebook, with the hashtag #SOTB2024 and tag @ruralaid in the picture, or upload their photo through the Woobox link: ruralaid.org.au/spirit-of-the-bush.

The competition's terms and conditions can be found at: ruralaid.org.au/spirit-of-the-bush.

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EVERYONE HAS A STORY TO TELL

Matt Harms ONFARM CONSULTING
Wednesday 4th September at 11am

With the dairy industry as diverse as it is, and our dairy people being the backbone of the industry, it is no wonder there are so many personal stories out in our dairy community. Our panel members have heart-wrenching and challenging stories to tell, which have shaped them into the resilient people they are today.

Join Colin Gray and Ancret Shipton and listen to what challenges have been thrown at them, and how they have adapted to their new life. Along with Chloe Brown, podcaster and dairy farmer come along and join us to hear about the stories and challenges she holds from the people that confide in her.



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Two open gardens to delight in this September

OPEN Gardens Victoria has been working together with two Bass Coast locals who have cultivated wonderfully unique gardens that will be showcased this September during the open gardens weekend.

Binchy's Garden

Binchy's Garden in Dalyston features a collection of many rare and endangered Grevillea species that the garden owner has collected over 20 years. Most have been hand grafted onto Grevillea robusta to help grow in the Victorian conditions.

The mix of Grevillea and other species creates a microclimate and this also helps with habitat for the local wildlife.

This garden features raised garden beds to help with drainage and visual appeal for the eyes. It has been created so it can be explored and viewed from different angles and designed in a way where it blends in with the surrounds and



Eden Rise is a large garden with many native bushes, grasses and trees with wonderful vistas of Western Port Bay, French Island and Phillip Island.

looks natural.

There's a lovely mix of flowers and colours and it has not only been created for visual appeal, but also most importantly as a habitat and a source of food and water for the local wildlife.

The owner has created this garden to help inspire other people to hopefully get into Australian native plants and create their own native habitat garden at home.

Plants will be available for sale at this opening. Strictly only opening on Saturday 28 and Sunday 29 of September. Please respect the garden owners' privacy and visit only during opening hours. 10am - 4.30pm at 6 to 8 Barrier Avenue, Dalyston.

Eden Rise

Eden Rise is a large garden with many native bushes, grasses and

trees with wonderful vistas of Western Port Bay, French Island and Phillip Island.

There are many different areas to explore in this garden including a large garden full of native bushes around the house, an 80-tree orchard with olive, fruit and nut trees, a small vineyard and a pond full of water plants and small fish.

An interesting sculpture garden adds another dimension to this

garden space. You'll also find two dams, a walled vegetable garden and a chicken coop with a large chicken run.

The children's play area is impressive and includes a shallow wading pool, a sand pit, a rolling hill, a large playing ground to play ball games or fly kites and a giant outdoor chess set.

The garden attracts a variety of wildlife especially beautiful bird life. There will be natives, succulents and orchards in flower at the time of this opening. Some of the proceeds from this opening will be donated to Keys of Life.

Strictly only opening on Saturday 28 and Sunday 29 of September. Please respect the garden owners' privacy and visit only during opening hours from 10am - 4.30pm at 42 Clematis Rd, Woolamai.

Entry for each garden is \$10 Adults/\$6 Students. Tickets via Trybooking.

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THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2024 - Starting at 9am

GROWN STEERS

A/c Mt Ararat (ELDERS)
80 Angus/Poll Hereford X steers, 18-20 mths, By Top Pathfinder Bulls, Ex Stud Poll Hereford cows, beautiful line of quiet steers, GF & ABF

A/c W Leishout (ELDERS)
40 Angus steers, 16-18 mths

A/c S Bridger, Glen Forbes (ELDERS)
36 Angus steers, 20-22 mths, Wattlewood & Yancowinna blood, GF & ABF

A/c Aeulus Nominees, Flinders (ES&B)
36 Angus steers, 18 mths, Pathfinder blood, One Mark

A/c TB Waterfall, Carrum Downs (ES&B)
30 Angus steers, VB, 17-18 mths, Table Top & Banquet blood

A/c Nethercote Trading
30 Angus steers, 14-16 mths, Bowman & Leawood blood

A/c Hidden Springs, Glen Forbes (ALEX SCOTT)
20 Angus steers, 18 mths, Vendor bred

A/c D&J Finley, Alberton (ELDERS)
20 Murray Grey steers, 20-22 mths, GF & ABF

A/c M&M Triantafyllou, Woodside (ELDERS)
20 Angus & BB steers, 16-17 mths, VB, GF & ABF

A/c E&K Triantafyllou, Woodside (ELDERS)
18 Angus & Murray Grey steers, 18 mths, GF & ABF

A/c Pipe Grange Pastoral, Toongabbie (ALEX SCOTT)
18 Murray Grey steers, 16 mths by Kentsie bull

A/c C McEvoy, Droman (ES&B)
12 Angus x steers, 2 yrs

A/c Halvey Family Trust, Neerim North (ELDERS)
8 Angus steers, 24 mths

GROWN HEIFERS

A/c Tynong North (ES&B)
14 Angus heifers, 15 mths, VB, forward condition

A/c M&M Triantafyllou, Woodside (ELDERS)
10 Angus & BB heifers, 16-17 mths, VB, GF & ABF

A/c Two Mile Park, Moe (ALEX SCOTT)
10 Charolais heifers, 16 mths, by Cactus Point bull

ANGUS WEANERS

A/c P Evans, Bass (ALEX SCOTT)
100 Angus steers
80 Angus heifers
9-11 mths, By "Rosedale" Angus bred bulls, 5 in 1 inj.

A/c A&J Gerrand , Longford (ELDERS)
100 Angus steers, 12 mths, Alpine Angus blood

A/c Ingle Park, Balnarring (ES&B)
100 Angus mixed sex weaners, 11-12 mths, Table Top & Barwidgee bloodlines, VB, yard weaned, outstanding quality, all vet treatments

A/c A Abrahams, Kilcunda (ES&B)
40 Angus steers
40 Angus heifers
10-11 mths, VB, yard weaned, by top Banquet bulls from TeMania & Barwidgee blood cows

A/c Harris Farms, Buffalo (ELDERS)
60 Angus steer weaners, 10-11 mths, VB, weaned 8 weeks, NE Accred, GF & ABF

A/c Pastoral Cove, Phillip Island (ALEX SCOTT)
60 Angus mixed sex weaners, 10-12 mths, by Three Oaks stud bulls

A/c Malanda Past P/L, Stradbroke (ELDERS)
50 Angus steers, 12 mths, Leawood blood

A/c Eddington Holdings, Loch (ALEX SCOTT)
50 Angus mixed sex weaners, 10-12 mths, by Lawson, Banquet, Yancowinna bulls drenched, multiminid and 2x5 in 1 vacc

A/c Parker Amber, Krowera (ELDERS)
50 Angus mixed sex weaners, Dunoon & Wattlewood blood

A/c C&L Guy, Nilma (ELDERS)
50 Angus mix weaners, Leawood blood

A/c P & D Malkin, Mount Martha (ES&B)
50 Angus mixed sex weaners, 9-10 mths, Table Top bloodlines, weaned all vet treatments

A/c T Smith, Brandy Creek (ELDERS)
50 Angus mixed sex weaners

A/c Sars Investments, Lysterfield (ES&B)
24 Angus steers
24 Angus heifers
12 mths, VB, yard weaned, pure Lawson blood, quiet

A/c DR & FC Board, Catani (ALEX SCOTT)
44 Angus mixed sex weaners, 12 mths, Pathfinder blood, weaned

A/c Jameagan Pastoral, Drouin South (ES&B)
40 Angus steers, 12-14 mths, Leawood blood

A/c C Taylor, Warragul (ELDERS)
40 Angus mixed sex weaners, Leawood blood

A/c Thorpdale Park, Thorpdale (ELDERS)
40 Angus mixed sex weaners, Leawood blood

A/c Mrs C Jeffreys (ELDERS)
40 BB (Angus/Hereford X) mixed sex weaners, By Bowman Bulls

A/c Ridgeline Agriculture, Drouin South (ELDERS)
30 Angus steer weaners, Cyber Black Onix blood

A/c Allnutt Family Trust, Pearceedale (ELDERS)
33 Angus mixed sex weaners, West Creek & Leawood blood

A/c Pearceedale Vendor (ES&B)
30 Angus & Angus x heifers

A/c M&H Johns, Phillip Island (ELDERS)
30 Angus mixed sex weaners, 3-5 mths, Temania bloodlines, VB, GF & ABF

A/c D&E Fleming (ALEX SCOTT)
25 Angus steers, Kunuma blood

A/c Richards & Rae, Ryanston (ALEX SCOTT)
24 Angus mixed sex weaners by Coffin Creek and Millah Murrah bulls drenched on 23/8

A/c B&A Rayner (ALEX SCOTT)
22 Angus heifers by Battersby bulls

A/c NQ Parke P/L, Lardner (ELDERS)
20 Angus steers weaners, Leawood & Bowman blood

A/c AJ, BR & N Moyle, St Clair (ALEX SCOTT)
20 Angus steers, 9-10 mths by Banquet stud drenched and vaccinated

A/c L & E Visser, Ryanston (ALEX SCOTT)
20 Angus mixed sex weaners

A/c JCM Farms, Glengarry (ELDERS)
20 Angus mixed sex weaners, Leawood blood

A/c S Clarke, Willow Grove (ELDERS)
12 Angus X steers, 12 mths
8 Angus X heifers, 12 mths

A/c M&V Milnes, Ryanston (ALEX SCOTT)
20 Angus mixed sex weaners by stud Bowman bulls, yard weaned

A/c M & B Harding, Hill End (ALEX SCOTT)
18 Angus mixed sex weaners by Hatch bred Angus bull

A/c G McDougall, Neerim North (ELDERS)
18 Angus steer weaners, Murdeduke blood

A/c D & J Osment, Stony Creek (ELDERS)
15 Angus steers, 11 mths, Cooma bred

A/c D & S Fussell, Nima North (ALEX SCOTT)
12 Angus steers, 14 mths by Merlewood bull

COLOURED WEANERS

A/c P Miller, Almurta (ALEX SCOTT)
30 Charolais mixed sex weaners, 12-14 mths by stud Violet Hill bulls drenched and vaccinated

A/c Boxbank Pastoral, Woodside (ELDERS)
24 mixed sex Murray Grey Speckle x weaners 8 mths, VB GF & ABF

A/c R&P Durham (ALEXS SCOTT)
18 Hereford heifers

A/c D&E Fleming (ALEX SCOTT)
10 Limo x steers

A/c DR & FC Board, Catani (ALEX SCOTT)
7 Hereford steers, 12 mths, by Tarwin Poll Hereford bull

a/c A Schafer, Mirboo North (ELDERS)
7 Simmental x steers, 10 mths, VB GF & ABF

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A/c Seaton View Farm, Heyfield (ELDERS)
150 Angus X mix sexes, 12 mths

A/c T&J Allot, Hazel Park (ELDERS)
30 Angus/Friesian steers, 12 mths
40 Angus/Friesian heifers, 12 mths, VB, weaned, bucket reared

A/c H&D Dodd, Jindivick (ELDERS)
70 Speckle X mixed sex weaners

A/c H&R Need, Hazel Park (ELDERS)
14 Friesian steers, 16-18 mths
9 Hereford/Friesian steers, 16 mths
6 Hereford/Friesian heifers, 16 mths VB, bucket reared

A/c C Bills, Warragul (ELDERS)
20 Angus/FF X steer weaners

A/c K Birch, Tanjil South (ELDERS)
20 AA/FF X steers, 18 mths

A/c A Pratt, Poowong (ELDERS)
16 Xbred steers, 15 mths

A/c S Clarke, Willow Grove (ELDERS)
12 Friesian steers, 20 mths

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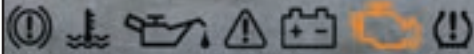
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DEATHS

ALGER, Kelvin George:

29.11.1946 - 28.08.2024.

Died after a long illness.

Father of Dean, Belinda,and Rebecca.

Grandfather to Leah and Erin.

BENTLEY, David John:

Passed away peacefully on August 30, 2024 with Lorraine by his side.

Loving husband of Lorraine.

Loved dad and father-in-law of Tristan and Andrea, Jared and Rachel, Tonia, Clint and Nicole.

Adored Pop/Darby to Samara, Charlotte, Erin, Will, Lachlan, Tom, and Francesca.

Forever in our Hearts.

For Funeral details and livestreaming, go to www.handleyandandersonfunerals.com.au

DEATHS

CLINK, Kevin Francis:

Passed away suddenly but peacefully aged 74 years.

Loving husband of Lorraine (dec.).

Much loved father of Ivan (dec.), Thelma (dec.), and Gavin.

Adored Big Pop of Sarah, Matthew, Eileen (dec.), Joshua, Meg, Georgia, and Hayden.

Great grandchildren Kai, Ava, and Luca.

Loved brother of Bill (dec.), Bob, Geoff (dec.) Merv, and Debbie.

Time cannot steal from us the memories that we hold within our hearts.

Rest in Peace.

For Funeral Details please visit our website at www.handleyfuneralservices.com.au

CLASSIFIED DEADLINE 12 NOON MONDAYS

DEATHS

GRAMOND, Paul Robert:

Passed away peacefully at home on August 30, 2024. Aged 57 years.

Loved husband of Jane.

Loving father of Nathan, Holly, and Mia, step-father to Angus, Emily, Ruby, and Alice.

Forever in our Hearts.

Many thanks to Bass Coast Health and particularly the Palliative Care Team.

As per Paul's wishes a private service will be held.

GRAMOND, Paul Robert:

Loved son of Margaret and Bob.

Brother to Steven, Andrew, and Lexie. Brother-in-law to Kaye and Julie. Uncle to Tyrell, Simone, Erin, Josh, Tarwin, Mac, and Charlee.

Great Uncle to Matilda and Archer.


We are all blessed to have been part of your life and thankyou for bringing Jane into ours.

GRAMOND, Paul:

Paul, you fitted into our big family so quickly and will be very missed. We appreciated your problem solving skills, passion for fishing and caring nature.

-- Ollie, Mike, Craig, Jenny, Meagan, Sead, David, Michelle, Clare, Scott, Andrew, Shell, and your many nieces and nephews.

DEATHS



CRISP, Vincent (Vin): 145694 RAAF.

The president, committee, and members of the Inverloch RSL Sub-Branch mourn the passing of our member Vin.

Per Ardua Ad Astra. LEST WE FORGET.

DENT (Hughes), Jennie:

Loved sister, and sister-in-law of Joan (dec.) and Geoff, Fay (dec.) and Keith (dec.), Owen (dec.) and Mary (dec.), Jeffery (dec.) and Maureen (dec.), Gwen and Charlie (dec.), Allan and Faye, Enid and Trevor, Peter and Margaret, Wendy and Gary, and their families.

Forever in our hearts, never forgotten.

Remembering the good times.

To place a notice on this page please call 5672 1888

DEATHS

JONES, Beryl May:

30.11.1935 - 26.08.2024. Aged 88 years old.

Passed away peacefully.

Much loved wife, and best friend of Les.

Mum of Margie, Bill, Kate, Phil, Tracey, and partners.

Adored nanny of 12 grandchildren and great old nan of 18 and great,great nanny of 3.

Loved and remember always.

The love of my life. Gone but not forgotten. Forever in my heart.

Your loving husband Les.

JONES, Beryl May:

Mum, Today in my reflections It dawned on me that I will never see you again.

I will never be able to look in your beautiful eyes and tell you how much I love you,

I will never be able to pull you up and say "wrap your arms around me and show me how much you love me".

Simply the best.

Love your ever loving daughter Kate.

Thank you for loving my chosen one Col. He loved you like you were his own mum.

Thank you for being the most awesome nanny to our 3 children,

It breaks my heart but I know you are at peace and I promise you I will never forget you my beautiful mum.

Simply the best.

Love your ever loving daughter Kate.

Thank you for loving my chosen one Col. He loved you like you were his own mum.

Thank you for being the most awesome nanny to our 3 children,

Hayley, Jessica, and Mathew and loving them all so much. We shared so many special times and lots of amazing adventures together.

And then there was more, you were a much loved old nanny or funny old nanny of our grandchildren. All of us loved you so very much but what is so special is you loved us back with that big heart of yours.

Love always Colin, Hayley, Jessica, Mathew, Joel, Richard, Rach and

Max, Taliah, Sam, Rory, Jed, Jobe, Kayson and Jack your great grandkids.

JONES, Beryl:

30.11.1935 - 26.08.2024.

Your influence has been profound and I'm proud to be your daughter,

Your blood is my blood, we are forever bound, You're the inspiration to the way I live my life, Shining in my life, you're my eternal sun.

I want to thank you now for what I've become.

Love and miss you so much.

-- Tracey, Joe, Coco and Lulu xx

DEATHS

SCHMIDT, Owen George:

21.08.1943 - 28.08.2024.

Dearly loved husband of Robyn.

Loving and dearly loved father of Geoffrey, Peter, Katherine, and extended family Helen and Scott.

Grandad of Dante, Grace and Angela.

Creator of Lyre Bird Hill Vineyard and Wines.

Always in our hearts with love and gratitude.

Private Service

SUTTON, John Foster:

16.01.1934 - 31.08.2024.

Son of Arthur and Beryl (both dec.).

Greatly loved and loving husband of Jillian.

Adored father/ father-in-law of Luke, Karen, Peter, Satajnuic, David, and Grace.

Cherished Bon Papa of Giuliana, Tom, Majella, and Holly.

Proud Big Nonno of Violet and Daphne.

John passed away peacefully in Inverloch.

A kind, thoughtful and loving man who was stoic to the end.

He will be dearly missed.

ZANELLA, Roberto:

06.04.1928 - 31.08.2024.

Loved husband of Clara.

Cherished father and father-in-law of Bruno and Christine, Lou and Raelene, Anthony and Pat.

Nonno to Benjamin, Renee, Melissa, Adam; Carlia, Mitchell; Daniel and Elyse.

Great Nonno to 9 great grandchildren.

Riposi in pace.

Loved husband of Clara.

Cherished father and father-in-law of Bruno and Christine, Lou and Raelene, Anthony and Pat.

Nonno to Benjamin, Renee, Melissa, Adam; Carlia, Mitchell; Daniel and Elyse.

Great Nonno to 9 great grandchildren.

Riposi in pace.

FUNERALS

ALGER:

The Funeral Service to Celebrate the Life of Mr. Kelvin George Alger will be held at the Korumburra Uniting Church, Bridge Street, Korumburra on Thursday September 5, 2024, commencing 10.30am. This service will be livestreamed, to view please visit www.handleyfunerlaservices.com.au

The funeral will leave at the conclusion of the service for the Korumburra Cemetery.

Handley
FUNERAL SERVICES
Phone: (03) 5662 2717

FUNERALS

JONES:

A Funeral Service to Celebrate the Life of Mrs. Beryl May Jones will be held at the Fish Creek Memorial Hall, 13 Falls Road, Fish Creek on Friday September 6, 2024, commencing 12 midday.

This Service will be livestreamed, to view please visit www.handleyfuneral services.com.au

The Funeral will leave at the conclusion of the Service for the Foster Cemetery.

In Memory of Beryl, please wear a touch of purple.

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SUTTON:

The Funeral Service for Mr. John Sutton will be held at Handley & Anderson Chapel, 3085 Loch-Wonthaggi Road, Wonthaggi on Thursday September 5, 2024, commencing at 11am.

At the conclusion of the service the funeral will leave for the Inverloch Cemetery.

John's service will be live-streamed, go to www.handley andandersonfunerals.com.au

Handley & Anderson Wonthaggi 5672 1074

ZANELLA:

The Funeral Service for Mr. Roberto Zanella will be held at Handley and Anderson Chapel, 3085 Loch-Wonthaggi Road, Wonthaggi on Wednesday September 11, 2024, commencing at 11am.

At the conclusion of the service the funeral will leave for the Wonthaggi Cemetery.

Handley & Anderson Wonthaggi 5672 1074

IN MEMORIAM

McKENZIE-McHARG, William Stanley:

08.07.1858 - 03.09.1924.


William passed away 100 years ago on the 3rd of September 1924 and is interred in the Korumburra Cemetery.

A pioneer selector of a half section of land at Jumbunna East, later known as Moyarra.

Subsequently a resident at Bena and later King street, Korumburra. With spouse Mary Tehan, their children who survived infancy, were Samuel, William, James, Mary, and Anne. William was actively involved in the early development of South Gippsland including the foundation of the Catholic church in Korumburra, the introduction of the railway and many other activities in laying the foundations for future community infrastructure.

Entry for William is in "The Land of the Lyre Bird" being "A Story of Early settlement in the Great Forest of South Gippsland" first published in 1920.

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES



FURMSTON (nee Demo):

Robert and Carol celebrated 50 happy busy years of marriage on 31.08.2024.

Congratulations and love from Jill, John (dec.), Linda and Tony (dec.), and all the "Clan".

BEREAVEMENT THANKS

MCKENZIE, (nee Sommers) Barbara Fay:

Barbara's family wish to thank everyone for their love, support, cards and flowers at this sad time.

Thank you to Handley Funeral Services for their kindness and to Jo Fennell for her caring support.

A very special thank you to all the staff at Woorayl Lodge for the wonderful care and consideration shown to Barbara and her family over the past nine years.

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HMC14139

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HMC14134

PUBLIC NOTICES



Notice is hereby given
by the Committee of
Management that the
AGM
of the Foster Golf Club
will be held on
**Thursday,
September 12**
in the Clubrooms at
7 Reserve St, Foster
at 7pm.
Ph: 56822272
Only Eligible Voting
Members may attend.

VVC0320

MEETINGS

Kernot Hall & Reserve Community Asset Committee

AGM
Will be held at the
KERNOT HALL
1060 Loch-Kernot Rd
Tuesday,
September 10
7.30pm
ALL WELCOME
kernothall@
hotmail.com

VVC0307

Friends Of The State Coal Mine

AGM
is to be held on
**Sunday, Sept. 22,
at 3pm**
in the
Community Hall,
Garden Street,
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HMC14956

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Sentinel-Times



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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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Multiple Positions Vacant



Transformation Project Lead, Water Treatment Plant Operator.

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- Strong focus on career opportunities, professional development and training
- Highly flexible work options, including modified hours and/or work weeks
- Employee Assistance Program and broad wellbeing offers
- Family friendly workplace, including Paid Parental Leave
- Flexibility to work from home, with base location at any of our offices in Wonthaggi, Foster or Leongatha

Diversity is celebrated and respected as important for our wellbeing and success. Through our Equity, Inclusion and Diversity Strategic Plan, Gender Equality Action Plan and upcoming Reconciliation Action Plan we are actively working to address the gender pay gap, create opportunities for underrepresented groups and partner with Traditional Owners.

Transformation Project Lead

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Water Treatment Plant Operator (Eastern Region)

- Permanent Full Time
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Please go to <https://www.sgwater.com.au/careers/> for more details about SGW, the role and how to apply

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Matilda Cotton and Xavier Mortimer proudly displaying their well-earned Vicspell trophies.

Two progress to Vicspell state final

THERE were some tough words and difficult spellings at the South Gippsland zone final of Vicspell, held on Monday, August 12, at San Remo Primary School.

Well done to all competitors for giving each word a ding-dong go.

Thanks to principal Karen Bowker and Shaun Taylor for hosting.

Thanks to those teachers who went to the trouble of registering and encouraging their students in spelling.

Vicspell representative Norm McLennan commented on the necessity of correct spelling and how competing under pressure is a valuable experience.

He admitted he was not a good speller but learnt the value of checking one's spelling.

He added that, in the past, one student admitted that he was not sporty, and that spelling was his one chance to represent his school.

Vicspell convenor Trevor Sowdon recalled being transported by ambulance a month ago, following a traffic accident, to the Alfred Hospital. While waiting for a bed to be made ready, the driver said he looked familiar to her.

Trevor asked which school she went to - she answered Chairo. Trevor said he had not taught at Chairo but had dealings with them via spelling. She responded that she was a good speller.

Trevor pointed out that the best speller to represent that school was Eleesha Berg.

The driver's response was "how do you remember me from 20 years ago?"

Eleesha was the 2005 Year 8 champion and a district winner of the national Ozspell competition.

Keeping up the high standard of past spelling, the competition unfolded with the following results.

Results:

Year 5:

1. Xavier Mortimer (Fish Creek).
2. Louis Sherburn (Newhaven).
3. Charlie Dowel (Nyora).
4. Felix O'Leary, Jye Smith and Elsie Williams.
5. Dystynn Legg and Laila Killeen.
6. Ryan Bacon, Lloyd Calder, Chaise Easton, Mikey Messerer and Wil-low Tyler.
7. Kaden Hewton, Darcy Latham, Pippa Le Serve and Jye Smith.

Year 6:

1. Matilda Cotton (Cowes).
2. Charlie Cervai (San Remo) Sophie Matthews (Meenyan), Ahana Paliwal (Wonthaggi), Gemma van der Broek (San Remo) and Declan Carroll (Newhaven).
3. Oscar Lowthian, Mason Sacaram and Solomon Stechwey.
4. AJ Henham, Noi Phanthong, Levi Sirrakowski, Lorenzo Varela and Kaiden Ward.
5. Siiri Roberts, William Rose and Sebastian Trease.

Xavier Mortimer and Matilda Cotton both progress to the state final in Tr-aralgon today (September 3).

Time for a trip of a lifetime

THE opportunity to see the world awaits. Wonthaggi's Adrian Falvey embraced the chance to pack up and take the trip of a lifetime with his wife Novia, and now he is encouraging others to do the same.

"At the beginning of 2022, we were looking at facing another winter here in Wonthaggi. COVID restrictions had let up, so we decided to do a bit of an adventure," he said.

In a last-minute decision, Adrian and Novia decided to travel the Pan-American Highway. This goes from the top of Alaska to the bottom of Argentina – a total of 25,000 kilometres.

"People do it in various ways. Some of them cycle it and all sorts of crazy things. We decided we'd buy a van in the United States, drive up to Alaska and travel all the way back down," Adrian said.

Adrian's brother works as a meteorologist in Santiago, Chile, which inspired this adventure.

"I'd never been to this part of the world. We'd travelled a lot in Asia and Europe, but had never been through central and South America before, so that was a motivation as well," he said.

"COVID was also a big part of the decision. We'd had two years stuck in Melbourne and Wonthaggi and we needed to get out."

Over the span of a month, Adrian and Novia packed up their house and rented it out. They quit their jobs, sorted out the important details of the trip and headed off to Los Angeles.

"It was the most amazing thing we've ever done together," he said.

"We rented out our house for six months, but halfway through Mexico we decided not to go back and rented it out for another year.

"It's an ideal situation for people looking to take a career break. We funded it by renting the house. We managed to find ways to structure our lives so that we could take an 18-month trip with almost no planning.

"Most people take one or two years to plan these trips, particularly the Pan American. In March we began considerations and by May we were flying off – it all happened very quickly."

Adrian spoke about the wonders of Mexico and Peru, but the true highlight was the local people.

"When you're travelling in a van like this, you rely on the generosity of the people you're with," he said.

"We'd stop for the night and ask if it's a safe place to stay. People will invite you into their homes. It's an experience you don't get when you're on a tour.

"We planned things out day by day. Usually, we wouldn't know where we'd be staying."

The only complication encountered was making sure proof of vaccination was in order to enter countries such as Nicaragua and Colombia with the van.

"It was all in Spanish, which made things a lot harder. There are some dodgy people who want to rip you off along the way, so every border crossing was a whole day's experience. We did have to allocate days for that," Adrian said.

"I think a lot of people get a caravan and drive around Australia. The grey nomad thing is very popular, but it can be daunting to think about doing it in a place like South America that has a bit of a reputation for being dangerous. It's all there, but it is safe."

They overcame the language barrier with lessons while they were away.

"We learnt Spanish in two weeks. I spent a week in Mexico learning Spanish and a week in Guatemala learning one-on-one with a teacher. I knew no Spanish prior to going, but that two weeks was enough to communicate," he said.

In Wonthaggi, Adrian is involved with the local badminton club and his story has garnered plenty of interest from its members.

His message to those with hesitations is that these trips are entirely possible.

"You can't have a good trip if you're worried about tenants wrecking the house at home. If you've left stuff here that needs to be attended to, you really need to make sure you've cleared your plates before flying over. Then you can make up a list as you go. You don't need oodles of planning to do something like this," he said.

Right now, Adrian has been working on a cabin out the back of his house with the idea that if he were to do another adventure like this again, he could rent out two properties to make it happen.



Keith Hagget is happy with his work, which is on display throughout September at Inverloch Hub.

Delight as photography exhibition opens

THE Photography Group of Bass Coast Artists Society (BCAS) opened their second Annual Photography Exhibition at the Inverloch Hub on Sunday.

Not a competition, but rather a display of members' work from over that last 12 months, Through The Lens will be running throughout the month of September, with all works available for sale.

The group regularly venture out on photographic field trips with the invitation open to all to participate and join in the adventures.

"We are inclusive of ability and just aim to share our enjoyment of all types of art with others," says Secretary Glenda Minty.

"BCAS will soon be offering a short course Digital Photography for Beginners. For further information please visit basscoast-artists.org.au."

The relaxed atmosphere of the photography group also applies to the other artistic activities held regularly by BCAS in the Wonthaggi Goods Shed.

For more information, visit basscoastartists.org.au.



Bargain-hunter Mark Hammersley and stallholder Stephen Moran at Father's Day Swap Meet in Nyora.

Father's Day swap meet

JUST what every dad wants for Father's Day more stuff to store in the shed.

The Nyora Father's Day Swap Meet has become a tradition for dad's who like collecting things and this year did not disappoint.

If it was slightly rusted, someone else's junk or a rare part for a Ford, Holden or Valiant then you could probably find it at Nyora.

"Similar swap meets are held all over Victoria," says stallholder Heather White.

With local charities the big winners it is no wonder swap meets are so popular.

"Sometimes it's just car parts but other times it's like a giant car boot sale with trinkets, odds and ends and bric-a-brac," says Heather.

For more information on swap meets go to the Association of Motoring Clubs at aomc.asn.au

CONVERSATION

with Claire



Spring has sprung

By author Claire Chitty

WITH the appearance of Spring, gardeners start to get a little excited, with the promise of warmer weather and the incentive of reaping a bountiful harvest of fresh beans, strawberries and even imperfect carrots. Yes, it can be frustrating when caterpillars, slugs and snails demolish seedlings overnight; small sacrifices for chemical-free produce.

Lockdowns showed people how to re-think, including being more self-sufficient and growing our food. Small communities, neighbours and friends are quietly forming food swaps and more importantly, taking a natural approach, respectful of Mother Earth.

An interest in sharing traditional ways is mushrooming, (excuse the pun) and rather than wasting money on expensive commercial products, the following suggestions can be easily made at home.

Soak banana peel in water: discard the peel once it goes black. It makes an excellent fertiliser for both indoor and outdoor plants.

Rice, pasta and potato water promote healthy roots.

Gelatin is good for leafy growth.

Dying plants may benefit from hydrogen peroxide, while baking soda and salt kill weeds.

Garlic and chilli spray deters white cabbage butterflies.

Magnesium (Epsom salts) provides nutrients to yellowing leaves.

Seaweed, washed up onto jetties, adds minerals for growth, and like horse poo, when diluted in water, provides a nutrient-rich feed, whilst also drowning the seeds in stock feed.

Citrus trees benefit from uric acid (urine).

Boiled egg water (cold) provides calcium, as do crushed eggshells, also serving as a deterrent for snails.

Hit the local barista for coffee grounds as this adds nitrogen and potassium, perfect for acidic-loving plants.

Detergent and vinegar diluted in water works wonders to clean scale and powdery mildew from leaves.

Copper wire attached to stakes vitalises the soil reducing the need for pesticides and increasing crop output.

Add fertiliser to the soil then mulch around plants to ensure nutrients reach the roots.

Collect rain or recycle grey water from showers in buckets.

Companion planting, too many to mention, includes pairing basil with tomatoes, pansies with onions and borage to make strawberries tastier.

Strong smelling flowers, (marigolds, lavender, chrysanthemums, tansy, nasturtiums) and herbs (sage, rosemary peppermint) deter insects.

Plant lavender and bee-attracting plants to attract beneficial insects for pollination.

A healthy garden supports ladybugs, praying mantis, bees, butterflies and frogs all essential to the ecosystem.

Save non-genetically modified seeds to maintain integrity.

In addition, the elements; sun, shade, wind and water requirements need to be considered.

As the population expands and fertile land is bulldozed for development, we seriously need to reassess food production. Collectively, we need to create food forests incorporating no-dig gardens, containers, wicking beds, non-treated wood food-grade crates, rooftop gardens, household plots and fruit trees rather than gums in neighbourhood streets. Get inventive with wooden pallets; lay flat to grow strawberries or upright for herbs. Plenty of ideas are available online or by exchanging ideas and knowledge with others.

The free Garden Gems Workshops held around various Bass Coast locations have been a wealth of information for novice or knowledgeable gardeners.

Ultimately, the reward outweighs the odd caterpillar, possum, bird or other critter, that can be easily rectified with preventative measures. In addition to the sensational taste, you're doing your body a favour on so many levels.

Paddles at the ready for spring carnival

WELCOME to the Wont-haggi Table Tennis Spring Carnival. A game for not only thoroughbreds but also Clydesdales, ponies, pack-horses, Broncos and nags.

After a summery winter where even Murdoch devotees are asking has the equator fallen off its axis, six teams totalling 18 players have polished their paddles and defrosted their swings in readiness for another season of tip top table tennis.

Yellow defeats Blue 7 to 4. Team Blue captain Justin brought his usual aggression and rhythm like a punk rocker conducting a symphony orchestra. However, Team Yellow counter-punched with their own Maestro moves to secure victory. Young teen debutante Bellamy showed glimpses of panache in a gallant first up effort.

Green d Black 7 to 4. Sven, as unflinching as Uluru, anchored Team Green to victory over Team Black. A key match was Michael's comeback win from two sets down against Andy. Michael's unrelenting staying power like a doof doof bass drum eventually overcame Andy's Crash Boom Opera.

Brown d White 6 to 5. The formidable family Donohue combination of Mark and Charley from Team White run into a wall that China would be proud of. The great Wall of Kimmins, not dissimilar to the famous walls of Jerusalem and Trump-land except way less holy, stood tall to fend off the marauding Whites.

Welcome back all and sundry, sunny days ahead.

Phillip Island Tenpin Bowling

2SCOMPANY: 1st place on 15pts Jail, 2nd place on 13pts The Hounds and 3rd place on 12pts Mustang Alley.

ABL:1st place on 87pts Storm, 2nd place on 83pts Dreamers and 3rd place on 74pts Fairlanes.

Business Early: 1st place on 15pts Turkey Slappers, 2nd place on 14pts Old Timers, 3rd place on 12pts The Redundants and 4th place on 12pts Heros Of Steel

Business Late: 1st place on 14pts City Lights, 2nd place on 13pts Holy Splits, 3rd place on 13pts Getting Some and 4th place on 12pts S & R Clarke Auto.

Phantom: 1st place on 88.5pts Hawks, 2nd place on 83pts Tarkas and 3rd place on 79pts Nookie.



Inverloch CFA firefighters Michael Guest and Matt King with Tomfit trainers Tom Taylor, Julia Ward and Max Dyball.

Looks like a job for supermen

INVERLOCH CFA firefighters Michael Guest and Matt King are more than ready for this year's gruelling Firefighter Stair Climb at the Crown Metropol building in Melbourne.

In training with Tomfit Inverloch CFA lieutenants Michael and Matt will race eight hundred other firefighters up and down twenty-eight floors of the Crown Metropol to raise funds for cancer research and crisis support.

Weighted down with twenty-five kilograms of heavy firefighting gear and breathing apparatus the two firefighters are confident they can make it to the top and down again.

"It's the equivalent weight of our standard firefighting gear," said Michael Guest.

The super firefighters need your help to help reach the event fundraising target of three quarters of a million dollars to assist

Lifeline, Peter MacCallum Cancer Foundation and the Triple Zero Foundation which supports emergency services workers and their families.

Climb crew volunteers and medical support teams will support the climbers cheering them on as they embark on one of the toughest stair-climb challenges in the world.

CFA 4th Lieutenant Michael Guest has fifteen years' service with the CFA and 1st Lieutenant Matt King has clocked up twenty years' service joining the CFA when he was just twelve years old.

The Triple Zero Foundation is a new charity dedicated to the welfare of emergency service personnel with a particular focus on mental health and recovery.

For more information on the climb or to donate go to firefighterclimb.org.au.



CFA 1st Lieutenant Matt King was just twelve when he first joined the CFA.

Inverloch lifesavers win big at Awards of Excellence

IVERLOCH Surf Life Saving Club received high accolades at Life Saving Victoria's Awards of Excellence.

The awards are run every year to celebrate the outstanding achievements of volunteer lifesavers and the people who work in many roles across the aquatic industry to help keep the community safe in the water.

The local winners were:

Inverloch Surf Life Saving Club's (ISLSC) Katherine Simnett – Nipper Program Volunteer of the Year.

Katherine courageously stepped up as interim coordinator for Inverloch's Nipper Program on short notice.

In this role, she cultivated a supportive and cohesive

environment, ensuring nipper safety and engagement while seamlessly integrating age managers, water safety and volunteers.

Her leadership was instrumental in launching Inverloch's inaugural Starfish Nipper Program.

Her dedication and unwavering commitment make her a standout in advancing both local and state-level Nipper education and development.

ISLSC's Holly Foster – Janet Jones OAM Inclusion Award.

Holly showed exceptional leadership in supporting diversity and inclusion at ISLSC.

She worked with disability experts, medical specialists and other clubs to deliver a program that engaged with parents to un-

derstand each child's needs and had personalised support plans for participants.

Holly's dedication and leadership in this space has been outstanding, and she is a worthy recipient of this award.

ISLSC's Inverloch Lifesaving Search and Rescue Camp – Dr Nigel Taylor ESM Innovation Award.

The Inverloch Lifesaving Search and Rescue Camp (ILSAR) was driven by the need for enhanced search and rescue capabilities due to the club's unique beach location and a number of community incidents.

ILSAR has significantly enhanced the capabilities of club members, boosted community

safety and inspired young leaders to advance within the club.

It has made an impact and a contribution that is truly exceptional.

Life Saving Victoria president Paul James congratulated all award recipients and thanked all attendees for their efforts over the past year.

"Through our combined efforts to save lives and empower communities to safely enjoy water, we have made an impact that goes far beyond what any of us can see or fully know," he said.

"For that, I encourage you all to hold your heads high as members of our movement, and for the far-reaching contribution you make to the people of – and visitors to – Victoria."

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 September 3
5.30am 0.52m
12.35pm 1.43m
6.16pm 0.76m

WEDNESDAY September 4
12.22am 1.33m
6.25am 0.50m
1.16pm 1.48m
7.03pm 0.66m

THURSDAY September 5
1.15am 1.40m
7.11am 0.50m
1.50pm 1.51m
7.42pm 0.57m

FRIDAY September 6
2.00am 1.46m
7.49am 0.51m
2.19pm 1.53m
8.15pm 0.49m

SATURDAY September 7
2.39am 1.51m
8.24am 0.54m
2.45pm 1.53m
8.45pm 0.43m

SUNDAY September 8
3.13am 1.55m
8.57am 0.57m
3.12pm 1.53m
9.16pm 0.39m

MONDAY September 9
3.45am 1.57m
9.30am 0.60m
3.40pm 1.52m
9.47pm 0.37m

Email us your fishing photos

news@sgst.com.au



Yarram visitors Joe Razinger, Marc Goulden and Paul McAninlay with Kevin Flett on the first tee ready to attack at Foster Golf Club.

FOSTER

OH boy, how about this weather?

The extreme wind caused zero players on both the Wednesday and Thursday competitions.

With the foresight of bad weather on the horizon, 19 players braved the challenging winds to play the open Stableford event. Eighteen players found the course and wind difficult, but it never fazed Robin Smith (19) who took out the day with an amazing 40 points.

Seven points behind was David Lucas (15) with 33 points.

Coming in third and fourth was David (Dickie) Knee (8) and Trevor (Kiwi) Jones (28) who had 32 points.

James Marks won himself nearest to pin on the fourth and Larry Giddy was the closest on the 17th.

Possibly one of the biggest achievements for the day, though, was Chris Buckland who eagles the fifth in the gale force winds.

It's going to be a big week at the club this week with both the men and women playing their monthly medals.

Chris Buckland will be vying to win his third straight medal while Kylie Collins is going for four in a row.

The club wishes its players the best of luck.

Robyn Galloway and Pat McKay are the sponsors for the events, and the club thanks them for their generous trophy donations.

Outside of the medals, there will be the regular Stableford events on Tuesday and Thursday as well as chicken run running all week on the back nine.

Players are reminded that the next round of knockout matches are due to be played by the end of September, so make sure you make contact with your opponent and get those matches played.

Chicken run this week was taken out by Johnny Danckert (13) who won with a very im-

pressive 20 points.

He, along with 11 other players, played on Friday when the weather eased slightly.

There were three balls down the line this week.

Both Trent Price (12) and Chris Riddell (25) also played on Friday and took out second and third with 18 points each.

John Pruyt (18) braved the weather Thursday and also had 18 points.

On Saturday, the club had a Four Ball Stableford event sponsored by Rod Coughran-Lane.

In what turned out to be a very close affair, Jake Pilkington (17) and Neil Henry (20) won the day with 41 points finishing just one point ahead of two other pairings, Chris Buckland (+4) and Brad Coates (13) as well as Neil Coates (21) and Steve Barnes (16).

Leigh Roberts managed to get nearest to the pin on the fourth while Brad Coates was nearest on both the sixth and 13th.

On the same day as Neil Henry won overall, he also won himself nearest to pin on both the 15th and 17th.

The Friday night members draw is now up to \$800.

The club has some awesome prizes for the raffles, so why not come in and let the crew at 19 cook you up a storm and try your chances at winning one of our awesome prizes.

There is plenty to choose from – anything from a meat tray to a wine.

The club is very pleased and honoured to announce Ray White Real Estate Foster is coming on board as the newest sponsor. Keep an eye out in the near future for their signage and where it might pop up around the course.

The club thanks Peter, Wendy and the team and encourages you to contact them for all your real estate needs.

KORUMBURRA

RESULTS: Tuesday, August 27.

Stableford: 25 players.

A Grade: Greg Jones (15) 25 C/B.

B Grade: Chris McConnell (20) 32 points.

NTPs: first Neil Spargo, seventh Jaarl Enbom, 10th Pete Wallace and 13th John Kerr.

Thursday, August 29:

Stableford: 6 players.

Winner: Steve Bromby (+1) 34 points.

NTPs: first Steve Bromby and 13th Steve Bromby.

Saturday, August 31:

4BBB Stableford: 40 players.

Sponsor: Doug and Lyn McIvor.

Winners: Grant Williams and James Williams 43 points.

NTPs: first Andrew Westaway, 10th Steve McNamara and 13th John Kerr.

Ladies

KIM Enbom (38) had a terrific round of golf on Wednesday, finishing with 41 points.

Runner-up was Kerri Besley (16), with 34 points and Heather Grist (23) won a BDTL with 30 points, on a c/b from Trudy Olden.

NTPs were Heather first, Trudy 10th and second shot on the seventh, and Kim on the 13th.

LEONGATHA

TUESDAY, August 27: Stableford.

Tuesday's Stableford round had 55 members/guests take to the course in overcast and challenging conditions.

A Grade winner: Renato Monacella (15) with the highest score of the day of 35 points.

A Grade runner up: Neale Gillin (13) with a score of 34 points.

B Grade winner: Graeme Clark (32) with a score of 34 points.

B Grade runner up: Anthony Seabrook (33) with a score of 33 points.

NTP fifth second shot: Nicholas Byrne at 1.10m.

NTP 14th: Bert Borg at 1.53m.

NTP 16th: Ian Blencowe at

.11m.

Thursday, August 29:

Thursday's event was cancelled due to the high winds and the poor condition of the course after the severe winds over the previous two days.

Saturday, August 31: Edney 4BBB Par event.

Thank you to the Edney family for their generous sponsorship of this popular event.

Conditions remained tricky with the high winds, however, 94 members/guests ventured out for this 4BBB Par event with some excellent results recorded.

Overall winners:

1. John Ryan and Dave Brownnett with a score of +7 on a countback.
2. Frank Gill and Renato Monacella with a score of +7 on a countback.
3. Ian Moorhouse and Grant McRitchie with a score of +7.

NTP fifth second shot: Rod MacKenzie at 1.84m.

NTP 14th: Dave Bownett at .80m.

MIRBOO NORTH

TUESDAY, August 27: Stableford.

A Grade: P. Woodall (9) 38 points.

B Grade: J. Kus (21) 37 points.

DTL: N. Bickerton 37, P. Cummaudo 36 and S. Bickerton 35.

NTP: fourth N. Bickerton, sixth T. Whitelaw, 13th M. Payne, and 16th P. Woodall.

Birdies: sixth N. Bickerton.

Saturday, August 31: Par.

A Grade: T. Baker (7) four up.

B Grade: R. Taylor, (14) two up.

DTL: J. Robbins, A. Pigdon one up, T. Bradshaw and G. Dawson sq, c/b.

NTP: fourth T. Baker, sixth T. Bradshaw, 13th J. Robbins, and 16th J. Pilcher.

Birdies: 13th J. Robbins.

Eagles: B. Johnson 11th.

WONTHAGGI

RESULTS: August 29.

Competition: Stableford 18-hole, SR. 71.

Ball sweep to 31 C/B:

Winner: Johnathon Wade 38.

Ball sweep: Keith Ridout 34, Peter Magnussen 34, Gino Hennequin 32 and Bruce Betts 31.

Results: August 29.

Competition: Stableford nine-hole 10 to 18, SR. 36.

Ball sweep to 14 C/B.

Winner: Keith Ridout 18.

Runner up: Secondo Tiziani 18.

Ball sweep: Paul Cornelis 16, Kevin Bayley 16, Bill Howard 14 and John Davies 14 C/B.

Results: August 31.

Competition: three or four-person Ambrose, S.R 71.

Overall winners: Robert and Alex Geyer, Geoff Prowd and Steven Brann 57.

Runner up: Graeme Campbell, Martin Cox, Frank Huber and Doug Putt 60.

Ball sweep: Sam Dennis, Ian Baker, Phillip Studham and Simon O'Halloran 60.25, Ray Hender, Mark Tiziani, Secondo Tiziani and Peter Dell 60.625, Ben Clark, Inoke Baudromo and Rod Walker 61.5, Andrew Cox, David Ricardo, Steve Terrill and Ron Pennefeather 61.625, and Julian Wintle, Michael Scott, Eric Van Agtmaal and Ian McDonald 61.75.

NTPs: Sam Dennis second, Shaun Stirton fourth, John Walsh propin eighth, Simon O'Halloran 13th and Geoff Prowd money hole 17th.

Darts drama unfolds

THE Phillip Island and Districts Darts League witnessed a night of high-stakes action and unexpected twists as the Breakers stunned the top-ranked That's All in a nail-biting 4-3 victory. The electric atmosphere at the darts centre was palpable as players and spectators alike were treated to a showcase of skill, strategy, and sheer determination.

In other matches, the River-boys dominated the Dart Vaders 6-1, while Storm swept the Mustangs in a decisive 7-0 win. The Jagers narrowly edged out Joe's Hornets 4-3 in another closely contested battle.

Individual brilliance shone through as Paul Gleeson, filling in for That's All, hit a perfect 180, while John Cashen of the Mustangs impressed with a remarkable 171. The night wasn't just about the competition, as Bruce Atkins from Dart Vaders claimed the coveted San Remo Butchers meat tray in the raffle, and Peter Murphy continued his lucky streak by winning the beer prize.

As the season progresses, players' improvements have been evident, adding to the excitement of each match. The league now eagerly anticipates next week's Lightning Premiership trophy, where teams will face off in rapid-fire 801 games.

Rather playing fields than carparks

DESPITE a passionate appeal from Phillip Island Councillor Ron Bauer for the Bass Coast Shire Council to prioritise playing fields and sports facilities over streetscape improvements, his calls fell on deaf ears at the recent council meeting.

Instead council voted not to go ahead and commence the rezoning process for the Carnival Land it bought back some years ago after the shire's government appointed commissioners sold it off almost three decades ago.

"When I was first elected to Council, we acquired what is known as the carnival site with the intention of developing it as the sports precinct. We have even approved the masterplan for various facilities to be built there with the showpiece being the aquatic centre," said Cr Bauer.

"I acknowledge that some of the infrastructure will take a long time to be built but other parts of the puzzle could begin quickly. Our community is begging for it.

"As an example, the football club has increased in membership from 2020 to 2024 by 30-40 per cent according to the club's president Chris Ross and we don't even have a proper basketball facility on the Island," he said.

"If funding is a problems, we should redirect our State and Federal advocacy to the recreation masterplan and away from the Cowes streetscape master plan.

"I believe the sporting facilities are far more important to our community than going one way down Thompson Avenue with reduced parking."



Chris Rose, Jenny Bakker, Brian Newman and John Stewart enjoyed a win at Breakaway Bowls on Monday.



Winners of Thursday's social bowls at Inverloch were Di Selby, Reg Varty and Pat MacKay.



Inverloch social bowls runners-up were, from left, Terry Orford, Carol Hughes, Veronica Muir and Nell Van Grunsven.



Robert McLaren, Jeannie Slocombe, Carol Thorpe and Jos Kemper were the Friday winners at Wonthaggi Senior Indoor Bowls.



Pam Russell, Jim Rodhi, Lia Smith and Jos Kemper were the winners and runners-up of the Doubles Championship at Wonthaggi Senior Indoor Bowls.



Wonthaggi Bowls Club's Saturday Opening Day winners were Sheila Ormerod, Jan Jeeves and Mike Yeats.



Friday's Breakaway Bowls winners were Jan Clark and Les Stanbury with +6.

BREAKAWAY

IT was another well-attended day at the Cape. The club is going extremely well – the numbers are very consistent with another 19 bowlers on Monday.

It is hoped this fellowship the club has created will continue.

Monday's winners were Chris Rose, Jenny Bakker, Brian Newman and John Stewart.

They won with +6. Well done to all involved.

Friday was another enjoyable day with 19 bowlers enjoying a fun-filled afternoon.

The afternoon tea supplied by the ladies was fantastic.

Winners on the day were Jan Clark and Les Stanbury with +6.

Don't forget to come along to bowls on Monday and Friday at the Cape Paterson Community Hall from 1pm – all are very welcome.

INVERLOCH

THE weather for Thursday's social bowls was a real mixed bag.

Early sunshine moved gradually to overcast conditions later in the session, but always with the incessant wind which mostly came out of the Northwest but became fickle once the clubrooms played their part in disrupting it.

Most would have also noted that the big, orange windsock succumbed to the wind and was missing.

The weather also affected the number of bowlers who chose to come bowling where only 27 attended to form five triple and three, fours teams.

The ever-present wind made choosing the line to bowl on difficult as one side was quite wide and the other very narrow, nonetheless, two teams managed to overcome these obstacles and win both of their 10 end games each scoring 32 points, the match committee having to resort to shots-up to determine the ultimate winner.

Runners up, with wins of 9/6 and 10/6 with seven shots-up were Terry Orford (skip), Carol Hughes (third), Veronica Muir (second) and Nell Van Grunsven (lead).

The winners of Inverloch's Social Bowls, with wins of 10/5 and 15/8 finishing with 12 shots-up were, Reg Varty (skip), Di Selby (third) and Pat MacKay (lead).

Thanks are extended to the match committee representatives Judy Parker and Carol Hughes and also to Jim and Jenny for the Scotch Broth during the lunch break.

It was good to see both Pat Sheedy and Doug Muir in the clubrooms during the afternoon, both looking most spritely.

On Friday, August 30, the club hosted the fortnightly dinner where the menu included roast beef, potatoes and pumpkin with carrots and a cauliflower, broccoli and cheese bake followed by a jelly-topped cheesecake slice and cream.

Unfortunately, Neil Everitt was not able to undertake his usual emceeing duties, so to assist Reg on the evening, Robbie Howard stepped up to the plate, celebrating birthdays with blocks of chocolate and sharing out the lucky door prizes.

Of course, there were also the dozen or so meat packs whose destiny was dependent on the spin of the largest spinning wheel in town.

Special thanks to the following members who volunteered their

time to ensure that the rest of us had an enjoyable evening, at the door, Bev Kurrle and Yvonne Kee, in the kitchen were Jim and Jenny Haydon, Carol Thorn, Carol Hughes and Mary Ferguson, at the bar, Jon Justin, and of course your emcees, Robbie Howard and sidekick, Reg Varty.

The next dinner will be on September 13 so make sure that your names have been registered.

Next Friday, September 6, will be the Inverloch Bowling Club membership draw where the jackpot currently stands at \$140, so it's worthwhile being in attendance and even if you are not the lucky member whose number was drawn, there are plenty of other prizes, including first pick of the table, the lucky envelopes and a multitude of other prizes with the final prize to include an attached \$20 note.

Come along and join in the fun.

A reminder that next Thursday, September 5, is the club's Season Opening Day with play beginning at 11am at which time our Club Champions, Anne Tschiderer and Martin Hannaford will bowl the opening bowls.

The day will comprise two games of 10 ends each with lunch available for a gold coin donation.

Club uniform is to be worn for this event.

Thursday social bowls on September 26 will be a footy themed day with competition commencing at 11am.

The club encourages you all to wear your teams' colours and at the lunch break, a footy lunch of hot dogs, pies and sausage rolls will be available.

Just so that everyone is on the same page, with daylight saving time fast approaching, social bowls on Thursday, October 10 will start at 12.30pm with names to be registered by 11am.

Also, the Club Championship competition will be commencing soon so watch for the entry forms which will be available shortly.

The pennant season will begin for the Saturday competition on October 12, while the midweek competition will begin on October 15.

Practice matches have been arranged so check the sheets for these events.

The club will also be holding a Melbourne Cup Day social bowls afternoon so watch this space for further details closer to the event.

MIDWEEK

WHAT a day.

After the past few days of gale force winds – as well as icy conditions – the group was lucky to have 42 of the family turn up to Loch Bowls Club to once again fight it out for team of the week.

They were welcomed as always by Pauline and John while Peter arranged the teams.

Once they were outside, they were more than happy to play on such a smooth and well-maintained green.

Although the wind was not the gale-force winds of the past few days there was more than enough to confuse quite a few players.

They all made it through the day with a lot of excellent bowling.

There was lots of laughter as always across the green –so much fun with such great friends each week.

At the end of the day, the winning team on a score of 34 were Robyn Dall (3), Max Williams (2), Amanda Bozelle (L) and Trevor Loughridge (S).

Runners up also on a score of 34 were Neil Andreatta (3), Shirl Corcoran (2), Greg Hodge (S) and Colin Scales (L).

This week's best one game on 20 points went to Diane Kessen (L), Pauline McWilliams (2), Steve Edge (S) and Gillian Harper (3).

A big thank you to Trevor and Sue for all their hard work as well as making everyone feel so welcome.

Next week, they will be meeting once again at Lang Lang to continue the competition.

Please be on site by 10am to allow time for teams to be arranged.

Till then stay safe and happy.

WONTHAGGI

WINTER has gone out with a lot of strong winds, and a little rain mixed in as well.

Wednesday was called off with the weather being windy and cold.

Saturday was Opening Day, with a strong breeze to greet 33 bowlers to play two games of eight ends and be inside for afternoon tea.

What a great range of foods to choose from, being the perfect way to start the new season.

Three teams were two game-winners, with the unlucky team being Kathy Heaphy, Peter McBain and Ray Hin to lose on countback to the runners-up, who were Bryan Donohue, Rob Shaw and Norm Evans with a score of two wins, 30 points and 10 shots up.

The winners, also a team of three, were Sheila Ormerod, Jan Jeeves and Mike Yeats with a score of two wins, 34 points and 10 shots up.

Bowls this week: Wednesday is Turkey Triples Day.

Thursday is the first day for the social bowls season with names in by 9.30am for a 10am start time.

Please bring a plate to share for lunch even if the weather is not the best.

Friday coaching at 10am and Saturday social bowls at 12.30pm.

It was a very exciting night on Friday, with Nat Woolfe being presented with the \$310 members draw, which she won last week.

There is a photo of Nat being presented on the website.

Not only that, but the Father's Day raffle also was a huge success, with the burger night being well received.

A big pat on the back to Amanda, Adrian and Rae for all their work to make the night happen.

Have a good week and good bowling.

Indoor

ON Tuesday, 26 players competed in the Doubles Championship.

An amazing and successful day was had by all.

Thank you to all who made this day so great

The winners were Jim Rodhi and Lia Smith runners-up were Jos Kemper and Pam Russell. Congratulations to you all. Friday back to our normal bowling day another enjoyable day with 25 players competing.

The winners with a plus 21, winning two games, were Jeannie Slocombe, Carol Thorpe, Jos Kemper and Robert McLaren. Runners up with a win and a draw were Judy Sweetnam, Jenny Bakker and Fred Demenech.



Young Patch Wilson has proven himself a player to watch in Leongatha's midfield.

Knights win memorial shield

THE final round of the regular season kicked off on Sunday, September 1 with gale force winds and intermittent heavy rain. Facing Korumburra at their home ground, the Knights were keen to set up momentum for their finals run. With Korumburra one spot above them on the ladder and the Brian Newey Memorial Shield up for grabs, the Knights were keen to prove themselves a finals team to watch.

The weather having taken its toll on the pitch surface, the game started with a stop/start momentum as both teams adapted to the play. Leongatha came out strong with the press and immediately proved dangerous with magnificent link ups between the attacking players.

It was an early goal from player of the match Henry Mbuthia that boosted the Knights confidence, Mbuthia later followed up with a second goal and set in play the own goal that saw Leongatha head into half time with a 3-0 lead. Patch Wilson followed up a stellar debut in the starting line-up of Senior squad with another composed and dangerous run in midfield for the Knights, supported by equal player of the match Luke Knights in defensive mid whose composure and positioning was outstanding. Oscar Murdoch continued to prove himself a threat on the right wing as he converted two goals in the second half.

Despite the less than ideal weather, the Knights secured a



Korumburra Captain Hayden Smith and Leongatha Captain Luke Knights are congratulated by referee Patrice Couty as he presents the shield to Leongatha.

strong 6-0 win against the home team Korumburra, and took home the Brian Newey Memorial Shield once again.

100 Senior Men's Games for PJ O'Meara

An event a long time in the making, on Sunday, September 1, Leongatha Knights FC celebrated senior men's player and club legend PJ O'Meara's 100th match for the Knights. Starting with the Knights back in 2014 after moving from Kilkenny, Ireland, PJ has been a regular face around the club and on the pitch.

Coach Beth claimed you often "heard him before you saw him" as she recounted some

favourite stories such as the time O'Meara's hair caught on fire at a league presentation evening or the time he was carried off the pitch by a referee.

Club co-President Lorcan Heneghan highlighted the positive leadership O'Meara has always demonstrated at the club and his immense impact in building the strong senior team of today.

O'Meara was surrounded by family and club supporters as he acknowledged his love for the club and received his celebratory memorabilia. Leongatha Knights FC would like to formally congratulate O'Meara on his incredible achievement. Bring on the next 100 games.



Leongatha Knights player PJ O'Meara celebrates 100 games in the Senior Men's competition with friends and family.

Gippsland Soccer League

Round 18 Results – Sunday, September 1

Senior Mens: Lang Lang United 2 drew Drouin Dragons Maroon 2, Leongatha Knights 6 d Korumburra City 0, Phillip Island Breakers 4 d Trafalgar Victory 2

Senior Womens: Drouin Dragons Maroon 3 d Lang Lang United 1, Inverloch Stars 2 d Mirboo North United 0, Phillip Island Breakers 4 d Trafalgar Victory 1

Mens Reserves: Korumburra City 7 d Leongatha Knights 3, Trafalgar Victory 3 d Phillip Island Breakers 0

Under 17 Mixed: Leongatha Knights 6 d Phillip Island Stingrays 1, Phillip Island Penguins 6 d Drouin Dragons White 0, Wonthaggi United 3 d Drouin Dragons Maroon Yellow 2

Under 14 Mixed: Korumburra City 6 d Leongatha Knights 4, Inverloch Stars 4 drew Mirboo North United 4, Phillip Island Stingrays 3 d Wonthaggi United 2

Under 13 Girls: Korumburra City 6 d Leongatha Knights 0

Under 12a Mixed: Korumburra City 1 drew Leongatha Knights 1, Wonthaggi United 3 drew Phillip Island Stingrays 3, Phillip Island Penguins 7 d Trafalgar Victory 1

Under 12b Mixed 0: Drouin Dragons Yellow 7 d Lang Lang United 1, Leongatha Knights 6 d Korumburra City 5, Inverloch Stars 7 d Mirboo North United 3, Drouin Dragons Maroon Yellow 6 d Wonthaggi United 1

Semi Final 1 Fixture (1st v 4th)

Sunday, September 8 at Lang Lang Community & Recreation Precinct, Caldermeade

Senior Mens – 3.45pm - Phillip Island Breakers V Leongatha Knights

Senior Womens – 12.45pm - Leongatha Knights V Drouin Dragons Maroon

Mens Reserves – 1.30pm - Trafalgar Victory V Inverloch Stars

Under 17 Mixed – 9am - Drouin Dragons Maroon V Wonthaggi United

Under 14 Mixed – 10.50am - Korumburra City V Drouin Dragons Maroon

Under 13 Girls - 9am - Korumburra City V Drouin Dragons Maroon

Under 1A Mixed – 10.30am - Phillip Island Penguins V Phillip Island Stingrays

Under 12B Mixed - 12pm - Inverloch Stars V Drouin Dragons Maroon Yellow

GSL Final Home/Away Ladder Season 2024

Senior Mens:

1. Phillip Island Breakers 35 points (League Champions)
2. Drouin Dragons Maroon 32 points
3. Korumburra City 29 points
4. Leongatha Knights 28 points
5. Trafalgar Victory 18 points
6. Inverloch Stars 10 points
7. Lang Lang United 9 points
8. Wonthaggi United 1 point

Senior Womens:

1. Leongatha Knights 33 points (League Champions)
2. Phillip Island Breakers 33 points
3. Wonthaggi United 28 points
4. Drouin Dragons Maroon 24 points
5. Inverloch Stars 22 points
6. Trafalgar Victory 21 points
7. Lang Lang United 6 points
8. Mirboo North United 0 points

Mens Reserves:

1. Trafalgar Victory 33 points (League Champions)
2. Phillip Island Breakers 28 points
3. Drouin Dragons Maroon 24 points
4. Inverloch Stars 17 points
5. Korumburra City 10 points
6. Drouin Dragons Maroon Yellow 7 points
7. Leongatha Knights 4 points

Under 17 Mixed:

1. Drouin Dragons Maroon 33 points (League Champions)
2. Drouin Dragons Maroon Yellow 30 points
3. Phillip Island Penguins 18 points
4. Wonthaggi United 17 points
5. Leongatha Knights 16 points
6. Phillip Island Stingrays 10 points
7. Drouin Dragons White 0 points

Under 14 Mixed:

1. Korumburra City 39 points (League Champions)
2. Phillip Island Penguins 31 points
3. Leongatha Knights 25 points
4. Drouin Dragons Maroon 23 points
5. Inverloch Stars 19 points
6. Phillip Island Stingrays 12 points
7. Wonthaggi United 11 points
8. Mirboo North United 2 points

Under 13 Girls:

1. Korumburra City 31 points (Dual League Champions)
2. Wonthaggi United 31 points (Dual League Champions)
3. Phillip Island Breakers 18 points
4. Drouin Dragons Maroon 9 points
5. Leongatha Knights 0 points

Under 12A Mixed:

1. Phillip Island Penguins 36 points (League Champions)
2. Drouin Dragons Maroon 26 points
3. Wonthaggi United 19 points
4. Phillip Island Stingrays 18 points
5. Leongatha Knights 14 points
6. Korumburra City 7 points
7. Trafalgar Victory 0 points

Under 12B Mixed:

1. Inverloch Stars 39 points (League Champions)
2. Mirboo North United 38 points
3. Drouin Dragons Yellow 36 points
4. Drouin Dragons Maroon Yellow 25 points
5. Phillip Island Sharks 24 points
6. Wonthaggi United 16 points
7. Leongatha Knights 16 points
8. Korumburra City 12 points
9. Lang Lang United 6 points



Poowong U17's Emma Henshall looks for an opening. Photo: Shayla Tull.



It was a tight finish in A Grade but Fish Creek got the job done running out winners by a mere goal.



Ebony Best blocks the ball from her opponent.



Ainsley Logan drives secures the ball, driving it down the court in a race against the clock for the U13 Poowong netballers. Photo: Shayla Tull.



Georgia Wake takes a shot at goal in B Grade for Foster against Boolarra.



Ebony Best lands a goal for Foster.



Aisha Hibbert scores for Phillip Island B Grade.



Maddi Taylor works centre court for B Grade against Dalyston.



Sarah Blundell looks for an option in B Grade against Phillip Island.



Lara Noblett reaches to secure the rebound. Photo: David Bradsworth.



Wonthaggi's Brooke Anderson stretches to receive this pass under close-checking pressure from her Traralgon opponent.



Wonthaggi's Bec Farrell worked hard through the midcourt and in support of her goalers in the B Grade Elimination Final against Traralgon on Sunday.



Wonthaggi's Isabelle Tiziani makes a desperate lunge at the ball against Leongatha's Evie Dekker in the C Grade Elimination Final.



Wonthaggi's Jemma Gilmour looks to pass the ball into her shooters, closely checked by Madeline Caddy, during the C Grade Elimination Final against Leongatha.



Leongatha's C Grade keeper Jude Reynolds puts up a strong block on Wonthaggi's GA in a tight contest last Sunday.



Georgia Wake assesses her options. Photo: David Bradsworth.



Evie Dekker lunges for the intercept in front of her Wonthaggi opponent Isabella Tizani during a one-point thriller won by Wonthaggi.



Wonthaggi's B Grade keeper Chloe Marshall puts plenty of pressure on Traralgon's GA Emily Scholtes as if the gale-force winds weren't a big enough challenge.

MID GIPPSLAND

2ND SEMI FINAL

A Grade: Yinnar 50 lt Fish Creek 51
B Grade: Foster 57 d Boolarra 49
C Grade: Yinnar 40 d MDU 32
D Grade: Fish Creek 32 d Stony Creek 27
17 & Under: Boolarra 45 d Toora 34
15 & Under: Toora 24 lt Boolarra 38
13 & Under: Yinnar 24 d Hill End 15

1ST SEMI FINAL

A Grade: Morwell East 44 lt MDU 52
B Grade: Stony Creek 43 d Mirboo Nth 37
C Grade: Toora 29 lt Mirboo North 33
D Grade: Yinnar 32 d Newborough 27
17 & Under: Yinnar 26 lt MDU 33
15 & Under: Mirboo North 28 lt Yinnar 34
13 & Under: MDU 29 d Newborough 26

WEST GIPPSLAND

2ND SEMI FINAL

A Grade: Inverloch-K 46 d Dalyston 40
B Grade: Tooradin-Dal 54 d NNG 45
C Grade: NNG 35 lt Inverloch-K 40
D Grade: NNG 33 lt Garfield 37
17 & Under: NNG 34 d Inverloch-K 26
15 & Under: Phillip Island 29 d NNG 23
13 & Under: Tooradin-Dal 28 lt NNG 30
11 & Under: NNG 8 lt Tooradin-Dal 26

1ST SEMI FINAL

A Grade: Nar Nar Goon 41 d Cora Lynn 29
B Grade: Phillip Island 46 d Dalyston 42
C Grade: Cora Lynn 32 d Tooradin-Dal 25
D Grade: Inverloch-K 22 d Koo Wee Rup 14
17 & Under: Tooradin-Dal 29 lt P-Island 31
15 & Under: Warragul I. 22 d Toor-D. 21
13 & Under: Cora Lynn 24 d Warragul I. 14
11 & Under: P-Island 13 d Cora Lynn 12

ELLINBANK

2ND SEMI FINAL

A Grade: Neerim Sth 49 d N-Darnum 42
B Grade: Ellinbank 44 d Buln Buln 23
C Grade: Ellinbank 33 d Neerim South 31
17 & Under: Catani 44 d Yarragon 17
15 & Under: Buln Buln 34 d Lang Lang 27
13 & Under: Buln Buln 35 d Yarragon 17

1ST SEMI FINAL

A Grade: Ellinbank 42 lt Trafalgar 47
B Grade: Neerim Sth 35 lt N-Darnum 36
C Grade: Lang Lang 30 d Catani 25
17 & Under: Trafalgar 37 lt Poowong 40
15 & Under: Poowong 17 lt Catani 24
13 & Under: Poowong 16 d Lang Lang 15

GIPPSLAND

QUALIFYING FINAL

A Grade: Drouin 41 lt Warragul 45
B Grade: Leongatha 37 lt Moe 44
C Grade: Drouin 32 d Maffra 30
17 & Under: Leongatha 42 d Bairnsdale 23
15 & Under: Sale 26 d Traralgon 25
13 & Under: Maffra 28 d Traralgon 17

ELIMINATION FINAL

A Grade: Traralgon 38 lt Bairnsdale 56
B Grade: Traralgon 37 d Wonthaggi 29
C Grade: Leongatha 27 lt Wonthaggi 28
17 & Under: Sale 30 d Droin 24
15 & Under: Moe 38 d Maffra 26
13 & Under: Sale 15 lt Moe 23

THIS WEEKEND'S GAMES

MID GIPPSLAND

Prelim Final - Morwell East (Sat, Sept. 7)
A Grade: Yinnar v MDU
B Grade: Boolarra v Stony Creek
C Grade: MDU v Mirboo North
D Grade: Stony Creek v Yinnar
17 & Under: Toora v MDU
15 & Under: Toora v Yinnar
13 & Under: Hill End v MDU

WEST GIPPSLAND

Prelim Final - Dalyston (Sat, Sept. 7)
A Grade: Dalyston v Nar Nar Goon
B Grade: Nar Nar Goon v Phillip Island
C Grade: Nar Nar Goon v Cora Lynn
D Grade: Nar Nar Goon v Inverloch-K
17 & Under: Inverloch-K v Phillip Island
15 & Under: Nar Nar Goon v Warragul Ind
13 & Under: Tooradin-Dal v Cora Lynn
11 & Under: Nar Nar Goon v Phillip Island

ELLINBANK

Prelim. Final - Lang Lang (Sat, Sept. 7)
A Grade: Nilma-Darnum v Trafalgar
B Grade: Buln Buln v Nilma Darnum
C Grade: Neerim South v Lang Lang
17 & Under: Yarragon v Poowong
15 & Under: Lang Lang v Catani
13 & Under: Yarragon v Poowong

GIPPSLAND

2nd Semi - Leongatha (Sat, Sept. 7)
A Grade: Moe v Warragul
B Grade: Drouin v Moe
C Grade: Morwell v Drouin
17 & Under: Traralgon v Leongatha
15 & Under: Bairnsdale v Sale
13 & Under: Leongatha v Maffra
1st Semi - Moe (Sun, Sept. 8)
A Grade: Drouin v Bairnsdale
B Grade: Leongatha v Traralgon
C Grade: Maffra v Wonthaggi
17 & Under: Bairnsdale v Sale
15 & Under: Traralgon v Moe
13 & Under: Traralgon v Moe

Leongatha through to semi in Under 18s

LEONGATHA'S Under 18s went into Saturday's Qualifying Final against Traralgon as underdogs after losing both meetings between the teams during the season, most recently by two goals at Traralgon on June 29.

But the Parrots approached Saturday's key contest at Maffra full of confidence after naming one of their best teams for the year and they played that way, dominating possession and ultimately coming away with a convincing 31-point victory on the back of a thrilling burst in the third quarter.

The match was marred by gusty wind all day, making kicking for goal especially difficult and there looked to be a risk that Leongatha might have kicked its chances away when they'd recorded 1.10 to half time including three or four "posters".

But they persevered after the break and the goals finally started to come with Finn Donohue dominating on the ball and capping it off with a nice goal.

Julian Callahan and Ben Fort have both earned senior games for the Parrots this year and they demonstrated that experience with strong games, also with the likes of Tadgh Gannon, Hamish Gill and Klayton McGrath among the best.

In a low-scoring affair, Leongatha had a 37-point lead by the last change and there was no coming back from there despite the Parrots not managing to put icing on the cake with a fourth-quarter goal.

They now meet top team Waragul at Leongatha next Saturday, September 7 in the Second Semi-Final for a place in the Grand Final.

Huge weekend for Gippsland League

THE weekend of the year in Gippsland League football and netball, featuring two days of semi-finals is here and Leongatha will be hosting the top contenders at Parrot Park on Saturday.

The feature game of the day will see the top two teams all year, Leongatha and Moe facing off for a place in the grand final.

But Moe will have to mount their challenge without the player that has often caused Leongatha the most trouble, the Lions' coach Declan Keilty who sustained a serious injury in his team's thrilling win over Traralgon last Saturday at Maffra.

Leongatha by comparison had the week off to get cherry-ripe and should have an embarrassment of talent to select from for their two senior sides doing battle on the day, the firsts against Moe and the seconds against Bairnsdale.

In the netball it's Moe versus for a place in the A Grade grand final at Leongatha while the Leongatha Under 17s and Under 13s will be trying to do likewise.

On Sunday, it's Wonthaggi against Traralgon in another do-or-die challenge for the Power but they're pretty used to it by now after needing to win practically every round from the middle of the season onwards. They meet at Moe on Sunday.

In the netball, Drouin and Bairnsdale face off in the A Grade First Semi-final, while Leongatha's B Graders get a second chance against Traralgon and Wonthaggi's C Graders play Maffra.



Wonthaggi's Jackson Glen clears the ball off half back in the Under 16s Elimination Final at Bairnsdale on Sunday.

Power Under 16s blown off course at Bairnsdale



Wonthaggi's Heath Bowen gets a decisive punch away from this contest during the Under 16s Elimination Final against Bairnsdale at Bairnsdale on Sunday.

THE Wonthaggi Power Under 16s have bowed out of the finals race after having their chances blown away at Bairnsdale on Saturday.

Playing against the home side, Bairnsdale, after sharing wins during the season, most recently by three goals at Wonthaggi on August 3, the Power went into the game full of confidence but they were in trouble from the outset.

Bairnsdale opened up with 3.6 kicking with the aid of a howling gale, and after they bottled up the play on the wind-affected wing in the second quarter, they had a stranglehold on the outcome by halftime.

Wonthaggi had plenty of players in the action, including captain Ayden Fawaz who made several thrilling runs through the centre of the ground, likewise Sam Carter, who was full of run throughout and might have opened that Power's account early in the second if not

foiled by the win, and Archie Jobe who set up a number of scoring chances.

Wonthaggi played their best footy in the third quarter, stopping the Redlegs from scoring until deep into the term when the brilliance of Chidi Otuonye rose to the top again, check-siding through a goal when no one else was making any impression.

The Power boys attacked constantly in the last quarter with Fawaz and Carter full of running and Nathan Tack taking a shot after a free kick that was blown off course but ultimately it was Jaxon Brouwers who delivered reward for effort with a late goal, after an attacking effort by Carter.

It wasn't the result the Power boys were looking for, after a promising season, but the horrendous conditions had as much to do with the result as their opponents.

Gippsland Power through to quarter finals

Leongatha's Max Donohue playing in Gippsland Power's victory over the Murray Bushrangers in Sunday's wildcard playoffs.

Foster's Wil Duursma in action for Gippsland Power on Sunday.

GIPPSLAND Power came through their wildcard round last Sunday with a come-from-behind win over Murray Bushrangers.

Gippy Power trailed by three points at the last change but came on strong in the last to kick 2.4 to one goal to get over the Bushrangers by seven points to continue a promising season.

Best players for Power were Brodie Atkins, Harrison Canning, Jesse Craven, Harry Butcher, Alix-zander Tauru, and Thomas Matthews.

There was a liberal sprinkling of South Gippsland players in the team who played their roles to help Gippy Power to progress to a match against their local derby rivals, Dandenong Stingrays in a quarter final at Port Melbourne's ETU Stadium next Saturday, September 7, at 2pm.

Sparkes powers Wonthaggi to windy win at Bairnsdale

COUNT them if you can... eight possessions in the first quarter, a whopping 16 in the second, 10 in the third and for good measure, 13 kicks and three handballs in the last quarter for an even 50 on the day.

Those were the incredible match stats from Wonthaggi onballer Ryan Sparkes in the Elimination Final against Sale at a crazy-windy Bairnsdale on Sunday.

Needless to say, he earned best-on-ground honours in Power's 25-point victory over Sale, helping to secure them a berth in the First Semi-final against Traralgon at Moe's Ted Summerton Reserve next Sunday but he wasn't on his own.

Shannon Bray, continuing his engagement in the ruck in the absence of Toma Huther, won more than 50 hitouts on the day to virtually square the ledger with Sale duo Jack Leslie and Jonty McGuinness while providing plenty of grunt around the ground.

Late inclusion Andrew McNeel picked up prolific possession-getter Shannen Lange on the ball and as well as neutralising his effectiveness, especially after halftime, he also contributed strongly to Power's drive away from the stoppages.

The Wonthaggi defence reigned supreme again, especially when Sale kicked with the gale-force wind in the second and last quarters with Jakeb Thomas marking everything across half back and if it wasn't him, it was Isaac Chugg with seven intercept marks of his own.

They had great support from Fergus O'Connor, who set the tone early, Ethan Dickson, Jye Gilmour, Josh Schulz, Tim Knowles and one or two others who swung through there.

In the end, despite the horrendous wind, it turned out to be an absorbing contest as players on both sides were forced to rethink how they played the game, how they linked up and how they tried to contend with the conditions to kick goals.

Wonthaggi kicked with the wind in the first quarter, and it was Sparkes who had the early shot on goal, however, while he put it out to the right, it failed to swing back on the breeze.

Jarryd Blair and Josh Bates combined for another point and likewise, Jack Blair kicked into the man on the mark, trying to drive it forward, but the signs were good for Power and they soon got their first goal via Jaxon Williams, after good lead up work by Jarryd Blair, Mitch Hayes, and Sparkes.



Wonthaggi Power coach Jarryd Blair sets the standard for his teammates in the Elimination Final against Sale at Bairnsdale on Sunday.



Wonthaggi's Hunter Tiziani has eyes only for the ball as he tracks down a loose one ahead of his Sale opponent.

It was a great team play after Fergus O'Connor had cut off several promising Sale attacks.

Straight out of the centre next time, Bray got the tap, Hayes and Bates handpassed it on, Patterson booted long and an alert Noah Anderson threw it on the boot for a goal.

Power was flying but it wasn't going to be that easy.

Sale had their chances and Wonthaggi too but there were no more goals in the first quarter.

In the second, Sale had the wind, but Wonthaggi gave as good as it got on the back of terrific defence by Thomas, Chugg and co. Aiden Lindsay had several good opportunities, but it was Hunter Tiziani who looked to have judged the

incredible wind best only to have his shot called a point.

Sale badly needed a goal to open their account and get value from the wind and Brad Dessent obliged from the boundary. Shannen Lange might have kicked one soon after, but it wasn't to be with Sparkes literally in everything during a 16-possession quarter.

The only downside for the Power was a hamstring injury to Noah Anderson but it may not be serious enough to end his season.

Leading by just eight points at the long break, Wonthaggi simply had to get it done in the third quarter with the wind and they were quickly on the scoreboard again when Patterson banged one through

after superb roving front-and-centre.

Sale continued with the tactic of dropping Hudson Holmes back in defence only this time Wonthaggi Power sent Jye Gilmour back to make him accountable and it almost paid dividends for Wonthaggi with Gilmour peppering the scoring zone throughout the term but for little result.

Holmes however continued to get plenty of it, and it was only another opportunist goal, again roving the pack deep forward by Sparkes that produced Wonthaggi's other goal for the quarter.

Sale's Will Leslie saved what looked to be a certain goal near the end of the term and Wonthaggi went to the last break, 27 points up in a low-scoring contest.

Sale needed to get everything right to close the gap with the wind in the last quarter, but it was Wonthaggi who kicked the first goal of the day to the town end, via a fine snap from Aiden Lindsay which was warmly received by his teammates.

Jack Johnstone pulled one back for Sale and Tom Campbell got another midway through, but Wonthaggi was still doing more than enough and when Cooper McInnes marked a pass on the lead from Shannon Bray, before kicking his first of the day, it was all over.

Wounded Moe hangs on against Traralgon

MOE held on in thrilling circumstances at Maffra last Saturday to win through to a Second Semi-final clash against Leongatha at Parrot Park next Saturday.

But they will have to face Leongatha without intercept defender and coach Declan Keilty who finished the day

on crutches. Subsequent scans on Sunday revealed a serious knee injury, possibly MLC or ACL.

Moe finished the match with only one rotation, but the single goal in the last quarter by their captain Jacob Wood was enough as Traralgon pressed hard to

initially get to within a straight kick when Sammy Hallyburton nailed one from 40 metres partway through the last quarter.

The Maroons manufactured a number of chances to take back the lead, but they had their best shot when big Max Jacobson marked the

ball just 30 metres out directly in front.

His spearing shot for goal, made tougher in the windy conditions, hit the swinging goal post flush and it bounced directly back out on to the ground, a point, but not enough to overhaul Moe who hung on to win by four points.

GIPPSLAND LEAGUE RESULTS

QUALIFYING FINAL



39



43

TRARALGON	MOE			
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Traralgon	0.4	2.4	4.7	5.9 (39)
Moe	1.1	3.4	5.5	6.7 (43)

GOALS, Traralgon: Jordan Cunico, Luis D'Angelo, Chance Doultree, Sammy Hallyburton, Lucas Tripodi 1 each

BEST: Tye Hourigan, Luis D'Angelo, Jackson McMahon, Tristen Waack, Jordan Cunico, Chance Doultree

GOALS, Moe: Harrison Pepper 2, Trent Baldi, Declan Keilty, Jacob Wood, Max Woodall 1 each

BEST: Scott van Dyk, Luke Mulqueen, Chris Prowse, Riley Baldi, Ben Maslen, Trent Baldi

RESERVES

Maffra	1.1	2.3	2.3	2.8 (20)
Bairnsdale	1.3	1.4	4.7	4.7 (31)

GOALS, Maffra: Winston Gieschen, Ryan Phelan 1 each

BEST: Sam Walker, Sam Tudor, Daniel O'Brien, Andrew McKenzie, Jesse Oldham, Luke Dyer

GOALS, Bairnsdale: Rohan Blandford, Logan Dunkley, Matthew Hamilton, Bryce Lind 1 each

BEST: Liam Bleyswyk, Max Neate, Jamie Dore, Bryan Froud, Charlie Mann, Tom Selleck

THIRDS

Leongatha	1.6	1.10	5.14	5.17 (47)
Traralgon	1.0	1.1	1.2	2.4 (16)

GOALS, Leongatha: Finn Donohue, Archie Fixter, Jett Garnham, Hamish Gill 1 each

BEST: Finn Donohue, Tadgh Gannon, Hamish Gill, Julian Callahan, Ben Fort, Klayton McGrath

GOALS, Traralgon: Oliver Haberl, Harrison Pirie 1 each

BEST: Hunter Henry, Rogan Rutter, Angus Harle, William Ambler, Jai Moloney, Austin Blackford

FOURTHS

Moe	3.2	5.3	10.5	10.5 (65)
Maffra	1.2	4.2	4.3	8.7 (55)

GOALS, Moe: Kobi Caldwell 4, Bobby Higgins, Samuel McConachy, Max Moroney, Jesse Nancarrow, Joshua Polik, Elias Romano 1 each

BEST: Bobby Higgins, Keller Holmes, Joshua Polik, Kobi Caldwell, Mason Malady, Riley O'Brien

GOALS, Maffra: Lachlan Harrington 2, Judd Burgiel, Beau Cottrell, Sam Felmingham, Jy Higgins, Macauley Pendergast, Leo Stephenson 1 each

BEST: Leo Stephenson, Marcus Proud, Judd Burgiel, Will Burgiel, Jaylen Henry, Sam Phillips

ELIMINATION FINAL



49



24

WONTHAGGI	SALE			
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Wonthaggi	2.3	2.5	4.12	6.13 (49)
Sale	0.1	1.3	1.3	3.6 (24)

GOALS, Wonthaggi: Noah Anderson, Aiden Lindsay, Cooper McInnes, Kaj Patterson, Ryan Sparkes, Jaxon Williams 1 each

BEST: Ryan Sparkes, Shannon Bray, Fergus O'Connor, Joshua Bates, Isaac Chugg, Jarryd Blair

GOALS, Sale: Thomas Campbell, Brad Dessent, Jack Johnstone 1 each

BEST: Hudson Holmes, Shannen Lange, Derek Eggmolesse-Smith, Andrew Campbell, Will Leslie, Patrick Tainsh

RESERVES

Traralgon	0.0	0.4	0.4	1.5 (11)
Sale	0.1	0.1	6.4	6.4 (40)

GOALS, Traralgon: Peter Strong 1

BEST: Peter Strong, Alex Lovison, Lachlan McDonald, Liam Hahn, Riley Adams, Flynn Kennedy

GOALS, Sale: Mason Annear 3, Jack Cantwell 2, Shane Fyfe 1

BEST: No names supplied.

THIRDS

Maffra	4.1	6.1	7.4	7.4 (46)
Drouin	0.0	2.1	2.1	3.3 (21)

GOALS, Maffra: Jayke Andrews, Archer Watt 2, Noah Christy, Elliot Stables, Ashton Wright 1 each

BEST: Elliot Stables, Thomas Scott, Ashton Wright, Archer Watt, Chase Henry, Samuel Richards

GOALS, Drouin: Regan Caddy, Ewan Croucher, Kyrn Smith 1 each

BEST: Max Williames, Zachary Mcmillan, Regan Caddy, Jaxon Huston, Jack Walsh, Charlie Stone

FOURTHS

Wonthaggi	0.0	0.3	0.3	1.4 (10)
Bairnsdale	3.6	4.6	5.11	5.11 (41)

GOALS, Wonthaggi: Jaxon Brouwers 1

BEST: Sam Carter, Ayden Fawaz, Billy Wyhoon, Jayden Burns, Archie Jobe, Nathan Tack

GOALS, Bairnsdale: Albie Clarke, Chidi Otuonye 2, Jobe Froud 1

BEST: Kael Frith, Jobe Froud, Douglas Ashby, Chidi Otuonye, Harry McGuinn, Albie Clarke

ELLINBANK & DISTRICT LEAGUE RESULTS

2ND SEMI FINAL

58

27

BULN BULN			ELLINBANK	
Buln Buln	1.3	3.7	4.7	8.10 (58)
Ellinbank	0.2	0.2	3.3	4.3 (27)

GOALS, Buln Buln: Hayden Baker, Reece Campbell, Robert McCallum 2, Jackson Kos, Riley Rundell 1 each
BEST: Thomas Axford, Will Battley, Lachlan Axford, Nathan Tutton, Brandon Allen
GOALS, Ellinbank: Anthony Battista, Cambell Jolly, Shaun Phelan, Private player 1 each
BEST: Connor Wilkins, Liam Anderson, Logan Joyce, Ryan Atherton, Timothy Farthing, Bryce Joyce

RESERVES

Ellinbank	0.3	3.6	5.7	6.11 (47)
Lang Lang	2.0	3.0	6.2	7.3 (45)

GOALS, Ellinbank: Jaxon Notman, Mark Quigley 2, Jack Cole, Ryan Parsons 1 each
BEST: Sam Barwick, Andrew Quirk, Ryan Parsons, Mathew Dare, Justin Tylee, Jack Cole
GOALS, Lang Lang: Tadhg O’Riordan 3, Rhys Simmons 2, Benjamin Barwick, Kurt Batt 1 each
BEST: Norman Barry, Kurt Batt, Rhys Simmons, Zach Williamson, Nathan Perkins, Bryce Fraser

THIRDS

Poowong	4.0	8.1	9.1	12.1 (73)
Ellinbank	2.2	2.6	3.8	4.10 (34)

GOALS, Poowong: J. Blackwood, R. Nettle 3, T. Burgess 2, H. Cecil, A. Damon, H. Hessels, C. Langford 1 each
BEST: Rory Nettle, Thomas Burgess, David O’Neill, Anthony Orsini, Lachlan Wilson, Noah Furness
GOALS, Ellinbank: J. Armstrong, H. Cunningham, A. Debenham, N. Murphy 1 each
BEST: Joel Armstrong, Ashley Debenham, Archie Martel, Ayden Clarke, Maximus Currie, Lachlan Baker

FOURTHS

Ellinbank	1.1	6.3	7.6	10.7 (67)
Buln Buln	0.1	1.1	4.3	5.6 (36)

GOALS, Ellinbank: C. Armour 3, R. Butters, H. Cunningham 2, B. Helps, N. Murphy, J. Winduss 1 each
BEST: T. Davidson, B. Onslow, J. Winduss, J. Good, L. Rollinson, C. Armour
GOALS, Buln Buln: R. Eastwell 2, F. Bravington, C. Crowe, J. Hutchison 1 each
BEST: F. Bravington, C. Ross, O. Blackwood, L. Budd, W. McKerrow, C. Lindau

1ST SEMI FINAL

50

76

NEERIM SOUTH			LONGWARRY	
Neerim South	3.1	5.5	6.6	7.8 (50)
Longwarry	2.5	5.5	10.9	11.10 (76)

GOALS, Neerim Sth: Tyssen Morrow, Kody Wilson 3, Ashley Lockett 1
BEST: Dean Stringer, Kody Wilson, Ayden Ramm, Tom Muir, Ashley Lockett, Matthew Edwards
GOALS, Longwarry: Jason Wells 4, Darren Granger, Braydon McHugh 2, Nathan Carver, Jedd Serong, Ryan Wouters 1 each
BEST: Angus Adamiak, Jedd Serong, Braydon McHugh, Bailey Stephens, Thomas Wyatt, Anthony Salce

RESERVES

Neerim South	1.2	4.2	5.3	10.5 (65)
Buln Buln	2.2	3.4	4.5	5.5 (35)

GOALS, Neerim Sth: Lachlan Guy 3, Toby Bayne, Jeremiah Jones 2, Lachlan Ramage, Fletcher Robertson-Edgar, Tom Zeldenryk 1 each
BEST: Lachlan Smith, Timothy Beaurain, Lachlan Guy, Jack Erickson, Tom Zeldenryk, Toby Bayne
GOALS, Buln Buln: Ryan Bradshaw, Bryce Monahan, Jack Nuttall, Sean Symes, Logan Wallmeyer 1 each
BEST: Sean Symes, Jacob Pickthall, Jack Nuttall, Lex Wright, Jaryd Kelly, Aaron Warner

THIRDS

Catani	3.3	4.6	8.9	13.10 (88)
Longwarry	2.1	2.2	4.4	6.4 (40)

GOALS, Catani: R. Dobson 3, C. Kibblewhite 2, N. Baxter, L. Bianchin, B. Cameron, D. Carr, T. Fowkes, W. Kouris, J. Mardini, D. McFarlane 1 each
BEST: R. Dobson, D. McFarlane, B. Cameron, T. Fowkes, R. McLeod, N. Baxter
GOALS, Longwarry: W. Taylor 2, T. Mitchell, L. Smith Butterworth, J. Taylor, T. van der Heyden 1 each
BEST: L. Smith Butterworth, R. Delaney, T. van der Heyden, S. Knights, K. Willis

FOURTHS

Neerim South	0.2	3.2	3.3	5.3 (33)
Poowong	2.2	2.3	4.4	7.5 (47)

GOALS, Neerim Sth: A. Mounsey 4, D. Strating 1
BEST: J. Muir, A. Mounsey, D. Shortis, D. Christian, J. Marsden
GOALS, Poowong: K. Mandemaker, L. Moriarty 2, C. Deal, C. Dorian, T. Nieuwerth 1 each
BEST: K. Mandemaker, G. Monson, B. Broadmore, L. Moriarty, H. Bott, C.Dorian

Poowong march into grand final

POOWONG’S U18 side bar-
relled into the grand final
with an impressive 39-point
win over Ellinbank in the
qualifying final.

Playing at Longwarry on
Saturday, the wind favoured
one end, by Poowong worked
hard to ensure its score
wasn’t impacted.

The Magpies came out firing
in the first quarter, kicking
four goals to Ellinbank’s two
to set the pace.

Poowong continued its run
with another four goals in the
second quarter.

The goal-scoring effort was
led by Jett Blackwood and
Rory Nettle with three each.

With a leading tackle count,
centre-half forward Nettle
also earned himself a place in
Poowong’s best by the end of
the game.

A key focus for Poowong go-
ing into the game was to bring
the pressure, which it cer-
tainly achieved in the second
quarter, keeping Ellinbank to
four behinds.

David O’Neill made a big
impact during the first half of
the game, particularly when
Ellinbank kicked with the
wind.

The defensive pressure in
the backline caused Ellin-
bank to kick into the air and
O’Neill was waiting for the es-
sential intercept marks.

He was then able to suc-
cessfully offload the ball
back down the ground to
Poowong’s forward line.

After Poowong kicked away
in the second quarter, El-
linbank regrouped and was
raring to go for a strong third
quarter.

The third quarter proved
difficult for either side to hit
the scoreboard as the inten-
sity increased.

Ellinbank played a bril-
liant third quarter, slowing
Poowong’s run.

Conditions worsened at
Longwarry by the fourth quar-
ter, but Poowong’s fitness be-
gan to overrun Ellinbank and
the Magpies powered through
to the end.

Poowong extended its mar-
gin with another three goals
to end the game, comfortably
earning its ticket into the final
showdown.

Poowong will now have a
week off, eagerly awaiting the



Lochie Wilson handballs the Sherrin as his teammate keeps the opponent at bay in the first semis. Photo: Jeff Tull.

results of the preliminary fi-
nal against Ellinbank and
Catani.

Ellinbank won the first
qualifying final against Catani
by 29 points on August 24,
so it promises to be a close
match.

Whichever team makes it
through to the grand final,
Poowong is confident it is up
to the challenge if it plays its
own game on the day.

Poowong Under 16s
into preliminary final

Poowong’s U16s are through
to the preliminary final.

The Magpies had a tough ask
on Sunday, going to play Neer-
im South in the semi-final on
the opposition’s home ground.

The windy conditions made
the task that much more
daunting, but the boys stood
up to the test and proved they
deserved to continue on their
finals run.

A wind advantage down one
end made a definite impact on
the game.

Coach Zac Gray encouraged
his captain to try to kick with
the wind in the first quarter to
get the team off to the best start
possible.

The strategy was set in mo-
tion and the Magpies kicked
the wind in the first quarter.

It was pretty contested
through the first quarter.

Neerim South dropped an
extra defender into the back-
line to put the pressure on
Poowong.

Poowong kicked the first goal
of the game midway through
the quarter and kicked a sec-
ond before the end of the first
quarter.

Neerim South was held to
just two points.

However, Neerim South had
the wind advantage in the sec-
ond quarter and showed it was
just as strong.

Neerim South worked hard
to get the ball down its end as
much as possible and capital-
ised well to be up by five points
heading into halftime.

Poowong dropped a defender
into Neerim South’s forward
line to try and slow the run, but
Neerim South, a tough side,
took its opportunities.

Poowong knew the third
quarter had to be the clincher,
as Neerim South would have
the wind advantage to finish
the game.

The Magpies went into the
third quarter red hot but were
still only seven points ahead.

The challenge was set and
Gray reminded his team it was
time to play defensively and
put on plenty of pressure.

Poowong was not ready to let
go of its lead and kicked the
first goal of the quarter – the
first goal scored against the

wind.

Using that momentum,
Poowong kicked another two
goals – one with 30 seconds to
go – to be two goals clear and
earn a place in the preliminary
final.

Poowong ruckman Kohen
Mandemaker was named in
Poowong’s best for his extraor-
dinary presence throughout
the game.

He had his hands up for ev-
erything and took some crucial
marks.

Midfielder Gavin Mon-
son also earned his place in
Poowong’s best.

Monson was tagged all day
and maintained a tagging role
on one of Neerim South’s play-
ers.

Although concerned about
keeping up, Monson demon-
strated his skill and proved
why he is considered one of the
best midfielders in the compe-
tition at the moment.

Poowong will take on Buln
Buln in next Saturday’s pre-
liminary final, to be hosted by
Lang Lang.

Poowong faced Buln Buln
in round 11 and lost by 51
points.

Despite this, Gray is con-
fident his boys have what it
takes to make it all the way
to the grand final and hopes
playing at Lang Lang will be in
Poowong’s favour on the day.

Mid Gippsland awaits an exciting Prelim Final encounter

By Rob Popplestone

played a good brand of footy
and won most battles right
across the field. Looking for-
ward to seeing how the group
responds.”

At that time the group re-
sponded with another loss to
Stony Creek, but there will be
no more second chances for
the Magpies as Coach McCul-
loch pointed out after their
loss to the top-of-the-table
Fish Creek last week and be-
fore he knew of this week’s
opponent.

“Looking forward
to seeing the response from
our group. We will need to
play four quarters and will
be in for a tough encounter
against either team.”

Foster has been tipped by
many to be the side that could

go all the way and certainly,
their previous victory over
Yinnar was one in which they
took away many positives.

Sam Davies, Foster coach,
said at the time “It was a
strong bounce back from last
week’s result (beaten by Fish
Creek by five points), we re-
ally set up well and were de-
fensively elite. Yinnar are a
very good team and will no
doubt take a lot away from
the game.”

Finals however are a differ-
ent level altogether and some
players, indeed some teams,
find more than they knew
they even had and some suc-
cumb to the pressure, neither
of these sides are showing
signs of faltering to be fair, so
all indications are it really can
go either way.

“We keep copping injury,
but we keep having blokes
stand up and play their role
which is a credit to them and
our process. A strong Yinnar
group awaits us, bring it on,”
Sam Davies, Foster coach
stated.

And what awaits after that
are the reigning premiers
Fish Creek, who will no doubt
be looking on, hoping that it
is a hard-fought, physically
draining encounter for the
team that the Kangaroos can
pick off on the biggest day of
the MGFNL year.

Grand finals are seldom
like that and whoever finds
their way past this weekend
will no doubt be looking for-
ward to tarnishing the impe-
cable reputation of the reign-
ing premiers.

Reigning premiers through to the Grand Final

By Rob Popplestone

AS GOOD as both of these two teams have been for the entirety of the 2024 season, none of it might amount to anything if they were not able to take the opportunity that was on offer on the weekend, and that was a direct route to the MGFNL Grand Final and a week's rest to prepare.

The reigning premiers were taking their chances, some small but impressive patches of play in each quarter, enough to get the job done in a workmanlike manner.

Fish Creek, twenty-two-point winners, 8-5-53 to Yinnar 4-7-31.

Their performance on the weekend now has them on top of the hill waiting for just one last challenge.

"A great team game yesterday had even contributors across the ground with a couple of standout performers," Jarrod Walker, Kangaroos coach said.

"Our defensive game and pressure was at a level it needed to be for finals and we were able to sustain that for the whole game. Yinnar were able to get momentum going their way throughout the game, but it was good that we were able to slow the game down and close it out."



Taking every opportunity on offer Fish Creek proved the superior team in their semi-final clash with Yinnar.

In blustery conditions, it was Yinnar, who got off to a start that would have been seen as satisfactory, a two-point lead at quarter time in a game that hadn't hit any lofty heights, indicated it might be a match that was more about effort and work rate than classy ball use.

However, in the second quarter, Fish Creek showed some flashes of brilliance, two goals inside the first two minutes showed in no uncertain terms that the Kangaroos were ready to play.

Yinnar just could not find a

way forward as the discipline and shape of the reigning premiers made it impossible to break through, the Kangaroos had five different goal scorers for their handful of goals, before a lift in work rate and attack on the ball saw Kane Grinstead Jones, who was shaping as the Magpies best, convert two majors in time on, sending his side into the main break, trailing by just twelve points and still within striking distance

"Fish Creek certainly handled the conditions better than us and had a lot of the

play in their front half," Sam McCulloch, Yinnar coach said.

"Three early goals in the second quarter to Fish Creek was what broke the game open and we were never able to peg the margin back."

A well-organised unit, Fish Creek worked well with and without the ball, their spread a killer more times than not and a part of the game that Yinnar found hard to counter, two quick goals in the early part of the third quarter started to turn the screws on the Magpies who continued to show resilience.

Some really good attacks on the body slowed Fish Creek but didn't stop them as they went into the three-quarter time break leading by sixteen points.

The final thirty minutes played out pretty much as the first three quarters did, Yinnar honest in their efforts, but just not quite at the level to reel the Fish Creek side in.

"Looking forward to another week off and a chance to get a good training block in and get prepped for the grand final," Walker added.

The Kangaroos are now perfectly placed to win back-to-back premierships, as they wait another week to confirm their opponents.

MID GIPPSLAND LEAGUE RESULTS

2ND SEMI FINAL



53



31

	FISH CREEK		YINNAR	
Fish Creek	1.1	5.3	7.4	8.5 (53)
Yinnar	1.3	3.3	4.6	4.7 (31)

GOALS, Fish Creek: Darcy Berryman 3, Tom Buckley, Thomas Cameron, Blaine Coates, Sam McGannon, Jai Stefani 1 each
BEST: Lachlan Gale, Tom Buckley, Kairon Dorling, Roland De Biase, Jack Hayes, Darcy Berryman
GOALS, Yinnar: Kane Grinstead-Jones 2, Josh Bugeja, Nathan Rowley 1 each
BEST: Thomas Robertson, Nathan Rowley, Luke Linton, Jarrod Henderson, Brendan Chapman, Josh Bugeja

RESERVES

Newborough	2.4	3.8	7.12	12.12 (84)
MDU	1.1	3.2	3.2	4.2 (26)

GOALS, Newborough: Jake Bowden 4, Joshua Bland 2, Brodie Burgess, William Collings, Lachlan Gilroy, Matt Rowlings, Ben van Dyk, Joshua Whittaker 1 each
BEST: Jake Bowden, Joshua Whittaker, Robert Wilson, Jack Brincat, Jack Duncan, Joshua Bland
GOALS, MDU: Jack Dunn, Corey Dyke, Angus Kemper, Blake Moscript 1 each
BEST: Charlie McInnes, Michael Smith, Aaron Trease, Matt Harris, Blake Moscript, Alexander Battersby

THIRDS

Yinnar	1.2	3.2	4.3	4.4 (28)
MDU	4.4	6.8	7.9	10.12 (72)

GOALS, Yinnar: Dylan Hobbs, Noah McCafferty, Xavier McCafferty, Hudson McCulloch 1 each
BEST: Jay Rogalsky, Riley Zielecki, Harvey McKay, Oliver McColl, Grady Ryan, Noah McCafferty
GOALS, MDU: Angus McInnes 3, Lincoln Hamilton 2, Kyra Helms, Edward Kratz, Ryan Marshman, Harry Scrimshaw, Burke VanderZalm 1 each
BEST: Jarvis Lacy, Hunter Fennell, Timothy Hibberson, Finn Dunn, Billy Trotman, Angus McInnes

1ST SEMI FINAL



54



37

	FOSTER		NEWBOROUGH	
Foster	1.2	4.3	6.6	8.6 (54)
Newborough	1.3	2.6	3.10	4.13 (37)

GOALS, Foster: Jake Best 3, Michael Cooke 2, Cody Banbury, Leevi Lidstone, Jack Rathjen 1 each
BEST: Brendan Neville, Dylan Williams, Josh Toner, Jake Best, James Morris, Tom Littore
GOALS, Newborough: Liam Cordner, Max Edebohls, Kyle Jennings, Nathan Wheildon 1 each
BEST: Nathan Wheildon, Liam Flahavin, Nathan Curtis, Zachary Skinner, Patrick Charles, Max Edebohls

RESERVES

Yinnar	4.1	5.2	10.2	10.2 (62)
Morwell East	2.2	4.4	4.4	6.8 (44)

GOALS, Yinnar: Jarryd Garlick 3, Zak Bright 2, Tom Milton, Joseph Rysko 1 each
BEST: Tige Renwick, Matty Nardino, Caleb Frith, Gabe Olver, Elijah Lappin, Lachlan Alexander
GOALS, Morwell East: Corey Hall, Nathan-Lee Nikodemski 2, Lachlan Tactor, Izayah Terrick 1 each
BEST: Jake Birchall, Ryan Carlson, Shae Duncan, Dylan Day, Corey Hall, Zachary Mangion

THIRDS

Fish Crk/Tarwin	2.2	2.2	6.7	7.7 (49)
Newborough	1.1	4.3	4.4	8.6 (54)

GOALS, Fish Creek/Tarwin: Oscar Bright 3, Zak Bright 2, Tom Milton, Joseph Rysko 1 each
BEST: Joseph Rysko, Tom Piasente, Zak Bright, Lucas Buckland, Shea Griffin, Billy Boyd
GOALS, Newborough: Oscar Hanson 3, Lachlan Nelson 2, William Cuthbertson, Lincoln Mulley, Brody Young 1 each
BEST: Zach Daley, Oscar Hanson, William Cuthbertson, Macally Brosnan, Anthony Daley, Harrison Gallagher

Local sport

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Foster came up winners in the hotly contested clinches of the first semi-final. Photos: David Bradsworth.



The Tigers' Michael Cooke launches to contest the mark with his Newborough opponent providing momentum.

Workmen-like Foster locks in ticket to Preliminary Final

By Rob Popplestone

CONTRASTING wins had these two teams ready to rumble in yet another do-or-die clash, the Tigers class had been too much for MDU, whilst the Newborough side had to beg, borrow, scratch, bite and steal to get past Morwell East just seven days ago.

The match promised plenty and delivered most of it with Foster proving too strong, ending the season of the Bulldogs with a seventeen-point victory.

Foster 8-6-54 to Newborough 4-13-37.

Still riding the emotion of their "after the siren" win of a week ago the Bulldogs started as well as they could have

expected, getting themselves into the groove and matching it with the highly rated Tigers' outfit in the first thirty minutes and leading at the first break albeit by a point.

Foster kicked into gear and made more of their chances in front of goal during the second adding three goals one to Newboroughs' one goal three, the inaccuracy of the Bulldogs proving to be a problem that would hound them throughout the afternoon.

"Both teams had their chances today. Unfortunately, we didn't make the most of ours and when it's an elimination final you don't get another crack if your skill level isn't at the level required on the day,"

Craig Skinner, Newborough coach said.

In fact, the Bulldogs could only manage a single goal in each of the four quarters, and although they had a total of three more scoring shots they could not apply the necessary scoreboard pressure to both worry Foster and find that bit extra in themselves to steal a victory for the second week in a row.

"We got the job done, it definitely wasn't pretty and we were probably outplayed for periods but good teams find a way and we took our chances when they came," Sam Davies, Foster coach said.

"We keep copping injury but we keep having blokes stand

up and play their role which is a credit to them and our process. A strong Yinnar group awaits us, bring it on."

Foster now moves one step closer to the ultimate opportunity, while Coach Craig Skinner bows out as coach of the Bulldogs having led an honest, disciplined team to three finals campaigns in a row, "I couldn't be prouder of the group over the last six weeks and am grateful for their effort and opportunity the club has given me to coach them. Today wasn't our day but they will regroup and give it another go in 2025."

Between then and now, the weekend ahead between Foster and Yinnar promises plenty, but only for one team.

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WEST GIPPSLAND COMPETITION	
2ND SEMI FINAL	
Seniors: Phillip Island	7.11.53 d Cora Lynn 5.11.41
Reserves: Nar Nar Goon	7.8.50 d Tooradin-Dal 4.12.36
1ST SEMI FINAL	
Seniors: Nar Nar Goon	12.18.90 d Inverloch-Kongwak 8.10.58
Reserves: Phillip Island	6.8.44 d Inverloch-Kongwak 3.6.24

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THIS WEEKEND'S DRAW

SAT. SEPT. 7 & SUN. SEPT. 8

GIPPSLAND

SEMI FINALS

2nd Semi Final - Saturday, September 7
Leongatha Recreation Reserve
Seniors: Leongatha v Moe
Reserves: Leongatha v Bairnsdale
U18: Warragul v Leongatha
U16: Traralgon v Moe

1st Semi Final - Sunday, September 8
Ted Summerton Reserve, Moe
Seniors: Traralgon v Wonthaggi
Reserves: Maffra v Sale
U18: Traralgon v Maffra
U16: Maffra v Bairnsdale

ELLINBANK

PRELIMINARY FINAL

Saturday, September 7
Lang Lang Community Sporting Complex
Seniors: Ellinbank v Longwarry
Reserves: Lang Lang v Neerim South
U18: Ellinbank v Catani
U16: Buln Buln v Poowong

MID GIPPSLAND

PRELIMINARY FINAL

Saturday, September 7
Morwell East Recreation Reserve
Seniors: Yinnar v Foster
Reserves: MDU v Yinnar
U18: Yinnar v Newborough

WEST GIPPSLAND

PRELIMINARY FINAL

Saturday, September 7
Dalyston Recreation Reserve
Seniors: Cora Lynn v Nar Nar Goon
Reserves: Tooradin-Dal v Phillip Island
U18: Warragul Ind v Nar Nar Goon
U16: Nar Nar Goon v Warragul Ind

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Sea Eagles concede to Nar Nar Goon



Inverloch-Kongwak's Tate Short grimaces as his Nar Nar Goon opponent makes a timely spoil.

INVERLOCH-Kongwak's finals campaign came to an end after a determined Nar Nar Goon claimed a 32-point win in the semi-final.

Nar Nar Goon is now set to face Cora Lynn in the preliminary final to be held at the Dalyston Recreation Reserve.

It was a gusty day at the Cora Lynn Recreation Reserve on Sunday, making conditions difficult for both sides.

Inverloch-Kongwak battled hard all day but was ultimately overrun in the end.

The first quarter was fairly open as both sides adapted to the wind.

Nar Nar Goon kicked a couple of early goals, but Inverloch-Kongwak was able to claw its way back.

Dylan Clark kicked two goals early, which kept the Sea Eagles firmly in the game.

However, the boys felt they didn't make the most of the wind advantage and only went into the second quarter with a one-point lead.

Inverloch-Kongwak played a strong second quarter with the midfield working hard to provide plenty of forward entries.

Ethan Park, Andy Soumilas and Lachlan Scott played exceptional games through the middle.

Although the Sea Eagles were still in front, the score remained a few points difference by halftime.

The wind dropped during the third quarter and Nar Nar Goon quickly adjusted its game.

The strong side worked cohesively to close the gap and ended up three points ahead with one quarter left.

By the last term, the Sea Eagles had run out of legs.

Nar Nar Goon showed its class and claimed most of the territory, adding five goals to the tally before the game was through.

Despite the result on a tough day, Inverloch-Kongwak coach Tom Hams said his team gave it their all and was proud of the season they had played.

The Sea Eagles will take a well-earned break before rolling into six preseason sessions before Christmas.

They will use the preseason to reboot and come in strong in 2025.

The 2024 season showed Inverloch-Kongwak has a lot of talent amongst its young players and will be looking to deliver another formidable senior team.

Semi-final action from Phillip Island v Inverloch-Kongwak reserves



Tyce Kleverkamp has time to decide his options.



Phillip Island's Nick Anderson aims for goal.



Aaron Harris powers away from his Cora Lynn opponent to send the ball back into Phillip Island's forward line. Photos: Carol Ratcliff.

Island come marching in

PHILLIP Island has shown why it has been a strong club for so long with the 16s,17s,18s and Seniors straight into this year's grand final. Not to be out-done the 11s,17s and B grade Netball all took home wins on Sunday and finished with a win to Reserves who will all fight it out next week at Dalyston to book their spot in the grand final.

That is eight teams still in finals which is a tremendous effort that the Phillip Island community can be proud of.

In one of the windiest days on record Phillip Island outlasted Cora Lynn to come home with a two-goal victory.

In a match that was dominated by stoppages and wind pushing the ball to the far side of the ground, Phillip Island handled the conditions better and were able to show true grit and determination to lock the last quarter down after taking a three-goal lead into the last quarter.

The on-ball brigade of Jaymie Youle, Hayden and Charlie Bruce alongside big Daniel Bourke showed class and a hard edge to prevent the opposition their usual free flowing ball movement.

Down back Jesse Patullo had the big task of keeping Gardner (100 goals for the year) to having no influence on the game, keeping him goalless. Alex Duyker was back to his intercepting best and the like of Griffin, Harris and Holmes controlled the backline to repel their attacks. Zac Walker has continued his stellar year and was pivotal late in the game taking pack mark after pack mark in defence.

The forward line held their heads high while being outnumbered all day. Pedersen, the Taylor's, Tom Baulch, Orlando Kane-Gillard and Travis Woodfield all worked hard all day to lock the ball in our forward half.

As the excitement builds with four teams taking their spot on grand final day already the Island moves towards making it eight teams this week. Come down and support your Bulldogs this Saturday at Dalyston for big day of netball and football.



Phillip Island's Coby Olarenschaw fends off an attack from Cora Lynn in Saturday's qualifying final.

WEST GIPPSLAND
COMPETITION
RESULTS

2ND SEMI FINAL

41

53

CORA LYNN	PHILLIP ISLAND
Cora Lynn 1.1 4.9 4.10 5.11 (41)	Phillip Island 3.4 4.6 7.10 7.11 (53)
GOALS, Cora Lynn: Cory Machaya 2, Heath Briggs, James Munro, Matthew Ryan 1 each	
BEST: William Thomas, Luke Ryan, James Munro, Luke Black, Cory Machaya, Jett Edwards	
GOALS, Phillip Island: Hayden Bruce 2, Thomas Baulch, Daniel Bourke, Orlando Kane Gillard, Jack Taylor, Zac Walker 1 each	
BEST: Jesse Patullo, Jaymie Youle, Zac Walker, Charlie Bruce, Hayden Bruce, Alex Duyker	
RESERVES	
Tooradin-Dal 2.2 4.4 4.9 4.12 (36)	Nar Nar Goon 2.1 4.3 6.6 7.8 (50)
GOALS, Tooradin-Dal: Kane Forgariini, Ned Harrison, Jake O'Donnell, Julian Suarez 1 each	
BEST: Ray Lengyel, Danyon Blew, Nicholas Lang, Scott Szucs, Kye de Little, Mitch Forgariini	
GOALS, NNG: Ethan Douglas, Cooper Pursell 2, Jack Gribbin, Jacob Keyzers, Harrison Waters 1 each	
BEST: Ethan Douglas, Jacob Keyzers, Daniel Mason, Dan Cross, Max McGreal, Bailey Christie	
THIRDS	
Phillip Island 2.0 4.0 4.3 4.4 (28)	Warragul Ind 1.0 2.0 2.0 4.1 (25)
GOALS, Phillip Island: Oliver Duggan 2, Jack Huther, James Lewis, Finn O'Brien 1 each	
BEST: Darcy Thompson, Eden Goldsbury, Noah Forrest Mabilia, Finn O'Brien, Oliver Duggan, Timothy Niven	
GOALS, Warragul Ind: Tom Cornwall 4	
BEST: Tom Cornwall, Joshua Bradley, Benjamin Allsop, Campbell Gibbons, Cody Templeton, Noah McDonald	
FOURTHS	
Phillip Island 0.2 1.3 1.5 5.8 (38)	Nar Nar Goon 2.1 2.2 3.4 3.5 (23)
GOALS, Phillip Island: Sam O'Garey 2, Levi Addison, Max Jess, Jack Larsson 1 each	
BEST: Jack Mascaros, Dean Rizzo, Blake Murphy, Parker Trappett, Lachlan Eastwood, Harrison Carlon	
GOALS, NNG: Cooper Harris, Oscar Henwood, Oliver Ockwell-Payne 1 each	
BEST: Mitchell Varty, Xavier Ladbrook, Toby Holland, Austin Schram, Oscar Henwood, Oliver Ockwell-Payne	

1ST SEMI FINAL

90

58

NAR NAR GOON	INVERLOCH-K
Nar Nar Goon 3.1 4.5 7.14 12.18 (90)	Inverloch-K 3.2 5.2 8.5 8.10 (58)
GOALS, NNG: Harrison Brain, Jarrod Smith, Dermott Yawney 2, Luke Bettio, Matthew Gentile, Troy McDermott, Aidan Picicelli 1 each	
BEST: Trent Armour, Aidan Picicelli, Ryan Bromley, Matthew Gentile, Jarrod Smith	
GOALS, Inverloch-K: Dylan Clark, Tate Short 2, Nicholas Baltas, Tom Hams, Lachlan Scott, Joe Soumilas 1 each	
BEST: Andrew Soumilas, Luke Johnson, Dylan Clark, Ethan Park, Nicholas Baltas, Jordan Tomas	
RESERVES	
Inverloch-K 2.2 2.3 3.5 3.6 (24)	Phillip Island 0.1 2.3 2.4 6.8 (44)
GOALS, Inverloch-K: Sasha Allen, Lachlan Crook, Malachy O'Flynn 1 each	
BEST: Adam Cross, Clinton McCaughan, Trent Bacon, Jack Butcher, Harry McInnes, Malachy O'Flynn	
GOALS, Phillip Island: Nick Anderson 2, Lucas Chihotski, Jay Ladson, James Nicolaci, Thomas Niven 1 each	
BEST: Jay Ladson, Thomas Macrokanis, Tyce Kleverkamp, Brayden Kleverkamp, Jacob Patullo, Jordy Patullo	
THIRDS	
Nar Nar Goon 0.0 2.4 3.6 4.7 (31)	Inverloch-K 3.0 3.0 4.2 4.2 (26)
GOALS, NNG: Tarrant Millar 2, Jack Murphy, Oliver Ratten 1 each	
BEST: Tom Carney, Archer Shorey, Matthew Cross, Oliver Ratten, Noah Airdrie, Jack Murphy	
GOALS, Inverloch-K: Lucas Allen, Rem Dal Pozzo, Augustus Finsterer, Maxwell Scott 1 each	
BEST: Lucas Allen, Zak Box, Maxwell Scott, Jasper Cousins, Andrew Nowell, Bayleigh Cowell	
FOURTHS	
Inverloch-K 2.1 2.1 3.3 3.3 (21)	Warragul Ind 0.0 1.5 2.5 3.6 (24)
GOALS, Inverloch-K: Augustus Finsterer 2, Harry Ashmore 1	
BEST: No names supplied.	
GOALS, Warragul Ind: Ronnie Buck, Zack Reid, Angus Watts 1 each	
BEST: Jack Morgan, Melvey Podmore, Brody Walsh, Zack Reid, Ronnie Buck, Oliver Hilton	



Beau Vernon enjoyed plenty of court time for the Australian Steelers Wheelchair Rugby Team at the Paris Paralympics. Pictured with France's Jonathan Hivernat in action during the Wheelchair Rugby Preliminary Round Group B match between Australia and France on August 30. Photo: Teresa Suarez, EPA

Beau's inspirational message from the games

YES, we were all disappointed, sitting in front of the TV on Sunday night, as the Australian Steelers Wheelchair Rugby Team went within an ace of securing a place in the gold medal match at the Paris Paralympics.

But it wasn't to be, the Steelers went down to Japan 52-51 in overtime at Arena Champs de Mars sending them to the bronze medal playoff for the second consecutive Paralympics.

By the time the Sentinel-Times hits the streets, that match, between Great Britain and Australia will have been run and won, on Monday night.

But it's not all about the game

or the colour of the medal.

Phillip Island's Beau Vernon, who played a crucial role in getting Australia to the semi-final, and almost into the gold medal playoff in what has been a fantastic competition for him personally, took time out in the Games Village to deliver an inspirational message to both able-bodied people and those with a disability about their challenges and their potential.

"Every single person has challenges unique to themselves, everybody," he said going on to describe how he has met his own considerable challenges by being prepared to step outside

his comfort zone, noting that sport can be a great vehicle for change.

He encouraged those with a disability to not only get involved in sports but to also challenge themselves with work and their approach to life generally.

And he also revealed how the achievements of a friend of his with Down Syndrome, a clear reference to the late Neville Matthies of Leongatha, inspired him to persevere with his own challenges.

Beau Vernon is a board member of disability services organisation Interact Australia and employment group MRAEL.

Yes, the Australian Steelers might have been within touching distance of a medal last Sunday night, but Beau Vernon has come away with the gold again as an inspiration to us all.

With scores locked at 47-all with 15 seconds to play in the fourth quarter, the Steelers called a strategic timeout to reset the shot clock and select the play that would win them the match.

With a successful inbound pass, the game would have been in their control.

But the pass from Australian captain Chris Bond was stolen by Japan's Ike Yukinobu who

managed the clock to send it to overtime.

When Yukinobu won the tip-off for his team to resume play, Japan scored first and held their nerve by not committing a single overtime error to lock Australia out of the contest.

"That's sport. It can be cruel sometimes. But I'm actually pretty proud of the team. That performance against, in my eyes, the favourites for this tournament. To lose by one point in overtime, to have a chance to win it with 15 seconds to go, I'm bloody proud of this team," said star of the Steelers Ryley Batt after the semi-final.



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