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Inverloch Kongwak proved too strong in the A Grade Grand Final against Dalyston. Back Row: Liza Burrows (coach), Tayla Smith (assistant coach), Millie Sadler (assistant coach), Kasey Teakle, Olivia Cumming, Ivy Hunter, Ella Sadler, Amity McInnes, Lanni Pryor, Amy Scott and Kate French. Front row: Kelsey Buxton, Johanna Radford, Asha Boyd, Kelly Boyd and Renee Pilkington.

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Back to basics, they say as council elections loom

EIGHT people have already nominated for the three Bunurong Ward seats on the Bass Coast Shire Council, covering most of Wonthaggi, all of Inverloch and Cape Paterson and the rural areas east of Wonthaggi.

Why so many? The new candidates, including former South Gippsland councillor Meg Edwards, Greens' candidate Mat Morgan, family services professional Caitlyn Robertson, Inverloch Tourism Association President Brian Robinson, and Wonthaggi North-East Precinct activist Pru Scholtes have all raised issues of interest and concern.

Former president of the Bass Coast Ratepayers and Residents Association Kevin Griffin believes he knows why they're standing.

"Could be they're supporting other candidates, they might be interested in politics or just want the money but there's certainly a level of dissatisfaction with the council and the lack of progress on issues affecting Inverloch, including the beach erosion and family services," said Mr Griffin.

"The level of rates, garbage charge and cleanliness around the towns are other issues. At Cape Paterson there's concern about over development and like the mayoral chains, we haven't received a proper explanation about what happened with the Environmental Audit Overlays in Wonthaggi.

"We're looking for councillors with integrity, honesty and transparency, who'll stand up to the bureaucracy and represent the people. It's not that hard but we're not seeing much of that," he said.

One of the candidates, Meg Edwards summed it up in a statement on social media recently as less ideology and more getting back to the basics.

"My approach is always to treat others with respect, honesty, compassion and open communication, which I believe is essential for fostering a collaborative and inclusive environment," Ms Edwards said.

"Many of our local roads



Darrell Silva is the latest to nominate for a position on the Bass Coast Shire Council, claiming there has been a "lack of accountability and clarity on decision making at the Bass Coast Shire Council". He is one of six people nominating to contest the Island Ward.

are appalling at the moment, yet the focus of council over recent years has been on flagship monuments causing cost blowouts and ideology. Council needs to stick to core services; done well, effectively and efficiently and otherwise get out of the way, especially where small business (and agriculture) is concerned, which is the engine room of a local economy that fuels both the needs and wants of our community.

"Let's fix our local roads, encourage investment and development that is done in an environmentally balanced way, and provide opportunities in our region.

"Let's get council back to basics and get Bass in business," she said.

A member of Inverloch Community Voice, Monique Wilson, has reached out to candidates seeking their views on a range of issues, and claiming Inverloch hasn't been adequately represented.

"Over recent years, it has become increasingly clear that Inverloch has not been adequately represented in

local government. Many pressing issues continue to go unaddressed, and it feels as though our town is being left behind compared to other parts of the Bass Coast region," Ms Wilson said.

"Despite our growing population and status as a popular tourist destination, Inverloch currently lacks key infrastructure and services such as electric vehicle charging stations, new and improved play spaces for families, sufficient parking for large vehicles, and designated off-leash dog areas. We also do not have a comprehensive streetscape plan to maintain the town's charm or initiatives like public Wi-Fi, CCTV, and a visible police presence to enhance safety and security.

"Additionally, Inverloch has not been properly branded or promoted as a destination in its own right. On the 'Visit Bass Coast' website, for instance, our town does not even have its own dedicated page — it is bundled together with Cape Paterson, despite the unique character and needs of each community."

Ms Wilson goes on to express concern that the Inverloch Boat Ramp might soon be closed during school holidays and possibly well into summer as well.

Will that sort of community sentiment be enough to sweep the three sitting Bunurong Ward members from office; Leticia Laing, Les Larke and Brett Tessari? Time will tell.

So far, six candidates have indicated they'll be standing for the Island Ward including Ron Bauer (incumbent), Tracey Bell, Tim O'Brien, David Rooks (incumbent), Darrell Silver and John Trigt.

And there have been six nominations in Western Port, ahead of Tuesday's close of nominations including Rochelle Halstead, Glenda Minty, Brian O'Farrell, Nikole Shellekens, Jon Temby and Jan Thompson.

At South Gippsland

At South Gippsland Shire, the nominations have been slow to arrive at the Victorian Electoral Office in Smith Street Leongatha. Nominations in Tarwin Valley (Leongatha/Mirboo North) include Don Hill, Kathleen Murray, John Schelling, Brad Snell, Aaron Taylor, former Councillor Rosemary Cousin, John Schelling and Clare Williams. In Coastal Promontory Scott Rae, Sarah Gilligan, Steve Finlay and Emma McKay have so far nominated. In Strzelecki Ward, only Nathan Hersey and Jenni Keerie have nominated to date but community services professional Bronwyn Beach has confirmed her intention to stand as have veteran former South Gippsland councillor Jim Forbes and Korumburra businessman John Kennedy.

Nominations close at 12 noon on Tuesday, September 17, the ballot draw will be held on Wednesday, September 18 and the mailout of voting packs, in the all-postal election, will begin on Monday, October 7.

Voting closes at 6pm on Friday, October 25 and results are expected to be known on Wednesday after the Melbourne Cup.



Kevin's car stolen after 90th birthday celebrations

KORUMBURRA man Kevin Smith recently celebrated his 90th birthday over a fun weekend of events with family and friends but got an unpleasant surprise on Sunday when he found his car had been stolen.

Kevin, known locally as Coog, enjoyed a night of celebrations on Friday two weeks ago at the Top Pub in Korumburra, with many of his friends made during his 70 years at the Leongatha and District Cricket Association, many of those years spent as President.

On the following Saturday night, 26 of Kevin's family members joined him at Crown Casino in Melbourne for a leisurely dinner where he caught up with relatives, some who'd made the journey down from Queensland.

What had been a lovely weekend of celebrations turned into shock on Sunday morning when Kevin walked out his back door to find his car missing.

Kevin asked his son where it was, who replied that it was in the garage.

"I looked out there and it wasn't out there at all," Kevin said.

The nonagenarian and his son jumped into another car and started driving around to see if they might, on the off chance, spot the stolen car.

When they got to Tooradin, they saw a similar looking vehicle parked almost out of view, behind a service station.

Kevin checked it, and extraordinarily it was indeed his car and even better, it appeared to be undamaged.

He phoned the police and then waited for five hours for them to arrive.

The police took the car to the Cranbourne Police Station to have it fingerprinted, leaving Kevin without a car for over three weeks, not a great birthday present.

"It was pretty ordinary," Kevin said, about the theft.

"There's plenty of it around. You just don't know who's walking around here now."

Kevin commented that he had been able to safely leave his keys in the car for the last 30 or 40 years, all without a hitch, until now.

"I won't be doing that again," he said.

Kevin gratefully received his car back from the police on Friday.

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Shower or two.	Showers increasing.	Showers.	Showers.	Showers easing.	Shower or two.
Wind AM: NW-SW 25-35km/h Wind PM: NW 15-20km/h	Wind AM: NW 15-25km/h Wind PM: W 20-25km/h	Wind AM: W 25-35km/h Wind PM: NW 20-25km/h	Wind AM: NW 25-35km/h Wind PM: NW 25-35km/h	Wind AM: NW 20-25km/h Wind PM: W 20-30km/h	Wind AM: NW 15-25km/h Wind PM: W 20-30km/h
8° 15°	8° 19°	7° 15°	8° 17°	9° 16°	8° 17°

IN BRIEF

Now listen: Ross
Wilson is coming

LEGENDARY ARIA Hall of Famer, Ross Wilson is heading to Wonthaggi early next month as part of his Now Listen, We're Stepping Out: 50 Years of Hits tour.

From Daddy Cool to Mondo Rock and as a solo artist with no less than 26 ARIA Top 40 hits to his credit as a singer, songwriter and producer, Ross Wilson is one of Australia's most awarded, respected and well-known artists!

And he'll be performing at the Wonthaggi Union Community Arts Centre on Friday, October 4 as part of a national tour. Tickets at TryBooking Australia.

Vlocity trains
through to Bairnsdale

THE fight to keep the main Gippsland railway line open right through to Bairnsdale has paid big dividends with the State Government upgrading the line, and announcing this week that VLocity class trains would be added to the route.

Pity V/Line passenger services stopped running to Leongatha in July 1993.

The VLocity train service to Bairnsdale started last Sunday; stopping at Trafalgar, Yarragon, Longwarry, Bunyip, Tynong and Nar Nar Goon.

Minister for Public and Active Transport Gabrielle Williams announced last Thursday that the remaining two locomotive-hauled classic fleet services on the Bairnsdale line have now been retired, making way for new modern and efficient VLocity trains.

"We're delivering a better train service for Gippsland – with modern and reliable VLocity trains running on all services, and cheaper fares so that passengers can get to where they need to go," said Labor Member for Eastern Victoria Tom McIntosh.

Nelson Street works
to commence

ROAD rehabilitation work on Nelson Street in Foster will be starting soon following the award of a contract to local company, Ace Earthmoving. The works will include installation of new underground drainage and reconstruction of kerbs and road pavement. The footpath will also be renewed – and extended – to the caravan park and recreation reserve.

The work was identified as a priority for delivery in the adopted 2024/25 Capital Works Program, under South Gippsland Shire Council's sealed road rehabilitation program. The project will extend the full length of Nelson Street from Main Street to Varney Road.

Works will be completed over the coming months, with an expected completion date of mid-2025.

There will be some disruption to property access and driveways for short periods during the project, with impacted residents notified in advance. Kerbside waste collection services will operate as normal, unless notified.

Temporary detours may be in place during key construction activities. The use of alternate routes during the construction period is encouraged, where possible.

The cost of the works approximately \$1.65 million.

Night for Island
candidates

ISLAND Voice, formerly the Phillip Island Progress Association, is offering an opportunity to "meet the candidates" ahead of the Bass Coast Shire Council elections on Tuesday night, September 17 at the Phillip Island RSL in Cowes.

Representative of the group, Peter McMahon, says he has received acceptances from all six candidates from the Island Ward who have so far nominated or indicated they will nominate by the close, at

12 noon on September 17.

They include: Ron Bauer, Tracey Bell, Tim O'Brien, David Rooks, Darrell Silver and John Trigt.

"We've invited all of the candidates from across the shire, but it looks like being more of a night for Island candidates," said Mr McMahon.

"Probably just as well, it might have been difficult to hear from 20 or more," he said.

Hot issues set to be canvassed at the night include the lack of progress being made on the 'Carnival Land' sports precinct at Cowes, coastal erosion at Silverleaves and waste management issues, among others.

Voting can begin from October 8 onwards when the ballot pack mailout begins.

Multi-unit development
not wanted here, they say

THERE might be a housing crisis nationally, but the community of Ventnor don't want to be part of the solution, not with multi-unit development and higher-density living anyway.

And the Bass Coast Shire Council is listening.

Last Monday, September 16, they listened to 24 objectors and rejected a development for the construction of two dwellings on a lot, a two-lot subdivision, and the removal of vegetation at 31 Fisher Street, Ventnor for the second time.

They did so in line with a motion from Cr David Rooks that went against the recommendations of council officers, that the application "has been assessed against the Bass Coast Planning Scheme and is considered meritorious, resulting in an orderly planning outcome".

Cr Rooks explained why he didn't believe the project was appropriate.

"I wanted to put this forward as a refusal based on our adoption of the Bass Coast Housing Strategy that Council adopted in July 2024," said Cr Rooks.

He went on to explain that the strategy sets out appropriate development and boundaries for the shire's settlements, including that for Ventnor, and the council and the community had opted for minimal change.

"And minimal change is areas where subdivisions and multi-dwelling developments should be discouraged. So, this sort of planning application is exactly what the Ventnor township does not want, and not necessarily what the strategy wants either," said Cr Rooks.

"I think the Ventnor people are happy with their low to medium density township and there were 24 people that opposed this subdivision who were still wanting minimal change in their area," he said.

The other councillors agreed with him.

Last rights for
local cemeteries

WHILE Bass Coast Shire Council has completed the voluntary transfer of the Wonthaggi Cemetery Trust and the San Remo Cemetery Trust to the Southern Metropolitan Cemeteries Trust (SMCT), who are specialists in the management of cemeteries, the shire still had some responsibilities to discharge.

Last Monday they approved the annual accounts of the two cemeteries which noted that Wonthaggi Cemetery Wonthaggi Cemetery returned a profit of \$30,385.66, which is down on previous years and the San Remo Cemetery San Remo Cemetery returned a profit of \$10,732.91 for 2023/24. Council subsidised the delivery of general maintenance which prevented further impact on the net result.

Throughout the year demand for interments increased at San Remo but were steady at Wonthaggi, according to a report to last week's council meeting.

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Lifesaving club petition tabled in parliament

A PETITION delivered to State Parliament last week, calling for urgent engineering works to protect the main beach at Inverloch and the surf lifesaving club, garnered 2575 signatures in five days.

Many more people have since added their names as well.

The petition, tabled by Eastern Victoria MLC Melina Bath in the Legislative Council last Thursday, September 12, will trigger a debate about the impact of coastal erosion on the Inverloch Surf Lifesaving Club, surf beach, dunes and public and private assets and what to do about it on Wednesday, October 16.

Visiting the beach recently, to see the damage from last week's storm firsthand, Ms Bath claimed the government had its head in the sand over what was needed to address the problems at Inverloch.

"Disingenuous consultation and layers of government bureaucracy have stymied active intervention, which would have better protected the coastline," Ms Bath said. "In the past 10 years over 70 metres of beach-front has been lost to erosion."

"The Cape-to-Cape Resilience Project draft plan, led



President of the Inverloch Surf Lifesaving Club, Glenn Arnold, left, and treasurer Stephen Duncan, present their petition to Nationals Leader Peter Walsh and Eastern Victoria MLC Melina Bath at State Parliament last Thursday.

by the Labor government, has taken four years to produce and offers no actionable recommendations," she said.

"The community sentiment embodied in this petition makes a compelling case for the State Government to save the Inverloch Surf Lifesaving Club and one of Victoria's safest and most iconic surf beaches."

Ms Bath emphasised that the government needs to look

a few hundred metres down the beach in both directions to see examples of engineering solutions that are being used to good effect.

"The overwhelming response to this petition shows that the Inverloch community is extremely concerned about the future of their much-loved beach and public assets."

"Residents understand the critical role the surf beach

and lifesaving club play in the town's social and economic future and are determined not to let it wash away.

"Dune restoration and engineering solutions to combat coastal erosion are long overdue," said Ms Bath.

Ms Bath thanked the surf club representatives, president Glenn Arnold and treasurer Stephen Duncan for their leadership on the issue.

New stats on youth crime revealed

VICTORIA is facing an unprecedented surge in youth crime, according to a statement by the State Opposition parties, The Liberals and Nationals, this week, claiming aggravated home burglaries committed by young offenders have skyrocketed over the past decade.

They say the government has released data which reveals the average rate of residential aggravated burglaries committed in 2015 by an offender aged 10 to 17 was one every three days.

"This has increased to 3.4 per day in the latest statistics released by the government."

The claims made by the Opposition are certainly backed up locally by the increase in aggravated burglaries and car thefts in Leongatha, Inverloch, Wonthaggi and other locations in Bass Coast and South Gippsland.

On Sunday, September 8 between the hours of 9.30pm and 7am on Monday morning, a vehicle was stolen from a home in Inverloch where the offenders entered the house through a rear glass sliding door and stole the keys to a black 2022 Isuzu MUX. A handbag in the vehicle was also stolen.

Police are still seeking information about the incident which is just the latest in a string of such crimes locally.

The Opposition statement goes on to say "this is a 934 per cent increase in the annual number of residential aggravated burglaries committed by young offenders over the decade, soaring from 119 in 2015, to 1230 in 2024 – over 1000 extra victims terrorised in their home."

"These numbers are not just statistics. They represent real risks to the community, real victims and a growing number of Victorians feeling unsafe in their own home," said Shadow Minister for Police, Brad Battin.

Chinese delegation welcomed in Korumburra

REPRESENTATIVES of South Gippsland Shire Council and local dairy manufacturers met with a delegation from Pidur district in China last Wednesday to explore potential trade and collaboration opportunities.

The visiting Chinese group was hosted by council, with Deputy Mayor Nathan Hersey and council staff warmly welcoming the delegation to Korumburra, council giving a presentation about South Gippsland Shire's strengths and highlighting our regional economy and robust dairy sector.

Leading figures in the local dairy industry, including representatives from South Gippsland Dairy, GippsDairy, ViPlus Dairy and Burra Foods, also gave presentations. The visit offered an excellent opportunity to discuss potential collaboration and investment links.

"The meeting with the delegation from the Pidur district in China provided a fantastic opportunity to promote our region and to potentially expand our global trade connections," South Gippsland Shire Council CEO Kerry Ellis said.

The delegation also engaged in a cultural exchange, sharing insights into Pidur's historical and cultural background, with the visiting Chinese taken on a quick tour of Coal Creek, learning about some of South Gippsland's history and culture.

Dune works but no 'hard' engineering for Inverloch

IN THE face of a massive movement of sand at Inverloch's surf beach, as a result of the damaging week to 10 days of winds and tidal surges two weeks ago, the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (DEECA) has issued a works update.

They've also appealed to the community to provide input into the long-running Cape to Cape Resilience Plan process via survey or submission.

The release of the final report is not due out until mid-2025.

However, while the department says the draft plan and research done to date "is informing the present-day response from the Victorian Government", only those options relating to "dune reconstruction and beach renourishment" are being acted upon, not any of the "hard" engineering options also outlined in the Cape report including reefs, dredging,

groynes, rock walls, breakwaters, flood/tidal barriers, drainage and road upgrades.

DEECA's response

Here in full is the response from DEECA, dated Friday, September 13 headed "Cape to Cape Resilience Plan shaping coastal hazard response":

The Cape to Cape Resilience Plan, currently open for public consultation, is informing the present day response from the Victorian Government in the face of coastal hazards such as tidal inundation and storm surges, as experienced recently on coastlines at Inverloch.

The Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (DEECA) will begin the process of dune reconstruction and beach renourishment at Inverloch, with \$3.3 million funded by the Australian Government's Coastal and Estuarine Risk Mitigation Program in 2022 for

initial implementation actions. Coastal engineers are engaged and detailed design work for dune reconstruction is presently out for tender.

DEECA intends to undertake the renourishment work in 2025.

"The Cape to Cape Resilience Plan is currently out for public feedback and will inform how the local community respond to events such as these in the future," said Darrin McKenzie, Regional Director DEECA Gippsland.

"It's vital that communities between Cape Paterson to Cape Liptrap share their feedback now, as we plan for events of the future, not just those immediately in front of us."

The Cape to Cape Resilience Plan is a draft coastal hazard adaptation plan, encompassing present day conditions, hazards, technical assessments and predicted changes such as rising sea levels, coastal flooding and the impact of erosion

between Cape Paterson to Cape Liptrap in the decades to come.

DEECA is working with Bass Coast Shire Council, Department of Transport and Planning, Parks Victoria, Heritage Victoria and the West Gippsland Catchment Management Authority to respond to the erosion at Inverloch Surf Beach.

Bass Coast Shire Council (BCSC) and Department of Transport and Planning (DTP) have undertaken emergency renourishment works.

DEECA continues to actively monitor Inverloch Surf Beach through its Victorian Coastal Monitoring Program, and a post-storm drone survey was piloted on September 4.

Community and stakeholders are strongly encouraged to read the draft Plan and participate in the survey on Engage Victoria to provide their views and feedback. Submissions close 11.59pm on September 22, 2024.



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Tourism can go two ways

IT'S tricky, right? Bass Coast Shire Council wants to support regional tourism, but it would rather not be involved in two regional tourism associations.

When a review of regional tourism peak bodies is published soon, they may get what they want but be careful what you wish for.

The council was discussing extending its partnership with Destination Gippsland at Monday's council meeting, noting that it also supports Destination Phillip Island.

Cr Leticia Laing said council's partnership with Destination Gippsland was a long-standing one and was a key involvement promoting the local tourism industry. She said she had heard nothing but good things about Bass Coast's involvement in Destination Gippsland.

Cr Rochelle Halstead expressed concern that Bass Coast was the only municipality in the state which supported two area tourism organisations, calling on the government to increase funding while also coming up with one representative body for the local shire.

Cr Michael Whelan agreed with what Cr Halstead said but raised concerns about the State Government review, trying to get six tourism areas to represent tourism in the state.

"We really need something that addresses what our businesses need not what addresses what the bureaucracy needs.

"Destination Phillip Island and Destination Gippsland do a great job but we are at the extremity of it here," said Cr Whelan, hoping they continue to do a good job for this region until such time as decisions were made about regional management and promotion.

Great place for a holiday

DESPITE receiving 16 objections, the Bass Coast Shire Council has supported the modest expansion of group accommodation facility 'Five Acres' at 46 McHaffies Lane Ventnor in adding an additional cabin.

Although there was some conjecture at the meeting about whether there are three cabins or four on the site presently.

In December 2018 a permit was issued for "the construction of three single-storey group accommodation cabins" on the site, but an interjector, and clearly an objector, at yesterday's council meeting claimed council was wrong, and there are actually four cabins.

The objector was ruled out of order by the Mayor Cr Clare Le Serve, because members of the public gallery must have permission to speak, and council approved the application.

Cr David Rooks moved the motion.

"The extra cabin will not be seen from the road and will be about one kilometre from the coastline," he said.

Cr Ron Bauer said he had walked the area and noted that this was exactly the sort of eco-tourism experience the council should be supporting in Bass Coast.

Whether it's three or four presently, there's going to be another cabin there soon.

There's no stopping Cr Les Larke

VETERAN Bass Coast Shire Councillor Les Larke is back in the race.

Cr Larke made the announcement that he was standing for election again in the Bunurong Ward on his way to the Victorian Electoral Commission office in Wonthaggi to complete his candidate nomination paperwork last Friday.

"Yes, I've decided to stand again," Cr Larke said on Friday.

"I've had an excellent response to the medication I am on, and I've made a remarkable recovery," he said of diagnosis during the year for Parkinsons disease.

However, while PD can't be cured, medicines can significantly improve outcomes and that appears to be the case for Cr Larke.

"There's literally a cast of thousands running but you've got to be in it to win it."

Cr Larke said there were still some issues he wanted to pursue on behalf of the people of Bass Coast and with a new-

look council he believed there would be more opportunity to introduce some of the reforms he would like to see made.

Cr Larke said he would have more to say over the next few weeks.

The decision to re-nominate has come as a huge surprise to his colleagues on council who have supported him during his illness, one councillor noting that they had not seen Cr Larke in person for much of the year.

Under modern communications arrangements at Bass Coast, however, councillors can opt to attend meetings and briefing sessions by video link.

The decision by Cr Larke to run again brings to eight the number of candidates vying for the three Bunurong positions on the Bass Coast Shire Council.

They are Meg Edwards, Leticia Laing, Les Larke, Mat Morgan, Caitlyn Robertson, Brian Robinson, Pru Scholtes and Brett Tessari.



Veteran Bunurong Ward Councillor Les Larke on his way to make a surprise nomination to stand for the election in the Bass Coast Shire next month.

Not planning for pool funding according to Bass Coast Shire

THE lack of progress being made on the Cowes Recreation Master Plan, especially the development of a swimming pool complex and additional sporting fields is shaping as the key election issue on Phillip Island ahead of the council elections next month.

At the last, unrestricted meeting of the Bass Coast Shire Council on Monday this week, before the shire goes into 'Election Mode' on Tuesday, September 17, six of the 15 community questions related to the 'Carnival Land' purchased by the council for sporting and recreation facilities in Cowes.

A question from council candidate John Trigt revealed that the Bass Coast Shire Council wasn't even making an application for funding under the Federal Government's Growing Regions Fund which provides funding of between \$500,000 and \$15 million to local government for capital works projects that will "enhance liveability, bolster social cohesion and support local amenity throughout Australia's regions".

Round 2 opened for applications on September 5, 2024 and will close on October 10, 2024.

Round 2 will provide \$393 million to fund eligible capital works projects across rural and regional Australia.

"As councillors are aware, the Federal Government's \$600 million Growing Regions program, this is funding for pools and sporting ovals to support community liveability, is now open. The Surf Coast Shire recently announced construction of a pool for completion in 2026 under this program. Are our council officers working towards a grant submission for a pool or sporting ovals," asked Mr Trigt.

"No, the council contribution required for this program is not in the current budget. Following the adoption of the Phillip Island Recreation Reserve Master Plan, future funding is subject to review of Council's long-term financial plan," said the CEO Greg Box in reply.

In other words, the council doesn't have the funds to match a grant from the government nor are they likely to anytime soon with an allocation for the implementation of the master plan not even on council's horizon.

Mr Trigt and another community question submitter Andrew Marston continued in that vein asking about when the Carnival Land would be rezoned ready for the development of community sporting facilities.

"Will Council start rezoning the carnival site now so that it is shovel-ready if they were

successful in obtaining a Federal grant to build a pool or sporting facilities?" asked Mr Trigt.

Andrew Marston wrote that Phillip Island had waited years for a swimming pool and sporting facilities.

"The football club desperately needs more ovals. Dogs in Bass Coast have fewer safe exercise spaces than just about anywhere in Australia. Council purchased 80 acres of land for recreation. When will you honour your commitment and rezone to facilitate progress?" Mr Marston asked.

"Currently, no funding applications have been submitted to State or Federal grant programs for the development of recreation facilities at the Cowes Recreation Reserve. Grant applications typically require a financial contribution from Council, and at this stage, the projects identified in the Philip Island Recreation Reserve Master Plan are not included in Council's budget. Future funding is subject to review of Council's long-term financial plan," said CEO Greg Box in response.

Mr Box had said earlier in the meeting to questions about the rezoning of the Carnival Land that funding allocations to such projects were guided by

the shire's 10-year Long-term Financial Plan 2021-31 and the Phillip Island Recreation Master Plan was only adopted in 2023 and therefore not included in the 10-year plan.

Later in Monday's council meeting, the council adopted its Open Space and Pathways Asset Management Plan, under which it maintains the condition of 17,918 open space and pathway assets. In so doing the council increased funding for this work by \$150,000 annually, or \$1.484 million over 10 years.

Cr Rochelle Halstead said that while she realised the maintenance plan did not fund new builds, she wanted to see more effort devoted to developing Phillip Island's recreation facilities.

"I just wanted to pick up on Cr Laing mentioning that this plan doesn't cover future builds, and she's very correct in saying that. But I would also call for progress on the Cowes Recreational Master Plan, because our sporting clubs are absolutely bulging at the seams, and there is a real need in that space. So, I just wanted to add, yes, that this particular plan doesn't include future builds, but I'd love to see Council putting a little bit of attention in that space," said Cr Halstead.



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Caitlyn Robertson joins race for Bunurong

BASS Coast Shire Council election candidate nominations close at 12 noon today, Tuesday, September 17 but there's already a "cast of thousands" in the running for the Bunurong Ward alone.

Actually, it's eight candidates who've nominated for Bunurong so far, but you get the idea.

Meg Edwards, Leticia Laming, Les Larke, Mat Morgan, Caitlyn Robertson, Brian Robinson, Pru Scholtes and Brett Tessari have all thrown their hats into the ring and there may be others by the close of nominations.

One of the latest to announce her candidature in Bunurong is Inverloch resident and vice president of the Inverloch School Council Caitlyn Robertson.

A Senior Policy and Research Officer at Centre for Excellence in Child and Family Welfare, the peak body for child and family services in Victoria, she has a special interest in children's services, however, after moving to Inverloch to work during COVID she's found this area to be the perfect place to raise a family.

"Mum's family is from the Korumburra area, so we've always come down here, but



Family and child services policy and research officer Caitlyn Robertson has joined the race for the Bunurong Ward of the Bass Coast Shire Council, taking in most of Wonthaggi, Cape Paterson, Inverloch and Wattlebank.

it was during COVID, when I got the chance to work from home that we decided to make the move. It's been great."

As well as the school council, Caitlyn has become involved in the Cape Paterson

Surf Lifesaving Club, where the family originally settled, as a parent participant and generally immersed herself in the community as much as she can.

In a statement she released this week, Caitlyn said she

has "proudly announced she is standing for the upcoming Bass Coast Council election, committing to increasing road maintenance funding, improving services for children and families, and protecting the natural environment that makes the Bass Coast so special."

Caitlyn says she is standing for the Bunurong Ward of the Bass Coast Shire Council, and wants to make sure the people of Inverloch and surrounds have a strong voice to advocate for them on their council.

"I love living here on the Bass Coast, but we deserve safer roads, more services that families need right here in Inverloch and mental health services, and more access to quality, affordable childcare for all families," said Caitlyn this week.

"I am running on a commitment to increase road maintenance funding, improve health and childcare services for families, and save the Inverloch Surf Life Saving Club from coastal erosion.

"Inverloch can't go another four years without a seat at the table and if elected I will ensure Inverloch and every community on the Bass Coast is heard."

Waste Management future clearer in South Gippsland Shire

WHILE few would find waste management an exciting topic, it's certainly important with South Gippsland Shire Council adopting its new Waste and Resource Recovery Plan (WRRP) at its September council meeting.

The document will guide relevant activities over the next 10 years, helping promote environmental benefits for the South Gippsland area. The new plan fills the void left by council's outdated Waste Management Strategy and was developed with the assistance of councillor and community input, with community consultation on the draft version occurring earlier this year.

A key issue referred to in the new WRRP is the need to plan for the replacement of the Koonwarra Landfill as it moves towards the end of its lifespan, giving consideration to changing waste dynamics. The Koonwarra Landfill site is expected to have eight to 10 more years of service, with the need for an innovative approach for its replacement.

It is stated in the new plan that Environmental Protection Authority regulation changes make it unlikely an extension of the Koonwarra Landfill or construction of a new landfill in South Gippsland will gain approval.

"Accordingly, the direction has shifted to focusing on innovative and sustainable waste management solutions that align with the legislation, contemporary environmental standards and community expectations," it is stated.

That includes measures to enhance recycling opportunities and divert material from landfill, with community education seen as an important way of helping achieve objectives.

The new plan also takes account of requirements under the State Government's Food Organics Garden Organics (FOGO) bin requirements.

"Waste is something council spends a lot of time thinking about because it's a significant cost to council dealing with waste and it's important that we're at the cutting edge and we're doing something about it," Cr Mohya Davies said during the council meeting.

She described the WRRP as "a path forward for the next 10 years", noting it has been through the appropriate process, is in line with Victorian guidelines and will perform an important educational role in helping community members understand the cost of waste and how it is managed.

"There will be auditing of bins, so the community will need to take greater regard with how they manage their bins because if they contaminate the recycling bins it becomes an additional cost to council," Cr Davies said.

Council has stated that regular auditing of kerbside bins will guide education and behaviour change programs.

Cr Sarah Gilligan stressed council doesn't make money out of waste collection and is working with its regional partners, engaging in initiatives that collectively reduce waste and costs to individual councils, providing savings for ratepayers.

Having urged people not to buy things they don't need and reuse items where possible, Cr Scott Rae summed up the ultimate challenge of waste management.

"We've only got on one planet and we've only got so many holes to fill up," he declared.

Cr Darakai's parting shot struck from the record

COUNCILLOR Adrian Darakai confirmed during Wednesday's South Gippsland Shire Council meeting that he won't be seeking re-election due to work and family commitments while delivering a glowing assessment of Council's achievements over the last three years.

He also took a parting shot at former mayor, Don Hill, who has nominated for election next month, reminding voters of the allegations of dysfunction, bullying and misconduct that dogged the previous regime and ultimately brought about the council's dismissal in June 2019.

"I just want to use this as a reminder to our community to be able to learn from the lessons of history, so that we

don't repeat them," said Cr Darakai.

Cr Darakai also made some additional allegations that have since been removed from the YouTube recording of the meeting, reportedly as a legal precaution.

He spoke positively about his own time on council, saying it has been a privilege being part of the councillor group and expressing his gratitude to those who elected him, albeit acknowledging that he was the first choice of one in seven voters, correcting that later to one in 10.

He noted that while the demands of his work and the recent arrival of a baby daughter won't allow him to contest this election, he is interested in running again sometime in the future.

Combined with his usual moments of humour, Cr Darakai reflected on his motivation for joining council and what he feels has been accomplished.

"I stood to provide a positive alternative and that is what I have been and will continue to be until the end of our term," he said, also highlighting the stability of the current council and its improved image.

He expressed his appreciation of the council staff and the leadership of CEO Kerry Ellis and the executive leadership team.

"My life circumstances have changed since coming onto council, academically and employment-wise and we've welcomed our first child into our family," Cr Darakai said of his decision not to nominate.

He also said that before coming to council he used to fit comfortably into his suit and have more hair but that these were among the sacrifices for being a local government representative.

Offering some advice for the new council, he encouraged them to zoom out from the details and take a more strategic view of the future for South Gippsland, and to seek to continue the stability, trust and unity developed by the present council.

To listen to the edited version of the livestream recording of the September 11, 2024, South Gippsland Shire Council meeting search 'South Gippsland Shire livestreaming' and select the September 11 YouTube recording (1:05:35).

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The proposed Blue Mackerel offshore wind project will be approximately 10km from shore near Seaspray. Subject to approvals, Blue Mackerel could deliver 1GW of renewable energy by 2032, providing over half a million Victorian homes with green power.

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Register at: bluemackerel.com.au/connect

Seaspray Surf Life Saving Club

Thursday 19 September, 3pm – 6pm

Friday 20 September, 3pm – 6pm

Sale Producers Market

Saturday 21 September, 10am – 1pm



Venus Bay resident Robert Field wants safer roads for Tarwin Lower.

More pothole pain

LOOK OUT, no, too late. Another motorist slams deep into Tarwin Lower's notorious 'hole in the road'. Gouged deeper with each passing vehicle the brightly spray-marked, giant pothole continues to frustrate residents and visitors approaching Tarwin Lower just before the Tarwin River bridge. "Why hasn't something been done to fix it?" they ask. Local identity and long-time campaigner for safer roads for all road users, Robert Field says he has been complaining about the road and its potholes for years. "And I'm not the only person," explains Robert. According to Robert, the pothole has been growing in size each passing day since November. "I blame VicRoads," Robert grumbles. Despite numerous emails back and forth from VicRoads and the South Gippsland Shire Robert says nothing has been done. "There was a report four years ago. "Lots of families and children use the road on their bikes." "There's nowhere to go to avoid the pothole," warns Robert, a cyclist himself. "You can't just veer off the road." Robert has complained to the local State Member of Parliament and has the support of residents and shopkeepers, including Tarwin Lower Hotel and the local IGA. "Something has to be done before someone is injured."

Coastal resilience meeting postponed

IN AN ironic turn of events, a forum for Victorian Coastal Councils to address risk and liability due to coastal hazards was postponed because of severe weather and storm surge warnings. Ultimately it was deemed too risky to ask people to travel for the September 6 meeting, the very reason for the forum was the reason it could not go ahead. The Building Coastal Resilience Together forum is a collaboration between South Gippsland Shire Council, the Municipal Association of Victoria and JLT (Public Sector Risk). Its purpose was to gather Victoria's coastal councils together in Venus Bay, to discuss coastal hazards, the impacts on coastal communities, and how the local government sector can address the many risk and liability issues in future and legacy planning effectively. "It is disappointing the event could not go ahead, especially as there would have been economic benefits for our local community, however we will continue to work behind the scenes," Clare Williams, Mayor South Gippsland Shire Council said. "Council is already collaborating closely with other coastal councils – and the Victorian Government – to progress our Resilient Coastal Communities advocacy priority. We have had significant success in this space to date, with \$200,000 in grant funding secured in coastal hazard assessments and endorsed Motions with the Municipal Association of Victoria. The forum was a continuation of Council's successful advocacy efforts on coastal hazard mitigation and adaptation planning and is planned to go ahead in the next council term." Organisers are now working with the 20 coastal councils to gain an understanding of the coastal vulnerabilities of each Council area, which will help to build a unified position and way forward.

Three deaths every fortnight

**Warning: This article contains references to mental health, suicide and defence force trauma.*

AN AVERAGE of 78 serving or ex-serving Australian Defence Force (ADF) members have died by suicide each year for the past 10 years. An average of three deaths every fortnight. According to the final report by the Royal Commission into Defence and Veteran Suicide, 'males serving in combat and security roles are twice as likely to die by suicide than Australian employed males.' The report is long, includes 122 recommendations and is black and white. Action is needed. The first of which, 'Improve the capacity of future royal commissions to undertake their inquiries.' This first point does not go unnoticed by Veterans and Inverloch RSL personnel, President Ross Gabb, Secretary Lindsay Guerin, Vice President-Welfare Julie de Bondt and Rod Gallagher. "It sits on its own. A recommendation from the Royal Commission to change the Royal Commission Act to enforce the release of documentation. The Department of Defence fought this all the way," Mr Gallagher stated. The report is damning, but not unexpected. Each Veteran knows of at least one service member who has taken their own life, and staggeringly "the 80-year-old is a growth area in suicide." As stated in 'Shining A Light – Stories of Trauma & Tragedy, Hope & Healing', released during the Royal Commission inquiry, 'During Australia's longest war – the more than 20 years spent in Afghanistan – we lost 41 soldiers killed in action. Sadly, we now know that we lost to suicide at least 1677 serving and ex-serving members between 1997 and 2021.' As highlighted by a current serving member, 'I have seen people leave Defence and spiral out of control because they couldn't cope. A lot of colleagues who got out in the last twelve months have echoed my situation that the process is broken and they were left not knowing if they were supported.' This statement echoes those of Inverloch RSL. The number one most important recommendation from the Royal Commission for the Veterans speaking up at Inverloch RSL is the need for a transitional department. "Transition and support for families is key. Transition out of intuitionism and back to civilian life. That is very, very difficult. It's very hard to settle." Whilst acknowledging that around ninety per cent of veterans have a very satisfying career, the quartet remains committed that the transition must be a priority and actioned immediately. "It needs to be totally independent. Not tied to the ADF or Department of Veterans Affairs, and has to be set up correctly" that includes experts with their own lived experience within the defence force or exceptional training that



Veteran Rod Gallagher, Inverloch RSL President Ross Gabb and Secretary Lindsay Guerin hope action is taken immediately from the Royal Commission inquiry. C21_3824

includes time spent on base, they explained. The entity would support veterans and their families from institution to civilian life. Whether that be highlighting new jobs within the defence force (thus assisting with defence retention) or assisting with job seeking outside of the force; assistance with finance management – including the application of veteran pensions and compensation; mental health support with those medically trained in defence force trauma/life; and guiding veterans to local support services, events and activities to re-integrate into community. "I went through 10 jobs in 12 months when I returned," Mr Gabb stated, an example himself of the challenges veterans face re-integrating into the workforce. 'Leaving the Defence Force, besides changing a person's lifestyle, is very traumatic. During many years of service, a bond is formed with fellow members equivalent to having a family of close-knit kin. Although [this is] not always appreciated, leaving is like a husband losing his entire family in a car accident (Shining A Light, pg 102).' "The best advice I ever gave a young veteran, who did two tours of Afghanistan (when I was an advocate)," Mr Gallagher explained, "and he came to me and said, 'I want to get out'. I asked, 'What are you going to do?' He didn't know. I said, stay and get a posting as an engineer. He trained as a diesel mechanic and is still in the service." The Royal Commission's report highlights 'When members separate from the ADF, for any reason, it puts pressure on recruitment. Defence told us that a one per cent increase in separation can require up to a five per cent increase in recruitment to compensate.' Defence has said that: retaining high-quality experienced staff is as important as attracting new talent... For others though, staying

is not an option, and years of conditional training and instantaneous actions cannot be undone by walking out the gates. "The transition needs to start 12 months before a service member leaves," Mr Gabb said. "We're here to talk about what we can do. Of the 122 recommendations, I would estimate that probably 10 the RSL could play a part in," Mr Guerin added. "The public perception has continued for a number of years that we are a 'group of old guys'. You don't need to be an RSL member to get help. Any young bloke/woman, or any veteran who walks in here, the first thing we're going to ask is, are you alright? What can we do for you?" Mr Guerin explained. Mr Gallagher added, "you served your country, you are a mate, member or not." Behind the scenes, Inverloch and other local RSLs have supported and continue to support veterans, whether that is assisting with bills through to welfare, with Mr Guerin noting that a recent RSL Active event saw veterans from Melbourne attend. And whilst it is hoped action happens immediately to support current service personnel and veterans, the quartet doesn't want to see it rushed and backfire. "The Royal Commission into Defence and Veteran Suicide has shed light on critical issues affecting the mental health of veterans, however, it cannot go unnoticed that days after the report was released, the Brereton Report was released, the timing is terrible." Commissioner, Dr Peggy Brown AO wrote in her preface to Shining a Light, 'We have heard your voice. With quiet dignity and steely will, you have shone a light on a way forward for the betterment of all. We thank you for your courage and generosity in all you have done.'

talk through available supports contact Suicide Call Back Service (1300 659 467), Open Arms (1800 011 046) or reach out to your local RSL sub branch (or even one in a nearby town), you might have more in common with 'that 74-year-old bloke (or lass)' than you think. **Support Services for Veterans and their families** RSL Sub-Branch (To find your local sub-branch visit rslvic.com.au/about-us/sub-branches): To provide mateship and support to Australia's veterans and their families, including financial hardship, assistance with DVA pensions and advocacy, crisis accommodation, access to employment pathways and transition to civilian life, and combatting social isolation through engagement programs. RSL Active (rslvic.com.au/veteran-services/community-and-social/rsl-active): A program to actively support younger veterans, reduce social isolation and promote health and wellbeing. Head into your local RSL to find out what's on, or where your closest RSL Active is taking place. RSL Victoria Veteran Support: Veteran Central - rslvic.com.au/veteran-support/veteran-central/ Compensation Support/Advocacy – Contact Inverloch RSL (0400 825 386) or Leon-gatha RSL (5662 2012) Veterans Employment Program (rslvic.com.au/veteran-support/veterans-employment-program/veterans-employment-program-opportunities) Financial Welfare (rslvic.com.au/veteran-services/military-compensation-advocacy/financial-welfare) Soldier On (1300 620 380, soldieron.org.au): Assists ADF personnel, veterans and their families, with meaningful employment, a sense of purpose and a connection to community.

For dinosaurs and lifestyle: All roads lead to Bass Coast

IF AUSTRALIA didn't already know about the significant dinosaur discoveries made along the coast from Inverloch to San Remo, they heard about it from two sources in the past week.

A key feature of the well-received ABC Back Roads program with Heather Ewart, focussing on the Bass Coast last Tuesday night, was our dinosaurs.

And on Sunday, September 8, details were released in Alcheringa, an Australasian Journal of Palaeontology, about newly-discovered footprints in the Wonthaggi Formation of theropod and ornithopod dinosaurs dating back to the Early Cretaceous epoch, over 120 million years ago, when Australia was still connected to Antarctica.

These Early Cretaceous dinosaur footprints include 18 tracks made by medium to large theropods (0.8-1.9m hip heights) and four tracks made by small ornithopod dinosaurs (40-48cm hip heights).

According to one of those acknowledged in connection with the discoveries, Anthony J. Martin of the Department of Environmental Sciences, Emory University, Atlanta, Georgia, this latest find is something special.

"These numerous tracks are the best evidence yet that these former polar environments supported large carnivores," said Professor Anthony Martin.



Melissa Lowery and Anthony Martin examine a dinosaur track. Photo: Ruth Schowalter.

"The large theropods would likely have fed on prey such as smaller dinosaurs, fish and turtles.

"The hip height of that theropod would have been about the same as the full height of a tall, modern-day human.

"The Australian state of Victoria's rocky coastal strata mark where the ancient supercontinent Gondwana began to break up around 100 million years ago, separating Australia from Antarctica.

"The polar environment at that time was a rift valley with braided rivers."

"Although the mean annual air temperature was higher during the Cretaceous than today, during the

polar winters the ecosystems experienced deep freezing temperatures and months of darkness.

"The Wonthaggi Formation has yielded one of the best assemblages of polar dinosaur body fossils in the southern hemisphere, but most of these remains are small fragments of bones and teeth.

"These fragments may have been carried to the site where they were buried by torrential spring floods.

"Our find of so many theropod tracks, however, confirms that a variety of dinosaurs actually lived and walked on the ground where their bones were found.

"Dinosaur tracks are actually

much more common at the site than we previously realised."

The theropod footprints in the Wonthaggi Formation range in length from 18cm to 47cm.

They are distinguished by relatively thin toes tipped with sharp claws.

The ornithopod footprints range in size from 10 to 18cm (4-7 inches).

The range in sizes of the tracks suggests a mix of juvenile and adult ornithopods and theropods.

"That indicates that these dinosaurs may have nested and raised their young in the polar environment," Professor Martin said.

Cr Sarah Gilligan welcomes water plan

COUNCILLOR Sarah Gilligan spoke of legacy issues in relation to water management caused by a lack of due consideration in the past as she welcomed South Gippsland Shire Council's Integrated Water Management (IWM) Plan, adopted at Wednesday's council meeting.

"We hear about drainage issues all over this shire and I think what we're doing here is making sure water management is embedded in all of our thinking about how we plan and use our land in the future," Cr Gilligan said.

Water management takes into account the whole water cycle system from drinking water and sanitation to drainage, stormwater and waterways.

Cr Gilligan noted those in low-lying coastal areas are already dealing with inundation issues, adding that such issues will get worse.

"So, I am really happy to see we are starting to tackle some of this thinking around new developments and how we plan so we're not fighting nature, and we're making sure that water doesn't become dirty," she said.

The IWM Plan is intended to address the shire's specific water-related challenges and outline opportunities for council to collaborate with stakeholders and other authorities to ensure long-term water security for the region.

Climate change and its potential effects on water availability and flooding is a key focus.

The IWM Plan was developed in consultation with the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action, Melbourne Water, South Gippsland Water, Gippsland Water, and the West Gippsland Catchment Management Authority.

The draft version of the Plan went out for public consultation, with no submissions received.



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WHAT'S ON AT WONTHAGGI RSL

RSL ACTIVE:

Veterans, First responders and their immediate families are invited for an Archery Shooting event by Wonthaggi RSL Active on **Sunday, September 29**. Taking place at South Eastern Target Archers, 15 Hanily Street, Meeniyan. All equipment provided. Jump online to register your attendance via booking link or call into the hall for assistance with this.

VETERANS HEALTH WEEK:

Sunday, October 6 at 10am. Join local Veterans and the Young Veterans Group at the Wonthaggi Gun Club for an event that helps form new mateships and is always a great day out.

WONTHAGGI RSL VS INVERLOCH RSL:

Sunday, October 27 and it's time to unleash your competitive spirit as Wonthaggi RSL and Inverloch RSL clash in a nail-biting RSL Active Clay target shooting contest. Secure your tickets today.

FRIDAY NIGHT SOCIAL NIGHT:

We look forward to seeing you all at our Friday night social catch up 4pm-7pm every week. Light supper provided, NEW MONTHLY MEMBER DRAW FOR A FREE DRINK and meat tray raffle supplied by Wonthaggi Meats each week.

MONTHLY WALKING GROUP:

With John on **Thursday, September 26**, meeting at Big W carpark at 9.30am.

MORNING TEA:

Wednesday, September 18 at 10am at the RSL Hall.

MERCHANDISE:

Grab your RSL shirts \$35 each, RSL hoodies \$60 each or other products include Wonthaggi RSL hats \$25 each, Wonthaggi RSL Stubby holders (can personalise with your own name and only \$10 each) and Wonthaggi RSL pens at a cost of \$5 each. Shirts and hoodies proudly supplied by Totally Workwear Wonthaggi. Other items available in new display cabinet.



South Gippsland Shire Council News

Sustainable Living Series by Renew

Join us for a number of exciting FREE webinars about sustainable living! Learn practical tips and tricks to reduce your carbon footprint and create a greener future for our region.

South Gippsland Shire Council is teaming up with Bass Coast Shire Council and have partnered with not-for-profit organisation Renew, to deliver a series of free interactive webinars about sustainable home renovation tips and tricks.

The sessions include:

- Sustainable Building Materials - Wednesday 18 September from 6.00pm to 7.30pm

- Water and Greening - Wednesday 25 September from 6.00pm to 7.30pm

The team from Renew will share valuable insights equipping you with the tools to harness a sustainable lifestyle.

Don't miss out on these invaluable energy saving tips and sustainable living tricks, to help create a greener environment for South Gippsland and our neighbouring Shires.

For more information and to register your attendance, please visit:

www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/renew

SOUTH GIPPSLAND SHIRE COUNCIL

Impounded Vehicle - Notice of Sale



Council impounded a grey 2002 Ford sedan from Walkerville on Friday 5 July 2024 in accordance with Schedule 11 of the *Local Government Act 1989*.

- Registration Number: 1VB1ZZ
- VIN Number: 6FPAAAJGSW2A20481

This vehicle is now for sale to the public as it has not been collected and the relevant fees have not been paid within 14 days of impoundment.

To submit an offer please label it "Abandoned Vehicle" and address it to Coordinator Local Laws, South Gippsland Shire Council, Private Bag 4, Leongatha Vic 3953.

Offers close at 2.00pm on Wednesday 19 September 2024 and are to be delivered to Council's reception area at 9 Smith Street, Leongatha.

The vehicle can be viewed at Council's Depot in Korumburra by appointment with the Community Health and Safety team on 5662 9200.

<p>COUNCIL MEETINGS</p> <p>Wednesday 2 October 2.00pm (Council Chambers, Leongatha)</p> <p>Please Note: For Council Meetings in the Election/ Caretaker Period (17 September to 26 October) there will be no public question time.</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>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>	<p>HARD WASTE COLLECTION BOOKINGS</p> <p>Bookings for the annual hard waste collection service are closing Friday 20 September.</p> <p>This provides residents with a convenient way to dispose of hard rubbish, particularly if they are unable to attend a transfer station themselves.</p> <p>All residents are eligible to receive one collection at a fee of \$157 per property. A reduced rate of \$56 applies for pension card holders.</p> <p>Collections will take place during October/ November.</p> <p>A maximum of 2 cubic metres of waste will be collected from properties that have booked a collection.</p> <p>For more information and to book, please visit: www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/hardwaste</p>	<p>TINY TOWNS FUND</p> <p>The Tiny Towns Fund aims to enhance Victoria's smallest towns. Applications for grants between \$5,000 and \$50,000 are now open to towns with up to 5,000 residents.</p> <p>The first round of this funding stream supported over 200 projects.</p> <p>This second round encourages new and more applications, with a simplified application process to make it easier for volunteer-run groups</p> <p>Applications close 25 October 2024.</p> <p>For more information, please visit: www.rdv.vic.gov.au</p> <p>CONTACT US 9 Smith Street, Leongatha 15 Little Commercial Street, Korumburra 03 5662 9200 www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au</p>
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South Gippsland Shire councillors Adrian Darakai, Sarah Gilligan, Mohya Davies, Clare Williams (Mayor), council CEO Kerry Ellis, and councillors Mick Felton, Nathan Hersey (Deputy Mayor), Scott Rae, John Schelling and Jenni Keerie reflect on their term after the last council meeting before the caretaker period. A06_3824

South Gippsland Shire Councillors take to soap box as caretaker period approaches

SOUTH Gippsland Shire councillors seized the opportunity of their final public meeting before entering caretaker mode ahead of next month's election to reflect on their achievements as a group, defend council's integrity and attack that of a prominent critic.

Several councillors expressed the view that their group has returned stability to council in South Gippsland Shire following a period of administration, an aim that motivated them to run at the last election.

"I came here to bring stability back and I think we've achieved that," Cr John Schelling said.

Cr Mohya Davies agreed, speaking of restoring confidence and rebuilding the reputation of council, and noting councillors' ability to work as a group was the key to achieving success and meeting challenges.

She urged people not to be complacent during October's election and to make their vote count.

"There is a real risk that South Gippsland could return

to the dysfunction and negativity that existed, and that was the reason council was dismissed in 2019," Cr Davies said.

"It is so important that we do not allow that to happen."

Backing up other councillors who defended council's integrity, she hit out at accusations directed at council and councillors through the media in the lead-up to the election.

"By innuendo, it portrays council's capital works program as improper and possibly fraudulent; it also portrays this present councillor group as negligent and seat warmers," Cr Davies said.

She stressed that concerns have been referred to independent local government agencies for review and that they have responded by saying no action is required.

"In other words, these claims are baseless and I want our community to know that; there is a rigorous, independent process around the capital works program and any claims to the contrary should be seen for what they are, and that is an election campaign

by a former disgraced and sacked councillor," Cr Davies declared.

She spoke of highlights during the current council term, including extensions of the Great Southern Rail Trail, works in the Leongatha and Korumburra Rail Yards, the Foster Basketball Stadium, the Korumburra Community Hub, and the development of kindergartens in Korumburra and Leongatha.

Earlier, Cr Nathan Hersey said that between November 2021 and September 2024 council had 64 major capital works projects of which 36 were awarded to local businesses, accounting for 56 per cent.

He elaborated that an additional weighting for local businesses was added during a review of council's procurement policy and expressed pride in the support for local businesses.

Cr Hersey said there are strict auditing processes in relation to all of council's procurement, backing Cr Jenni Keerie's strident defence of the organisation's procurement procedures.

Cr Keerie spoke of besmirching of character without presenting all the facts.

"It's around the procurement process and contracting; twenty or twenty-five years ago there might have been an argument about the processes in place for awarding contracts but (now) there are strict protocols and procedures about how contracts are prepared and how they're put out there for public tender," she said.

On a positive note, Cr Hersey spoke of the advocacy efforts of the current councillor group and the success that has been achieved in securing funding for important projects by drawing State and Federal Government attention to the desires and needs of those in South Gippsland Shire communities.

He noted that over the last three completed financial years, during this council term, \$36.1 million of external funding has been provided towards council's capital works spend, 40 per cent of what has been spent, describing that as real and tangible results of advocacy on behalf of the community.

Mayor's Message



Cr Clare Williams

AS WE head into the Election Period, I would like to wish all the candidates good luck for the 2024 South Gippsland Shire Council election. This will be my last message as Mayor for this term, and you will see a CEO Message from Kerry Ellis until a new Mayor has been elected. If you would like more detail on the election, including key dates to note, please visit: www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/election

Being a Councillor and a Mayor has been a great privilege and has given me a better understanding of and appreciation for our region.

I will be running in the next election, as will some of my current Councillor colleagues, however there are three who have already declared they won't be contesting – Councillor Mohya Davies, Councillor Adrian Darakai and Councillor Mick Felton. I have thoroughly enjoyed working with all of you, but I would like to take a moment to acknowledge Councillor Davies. Mohya has represented South Gippsland for 11 years in total, with one year as Mayor and two years as Deputy Mayor. She has brought tremendous professionalism to our group and allowed us all to learn from her as new Councillors. I feel so lucky to have been able to serve on Council at the same time as her. Best of luck Mohya in the next chapter of your life. Thank you.

September Council Meeting

At this month's Council Meeting, Councillors discussed some key documents that will set South Gippsland up for the years ahead.

The Waste and Resource Recovery Plan is a 10-year plan that sets out the actions until 2034. The Plan incorporates a number of things, including updates to the legislation set down by the Victorian Government, changes to collection frequency, and transitioning to a standard level of waste and recycling service.

The Integrated Water Management Plan was also considered and adopted at the Meeting. Integrated Water Management considers all aspects of water resources through from drinking water and sanitation to stormwater and waterways like rivers. Having an Integrated Water Management Plan will allow Council to more closely work with other water managers, which will help us all better plan, manage and deliver water projects and ensure water is used and valued wisely as an important resource.

I was also really excited to see the Access and Inclusion Advisory Committee participants appointed. This Committee will be a key group to talk to about issues involving inclusion and access across our region, and they will have a role in creating the Access and Inclusion Action Plan.

You can view these Plans on Council's website: www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/strategies

If you would like to watch the Council Meeting, you can do so at: www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/live

R U OK? Day

If you aren't okay, that's okay. We all have days where we don't feel on top of the world. The main thing is to know who you can call and talk to during those times.

R U OK? Day is an annual event that encourages everyone to speak up about their challenges and for all of us to ask the question 'Are you okay?'

You can talk to family, friends, even colleagues if you feel safe to. Of course, you can also speak to a professional or service such as BeyondBlue, Lifeline or Headspace.

Garage Sale Trail

Have some old or unwanted items around your home? Why not register to host a sale on the Garage Sale Trail?!

The Garage Sale Trail is a second-hand treasure hunt. Over 400,000 Australians expected to take to the streets to search for a pre-loved bargain in November 2024. It costs nothing to register, and you will receive heaps of helpful information and promotional material to make your sale a success.

Registrations are now open to have a sale on the Trail. You can sign up now at: www.garagesaletrail.com.au/south-gippsland

Cr Davies honoured after 11 years of service



Retiring councillor Mohya Davies is acknowledged by Mayor Clare Williams. A12_3824

THE long-term service of retiring Foster-based councillor Mohya Davies was acknowledged by South Gippsland Shire Mayor Clare Williams during Wednesday's council meeting.

Cr Williams praised Cr Davies contribution, presenting her with flowers.

Having previously served two terms as a councillor, beginning in 2008, before time away from the role, Cr Davies decided to run at the last election with the aim of helping restore stability to council following its period of administration.

In all, she has been a councillor for 11 years, being the first Mayor of the current councillor group and providing valuable leadership as the only current councillor to have served previously.

"Thank you Mohya for your commitment to your community and to South Gippsland," Cr Williams said, also acknowledging the leadership she has shown the councillor group.

During the meeting, Cr Davies reflected on her time as an elected representative.

"I have loved my role on council and it's been a real privilege to serve our community at this level," Cr Davies said.

"My journey into local government came about because of my pride in this region and my passion for the community."

She thanked her fellow councillors, the two council CEOs she has worked with, Tim Tamlin and Kerry Ellis, and the support of council officers, wishing those councillors who are standing again all the best and saying she looks forward to working with them as a community member.

As one of those working to establish a new newspaper in the Promontory region, Cr Davies is likely to continue attending council meetings come the next term.

"I might come along and join Andrew and become part of the press," she declared, with this scribe looking forward to the company.

Council pursues funding for realignment of Simons Lane

SOUTH Gippsland Shire Council has committed to a funding application for \$2,400,000 (excluding GST) to assist with the Simons Lane intersection realignment with Bass Highway in Leongatha South, following the recent completion of sealing works along Simons Lane.

“The relocation of the intersection is expected to significantly improve road safety as the current location has poor sight distance and is considered hazardous,” council previously stated.

At Wednesday’s council meeting, councillors supported the funding application to the Australian Government’s Safer Local Roads and Infrastructure Program that commenced at the start of July this year.

Should the application be successful, council will contribute the remaining \$600,000 (excluding GST), with the project budgeted at \$3 million. The Safer Local Roads and Infrastructure Program requires rural councils to pay 20 per cent of the project cost.

“If this grant comes to fruition we’ll save \$1.3 million on our bottom line,” Cr John Schelling said during the meeting, later telling the Sentinel-Times council previously budgeted to contribute \$1.9 million towards the project.

Council stated that the realignment project needs to be completed to reopen the Simons Lane connection with Bass Highway, is ready to meet grant funding program timeframes and the required land has already been acquired. It stresses the design is well progressed, the project is supported by traffic studies and has community support, with the funding application to be accompanied by letters of support from key community stakeholders.

“Simons Lane was a major project we were looking to do when we first came to council,” Cr Schelling said, noting the last part of the process now needs to be done with the Department of Transport and Planning, and stressing the importance of reconnecting the lane to the Bass Highway.

Foster’s Emma McKay ready to represent South Gippsland Shire communities

FOSTER’S Emma McKay has embraced the local community since moving to town in 2020 from Melbourne, getting involved through voluntary committee roles, and is ready to broaden her contribution by running for South Gippsland Shire Council in the Coastal Promontory Ward.

Current South Gippsland Shire councillor and Foster resident Mohya Davies, who has chosen not to contest the election, inspired Emma to nominate as a candidate.

Mohya encouraged young people to get involved in council, sparking Emma’s interest.

Although she hadn’t previously considered being a councillor, she decided it was a logical step given her enjoyment of being involved in the community.

She is currently secretary of both the Foster War Memorial Arts Centre hall committee and the Foster Arts Music & Drama Association (FAMDA), the theatre lover taking to the stage during FAMDA’s recent One Act Play Festival.

Emma’s community involvement also includes helping out at the local market.

Her work for a Registered Training Organisation provides flexibility, something she sees as advantageous should she become a councillor.

She highlighted her background and desire to help others get the most out of themselves.

“I was a kindergarten teacher for 13 years, so very interested in learning, education and skill



Foster’s Emma McKay is looking forward to contesting next month’s South Gippsland Shire Council election in the Coastal Promontory Ward.

sets for people to better themselves or do what they need to get what they want in life,” Emma said.

Being a sociable person, she looks forward to getting to know people with a view to representing them.

Emma is pleased that Fish Creek and Meeniyan have joined the Coastal Promontory Ward, having developed an affinity with the towns, attending music events run by the Lyrebird Arts Council in Meeniyan and often shopping and enjoying a coffee in Fish Creek.

Emma is also familiar with Sandy Point and Toora and looks forward to spending more time in Venus Bay and Tarwin Lower getting to know residents.

While keen to represent those

in her ward, Emma is mindful of the responsibility of councillors to vote on decisions affecting the whole of South Gippsland Shire.

“I get excited at the idea; it will get me outside my ward and seeing more that’s out there,” she said, looking forward to spreading her gaze over the shire but acknowledging councillors will be most familiar with their own wards.

She wants all South Gippsland Shire communities to thrive and receive robust support, striking an appropriate balance between what already exists and the need to evolve, including in relation to climate change, stressing the importance of considering everyone’s point of view.

“I know climate change is a

big concern but we do provide a lot of food, so farms need to exist and we need to find a good balance that supports everyone, including the wildlife,” Emma said, acknowledging she is following Mohya’s advice to familiarise herself with energy technology and its potential impacts locally.

Mohya has proved a valuable mentor.

“It was quite flattering she had such faith in me and she can see my passion,” Emma said.

That passion has already led her to attend candidate information sessions, such as that run by the Municipal Association of Victoria in Leongatha, and complete the necessary paperwork for the Victorian Electoral Commission.



Gippsland Southern Health Service Community Advisory Committee

We are building a healthier community in South Gippsland, together.

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The South Gippsland Shire Estimated Resident Population for 2022 is 30,680 and GSHS is excited to invite applicants from our local South Gippsland Community to join the GSHS Community Advisory Committee.

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GSHS will engage the assistance of the Community Advisory Committee to increase consumer, carer, and community participation across the health service. Membership of the Community Advisory Committee will reflect consumers and communities. You do not need to be a health professional to apply, these volunteer positions are open to any local community members.

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Improvements to the roads in Arawata and surrounding areas will not be included as part of Council's Annual 2024/25 budget.

No funds for Arawata roads

AFTER having a number of road upgrades completed by council following last year's community road safety survey, the Arawata community won't see any additional improvements for 2024/25 year, according to Council.

Despite carrying out another survey this year, engaging the three Strzelecki Ward Councillors in their results and handing over a list of improvements to make surrounding roads safer, no Council funds have been committed to the area.

In the past financial year, several upgrades were made, as mentioned by Cr Jennie Keerie during Council's August meeting.

"I don't know if you've been out along that Warragul to Fairbank Road. I know I've taken CEO Ellis for a drive along the edge of the world. I can't remember the name of the road now but it's just absolutely magic," commented Cr Keerie.

“It runs right along a ridge and the first time I drove that road it

was at night time heading to a meeting where they were going to discuss the road safety.”

"In my little roughometer, its headlights aren't brilliant, trying to pick out which way the road was going I realised there was a real concern for people who are living in that area," commented Cr Kerrie.

"Since that particular meeting they've had the chevrons replaced, they've had chevrons lifted, the brush along the side of the road has been cleared. One particularly tricky intersection has been treated so that it is nowhere near as dangerous and just recently they've improved the chevrons further down that particular area. They've also installed the guideposts with the reflectors on them so now your lights pick up which way the road is going and that makes it a lot safer."

“We were aiming for a line down the centre of the road but the width of the road isn’t wide enough to support that, asked

for fog lines for exactly the same reason, but it just doesn't fit within current practices so were gradually working away and they've got another list for us Cr Felton so just to be warned."

Unfortunately for the Arawata community members and surrounding road users South Gippsland Shire Council CEO, Kerryn Ellis has stated, "Council has received a number of requests from the Arawata community in relation to road maintenance and road safety and has actioned many of these in recent years. Although no large-scale works for Arawata are included in the 2024-25 Annual Budget, Council will continue to work with the community to identify road improvement opportunities. These will be considered alongside the road improvements identified in other townships across South Gippsland."

The Arawata Hall Committee and Arawata Road Safe Survey Committee declined to comment on the matter.



The old playground of Loch Memorial Reserve has been demolished to make way for a brand-new one.

New playground coming Loch

THE children of Loch Village have something to look forward to this November when a brand new playground is installed at the Loch Memorial Reserve.

The Loch Reserve Committee have had a new playground on their agenda for a couple of years now, as the existing one was second-hand when it was installed and had slowly eroded to the point where it was no longer fit for purpose.

An application to the State Government's Tiny Towns Fund was successful and the committee were granted \$46,000 for a brand new playground.

The complete cost of the equipment and surrounding landscaping, which will be carried out by professional Melbourne company, Adventure Plus, will be about \$51,000.

Frank Springer, President of the Committee said there will be a lot of in-kind labour and volunteer work from community members to make up the shortfall, with working bee dates to be announced.

"The other thing we're going to do too is, once that's completed, is landscape to the rear of (the playground) and put a concrete section in with benches and tables for the mums and dads to sit; and we'll put a shade cloth over the top," explained Frank.

"We've also got a grant for a drinking fountain, which was donated by South Gippy Water. So, we'll put a drinking fountain in there and everybody gets the benefit of it."

The design of the playground was considered and chosen not just by the committee members but professional advice was sought from some of the experts in the field.

Local mums, dads and their children were shown different plans with the children advising on particular pieces of equipment as well as the colour of the playground.

So, all going well, the final installation will pass the little Lochians test, though the final verdict will have to wait until November.

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Korumburra Men's Shed advances

WORKS are progressing in the new home of Korumburra Men's Shed as it is transformed from its previous life as a locomotive shed.

The framework is now in place for an office, a meeting room that will include a kitchenette and a toilet block.

Existing walls in the workshop are being lined with Oriented Strand Board (OSB), and an additional wall will be created to separate the workshop from a storage space.

The build is being led by retired tradies and Korumburra Men's Shed members Matt Thompson and Ken Miller.

While the men moved in about 18 months ago, it is only five or six months since they got the official go-ahead to commence works, following a lengthy period of obtaining required planning and building permits.

Long-term member John Davies explained the men are doing all the work they can themselves, excluding plumbing and electrical tasks.

The members helping with the build are a mixture of former tradies and others keen to assist.

Progress has also taken place outside the building, with



John Davies and Matt Thompson of Korumburra Men's Shed show off the impressive progress taking place since work commenced on transforming a former railway building into the organisation's new home. A04_3824

required concreting done to provide accessible parking and a crossover, which was recently completed thanks to grants through VicTrack and the South Gippsland Shire Council.

John said the internal works are expected to be finished in the New Year.

The project to transform the existing railway building into a Men's Shed was made possible

through an \$80,000 State Government grant.

John explained that the grant was obtained two years ago based on costings at the time, with the men having now had to apply for further grants to help with the dramatic rise in building costs since then.

However, Korumburra Men's Shed has received some assistance to reduce costs.

"We are extremely grateful to Shaun Hill and the team at Fisher's Timber & Hardware," John said, explaining the local business has provided sponsorship and the best possible prices for building materials.

Korumburra Men's Shed members continue to enjoy catching up at their new home as they look forward to its completion.

The mastery and versatility of Kent Mobile Auto Electrics

IN the moving industry of auto electrics, there's always room for innovative thinking and Kent Mobile Auto Electrics, owned and operated by Matthew Kent, a young, qualified auto electrician is providing a new service to the Bass Coast and South Gippsland region.

Completing his four-year apprenticeship under Mick Keene at Diverse Auto Electrics in 2019, Matthew's apprenticeship was a crucible of learning, honing his skills in auto electrical systems and nurturing a passion for precision and problem-solving.

"I completed a lot of work for Alumarine on a call-out basis, they built the hulls, and we wired and installed the engines and lighting," said Matthew. Completing the work of the fireboats for Sydney Harbour. His ability to troubleshoot under pressure and his meticulous attention to detail were crucial in ensuring these essential vessels remained operational.

With a number of years of experience under his belt now,



Auto Electrician Matthew Kent is taking on a new business venture, opening Kent Mobile Auto Electrics. Z04_3824

Matthew has recently decided to establish his own business, Kent Mobile Auto Electrics. From the beginning, he envisioned a service that was both reliable and versatile. His mobile workshop is equipped to handle a wide range of tasks, from installing and repairing 12-48-volt systems to

providing comprehensive diagnostics. Matthew's commitment to quality service and his ability to adapt to various vehicle types have set his business apart.

One of Matthew's notable projects is the engine swap on a VY Ute. The vehicle's original V6 engine was replaced

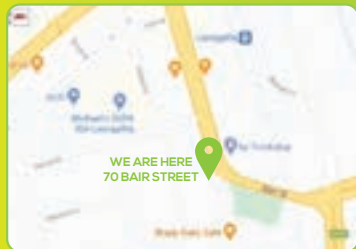
with a robust V8, and the interior is being meticulously transformed to resemble a Statesman. The project, which included replacing the dash and steering wheel, will be completed in a remarkable 30-36 hours. This project isn't just about technical skill; it is also about understanding the client's vision and executing it with precision.

Matthew's dedication to his craft is evident not only in his work but also in his business acumen. Working day-to-day as a farm hand in Dalyston whilst quoting and working on his new auto electrics business. Operating from 9am to 5pm, daily, with availability for weekend work, Matthew ensures that his clients receive the service they need, when they need it.

The satisfaction of a challenging project has contributed to his expertise and passion for auto electrics. For anyone in need of mobile auto electrical services, Kent Mobile Auto Electrics is not just a choice but a promise of quality and reliability. Call Matthew Kent on 0411 184 906.

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Free 3D Hands launches revolutionary ‘Kinetic Arm’

FREE 3D Hands proudly announces the open-source release of the Kinetic Arm, a groundbreaking, body-powered assistive device for people with trans-radial arm differences. The Kinetic Arm is the culmination of over 4000 hours of engineering, design and testing over two and a half years, made possible by the generous support of the global community, philanthropists, and corporate partners. The design files were freely shared with the world last Thursday, September 12 at 10am.

Traditionally, assistive devices like this have cost tens of thousands of dollars, putting them out of reach for 90 per cent of people around the world (according to the World Health Organisation). In 2020, Free 3D Hands openly shared the Kinetic Hand, which is now being made by over 10,000 volunteers and organisations all around the world. Free 3D Hands will now offer the Kinetic Arm free of charge, to anyone, anywhere in the world – they even pay the postage.

The Kinetic Arm, which can be manufactured for less than \$20 in materials, is an embodiment of what's possible when love, kindness, and generosity fuel innovation. With incredible support of the community, Free 3D Hands has expanded its team of biomedical and mechatronic engineers, dramatically accelerating the pace of open-source development.

“We are an engine that runs on the love, kindness and generosity of others. Together, this is our gift to the world”, said Mat Bowtell, Founder and CEO of Free 3D Hands.

The Kinetic Arm is a body-powered device, operated through elbow movement



Two years in the making the kinetic arm joins the kinetic hand on open-source thanks to Free 3D Hands.

to open and close the fingers, with a wrist that can rotate into multiple grasp positions. This simple, intuitive design is transformative for people with trans-radial arm differences. The device's low manufacturing cost ensures that people across the globe, especially in underserved communities, can access this life-changing technology. Open-sourcing the design allows anyone with access to a 3D printer to download the design files and make their own devices, creating an exponential global impact.

In addition to offering the Kinetic Arm for free, Free 3D Hands is sharing its intellectual property (IP) under an open-source license, ensuring anyone can manufacture it. The design is accompanied by a 247-page assembly manual and a 43-minute video tutorial to share their manufacturing techniques.

“We hope that by sharing our designs, even commercial developers of assistive technology will learn from our low-cost ideas and be inspired to bring down the cost of commercially available devices,” Bowtell explained.

“Ultimately, we want to make assistive technology more affordable and accessible for the millions of people globally who are currently unable to access or afford it.

“Our team are driven by the smiles on the faces of our

device recipients. If we were to charge even ten dollars for one of our devices, then to us, it would only be worth ten dollars. But when we provide our devices free of charge, with no expectation of reward, they become priceless,” Bowtell continued.

Globally recognised the charity relies entirely on donations to fund the design and development of open-source assistive devices without any Government funding. Free 3D Hands became a DGR-1 registered charity in 2019 and has since provided thousands of free assistive devices to people in over 30 countries.

“We are extremely grateful to everyone who has helped us reach this milestone. The expansion of our engineering team has allowed us to significantly accelerate our open-source development, and the Kinetic Arm is a direct result of this generosity. Our work is powered by love, kindness, generosity and a shared vision of a world where assistive devices are accessible to all,” Bowtell said.

Those who wish to support by making a tax-deductible donation to Free 3D Hands can donate at free3dhands.org/donate. All donations to Free 3D Hands go directly towards the research, design and development of open-source assistive devices, which are provided for free to those in need.

Landmark for stroke care in Gippsland

LATROBE Regional Health (LRH) has been recognised for its excellence in delivering care to stroke patients by the Australian Stroke Coalition (ASC) having achieved accreditation as a Primary Stroke Centre.

“This is the first time we’ve been recognised in this way and reflects the work that the team in Emergency, Intensive Care, the Avon Unit and the Nicholson Unit have been doing to identify, treat and care for patients as they come through LRH,” Chief Executive Don McRae said.

LRH treats more than 200 stroke patients each year and Gippsland is overrepresented in figures around cardiovascular disease compared to other areas of the state.

“The assessors looked at the processes we have in place to quickly identify stroke patients who present to our Emergency Department and provide initial treatment such as the prescription of ‘clot busting’ drugs, known as thrombolysis,” LRH Stroke Coordinator, Janet May said.

“They also assessed the treatment in our new Intensive



LRH Stroke Coordinator, Janet May, A/Professor Alistair Wright and Avon Nurse Unit Manager Jenna Hooper.

Care Unit, longer term care in the Avon Unit, our designated stroke ward, as well as our Allied Health team’s work.

“This accreditation signifies that we meet the highest standards of care, ensuring our patients receive timely, effective treatment while providing the best possible support to both patients and their families.”

LRH is the only hospital outside the major settings of Melbourne and Geelong to achieve this level of accreditation in Victoria.

The assessors from the

ASC acknowledged: “LRH stroke services are well coordinated...and are delivering timely, highly accessible and integrated care to the Gippsland community.”

“We’ve developed an education hub where the team can examine what’s happening with current patients, learn from colleagues and develop new skills. This is vitally important to ensure that the team is working with one goal and that everyone’s skills are being elevated constantly,” Avon Nurse Unit Manager Jenna Hooper said.



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Esso’s decommissioning of platforms in Bass Strait

Esso Australia Pty Ltd (Esso), a wholly owned subsidiary of ExxonMobil Australia Pty Ltd, is committed to operating and decommissioning its’ Gippsland and Bass Strait facilities safely and effectively.

After delivering energy to Australia for over 50 years, many of the Bass Strait oil fields are now reaching the end of their productive life. As planning for decommissioning progresses, Esso is focused on safely shutting-down non-producing facilities and ensuring they stay safe throughout the entire decommissioning process.

Community Information Session and Drop-in

If you’d like to know more about activity plans for **Decommissioning of platforms and pipelines in Bass Strait**, the Esso Consultation Team will be hosting a community information session and drop-in at the following locations:

- Wednesday 25 September 2024 - Welshpool**
Welshpool Memorial Hall
49 Main Street, Welshpool
10am – 1pm
- Wednesday, 25 September 2024 - Leongatha**
South Gippsland Trade Skills Alliance (SGBLLEN)
71 Ogilvy Street, Leongatha
3pm – 7pm
- Thursday, 26 September 2024 - Foster**
Manna Gum Community House
33 Station Street, Foster
3pm – 7pm

A presentation about decommissioning activities will be provided at 11am for the AM sessions and 3.30pm and 5.30pm for the PM sessions. We encourage you to come along and ask questions or to raise any concerns you may have.

To register your attendance, please email us at: consultation@exxonmobil.com

If these dates and times don’t suit, please contact us at consultation@exxonmobil.com or by phone on 03 9261 0000.

The Esso Consultation Team will also be available to discuss all current activities, including:

- Bass Strait Decommissioning
- Jack-Up-Rig Well Plug and Abandonment
- Gippsland Basin Geophysical and Geotechnical Investigations
- Kipper - Sub-Sea Drilling
- Turrum Phase 3 Drilling
- South East Australia Carbon Capture & Storage (SEA CCS) Project
- Bream Greenhouse Gas Appraisal Environment Plan (SEA CCS)



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Like to be consulted about these activities?

Esso is working to identify and consult with relevant persons [stakeholders] whose functions, interests, or activities may be affected by one or more of Esso’s proposed activities. Please fill in the Esso Consultation Questionnaire (sli.do) in the Esso Consultation Hub to let us know if you’d like to be consulted or have any questions or feedback.

Please refer to the NOPSEMA brochure Consultation on offshore petroleum environment plans brochure.pdf (nopsma.gov.au) to understand more about consultation on offshore petroleum environment plans assessed under the Offshore Petroleum and Greenhouse Gas Storage (Environment) Regulations 2023

Your feedback and our response will be included in the relevant regulatory application documentation and submitted to the regulator.

Please connect us with other interested people

If there is anyone you know who may be interested in our activities, we encourage you to share this information with them.

To find out more information

For more information about Esso’s activities and other projects, please go to the Esso Consultation Hub at:



<https://corporate.exxonmobil.com/locations/australia/our-approach>



Victorian Seniors Festival 2024



Activities and Events in Bass Coast

October 2024

Festival Partner

Victorian Seniors Festival 2024



Scan here for activities and events in Bass Coast



or go to basscoast.vic.gov.au/healthy-ageing

Explore, engage and evolve this Seniors Festival

BASS Coast Shire Council is excited to announce the launch of its program for the upcoming Victorian Seniors Festival – a vibrant celebration of our senior community members and their incredible contributions.

This festival shines a spotlight on the diversity and achievements of our older community, with more than one million seniors calling Victoria home. As part of a Victorian Government initiative, this year's theme Explore. Engage. Evolve brings all 79 Councils, including ours, together to invite older Victorians to discover new activities, meet new people, and embrace a fresh perspective on ageing.

Bass Coast Shire Council takes pride in fostering a healthy, inclusive, and connected community where everyone can engage in recreational and social activities. This year, over 16 local events have been curated by community groups with a passion for fostering fun and friendship. For the first time, Council has provided small grant funding to help these groups shine by supporting their event costs, including catering, venue bookings, and supplies.

One of the standout events is Johnny Cash and the June Carter Show led by husband-and-wife duo Mark and Joanne Caligiuri which quickly sold out at Berinnet, Cowes. Council is excited to offer free transport to and from the event for patrons coming from locations around the Shire, ticketholders will be contacted to reserve their seat so they can ride in style to this unforgettable tribute to the Man in Black!

Closer to Wonthaggi, don't miss the incredible 50-piece Victorian Concert Orchestra at the Wonthaggi Union Community Arts Centre on Sunday, October 20 at 2pm. From timeless classics by Bach and Mozart to musical theatre favourites, this show is a must-see! Thanks to Council's support, tickets are just \$15, making this world-class performance accessible to all.

Bass Coast Mayor, Cr Clare Le Serve said "Whether you're stuck on how to start writing your memoir, curious to try your hand at bocce, croquet or CrossFit, or eager to explore Churchill Island camera in hand – Try your hand at something new, support your local clubs, and immerse yourself in the spirit of the festival."

To explore the full range of events, pick up a program booklet at Wonthaggi Library, Inverloch Library, Phillip Island Community & Learning Centre, or any of our Customer Service locations. You can also view the program online.

As an added bonus, Victorian Seniors Card holders can enjoy free public transport from Sunday, October 6 to Sunday, October 13 to participate in the State-wide events.

To view Bass Coast's Seniors Festival program or find out more about Healthy Ageing in Bass Coast, go to basscoast.vic.gov.au/healthy-ageing.



Sisters Sharon Oates, Leesa Willmott and Kerry Fitzgerald with Member for Monash Russell Broadbent MP

Sisters unite to help prevent vision loss

SOUTH Gippsland sisters Sharon Oates, Leesa Willmott and Kerry Fitzgerald have just returned from Canberra campaigning for greater awareness of vision loss through geographic atrophy (GA). An advanced form of age-related macular degeneration, GA is one of Australia's most common causes of loss of sight. Team Sisters, Sharon, Leesa and Kerry, who cycle for the Lions Club Ride for Sight and last year raised a record \$30,000, were joined by Member for Monash Russell Broadbent MP calling for greater awareness and Government action to help slow GA-related vision loss and prevent legal blindness. More than seventy-five thousand Australians are known to have geographic atrophy, costing the economy an estimated two billion dollars every year. A little-known, irreversible and devastating form of age-related macular degeneration geographic atrophy can result in progressive vision loss and legal blindness that eventually deprives people of their central vision and ability to read, drive, see faces and maintain their independence. "Many people dismiss early-stage GA as a normal part of ageing," said Sharon. A report on GA titled 'We Can't Wait and See' found every dollar invested into preserving the vision of people with geographic atrophy can be returned two-fold in benefits to society.

After watching their father Colin Willmott become legally blind due to a dry form of geographic atrophy (AMD/GA) Sharon and her three sisters are now living with the knowledge that the disease can be passed down genetically. Sharon has spots in her vision and is being checked regularly but doesn't yet know if she has wet AMD or dry AMD, for which there is no treatment currently. Colin lived as a farmer at Glen Alvie loving his farm and cows, but life changed when he was diagnosed with macular degeneration. Leesa Willmott said her father literally couldn't see. Sister Kerry Fitzgerald recalls growing up on their farm with lots of fun memories. "On a scale from one to ten, sight to a farmer would score eleven," said Leesa. "It's sad to think it could happen to me, or happen to one of my kids," added Kerry. "It's scary because we don't know when we could go blind," fears Sharon. In a compelling video, Colin reflects on how the disease affected his life. "It just gets worse and makes life quite unbearable." Wife and mother, Pam Willmott described how GA has affected their lives. "Sometimes I'm sitting at the table and thinking thank God he can't see my tears. "People take for granted that they'll always be able to see. "I wouldn't wish it on anybody."

Eye specialists fear the number of Australians affected by geographic atrophy may be much higher than current estimates. "Sadly, as the disease progresses many people with GA find that their world shrinks," warns Professor Robyn Guymer AM. Supported by an advisory committee of six leading eye health and vision organisations (including Vision 2020) the 'We Can't Wait and See' report recommends equitably funded vision support services for older Australians, a national GA awareness campaign, public funding for optical imaging for those who are at risk, the creation of a GA registry, secure dedicated funding for GA research and speedy government funding for new, approved GA therapies. "Trying to recognise friends without being able to see their faces makes socialising difficult," said Professor Guymer. "Reading gradually becomes harder until it's no longer enjoyable." Speaking at the launch of 'We Can't Wait and See' Sharon Oates said GA had been hard on the whole family. "Most people we speak to still have never heard of GA," said Sharon. "GA is costing us our sight and our way of life. I hope you can join my family in trying to change that." For more information on preventing avoidable blindness and improving vision-care go to vision2020australia.org.au or make an appointment to see your local doctor.



Inverloch RSL members Rick Walsh, Greg Leighton and Legatee Jan Millington were some of the volunteers who were happy to raise the profile of Legacy within South Gippsland.

Raising funds this Legacy Week

LEGACY is an Australian charity supported by men and women of all ages and from all walks of life. From South Gippsland Legacy, a recent team effort from Inverloch Legatees, and a number of volunteers from the RSL, were out in full force to raise much needed funds for Legacy, which provides care and compassion, social events and other activities to the widows, widowers and children of veterans of the Australian Defence Force, who have lost their lives or health as a result of their service. Other Legacy Clubs from South Gippsland including Wonthaggi, Phillip Island/San Remo, Korumburra, Leongatha, Mirboo North, and Corner Inlet also participated in Legacy Week and braved the weather to support this worthwhile cause. With the 100th anniversary of Legacy in Australia in 2023, a service was conducted and a plaque and mosaic rock with the Legacy Torch emblem, were blessed – they are placed in the Legacy/RSL Commemorative Garden in the Inverloch cemetery grounds. The wording on the plaque reads: South Gippsland Legacy commissioned this plaque to honour the courage and fortitude of those men and women who nursed, cared, and supported their loved ones and who endured widowhood as a consequence of war and conflicts in which Australians served. Legacy salutes and supports these families whose lives, youthful dreams and ambitions have been forever changed, yet they continue to contribute to Australian culture and society. Lest We Forget. The mural on the wall at the Inverloch cemetery, has a collage of photos of former and current ADF personnel and also a photo of the 1998 sculpture representing Legacy in the Legacy Garden of Appreciation at the Melbourne Shrine – the Widow and her two children.

Edney's Demo Clearance

<div>NISSAN X-TRAIL STL E-POWER</div> <div></div> <div><p>Hybrid in Gun Metallic Surround Camera, Alloy Wheels, Climate Control, Keyless Entry, Lane Keep Assist SN: 2868304</p></div> <div>\$46,990 DRIVE AWAY</div>	<div>NISSAN X-TRAIL STL E-POWER</div> <div></div> <div><p>Hybrid in Ceramic Grey Surround Camera, Alloy Wheels, Climate Control, Keyless Entry, Lane Keep Assist SN: 2884161</p></div> <div>\$48,990 DRIVE AWAY</div>	<div>NISSAN NAVARA SL 4X4 DUAL CAB</div> <div></div> <div><p>In White Twin Turbo Diesel, Auto, Alloy Wheels, Cruise Control, Remote Locking SN: 2865915</p></div> <div>\$47,990 DRIVE AWAY</div>
<div>NISSAN NAVARA SL 4X4 DUAL CAB</div> <div></div> <div><p>Twin Turbo Diesel, Auto, Alloy Wheels, Cruise Control, Alloy Tray & Ladder Rack SN: 2829769</p></div> <div>\$50,990 DRIVE AWAY</div>	<div>NISSAN X-TRAIL N-TREK</div> <div></div> <div><p>2.5 Petrol, Surround Camera, Alloy Wheels, Climate Control, SAT/NAV, Lane Keep Assist SN: 2887223</p></div> <div>\$48,990 DRIVE AWAY</div>	<div>HYUNDAI SANTA FE ACTIVE V6</div> <div></div> <div><p>7 Seater, Alloy Wheels, Lane Keep Assist, Leather Seats, Active Cruise SN: 320402999</p></div> <div>\$47,990 DRIVE AWAY</div>

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Only a month to go for Motoheads

AS MOTOGP prepares to head down under to the iconic Phillip Island circuit in Australia, the 2024 championship battle is intensifying. After the Gran Premio di San Marino e della Riviera di Rimini, Jorge Martin leads the standings with 312 points. However, reigning champion Francesco Bagnaia is hot on his heels, just seven points behind with 305 points.

The next three rounds – Italy, Indonesia, and Japan – are crucial for both riders as they prepare for the showdown at Phillip Island. These races will set the stage for a potentially dramatic round, as riders give it their all with the finish line in sight on November 17 at Circuit Ricardo Tormo. Marc Márquez, riding for Gresini Racing, currently sits third in the standings with 259 points, while Enea Bastianini (Ducati) follows closely behind with 250 points.

At the San Marino GP, Bagnaia managed to close the gap to Martin after the Spanish rider encountered a technical issue. This consistency will be critical for both riders if they hope to capitalise on the tricky Phillip Island circuit, where unpredictable weather often plays a significant role in the outcome.

Australian fans will be eagerly watching their hometown hero, Jack Miller, riding for Red Bull KTM Factory Racing. Currently 15th in the standings, Miller is looking to make a mark on home soil after a tough season. His best result so far was fifth place in Portugal earlier this season, but with the support of a passionate local crowd, a strong performance at Phillip Island could provide a morale boost for the Australian.

As the season approaches its final stages, all eyes are on the top contenders, with Ducati dominating the standings.

With everything still to play for and Phillip Island renowned for delivering some of the most thrilling races on the calendar, this year's MotoGP championship is set for an exciting conclusion.

To secure your tickets visit motogp.com.au.

From Perth to Darwin in eight days for cancer

DRIVING an old shit box across rough outback tracks and through tiny dusty towns between Perth and Darwin for eight days straight is what some people's nightmares are made of.

But for Wonthaggi locals, Nathan Laurens and Shaun Prestage, the Shitbox Rally is a way to combine their passion for cars and adventure while raising money for cancer.

"I started it because I lost a few family members to cancer and I also love cars, so it was just a good mix, for raising money and having fun as well," explained Nathan, who has three previous rallies under his belt.

The team are preparing for the Winter 2025 route, which runs for a day longer than some of the other rallies, given its level of difficulty.

The final days of the rally will take the drivers across the formidable Gibb River Road, a 660-kilometre stretch of unsealed, rocky earth that runs from Derby to Kununurra in Western Australia.

The road is bumpy and sometimes slow, with heavy corrugations, loose gravel, potholes, and rocks and to top it off, travelling alongside the pair will be 250 other participants.

There are a few rules that participants have to abide by and one is the vehicle they are travelling in must be valued at \$1500 – hence the name.



Nathan Laurens and Shaun Prestage are fundraising for the Shitbox Rally which will take them along some formidable stretches of road from Perth to Darwin in Winter 2025. B50_3824

Another rule is that teams also need to raise at least \$2500 four months before the rally, \$3500 three months before the rally and \$4500 two months before the rally and a minimum of \$5000 one month before the rally.

So, even though the event is still nine months away, the Wonthaggi team have already begun their fundraising efforts.

Cashing in on old car batteries, bottles and cans, raffling off signed AFL jumpers, and holding Bunnings BBQs is what these two are doing in their

spare time.

"All up we've raised \$30,000 so far. This year was \$13,000 and we're hoping to go over \$15,000 for next year's one."

"We're seeking sponsorships from businesses too. They can sponsor us and they get advertising on our car," explained Nathan.

The pair have got two cars to choose from. The original one that has successfully completed two rallies and a rusted-out Kia van they were given that Nathan spent eight months

fixing up for this year's rally.

While they're not sure yet which vehicle will be taking them from WA to the NT, they are sure that they can cross that finish line.

"It's just a matter of getting from the start to finish with the car still running. Every day you've got to just try and keep the car going," said Nathan.

To follow Nathan and Shaun's journey go to Facebook: Shitbox Rally Winter 2025 - Wackadoo Let's Go Cruise and to donate go to: bit.ly/4gkQFyf.

Nissan X-TRAIL: More technology, more convenience

THE Nissan X-TRAIL family has been updated for the 2025 model range, introducing range-wide technology and convenience upgrades designed to make one of Australia's most popular mid-size SUVs even easier to live with.

The range includes grades with options including five trim levels, the choice between five and seven seats (ST, ST-L and N-Trek), 2WD or 4WD, and the option of the innovative e-POWER powertrain (ST-L, Ti and Ti-L).

"The X-TRAIL is one of Australia's most flexible – and, with over 300,000 sold to date in Australia, most popular – family focused SUVs," says Nissan Australia's Marketing Director, Sriram Padmanabhan.

"These MY25 updates aim to further improve the popular X-TRAIL formula, with important technology and convenience upgrades that our customers will notice and enjoy every time they take the wheel."

That starts with the Nissan X-



Nissan's X-TRAIL adds more technology and convenience for 2025.

TRAIL ST, with a comprehensive equipment list now further bolstered by Approach unlock and walkaway lock function.

The biggest change lies in the Nissan X-TRAIL ST-L, where customers also now benefit from Approach unlock and walkaway lock function, but also receive a cabin technology upgrade through the inclusion of a 12.3-inch central touchscreen with

standard navigation, a wireless charging pad, and the addition of wireless Apple CarPlay and Android Auto.

Nissan X-TRAIL N-TREK customers also now receive Approach unlock and walkaway lock function, wireless device charging and wireless Android Auto, while X-TRAIL Ti customers benefit from Approach unlock and walkaway lock function, wireless Android

Auto and a hands-free automatic tailgate.

Finally, flagship X-TRAIL Ti-L customers benefit from wireless Android Auto and Approach unlock and walkaway lock function.

The X-TRAIL ST, ST-L and N-Trek are offered with five (2WD) or seven (4WD) seats, while the five-seat ST-L delivers further flexibility through the option of a 2.5-litre petrol engine, or Nissan's innovative e-POWER with e-4ORCE technology, which pairs a turbocharged 1.5-litre, three-cylinder variable compression petrol engine with twin electric motors (one at each axle) to deliver driving excitement.

The X-TRAIL Ti and Ti-L are both exclusively five-seat with 4WD configurations, and both offer the option of e-POWER with e-4ORCE technology.

To learn more about the all-new Nissan X-TRAIL or for other great offers head into Edney's Leon-gatha, 1 Roughton Street, today.

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92,469kms, CVT auto SUV SN: W101872



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2021 Ford Ranger XLS PX MkIII
44,990 DRIVE AWAY

55,559kms, 6 speed sports auto 4x4 double cab SN: L101886



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2021 Subaru Forester 2.5i S5
36,990 DRIVE AWAY

49,898kms, 7 speed CVT auto SUV SN: W101883



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AVAILABLE

2012 Mazda BT-50 GT UP
24,990 DRIVE AWAY

196,851kms, 6 speed sports auto 4x4 dual cab SN: W101882



FINANCE
AVAILABLE

2015 Holden Cruze SRi-V JH
13,990 DRIVE AWAY

122,593kms, 6 speed sports auto hatch SN: W101855



FINANCE
AVAILABLE

2020 Subaru XV 2.0i-S GSX
27,990 DRIVE AWAY

162,075kms, 7 speed CVT auto SUV SN: W101806



PRICE
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2020 Toyota Hilux SR5
57,990 DRIVE AWAY

30,955kms, 6 speed sports auto 4x4 double cab SN: W101707

Leongatha Toyota

USED VEHICLE SPECIALS



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211,053kms, 5 speed CVT manual 4x4 cab chassis SN: L101215



FINANCE
AVAILABLE

2012 Hyundai iX35 Active
14,990 DRIVE AWAY

127,109kms, 6 speed CVT auto SUV SN: L101216



FINANCE
AVAILABLE

2015 Toyota Corolla Ascent Sport
15,990 DRIVE AWAY

120,021kms, 7 speed CVT auto hatch SN: L101212



FINANCE
AVAILABLE

2024 Toyota Rav4 GXL
51,990 DRIVE AWAY

5kms, 10 speed CVT auto SUV SN: L101206



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2023 Toyota C-HR GR Sport
58,990 DRIVE AWAY

205kms, 7 speed CVT auto 4x4 SUV SN: L101210



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2022 Toyota Landcruiser VX
108,990 DRIVE AWAY

92,211kms, 10 speed CVT auto 4x4 SUV SN: L101207



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2019 Toyota Camry Ascent
33,990 DRIVE AWAY

62,566kms, 6 speed CVT auto sedan SN: L101194



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2022 Toyota Kluger GXL
59,990 DRIVE AWAY

49,299kms, CVT auto 4x4 SUV SN: L101217

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wonthaggitoyota.com.au

Leongatha Toyota

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Sentinel-Times

COMMENT

Time to consider what's really important

AS IMPORTANT as such issues as action on climate change, energy transition, the war in the Middle East, the invasion of Ukraine and the influence of China are, they tend to distract the Australian Government and other authorities from making progress on the basics including education, housing, health and aged care and the cost of living.

Which is why, it was pleasing in the past week to see the government make a statement about "historic aged care reforms to ensure the viability and quality of aged care".

It's a huge issue.

As the Aged Care Taskforce Report made clear, by 2050 the residential aged care sector will need \$56 billion in capital funding to upgrade existing aged care rooms and build the additional rooms that growing numbers of older Australians will need.

They also said that in the next 40 years, the number of Australians aged over 65 is expected to more than double, with those aged over 85 to more than triple.

A focus of the new initiatives will be a new 'Support at Home' program, starting with a \$4.3 billion investment to come into effect on July 1, 2025, assisting upwards of 1.4 people by 2035.

It stands to reason that Support at Home would be emphasised. The Productivity Commission says that 70 per cent of Australians would prefer to die in the comfort of their own home, but fewer than 10 per cent actually do.

But there will also be a new means-tested cost structure for those entering residential aged care, with the aim being that providers will be better placed to raise the funds they need to upgrade and expand.

The need is already significant now, but the current funding arrangements are not sufficient for residential aged care providers to look at developing their facilities, given that in 2022-23, 46 per cent of providers made a loss from accommodation.

We're seeing those constraints locally.

As much as the staff at Woorayl Lodge in Leongatha, for example, do a fantastic job looking after their residents, the place has long since passed its use-by date. The community of Leongatha and district, frankly, deserve better. There are plenty of other examples.

The organisation has had the development of a new facility on its agenda for a long time now, but they haven't been able to attract enough grant money, nor see their way clear to borrowing the significant funds they would need to go ahead with the works.

Hopefully, these changes introduced by the government will give the private sector the encouragement it needs to expand residential aged care capacity.

And some leadership from local government and the health sector would be welcome.

Aged care is one of the biggest pressures on the Federal Budget and, without action, spending is expected to more than double as a share of GDP over the next 40 years. With the proposed changes, however, the government expects to have the growth in aged care costs under control by 2034-35.

Another issue that needs to be addressed is the projected shortage of more than 4000 secondary teachers by 2025 and the mass exodus from the profession by existing teachers. Some of the problem will be relative rates of pay but the stacked curriculum, lack of funding for public schools, and social pressures on schools and teachers are equally pressing.

It's high time all levels of government gave proportional weight to issues affecting minorities and issues affecting the broader spread of the community.

Vox Pop

What would you see as highest priority for a council candidate where you live?



Lynne McCarthy
Wonthaggi
"Local roads."



Joan Scott OAM
Wonthaggi
"A new lifesaving clubhouse for Cape Paterson."



George Scott OAM
Wonthaggi
"Wonthaggi Lifesaving Club."



Garry (Moz) Wilson
Wonthaggi
"Roads."

No more woke councillors

THE diversity, equality and inclusion that make up our current Bass Coast Council needs to be replaced with character, integrity, and wisdom.

Let's get rid of the politics of the type that Labor left people espouse because it's a feely good proposition that does absolutely nothing for our society.

In fact, it makes it worse for all sorts of reasons, not the least, it divides us. It makes us second-rate.

It annoys the hell out of those who actually want to achieve something.

Fatima Payman ticked the woke box, Rachael Gunn, Lidia Thorpe, Alan Joyce and the AFL all ticked the box. Five current Bass Coast Councillors have ticked the woke box too.

Race and gender should not be the criteria for selection or promotion. We should reward effort and talent to provide incentive for self-development. Without that, the risk is that high achievers may lose their drive and the whole country, and our shire, suffers as a result and we all slip into mediocrity.

Greg Box you may disagree with this, but you will find 65 per cent of ratepayers agree with me. Selection based on race or sex is in itself racist and should be called out as discriminating.

Let's hit the hard reset button before woke destroys sensible behaviour and our lifestyle. From now on it's "revoke the woke". Let's get back the real Spirit of Australia that the majority of us want.

Rob Parsons, The Gurdies

Inverloch's eroding coastline

INVERLOCH'S eroding coastline is more than a local issue – it's a crisis.

Our surf lifesaving club, vital for public safety, is on the verge of being washed away.

The Allan Labor Government's plan to act by 2040 is unacceptable.

We need action now, not promises for the distant future.

Other coastal towns have successfully protected their shores with engineering solutions.

Why is Inverloch left to suffer?

Our community's safety, economy, and future are at stake.

The Allan Labor Government must listen to Inverloch residents and act immediately to save our beach and surf club.

Endless reports and discussions won't hold back the tide.

It's time for concrete action to preserve our coastal heritage and ensure the safety of residents and visitors alike.

The Nationals have launched a petition, and we urge you to support it – <https://www.parliament.vic.gov.au/get-involved/petitions/save-the-inverloch-surf-lifesaving-club-and-surf-beach-from-coastal-erosion/>

Labor can't manage our coastlines, and Inverloch continues to pay the price.

Melina Bath MP, Member for Eastern Victoria Region

Can't keep our beaches closed

HOW long will the entrances to Inverloch Surf Beach remain closed? While safety and environmental protection are vital, prolonged closures will severely affect our community.

The draft Cape to Cape Resilience Plan estimates annual economic losses between \$2.5 million and \$7.4 million due to such closures.

I am particularly concerned that both Mahers Landing and Inverloch boat ramps may be closed at the same time. This would hinder the SES and Surf Life Saving Club's ability to launch boats in emergencies and will negatively impact local marine and tourism businesses, with a flow-on effect for all Inverloch businesses.

Allowing the surf beach entrances to remain closed during school holidays will further harm our local economy, particularly in the tourism sector.

The council must prioritise reopening the beach and keeping at least one local boat ramp open during the upgrades.

Publishing a clear timeline for the work, with details on responsible parties, would reassure the community.

Brian Robinson, Candidate for Bunurong Ward

(Authorised by Brian Robinson, PO Box 707 Inverloch Vic. 3996).

It's about community not council

I AM a candidate in the forthcoming Bass Coast Council election for Island Ward. On Monday night I witnessed our community at work when I shared a meal at St Johns Church, Cowes.

To see two churches, St Philips, which provided its commercial kitchen, and St Johns, for the dining facilities, coming together was nothing short of inspiring. Greg and his volunteers are to be highly commended for making this happen.

I would also like to make a special mention to the Newhaven school students who served the food, showing how a community can work together.

The people participating in this evening were mainly of an advanced age and I asked them what their main issues were concerning Bass Coast Council – rates being higher than Melbourne, no pool (in particular a hydrotherapy pool), concerns about parking facilities and no regular bus services on the island that service outlying hamlets – were their responses.

If elected to Council my immediate task would be to overturn the recent Council decision to not rezone the carnival site. This would make it shovel ready for a start on the recreation precinct, which would include sports ovals and a pool, when funds become available.

I would oppose any move by Council on reducing parking in Cowes or installing parking meters as most residents of Phillip Island

are car dependent. I would also support the rate cap.

The Island needs a better bus service that services the hamlets of Phillip Island, and we can't wait for Council to trial a possible EV version sometime in the future. We need a bus service now!

The ratepayers of Bass Coast need Councilors that are prepared to work with Council officers on behalf of the ward and that their voices are heard. We need to deliver services that are within council budget.

We need to check and evaluate plans presented by Council Officers, such as the Building Asset Management Plan Bass Coast.

The Shire ex-Mayor, Cr Michael Whelan, was full of praise of this modelling and he stated Council was at the cutting edge of forecasting. He said he was proud of it. Did he even bother to read and evaluate the asset plan prepared by consultants? The answer is no! There was a discrepancy of \$802,079,971 in valuations which was acknowledged by Council officers.

We deserve Better and together we can do better.

Vote 1 John Trigt for Island Ward.

John Trigt, Phillip Island

(Authorised by J Trigt Po Box 6076 Cowes 3922).

Art for all

RE: Sentinel Times, August 27. There was an article on page 15 in regard to asking for expressions of interest for a significant Art Commission to be purchased and located at the Berninnet Culture Centre. The budget for this artwork was going to be \$140,000. But there was just one tiny catch – according to the Shire's new Art Collection Policy blokes need not apply as art will be selected for acquisition based on, among other things, artworks that increase gender equity in number and value.

And, as Cr Leticia Laing so eagerly pointed out at the council meeting, that the artworks in the council's collection are already weighted towards male artists and is a situation that should be addressed.

So, my question, will artistic members of the LGBTQIA+ community also be told not to apply as well.

It disgusts me that over and over again this council constantly tries to portray itself as inclusive to all but fails miserably in so many areas. I'm not sure if are willing to accept this but I thought we were all equal.

So here is my suggestion. You still have your art competition but have the artists names covered over and then just a number registered to the artist on the back of the artwork and then heaven forbid, you judge on merit.

You never know you might get a painting that had been painted either by a chimpanzee or even an elephant or who knows, a human.

So please open this up to all artistic members of our community and stop with the gender politics.

Levinus Van Der Neut, Coronet Bay

Sisters donate hair in memory of grandmother for cancer

AT Inverloch Primary School, two young girls, Annabelle and Maddy, have taken on a big challenge for a cause close to their hearts. Inspired by their late grandmother, Martine Denblyden, who lost her battle with cancer, the sisters have decided to donate their hair to the Cancer Council fundraiser.

Martine Denblyden was a beloved figure in the community, known for her kindness and dedication as a nurse and local business owner. She was not only a nurturing presence as a nurse but also as a homebirth midwife, helping bring new life into the world in the comfort of a woman's sacred space. She retired in 2015 from the neonatal intensive care unit at the Royal Women's Hospital, leaving behind a legacy of care and compassion.

Martine's own battle with cancer was a tough one. Diagnosed seven years ago with breast cancer, she underwent a mastectomy and believed she was in the clear. However, she was then diagnosed with bowel cancer and underwent a resection, then just three years ago, the breast cancer returned, spreading to her lymph nodes. Despite her valiant fight, Martine passed away on August 30 at the age of 79.

To honour her memory and support others fighting the same battle, Annabelle and Maddy decided to



Twenty centimetres of Annabelle and Maddy's hair will be cut off at a school assembly and donated to those experiencing hair loss as a result of an illness.

donate their hair to the Cancer Council, as wigs made from real hair can make a significant difference in the lives of cancer patients or those experiencing hair loss as a result of an illness. With a requirement of 20 cm of hair donated for the wigs, the sisters were excited to make a meaningful contribution.

Martine was known to her granddaughters Annabelle and Maddy as Bonne Maman (French for Grandmother). Before her passing Annabelle had donated her hair and since her loss the girls – daughters of Martine's daughter Olivia were reminiscing about their grandmother, her commitment to her community, and her love for her assistance dog, Willow, and felt a sense of pride and determination. Together they knew that by participating in the fundraiser, they

were not only honouring Martine's memory but also making a tangible difference in the lives of those affected by cancer.

With the support of their family and the school community, Annabelle and Maddy embarked on their fundraising journey, eager to make a positive impact in the fight against cancer. Their grandmother's spirit of resilience and compassion lives on in their hearts, and together they'll be raising awareness and funds for Cancer Council research, prevention programs and support services. The girls will cut their hair during a school assembly on September 20 at Inverloch Primary School. To support the cause visit fundraisers.cancervic.org.au/fundraisers/annabelle-maddy/annabelles-chop-for-cancer.

Spring racing headwear on auction

A COLLECTION of Gippsland designed bespoke headwear will be up for bids later this month just in time for Spring racing.

East Gippsland-based designer Eleanor Marguerite is offering 60 unique, handmade headpieces at silent auction in the One Woman's Collection exhibition at the Traralgon Courthouse.

The funds from the auction will be going to Latrobe Regional Health to purchase new laser surgical equipment.

The auction is being held on behalf of a woman who collected 70 of these headpieces, but she is moving to England and cannot take them all with her with her.

The collector – who wishes to remain anonymous – has donated her headpieces back to Eleanor who has chosen to hold the auction for LRH in honour of the collector's father who died from cancer.

Each headpiece is named and hand packaged with a personally-written poem to reflect the sentiment of its creation.

"This is amazing. This lady was well-known for wearing beautiful designer dresses and wore these headpieces to work in Traralgon every day," Eleanor said.

"Some of these pieces won Fashions of the Field. Every piece meant something to her, and to me as the designer."

LRH is aiming to raise \$283,000 for equipment that will help urologists more effectively treat kidney stones and prostate conditions, improving treatment outcomes and recovery times for patients.

It will mean that benign or cancerous tumours can be removed without incisions for prostate patients, and kidney or urinary stones can be removed in one procedure.

Eleanor describes herself as a "hair embellisher" and uses natural materials, millinery fabrics, crystals, beads



A silent auction raising funds for Latrobe Regional Health is underway later this month, with over 60 unique Gippsland designed headpieces on offer.

and precious stones to create her work.

One of her pieces featured on the front of the Herald Sun worn by British racing presenter Francesca Cumani, while another was worn by the wife of a corporate identity to greet the then Prince of Wales and Duchess of Cornwall.

"It's like wearing a piece of art on your head. Some pieces can take several weeks to create. It's not just about the headpiece, but about how people feel when they wear it," Eleanor said.

"I just want people to be spellbound when they see this exhibition. Hopefully it will generate interest in fundraising for LRH and people will make their own donations when placing their bid."

One Woman's Collection will run from September 25 to October 2 at the Traralgon Courthouse with a silent auction.

To donate to the LRH fundraising appeal, visit: mycause.com.au/p/352856/eleanor-marguerite-one-womans-collection.

GIPPSLAND GRAMMAR SEX ABUSE INFORMATION WANTED

Rightside Legal is working for a number of men who were abused while students at Gippsland Grammar in Sale in the 1980s and 1990s.

One of the abusers was Phillip Hazeldine, a Teacher at the College. Hazeldine has been convicted of abusing multiple students, but Gippsland Grammar say they are not responsible.

If you have information or memories of Hazeldine that may help the survivors, please contact Chris Prast on 0432 250 492 or info@rightsidelegal.com.au.

www.rightsidelegal.com.au

RIGHTSIDELEGAL

EXPERIENCE | RESULTS | ON YOUR SIDE



A great crowd turned out to support Lymphoma Australia at the Leongatha RSL on Saturday night.

Eyes Down For Lymphoma success

The Eyes Down For Lymphoma charity event was a huge success with 180 people attending at the Leongatha RSL on Saturday night. A total of \$19,508.30 was raised, far exceeding the target of \$15,000. All funds will go towards Lymphoma Australia. Organiser Jayson Filomeno (pictured above with raffle prizes) thanked the local and Australian businesses that got on board to support the event. The highest priced live auction items were from Cruise Whitsundays, Hamilton Island Enterprises and O'Reely Fishing Charters, each going for \$650. A special thanks was also extended to the Leongatha RSL for hosting the event and Jayson's partner Belinda for helping to make the night the success it was.

EPA Victoria's five tips

EPA Victoria has five simple tips for local businesses who want to do the right thing by the environment without making it too complicated. EPA says the key is the General Environmental Duty, a part of the Environment Protection Act 2017. Thankfully the Environment Protection Act 2017 has five steps to compliance with the GED:

- Minimise the risks of harm: Practical things like installing air filters on machines, managing stock volumes, regular maintenance so your sprinkler system is ready to stop a fire, and staff training in safety procedures.
- Identify and control sources of risk
- Have systems to minimise harm if something goes wrong: Reduce the impact with measures, for example, to contain gas leaks or liquid spills, in-house fire-fighting gear, or regular staff drills to sharpen emergency response.
- Store, handle and transport substances safely: There is greater risk when substances are transported or handled. There is also risk in storing large quantities of materials such as paper or plastic, so it's important to make the right decisions from the start.
- Provide training and supervision

Proper training reduces risk, prevents human errors and makes sure your harm reduction systems work when you need them.

Get online at epa.vic.gov.au/ged to learn more.



Former coalminers Reg Wilson, Lou Storti and Dan Carr with Jordan Crugnale MP

Light at the end of the tunnel for State Coal Mine

THE FUTURE of the Wonthaggi State Coal Mine looks assured given the continuing strong support shown by the Friends of the State Coal Mine.

It was standing room only when past and present members of Friends of the Wonthaggi State Coal Mine gathered with supporters and sponsors to celebrate the group's fortieth anniversary.

A special 'Oscar' trophy was presented to the long-standing State Coal Mine Friends by Jordan Crugnale MP in tribute to the dedication and commitment of so many people to this much-loved, historic Wonthaggi treasure.

Hearing the stories and histories of the hardships faced by miners of the day is always a highlight of any visit to the State Coal Mine and the fortieth-anniversary celebrations did not disappoint.

The recollections of former

mine workers who worked tirelessly to provide for their families provided compelling evidence of the hardships faced by mine workers over the fifty-nine years the mine operated from 1909 to 1968.

Former miner Reg Wilson recalled the days when Wonthaggi and its coal mine provided the principal heat source for the homes and industries of Victoria.

Bird cages built by the Friends of the State Coal Mine volunteers now remind visitors of the important role canaries played in detecting potential life-threatening fumes or explosive gases underground in the mine.

Walking tours are conducted daily by appointment with the Friends of the State Coal Mine and Parks Victoria.

Friends of the State Coal Mine also provide ongoing maintenance and improvements to the heritage-listed

buildings and collected mining memorabilia.

The mine café provides wonderful service and excellent food from 10am to 4pm and the gift shop operates seven days a week run by volunteers.

The Miner's Dispensary, first responders and other members of the community who have helped shape the Wonthaggi coal industry over the decades were all in attendance at the fortieth-anniversary festivities and shared in the cutting of an anniversary cake.

For more information on Friends of the State Coal Mine look for the Wonthaggi State Coal Mine on Facebook.

Membership subscriptions can be paid through a link on the Friends of the State Coal Mine Facebook page or in person at the State Coal Mine Gift Shop.

New members are always welcome.



Dyon Dimmock volunteer organiser for the Friends of the State Coal Mine 40th anniversary with 'Oscar'.

Speciosum Rock Lily wins Champion Orchid



Lita Hill and her Champion Orchid of the Show Dendrobium Speciosum or rock lily.



Pat Fell with her Dendrobium Jonathan's Glory 'Dark Joy' judged Best Intermediate Australian Native.

A GIANT yellow Dendrobium Speciosum or popular rock lily caught the eye of judges to win Champion Orchid at the 34th Annual South Gippsland Orchid Show.

The Wonthaggi Workmen's Club was a mass of potted colour over two days as the region's best orchid growers competed in twenty-three different categories.

Keen orchid buyers jostled from early morning to take home the most striking blooms.

"We always have plenty of plants for sale," said show marshal Julie Kilgour.

"Cymbidiums are always popular."

Prizes were awarded at three different levels Novice, Intermediate and Advanced with a fourth category for Champion of Show.

"We look at the flowers first then the plant itself," said Julie Kilgour.

The plants must be free of disease, and insects such as aphids, ants, snails and slugs.

"I always keep a can of fly-spray handy."

Hundreds of visitors attended the show coming

from as far as Sale, Latrobe Valley, Cranbourne and Melbourne.

It is the third year the orchid show has been located at the Wonthaggi Workmen's Club and organisers were delighted with the high standard of entries and the keen interest shown by visiting gardeners.

34th Annual South Gippsland Orchid Show Champions

Champion Orchid of Show, Lita Gill, Dendrobium Speciosum.

Reserve Champion Orchid, Daryl Mills, Dendrobium Avril's Gold.

Best Australian Native, Lita Gill, D. Speciosum ('Windsor Downs' x 'Windermere').

Best Cymbidium, Daryl Mills, Regal Flames 'Queen of Hearts'.

Best Species in Show, Lita Gill, Laelia anceps var. dawsonii.

Best Other Genera Hybrid, Daryl Mills, Masdevallia Rubicon 'Storm'.

Best Specimen/Colony in Show, Lita Gill, Dendrobium Speciosum.

Sweltering hot amongst the street trees

WITH SPRING already upon us and summer on the way new research has shown that the cooling potential of many of our favourite street trees is reduced by truly sweltering hot weather.

Communities seeking to plant more trees to help combat climate change may not be as effective as we once thought.

Without proper tree selection not only is there a negligible cooling effect during heatwaves but trees under water stress can adversely affect our health.

A recent study by the University of New South Wales suggests extremely hot conditions can significantly reduce the shade effect of street trees.

“Conventional climate models can overestimate the ability of trees to cool during heat waves by up to sixty per cent,” according to researchers Kai Gao, Dr Jei Feng and Professor Mattheos (Mat) Santamouris.

Adding green infrastructure to the urban landscape, especially by the planting of trees is a common measure used by local government to try to reduce urban heat.

Bass Coast has a substantial coverage of evergreen trees in urban areas with the Shire planning to plant thousands more at a rate of around five hundred trees per year.

Council says planting trees offers countless benefits for our community beyond the ecological benefits.

“There are the very important visual and urban amenity values created by the eventual tree canopy as well as the creation of spaces that enhance the mental and physical wellbeing of residents and visitors,” according to a council spokesperson.

Species selected from an existing preferred list include an extensive range of natives and a smaller group of exotics.

Inverloch has native species, while Wonthaggi has ornamentals.

However, new research shows trees have limits during heat waves.

“It’s not to say that planting trees is not important for heat mitigation, but large-scale plantings require careful consideration,” claim the researchers.



Paddy, Zara and Pippa from Inverloch enjoying the warm sun in the shade of their favourite gum tree.

Typically, temperature reduction caused by green infrastructure in normal summer conditions is around one to two degrees during the day.

Much of this cooling effect results from transpiration, where trees release water vapour through their leaves, absorbing heat and reducing the surrounding air temperature.

However, trees can take precautions under heat stress to maintain moisture and avoid dryness by holding onto their sap which reduces transpiration flow and a tree’s ability to cool.

“Once trees reach a threshold temperature of around thirty-four degrees, they try to protect themselves by reducing the circulation of sap,” Prof. Santamouris says.

“This decreases their transpiration rate, which significantly reduces the ability of trees to cool to an ambient temperature while in rare cases, may even result in heating.”

Bass Coast has identified potential climate change hazards including increased average temperatures and solar radiation, increased extreme heat days, more extreme storm, and bush-fire events, decreased annual rainfall and rising sea levels.

The biggest impacts on the urban landscape from climate change according to Bass Coast

will be warmer average temperatures and a reduction in average rainfall.

Prof. Santamouris says decision-makers need to be selective about the types of trees used and the various temperature thresholds of varied species.

Under extreme temperatures, trees can also emit high concentrations of Biogenic Volatile Organic Compounds (BVOCs) like Isoprene which can harm air quality by interacting with other atmospheric pollutants.

Water availability is also crucial to a tree’s ability to reduce urban heat.

Not watering trees during extremely hot days limits their cooling potential.

“Water management plans must be essential to any tree planting strategy,” says Prof. Santamouris.

Bass Coast’s Urban Forest Plan includes street and road trees, parks and gardens, foreshore vegetation, residents’ front and back gardens, trees in carparks and vegetation along waterways.

Bass Coast considers the urban forest to be one of the most cost-effective and efficient mechanisms for adapting local towns to climate change.

The plan is to ensure at least a minimum of twenty-five per cent canopy coverage across the Shire increasing to an average

of forty per cent by 2040.

While plant physiologists are working to create genetically modified trees with higher temperature thresholds these variants are at least a decade away.

“Instead of having a threshold of around thirty-four degrees, genetically modified trees may have a threshold of up to forty-five degrees making them more suited to endure extreme heat” the university researchers suggest.

Prof. Santamouris says it is vital that urban heat mitigation efforts be based on the latest scientific evidence, especially as global temperatures continue to rise.

Planting species that are likely to withstand a changing climate is seen as critical along with planting understorey where possible, creating good growing conditions for new trees with adequate soil moisture levels, providing above-ground space and mulching to encourage deep root establishment.

“Any cooling policy in urban areas based on the plantation of trees must take into account the science involved or risk the tremendous investment not having the desired cooling results and at worst, having adverse health effects,” said Prof. Santamouris.

“The problem of urban heat cannot be solved simply by planting trees.

What about dredging the mouth of the Powlett?

A DECISION to clear a sandbar at the mouth of Bourne Creek to safeguard the Bass Highway at Kilcunda has angered farmers along the Powlett River, who want their land drained as well.

The Powlett River may not be threatening the Bass Highway but after recent storms farmers along the lower reaches of the Powlett River are being forced to move stock to higher ground or start handfeeding.

Farmer Robin Lowe says the Powlett River has been rising steadily since recent heavy rain.

Flood levees have been breached and farmland around Dalyston is waterlogged.

“Eighty per cent of some farms can go underwater,” said Robin Lowe

“If I go under, I’ll have to shut the farm down.

“Move the cattle or hand-feed.”

The Powlett River is under strict management, but Mr Lowe says the river cannot flow because the mouth has silted over.

The road leading to the mouth of the Powlett River is already closed and other roads will be damaged if they go underwater explained Mr Lowe.

Mr Lowe wants to see the river property properly maintained.

“Farmland adjoining the river has already been degraded,” said Mr Lowe.

“Otherwise, farmers need to be compensated.

“River flow is natural.

“At the moment the area is akin to a swamp.”

The West Gippsland Catchment Management Authority says the mouth of the Powlett River closed to Bass Strait naturally in late August.

“The Powlett River/Kugerungmome estuary on Bunurong Country near Kilcunda is a significant and ever-changing wetland that provides essential habitat for wildlife,” said the Catchment Management Authority.

“The closure was a result of sustained large swells over past weeks which deposited sand into the estuary entrance.”

Large ocean swells and low river flows have allowed a sandbar to develop at the mouth of an estuary according to the West Gippsland Catchment Management Authority eventually closing its connection to the ocean.

“Estuary closures provide critical habitat for many threatened species,” said West Gippsland CMA CEO, Martin Fuller.

“The Powlett River Estuary is one of many estuaries across the state that has recently closed its connection to the ocean.

“Over the coming weeks, if the river mouth remains closed, we can expect to see water continue to nourish the wetlands,” explained Mr Fuller.

“This helps maintain the health of the wetland that surrounds the estuary.

“The wetland provides important habitat and an abundance of food for many species of fish, birds and invertebrates that seek food and shelter, some of which are endangered.”

Mr Fuller explained that it is very important to support this natural process otherwise the integrity of the surrounding wetland and the species it supports may be jeopardised.

“There is a flow-on effect when the river mouth closes,” continued Mr Fuller.

“Algae begins to grow which provides food for insects and fish, the calm waters then turn into a fish nursery and with the increase in fish and insects birds flock to the wetlands to feed.

“The environmental benefits of the estuary mouth closing cannot be overstated and if the mouth does open naturally, particularly as a result of increased water level height and freshwater river flows, it will trigger fish migration upstream and out to sea.”

The WGCMA will monitor conditions and if required, the river mouth may need to be artificially opened.

Decisions to open the estuary mouth are informed by the Estuary Entrance Management Support System (EEMSS) and additional data and information are connected through onsite monitoring and stakeholder consultation.

“If it is decided that an artificial opening is required, it will only take place if it is deemed safe and sustainable and this requires a number of things to line up,” Mr Fuller explained.

Annual Report showcases working together for our Lakes

THE 2023-24 Gippsland Lakes Annual Report is now available highlighting key works, achievements and investment into improving the health of the Ramsar listed Gippsland Lakes.

The Victorian Government has provided \$7.5 million over three years (2021-2024) as part of a wider \$248 million investment which is designed to encourage Government agencies, groups and individual landowners to get involved in activities to help improve the health of the Gippsland Lakes.

This report presents the range of projects undertaken across the Gippsland Lakes and catchment during the 2023/24 financial year, including the government investment above, other government complimentary programs, and the volunteer efforts of many people.

The successful delivery of these projects is being achieved through continued collaboration between Traditional Owners, land and



The 2023-24 Gippsland Lakes Annual Report highlights \$7.5M investment to improve health of Ramsar-listed lakes. Pictured: Martin Potts Greening Australia.

waterway managers, community groups, individual landowners and other regional partners. Working together included many volunteer hours and 40 formal partner organisations delivering projects across the Gippsland Lakes.

The report is structured in seven key areas, outlining the total investment in each. These are:

- Protecting the Traditional Owner country of the Gippsland Lakes Outer Barrier.
- Improving the condition and connectivity of Lake Wellington and its wetlands.
- Protecting and enhancing alpine ecosystems.
- Improving the wetlands of Jones Bay.
- Improving the condition of

the East Gippsland catchments.

- Understanding and improving aquatic habitats and ecosystems.
- Improving the Condition of the West Gippsland Catchments.

The report brochure opens up to feature the locations of works on a map of the region showing where each of the actions have been completed.

The report also features two case studies which provide a small snapshot of the inspiring projects in progress. These include: the construction of ‘frog bog’ wetlands for threatened Green and Golden Bell Frog and Growling Grass Frog species as well as the methodology that has been developed to monitor the condition of saltmarsh communities in the Gippsland Lakes Ramsar Site.

The 2023-24 Gippsland Lakes Annual Report is now available on the Love our Lakes website (loveourlakes.net.au).

Spend some time along **The Waterline**



Reel in a deal at the one-stop shop for all your boats, bait and tackle-tastic adventures with Bass Coast Boat and Tackle.

Top-quality boats, gear, and tackle for every angler

BASS Coast Boat and Tackle new business open now in Drouin South/Ripplebrook servicing Gippsland, Bass Coast and surrounding areas.

Bass Coast Boat and Tackle offers quantity new and used boats, Dunbier trailers, boat servicing, detailing, boating parts and accessories as well as a wide range of water safety equipment, stainless steel products, electric anchors, boat seats, anchors, oars, ropes, chain, fuel tanks, navigation lighting, boat cleaners and polishes, trailer bearings, depth

sounders, bait and much more for all your boating needs.

Our new boat showroom is soon to be open with great quality boats on offer.

Bass Coast Boat and Tackle are located at 2130 Westernport Road, Ripplebrook. Call in and see Gareth and Gavin on your way past grab some bait for your fishing adventure.

For enquiries email sales@basscoastboatandtackle.com.au, visit basscoastboatandtackle.com.au or contact Gareth 0429 086 733 and Gavin 0418 510 379.



Enjoy tranquil seaside living at Frenchview Lifestyle Village, where community, comfort, and your furry friends are always welcome.

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LOCATED right on the Western Port Bay foreshore, Frenchview Lifestyle Village offers beautiful, low maintenance homes in a friendly, like-minded community environment. We also love pets, so your four-legged friends are more than welcome!

We have quality, affordable brand new and pre-loved two-bedroom homes with various layouts available, along with "off the plan" options that allow you to customise your new forever home on a site of

your choosing.

Residents of our established community love Frenchview's quiet atmosphere and community feel. Being right on the foreshore, there are plenty of lovely places nearby to relax and enjoy the view with a coffee, take a short walk or enjoy a meal at a local café. Within close proximity to Phillip Island and the greater Bass Coast and only 25 minutes from Wonthaggi, the village really is the perfect sea-change for those looking to downsize but still remain

within 90 minutes of the Melbourne CBD.

Village residents enjoy a number of excellent facilities, such as our saltwater inground pool, BBQ areas, large off-leash dog area, community facility and tearoom and plenty of access to the foreshore.

Contact our Village Manager on 03 5678 8232 for more information, or to organise a tour of our lovely village – we can't wait to show you the Frenchview Lifestyle Village lifestyle!

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Bassine Specialty Cheeses maker Tone Petersen crafting the local brie. C01_3824

Milkshakes, cheese tastings and more

LOOKING for a delicious way to spend the school holidays? Look no further than Bassine Specialty Cheeses in Bass! Open every day during the holidays, this local gem offers a delightful escape for foodies, cheese lovers, and families alike.

Start your visit with one of Bassine's famous milkshakes, a creamy and refreshing treat made from the freshest off-the-farm milk. With a range of flavours, these milkshakes are sure to be a hit with both kids and adults. Whether you prefer classic vanilla or a blue heaven twist, there's a milkshake to satisfy every craving.

Feeling peckish? Stop by the country-style café, where the homemade food is as warm and inviting as the atmosphere. Enjoy a hearty lunch or a light snack made with fresh, locally sourced ingredients. From comforting dishes to light bites, the menu has something for everyone. Don't forget to indulge in one of their free cheese tastings while you're there. Speaking of cheese, Bassine Specialty Cheeses is a haven for cheese lovers. With a wide selection of handcrafted cheeses available for purchase,



Bassine Specialty Cheeses front of house manager Tania De Freitas serving antipasto platters and trio of dips in the café. Z01_2924

you can stock up on your favourites or try something new. From soft and creamy brie to aromatic gouda and everything in between, their range will tempt any cheese connoisseur. And it's not just cheese – Bassine also offers a variety of dairy essentials like milk, cream, and yogurt, all produced fresh from their cows.

Looking for the perfect picnic addition or a

delicious gift? Take home a selection of their cheeses and dairy products to enjoy with friends and family. Whether you're preparing a special meal or just want to savour a taste of the Gippsland region, Bassine Specialty Cheeses has you covered.

So why not make the most of the school holidays with a visit to Bassine Specialty Cheeses and keep everyone smiling?



Fresh seasonal produce from Macca's Farm to your plate.

Berry sweet bliss at Macca's Farm

GET ready for a sweet new treat just in time for the school holidays at Macca's Farm in Glen Forbes! We're thrilled to announce the arrival of our all-new soft-serve strawberry ice cream, made from the plumpest farm-grown strawberries. It's the perfect way to treat yourself after a fun-filled day at the farm, and a hit with the whole family.

But that's just the beginning. Our strawberry crop is extending, and from late October, the fields will be bursting with ripe, juicy berries ready for you to pick! Whether you're a seasoned strawberry picker or looking for a fun, family-friendly activity, Macca's Farm offers the perfect backdrop for an unforgettable day out. Stroll through the rows of lush strawberry plants, soak up the sunshine, and fill your bucket with the freshest fruit you've ever tasted. Just be sure to grab your bucket early – these sweet berries tend to disappear fast!

Looking ahead to the festive season? Don't miss out on our limited Christmas stock of farm-fresh hams and meats. These delicious cuts are raised and butchered right here on the farm, ensuring top quality and incredible flavour for your holiday feast. Stock is limited, so make sure to place your order early to secure your Christmas centrepiece!

And if you're looking for something to savour sooner, Macca's Farm also offers fresh off-the-farm meat packs and seasonal produce. From succulent sausages to prime cuts, our meat packs are perfect for a family barbecue or a cosy dinner at home. You won't find fresher, more flavourful meat anywhere else.

Visit Macca's Farm in Glen Forbes today to experience the best of local produce, from our new soft-serve strawberry ice cream to our farm-fresh meats and (come November) strawberries. Your taste buds will thank you!

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Battery systems are now available to enable all homes with solar panels to become even more independent from the commercial electricity grid.

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HM11982



Darrel Petrie at Van Steensel Timbers in Grantville is selling \$5 seedlings for spring planting. Z01_3824

Spring savings at Van Steensel Timbers

GET 30 per cent off last season's pots, both large and small, as Van Steensel Timbers make room for new stock in the nursery. Jo Van Steensel shared that with spring here, the nursery is blossoming with all seedlings priced at just \$5 each.

From basil to rocket, radicchio to snap peas, cucumbers to beans, a range of strawberries, tomatoes, and capsicums.

"We have everything you need to kick-start your spring garden."

In addition to their seedlings, Van Steensel Timbers also offers a variety of indoor plants including maidenhair ferns, rabbit's foot ferns, and cyrtomium falcatums. Plus, all the garden equipment you need, from tap adaptors to liquid plant food and fertiliser.

The azaleas are blooming and bringing colour to the garden, while grevilleas are at a good price to attract plenty of birds

to a blossoming spring garden. Outside there is a range of natives including the blushing bride and the enchanted red for those designing a sustainable garden and providing a habitat for local fauna.

Fruit trees, hedges, and succulents are also in stock amongst the diverse range, with timbers and edging in large supply for landscape design.

"Our knowledgeable team in the nursery, and yard are here to assist with all your gardening needs this spring. Whether you need advice on planting, soil recommendations, or help putting together large orders for domestic or commercial trades, we're here to help."

Visit us today on Bass Highway, Grantville to take a stroll through the garden centre and let us help you create a new space this season. Alternatively call 5678 8552 to make an order.



The nursery is blossoming at Van Steensel Timbers with new stock arriving for spring. Z03_3824

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HM11983



Head in store for some great deals and expert knowledge for all your furry creatures.

Nurturing your animals for a healthy season

AS THE chill of winter fades and the warmth of spring emerges, there's no better time to refresh your pet and stock care routine. At Bass Coast Stock Feeds & Pet Barn, the team are embracing the season with a variety of new and seasonal offerings to nurture the animals.

For Your Pets: Spring's longer days and blooming nature bring joy to us humans, but they can also pose challenges for our furry friends. Dogs can suffer from allergies to the new grasses, and fleas become more active as temperatures rise. To keep your canine companions comfortable, manager Simone Gracey and the team stock a range of solutions including Nexgard Spectra, Advocate, Moxiclear, and Capstar to effectively combat fleas.

"For those dealing with grass allergies, we offer medicated and soothing creams to help alleviate discomfort," Simone explained.

"Our shelves are also stocked with delicious new food options. We're excited to introduce two Australian-made dog foods: A La Carte and A1 Nutrition. Of course, we haven't forgotten about our tried-and-true brands such as Lifewise, Supercoat, Supervite, Hypro, Black Hawk, Cobber and Coprice."

And don't forget the extensive range of dog treats, sourced from local suppliers. From shark cartilage to whole sardines, beef lung cubes, chicken jerky, and beef liver, these treats are perfect for rewarding good behaviour or enhancing training sessions. Each treat is packaged in convenient, ready-to-go bags.

For Your Chickens & Birds: With the end of the cold weather, your chickens will start laying again. It's the perfect time to boost their diet with high-protein, high-calcium chook pellets or seed mixes to support their productivity.

"Our wild bird mix, available in 2kg, 5kg, and 20kg bags, will attract a variety



Bulka bags, just over 1.25 cubic metres, are available at Bass Coast Stock Feeds & Pet Barn.

of feathered friends to your garden."

The store is stocked with local pasture hay, lucerne, oaten hay, and straw – ideal for chicken bedding or mulch for your garden beds.

For Your Horses: "Spring is also a great time to ensure your horses are well-fed with our range of high-quality feed," said Simone.

"We offer popular brands like Hygain, Prydes, Speedi Beet, Copra, Robinsons Chaff, Barastoc, Johnsons, Coprice, and Mitavite."

Special Services: "For our islander customers, we provide delivery services to ensure you have everything you need. We offer kiln-dried hardwood with free delivery to locals of Bass Coast," Simone said.

Choose from 20kg bags, collect a barrel of wood in-store, or opt for the bulka bags, at just over 1.25 cubic metres.

As spring breathes new life into everything, visit Bass Coast Stock Feeds & Pet Barn in Grantville. Here to support your pets with all the essentials you need to make this season vibrant and enjoyable.



Sandra Jerger assists the community in the Corinella General Store post office. Z07_3824

Convenience for our community

OPENED in the late 18th century, the renowned Corinella General Store continues to service the growing Bass Coast community and support local businesses in surrounding suburbs.

Owners Barbara and John Oates have served the community in the general store for over 27 years, making it their priority to provide a friendly and professional environment.

"All of our team can assist with everyday general supplies, providing our customers with petrol, fresh fruits and vegetables, fresh meat from Kelly's butchers in Tooradin or fresh milk from local Bassine Specialty Cheese," said Barbara.

"The in-store post office has a mail contract for all of our residents in Corinella, Coronet Bay and Tenby Point, giving them a safe and secure location for their large parcel drop or delivery service."

The Australia Post division in-store manages parcel and mail solutions, sells

phone credit, manages bills including rates, insurance, power, and VicRoads, and has a variety of office supplies and gift ideas.

Locals or town visitors can also access a selection of fishing equipment, ice, or bait, and the generous staff can assist with fishing licenses for those heading to the Corinella boat launching ramp only a minute down the road.

"We also stock marine oils, Castrol car care products, cleaning products, pet food, household essentials, magazines and newspapers," said Barbara.

The store operates as a licensed liquor outlet and a fish and chip shop, offering homemade burgers and even BBQ gas bottles for convenience.

Open seven days a week from 7 am until 7 pm, the Corinella General Store is a welcoming convenience store that works with and for its local community. It is located at 54 Smythe Street, Corinella.



Corinella General Store colleagues Ebony McMaster and Leanne Kelly enjoy working with and for the local community. Z06_3824

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Offering a wide range of goods including:

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Post office open: Mon – Fri 9am – 5.30pm, Sat 9am – 12noon
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Bec Anderson has joined the Community team at Newhaven College as the new Admissions Officer.

Newhaven College welcomes new admissions officer

NEWHAVEN College is pleased to introduce its new Admissions Officer, Bec Anderson. Bec is well known around the region, having moved from Real Estate for a change of scene. Bec's professional and friendly manner has seen her settle in quickly at the College.

"We are thrilled to have Bec join our school in this important Admissions role. As a Newhaven parent with so many strong relationships in our region, we believe she is ideal for this position," said Principal Mr Tony Corr.

The Admissions Officer role has been designed to replace the more traditional Registrar role, due to Mrs Belinda Manning moving to the Music Administrator role at the College's Performing Arts Wing.

Bec is enjoying the role so far, "I am delighted to join the Community team as the Admissions Officer. I have been made feel very welcome by staff, students and families. I am really enjoying this career change and exciting new chapter!"

Bec, as Admissions Officer, is joining Steph Thornborrow and Lucy Couper from Marketing and Communications to create the Community Team, established to welcome and inform new and current Newhaven College families from Prep to Year 12.

Bec welcomes any contact in regard to future enrolments on 5056 7505 and admissions@newhavencol.vic.edu.au.

Job opportunities focus at TAFE Gippsland tour of Hazelwood

JOB opportunities created by the rehabilitation and remediation of Latrobe Valley brown coal mines, and new energy employment opportunities associated with Australia's energy transition were the focus of a visit by senior staff from TAFE Gippsland to the Hazelwood site last Wednesday. The tour of ENGIE's Hazelwood Rehabilitation Project and Battery Energy Storage System (HBESS) enabled TAFE Gippsland to see first-hand the significant progress made since the closure of the power station and mine.

The Hazelwood Rehabilitation Project is a strong example of the employment opportunities created following the closure of coal-fired power generation and mines. During peak decommissioning and demolition works from 2018 to 2022, between 400 and 500 jobs worked at Hazelwood and around 200 jobs continue on the site today. The skills required are primarily for major earthworks, engineering, environmental, and ongoing monitoring as well as management and administration.

With the announced closures of Yallourn and Loy Yang coal mines, also in the Latrobe Valley, such jobs are likely to be in high demand over the next 20 years.

The 150MW/150MWh Hazelwood Battery has been in operation for more than a year and was the first battery to be built at the site of a decommissioned coal fired power station in Australia. It was designed and built with future expansion in mind using the existing grid connection point and dormant transmission capacity after closure of the Hazelwood Power Station in 2017.



Student leaders (centre) from Mary MacKillop Catholic Regional College share their leadership experiences with Bishop Greg Bennet.

Student Leaders connect with Bishop of Sale to foster 'encounter'

TWENTY-SIX student leaders from seven Catholic Secondary colleges in the Diocese of Sale came together for an inspiring meeting with the Bishop of Sale, Most Reverend Greg Bennet.

The meeting was an opportunity for student leaders to share their journey and innovative ideas on how to transform their schools into vibrant 'places of encounter.'

Schools involved included St Francis Xavier College, Beaconsfield, St Peter's College, Cranbourne, Marist-Sion College, Warragul, Mary MacKillop Catholic Regional College, Leongatha, Catholic College Sale, Lavalla Catholic College, Traralgon and Nagle College, Bairnsdale.

Each of the student leaders was chosen by their school communities last year and tasked with the mission to foster connection and engagement within their respective schools. The meeting with the



Student leaders from Catholic secondary colleges in the Diocese of Sale met with the Bishop of Sale, Most Reverend Greg Bennet to discuss their projects and reflect on leadership.

Bishop was an opportunity for students to present their initiatives and reflect on their leadership experiences, illustrating their commitment to building inclusive and welcoming environments.

The gathering was not only

a platform for students to share their challenges and successes but also a celebration of the diverse ways they have worked together. Initiatives included organising fundraising events, hosting sports and music festivals,

implementing anti-bullying programs, celebrating multicultural days, engaging in youth ministry initiatives, mentoring, promoting social justice, and participating in community outreach efforts and more.

The Bishop commended the students for their dedication and impactful contributions, creating welcoming environments in their schools.

Bishop Greg said by fostering a culture of encounter, the students are not only enriching their own communities but also living out the mission of Catholic education.

The meeting highlighted the power of youth leadership in facilitating meaningful change within their schools. Students expressed enthusiasm for their ongoing projects and shared captivating stories of personal growth while navigating their roles as leaders.

CUC Bass Coast building aspirations of young people

AS A not-for-profit dedicated learning community, Country Universities Centre (CUC) Bass Coast works closely with schools, tertiary partners and other educational organisations to increase access and opportunity for rural and regional students in Higher Education.

Additional funding through the Federal Governments Regional Partnership's Program Pool, has meant that CUC Bass Coast has been able to extend its reach in the community and roll out widening participation programs to nurture aspirations for current primary and secondary school students in the region.

Through the Future Bound Program, CUC has developed a suite of resources that can be used by local teachers to build the confidence of students in public speaking.

In addition, CUC education staff have delivered targeted sessions across local primary schools to build students' confidence and support teaching staff with the rollout of the program. Wendy Nichol, Principal of Powlett River Primary School said that "our students have amazing ideas for the future and how they wish to shape it, and having CUC visit the school and provide workshops with our Grade five and



Powlett River Primary Students during their recent workshop with Country University Centre Bass Coast.

six students has been such an asset to help students build their confidence with their oral communication skills."

Education Program Coordinator, Amanda McMahon said "Throughout the term, we have delivered to 11 primary schools with over 700 Grade five and six students participating. During these workshops, students have eagerly shared their responses to questions about current affairs, local issues and issues they feel passionately about on a global scale. From here each school will choose a finalist to speak at the Public Speaking Competition next month."

Partnering with the Rotary

Club of Wonthaggi for the second year running to deliver the Annual Primary School Public Speaking Competition for 2024. The event will be held on Thursday, October 17 from 6-8 pm at the Wonthaggi Union Community Arts Centre and members of the community are all invited to attend and hear from the local and amazing young people.

Research tells us that people living in regional and rural parts of Australia are 50 per cent less likely to engage in higher education and the earlier conversations are had with young people about their aspirations for the future the better the outcomes.

CUC is a community-led model that aims to increase access and opportunities to higher education pathways for regional students, and in doing so build the capacity of our local community and workforce.

The centre is open for access to registered students seven days a week, providing high-speed technology, academic mentoring and support. The study space allows students to network with others to create a community learning environment and reduce isolation while studying remotely. For more information, please give the team a call on 0472 741 451 or visit cucbasscoast.edu.au

The Back-to-Back Wool Challenge to be hosted locally

THE international Back-to-Back Wool Challenge sees teams of eight people compete to create a jumper directly from a sheep's back to a human's back using ancient techniques in the fastest time possible.

In 2004, Australian Team Merriwa in New South Wales broke the Shetland Isles team record of five hours and nine minutes and gained the Guinness World Record for the fastest time of four hours, 51 minutes and 14 seconds.

For most teams completing the challenge however, it usually takes quite a few hours longer.

Sue Speer has competed in the past two challenges with local Leongatha group, the Koorooman Spinners and Weavers (KSW), whose quickest time is just under 13 hours.

"The key is to have fast knitters. It starts with the blade shearer shearing the sheep, and we word up our blade shearer. Blade shearers always want to start on a particular place on the sheep and that's the belly, but we don't want the belly. All we want is the wool off the back," Sue explains.

"The wool gets passed off then to a runner, and that runner hands a small amount to the people who are spinning. Only small amounts are spun up at a time, so that you can create more ply together to create wool as fast as possible, so the knitters can get knitting."

Each team follows an identical pattern and timekeepers, assessors and coordinators monitor these and because speed is key, the end result



Shearer Mal uses traditional shears on a Polwarth. Shearing, spinning and knitting a jumper in the fastest time possible is the aim in the Back to Back Wool Challenge.

isn't always perfect.

"It's not a pretty jumper. It's got lots of ends with long pieces and with short pieces," explains Sue.

The challenges are held at various venues across Australia and in competing countries and Sue thought it would be a great idea to hold a challenge locally.

"Right from the beginning, I'd said wouldn't it be amazing if we held that in our area? Wouldn't it be great if we had a team challenge here? So, we could showcase this in our own area, for our own people."

The Churchill Island Farm looked to be the perfect site and pending a few final

formalities they are excited that they will be hosting the challenge there in March 2025.

"They've got a big shearing shed that's got gallery seating for tourists to watch the shearing and plenty of room, so locals can come and watch."

And all going well the imperfect, yet improbable jumper will be auctioned off at the end of the challenge.

Another aim of this event is to fundraise for cancer, and KSW won the Brigadoon Trophy for raising the most amount of money internationally during the last competition and donated \$5274 to the Rare Cancers Australia charity.

History of the Back-to-Back Challenge

The first known back-to-back wool challenge occurred in 1811 in Berkshire, UK, where a one-thousand-pound wager was made to make a coat from a sheep's back to a man's back in one day.

Watched by 5000 people the coat was completed in 13 hours. The sheep was eaten, and much beer was quaffed in great celebration.

Fast forward 181 years to 1992 when Richard Snow, a keen young spinner from the Scottish Wool Centre at Aberfoyle in Scotland developed thyroid cancer.

His desire to raise funds for cancer research sparked off the Back-to-Back Challenge, not unlike the one that occurred in 1811.

The event created enormous interest in the UK, not only because of the clever promotion of wool but of the funds raised for cancer research.

That same year Australia held a similar contest where teams representing two football clubs, the Geelong Cats and the West Coast Eagles competed in a race to spin and knit a scarf from freshly shorn wool.

In 1994, Australian Wool Showcase member Wendy Dennis took part in the Congress on Coloured Sheep in the UK and visited the Scottish Wool Centre and there the seed was sown for an international competition.

Since then, it has grown year after year with teams from Scotland, England, Wales, Canada, America, New Zealand, Japan, the Czech Republic and South Africa joining the challenge.



Rose Ann Wilkinson (nee Matthews) and her baby daughter Gladys May Wilkinson, Ellen Matthews (nee Cox), Abraham William Matthews.

Unveiling of Ellen Matthews grave plaque

ELLEN Matthews (nee Cox) was born on February 16, 1851, in Bangalore, India and died on July 6, 1931 – buried in Wonthaggi, Victoria. On Saturday, October 12 Angela Matthews, Geoff Lee and family will unveil Ellen Matthews (nee Cox) – their second great grandmothers' new grave plaque in the Wonthaggi Cemetery.

In October 1864 at Triehinopili, India (at the very young age of 14) Ellen was married to Joseph Matthews (deceased) of the 89th Light Infantry of the British Imperial Army.

After spending many years in India, Ellen's husband was pensioned off and they came to Australia, arriving in Melbourne on June 26, 1881. After Joesph's passing Ellen came to Wonthaggi from Inglewood, to live with her daughter Rose Anne Dowling (nee Matthews). Abraham Matthews was an engine driver in the Wonthaggi Coal Mine, and he is also buried in the Wonthaggi Cemetery.

Shortly after arriving at Wonthaggi her health took a turn and she was ordered into the local Wonthaggi hospital, where everything that was humanly possible was done for her, but she steadily grew worse, and passed peacefully on Sunday, July 6, 1931.

Ellen was fairly well known in the town having paid many visits to her daughter and sons living in Wonthaggi. She was a jovial lady and was possessed of a wonderful personality that endeared her to all that knew her.

In her 1931 obituary it wrote, Ellen leaves nine children, 59 grandchildren and 40 great grandchildren to mourn her loss. Her remains were interred in the Salvation Army portion of the Wonthaggi Cemetery.

Angela voluntarily shared the history of her great, great grandmother Ellen, continuing the family connection to Wonthaggi.

"The Matthews name is still well known in the town of Wonthaggi," said Angela. The town where the family will gather in remembrance of their great, great grandmother, Ellen Matthews.

Wonthaggi Lifesaving Surf Club Kids Fun Day

HAVE fun whilst you learn these school holidays with Wonthaggi Life Saving Club.

Hosted by Wonthaggi Life Saving Club on Tuesday, September 24 plus Tuesday, October 1, the Kids Fun Day program has been designed to ensure have fun while participating in lessons that promote the safe enjoyment of the beach, from lifesaving group activity games, drawing, colouring plus more.

Accommodating all developmental stages the free event is facilitated in an easy-to-follow manner by trained volunteers that is also educational.

Running from 10am till 2.30pm head to (September 24) bit.ly/3ZmIsnb or (October 1) bit.ly/4en58rF.

Any questions please feel free to contact Mark on 0409 159 341 or at president@wlsc.org.au

A miniature history of the old Leongatha

PHOTOGRAPHS and drawings of towns from previous decades give a snapshot of the past but miniature models have an undeniable allure and bring architectural heritage, buildings and landmarks to life.

Between 1890 and 1930, Leongatha had an interesting selection of businesses and buildings and Kellie Smith, a member of the Leongatha and District Historical Society (LDHS) is bringing these buildings to life through scaled-down miniature replicas.

"I decided to start at like 1890 and then, I don't know, I just had an idea to do a few models," said Kellie, who had seen large-scale heritage village replicas in England but had never built a replica before.

Initially, she thought about designing the buildings and getting them 3D printed, and also approached the Men's Shed to help with construction, but both presented some challenges.

"I just decided I'd try and make one to see if it was possible and then I enjoyed it, so I kept going," explained Kellie.

Working off old photographs, Kellie designs the structures digitally with scaled-down dimensions and sends the measurements to local man Darren Axford.



On display are replicas of McNamara's Bakery (c.1935), G. Fords Tobacconist, Stationary and Fancy Goods (c. 1912), Little & Sanders - Stock & Station Agents and Thorne's Coffee Palace (c. 1909).

Darren volunteers his time to laser cut the outer shells from MDF, as well as other smaller more fiddly pieces, such as the lettering on the shop fronts.

"I can figure out what the actual font is and do them in the font that the signs are in, so that makes it a bit more authentic," said Kellie.

To the outer shells, she then adds the bricks one by one, as accurately as possible, retaining all the small details. Then adds pre-made dollhouse windows and furniture to the structures.

It's a time-consuming hobby and it can take a few weeks to complete a single building.

And sadly, while Kellie was building her first replicas, she lost an important person.

"I had a lot of help from my

dad initially, but he's passed away now, so it's been a bit tricky going forward because I would have asked him a lot of questions that I can't now. So, now it's more me just trying to figure things out."

But Kellie notes the very intricate and involved work is helpful.

"I really enjoy it; it gives me something to do and keeps your mind off it."

The fourth replica is nearly finished, with three currently on display at the Leongatha and District Historical Society, including McNamara's Bakery (c.1935), G. Fords Tobacconist, Stationary and Fancy Goods (c. 1912) and Little & Sanders - Stock & Station Agents and Thorne's Coffee Palace (both c. 1909).

Kellie has also started the mammoth task of constructing the Leongatha Memorial Hall.

"It's 100 years this year since the foundation started being built for Memorial Hall, and then another two years till it was finished," Kellie explained.

"So, my plan was, because it's very big, to kind of do it over the next two years, but I've finished quite a few bits; I just get excited and keep going."

Kellie is in the process of working out how she will store the models all together and has finished creating a road made out of real dirt that will form part of a larger sheet, where all the buildings can slot together on top.

"I've got miniature people and things to put out the front of the shops. I figured at the start of it that if I was going to do it, I wanted as much detail in the buildings as possible, hence why I built them myself," explained Kellie.

"I figured that I come from a long line of people building things and knowing how to do things like that. So, I thought I might as well give it a go, and it's turned out really well. I'm shocked that it turned out so well."

The miniature replicas can be viewed at the LDHS or they may also be on display at the LDHS stall during the Leongatha market.

Australia's largest mental health launch hits Inverloch

COLD Nips, Australia's leading community movement for mental health, announces its nationwide tour aimed at fostering mental wellbeing and community engagement.

From August 2 to November 9, the Cold Nips team are underway on an unprecedented 100-day journey across Australia's beaches, partnering with the Happiness Co Foundation to raise \$1 million for mental health initiatives and dip thousands of people.

This tour is not just a physical challenge, it's a movement to ignite conversations about mental health and wellbeing across the nation. This journey spans thousands of kilometres with dips in every single state and territory, beginning in Cairns and ending where it all began five years ago, in Perth WA.

On Tuesday, September 17 from 6.15am, the Cold Nips team will be taking over Inverloch Beach – from the Inverloch Yacht Club launching ramp carpark for a sunrise ocean plunge followed by a connection and post-dip sip session all for mental health. This event is donation-based and inclusive with an open invitation to the local community from children to the elderly.

Cold Nips is an Australia-wide community movement and not-for-profit instrumental in creating positive community impact. Julian Pace Founder and Director of Happiness Co Foundation expresses his gratitude for being chosen as the tour's charity partner.

"I'm so excited for this and also just so grateful from the bottom of my heart. Helping people is at the core of what we do, who we are, and Cold Nips support means the world to us."

The Happiness Co Foundation, shares Cold Nips commitment to mental wellbeing, striving to positively impact 10 million lives within a decade.

Jian, Cold Nips Co-founder and Director, emphasises the tour's mission: "We aim to break barriers and ignite conversations about mental health through the power of community, connection and nature."

There are countless studies done on how rising early, starting your day in nature, surrounded by a community and plunging into the ocean benefits our mental health. However, Cold Nips believes the real proof is seen in their last five years of operation and the impact on thousands of Australians lives.

Join the movement by donating or signing up to the Inverloch dippers at coldnips-100-dips.raiselysite.com/o/inverloch-inverloch-beach and participate in the local community sunrise dip to support mental health awareness.



Churchill Island's Peter takes visitors for a spin on the wagon. The blustery wind felt down the bottom of the paddocks. C11_3824



Volunteer Ruth shows off her wool spinning skills to visitors. C10_3824

Rain, hail and shine as Nature Parks open their doors

THERE was no denying it was freezing on Saturday with glimpses of sunshine between cloudy skies, but that didn't deter visitors, nor local residents, from taking to Phillip Island Nature Parks for their annual Community Open Day. A flowing program that started on Churchill Island in the morning, moved to the Koala Conservation Reserve after lunch, to The Nobbies for the splattering

of rain with an ice cream in hand at 3pm, and finally to the sold-out Penguin Parade, where the skies cleared but the wind surged. Rip, the sheep herding dog, was quick to get the sheep safely in the pen, for he must have known the dark skies would bring with them hail at 11am, as guests headed undercover in time for the sheep shearing demonstration with Matt. Toffee apples

were available for purchase, and a popular, fun snack with pancakes another choice opted too by young and mature alike as visitors headed for a lunchtime treat. Wagon rides and singers, plus Friends of Churchill Island Society were other highlights of Churchill Island with a community conservation expo at the Penguins from 4pm and conservation

dog demonstration at 3.30pm. And whilst the free day for residents only comes around every twelve months, Bass Coast Shire residents and students can access the exclusive Nature Parks Local Pass that offers unlimited access to the Penguin Parade, Koala Conservation Reserve and Churchill Island. Heads to penguins.org.au for more information.

Dream realised as The Red Pig Historic Bakery opens at Toora

FIVE years ago, Anne Roussac-Hoyne had a dream that one day the 1890's scotch oven that was left still standing as part of the old Toora Bakery, would be restored back to life. Not only that, but she also imagined rebuilding it in a way that would celebrate the bakery's long history, and on Saturday, after years of hard work this dream was realised.

"It is a dream come true and it is an amazing thing to see it turn from a really old tin shed that was in a state of disrepair, into something that's so lovely and light-filled," said Anne.

The Red-Pig Historic Bakery was filled with people for the opening, who in some way have been part of the project and Anne thanked all, especially architect Michaela Bunba and draftsman Ivo Petkovski who helped bring the building to life. "The way everything looks here, don't give me any congratulations, it all belongs to these two," Anne said.

A light-filled modern dining



The Red Pig Historic Bakery in Toora held their opening on Saturday after five long years and owner Anne Roussac – Hoyne celebrates with architect Michaela Bunba and draftsman Ivo Petkovski. ob10_3824

space flows through to the original brick building that houses the restored scotch oven, complete with refurbished cast iron doors. A large viewing window also allows people to look from the

dining area into the baking space and admire the oven, which is one of only a few left in Australia. "In the olden days, every town had one or two but a lot of them got destroyed in the 50s and 60s when they started making

big square loafed bread and the regulations about how far away from the place where you made bread (to where you could sell it) changed." A smaller room at the front that once stored the baker's flour and goods, is now a room where coffee is made and bread can be sold through a window opening onto the large deck for quick service. Large windows look out onto the deck, which will welcome people in from the street and on a sunny day will be the perfect place to sit and enjoy some freshly baked goods and freshly brewed coffee. Remnants found during excavations and renovations are featured in a glass cabinet and old shoes, bottles, tins and pottery tell the story of the site, which will now continue on thanks to Anne's dream.

"I've only ever seen myself as the caretaker of the building and it's had lots of owners before me and it will have lots of owners after me," said Anne.

Korumburra RSL recently visited the Shrine of Remembrance in Melbourne





WONTHAGGI NEIGHBOURHOOD CENTRE

TIME flies when you're learning heaps and so this school term has whizzed by and the holidays are coming up very soon, they start this Saturday. Mitchell House will be open for the first week and groups such as How to make a quilt from Start to Finish on Monday 9.30am to 12.30pm and the Craft and Cuppa Group on Friday, 10am to 12noon are still on.

A great way to try out quilting with the help and expertise of an enthusiastic group on a Monday and later, on the Friday, to continue your beautiful project amidst the camaraderie of the Craft and Cuppa Group. One could get a real spurt on ones' project that way.

The Chess Group will be thoughtfully and strategically playing away on Monday from 1pm. An endlessly engaging game which may appeal to new and practised players. Give it a go.

The AA, Al-Anon and the Narcotics Anonymous groups will continue to meet. Narcotics Anonymous is on Monday 7 to 8pm, contact Peter for more information on 0456 000 844.

AA is on Wednesday, 7 to 8 pm, for more information call Sean on 0425 707 480 and Al-Anon will be going ahead on Friday 10.30am to 12noon. It is a group who help families and friends of those who have a problem with alcohol. For more details contact Karen on 0409 354 038.

Mitchell house will only be open by appointment for the second week of the school holidays and then re-open at the beginning of term 4, Monday, October 7.

Our AGM will be on Thursday 26th at 2pm. All members, supporters and interested others are welcome and encouraged to attend.

It'll be interesting to hear what's been going on over the past 12 months and you'll get a good idea of how the groups are going and what actually goes on. As a member you can have a say on the future direction the WNC and consider if you, as a member would be interested on being part of the Committee of Management. Information is readily available at Mitchell House.

So while it is on holiday mode next week please remember when the next term starts, please book in for your activities. We have lots going on at the WNC so consider becoming a member of the WNC and get dis-counts to many of our activities and receive our monthly newsletter Connections plus The Grapevine program which lists groups, dates, days and times for the term.

Both can be delivered online or by post your choice. Call Mitchell House or visit us on Facebook: Wonthaggi Neighbourhood Centre at Mitchell House or go to our website wonthaggi-neighbourhoodcentre.com.

BASS COAST ADULT LEARNING

WHEN you're a builder, you can point to structures you've worked on and say, "I did that!" When you're a gardener, you can point to trees and say, "I planted that!" When you're an educator, your achievements aren't as tangible but there's no less pride.

Teachers and trainers don't build objects, they build lives and careers. The pride comes from seeing someone come in nervous and unsure of themselves and leave confident and qualified. That's not something you can point out to friends, but there are certainly times when teachers see former students now in the workforce and quietly think to themselves, "I did that."

There's little doubt you've seen someone whose abilities can be traced back to BCAL, whether it was a short course or a full qualification.

The Term 4 Course guide is out now and all BCALs courses for the rest of the year are on the website.

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

■ WONTHAGGI COMMUNITY GARDEN

It's always encouraging for the small crew of dedicated garden volunteers to learn they are doing the right thing by nature.

Last week's Garden Gems workshop on the topic of natural pest management, held at the community garden, revealed the good work being done when it comes to working with nature rather than reaching for quick fix chemicals.

Permaculture teacher Rick Coleman was impressed with the volunteers' plantings of companion plants that bring good bugs into the garden to prey on veggie pests.

Garden helpers and members don't rely on pesticides. Instead, they take time to observe and plant carefully to encourage a diversity of insects, birds, flowers and scented herbs, as well as taking good care of the soil. Every bit helps.

For more information about the garden's methods and activities contact tgordon@westnet.com.au or BCAL on 5672 3115. Garden volunteers also welcome visitors on Thursdays between 10am and noon.

■ WONTHAGGI WOODCRAFTERS

Next week, the Woodies will be participating in a First Aid course, presented by BCAL. While safety is of paramount importance in the workshop, it's also important to be prepared for emergencies.

There are some places still available in the sessions, so members of the Woodcrafters are encouraged to put their names down.

And for non-members, BCALs regular First Aid courses are available to all.

For more information about joining the Woodcrafters, visit wonthaggi-woodcrafters.com.au or visit the workshop.



YES YOUTH HUB

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. We are located at 76 Watt Street, Wonthaggi and our "YES Youth Hub Drop-In" is open on Monday to Thursday between 2.30pm – 5.30pm, and this includes access to our meal programs, pantry, laundry, and jam space. Young people are always welcome to come down and check out the space during Drop-In and spend time with the YYH team.

The YES Youth Hub continues to work diligently throughout the Bass Coast to promote youth voice, youth leadership and youth participation, highlighting this commitment with our upcoming projects. Made possible with generous funding from the Victorian Government and Bass Coast Shire Council, the YES Youth Hub, Y Bass Coast, and FReeZA are proud to present IGNITE! Youth Arts Fest: A youth driven art event showcasing local talent from around the Bass Coast. Feel free to drop in on opening night – Friday, September 20 – and show your support for local youth! More info via our socials. Entry is free.

With school holidays just around the corner, the YES Youth Hub will be focusing on delivering our amazing IGNITE! Program for the greater community. We will also be providing some amazing training opportunities to the young leaders of the Bass Coast Youth Advisory Council with the legends from YACVic – Media Training and Youth Advocacy Training. With the goal of empowering our young leaders to make a positive difference in the world around them!

A short message from some of our young people:

"The YYH is important to Bass Coast because it provides young people a safe space to go" – Sophie

"Everything is a good thing! Tracey and the YYH team always make sure that people are fed and there are always activities to do" – Rya

See you soon Bass Coast! Stay awesome!

MILPARA COMMUNITY HOUSE

IT'S hard to believe that the term is wrapping up soon. We have had some great classes such as the Easy Cooking classes with Wolfgang Kessler, who led a group through some delicious, quick and easy cook ups. He will be back in November to share wonderful international recipes.

Our Science week and RUOK? Day talks were a highlight, and we are looking forward to holding more great events for the community next term. Our Term 4 program is ready and brimming with learning courses, social groups, lunches and other events for community involvement. Please take a look through the program - milparacommunityhouse.org.au/term-program/

Don't forget to book into our Red Cross Emergency Ready Session on Wednesday 18, 2pm. It could help you save the day!

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



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

INVERLOCH COMMUNITY HOUSE

OVER the past three years, a dedicated team of seamstresses have mended, darned, reshaped and repaired hundreds of items of clothing and household articles to save them from land fill.

We all have items in our wardrobe that we don't wear for various reasons. The dedicated team at Inverloch Community House Garment Repair have volunteered their time to ensure that these items can once again be usable. Only simple repairs are undertaken, zips and major alterations are best left to the professional seamstresses in our towns. But many people are unable to sew on buttons, take up a hem or repair a tear. That is where this group of community volunteers is ready to help.

Some of the clientele who have used the service have been older people who have restricted eyesight, people with limited skills with a needle, people with disabilities and young families that are time poor. There has been an interesting range of requests over the three years the service has been running. The family dog has provided us with many repair jobs. Lots of hems have been adjusted and many projects have involved the reuse of items such as tracksuit pants and jeans being repurposed as shorts. All this for a small donation towards our other element of the Garment Repair. It helps pay the freight for the items that are collected to send to Upparel, a company that upcycles fabric from clothing unsuitable for the OP Shops. Old shoes and odd socks are also accepted in this collection.

This dynamic activity takes place on the last Saturday of the month between 10am and 12noon at the Inverloch Community House, in the Hub in Inverloch.

For more information, ring the Community House on 56742444



16 Abeckett St, Inverloch
PH: (03) 5674 2444
www.inverlochcommunityhouse.org.au



6 Murray St, Wonthaggi
PH: (03) 5672 3731
www.wonthaggi-neighbourhoodcentre.com



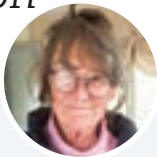
239 White Rd, Wonthaggi
PH: (03) 5672 3115
www.bcal.vic.edu.au



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



Beer and onion Bread



By Meg Viney

THIS is delicious with cheese or a pate

Ingredients

- 1 cup tepid beer
- 2 tsp yeast
- 3 tbsp brown sugar
- 2 cups wholemeal flour
- 1 cup white bread flour
- ½ cup onion, chopped
- ½ tsp salt

Method

Blend the first three ingredients and leave to prove until frothy.

Mix in flours, onion and salt.

Mix well in whatever mixer you have. You can knead it if you like, but mixing for a few minutes on a low speed does the job.

This will make two small loaves or one large one.

Again, grease the pan/s and add the dough. Place in a warm place (if it is a cool day, boil a kettle and put water in a bowl on the lower shelf of the oven. Bread needs steam when cooking, so leave it there.

When risen, remove whilst you pre-heat the oven to 200, then cook for about 25 minutes, until golden and making a hollow sound when tapped.

Turn out onto a wire rack.

• Photo: National Onion Association, US

• FAITH FACTOR

The storms of life

By Father Darren Howie, Parish Priest, St. Joseph's Parish Wonthaggi

MANY people are overwhelmed by mental health issues and PTSD (post-traumatic stress disorder). Having the right mindset can help e.g. motorcyclists are taught when they see a pothole on the road to look round it otherwise, they will almost certainly hit it. It helps to focus on the good to avoid being overwhelmed by the bumps in life.

But what do you do when you are overwhelmed by fear? What do you do when, in spite of doing all the right things to look after your health, physical and mental, you feel overwhelmed? I have had road bumps in my life, I can't envisage what it would be like to get past them without belief in God's personal love and help.

It has been my experience, and the experience of countless others, that the invisible undefinable personal interference of God makes a world of difference, similar to flicking a switch which fills a dark room with light. Christians believe that they need God's help.

In John 15:5 Jesus spoke about our need for him: "I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me, and I in him, bears much fruit. For without me, you can do nothing."

In Matthew 11:28 we read, "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest." In Matthew 14:30 we read how St Peter began to feel overwhelmed by the surrounding storm and was fearful of drowning.

It is my personal experience, and that of countless others, that focusing on Christ doesn't take away the difficulties of life but certainly allows us to get past them, as we live and know we are journeying to our eternal home and family.

WHAT'S ON

YOUR LOCAL GUIDE TO ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

Marcia Hines is Still Shining and coming to Wonthaggi

AUSTRALIA'S beloved musical treasure, Marcia Hines, is bringing her Still Shining concert tour to Wonthaggi this September.

The concert celebrates the 22 albums Marcia has released over the past five decades and the 2.6 million copies sold along with her countless chart-topping singles.

Her album, Still Shining - The 50th Anniversary Ultimate Collection was released last year followed by the album, The Gospel According to Marcia, which celebrates her musical roots and her experiences with church and gospel music.

Taking her all over the country, Marcia enjoys revisiting regional areas and reminiscing about touring madly back in the day with the likes of Daryl Braithwaite and Ross Wilson.

"I love all the really big cities, but the rural areas truly, truly appreciate that you come out and (perform). You come out, you bring the shows that they don't usually see; and not to mention, I really like op shopping," confides Marcia.

"It's something that the guys in my band and I, we do, and then we have lunch, and we sort of hang around, the township area. It's fun."

Marcia has an extraordinary career and it has been over 50 years since she first arrived in Australia to join the cast of Hair but, this legendary former 'Queen of Pop' shows no sign of letting up.

"My energy comes from doing what I love for a living, you know? I've heard that saying, if you love what you do for a living, you've never worked a



Marcia Hines Still Shining concert tour will celebrate the singer's 22 albums and countless chart-topping singles from over five decades.

day in your life. So, I'm aware of what's going on, and I'm aware of some of the incredible things I've accomplished so far, but I'm far from finished," said Marcia.

Marcia was Australian Idol's favourite judge for seven years, was inducted into the ARIA Hall of Fame in 2007 and received the Order of Australia (AM) in 2009 in acknowledgement of her services to the Australian entertainment industry, but she admits she still gets nervous before going on stage.

"I still get very nervous because I know the things that could happen, I know some of the things that shouldn't happen. But the great thing about live performances is that it is

live so if something breaks down, you have to work out a way to sort of placate the audience and the people on stage and I love that. I love flying by the seat of my pants."

The songs that Marcia will be performing are decided with the help of her manager, who also happens to be her brother, and has been with her throughout her entire career. Together they have collated a show, which Marcia is proud of.

She will be playing classic hits and newer songs, one of which is Fire and Rain. A song Marcia most loves to sing and finds that she is still awed by the effect hits, such as these, have on the audience.

"I look in the audience and

people are mouthing the words to my songs, and some people are crying, and it's like, wow, this is what you dream of."

"I think when you're young, you don't dream of that, but when you're old, you think, wow, my songs have touched people. My songs have touched people in different ways and what I've sung has become the tapestry of many people's lives, including mine. And that's the wow factor," said Marcia.

The 2024 Still Shining: The 50th Anniversary Concert Tour will be coming to the Wonthaggi Union Community Arts Theatre on Friday, September 27 at 7.30pm. Tickets are available from Trybooking.

Rapturous applause for A Boot Full of Piss

ON THE first day of spring, with the Paralympics in full swing in Paris, FAMDA launched the premiere performance of a one man show about a man with a disability at the Foster War Memorial Arts Centre.

'A Boot Full of Piss' draws its title from of the published autobiography of 80-year-old Robert O'Brien, who now resides at Prom Country Aged Care in Foster. Robert was born with Cerebral Palsy, yet he has led a remarkable life fuelled with resilience and his efforts to improve conditions for other community members with disabilities.

When the phenomenally talented actor/director/film maker and voiceover artist, Dan Lawrie, read Robert's autobiography he was inspired to convert his extraordinary story into a play script to be staged by FAMDA.

Dan envisioned it as a one man show and, working with director Joel Stevenson, the pair has created a vivid and engaging depiction of various incidents in Robert's life.

The resultant play, 'A Boot Full of Piss', is both entertaining and compassionate.

Dan creates a warm rapport with the audience when he is performing as Robert.

He also provides lively impersonations of some of the characters, while he uses symbolism and mime to generate others.

Mark Harrison's set peoples the stage and provides a secure sense of location.

The whole effect is unapologetically forthright and proudly inelegant, peppered with funny moments and unexpected twists and turns, while reinforcing Robert's message that people with disabilities are no different from everyone else, and that they too have feelings, loves, hopes and dreams.

It is rare to have the premiere performance of a biographical play with the subject of the show seated in the audience as was case with FAMDA's production.

Robert O'Brien's presence added to the emotional heft of the occasion, and he professed himself to be very pleased with the way Dan had brought his story to life. There are hopes for touring performances of this heart-warming and moving play in the near future.



Playwright and actor, Dan Lawrie, on stage during A Boot Full of Piss as part of FAMDA's 2024 season. Photo: Yianni Banikos.

Opening night excitement for IGNITE youth arts festival

THE IGNITE youth arts festival and exhibition is about to explode at Berninnett, Cowes with the official opening on Friday night, September 20 from 5pm to 8pm.

IGNITE has been a long time in the making.

Young people from across Bass Coast have been calling out loud and clear that they wanted to see more arts and cultural events relevant to young people.

Managed by the YMCA, YES Youth Hub was successful in attracting funding for the IGNITE exhibition and opening night as a part of the Victorian Youth Fest program.

YES Youth Hub Coordinator, Erin Johnson explained that many groups have contributed to the success of IGNITE including Bass Coast Shire Council, Engage and individuals from the Phillip Island Contemporary Exhibition Space, of which, they are grateful for the support.

Individuals from Phillip Island Contemporary Exhibition Space and the Artists Society of Phillip Island Inc. also volunteered their time and expertise to curate and hang the exhibition. The curation also proving a mentoring opportunity with several Year 12 students from Bass Coast College attending

on the day to observe and undertake a hands-on learning opportunity.

"Art strengthens our community by building understanding and promoting creativity and expression," explained Erin Johnson, YES Youth Hub Coordinator.

"When looking at the art in the exhibition we can gain a deeper knowledge and understanding of the world of the young artists and what it means to be a young person living in Bass Coast."

All artists are aged 12 to 25 and live, work, study or spend time in the Bass Coast region with over 50 artworks submitted.

The exhibition opening night event is being held on Friday, September 20 from 5pm to 8pm. Supported by FREEZA there will be three young musicians and bands playing throughout the evening; Finn, Why Goats Why? and F.O.I.L.

The community are invited to attend the opening night to support Bass Coast's young artists and musicians.

The exhibition will be open to the public for five days, Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday from 9.30am to 5pm, and Saturday and Sunday from 10am to 4pm, between September 20 to 25.



'Vanitymite' embracing popular culture for IGNITE Youth Arts Festival.

Inverloch and Leongatha murders in spotlight at Shingler Dinner

LEONGATHA & District Historical Society is holding its first Shingler Dinner since the pandemic, honouring the late Dorothy Shingler, with Melbourne author Katherine Kovacic as the guest speaker.

Katherine will be speaking about serial killer Arnold Sodeman, having written a book on the subject titled 'The Schoolgirl Strangler'.

Sodeman was responsible for the murder of two children in Melbourne in 1930 and 1931 and a further two in 1935, one in Inverloch and one in Leongatha.

Katherine will detail how she discovered and researched the true story, a tale of failed police enquiries, a killer with a Jekyll and Hyde personality and four families shattered when innocent young lives were cruelly taken.

Secretary of the Historical Society, Lyn Skillern, said the subject of the Sodeman murders comes up from time to time, with people wanting to know more about what happened.

The Society has a collection of newspaper articles on the case.

Lyn explained that despite public demand for action after the Melbourne murders, police were unable to find who was responsible, with Sodeman eventually moving to Leongatha.

The Shingler Dinner was previously held roughly every two years, with Dorothy Shingler a descendant of Peter Shingler, one of those who discovered coal at what became Coal Creek, the Shinglers being a local pioneer family.

Lyn explained the idea of paying tribute to Dorothy Shingler sprang from her generosity towards the Leongatha & District Historical Society.

"When she died, she left the society money, so we decided to have a dinner in her honour," Lyn said.

Details:

Leongatha RSL, October 19 at 6.30pm

Bookings - Tickets cost \$45 for Leongatha Historical Society members and \$50 for non-members, including a two-course dinner, and can be booked by emailing leongathahistory@gmail.com or phoning 0400 249 048.

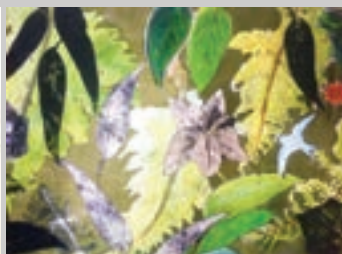
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Official Opening
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1-3pm

All Welcome
Free Entry



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ONLINE www.artspacewonthaggi.com.au
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Saturday, October 12

6.30pm

Wonthaggi Workmen's Club

\$15 includes supper

Tickets Ph: 5672 1083

South Coast FM



20.9.24 - 25.9.24

BERNINNETT, MILLOWL

IGNITE! YOUTH ARTS FEST

OPENING NIGHT!
FRI 20TH SEPT
5PM - 8PM
@ BERNINNETT,
COWES!

FEATURING
LOCAL
MUSICIANS:
FINN; F.O.I.L &
WHY GOATS
WHY?

IGNITE! is a youth driven, arts exhibition for young creatives of Bass Coast.



EOI: 0477 224 430
yesyouth.hub@ymca.org.au



@yesyouthhub
@basscoast.freeza





Gunter and Lee Ebhart from Phillip Island enjoying the South Gippsland Orchid Show.



Inverloch RSL volunteers Michael and Jenny Kennedy were happy to assist with fundraising for South Gippsland Legacy.



Inverloch Legatee Kathie Surridge and RSL volunteer Gerry Surridge were happy to fund raise for Legacy.



Inverloch RSL volunteers Rick Brevitt and Yvonne Dennerley were happy to be involved in raising funds for South Gippsland Legacy.



Karen Dickie and Chris Shan from San Remo at the South Gippsland Orchid Show.



Barry and Patricia Hill travelled to the South Gippsland Orchid Show from Leongatha.

Snapped Out

Pictures of you and your friends at South Gippsland Orchid Show, Inverloch RSL volunteers around town, Friends of State Coal Mine 40th Anniversary, South Gippsland Legacy fundraising and the Leongatha Store Sale.



George and Lorraine Simmons of Woodside await the sale of their 17 head of Hereford cattle at Thursday's Leongatha Store Sale, with a mixture of steers and heifers. A11_3824



Ken Miller, Michel Morisset and John Cengia enjoy their Wednesday morning at Korumburra Men's Shed. A01_3824



Margaret and Neville Drummond from Inverloch early starters at the South Gippsland Orchid Show in Wonthaggi.



Sally Cairnduff, Simone Britt and Kerry Walker from the Miner's Dispensary, long-time supporter of Friends of the State Coal Mine.



Ron Davis and Gavin Hardy relax at Korumburra Men's Shed, which offers a friendly social vibe and the chance to show creativity. A02_3824



Mandy Leggett, Andy and Bron Leggett catching up at the South Gippsland Orchid Show.



John Gillies loves being a member of Korumburra Men's Shed. A03_3824



Ruth Dally from Lynbrook with Monica and Ennil Ansell from Cowes at the 34th Annual South Gippsland Orchid Show.



South Gippsland Orchid Show visitors Linda Harvey from Poowong and Karen Yarrow from Leongatha.



Julie Wills and Jenny Dixon of Cowes appreciating the South Gippsland Orchid Show.



Isabel Freeman with Mark and Lorraine Pouey at the South Gippsland Orchid Show.



Peter Fleming takes viewers on a rail trail journey through his YouTube channel Burra Country.

Riding trails, making videos and promoting towns

FOR ANYONE who has ever wanted to ride the Great Southern Rail Trail but didn't know where to start or what it might entail, Peter Fleming has it covered in his YouTube channel – Burra Country. Peter is a South Gippsland local who began the journey of riding and filming the Great Southern Rail Trail in April this year, after considering a range of creative ideas with his daughter.

Initially Peter thought, "What I'd really like to do is something that, one, gets me out of the house, and two, do something that actually has some sort of benefit to people, something that people might really want to actually have a look at."

While he'd never been a bike rider as such and some of the distances were daunting, Peter loves photography and videography and decided to hit the trails anyway.

"I went and bought a little E-bike, not really the most appropriate one for a rail trail, but we got out there."

Considering the economic loss and lack of tourists after COVID lockdowns, and with people spending less due to the cost of living, Peter thought the videos would also be a way to promote the towns and bring people back to visit and spend money locally.

"My thought was let's promote the rail trail and how it links those towns and how they were linked in the past, and that they've actually got things to offer people," he explained.

The YouTuber did his research before each venture, to find out what's unique about each town, even riding to and filming events such as the Fish Creek Tea Cosy Festival.

Now only a few short months later, Peter and his daughter have clocked up over 130 kilometres, completed the Great Southern Rail Trail, made over 25 videos and earned themselves 125 subscribers to the channel.

"It's been really good for me personally. It's given me something to get out (for)

because I sit in a home office all week," said Peter.

"And the best thing is that those rail trails are amazing. Some of the stuff I've seen that I didn't know I lived near is just amazing."

While some of the first videos aren't the greatest quality, as they were really just test runs, the more videos Peter creates, the more he learns and the better they get.

He now has so much camera gear he tows a trailer on the back of his bike.

While editing can be just as time-consuming as filming, Peter enjoys infusing feelings to each video.

"I try to match the music to the scenery. I'm not a guy that gets overly emotional, but I have to tell you, I love rainforests, and I love those heavily treed areas where you get all the pine needles all over the trail."

Peter gets recognised in the street from his channel and the videos have received feedback from both a local and international audience, with comments from a viewer in California.

Some tell Peter they enjoy the scenery while others want to know where the toilets are in town (now incorporated into all the videos - with a rating system), where fresh water is and if there is accommodation.

The cycling YouTube riders plan to do all the Victorian Rail Trails, but their next adventures and videos will come from the East Gippsland Rail Trail; and Peter encourages anybody who can, to get out there and give it a go.

"It's been a good thing for me. I'm turning 60 this year. I've lost a ton of weight, and I actually feel like this is something that has inspired me to make myself better physically," he said.

"I didn't think I'd get hooked on sitting on a bike. I've even got Lycra, they're actually quite warm."

"There's stuff out there that you would never see unless you go on a rail trail, and that's what I've discovered."

Urgent call to act on Bass Coast's housing crisis

LOW-INCOME earners in Bass Coast are grappling with escalating rents and an uncontrollable cost of living crisis.

In state parliament, Eastern Victorian Region MLC Melina Bath criticised the government's flawed housing policy, highlighting a crisis driven by declining residential building approvals and a lack of affordable rental options.

Ms Bath expressed her concern about renters facing financial stress and increased risk of homelessness.

"There is an alarming shortage of affordable homes in Bass Coast and homelessness is rising with only 117 rental properties affordable for low-income earners," she said.

"Increasing rents, rising household bills and a series of new and higher taxes have exacerbated the cost of living, making the

need for more secure, stable for affordable housing urgent."

Recently, the Council to Homeless Person CEO Deborah Di Natalie said, "Victoria is desperately behind the rest of the country on public and community housing."

Ms Bath labelled the government's promise to build 80,000 affordable homes annually 'a farce', highlighting that Victoria is now the worst state in Australia for affordable housing.

"Housing approvals in Bass Coast have sharply declined, with only 409 houses approved for construction in 2023 – that's 275 fewer than the previous," she said.

"Labor must provide a plan of how many social and affordable homes will be constructed and delivered in Bass Coast this year."

'Dupe the Room' with your local Vinnies

HERE's a good idea for the budget-conscious.

Trick up your dowdy old rooms with quality pre-loved decorator items and affordable new goods from your local Vinnies store in Korumburra or Wonthaggi.

Vinnies are urging us to help fight the rising cost of living by getting behind their 'Dupe the Room' movement to make home decorating more sustainable.

"We love sharing tricks and hacks for around the home at Vinnies and now we're having even more fun," said Korumburra Store Manager Michelle Sims.

Vinnies Head of Merchandise and Retail, Liz Randle believes by shopping at Vinnies, you can create rooms similar to what you might see in high-end retailers, for a fraction of the cost.

"We encourage our customers to dupe their rooms to look like the stylised spaces seen on lifestyle shows, Instagram and magazines," said Liz.

"What you'll find in Vinnies Shops is eclectic."

Vinnies offers a wide range of items catering to many different tastes including mid-century modern, Scandi, Japandi and even Art Deco.



Vinnies Store Manager Michelle Sims with her knight in shining armour.

"Many of our customers are proud treasure hunters, finding distinctive items at Vinnies and turning them into truly stylish features in their own home," said Liz.

"Now that Spring has sprung, we know many people will be launching into cleaning and refreshing their homes."

"We really hope our 'Dupe the Room' campaign gives them some inspiration to consider Vinnies first."

"Of course, we always welcome quality donations and loyal shoppers as part of our Vinnies Shops community."

Australian Bureau of

Statistics (ABS) figures from December 2023 show Australians spent more than twelve billion dollars on renovations last year and that trend is growing.

Most of the goods in Vinnies Shops are generously donated with proceeds from sales re-invested back into the community.

The average selling price of goods from Vinnies is \$5.

"We are proud of how our Vinnies shop provides support for people experiencing hardship," said Michelle from the Korumburra store.

"Same goes for how we support the environment."

Real Estate South Gippsland and Bass Coast

For Sale

1720 Wild Dog Valley Road, Strzelecki

Strzelecki Valley farm near Leongatha area

Lifestyle property with stunning valley views offering an unique opportunity for those seeking a mixed farming or treechange lifestyle.

- 2 generous parcel of land (approx. total 22.14 ha)
- 3 bedroom, 1 bathroom home
- 5 dog pens, 7 dams, paddocks and stock yards, shedding –workshop / mancave

Contact Teresa Young on 0429 398 730 or teresa.young@eview.com.au

Teresa Young

Leanne Poulton



eview
REAL ESTATE



Perfectly positioned for lifestyle and productivity

DISCOVER the ideal blend of rural serenity and practical functionality with this exceptional approx. 121-acre property, perfectly located just nine minutes from the picturesque village of Loch, 30 minutes from Wonthaggi and Phillip Island, and under 90 minutes from Melbourne's Eastern suburbs.

- Property Highlights:
- Prime Agricultural Land: Boasting a hump and hollowed layout for optimal drainage, excellent rye grass and clover pastures, and flat topography.
 - Well-Equipped Infrastructure: Features 17 main paddocks, excellent laneways, electric fencing, and a large hay shed. Enjoy the convenience of four dams, a 31,700L header tank, and gravity-fed troughs.
 - Shelter and Shade: Beautiful ti-trees offer fantastic shelter belts throughout the property.
 - Comfortable Farm Home: This older-style residence offers three bedrooms with built-in robes, a central family bathroom, a separate laundry with an adjoining toilet, and distinct kitchen, dining, and lounge areas. The lounge includes a wood fireplace, and the dining room features a reverse cycle air conditioner. The modernised kitchen boasts laminate benchtops, an electric upright stove, and a dishwasher.
- Additional Amenities: The house is supported by two 25,000L poly water tanks and a septic system. A good-sized workshop/storage shed is conveniently located behind the home.
- This property excels in presentation and functionality, with well-managed paddocks, productive soils, and a sought-after farming location. Ideal for those seeking a manageable farm with excellent infrastructure and a comfortable living environment.
- Don't miss this opportunity to own a top-quality rural lifestyle property that combines productivity with peaceful country living. Contact us today to arrange your inspection!



121 Acres

50 Woodleigh-St Helier Road,
Woodleigh
For Sale \$2,200,000
Agent Nutrien Harcourts
Barry Redmond 0477 622 292
barry.redmond@nh.com.au

Nutrien Harcourts Leongatha

47 Bair Street, Leongatha
(03) 5662 2292
Scan the QR code to visit our website

JUST LISTED

LEONGATHA
Exceptional Land Opportunity
• Impressive 4,615m² with a Nth/Sth orientation.
• Access to town water, electricity, and natural gas.
• Just 1km from the town CBD.
\$455,000

JUST LISTED

LEONGATHA
Quietly Unique & Unassuming
• 4 BR – all with built in robes, 2 bathrooms.
• Located in a desirable part of town on 2325m².
• Open plan living, kitchen & dining area.
\$769,000

JUST LISTED

MEENIYAN
Opportunity in Meeniyon!
• 2.5 Acre block on town boundary of Meeniyon.
• Stunning views & a short stroll into town centre.
• Ready to build on with power available.
\$460,000

JUST LISTED

WOODLEIGH
Perfect for Lifestyle & Productivity
• 3 Bedroom, 1 Bathroom older style farm home.
• Productive Farmland, Hump & Hollowed.
• 17 main paddocks, laneways & flat topography.
\$2,200,000

AUCTION

LEONGATHA
Prime Agricultural Property
• Opportunity to acquire Approx. 229 Acres.
• 3 Bed, 1 Bath B/V home plus herringbone dairy.
• Offered in 2 titles or as a whole.
Auction Friday, October 25, 2024 at 1pm

COMING SOON

TARWIN LOWER
Escape To The Country & Coast
• Secluded rural setting with a 4 Bed B/V home.
• Approx. 14 Acres with good shedding.
• Minutes to Tarwin Lower & Inverloch.
\$1,250,000

FOR SALE

DUMBALK
Charming Weatherboard Homestead
• Spacious 3 bed, 2 bath homestead on 4 Acres.
• High ceilings and pressed metal features.
• Ideal for horses, sheep or other livestock.
\$899,000

FOR SALE

MARDAN
Rural living at it's Best!
• 5 bed, 2 bath, 3 living, 2 years young home.
• Stunning rural views & ample shedding.
• Approx. 102 acres with Tarwin River frontage.
\$2,100,000

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Director / Estate Agent
0477 622 292

KELLIE THOMAS
Licensed Estate Agent
0438 647 449

MATT REDMOND
Licensed Estate Agent
0418 357 341

CONTACT OUR
Team
FOR A FREE
NO OBLIGATION
APPRAISAL

36 | TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2024 | SOUTH GIPPSLAND SENTINEL-TIMES



424

3,149m²

38 Worthy Street, **Leongatha**
For Sale \$1,275,000
Agent Ray White Leongatha
Kasey Bowman 0439 207 196

Luxury Living

IF YOU are looking for a property that ticks all the boxes then look no further! Substantial block size in the heart of town, grand four-bedroom home with multiple living spaces and room for the whole family, swimming pool and shed – this one really does have it all!

Situated on a 3149m² flat parcel of land and accessed by an automatic gate, this property has room for all the vehicles and toys! Built using quality finishes and fixtures, this luxurious home is light and airy, and boasts plenty of space throughout. The wide and inviting entry leads to a formal living space at the front of the home that could also be used as study. The master bedroom is off to the right and offers plenty of space and features a walk-in robe and an ensuite to envy, with double vanity, large open shower and private toilet. The remaining three bedrooms all offer built-in robes and ceiling fans and are serviced by the deluxe family bathroom with bath, separate shower and separate toilet. The hero of the home, an open plan kitchen/dining/living space gives a new meaning to the word Grand! The gourmet kitchen offers an abundance of bench space and features a dishwasher, electric oven and gas cook top, soft close drawers, stone benches and a very handy butler's pantry leading through to the laundry and access from the garage. A third living space is the perfect place to unwind, looking out onto the enormous covered outdoor entertaining area complete with ceiling fans, summer blinds and travertine marble floor making it the perfect place for summer BBQ's! This area leads to the 9 x 4m Compass self-cleaning swimming pool with heat pump heating and high fencing to ensure privacy. A 9.5kw solar system will be sure to keep the electricity bills low and ducted heating and cooling will keep the property comfortable all year round.

A double garage plus Col-orbond shed with two roller doors plus workshop space ensure the cars and toys are safely tucked away at all times. There is plenty of space to park extra vehicles on the gravelled parking area to the east of the home. The entire property has been levelled and lovingly landscaped and had dog proof fencing installed all the way around.

An inspection of this masterpiece will not disappoint! Contact us today to find out more on 5662 5800



For Sale

7 Cahills Outlet Rd, **Kardella South**

HOUSE ON THE HILL

- Luxury 4 bedroom home with 3 living zones
- Outdoor entertaining area with kitchen
- Ducted rev cycle & solar power with batteries
- 4.7 acres with 4 paddocks & a dam

Mick Hanily 0417 311 756

\$1,700,000 4344



For Sale

50 Whitworths Rd, **Korumburra Sth**

10 ACRES WITH PLANNING PERMIT

- Current planning permit in place
- 3 titles, all with road frontages
- 12x9m colourbond shed with 3 phase power
- 2 dams, mature fruit trees & well fenced

Dave Trotman 0418 589 805

\$625,000-\$650,000 Land: 10 acres



For Sale

84 Parr Street, **Leongatha**

EVERYTHING A GROWING FAMILY NEEDS!

- Great size 830m² block in with rear access
- Natural light with 2 good sized living areas
- Well appointed kitchen & updated bathrooms
- Dbl garage plus dbl carport & garden shed

Kasey Bowman 0439 207 196

\$730,000 4244

Ray White.



For Sale

35 Martins Road, **Meeniyan**

CONTEMPORARY LIVING ON 2.64 ACRES

- Modern built partially from rammed earth
- Compass self cleaning pool & solar power
- Superbly landscaped with native trees & plants
- 3 bay shed with added carport for caravan

Kasey Bowman 0439 207 196

\$1.4m - \$1.45m 3266



For Sale

29 Griffin Road, **Leongatha**

ALL THE HARD WORK IS DONE

- Recently updated throughout on 813m² block
- 3 bedrooms plus study & 2 living areas
- Solid fuel heating & rev cycle air con
- Quiet location close to schools

Mick Hanily 0417 311 756

\$649,000 3111



For Sale

55 Bair Street, **Leongatha**

BAIR STREET PRIME

- 104sqm with excellent signage opportunity
- Modern kitchenette & toilet
- Storage shed with concrete floor & power
- Fantastic retail opportunity in a prime location

Dave Trotman 0418 589 805

\$350,000 Retail

Michael Hanily

Dave Trotman

Kasey Bowman

Ray White Leongatha

03 5662 5800

15 Bair Street, Leongatha

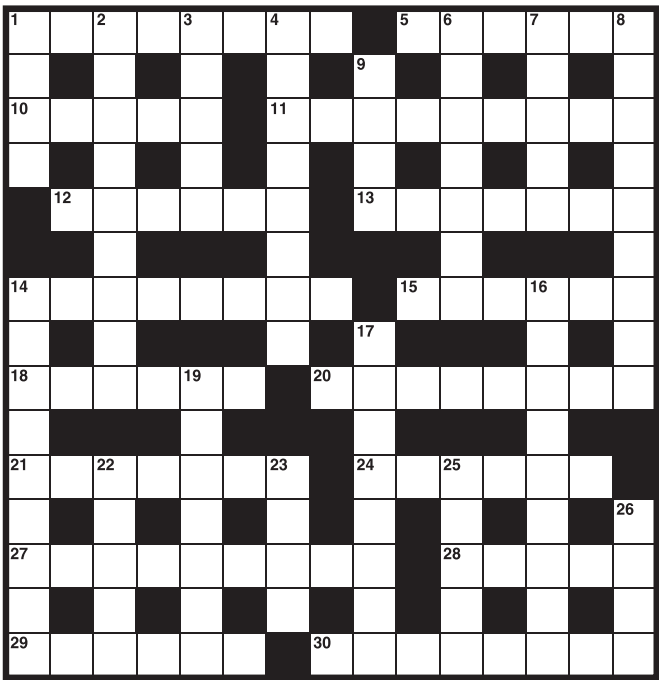
raywhiteleongatha.com.au

HM1183-13



CROSSWORD

No. 245



ACROSS

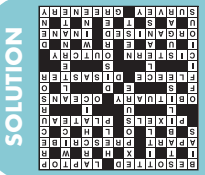
- 1 Infatuated (8)
5 Portable computer (6)
10 Separately (5)
11 Authorise (the use of) (9)

- 12 Colour points of a digital image (6)
13 Area of level high ground (7)
14 Death notice (8)
15 Seas (6)
18 A sheep's coat (6)

- 20 Calamity (8)
21 Water well (7)
24 Clamour (6)
27 Arranged (9)
28 Silly, pointless (5)
29 Formally inspect (6)
30 Vegetation (8)

DOWN

- 1 Prejudice (4)
2 Keep steady (9)
3 Heading (5)
4 Revelation (8)
6 Old (7)
7 Doubly (5)
8 Forerunner (9)
9 Aid (4)
14 Obtrusive, meddlesome (9)
16 Sub (9)
17 Unruliness (8)
19 Purify (7)
22 Sucrose (5)
23 Bird's bed (4)
25 Strong thread (5)
26 Refute (4)



WORDFIT

No. 155

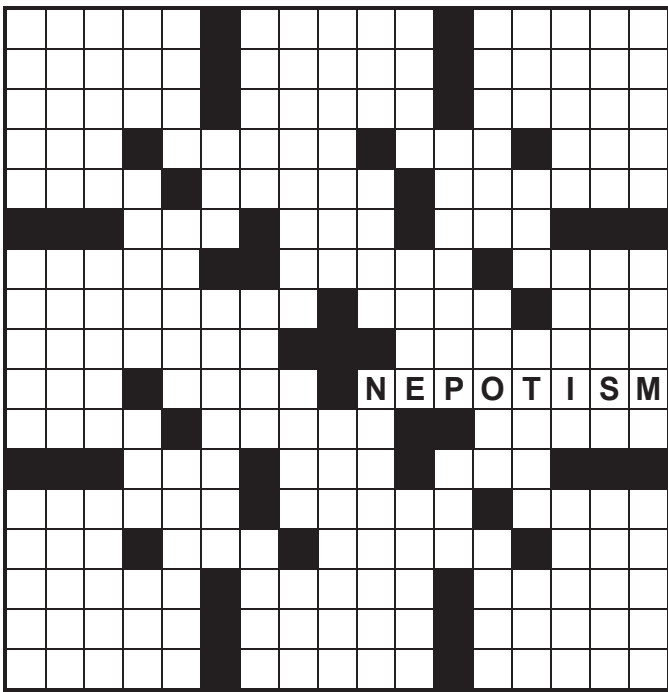
3 LETTERS

- ACE
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SPY
THE
YET

- SNOB
SONS
SUBS
YEAR
YEWS

5 LETTERS

- AGILE
ALPHA
ARENA
ATLAS
ATONE
ATTIC
AVAIL
BASTE
BAWDY
BEEFY
BLESS
BORNE
BRAGS
CANED
CENTS
CLIMB
DANCE
EERIE
EMBED
EVENT
GEESE
ITEMS
KICKS
MOCKS
NAIVE
NEEDS
OILED
PASTS
PEARL



- PECKS
RETRY
REVUE
RILES
RITES
SALTS
SAVES
SEAMS
SLEDs
SLEET
SLOPE
SNAGS
SNEER
SPAYS

- STRAW
THESE
THREE
TWEET
UNTIL
WHISK
WOMEN

7 LETTERS

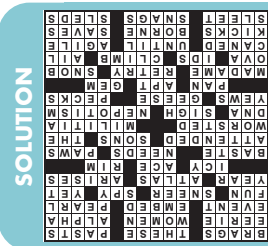
- DEIGNED
EMBRACE
MILITIA
PARSNIP
SPECTRA
WORSTED

8 LETTERS

- ATTENDED
HOMELAND
NEPOTISM
NETTLING

6 LETTERS

- AMIDST
ARISES
MADAME
PAPYRI



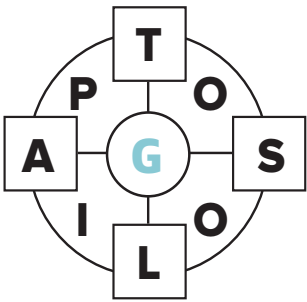
9-LETTER

No. 246

Using the nine letters in the grid, how many words of four letters or more can you list? The centre letter must be included and each letter may only be used once. No colloquial or foreign words. No capitalised nouns, apostrophes or plural nouns ending in 's'.

Today's Aim:

- 13 words: **Good**
19 words: **Very good**
26 words: **Excellent**

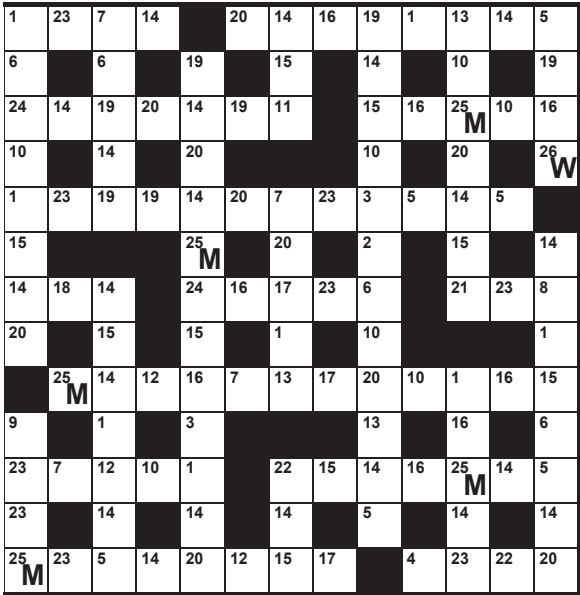


- agilo, agist,
APOLOGIST, gait,
gaol, gaslit, gasp,
gilt, gis, gloat, gloats,
goal, goallpost, goat,
gloat, gloats, loggo, logs,
pogo, sag, slag,
slog, spigot, stag,
tags, toga

CODEWORD

No. 205

Each number corresponds to a letter of the alphabet. Two have been filled in for you, can you work out the rest?

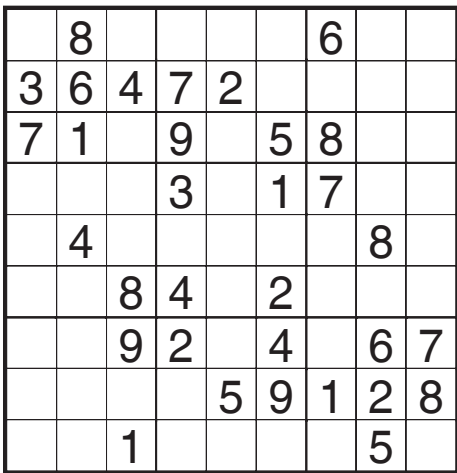


SUDOKU

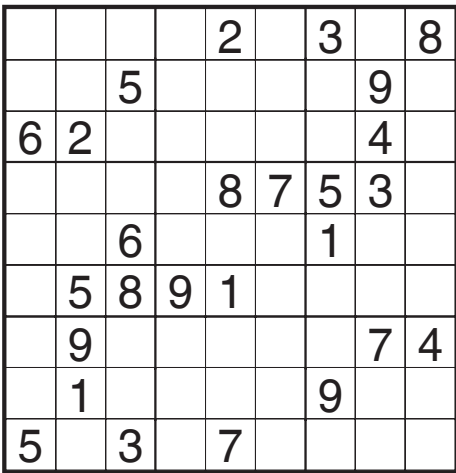
No. 245

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.

EASY

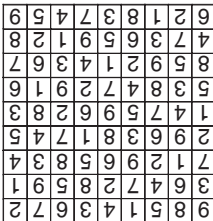


MEDIUM

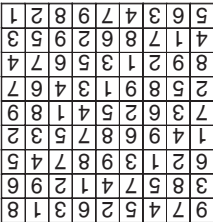


SOLUTIONS

EASY



MEDIUM



QUICK QUIZ

- Rachel Brosnahan (pictured) stars as Miriam in which TV series?
- In June 2022, the United Nations officially agreed to changed the spelling of which country's name?
- The Palace of Castel Gandolfo was once the summer residence of who?
- What are the two children in *Mary Poppins* called?
- Who is the head of state of Monaco?
- In which decade did Disneyland Paris open?
- Gordon Ramsay's first documented TV role was in which documentary?
- What is the main character's name in the musical *Funny Girl* called?
- Which actor played Michael Corleone in *The Godfather*?
- Pete Sampras played which sport professionally?



ANSWERS: 1. The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel 2. Türkiye (Formerly Turkey) 3. The Pope 4. Jane and Michael 5. Prince Albert II 6. 1990s (1992) 7. Boiling Point (1999) 8. Fanny Brice 9. Al Pacino 10. Tennis

WORD SEARCH

No. 155

Can you find all the words listed? The leftover letters will spell out a secret message.



- | | | |
|---------|------------|-------------|
| BOBCAT | LLAMA | SUMATRAN |
| CAMEL | LYNX | TIGER |
| CHEETAH | MOOSE | TAPIR |
| COUGAR | NARWHAL | TASMANIAN |
| DINGO | OCLOT | DEVIL |
| DUGONG | OPOSSUM | VAMPIRE BAT |
| FERRET | ORANGUTAN | WARTHOG |
| FOSSA | SEA OTTER | WILDEBEEST |
| GELADA | SIBERIAN | WOLF |
| HARE | TIGER | WOMBAT |
| HORSE | SKUNK | ZEBRA |
| KOALA | SLOTH | |
| LION | SPECTACLED | |
| | BEAR | |

SECRET MESSAGE: Warm blooded animal kingdom



The journey with Fleming Berries

FLEMING Berries began with a simple yet profound mission: to cultivate and share the joy of fresh, high-quality berries with the community. For many, it's more than just a farm; it's a testament to resilience, passion, and the power of a supportive community.

For owners Malgorzata (Gosia) and Justin Fleming, the journey wasn't always easy.

"When I arrived in Australia in 1998, I was earning five dollars an hour despite holding a double degree in agricultural sciences and biochemistry. Yet, I found purpose and fulfilment in working with the land and growing something beautiful," said Gosia.

Her love for this work, combined with a determination to create something special with her late husband Justin led to the birth of Fleming Berries – a farm that was developed from the ground up over 20 years ago.

"This place was bare grass – nothing else when we purchased it," Gosia explained.

The business grew from a modest start to a beloved local treasure, thanks in no small part to their commitment to originality.

"Twenty years ago, we introduced gluten-free and dairy-free options – a rarity at the time – drawing from my mother's cherished recipes and our own passion for quality. Each berry plant is carefully tended by hand, and we grow up to 30 different varieties; our plants are propagated from tissue - culture free from pests and diseases; a labour of love that reflects our dedication to the craft."

Life took an unexpected turn when, Justin, was diagnosed with cancer in July 2021. While Justin bravely battled the illness, the community stepped in to keep the business



The Fleming Family. Founders of Fleming Berries in the rolling hills of Korumburra.

running. It was a challenging period, marked by both personal and professional trials. Justin's passing in January 2023 left a void, but the outpouring of support from the Korumburra community was a beacon of hope during those hard times.

Justin's vision and the support from the community have been instrumental in the Fleming family's journey.

"Despite the hardships, we've been able to keep moving forward, driven by a deep love for what we do and a desire to honour Justin's memory," Gosia explained.

"This drive has been recognised with our recent nomination as a finalist in the Gippsland Business Awards for the Food and Wine Producers category – a humbling acknowledgment of our hard work and dedication."

The recognition has brought new opportunities and

increased interest in the farm.

"It has validated our efforts and helped us connect with more people who share our passion for quality and sustainability. Daria, our 13-year-old daughter, has been a remarkable asset to the business, managing finances and contributing to our operations with a maturity beyond her years. Her involvement has been a source of strength and inspiration."

"It is really hard, there are only the two of us running the business, but we've got this!"

Looking ahead, Gosia is excited to expand their vision. Together she and Daria plan to implement freeze-drying technology to minimise food waste, establish a farm gate for direct sales, and create an educational centre.

This hub will provide learning opportunities for local students and support those who might not have the means for higher

education.

"It's a way for us to give back to the community that has supported us so generously," she said.

"This is also an opportunity for a new product line to utilise everything we grow, including dry freeze berries and powders, and being completely self-sufficient is our big plan."

Fleming Berries is more than just a business; it's a story of perseverance, community, and love.

"As we move forward, we remain committed to our values and to continuing Justin's legacy. Every berry we grow, every initiative we undertake, reflects our journey – a journey marked by heart, dedication, and a deep connection to the land and the people who support us."

Visit Home Grown | Fleming Berries and support locals making a difference in the community.

Lardner Park Calf Market Report
Monday, September 9, 2024

Jersey & Jersey x	\$18 to \$50
Friesian Bulls	\$30 to \$85
Friesian Heifers	\$40 to \$50
Beef Bulls	\$40 to \$165
Beef Heifers	\$27 to \$145

Number of Calves: **596**
Number purchased to rear: **227**

CLEARING SALE

Monday, September 23
at 10.30am
A/c G & SA Cannata
345 South Gippsland Hwy,
Leongatha, 3953

Items include but not limited to:
John Deere 5720 82 HP tractor approx. 7000 hrs; Can-Am Outlander 500cc 4x4 Quad bike with power steering 3780kms 720 hrs; Silvan 800ltr spray tank with Goldacres 9mtr boom fitted; Silvan 600ltr spray unit with hose & jet spray; Perkins 6 cylinder high pressure water pump with 100HP Massey Ferguson engine; 900ltr water tank with pump; 3 mtr heavy duty tiller (Kverneland CLC); 1995 GQ Nissan Patrol TD42 with new tyres, suspension, seats, winch etc; 2HSL horse float (rego until Feb 2025) with lockable access doors , internal light, canvas storm cover, removable chest bars, stallion divider & centre divider, coupling hitch & brake master cylinder for hydraulic brakes, updated flooring & vents either side/opening window Tare-1040kgs (kept in shed); ripper/tiller; various irrigation pipes 24ft & 30ft lengths; PTO shaft driven drain cleaner; loft paddock roller; tractor forks; troughs; Antique International plough; Toro Titon 2x4820 lawn mower 48" deck; sundry farming equipment & tools.

Outside vendor: Hardi 400ltr boom spray

Outside vendors welcome
<https://www.nutrienagsolutions.com.au/clearing>

TERMS: Cash, Cheque or Eftpos on day of sale. GST applicable.
Number system & Photo ID for registration.
Light refreshments available

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Ag Solutions
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Stuart Jenkin 0447 602 302
Jack Ginnane 0458 322 615
Office 03 5662 2291

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Paul Vassil
(Formerly Vassil Electronics)
38 Lower Gordon St, Korumburra
0408 515 184

Mulch now available

Perfect for calving sheds
Pick up only,
Monday - Friday,
8 - 3.30pm

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'WHERE LOYALTY COUNTS'

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Dairy cows in milk or springing Friesian steers

- ✓ more EXPORT ORDERS
- ✓ more LIFESTOCK OPTIONS
- ✓ more MONEY IN YOUR POCKET
- ✓ more LOYALTY & BETTER SERVICE

ABS Direct: Cattle processed from Friday to Friday

LIVESTOCK RATES

250+ KG/DW	\$5.40
200 TO 249	\$5.20
160 TO 199	\$4.90
120 TO 159	\$3.10

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Est. 1986

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Livestock Sales

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David Ryan	0408 311 895	Dick Faulkner	0408 595 174
Mitch Cochrane	0438 078 000	Brian Vuillermin	0429 436 040
LEONGATHA		WONTHAGGI	
Dane Perczyk - Livestock Manager	0408 176 063	Rob Ould - Livestock Manager	0408 595 183
Jack Curtis	0427 762 670	David Holden	0428 749 390
		Alan Bolding	0419 723 255
		Dale Atherton	0428 888 300
WARRAGUL		PAKENHAM	
Neil Darby - Livestock Manager	0418 595 265	David Setches - Livestock Manager	0409 443 473
Terry Ahearn	0438 562 816	Glenn Barwick	0408 975 476
Jordan Sim	0448 058 435	Morgan Croucher	0457 001 877
Mark Malacarne	0418 654 590	Tim Gibson	0420 306 599
		Imogen Price	0417 225 498

Real Estate Sales

KORUMBURRA	LEONGATHA	MELBOURNE LAND
Scott McKenzie 0427 552 898	Andrew Newton 0402 940 320	Matt Koster 0474 781 711
	Peter Dwyer 0428 855 244	COWES
WONTHAGGI	Emily Hillberg 0422 622 299	Greg Price 0419 337 441
Phillip Hanley 0417 140 508	Tony Giles 0407 528 192	Maree Malloy 0408 316 715
Cal Nation 0439 334 163	Dan Huther 0418 334 801	Chase Watters 0423 272 819
Mick Chambers 0418 349 783		
GRANTVILLE	WARRAGUL	VENUS BAY
Brian Silver 0407 347 509	Alan Steenholdt 0409 423 822	Daniel Lawrie 0417 631 252
INVERLOCH	PAKENHAM	Sue Lawrie 0419 885 489
Marni Lee Redmond 0403 525 413	Tom Gibson 0438 574 472	
BERWICK	LANG LANG	KOO WEE RUP
Tom Gibson 0438 574 472	Scott McKenzie 0427 552 898	Michelle Lunney 0457 120 277

SUCCESS THROUGH SERVICE



Hay and silage made easier with the EzFeed

HUSTLER'S EzFeed SM150, is relatively new to the Australian market and is improving the way farmers do hay and silage.

Made in New Zealand, this innovative silage wagon is the first to feature left or right-hand feed discharge for more feeding versatility, as well as a discharge floor with side-shift that allows for easy setup when feeding into troughs.

The optional patented auto change system can detect the direction of the side shift and automatically changes the side of feed distribution without the operator having to think about it.

Connection is also simple, easy and foolproof with no electrics involved and only one set of hydraulics used to connect and power the whole machine.

It also has a clever adjustable load-sensing hydraulic, making it ideal for low-skilled staff.

Farmers can simply program how far out the windrow will be placed (from the machine),



Brett Charlton from Gendore explains how the new silage wagon from Hustler is improving the way farmers do hay and silage. ob04_3824

choose the size of the windrow and the EzFeed will do the rest.

"The big advantage is the using of the roller chains, for the feed system, for the floor chains and elevator and feed out chains," explains Brett Charlton from Gendore.

"They run 12,000 pound roller chain right through the whole system, which means there is a lot less maintenance

and less stress on the machine and better efficiencies."

"A lot of other people advertise a four-floor chain system, which they say builds better strength, but they've made away with that because there's less chains, less sprockets, less running."

"There is also what they are calling the puck flooring, that is a lot more abrasive, stronger,

lighter and wear resistant over steel (it doesn't rust obviously) and timbers (rot)."

The machine also comes with sloping guards on either side so product build-up is reduced compared to wagons with flat guards.

Brett commented that now is the time for farmers to be having a look at the machine for the coming seasons.

CattleEye and AI doing the work for dairy farmers

GEA are looking to advance dairy farming with artificial intelligence (AI) and have recently teamed up with a new startup called CattleEye.

CattleEye provides real-time monitoring of cows through a camera system that is mounted at the exit of the dairy and watches the cows as they leave after milking.

The AI system is able to identify each individual cow and learns how the cow is moving,

identifying if they're not moving correctly.

"The industry is working on improving the time every farmer has to spend checking the cows. Now we have a system that can do it automatically in the background," said GEA's Innovation Manager Jurgem Steen.

AI algorithms in the cloud analyse the footage and if the cow isn't moving as it should, the data is delivered to the farmer's smartphone or

integrated with the farm's management systems.

It has the ability to rank 10,000 cows from one to five in order of lameness.

"Cows have hooves that are growing and sometimes it doesn't grow as it's expected to, and the condition is very painful.

"It has a huge impact on animal production. If they are painful on their feet, they lay down, they don't eat, they don't make

as much milk as they could," explained Jurgem.

This technology allows farmers to have a good overview of their herd and enables early detection and intervention.

By proactively addressing lameness issues farmers have the ability to optimise the health of their herd, minimise losses and schedule hoof trims without having to detect and rank each cow themselves as it has already been done for them.

LARDNER PARK ELDERS AND ALEX SCOTT & STAFF DAIRY SALE

NEXT DAIRY SALE:
**Friday, September 20
at 11am**

A/c - C & F Bills, Hearts Ridge Holsteins

20 - Superb Aug/Sept calved A.I. bred registered Holstein cows 3-6 yrs Sires include - Aristocrat, Lambda, Noble, Artist, Chief, Mogul etc. Large frame great depth and width with tremendous udders. Many producing 50 L+. Deep pedigrees backed by elite cow families. Herd av. 88 c.c. past 12 mths.

A/c - K Jackson, Toora - Annual Select Offering

20 - Outstanding freshly calved A.I. bred, young Holstein cows. 60 yrs select A.I. breeding, great udders

A/c - Antrim Park

10 - Young A.I. Bred, freshly calved and close springing Holstein cows

A/c - Wilara Holdings

5 - Friesian & Springing Holstein cows by Dooman, King Doc, Secretarian, Glow. Springers due to A.I.

A/c - I & L Cocksedge - Final Stage Dispersal

6 - Springing Holstein cows due to Drastic

A/c - Various Vendors

Approx 30 - Milkers and springers
3 Year old pure Angus bull lightly used

FOOD VAN ON SITE

Following Sale - Friday, October 4 at 11am
Featuring a magnificent line of Freshly Calved young A.I Bred Holstein Cows.
Further Entries Invited

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Please ensure all entries are booked in with your agent prior to sale

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Terry Ahearn
0438 562 816

Neil Darby
0418 595 265



5941 0299

Darryl Adams
0408 385 872

Andrew Mumford
0407 803 360



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Split Store Sales working well in Leongatha

IT WAS smooth going at Leongatha Sale Yards as the new era of split sales entered its second week. Nutrien, SEJ and Phelan Henderson & Co getting their turn, a yarding of about 4500 head, with the market proving buoyant.

Nutrien's Brian McCormack, also the vice president of the South Gippsland Stock Agents Association, described prices as "very strong", adding that the exceptional quality of cattle on offer made the figures look even better.

He attributed that exceptional quality to breeding and the time of the year.

"People hold cattle and set up for this time of year," Brian said, noting feedlot operators are keen to buy now, as are local graziers, as we head into spring-time, the latter looking to boost cattle numbers as the grass grows.

That combined demand is driving the market up.

A Deniliquin client of Nutrien sent down 336 head of high-quality cattle, 196 steers and 140 heifers, Brian explaining it is getting a bit drier up that way and that those cattle were in demand with graziers in the Gippsland region.

Meeniyans Gary Anthony of Ponderosa Herefords sold a couple of pens of cattle on Thursday, with 20 steers averaging 339



Gary Anthony of Ponderosa Herefords in Meeniyans stands with some of the cattle he sold at Thursday's Store Sale. A08_3824

kilos fetching \$1290 each and 19 steers weighing an average of 357 kilos bringing in \$1400 a head.

"That's about what they're making," he said, the price meeting expectations.

He was pleased with the new split sale arrangement saying things couldn't proceed as they were given the numbers of cattle involved following the closure of the Pakenham Saleyards.

Bruce Harrison of B&D Harrison in Dumbalk North sold 44 Angus steers and was no doubt pleased with the prices.

His cattle were split evenly into two pens of 22, those averaging 344 kilos bringing in \$1580 a head and the others averaging 307 kilos and commanding \$1460 each.

Both prices exceeded his expectations prior to the sale, and by way of contrast, he noted that his pen of heavier cattle would have fetched around \$900 each this time last year.

Brian, of the South Gippsland Stock Agents Association, was delighted with the success of the split sale.

"It's a hell of a lot easier to run," he said, feeling both the set-up and sale proceeded well.

"The yards were full and you wouldn't want any more cattle than what we had today," Brian said, adding that the yards were also full the previous week when Elders, Alex Scott & Staff, Baw Baw Livestock and Everitt Seeley & Bennetts opened the split sale era.

Photo competition prizes pollinators

The 2024 Pollinator Photography Competition is now open.

Returning for its third year, the competition encourages photographers to turn their attention to the finer details of the world around them and capture Australia's bees or other pollinators.

First place wins \$1500, with \$750 for second, \$500 for third and \$750 for people's choice. The School Competition awards a primary and

secondary school winner with a \$500 prize each.

Run by the When Bee Foundation, the competition has become a highlight on the pollinator calendar receiving more than 500 entries each year.

Australian Pollinator Week starts on November 9 and runs to November 17.

The Pollinator Photography Competition is sponsored by iWooHoo, Flow Hive, the Centre for Bee Education, Bee School by Beechworth Honey and

the When Bee Foundation, Rotarians for Bees and the Bee Friendly Farming program.

Winners will be chosen by a select panel of judges and announced in a Pollinator Photography Webinar on Thursday, November 14 at 7.30pm AEDT.

The competition closes Monday, October 28 at 5pm.

Submit your entry at australianpollinatorweek.org.au/pollinator-photography-competition.

Men penalised for illegal Hog Deer hunting

A MAN from Lake Bunga near Lakes Entrance has faced the Wonthaggi Magistrates' Court for illegally hunting Hog Deer on private property in Yanakie near Wilsons Promontory.

The man was ordered to pay a total of \$826 in court fines and was placed on a diversion program with conditions of good behaviour and to complete a hunting education course.

The Game Management Authority's (GMA) Director of Compliance and Intelligence, Zac Powell, said the man was investigated following a report of illegal hunting made to the GMA.

"The man was allegedly observed illegally spotlighting and shooting a

Hog Deer on private property without permission before sunrise. He had also not applied for, obtained or attached tags to the deer," Mr Powell said.

Mr Powell said "Illegally spotlighting deer at night is dangerous and can put communities, properties and livestock at risk."

"Hunters must obtain a pair of Hog Deer tags before they hunt Hog Deer and present all harvested deer to a checking station within 24 hours of being taken."

"Those who break the law face significant fines and penalties including prosecution, having equipment confiscated and Game and Firearms

Licences cancelled. In some cases, offenders may face jail terms."

"Thank you to the community members and hunters who report illegal hunting to the GMA. These reports help us to target high-risk areas and help keep the community safe."

Hunters and the public are urged to report illegal hunting to the GMA through its website at gma.vic.gov.au or by calling 136 186. If an urgent response is required, call 000.

The GMA assesses all reports of illegal behaviour and works closely with its partner agencies, to conduct enforcement and compliance operations across Victoria.

MARKET REPORT

Brought to you by...

CLAAS Harvest Centre

Leongatha Store Sale on Thursday, Sept. 5, 2024

Grown Steers			
P & B Fox 23 Angus	691kg	\$3.87	\$2520
Jackson Pastoral 20 Angus	651kg	\$4.10	\$2470
Ironbar Inv 24 Angus	618kg	\$3.98	\$2460
P & B Fox 19 Angus	592kg	\$4.12	\$2440
R Mcculloch 24 Angus	588kg	\$4.13	\$2430
Ironbar Inv 12 Angus	587kg	\$4.10	\$2410
R Perrett 13 Angus	584kg	\$4.05	\$2370
P & B Fox 12 Angus	557kg	\$4.20	\$2340
P & J Scott 16 Angus	550kg	\$4.18	\$2300
P & A Van Kuyk 17 Angus	541kg	\$4.32	\$2340
Traselasons P/L 16 Angus	539kg	\$4.19	\$2260
Latrobe Park 11 Angus	530kg	\$4.05	\$2150
Bedad P/L 19 Angus	521kg	\$4.19	\$2250
B Woolfe 21 Angus	513kg	\$4.28	\$2200
Melaleuca Past 18 Angus	507kg	\$4.14	\$2100
P & J Scott 19 Angus	500kg	\$4.14	\$2070
A Conisbee & Co 14 Angus	499kg	\$4.30	\$2150
Latrobe Park 13 Angus	483kg	\$4.45	\$2150
Mt Angus Stud 18 Angus	477kg	\$4.23	\$2020
A & R Bowman 19 Angus	474kg	\$4.21	\$2000
D Jelbart 16 Angus	465kg	\$4.04	\$1880
Von Pace 14 Angus	463kg	\$4.03	\$1870
P Van Heer Waarden 15 Angus	458kg	\$3.84	\$1760
Mt Angus Stud 21 Angus	457kg	\$4.57	\$1950

Weaner Steers			
Two Creeks 19 Angus	453kg	\$4.34	\$1970
Two Creeks 20 Angus	437kg	\$4.39	\$1920
Two Creeks 20 Angus	428kg	\$4.48	\$1920
A & L Dunkley 12 Angus	421kg	\$4.27	\$1800
Two Creeks 20 Angus	419kg	\$4.31	\$1810
Two Creeks 27 Angus	411kg	\$4.40	\$1810
Mt Angus Stud 18 Angus	410kg	\$4.09	\$1680
Amoruso P/L 10 Angus	408kg	\$4.11	\$1680
D & F Cameron 18 Angus	405kg	\$4.04	\$1640
Two Creeks 26 Angus	401kg	\$4.66	\$1870
K & M Garrett 30 Angus	401kg	\$4.21	\$1690
D Jelbart 16 Angus	397kg	\$3.97	\$1560
G & B Morrison 16 Angus	396kg	\$3.98	\$1580
Two Creeks 22 Angus	390kg	\$4.74	\$1850
J & R Mowat 24 Angus	389kg	\$4.16	\$1620
Two Creeks 22 Angus	387kg	\$4.78	\$1850
Von Pace 24 Angus	376kg	\$4.04	\$1520
Aw & Cm O'mara 10 Angus	360kg	\$4.27	\$1540
G & B Morrison 12 Angus	357kg	\$4.06	\$1450
Ponderosa 19 Angus	357kg	\$3.92	\$1400
Von Pace 24 Angus	355kg	\$4.05	\$1440
Burwood Hills 18 Angus	351kg	\$3.98	\$1400
Thexton Frams 18 Angus	347kg	\$4.29	\$1490
Two Creeks 20 Angus	346kg	\$4.94	\$1710
Ponderosa 20 Angus	339kg	\$3.80	\$1290
A & L Dunkley 23 Angus	333kg	\$4.29	\$1430
O'loughlin Farms 21 Angus	333kg	\$4.23	\$1410
Tarwin Past 28 Angus	325kg	\$4.65	\$1510
J & B Dunbar 14 Angus	324kg	\$4.35	\$1410
Armstrong & White 17 Angus	316kg	\$4.33	\$1370
Tarwin Past 33 Angus	311kg	\$4.56	\$1420
C Jeffrey 17 BB	298kg	\$4.16	\$1240
A & L Dunkley 15 Angus	291kg	\$4.46	\$1300
Tarwin Past 25 Angus	291kg	\$4.43	\$1290
G & H Foat 20 Angus	289kg	\$4.32	\$1280
G & H Foat 20 Angus	276kg	\$4.49	\$1240
J & B Dunbar 28 Angus	269kg	\$4.94	\$1330
L Missen 16 Angus	262kg	\$4.23	\$1110
G & H Foat 20 Angus	251kg	\$4.54	\$1140
J & B Dunbar 25 Angus	249kg	\$5.22	\$1300

Heifers			
J MacLachlan 14 Angus	476kg	\$3.56	\$1690
J MacLachlan 23 Angus	458kg	\$3.78	\$1730
SJC Farms 14 Angus	436kg	\$3.21	\$1400
J MacLachlan 22 Angus	434kg	\$4.03	\$1750
Von Pace 13 Angus	434kg	\$3.91	\$1700
Von Pace 13 BB	427kg	\$3.95	\$1690
J MacLachlan 24 Angus	415kg	\$3.74	\$1550
G & B Morrison 16 Angus	384kg	\$3.59	\$1380
SJC Farms 23 Angus	379kg	\$3.48	\$1320
Northside Pastoral 28 Angus	377kg	\$3.58	\$1350
Von Pace 17 Angus	374kg	\$3.74	\$1400
Two Creeks Past 24 Angus	373kg	\$3.73	\$1390
A & L Dunkley 18 Angus	371kg	\$3.64	\$1350
Narrang P/L 20 Angus	370kg	\$3.65	\$1350
G & B Morrison 14 Angus	356kg	\$3.54	\$1260
Two Creeks Past 24 Angus	350kg	\$3.82	\$1340
A & L Dunkley 15 Angus	344kg	\$3.63	\$1250
Aw & CM O'Mara 10 Angus	342kg	\$3.80	\$1300
Two Creeks Past 27 Angus	340kg	\$3.82	\$1300
SJC Farms 20 Angus	327kg	\$3.70	\$1210
Kuch Grazing 22 Angus	324kg	\$3.92	\$1270
B Henwood 17 Angus	322kg	\$3.88	\$1250
Two Creeks Past 23 Angus	319kg	\$3.79	\$1210
Tarwin Pastoral 30 Angus	318kg	\$3.80	\$1210
Two Creeks Past 23 Angus	316kg	\$3.83	\$1210
Tarwin Pastoral 25 Angus	306kg	\$3.86	\$1180
Kuch Grazing 26 Angus	305kg	\$4.01	\$1250
Kuch Grazing 27 Angus	295kg	\$4.17	\$1230
Tarwin Pastoral 26 Angus	295kg	\$3.83	\$1130
D Jerram 18 Angus	295kg	\$3.80	\$1120
Kuch Grazing 24 Angus	289kg	\$3.84	\$1110
Two Creeks Past 22 Angus	280kg	\$3.64	\$1020
Tarwin Pastoral 26 Angus	271kg	\$3.54	\$960

X Bred & Fries Steers			
J & K Macaulay 16			
Hereford Friesian X	502kg	\$3.78	\$1900
M & T Verboon 11 Ang/ Fries X	297kg	\$3.13	\$930
J & K Macaulay 16 Friesian	515kg	\$2.89	\$1490
C Monteleone 22 Friesian	371kg	\$2.61	\$970
M & T Verboon 11 Ang/ Fries X	297kg	\$3.13	\$930

Cows & Calves			
R & M Pendergast 11 X 11 H/Ford Angus X			\$2140
T Bunn 7 X 7 Angus/Friesian X			\$2080

Excellent yarding of store cattle

By SGSAA

THE second part of the weekly split agents VLE Leongatha store sales was held last Thursday with 4500 head yarded by PHC, SEJ and Nutrien.

The quality of the yarding was very good with some excellent lines of very well-bred cattle on offer and, like the previous week's sale, was well supported by a good field of regular feedlot and processor buyers, and local agents and graziers. Overall price averages were pretty well in line with the previous sales with some exceptional lines attracting a premium.

STORE SALE

VLE - LEONGATHA

1500 CATTLE 1500

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2024

Starting at 9am

GROWN STEERS

A/c Radevenjoy, Narracan (ELDERS)

15 Angus / Hereford X steers, 2 yo, VB, GF & ABF

A/c Heyden Pastures (ELDERS)

12 Red Angus Composite steers, 20 mths, GF & ABF

A/c Halvey Family Trust P/L, Neerim South (ELDERS)

8 Angus steers, 16 mths

GROWN HEIFERS

A/c Deep Creek Farm, Woodleigh (ELDERS)

20 Hereford heifers, 15-16 mths, VB, GF, ABF, Meikle blood

WEANERS

A/c Deep Creek Farm, Woodleigh (ELDERS)

40 Hereford steers & heifers, 8-12 mths, VB, GF, ABF, Meikle blood

A/c S Clarke, Allambee (ELDERS)

12 Angus steers, 12 mths

12 Angus heifers, 12 mths

A/c Barouk Holdings (ELDERS)

20 Angus mixed sex weaners, 8 mths, weaned, GF, ABF

A/c G Jane, Cardinia (ELDERS)

11 Speckle mix sex weaners

A/c P Dowling, Loch Valley (ELDERS)

5 Red Angus heifers, 10 mths

5 Angus heifers, 10 mths

XBRED & DAIRY

A/c Sassafras Creek, Shady Creek (ELDERS)

22 Dairy Shorthorn x steers, 12-18 mths

A/c Meljar, Ruby (ELDERS)

20 Angus Cross heifers 12 mths, Harris Angus bld

A/c Johnson & Woods, Neerim South (ELDERS)

15 Char X mix sex weaners

A/c S Clarke, Allambee (ELDERS)

12 Friesian steers, 18-20 mths

COWS & CALVES

A/c Kalarney Park (ELDERS)

18 x 18 Angus/Hereford cows with their third calf at foot, PTIC back to the same Innesdale Angus bull for a February calving

A/c S Eden, Bass (ELDERS)

10 X 10 Angus X cows & calves

JOINED FEMALES

A/c First Snowman (ELDERS)


8 AA/FF X heifers

4 Speckle x heifers

Springing to Angus bull


A/c P Dowling, Loch Valley (ELDERS)

7 Red Angus cows, PTIC to calf Sep /Oct to Angus bull



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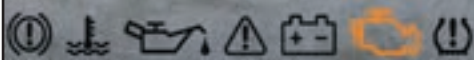
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DEATHS

DENBLYDEN, Martine Marie Magdeleine:
Born on September 26, 1944, passed away peacefully at home on August 30, 2024, just shy of her 80th birthday, after a long and courageous battle with cancer.
She leaves behind a loving family of 7 children and 24 grandchildren, all of whom will cherish her memory.
A Celebration of her Life will be held at the Inverloch RACV resort on Thursday September 26, 2024, at 11:30am.

HISCOCK, David:
Passed away peacefully on September 12, 2024.
Loved father of Mel, Tim, and Brad.
Funeral Prayers will be offered at St. Joseph's Catholic Church, 20 Bass Road, Bass on Monday September 23, 2024, commencing at 1:30pm.
At the conclusion of Prayers, the funeral will leave for the Corinella Cemetery.

Handley & Anderson
Wonthaggi 5672 1074

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DEATHS

MARTIN, James (Jim):
Passed away suddenly in Wonthaggi Hospital.
Loving husband of June, beloved father and father-in-law of Allan and Sharon, Trudy and Mark.
Adored pop of Morgan, Jaymee, Liam and Mathew.
Great pop to Willow and Evelyn.
We all cherish the memories.
Private Cremation.

MEECH, Anthony (Tony/Andy) Frederick:
20.09.1959 - 11.09.2024.
Aged 64 years.
Tony passed away peacefully in Albury surrounded by family.
Loved son of Fred (dec.) and Pat (dec.).
Nephew of Barbara and Adrian (dec.).
Cousin of Greg and Leeny, Christina and Daryl, Peter and Carolyn, John and Sarah, Brendan and Janette, Frank and Marita, Mary and Wayne, and their families.
Friend of Mal (dec.), Lindi and many more.
Respected, loved, supportive and supported member of the Coronet Bay Community.
A gentle and humble man who touched the hearts of all he met.

DEATHS


SHAW, Trevor John:
18.10.1948 - 25.08.2024.
The President, Committee, and members of the Korumburra RSL Sub-Branch, mourn the passing of our affiliate member Trevor Shaw.
Our sympathies go out to Linda and family.

SPAULL, Graham Norman (Spike):
10.04.1950 - 13.09.2024.
Peacefully closed his eyes.
Devoted and loving husband to Joy for 52 years.
Loving dad to Lisa and Paul, and Micheal, pop to Hanna, Madison, and Mitchell.
When family chains are broken nothing is the same, as God takes us one by one, he links the chain again.

WINTLE, Linda:
Passed away suddenly 08.09.2024.
Dearly loved sister of Bob, sister-in-law of Heather.
Loved aunty of Ben and Sonia, Julian and Kylie and their children.
A beautiful soul at rest.

DEATHS

WINTLE, Lindy:
12.12.1953 - 08.09.2024. Of San Remo.
Passed away peacefully after a short illness.
Dearly loved mum of Dylan and Meital, Rad and Amanda, and 7 grandchildren.
Daughter of Kevin and Edie Wintle. Loved sister of Kevin Jnr, Bill and Bob, sister-in-law to Larne, Di (dec.), and Heather.
Special aunt to Sharon, Michael, Ben, and Julian.
Dearly loved and sadly missed by all.
Privately cremated.

FUNERALS

MEECH:
A Graveside Service for Mr Anthony Frederick Meech will be held at Corinella Cemetery, 29 Cemetery Rd, Corinella on Monday September 23, 2024, commencing at 11am.

Handley & Anderson
Wonthaggi 5672 1074

SPAULL:
A Graveside Funeral Service for Mr. Graham Norman (Spike) Spaul will be held at the Leongatha Cemetery, Cnr. McCartin and Begg Streets, Leongatha on Friday September 20, 2024, commencing 11am.

Handley
Funeral Services
Phone: (03) 5662 2717

IN MEMORIAM

HODGSON, Dave:
18.09.2002.
Dad, Pa, Great Grandfather.
My mind still talks to you,
My heart still looks for you,
But my soul knows you are at peace.
I miss you Every Single Day!
Loved by Kristine, Anthony, Belinda, Janelle, Lauren and ALL your family.

LAMERS, Colin:
20.09.2022.
2 years since you left us, seems like yesterday.
There's a place in my heart that no one can fill, or take away, and no one ever will, Death leaves a heartache no one can heal, Love leave a memory no one can steal.
I miss you every day.
-- Your loving wife Bessie.
Goodbyes are not forever, goodbyes are not the end, they simply mean we miss you until we meet again.
-- Love Michael, Liz, Marty, and Ash.

LAMERS, Alfred Colin:
20.09.2022:
Dad, every day we miss you more than ever.
Always in our thoughts.
-- Love Kerri, Stephen, Matthew, Emma, Larissa, and Nick.

PEARCE, Bruce Arthur Joseph:
30.09.1946 - 19.09.2024.
My wonderful brother, you left us without any goodbyes.
It's been a long sad year. I miss your phone calls, your quiet words of advice.
We miss your many visits with us.
Remembered always with much love.
-- Rhonda, John, Mick, Ken, and families.

SMITH, Susan Joy:
17.03.1957 - 17.09.2015.
The days have turned into years.
Our memories are always present, so are our tears.
Forever in our thoughts.
- Daryl, Nathan and Johannah, Cindy, Matt, Noah, and Elijah.

BEREAVEMENT THANKS

JOYCE, Ron:
Thank you to all family and friends for the love and care on Ron's passing.
Also, to the amazing first responders, ambulance, and police for their wonderful support.
Many thanks to all staff at The Tiny Teapot Cafe for their love and care, and to all at the Austral Hotel, especially Trudy and Greg.
And last but not least, Scott, Sharon and staff at Handley & Anderson Funerals for their wonderful care and service.
-- Nancy, Neil and Liza.

ZANELLA, Roberto:
Roberto's family would like to thank everyone for the cards, flowers, and we deeply appreciate the kindness, and expressions of sympathy you have shown to our family during our time of loss.
We would also like to thank all the staff at Rose Lodge, Handley and Anderson Funerals, Lisa-anne (celebrant) for kindness and care.

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South Gippsland Water is launching our 2040 Vision and Strategy, guiding us toward our vision to be a trusted partner, advancing water services to support customer and community aspirations. To progress this vision, we are seeking skilled, enthusiastic and community focused people to fill a number of vacancies.

Why Work for South Gippsland Water

With its unspoilt beaches, world famous Wilsons Promontory at your doorstep, wineries, gourmet restaurants and cafes, farmers markets, a relaxed lifestyle and a pleasant 2-hour drive from Melbourne CBD, you can have the best of both worlds.

With our Corporate Office based at Foster, South Gippsland Water employs a broad range of people in various roles, ranging from office to field based roles across the South Gippsland Region.

We are a diverse, community-oriented organisation and offer the following:

- Strong focus on career opportunities, professional development and training
- Highly flexible work options, including modified hours and/or work weeks
- Employee Assistance Program and broad wellbeing offers
- Family friendly workplace, including Paid Parental Leave
- 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.

About The Role

We are currently seeking an experienced and motivated person to join SGW in the role of Asset Management Coordinator. The key requirements of the role are:

- Co-ordinate the development, implementation, and operations of South Gippsland Water's (SGW) Asset Management System (AMS)
- Administrate and maintain SGW's Asset Management Information System (Infor IPS) to support the AMS.
- Co-ordinate the day to day project works and staff for various asset data collection and conversion projects
- Formal qualification in Asset Management/ Engineering or equivalent industry experience in asset management is required.

How to Apply

If you are interested in applying for the role, you can do so by clicking on the 'Apply' button to create a candidate account and complete your online application.

If you require further information before you apply, please contact:

- Parthee Gana, Asset Management & Planning Manager, Phone: 0477 243 563 for role specific information; or
- People and Culture – email at peopleandculture@sgwater.com.au (For general applications/employment enquiries)

Applications Close: Monday, September 30, 2024 at 5pm

W00116

1300 851 636 | www.sgwater.com.au



Making a real difference in the lives of people across Bass Coast.

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HM7077



WONTHAGGI & DISTRICT
ELDERLY CITIZENS' HOMES INC.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the 62nd Annual General Meeting of Life Governors and Contributors of the Wonthaggi and District Elderly Citizens Homes Incorporated A0031611G will be held in the Upper Floor - Activity Room Crellin Wing- Rose Lodge on **Tuesday, October 15, 2024 at 9.30am**

1. Attendance:
2. Previous Minutes:
To confirm the Minutes of the 61st Annual General Meeting held on October 17, 2023.
3. To receive and consider the Annual Reports on the activities of the Association during the 2023/2024 financial year:
4. Annual Subscription and Fee on Joining:
5. To appoint an Auditor for the 2024/2025 Financial Year:
6. Election of the Members of the Board whose term has expired:
6. General Business:
Any items of general business received by the Secretary Mr Kilgour addressed to Rose Lodge of which seven (7) days written notice has been given.

Mr John Duscher
President

HM11555

Multiple Positions Vacant



Customer Service Team Leader and Water Quality and Regulation Officer (2 part time positions available)

South Gippsland Water is launching our 2040 Vision and Strategy, guiding us toward our vision to be a trusted partner, advancing water services to support customer and community aspirations. To progress this vision, we are seeking skilled, enthusiastic and community focused people to fill a number of vacancies.

South Gippsland Water is a diverse, community-oriented organisation and offer the following:

- Strong focus on career opportunities, professional development and training
- Highly flexible work options, including modified hours and/or work weeks
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Customer Service Team Leader

- Permanent Full Time
- Band 8 - \$102,562.88 - \$113,614.61 + Leave Loading + Superannuation

Water Quality and Regulation Officer (2 positions available)

- Permanent Part Time (3 Days per week & 2 Days per week)
- Level 1 Band O4 - \$67,316.03-\$70,855.71 Pro Rata + Leave Loading + Superannuation

Please go to <https://www.sgwater.com.au/careers/> for more details about SGW, the role and how to apply

Applications Close: Monday, September 30, 2024 at 5pm

Please go to <https://www.sgwater.com.au/careers/> and follow the instructions to sign up for job alerts.

W00122

1300 851 636 | www.sgwater.com.au



Corinella Boating and Angling Club, Women in Fishing advocate, Amanda Keilar with Nationals' Member for Eastern Victoria, Melina Bath and concerned anglers

Grassroots campaign saves fishing competitions

A STATE Government backdown over a potential ban on fishing competitions has been greeted with relief by Gippsland anglers.

A hard-fought grassroots campaign led by Corinella Boating and Angling Club, Women in Fishing advocate Amanda Keilar, and The Nationals' Member for Eastern Victoria Melina Bath, achieved its aim of pushing Labor to announce the

fishing competition exemption.

Draft animal welfare laws were set to ban fishing competitions with clubs and anglers facing massive fines from twelve thousand dollars for individuals to fifty-eight thousand dollars for clubs.

A Gippsland petition protesting Labor's move attracted almost three thousand signatures.

Melina Bath congratulated the Gippsland fishing

community for leading the charge and forcing the State Government to listen and act on their concerns.

"Any consideration of fining Victorians for organising or participating in fishing competitions is a total overreach and should have never been contemplated," Ms Bath said.

"The failure to immediately rule out the ban on a legitimate recreation activity shows the Allan Labor

Government was testing the waters."

"The Nationals will continue to support recreation and sport anglers and recognise the significant contribution clubs, charter operators and small businesses make to our local communities."

"Fishing is an inclusive and accessible activity that can be enjoyed by all Victorians, it should be encouraged, and its future never threatened."



Ready to swim for a duel in the pool.

Duel in the pool at Splash

THE pool was awash with colour as the annual Duel in the Pool (GSI 1) took place at Leongatha Splash on Sunday, September 15.

Swimmers were divided up into four teams – Red, Yellow, Green and Blue and competed for points for the teams in both 50m stroke races and novelty events such as the Skins events, 10 x 50m Freestyle relay and the mixed order Individual Medley.

There was a lot of cheering from teammates on the sidelines, especially during the skins events with big points at stake. The event was won by Blue, followed by Green, Red and Yellow in fourth place.

The day was a chance for many of the younger swimmers to gain experience without the big drive to compete at one of the other Gippsland Events. Cheered on by extended family members, the enjoyed competing in a familiar location.

With swimmers needing to compete in three Gippsland Swimming events, the meet drew swimmers of all ages from across the region, keen to start their summer racing.



Zac Basterfield – Year 7, Fastest student.

Flying high at Newhaven College

NEWHAVEN College's MTB recent Flow Trail Fundraising Event proved to be a resounding success, even in the face of wild weather. The event saw a vibrant turnout of 50 competitors, including 37 enthusiastic students and 13 courageous parents and friends on Saturday, August 31.

Despite the wild weather, the day was filled with excitement and fierce competition. Year 7 student Zac Basterfield emerged as the standout performer, clinching the bragging rights with an impressive time of 3:13 for two laps. Meanwhile, Dash Janson showcased his speed and skill as the fastest junior over the single lap course.

The event also served as an unofficial opening to the newly built flow trail as well as fantastic fundraising opportunity for the Newhaven College MTB Academy Program, with efforts exceeding expectations. Organisers extend a heartfelt thank you to all who participated and supported the cause, making the day not only enjoyable but also impactful!



Interchange 2024 champions at Phillip Island Tenpins

In a hugely successful gala day that saw lots of smiles and fun, Interchange Wonthaggi were crowned champions for the 2024 Bowlopolis Gala.

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 17
▼ 3.02am 0.48m
▲ 10.45am 1.38m
▼ 3.54pm 0.82m
▲ 10.36pm 1.32m

WEDNESDAY September 18
▼ 4.26am 0.49m
▲ 11.44am 1.44m
▼ 5.13pm 0.68m
▲ 11.54pm 1.44m

THURSDAY September 19
▼ 5.41am 0.47m
▲ 12.34pm 1.51m
▼ 6.14pm 0.50m

FRIDAY September 20
▲ 12.59am 1.58m
▼ 6.42am 0.46m
▲ 1.20pm 1.57m
▼ 7.05pm 0.33m

SATURDAY September 21
▲ 1.55am 1.71m
▼ 7.33am 0.47m
▲ 2.02pm 1.61m
▼ 7.53pm 0.21m

SUNDAY September 22
▲ 2.47am 1.78m
▼ 8.20am 0.50m
▲ 2.43pm 1.63m
▼ 8.40pm 0.14m

MONDAY September 23
▲ 3.36am 1.80m
▼ 9.04am 0.53m
▲ 3.23pm 1.62m
▼ 9.26pm 0.12m

Email us your fishing photos

news@sgst.com.au



Linda Newman, Trevor Reeves and Marg Ford were the winners with an impressive score of +11 at Breakaway Bowls.



Foster Bowls Club's first Summer Triples winners were Charlie and Bev Tyers, and Rab Best.



Rob Jeffries (3), David Smith (S) and Frank Verco (L) formed one of South West Gippsland Midweek Bowls Group's winning teams on Thursday.



The best one-game winners for the South West Gippsland Midweek Bowls Group were Peter Borradaile (S), Robyn Dall (3), Amanda Bozelle (2) and Elaine Williams (L).



The winners of the Thursday social bowls at Inverloch were, from left, Jack Miller, Reg Varty, Ron Burge and Joy Brown.



The Wonthaggi Bowls Club's Wednesday winners were Hans Bischofberger, Heather Blanch and John Duscher.



Friday's Wonthaggi Senior Indoor Bowls winners were Judy Sweetnam, Sylvia Mattock, Carol Thorpe and Laurie Culph.

BREAKAWAY BOWLS

WHAT a day was had by all on Monday. Another new member joined the club, and a team won by +20 – what a great win. The winners were Sue Rose, Jos Kemper and Pat Novak. It was a great win, especially considering the runners-up had +19. Friday was another good day at the Cape. There was some great banter and everyone enjoyed themselves. The winners were Linda Newman, Trevor Reeves and Marg Ford with an impressive score of +11 – well done, guys. Don't forget that bowls will be back on Monday at 1pm at the Cape Paterson Community Centre.

FOSTER

EIGHTEEN teams hit the green for the first Summer Triples last week. It was a very pleasant day for bowling. The wind stayed away, and the sun even made an appearance. Everyone enjoyed the day. At the end of the four games, there were two teams with four wins. The winners with 30 points were the Foster team of Charlie and Bev Tyers, and Rab Best. Runners up with 25 points were the Foster team of Ian Park, Sue Waugh and Neil Shaw. The rest of the scorecards were fanned, and the winners of the wine were Nancy Parry, and Heather and Ivan Ray. A big thank you to the day's sponsors Gippsland Funerals and Duesburys, Foster. The next Triples will be on Thursday, October 10. Our club opening day is coming up on Saturday 21st! Everyone welcome.

INVERLOCH

THERE is a lot going on in the club at the moment with pennant season approaching and all the preparations that it incurs. However, social bowls continue unabated and on Thursday, September 12. Forty-two players took to Green Number 2 where a fours match of two games, each of 10 ends was contested in somewhat warmer conditions than the players have been used to for some time. However, the breeze was there, coming straight up the inlet from the south. Surprisingly, given the conditions, only two teams managed to win both of their games, and it was a tight finish with only one point separating them. Runners up, with a score of 32 points from wins of 14/8 and 10/8 was the team of Bill Selby (skip), Graham Turton (third), Christine Corrigan (second) and Pan Sutcliffe (lead). The winners, with a score of 33 points from wins of 11/5 and 9/6 were Ron Burge (skip), Joy Brown (third) Reg Varty (second) and Jack Miller (lead). Congratulations to the winners and thanks to the match committee members Judy Parker and Jeff Curwood for supplying a great day. Friday, September 13, saw the club host the fortnightly dinner which was on this occasion roast lamb which was enjoyed by all of the 53 diners in attendance. These events do not just happen. There are a lot of people

behind the scenes giving of their own valuable time to ensure that everyone else has a wonderful time and the club thanks you, one and all. The next club dinner will be on Friday, September 26, so it is important that you register your intention to attend by Tuesday, September 24 – cut-off day for catering purposes. The next club membership draw will take place on Friday, September 20, where the jackpot currently stands at \$160. Other prizes include first pick of the table, four lucky envelopes and a multitude of other goodies so come along and enjoy the excitement of the winners. Also, the Club Championship competition will be starting soon, and entry forms are now available so get yourselves registered. A reminder that the pennant season will start for the Saturday competition on October 12, while the midweek competition will start on October 15. Practice matches have been arranged in preparation for the season, and details of these can be found on the sheets for these events. One of the practice matches was held last Saturday and comprised teams from Tarwin Lower and Corinella and over 100 players gathered at Inverloch on a cold and windy day. The match was played under pennant conditions, however, due to the inclement weather, the matches were called off after completing only 12 ends of the scheduled 21. Of the locals, the drink vouchers were taken out by Bill Massier, Nic Van Grunsven, Alan Johnstone and Jill Kennedy with a score of 12 shots up. Organisers were pleased with the turnout despite the inclement weather conditions on the day. 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 BOWLS

WHAT an excellent day it was at Corinella. As usual, the bowlers were signed in by Pauline and John while Peter and Claire arranged the teams. They were so blessed to have around 50 players turn up, which always makes for an exciting day. They were lucky with the weather, considering Wednesday's rain. Thursday was free of any rain and the sun came out enough to keep everybody happy. The bowling was, as usual, high quality, and certainly looked like everyone was having a lot of fun. Laughter could be heard from all corners of the green. As always there were winners and the rest, and this week there were two winning teams, both on 34 points. They were unable to be separated on a count back. This week's winners were Rob Jeffries (3), David Smith (S), Frank Verco (L), and Mark Hanrahan (S), Gillian Harper (3), Bob Arnold (2) and Margaret McConville (L). Runners up on a score of 33 points were Peter McWilliams (S), Diane Kessen (L), Sue Stansfield (3) and Bill Williams (2). Best one-game winners were Peter Borradaile (S), Robyn Dall (3), Amanda Bozelle (2) and Elaine Williams (L).

The group would like to thank Phil for all his work in preparing the green, as well as looking after the kitchen and looking after the thirsty bowlers for the day. The group is so lucky to have such great volunteers each week but could always hope to have a few more to take the weight off the ones it relies on week after week. Next week, the bowlers will be meeting at San Remo. All players are required to be on-site by 10am. If you can't make it by 10am, you risk being left off the players list, so be there on time. Till then, look after yourselves and stay safe. Enjoy the coming week.

WONTHAGGI

IT was a quiet week at the club with numbers down for Wednesday social bowls, because of Phillip Island Triples, plus an event at another club. Also, the weather was not all that good. The winners on Wednesday were Hans Bischofberger, Heather Blanch and John Duscher. They won the day even with a break for rain during the afternoon. Thursday saw good numbers enjoy a game of bowls in fine and mild weather. Friday's coaching was not good because of the rain all morning. Saturday saw a wet, windy and cold day greet 15 hardy bowlers. After one game and four ends, the day was called with rain, plus it was still very cold. The winners were Steve Bruynen, Wendy Donohue, Frank Cimino and Frank Seaton – a very good team, at least on paper. Bowls this week: Wednesday social bowls at 12.30pm, Thursday social bowls at 10am, Friday coaching at 10am and Saturday social bowls at 12.30pm. Friday is still a good night out to catch up with members and visitors for a chat. The members' draw is at 6pm, followed by the raffles, which include meat trays from Wonthaggi Meats. Also, a number of vouchers from other local businesses in the town, including Graze and the mystery prize is always worth winning. Practice match lists are up in the rooms, so put your name or names down for the chance to represent your club. Have a good week and good bowling.

WONTHAGGI INDOOR

IT was another fun and enjoyable week of bowling with a total of 52 bowlers over the week – 26 on both Tuesday and Friday. The club would like to welcome its two new members Steve Kenney and Steve Rosendale – hope you enjoy your time bowling with the club. Tuesday's winners with a plus 14 were Jeannie Slocombe, Max Sweetnam and Fred Demenech. Runners-up on plus 10 were Pam Russell, Robert McLaren and Jim Rodhi. Friday's winners with a plus 11 were Judy Sweetnam, Carol Thorpe, Sylvia Mattock and Laurie Culph. Runners up on plus five were Maggie Scapin, John Rook and John Postlethwaite. All teams for the week won both their games. The club would also like to wish a very happy birthday to Barbara Culph.



Outgoing women's captain Rebecca Thomas (left) and outgoing men's captain Gary Rotteveel with winner of 'Bec and Gazza's revenge' Anna de Bondt and runner up Maxine Eabry.



Foster Golf Club's Ladies' County Week fundraiser team consisted of Beth Curram, Kylie Collins and Geraldine Sinclair.



The men's country week fundraiser team from Foster Golf Club included Paddy Watkins, Robin Smith, Peter Furborough and Nathan Lucas.

FOSTER

TUESDAY and Thursday had relatively small fields this week with Peter Dight (10) being triumphant on both days.

On Tuesday, Peter won with 33 pts from a field of 12 players.

Justin Dubignon (17) and Kylie Collins (12) won the two down-the-line balls with 32 pts each.

Kevin Flett hit the ball the straightest on the fourth and took home nearest to pin.

On the 17th, Larry Giddy hit a lovely tee shot to take out the second nearest to pin.

On Thursday, there were another 12 players playing in the weekly Stableford event.

Again, Peter Dight (10) won the day, this time with 37 pts.

Trevor "Kiwi" Jones (28) finished second on 34 pts while Chris Buckland (+4) had 31 pts and won the second down-the-line ball.

Chris also won a nearest to pin when he was the closest on the sixth.

Peter Dight found the green and was nearest on the 13th.

Unfortunately, the rains arrived before Saturday and there was no play other than two brave souls that went out for a casual hit.

On Wednesday, the ladies were supposed to play Canadian Foursomes, but unfortunately with the low numbers, that was postponed, and they played a round of Stableford instead.

Robyn Galloway was the generous trophy donor again and this week Kylie Collins (13) won the day with a very impressive 39 pts.

Kylie found the green on the 17th to win the only nearest to pin for the day, as no one was able to find the sixth.

There were seven players on the day and Beth Curram (23) won the down-the-line ball with 34 pts.

Continuing to represent the club this week, Kylie Collins and Geraldine Sinclair went to Mirboo North on Friday for a 4BBB and finished the day with 35 pts.

On Sunday, the club had two teams head to Wonthaggi for a fundraiser day for the Country Week teams.

There was a men's team consisting of "Paddy" Watkins, Peter Furborough, Robin Smith and Nathan Lucas as well as a ladies' team made up of Beth Curram, Geraldine Sinclair and Kylie Collins.

The day was horrifically wet and cold while the evidence of the wet weather was on full show as players found themselves playing out of "muddy" areas regularly.

The ladies finished second in their grade while the men played well but couldn't compete with the eventual winners who had 55 net.

On the day, the men's country week squad was announced, and Foster has found itself with three members from the club. Representing Foster this year is Chris Buckland, Aaron Morris and Jye Kruyer.

The club wishes them all the best of luck as they compete this year in section 1 after South Gippsland were the winners last year in section 2.

The weekly chicken run competition had a total of 17 players from Sunday to Friday.

Winning yet again this week was Neil Henry (21) with an exceptional 20 pts.

There wasn't a birdie in sight on a par three for any of the players, but Trent Price (12) and Bernie Esser (21) both won themselves a ball down the line with scores of 16 and 15 pts.

This week, weather permitting, there will be all the usual Stableford events on Tuesday and Thursday as well as the week-long chicken run.

Outside of this, the ladies will play American Foursomes on Wednesday and on Saturday.

It will be another Stableford event, this time sponsored by Danny Jenkins.

Until next week, hit it straight and stay out of the trees.

The Caddy.

KORUMBURRA

RESULTS: Tuesday, September 10.

Stableford: 30 players.

A Grade: Ian Gibson (15) 39 pts. B Grade: Mark Marotti (35) 37 pts.

NTPs: first John Solly, 10th Laurie Webster and 13th John Kerr.

Thursday, September 12:

Stableford: 19 players.

Winner: Peter Van Agtmaal (17) 37 C/B.

NTPs: first Greg Wilson, seventh John Payne, 10th Michael Thomas and 13th Steve Duffield.

Saturday, September 14:

Men's par plus: 19 players.

Sponsor: Doug and Lyn McIvor.

A Grade: Roy Fleming (9) +1. B Grade: Wayne Knights (16) -2.

NTPs: first Richard Johnson and 13th Mat Wrigley.

Ladies

THERE was a lovely fine day for golf last Wednesday.

The A Grade winner was Johanna van den Heiligenberg (14) with 34 pts and Barb Twite (28) was runner-up 31 pts. Kim Enbom (39) won B Grade with 37 pts and Trudy Olden (33) was runner-up 32 pts after a 3-way c/b.

BDTL went to Deb Wrigley (32) and Kath Welsh (38), both with 32 pts.

Viv Enbom (39) won the

nine-hole comp with 12 pts.

NTPs went to Johanna on the first (Kelly's Bakery voucher), second shot on the seventh was Julie Hillberg and on the 10th green, Kerri Besley.

The lucky player raffle went to Trudy Olden.

Tomorrow, Wednesday, September 18, the club has its day out at the Par 3 Devils Dams near Inverloch for a hit of golf and/or lunch.

Any past or current members are most welcome, so please contact Kerri if you plan to attend.

LEONGATHA

TUESDAY, September 10: 4BBB Stableford event.

Tuesday's 4BBB Stableford round had 68 members/guests take to the course.

A Grade winners: Jon Smith and Hans Hoefler with a score of 46 pts.

A Grade runners-up: Ian Blencowe and Hugh Goodman with a score of 43 pts on a countback.

NTP fifth second shot: Michael Westaway. NTP 14th: Jeremy de Silva. NTP 16th: Phil Strike.

Thursday, September 12: Bec and Gazza's Captain's Revenge Day.

This unique Stableford round was to celebrate the outgoing club captains Bec and Garry with some very interesting hole placements and club selections.

Sixty-five members/guests enjoyed a fun day with some excellent prizes available.

A Grade winners:

1. Fred Debono (24) with a score of 41 pts.

2. David Richards (20) with a score of 40 pts.

3. Norman Hughes (14) with a score of 38 pts.

NTP fourth: Gerald Freestone at .80m. NTP 14th: Greg Ellt at 7.20m. NTP 16th: Paul Kennedy at 4.84m.

Saturday, September 14: Stableford.

Saturday's Stableford event had 44 members/guests brave the very cold and wet conditions for this event.

A Grade winner: Jeremy de Silva (8) with a score of 36 pts.

A Grade runner up: Walter Taberner (14) with a score of 34 pts on a countback.

B Grade winner: John Belli (23) with a score of 36 on a countback.

B Grade runner up: Colin Moyle (15) with a score of 36.

NTP fifth second shot: Anthony Sparkes. NTP 14th: Darren Read. NTP 16th: Darren Read.

Ladies

THE event last week, plotted by outgoing captains Rebecca Thomas and Gary Rotteveel, was aptly named 'Bec and Gazza's revenge'.

They had conspired with the green staff to ensure that the greens were doubly slick, and pin placements were brutal.

On the 16th, of the 35 players, only five were able to make a score.

Putting with one wood was also a challenge.

There were positives on a couple of holes where players had opportunities to triple or double their scores.

Despite the tests to their golfing ability, all players enjoyed the day immensely.

Rebecca was thanked by Gary for her valued contribution over the last two years and her successor, Janet Monk, as incoming women's captain was announced.

Anna de Bondt handled the challenges extremely well finishing with 37 pts, with Maxine Eabry just one point behind on 36 pts.

Jo McNaughton came in third with 33 pts.

Balls down the line were won by Lianne Adamson, Dot Stubbs, Janet Monk, Colleen Touzel, Bev Reinhard and Maryanne Gartner.

Nearest the pin on the fourth was Marg Griffiths, Jo McNaughton on the 14th and Rebecca Thomas on the 16th.

MIRBOO NORTH

TUESDAY, September 10: Stableford.

A Grade: T. Bradshaw (11) 39 pts.

B Grade: J. Hughes (18) 37 pts c/b.

DTL: W. Reynolds 37, N. Bickerton and T. Whitelaw 36 c/b.

NTP: fourth T. Bradshaw, sixth C. Stanlake and 16th L. Visser.

Birdies: fourth T. Bradshaw and L. Visser, and 16th N. Bickerton.

Saturday, September 14: Stableford.

Day winner: D. Taylor (27) 36 pts.

DTL: D. Jerram 32 and M. Payne 31.

NTP: fourth P. Draper, sixth N. Whichello and 16th S. Woodall.

WONTHAGGI

RESULTS: September 12, SR. 71.

Competition: Stableford 18-hole.

Ball sweep to 31.

Winner: Keith Ridout 38.

Runner up: Ian McNish 37.

Ball sweep: Chris Wilkinson 32, Graeme Campbell 32, Ian Johnson 32 and Frank Huber 31.

Results: September 12, SR. 36.

Competition: Stableford nine-hole 10 to 18.

Ball sweep to 17.

Winner: Keith Ridout 20.

Ball sweep: Blake Cornelis 18, Paul Cornelis 17 and Secondo Tiziani 17.

Results: September 14, S.R 71.

Competition: Stableford.

A Grade: Kevin Jamieson 34.

B Grade: Ross Yann 36.

C Grade: Harrison Jays.

BDTL to 33.

Ball sweep: Hamish Burns 38, Alan Jones 35, Blake Cornelis 34, Kevin Loughran 34, Andy Horvath 34, Eric Van Agtmaal 33, Michael Scott 33 and Mat Johnson 33.

NTPs: Kevin Jamieson second, Julian Wintle fourth, Andy Horvath Propin eighth, Ian Baker 13th and Steven Brann money hole 17th.

Ladies

WEDNESDAY saw 22 players play a game of 4BBB par in the qualifying round for the 4Ball Board Event.

The winners on the day were Catherine Bolding (18) and Lisa Brusamarello (28) with +5.

Runners up were Kaylene Hodgetts (28) and Heather Wintle (42), +3.

The other qualifiers were Marg Johnson and Merryn Dear +1, Layla Robertson and Karen Sheerin square.

These four teams will play in the semi-finals next week – good luck.

Other BDL was given to Anne Walker and Anne Tschiderer.

NTP on second was Marg Johnson, eighth Irene Walsh and 17th Merryn Dear.

WOORAYL

Ladies

THANKS to the tireless efforts of the guys, the ladies enjoyed a round of golf on Wednesday.

Some of the beautiful trees were uprooted, but the course remains in excellent condition.

Ladies can compete for the Monthly Medal on designated Saturdays or Wednesdays.

Dee Walters scored an impressive 111-38-73 to win the September medal – congratulations, Dee.

Thanks to Harvest Laneway for their sponsorship of the daily event.

The A Grade winner was Anne Grist with 99-24-75 and B Grade winner was Bev Bridge with 109-31-78.

BDL went to Elly Berryman with 77 net and Janet Thompson with 78 net.

Elly was a winner with 30 putts.

NTPs were eighth Ann Poole, 11th Bev Bridge and 17th Jenny Riseley.

Special mentions to Elly Berryman for her birdie on the first and Bev Bridge with a gobbler on the fourth.

In the present economic times, some sponsors are finding the times a little tougher.

When possible please, thank and support the generous sponsors who supply a range of beautiful prizes.



Tennis players are wanted for the upcoming season in Mirboo North.

Junior and senior tennis players wanted

THE BAROMI Tennis Club in Mirboo North is looking for any interested junior and senior tennis players who would like to play in the upcoming seasons starting in early October and in February 2025.

The club is looking for junior boys and girls to play in teams in three different age groups. A Grade – 18 and under, B grade – 15 and under C grade – 12 and under (down to age 9 or so).

Beginners are most welcome and junior fees are \$50 for the whole season.

All kids will get to play both doubles and singles matches which are played on Saturday mornings during Term 4 (2024) and Term 1 (2025).

Games are played at the tennis courts at the Mirboo North recreation reserve and courts of surrounding clubs in Mardan, Leongatha and Fish Creek.

There will be no games played over the Christmas holidays.

The club is also looking for any adults who would like to play in the upcoming social tennis competition.

All games are played at the tennis courts located at the recreation reserve on Wednesday nights from 7.30pm and are usually completed within two hours.

The competition will begin early in October and run for about ten weeks; finishing before Christmas.

Another competition will then start in February 2025. Anyone who is looking to play tennis can call Lesa Fraser on 0417 682 722.

There is also coaching available from Robin Walker on Tuesday afternoons from 4pm to 6pm.

Anyone interested in coaching can contact Robin Walker for details and costs on 0408 647 395.

Wonthaggi Table Tennis

WHITE d Black 8 to 3

Team White's young Charley "Rock-etballs" Donohue unleashed her fiery potential upon a hapless Dirk, a giant of Gippsland table tennis, with a slew of shots that bruised poor Dirk of body and ego. Charley found her inner biblical David to slay the goliath, using a slingshot full of dare and flair to accompany her usual atomic arsenal. Well led and mentored by Funcle Mark. Take a bow family Donohue.

Green d Blue 8 to 3

Undefeated titans Sven and Justin locked horns to play out the game of the season thus far. After a wobbly start, Sven played like a Bratwurst sausage, plenty of substance, sizzle and sauce. He controlled the last two sets to survive Justin's thunder and lightning. Teammates Andy and Michael gave strong support to provide Team Green a comfortable win and make home in the eyrie.

Yellow d Brown 6 to 5

In the tightest contest of the night, Yellow escaped with a hard fought victory over Brown despite Team Brown's Jolly Kimmins sweeping his singles like a stiff southerly storm knocking over Bass Coast clubhouses. His purple patch is so purple, Jimi's haze has turned green with envy.

Ladder: Green 12, White 8, Yellow 8, Blue 4, Brown 4 and Black 0.

Leading Players: Sven 9, and David, Mark and Justin 8.



Phillip Island Breaker's Mark Sylvio, Daren Dempsey, Angus Reed, Jarrah van Stekelenburg, Maegan Forbes, Andrea Blair-Dempsey, Kelly Wall and Jacob Gwynne – 2024 GSL Club of the Year. Photo: Morgan Fisher Photographer.

Gippsland Soccer League Presentation



GSL Board & Administrator – Glenn Odgers (President), Pat Finnigan (Treasurer), Mel Allsop, Kristine van Ruiten (Secretary), Michelle Moon (Administrator), Dan Brown, Kelly Wall. Photo: Morgan Fisher Photographer.

ON FRIDAY, September 13 the Leongatha Knights hosted the Gippsland Soccer League Senior Presentation Night at the Dakers Centre. A great night was had by all, with live music by the band "The Privateers" and a two-course meal catered by Brent Sinclair Catering.

All nine clubs were represented with a spread of awards across the clubs. Glenn Odgers, the GSL President, congratulated the clubs on an outstanding season with increased participation across all age groups.

The season has been a reflection on the high standard of competition, with the league champions for many divisions being decided by the results of the last round.



Peter Milkins and Beth Milkins (Leongatha Knights) – 2024 Senior Womens League Champions. Photo: Morgan Fisher Photographer.



Korumburra City's Hayden Smith, Zac Grant and Tony Gardner – 2023 U14 Grand Final winners and 2024 U14 Mixed and U13 Girls League Champions. Photo: Morgan Fisher Photographer.



Harm Groenewold (Drouin Dragons) – Senior Mens Best & Fairest Winner. Photos: Morgan Fisher Photographer.



Hayden Smith (Korumburra City) – Senior Mens Golden Boot Winner. Photo: Morgan Fisher Photographer.



Angus Reed (Phillip Island Breakers) – Mens Reserves Best & Fairest and Golden Boot Winner. Photo: Morgan Fisher Photographer.



Zoe Allen (Wonthaggi United) – Senior Womens Best and Fairest and Golden Boot Winner. Photo: Morgan Fisher Photographer.



The Under 13 girls secured their ticket to the Grand Final on Sunday.



Skye Fisher was presented with her 50 junior league games certificate on Sunday for Wonthaggi United.

Wonthaggi triumphs on the pitch

IT WAS a huge weekend for the Wonthaggi United Soccer Club, and it all started Friday evening when coach Marion Bals collected the U13 Girls League Championship trophy at the 2024 GSL awards ceremony. A great effort for the girls in their first year of this competition.

Next it was Zoe Allen from the Senior Women's team, who with 22 votes and 19 goals secured both the GSL Golden Boot and GSL MVP for 2024. An amazing achievement for a brilliant player.

Our Club then looked towards Sunday where we had three teams take the field in the Semi Finals at Newhaven.

First up was the U13 girls

who despite their opposition having a home ground advantage started with real purpose. A huge congregation of Wonthaggi supporters cheered as Wonthaggi took control early scoring four goals before the halftime break. A little slower in the second half and a strong Phillip Island applied more pressure but it was too late, and Wonthaggi took the final 5-0. They will now compete against Korumburra next week in the Grand Final.

Captain of the Girl's team Skye Fisher also celebrated her 50th game representing Wonthaggi on Sunday and showed amazing strength and composure as she led her team to victory.

The results didn't go as well for the U12a Wonthaggi team, in a tough match scores were level at the final whistle, seeing the teams head into extra time. Drouin held composure and were able to secure their spot in the Grand Final next week with a very close 2-1.

Unfortunately, the Senior Women's team also went down to a strong Phillip Island Team. Phillip Island had fired early and had a comfortable 2-0 lead at halftime. Wonthaggi came out firing in the second half applying strong pressure in the forward line, but it wasn't quite enough, Phillip Island finishing strong with a 5-2 victory.



Wonthaggi United Soccer Club Senior Women's player Zoe Allen won the GSL Golden Boot and GSL MVP for 2024



Leongatha Knights U14s team are through to the Grand Final!

U14s Knights dominate Penguins under sunny skies

U14s Semi Final: LKFC 3 v Phillip Island Penguins 1

WITH the weather significantly improved from last weekend's wild wind and rain, the second leg of the GSL semi final round kicked off on Sunday, September 15 at Newhaven Recreation Reserve, hosted by Phillip Island Breakers FC.

Leongatha Knights U14s team were keen to secure the win that would see them progress to the league Grand Final and capitalise on a wonderfully successful season. Under first time Coach Aidan Hall, the Knights players have focused on developing their individual skills whilst beginning to learn game training

skills as a team.

The game was conducted in great spirits with both teams putting strong pressure on the respective defence lines. It was a wonderful attack by Leongatha B&F player Noah Bowman that resulted in the first goal of the game for the Knights. However, the home team successfully levelled the score with their own goal towards the end of the half sending both teams to the break even.

The game play continued to be even into the second half as both teams demonstrated excellent combination plays moving forward as they attacked and some magnificent

individual defending as they shut down their respective positional attacking runs.

Leongatha's Noah Bowman once again found the back of the net with a quality attacking run to the excitement of the crowd. Knights' winger/forward Mitchell Ellen also had a fantastic game, securing the match with a third goal for the Knights with a quality shot from slightly further out.

Congratulations to both teams on a wonderful match of quality soccer. Good luck to the Knights U14s team as they take on league champions Korumburra City at the GSL Grand Final on September 22nd.



Leongatha's B&F Noah had a strong game scoring two of Leongatha's three goals.

Gippsland Soccer League

Semi Final 2 Results – Sunday, September 15

Senior Mens: Drouin Dragons Maroon 2 d Korumburra City 1

Senior Womens: Phillip Island Breakers 5 d Wonthaggi United 2

Mens Reserves: Phillip Island Breakers 2 d Drouin Dragons Maroon 0

Under 17 Mixed: Drouin Dragons Maroon Yellow 3 d Phillip Island Penguins 2

Under 14 Mixed: Leongatha Knights 3 d Phillip Island Penguins 1

Under 13 Girls: Wonthaggi United 5 d Phillip Island Breakers 0

Under 12a Mixed: Drouin Dragons Maroon 2 d Wonthaggi United 1

Under 12b Mixed: Drouin Dragons Yellow 2 d Mirboo North United 1

Grand Final Fixture

Sunday, September 22 at Bellbird Park, Drouin

Senior Mens - 4pm - Phillip Island Breakers V Drouin Dragons Maroon

Senior Womens - 1pm - Leongatha Knights V Phillip Island Breakers

Mens Reserves - 10am - Trafalgar Victory V Phillip Island Breakers

Under 17 Mixed – 10.20am - Drouin Dragons Maroon V Drouin Dragons Maroon Yellow

Under 14 Mixed – 12.20pm - Korumburra City V Leongatha Knights

Under 13 Girls – 10.10am - Korumburra City V Wonthaggi United

Under 12a Mixed – 11.40am - Phillip Island Penguins V Drouin Dragons Maroon

Under 12b Mixed – 1.10pm - Inverloch Stars V Drouin Dragons Yellow

All three senior matches will be live streamed by MDR Digital Images at youtube.com/@mdrdigitalimages

Get Active Kids Voucher Provider registrations open

REGISTRATIONS to become a Get Active Kids Voucher Activity Provider are now open! Previous providers should not need to register again but check that your club or association is still listed to ensure your members can access the vouchers. If not registered clubs and associations have until 12pm on Monday, September 23, 2024.

To be eligible, organisations must be affiliated with a recognised State Sporting Association; State Sport and Active Recreation Body; or one of the following organisations:

- Ausdance
- Australian National Drag Racing Association
- Calisthenics Victoria
- Girl Guides Victoria
- Karting Victoria
- Scouts Victoria

Eligible families can apply for vouchers of up to \$200 and use them at their registered Get Active Kids Voucher Activity Provider without having to worry about upfront costs. The vouchers can help pay for sporting equipment, uniforms, and memberships in a range of activities. Registered Activity Providers then redeem the costs from the government.

For more information visit: getactive.vic.gov.au/vouchers.

Applications for families will open later in Spring.



Umpire James Browne celebrated his milestone game in front of family and friends recently. Photo: Kylie Pipicelli.

Umpire celebrates Milestone 500th match

By Tayla Kershaw

JAMES Browne proudly umpired his milestone 500th game recently.

The South Gippsland Umpires Association (SGUA) umpire ticked over 500 games during the semi-final between Inverloch-Kongwak and Nar Nar Goon played at Cora Lynn.

It was a memorable occasion with friends and family travelling out to the Cora Lynn Recreation Reserve to show their support.

“It was a great day. It was nice to have my friends and family there cheering,” Browne said.

Browne began his umpiring career at age 14 in 2006. At the time, he played in the juniors for the Tarwin Football Netball Club.

“There was one day where we were asked if we were able to help out, so I began running the boundary as an early introduction,” he said.

Browne joined SGUA in 2007 and became a field umpire in 2008. He started umpiring in the U18s but was umpiring Senior games by the end of the 2008 season.

He thanked his coaches Jimmy Alger and Chris Clements, who were the first ones to give him a run in the Seniors.

Browne umpired in the Alberton Football Netball League until the league changes came about in 2017. Since then, he has umpired in the West Gippsland Football Netball Competition, and occasionally helped with Wonthaggi and Leongatha matches.

Browne has umpired at least 30 games a season.

“I stepped back a little bit this year after my daughter was born,” he said.

“We usually double up on a few games by umpiring some junior games, though. Helping out in the juniors is beneficial because it’s an opportunity for the senior umpires to assist in the development of some of the younger ones.”

During his time as an umpire, he has noticed important cultural changes.

“I haven’t had many bad experiences, but the association has shown a lot of support in driving change for the way umpires are treated,” he said.

“The culture change is great because it results in the retention of young umpires. We’ve seen great growth in the association, which offers a great coaching group and program. The coaches are invested in the success of their umpires.”

Through the grassroots association, there are pathways into umpire selection for the VFL and AFL.

“We’ve had Harrison Bell selected for the VFL list. Talent gets identified, just like the players, and skills get developed through a program,” Browne said.

Browne said he will be back to continue umpiring in 2025.

“I’ve always had a passion for local footy. A big aspect to all this has been the friends I’ve made – I’ve made a lot of lifelong mates over the journey,” he said.

“I’m still on the (SGUA) committee, so I’ll definitely be back next season.”

Browne thanked his friends, family and the association for the support offered to him over the years.

He gave a special mention to his partner Caitlan, his daughter Maisie and his parents, who used to drive him to games during his younger years.

West Gippsland Football Netball Competition 2024 award winners



West Gippsland Football Team of the Year 2024.



2024 West Gippsland Best & Fairest Hayden Bruce, Phillip Island (36 votes).



West Gippsland Netball Team of the Year 2024.



2024 West Gippsland 13 & Under Best & Fairest – Anika Edwards, Korumburra-Bena (37 votes).



2024 West Gippsland A Grade Best & Fairest – Gemma Stacey, Cora Lynn, and Gemma Dixon, Korumburra-Bena (24 votes).



2024 West Gippsland A Grade Runner-up Best & Fairest – Renee Pilkington and Lanni Pryor, Inverloch-Kongwak (22 votes).

Glen Alvie to debut its inaugural women’s cricket team

by Tayla Kershaw

GLEN Alvie Cricket Club will enter a women’s team in the 2024/25 competition.

The club is excited to have garnered enough interest to form a team this season, having had a long history of female participants over the years.

“We’ve always had female players, going way back to when Kearny Hull was playing here,” club president David Hynes said.

“She was a bit of a trailblazer playing out there. We also had an all-female U14s side a few years ago.”

Of that U14s side, most of the girls have moved on and played cricket elsewhere.

The remaining teammate is Gaby Hynes, who has driven the push for a women’s side and will be the captain/coach of this season’s team.

“Having a women’s side really opens up a lot of opportunities for us,” David said.

“Gaby has been instrumental. She made a deal with the Breakers players and went out there to play footy for them if some came out to play cricket, so we’ll be calling the team the Glen Alvie Breakers.”

“Gaby has always loved cricket. She has varying experiences from playing in the Gippsland Pride to being

selected for teams in Dandenong. She also captained our male C Grade side to a semi-final two seasons ago.”

Glen Alvie has seen around nine players at pre-season training and will be looking to include up to 13 players in the squad, including a combination of mothers and daughters.

David said the club is thrilled with the way the sport has continued to grow in Glen Alvie.

“We’re the club with no town, but we’ve always had the mantra that we are a family club – everyone is welcome, everyone is included,” he said.

“I think the experience of having a female side coming out there is just going to add to that.”

The club has rallied together to upgrade the changerooms to ensure everyone feels safe and welcome when they come out to play.

“We’re just really excited about the opportunities this will bring and how it will boost the club. It’s going to be a benefit for everyone. We’re really committed to making sure that our women’s team is as much a part of the club as any other team,” he said.



Back from left, Jess Luff, Caroline Moore, Grace Luff, captain/coach Gaby Hynes, front from left, Camille Moore and Tora Luff at Glen Alvie Cricket Club’s preseason training recently.



13 & Under Bottom Age: Kilcunda-Bass Football Netball Club 13 defeated Phillip Island FNC Red 6. Back Left: Ashley Burgess (Best on Court and Best & Fairest), Matilda Bester, Ruby Mowlam, Cataleya Kelly, Maddison Kelly (Coach), Tahnee O'Beirne, Gemma Van Den Broek, Paige O'Brien. Front Left: Logan Magnussen, Indy Magnussen.



13 & Under Top Age: Leongatha Town Netball Club Black 13 defeated Leongatha Town Netball Club Orange 10. Best on Court Rhys Grist.



15 & Under: Mount Eccles Netball Club 35 defeated Bass Coast Thunder Netball Club 15. Best on Court Cody Witton.



LDNA season Best & Fairest recipients were presented their trophies on Grand Final day.

LDNA Winter Competition Grand Finals

THE LDNA Winter Competition Grand Final was held on Saturday, August 31.

Wow what a way to finish the season with a wet and very windy day!

The GS and GA players definitely had a hard job on their hands trying to shoot in that wind! What a wonderful season we have had this year as we hosted 11 clubs.

Giving us 20 Net Set Go players, five All Abilities, 496 Junior and 104 Seniors. Resulting in 625 registered players.

This is the largest participation rate we have had in some time and 70 more players than last year. Netball is definitely on the up!

We saw 57 umpires and

seven trainee umpires take our courts this year, with many of the umpires doing multiple games and 11&under bottom age competition with one umpire per court.

Thank you to all the umpires, we don't have a game without you all!

We would like to thank all the club volunteer committee members, players, coaches, umpires, parents/guardians, mentors and the volunteer LDNA Executive Committee. Your unwavering support for our great sport and LDNA is what makes us such an inclusive, welcoming and big netball family. We appreciate you all.

A massive thank you to our very generous sponsors:

Thornton's Bakery, BJ Earthmoving,

Elise Florist, Christie Nelson Real Estate, The Leongatha RSL, Bendigo Bank Leongatha, J. Pickersgill & Associates, K & P Kuhne, C & J Bruce, N Williams, S & G Wright, Evans Petroleum, Patterson Family and Coffee Hotspot.

LDNA also presented Pat Kuhne with the renaming of Court 4 to the Pat Kuhne Court.

Pat has been a massive asset to LDNA for many years and holds life memberships with LDNA, Town Netball Club and Netball Victoria.

She has been a mentor to many umpires and the LDNA

Committee members for 60 years.

This year's Best and Fairest results:

13&Under Bottom Age: B&F Ashley Burgess and Runner up B&F Margot Gornell.

13&Under Top Age: B&F Cody Witton and runner-up B&F Rhys Grist & Eve Hansen.

15&Under: B&F Neka McKenzie and runner-up B&F Pepper Burke.

B Grade: B&F Bess Goodwin and runner-up B&F Ana Heneghan

A Grade: B&F Claudia Davern and runner-up B&F Tania Dagastino.

A big congratulations to all teams and players



B Grade: Mount Eccles Netball Club Aqua 25 defeated Mount Eccles Netball Club Grey 24. Best on Court Bess Goodwin.



A Grade: Leongatha Town Netball Club 27 defeated Mount Eccles Netball Club 23. Best on Court Tahlia Arnason.

MNFNC - Netball Report

Semi Finals August 31

ON SATURDAY, August 31, Mirboo North Football Netball Club had a busy day at Yinnar Recreation Reserve with three netball teams competing in the semi-finals.

The 15&U netballers took on Yinnar, holding a narrow two-goal lead at half-time. However, Yinnar rallied in the third quarter, extending their advantage to four goals by the three-quarter time break. Despite Mirboo North's efforts to close the gap, they ultimately fell short, with Yinnar winning by six goals. Though disappointed to exit the finals race, the team can be proud of their season-long efforts.

In contrast, the C grade netball team delivered a standout performance against Newborough. Mirboo North led at every break and secured a convincing 35-23 victory, earning a spot in the Preliminary Final against MDU.

The B grade team faced Stony Creek in their semi-final, with Jessie Holland marking her 250th senior game. Amid challenging windy conditions, Mirboo North trailed by two points at half-time. Despite a determined effort, they couldn't bridge the gap and lost 37-43. Unfortunately, this result ended the B grade team's hard fought finals campaign for the year.

Preliminary Final September 7

In a gripping Preliminary Final clash at Ronald Reserve, the MNFNC C grade team fought hard against MDU. Trailing by six goals at half-time, Mirboo North mounted a strong comeback in the third quarter, reducing the deficit to just three goals. The final quarter saw the match neck and neck, with scores level in the dying minutes. Despite their valiant effort, MDU edged ahead to win 28-25.

This defeat unfortunately concludes Mirboo North's finals campaign for 2024. The players will now enjoy a well-deserved rest before gearing up for a comprehensive pre-season in readiness for 2025.

First birthday celebrations

THE Wonthaggi Croquet Club celebrated a first birthday of sorts on Saturday, September 7. Our esteemed treasurer, Paul Andrews, thought this was an opportunity too good to miss.

Twelve months ago, the members moved into the our new club rooms and we celebrated with a fun day of croquet, much food, drink and a birthday cake made to order by secretary Sue Cartwright. It was in fact a triple celebration with our, dare I say it, elder statesman Brian Davidson celebrating his 92nd year on this planet.

As was said, tongue in cheek, the previous day Australia's collective IQ dropped a fraction as Tom Lacey took the oath and became an Australian citizen. Congratulations Tom. In all seriousness it is in fact a big step that requires a great deal of thought and commitment.

Birthday presents for the clubrooms were a highlight as well as door prizes for those in attendance. Much help was evident on the day and thanks to all who attended for making it a great day.

On Saturday, September 14, two of our players attended the Mornington Inaugural Novices Handicap Doubles. Stephen Wilbourne and Bert Orr combined to enter this event, as the name suggests, for first time tournament players. Their trip was not wasted as they came up trumps by winning all of their games. Congratulations. New blood to enter future tournaments. The same weekend six more of our crew travelled to Drouin for their Handicap Singles tournament.

Tom Lacey, Neil Warburton and Virginia Wheeler competed in Section one with Tom winning three games, Neil with four games and Virginia also with three games. This section was won by Peter Binks from Queenscliff.

Mike Butterfield, Jo Butterfield and Sue Baker competed in Section two. Sue won four games, Jo won one game and Mike played exceptionally well by taking out the section by winning all of his seven games.



Leongatha's GD Gemma Meadley played a strong game in the preliminary final at Traralgon on Saturday.

Leongatha Under 17s win return match against Traralgon

THE Leongatha Under 17 netballers faced Bairnsdale at a wet Traralgon last Saturday for a place in the grand final and made a decent start in a close first quarter, leading 11-9 after Bairnsdale hit a goal after the buzzer.

They continued on in the second quarter with unflustered, methodical play to get the score out to 20-15 at the half-time break.

The officials squeezed away the water from the court after a heavy downpour and Leongatha GS Audrey McGannon popped through the first goal of the third quarter within minutes of the restart to stretch the lead.

Audrey was getting good support from Goal Attack Lucy Heber who was up and down the court to provide another passing option.

Sari Hickey in WD produced some handy turnovers and through the centre, Lara Gill was working well with the other midcourt players including Hattie Jefferis who came up into WA and provided plenty of drive.

Back in defence Gemma Meadley was up and back making good position and Tyla Peters was staying home in GK making it tough for the Bairnsdale shooters, before coming out for the outlet pass.

It was a controlled performance by the Parrot 17s where their forward pressure was a feature.

They got it out to a game-high of 11 in the third quarter, with a score of 14-9 and finished the third quarter at 34 to Bairnsdale's 24.

With the sting out of the game in the last quarter, Leongatha matched Bairnsdale's output to edge them in the last term as well, 6-5 to secure a convincing 40-29 result and a rematch against Traralgon in Saturday's grand final at Morwell.

The two teams played out a thrilling 34-33 contest in the Second Semi-final so the grand final could go either way on Saturday.



Leongatha's Tyla Peters applies pressure on the incoming pass during a terrific game by the Leongatha defenders in the Under 17 preliminary final on Saturday.



Pat Kuhne, third from left, stands on her court with family members Brett, Mark, Keith, Wayne, Lisa and Ruby.

Court named for Pat Kuhne

FOUNDING member and long-term servant of the Leongatha & District Netball Association, Pat Kuhne, was honoured during the competition's Grand Final day last month, with court 4 named after her.

"It was a big surprise; over the years I've been lucky to have Life Memberships at all levels, but I guess recognition by your own association and the people you've worked with for so long is a great honour and it's not anything anybody expects," Kuhne said.

While her netball journey began in the juniors of Mordialloc Life Saving Club, her family made a shift when Kuhne was 13 and she started playing for Leongatha Town, a side she represented for 35 years on court.

When she arrived, the club was playing games on grass courts at Leongatha Recreation Reserve and also competing in places such as Dumbalk, Meeniyah and Dumbalk North, following the fixture of the then South Gippsland Football League.

Kuhne was a long-term representative of Town Black, one of the club's A Grade sides, and seeing Town take out this year's A Grade premiership added to her day of celebration, with the presentation of her honour following the match.

"For them to win was the icing on the cake," Kuhne said.

She enjoyed plenty of on-court success during her playing days, featuring in seven premiership sides and four that finished runner-up.

In addition to playing, Kuhne has made a vast contribution as an umpire since taking up the pursuit aged 15, earning a B Grade Badge when she was 16 and becoming the first A Badged umpire in the area in 1969.

While she would love to still be blowing the whistle, she gave up officiating a couple of years ago, her body refusing to cooperate with her mind's desire to continue.

However, she is still heavily involved in mentoring and testing young umpires, having been a tester for 53 years.

Kuhne has also filled committee posts for the LDNA, including as its inaugural secretary in 1966.

Life Membership has been awarded to her by Leongatha Town Netball Club, the LDNA, the Gippsland Netball Region and Netball Victoria and she received a State Distinction for outstanding service to netball.

Kuhne produced a book commemorating 50 years of the LDNA and is working on a new section to celebrate the Association's upcoming 60th birthday celebrations.

Renowned state-wide umpire mentor Annie Castles highlighted why Kuhne is deserving of having an LDNA court named in her honour.

"Your love of netball and the Leongatha Netball Association no one can ever dispute; you are stubborn, outspoken and persistent when fighting for the grassroots netballer."

With 630 players hitting the LDNA courts each Saturday, Kuhne sees grassroots netball as "so important", noting many of those now playing for football league affiliated sides began in grassroots competition as did others who have progressed to higher levels of the sport.

Kuhne reflected on her many LDNA memories and lifelong friendships she has made through her involvement.

"Thank you to LDNA for deeming me worthy of this honour," she said, expressing her appreciation to the association's president Emma Smith and her committee for their efforts in organising the presentation, as well as the input of Maria Evison and the support of Kuhne's husband Keith.

Leongatha Under 17s defeated Bairnsdale in the preliminary final



Leongatha Under 17s netballer, Sari Hickey comes up to meet the ball in this contest with her Bairnsdale opponent on Saturday at Traralgon.



Leongatha shooter Audrey McGannon passes out to get closer to goal in an impressive performance by the Under 17s on Saturday.

No funds for another Phillip Island oval

THEY'VE got the land, so why can't council simply go ahead and build a new sports oval on the corner of Ventnor Road and Phillip Island Road on the outskirts of Cowes?

That was the substance of a question put to the council, during question time at the Bass Coast Shire Council meeting on Monday this week, by avid council watcher Graham Jolly of Cape Woolamai who claimed \$4 million to \$5 million was all that was needed.

Because it's not even in the shire's planning, according to CEO Greg Box.

"Capital works projects within the shire are guided by Council's adopted 10-year long-term financial plan 2021 to 2031 but the actions identified in the Phillip Island Recreation Reserve Master Plan were only adopted in September 2023 and are therefore not included in the long-term financial plan," said Mr Box.

"The long-term financial plan is scheduled for review in 2025," he said.

As for the name of the recreation reserve precinct, another council commentator Melissa Dagg suggested council should simply stick with the name of the adjoining reserve – Hilton Chadwick Reserve.

"Council is not currently considering a naming process for the land on the corner of Phillip Island Road and Ventnor Road," said Mr Box.

Sporting clubs funding grants

THE Nationals' Member for Eastern Victoria, Melina Bath is encouraging local sporting clubs to apply for the latest round of the Sporting Club Grants Program.

Grants of up to \$5000 are available to support community clubs.

Applications for this round of the program are open until October 11, with funding available across various categories.

The grant categories include: \$5000 for training coaches and volunteers, \$4000 for setting up new sports or active recreation programs, \$1000 for uniforms and equipment, and \$750 to assist clubs with travel to away games and competitions.

Ms Bath said our sporting clubs are grassroots organisations, and receiving a grant can make a positive difference.

"Our community clubs are most often run on a shoestring budget and grants can assist to provide the necessary equipment, support for volunteers, coaching, and player development. They are a big part of our lives, bringing people together, keeping us active, and providing opportunities for people of all ages to get involved."

Clubs seeking a letter of support for their grant application are encouraged to contact Melina Bath's office on 5174 7066 or melina.bath@parliament.vic.gov.au. For further information and application guidelines visit sport.vic.gov.au/funding/sporting-club-grants-program

South Gippsland Bridge

MASTER point winners at Wonthaggi RSL:

First: Alan Johnston and Mike Dooley clear winners with 65.28.

Second: John French and Deb Anglim 59.26.

Third: Matti Shub and Sue Edwards 53.70.

Fourth: Phillip and Nev Chapman 53.24.

Fifth: Ken McKenzie and Marie Sands 51.85.

At Inverloch Angling Club:

First: Phillip and Nev Chapman 61.11.

Second: Mary Brewis and Mike Dooley 57.87.

Third: John Quayle and Matti Shub 56.94.

Fourth: Faye Rowlands and John Currier 53.70.

Fifth: John French and Ken McKenzie 50.93.



Poowong's 17 & Under Premiership winning team. From back, left, Team Manager Rachel Henshall, Madi Taylor, Alexee Deal, Zara McNair, Coach Abbey Kelson, Abbey Henshall, Zoe Brunt, Nicola Fort, Tara Zealley, Anika Grabham-Andrews, Emma Henshall, Rianna Jinnette and Tanika Noble. Photos: Jeff Tull.

The future is looking bright at Poowong



Umpires awarded Best on Court to Poowong GD Zara McNair.



Co-captains Anika Grabham-Andrews and Emma Henshall with Coach Abbey Kelson with the Premiership shield and ball



Madi Taylor soars for Poowong during its 17 and Under Grand Final triumph over Catani.



Poowong's Abbey Henshall competes with her Catani opponent during the 17 and Under Grand Final in which the Magpies prevailed by six goals.



POOWONG Junior netballers polled well in the EDFNL vote counts, with Nicola Fort (left) runner up Best and Fairest in U15, Emma Henshall (centre) runner up Best and Fairest in U17 and Ainsley Logan (right) runner up Best and Fairest in U13. All three teams played off in the finals series, with U13 and U17 making it to the Grand Final and U17 taking out the win.



The C Grade premiers from MDU, back from left, Tayla Smith, Natalie Rayson, Sheree Livingstone, Mia Hulshof, Tash Lacy, Zara McKenzie, Clare Grigg, Jodie Arnup, front from left, Lauren Wightman, Emalie Elliott and Michelle Skilton. tk15_3824



The A Grade premiers from MDU, back from left, Darlene (team manager), Jasmin Friend (coach), Sophie Thomas (captain), Alahna Arnason, Alex Turner, Mia Burt, front, Lilyca White (best on court), Shari Harris, Nikita Wright and Kirra Jones. Photo: Kate Lafferty.



It was a tight contest on Saturday as Boolarra took the 17 & Under win by one point against a devastated Toora. Photo: David Bradsworth.



MDU celebrates their C Grade win on Saturday. Photo: David Bradsworth.



Goal defence Luella Garlick sends the ball into Toora's goal third with Boolarra goal attack Rahni Wissmer out of place in the U17s grand final. tk01_3824



Stony Creek's Kelsie Schelling chases the ball in the B Grade premiership final. tk18_3824



Fish Creek's wing attack Lauren Williams fights for the ball in D Grade. tk09_3824



The 2024 B Grade premiers Stony Creek, back from left, Coralee Hogan, Claire Vagg, Erin Houghton, Cindy McKnight, Jess Brown, Hannah Potter, Brad Hutchinson, Kayle Byrnes, Kaila Hutchinson, front from left, Sandra Dyke, Hayley Phillips and Kelsie Schelling. tk20_3824



Kayla Byrnes and Cindy McKnight with the B Grade premiership cup, won by Stony Creek. tk19_3824



Phillip Island celebrates its 15 and Under premiership, with Anna Close-Mewett (team manager), Lily Mewett (coach), Matilda Trew, Ava Blake, Ruby Mewett, Aisha Hibbert, Isla Humphrey and Mia Hughes in the back row, and Maisie van der Walt, Piper O'Brien, Ellie Henessy and Adelle Hecker in the front row. A20_3824



Island's Piper O'Brien against Warragul's Amelia Henry in the grand final at Garfield. Z15_3824



Phillip Island coach Lily Mewett and captain Aisha Hibbert are delighted with the 15 and Under premiership cup. A19_3824



Inverloch-Kongwak 17 and Under players bask in Grand Final success. Back row: Lily Debono, Ruby McCartney, Claire McNamara, Georgie Bright, Marnie Banks, Jade Wagner, Maeve Wilkinson, Issy Jury, Rebecca Massaro (coach), and Kate French (assistant coach). Front row: Olivia Cumming and Lara Mullin. A26_3824



Mataya Maloney looks for a Dalyston teammate as Best on Court Lanni Pryor defends for Inverloch-Kongwak during the A Grade Grand Final. A52_3824



Inverloch-Kongwak players celebrate premiership success in 17 and Under competition. A24_3824

MID GIPPSLAND

GRAND FINAL

A Grade: Fish Creek 37 lt MDU 39
B Grade: Foster 27 lt Stony Creek 38
C Grade: Yinnar 25 lt MDU 33
D Grade: Fish Creek 15 lt Yinnar 23
17 & Under: Boolarra 47 d Toora 46
15 & Under: Boolarra 20 d Yinnar 16
13 & Under: Yinnar 20 lt Hill End 21

WEST GIPPSLAND

GRAND FINAL

A Grade: Inverloch-K 54 d Dalyston 29
B Grade: Tooradin-Dal 45 lt Nar Nar Goon 47
C Grade: Inverloch-K 31 lt Cora Lynn 38
D Grade: Garfield 29 lt Nar Nar Goon 33
17 & Under: NNG 24 lt Inverloch-K 30
15 & Under: P-Island 34 d Warragul Ind 22
13 & Under: NNG 20 d Tooradin-Dal 18
11 & Under: Tooradin-Dal 22 d NNG 10

ELLINBANK

GRAND FINAL

A Grade: Neerim Sth 32 lt Nilma Darnum 37
B Grade: Ellinbank 52 d Nilma Darnum 31
C Grade: Ellinbank 23 lt Lang Lang 28
17 & Under: Catani 34 lt Poowong 40
15 & Under: Buln Buln 18 lt Catani 22
13 & Under: Buln Buln 29 d Poowong 15

GIPPSLAND

PRELIMINARY FINAL

A Grade: Moe 64 d Drouin 37
B Grade: Drouin 41 lt Traralgon 53
C Grade: Morwell 33 lt Maffra 37
17 & Under: Leongatha 40 d Bairnsdale 29
15 & Under: Sale 28 lt Traralgon 33
13 & Under: Maffra 35 d Moe 23

THIS WEEKEND'S GAMES

GIPPSLAND

Grand Final - Morwell (Sat, Sept. 21)

A Grade: Warragul v Moe
B Grade: Moe v Traralgon
C Grade: Drouin v Maffra
17 & Under: Traralgon v Leongatha
15 & Under: Bairnsdale v Traralgon
13 & Under: Leongatha v Maffra

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wdnawonthaggi@outlook.com





2024 GIPPSLAND LEAGUE GRAND FINAL

THIS SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 21 • MORWELL RECREATION RESERVE

LEONGATHA PARROTS



1

Guy Dickson

Key Defender

Shut down tall defender who is a very good intercept mark. Can go forward.



2

Jake Van Der Pligt

Inside Midfielder

Tall and tough midfielder. Hard worker in centre clearances. Rated highly for his work ethic.



3

Sam Forrester

Mid / Defender

Mid-sized player who rebounds well. Excellent disposer of the football.

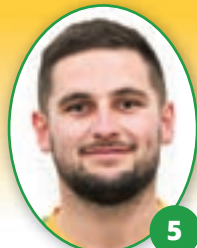


4

Mitchell Bentvelzen

Defender

Mid-sized defender who can play tall. Tough at the ball and rarely beaten.



5

Tallin Brill

Forward

Attacking player who provides drive in the inside 50 area with his long kicking and hard running game.



8

Tom Marriott

Inside Midfielder

Leader of the club. Able to break lines with strength and pace. Multiple league B & F winner. True champion.



9

Nicholas Argento

Small Forward

Small forward with great football brain. Always looking at ways to bring others into the game.



10

Kim Drew

Inside Midfielder

Creative mid fielder who loves to play a physical game. Able to break tackles and drive the ball forward.



11

Jack Hume

Wing/Forward

Tall, creative and quick. Takes a great mark and dangerous when forward. Proven goalkicker.



15

Aaron Turton

Wing

Young highly skilled mid who breaks lines with pace and creativity. Hard attacker at the football.



16

Jay Walker

Wing

First year player after crossing from Korumburra. Pacy and courageous attack at the ball.



17

Jenson Garnham

Key Forward

Strong in the air and mobile for his size. League runner up goalkicker this year.



20

Ben Willis

Ruck

Big ruckman with a bigger heart. Uses his size to advantage. Works hard for the whole game.



21

Jack Ginnane

Key Forward

Fast leading forward. Has a great football brain and sets up play for others. Good mark.



23

Cade Maskell

Key Defender

Club champion and proven performer in big games. Great reader of play and provides drive from defensive half.



30

Tim Sauvarin

Defender

Tall defender with good pace and skills. Ability to run all game. Loves to attack through the midfield.

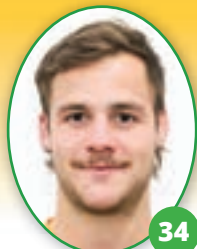


31

Sean Westaway

Key Defender

Club games record holder. Solid dour defender who loves the lock down role.



34

Cam Olden

Forward/Mid

Former Parrot junior. VFL listed with Richmond. Creative player who loves the contest. Great mark and kicks goals.



35

Will Littlejohn

Defender

Hard working small defender. Gets the job done each week. Can move forward if required.



36

Matt Borschman

Midfielder

Experienced mid who gets the hard ball. Good overhead mark.



37

Ned Hanily

Small Forward

Tenacious player with footy smarts. Good decision maker in congested play and sets up others.



38

Jess Burns

Small Forward

Small forward with explosive pace and silky skills. Dangerous around goals.



39

Jarrod Stewart

Ruckman/Forward

Tall spring heeled player. Takes a good mark and kicks goals when forward. Hard to match up on.

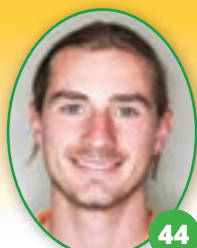


40

Ty Hall

Mid/Wing

Hard running midfielder who wins a lot of the football.



44

Darcy Hume

Midfielder

Runs hard and gains a lot of possession. Applies pressure to the opposition.



45

Travis Nash

Defender

Elite defender who gets a lock down role but also finds ways to show attacking flair.



55

Luke Bowman

Inside Midfielder

Hard at it midfielder who brings others into the game. Loves the physical aspects of the game.



2024 GIPPSLAND LEAGUE GRAND FINAL

THIS SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 21 • MORWELL RECREATION RESERVE

LEONGATHA PARROTS

RESERVES



 6 Joel Renden Key Defender	 9 Nick Nagel Forward	 13 Adam Trotto Midfielder	 19 Justin Pellicano Ruck/Forward	 24 Beau Grabham-Andrews Midfielder	 25 Flynn Materia Forward
 26 Jacob Lamers Mid/Forward	 27 Noah Fixter Wing	 28 Joshua Schelling Ruck/Forward	 32 Trent McRae Forward	 36 Matthew Borschman Midfielder	 38 Nicholas Argento Mid/Forward
 40 Ty Hall Midfielder	 41 Xavier Bolge Defender	 43 Rhett Kelly Midfielder	 44 Darcy Hume Midfielder	 46 Hayden Lindsay Wing/Utility	 47 Levi Hickey Defender
 48 Kyle Brown Defender	 49 Jett Clark Defender	 51 Darby Kratzat Defender	 57 Noah Clark Defender	 60 Tyler Richards Defender	 66 Jaxon Hayes Mid/Forward



Good Luck Parrots!

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**Good luck to the Parrots
in the Grand Final**

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GO PARROTS!

Best of luck to
all the players!

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FINAL**

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JA22611



2024 GIPPSLAND LEAGUE GRAND FINAL

THIS SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 21 • MORWELL RECREATION RESERVE



Leongatha coach Trent McMicking is expecting to see a free-flowing contest between Leongatha and Traralgon in Saturday's grand final at Morwell.

'Showpiece of country footy' says Parrots' coach

AS MUCH as a coach involved in the big day can, Leongatha's mentor Trent McMicking is really looking forward to a "showpiece of country footy" from the combatants in the Gippsland League Grand Final at Morwell on Saturday, Leongatha and Traralgon.

"Both sides love to move the ball quickly and I think we will see a free-flowing game, a really good spectacle," said McMicking this week.

"Traralgon is a team that loves to run and move the ball, especially by hand. We're the same but probably more by foot so I think we'll see a high-quality contest."

McMicking acknowledged that there would be a different look to both sides from the teams that lined up at Traralgon back in June, with both teams adding talent and experience to their lineups.

Key Traralgon defenders, their captain Tye Hourigan and best player Tristen Waack, didn't play last time, nor did brothers Harvey and Marlon Neocleous, while Leongatha has since welcomed back the likes of Tom Marriott, Cade Maskell, Sean Westaway and Luke Bowman, among others.

"I think the defences of both sides are pretty strong and that's going to have a big say in it, and they've got some good attacking players as well, but we'll be hoping to bring that pressure again to try and hold them up. It shapes as a really interesting contest."

McMicking said Leongatha obviously had plenty of finals experience, which was a plus, but noted that Traralgon had performed well through this year's final series.

Two Leongatha teams vie for netball honours

THERE'S likely to be as much interest in the action on the netball court on Gippsland League Grand Final Day this Saturday at Morwell as the footy field with seven of the 10 clubs involved.

And after Warragul's sensational upset win over Moe 61-53 in the Second Semi-final at Leongatha two weeks ago, featuring the efforts of 200cm Warragul shooter Emma Ryde, all eyes will be on the start of the rematch between those two teams after Moe surged back into contention with an all-the-way blitz of their preliminary final opposition Drouin.

While Warragul's shooter has Victorian state experience, so too do Moe's goaler Ramayer Gourley and her partner under the ring Georgia Moody.

How that game starts could tell the tale of the premiership with Moe forced to play catch-up last time when Warragul started with a bang 18-10.

In the curtain-raiser games, Leongatha is well represented in the age group matches with both the Parrots' Under 13s and Under 17s looming as strong chances in their divisions.

The Leongatha Under 13 team of Oliver Bolge, Marlie Paine, Maddison Pocklington, Mikayla Richards, Georgia Rump, Jemma Rump, Clancee Salmon, Ashlee Spark and Harley Storr performed strongly against their opponents on Saturday, Maffra, when they defeated them 32-19 but the match in general play was closer than the final scoreline suggests.

The two teams were close, 11-9, at halftime in a really tight contest but the final score blew out a little with Leongatha having a 12-5 finishing term.

The Under 17s also have a good chance of success on Saturday, but honestly, the contest between the Parrots and Traralgon could go either way.

The two teams played an absolute thriller in the Second Semi-final the previous week with the Maroons coming home with a 10-7 last quarter to just



The Leongatha Under 17s won through to a rematch against Traralgon in the grand final at Morwell this Saturday at 11am with an impressive performance against Bairnsdale last Saturday.

edge Leongatha by one goal, 34-33, and the grand final shapes as one of the highlights of the day at Morwell.

Leongatha's Under 17s is a team of highly experienced, talented campaigners who took last Saturday's preliminary final against Bairnsdale in their stride, seemingly unfazed by the pressure of the finals to extend their lead at every change before going on to a clear 40-29 result at the end.

They'll have to bring their A-game on Saturday and start well against Traralgon but this one should go down to the wire.

The Leongatha Under 17s are as follows: Mackenna Anderson, Lacy Fennell, Lara Gill, Matilda Hanily, Lucy Heber, Sari Hickey, Hattie Jefferis, Audrey McGannon, Gemma Meadley and Tyla Peters.

Saturday's Gippsland League Netball Grand Final schedule is as follows: A Grade Warragul v Moe (3pm), B Grade Moe v Traralgon (1.30pm), C Grade Drouin v Maffra (12.15pm), Under 17s Traralgon v Leongatha (11am), Under 15s Bairnsdale v Traralgon (9.45am), Under 13s Leongatha v Maffra (8.30am).



Leongatha's Sari Hickey makes good position to accept this high pass during a strong performance in the preliminary final on Saturday.



Wishing the Leongatha Parrots all the best for the Grand Final

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Good Luck Parrots in the 2024 Grand Final

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Go Parrots!
Best of luck in the Grand Final



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2024 GIPPSLAND LEAGUE GRAND FINAL

THIS SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 21 • MORWELL RECREATION RESERVE

Luckless day for Lions at Traralgon

THERE was nothing to choose between Moe and Traralgon in the first quarter of their preliminary final at Traralgon on Saturday.

In fact, it was only a long bomb from Traralgon forward Dan McKenna, at the 28-minute mark, which gave the Maroons an eight-point lead at the first change after a rain-affected opening.

Moe went into the game without their talented intercept defender Declan Keilty, confirmed as a withdrawal on the day of the game with a medial strain and cracked bone in his leg.

They picked up Gippy Power regular Tom Matthews but lost another important backman, Scott van Dyke, halfway through the first term, reportedly to a serious knee injury.

It wasn't the last of their bad luck. The two rucks Chris Prowse and Max Jacobson were having a good contest but with Prowse getting 18 taps to 9, he was giving Moe a real lift in the opening term.

For Moe, Ben Daniher was leading the way with nine kicks in the first quarter and the Baldi brothers, Riley and Trent, eight each.

Traralgon were sharing it around.

The second quarter was full of controversy eight minutes in when Jacob Balfour looked to have kicked the equalising goal for Moe, saying "come on"

as he turned back towards the centre, but a "no score" call by umpires robbed the Lions, for allegedly having two runners on the ground at the same time.

However, it may actually have been Traralgon's runner instead. Moe never recovered.

Adding insult to injury Traralgon went up the other end where McKenna and Cohen Ruyters combined for a goal to stretch the lead to 15 points instead of being level.

Finally, Moe's Jacob Wood broke through for a much-needed goal but Traralgon answered quickly through Sam Halliburton on the back of a great clearance by Tye Hourigan.

In another blow for Moe, they lost key goal kicker Harry Pepper to what looked to be a calf injury early in the second quarter. It wasn't going Moe's way.

Traralgon went on a run at that point with another goal to Dylan Loprese, leading five goals to two at halftime.

In a low-scoring affair, it was a decisive break and Moe only kicked one more goal for the day as Traralgon progressed to the grand final against Leongatha.

Traralgon's best players were Tye Hourigan and Tristen Waack supreme in defence, Max Jacobsen in the ruck, Chance Doultree up forward and Connor Ambler and Liam Willaton busy on the ball and around the ground.



Traralgon's Tristen Waack, pictured, combined with Tye Hourigan and the other Maroons' defenders to almost completely shut out Moe's forwards in Saturday's preliminary final.

GIPPSLAND LEAGUE RESULTS

PRELIMINARY FINAL

	22		77
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	MOE		TRARALGON	
Moe	1.1	2.3	2.3	3.4 (22)
Traralgon	2.3	5.8	7.15	10.17 (77)
GOALS, Moe: Ben Daniher, Harrison Pepper, Nick Prowse 1 each				
BEST: Riley Baldi, Trent Baldi, Ben Maslen, Jacob Wood, Tajh Eden, Ben Daniher				
GOALS, Traralgon: Dylan Loprese, Daniel McKenna, Kade Ruyters, Liam Willaton 2, Sammy Hallyburton, Harvey Neocleous 1 each				
BEST: Tye Hourigan, Max Jacobsen, Connor Ambler, Liam Willaton, Chance Doultree, Tristen Waack				

RESERVES

Bairnsdale	2.0	3.0	4.2	6.2 (38)
Maffra	0.0	0.3	1.6	2.7 (19)
GOALS, Bairnsdale: Tom Selleck 2, Rohan Blandford, Ryan Cullinan, Matthew Hamilton, Jason Waddell 1 each				
BEST: Liam Bleysswyk, Matthew Hamilton, Damon O'Connor, Ryan Cullinan, Tom Selleck, Jason Waddell				
GOALS, Maffra: Callum Bourke, Winston Gieschen 1 each				
BEST: Sam Tudor, Bayden Dowsett, Winston Gieschen, Sebastian Pendergast, Joel Lambourn, Wil Ross				

THIRDS

Leongatha	0.2	2.3	2.3	4.3 (27)
Maffra	2.4	4.10	9.13	10.14 (74)
GOALS, Leongatha: Jett Garnham 2, Will Brown, Mitchell Croatto 1 each				
BEST: Jhett Brown, Nathan Skewes, Hamish Gill, Max Sheahan, Ben Fort, Aydan Williams				
GOALS, Maffra: Jayke Andrews 4, Archer Watt 3, Elijah Berry, Jack McQuillen, Wil Ruthberg 1 each				
BEST: Zachary O'Keefe, Sam Anderson, Jayke Andrews, Brodie Tohara, Harry Burgiel, Elliot Stables				

FOURTHS

Moe	0.2	4.3	5.6	5.7 (37)
Maffra	2.3	4.6	5.8	5.13 (43)
GOALS, Moe: Max Moroney 3, Bobby Higgins 1				
BEST: Max Moroney, Memphis McQualter, Bobby Higgins, Darcy Walsh, Keller Holmes, Tshawn Ouslinis				
GOALS, Maffra: Leo Stephenson 3, Beau Cottrell, Archer Stobie 1 each				
BEST: Jett McMahon, Lachlan Harrington, Darcy Scott, Macauley Pendergast, Jonah Linford, Asher Higgins				

THIS WEEKEND'S DRAW

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

GIPPSLAND GRAND FINAL

Saturday, September 21
Morwell Recreation Reserve

Seniors: Leongatha v Traralgon

Reserves: Leongatha v Bairnsdale

U18: Warragul v Maffra

U16: Traralgon v Maffra

What the statistics say about Saturday's grand final

Details courtesy of Paul Carter

SINCE 1969, when they joined the Latrobe Valley Football League, Leongatha and their opponents on Saturday, Traralgon, have contested eight Senior Grand Finals.

Leongatha has won three and Traralgon five of these eight classic matches.

Their most recent Grand Final match was 2015 when the Parrots had won both home and away clashes, yet they went down to the Maroons twice in the finals, including the one that counted the most.

In recent years, Leongatha

has held sway over Traralgon, the Parrots winning the last 10 games that they have played against them. That said, four of those 10 wins have been by single-figure margins, including Leongatha's five-point win at home in Round 1 this year.

But league statistician, Paul Carter, raised a query about Leongatha's preparation.

"The way that the Final Five system is structured, top teams winning their Second Semi-Final run the risk of going into the Grand Final 'cold' as they have had a few Saturdays off on their way to the Big Dance," said Carter in his summation of the stats for the Grand Final Record.

"With this year's bye after Round 16, what it means for the Parrots is that, since their Round 16 match, they will have played just three matches in seven weeks come Grand Final day.

"Traralgon, with five games in that same time period, will be battle-hardened and running with the momentum of the past fortnight."

Carter predicts "a huge crowd will be in attendance" on the day who "will be thoroughly entertained by a match played at the highest standard".

"A heart-stopping finish is very possible," he said, if history is any guide.

Interesting statistics from

Leongatha versus Traralgon matches:

- Match Aggregate High: 258 pts (2011) Leongatha 21.12.138 d Traralgon 17.18.120
- Match Aggregate Low: 72 pts (2012) Leongatha 5.12.42 d Traralgon 4.6.30
- Highest score: Leongatha 23.24.162 (1995 Grand Final), Traralgon 29.14.188 (2009)
- Lowest scores: Leongatha 2.7.19 (2006), Traralgon 1.14.20 (2003)
- Greatest winning margin: Leongatha 123 (2015), Traralgon 127 (2009)
- Most goals (match): Leongatha 9 Jake Best (2015), Traralgon 12 Tim Aitken (2009).



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Wishing the
Leongatha Parrots
all the best for
the Grand Final



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2024 GIPPSLAND LEAGUE GRAND FINAL

THIS SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 21 • MORWELL RECREATION RESERVE

History in the making for Gippsland's top footy clubs

TWO of the powerhouse Gippsland League clubs of the past 50 years, Traralgon and Leongatha, who between them have won 24 premierships since 1974, 13 to Traralgon and 11 to Leongatha, have won their way through to the 2024 Grand Final at Morwell on Saturday.

It almost certainly assures league officials of a big crowd for the season finale, with a club from down south and one from central Gippsland involved in the main game and six of the 10 clubs featuring in footy grand finals on the day and seven in the netball.

Leongatha finished the season on top of the ladder with 15 wins from 18 games, ahead of Traralgon on 12 wins and a draw from its 18 games, and while the Parrots won both meetings between the two this year by five points in Round 1 at Leongatha and 34 points in Round 12, there have been enough changes in personnel since then to leave Saturday's result wide open.

And as league statistician Paul Carter reminds us, Leongatha and Traralgon have played off on eight occasions since Leongatha joined the league in 1969, five to Traralgon and three to Leongatha, their most recent grand final match was in 2015. The Parrots had won both home and away clashes that year but lost to the Maroons twice in the finals, including the one that counted the most.

Leongatha have a winning streak of 10 games running against Traralgon but that too means nothing as the teams prepare to face off this Saturday.

On Saturday against Moe, Traralgon had five different players from the team that met Leongatha last time, crucially their two key intercept defenders, the Maroons' captain Tye Hourigan and arguably their best player, Tristen Waack, were missing against Leongatha that day in June.

One of their Gippsland Power players, Will Brent, who



Talented Traralgon youngster Josh Hamilton sets himself for a spectacular mark over Leongatha's Jackson Harry last time the two teams played at Traralgon in June this year.

was brought back in against Moe on Saturday, was playing Leongatha last time but 16-year-old Marlon Neocleous has been added since their last meeting, along with his brother Harvey, and Tate Marsh.

Leongatha could potentially have as many as 11 different players from the team that last played Traralgon on June 29, importantly with the likes of Tom Marriott, Guy Dickson, Jay Walker, Cade Maskell, Sean Westaway, Cam Olden, Ned Hanily, Jesse Burns and Luke Bowman added or returning.

So, Traralgon will face a completely different challenge this week but so will Leongatha with Waack and Hourigan a force to be reckoned with down back as they demonstrated again on Saturday, almost completely shutting down Moe's firepower, although the injury to Harry Pepper and the absence of Declan Keilty didn't help.

So, who wins at Morwell on Saturday, Leongatha or Traralgon?

While Leongatha has the right to be considered favourites for the flag, predictions in grand finals are pretty meaningless. However, if Leongatha brings the pressure they applied in the Second Semi-final against Moe, they will go a long way to winning their fifth flag in six years, and Leongatha's first "three-peat", something that the great Traralgon club has achieved on three separate occasions 1962-65 (4), 1990-92 and 1998-2000.

Will the weather play a part?

THE weather has had a key part to play in several of the finals this year, especially those stormy days at Maffra and Bairnsdale, during the Qualifying and Elimination Finals, when wind speeds hit 100km/h.

And again, last Saturday at

Traralgon, bursts of heavy rain and a crucial umpiring decision at the start of the second quarter, made it virtually mission impossible for a wounded Moe side to get back into the contest against Traralgon.

This week is predicted to be a cool week with showers expected in the Latrobe Valley on most days and then a cool day on Saturday, September 21 at Morwell "partly cloudy with a high chance of showers. Winds west to north-westerly 25 to 35 km/h".

Possible rainfall is predicted to be between 0-5mm, so not likely to dampen either team's prospects but it will be a typical winter's day, some sun, some cloud and a possible shower or two.

Both Leongatha and Traralgon run and move the ball well and will benefit from a dry track, and they'll likely get that plus an excellent surface at Morwell, if a little soft after a week of occasional showers.

SPORT | FOOTBALL



Woodside Wildcats' coach Mick Stockdale and captain Ryan Foat raise the North Gippsland Senior Premiership Cup after defeating TTU on wintry Saturday at Churchill.

Woodside wild about breakthrough win

THE Woodside and District Wildcats have finally broken through for their maiden North Gippsland Football Netball League Premiership after quite a journey.

The club broke away from the Devon-Welshpool-Won Wron-Woodside Allies to join the NGFNL in 2008 but failed to win a final until 2021 when both the A Grade Netball and Senior Football teams finished on top of the ladder only to be robbed of a chance to go on and win the flag by the COVID cancellation of community football.

In 2022 they were bundled out in the preliminary final by TTU 88-65 and went one step further in 2023, losing the grand final to TTU, in a low-scoring affair 38-20 in the grand final.

But this year was different, gloriously different for the blue and white hoops and it was in the third quarter of Saturday's grand final at Churchill that they set up their breakthrough opportunity by holding the TTU Bombers to just one goal, five points with the wind, blowing to the Morwell end of a perfectly prepared Churchill ground.

Via a strategic plan of defending to the dead side of the ground, with a gram of good luck, the rub of the green from the umpire, and some courageous intercept work by their defenders the only goal they allowed was through a busy Beau White but that was it.

Woodside manufactured several chances of their own, and only managed a point, but simply having it up their end, in front of the adoring fans was a win.

When they swung around with the wind in the last quarter, still leading by three points, it seemed only a matter of time.

Woodside's forwards, including Jai Williams on Quinn Sinclair, Michael O'Sullivan on Guy Sinclair, Lee Stockdale on Liam Michie, and Daniel Farmer on Caleb Michie were in position waiting for their chance and it came quickly after the restart, Jai Williams catching the first in-coming ball and celebrating the goal as it left his boot.

Great bodywork by Farmer earned him a kick from the angle without result and Williams combined with Farmer soon after for a point but the sealer came from an unlikely source.

O'Sullivan dropped an absolute sitter 25 metres out from goal and copped a spray from his TTU opponent but the Wildcats' hairy forward had the last laugh dishing out a super slick hand-pass in the next passage of play to send Ashton Janssen on his way to an easy goal...celebration time.

The icing on the cake was a straight kick from Josh Kennedy after he marked an errant defensive kick by TTU. The Bombers pulled one back at the other end and continued to play the match out until full time but Woodside were simply thirstier for success after a long time between drinks, and they did more than enough to run out 15-point winners.

Final scores: Woodside 9.8.62 defeated TTU 5.17.47.

Maffra triumphs against Leongatha Parrot U18s

IT was not the results Leongatha Thirds wanted on Saturday when they faced Maffra at Traralgon Showgrounds.

A low scoring affair Leongatha scored a behind through Xavier Lamers at the six-and-a-half-minute mark, but it wouldn't be until the eight-minute mark in the second quarter that the first goal would make it through the posts via Mitchell Croatto (pictured) for the Parrots. By that stage Maffra had two goals under their belt and was leading 19-9.

Near on three-minutes later Will Brown added another

goal for the Parrots narrowing Maffra's lead to only four points.

A run of two goals in the last four minutes of the second quarter and five in the third quarter extended Maffra's lead out of grasp of the Parrots, though they didn't give up with Jett Garnham landed two goals in the final.

Maffra's Jayke Andrews was a thorn in the side for the Parrot's all day, his four goals upsetting the side.

Best players for Leongatha on the day were: Jhett Brown, Nathan Skewes, Hamish Gill, Max Sheahan, Ben Fort and Aydan Williams.



Mitchell Croatto landed a goal for the Parrot U18s in the second quarter in their preliminary clash loss against the Maffra. Photo: Skewesme Photography.



Catani hold on to victory

DESPITE a hard-fought battle, Poowong's U18 side was unable to defeat the formidable Catani in the grand final on Saturday.

Poowong and Catani had been the top two teams through the season and had earned their place in the final showdown, but ultimately Catani was the stronger side on the day.

Played at Yarragon, the conditions for the grand final were wet and slippery, with some rain at the beginning of the match.

Poowong dominated the possessions but were let down by accuracy in front of the goal.

Catani was the first to settle the nerves and kicked the first goal of the game late in the quarter.

Poowong brought the pressure, and the battle raged on through the first term, but Catani managed a second goal before the first siren.

The defensive pressure from the Magpies continued into the second quarter, resulting in a high tackle count.

The Magpies seemed to be doing everything right but were not reaping the rewards.

Catani slotted another two goals through going into half-time, which would secure the game.

The ball lived in Poowong's forward 50 in the second half, resulting in one goal and five behinds to Poowong and just three behinds to Catani.

The Magpies did what was asked of them throughout the whole game, which kept them in contention.

Although Poowong had managed to outscore Catani in the second half, the damage of the first half had already been done and was enough to allow Catani to take home an 11-point premiership victory.

For Poowong, Tom Burgess played an impressive game, starting in centre half forward and moving into the ruck.

Burgess competed in everything all day and was an asset to the team.

Jett Blackwood also put on a strong performance in the midfield and earned himself a place in Poowong's best as one of the standout players in the grand final.

It was a quiet and emotional change room after the game, but coach Matthew Cozzio said he couldn't have asked for more from his team.

"They had a great season, they did what they were asked and it was a really hard-fought match all day. It was a real credit to Catani," Cozzio said.

Under 16s

It was a crushing finish, but Poowong's U16s held their heads up high following Saturday's grand final.

The Magpies were pitted against Ellinbank in the premiership match, with Ellinbank taking a 61-point victory.



Bryce Riddell looks to gather the footy for Poowong as the Magpies slog it out in tough conditions against Catani during Saturday's Under 18 Grand Final. Photos: Jeff Tull.



Rory Nettle flies for Poowong during the Under 18 Grand Final.

The grand final was held at Yarragon and Poowong's boys knew it was going to be a tough ask.

Playing at the start of the day, conditions were a bit wet, but the ground was still in good nick for the game ahead.

The first half of the match was a display of Poowong's intense defensive pressure over the past three weeks.

Poowong was determined to not let Ellinbank run away with a big lead too early and worked hard to keep itself in the game.

William Dourley was a standout in the back pocket.

Dourley was manned up against one of Ellinbank's tall forwards and neutralised him.

Ellinbank's strong midfield

continuously looked for the forward as the ball entered the forward 50, but Dourley ensured his possessions were limited, which was a big win for Poowong.

Captain Bryce Broadmore also played a great role as centre half-back.

The Poowong skipper has been dealing with a grade one hamstring tear for the last six weeks but pushed through and showed great leadership all day.

Despite his struggles, he was matched up against another of Ellinbank's better forwards and gave 110 per cent to the game – a pleasing effort to watch from the sidelines.

The second half saw Ellinbank continue to cause

damage to the scoreboard, but Poowong never gave up and tried as hard as it could to maintain its pressure.

Gavin Monson had another excellent game through the midfield, getting plenty of the footy and doing what he does best week in and week out.

It was a solemn time in the changing rooms after the game, but coach Zac Gray was proud of the boys and their achievements through the 2024 season.

"I was proud of them and their families were proud of them. To come up from fourth to be in the grand final is a huge achievement and just goes to show what can be done when you gel as a team," he said.



Tom Sherar shows dash in the Under 18 Grand Final for Poowong, with the Magpies edged out by Catani in a low-scoring contest in difficult conditions.

ELLINBANK & DISTRICT LEAGUE RESULTS

GRAND FINAL

 **54**  **22**

BULN BULN		ELLINBANK			
Buln Buln	1.2	5.3	5.5	8.6	(54)
Ellinbank	0.2	1.2	2.7	2.10	(22)
GOALS, Buln Buln: Patrick Ireland 4, Matthew Gray, Jackson Kos, Robert Mccallum, Riley Rundell 1 each					
BEST: Riley Rundell, Robert Mccallum, Jake Herbel, Samuel Batson, Daniel Axford, Patrick Ireland					
GOALS, Ellinbank: Rhys Salter, Tom Johnson 1 each					
BEST: Bryce Joyce, Liam Anderson, Rylan Smith, Alex Olsen, Michael Urie, Timothy Farthing					
RESERVES					
Ellinbank	0.0	3.3	3.4	3.6	(24)
Neerim South	1.2	2.2	2.2	3.4	(22)
GOALS, Ellinbank: Lachlan Pratt, Mark Quigley, Tony Wright 1 each					
BEST: Patrick Alger, Ashley Scott, Ryan Parsons, Sam Barwick, Andrew Quirk, David Miller					
GOALS, Neerim South: Toby Bayne 2, Lachlan Ramage 1					
BEST: Timothy Beaurain, Harry Notman, Justin Lockett, Jack Erickson, Aaron Mitchell, Adam White					
THIRDS					
Poowong	0.1	0.5	0.6	1.10	(16)
Catani	2.0	4.0	4.3	4.3	(27)
GOALS, Poowong: Jack Allchin 1					
BEST: Thomas Burgess, Jett Blackwood, Rory Nettle, Benjamin Fowler, Aaron Damon, Jack Allchin					
GOALS, Catani: William Kouris 2, Ricky Dobson, Cayden Kibblewhite 1 each					
BEST: William Kouris, Cayden Kibblewhite, Tyler Fowkes, Declan McFarlane, Riley Newton, Callun McDonald					
FOURTHS					
Ellinbank	2.2	4.4	7.5	9.9	(63)
Poowong	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.2	(2)
GOALS, Ellinbank: Charlie Armour 4, Hugh Cunningham 2, Riley Butters, Ashley Debenham, Bailey Helps 1 each					
BEST: Charlie Armour, Riley Butters, Jhy Good, Nate Murphy, Hugh Cunningham, Joshua Tylee					
BEST, Poowong: Gavin Monson, Ryder Dowlan, William Dourley, George Edwards, Bryce Broadmore, Zachary Sherar					



2024 MID GIPPSLAND LEAGUE GRAND FINAL

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 14 • MEENIYAN RECREATION RESERVE



Brayden Sellings and Cameron Bruce celebrated MDU's premiership win. Tk39_3824



Laura and Rome Staley wore the red and white for Fish Creek on Saturday. Tk60_3824



Cove and Sunny Cooper were at Meeniyon Recreation Reserve to watch Fish Creek on Saturday. Tk61_3824



Fish Creek premiership Tom Cameron shared the special moment with nephew Jax. Tk51_3824



The 2024 U18s premiers MDU. Pictured, Jarvis Lacy, Alex Johnston, Jy Carew, Jordan Cleator, Brayden Sellings, Cameron Bruce, Lachlan Hibberson, Raph Jefferis, Finn Dunn, Josh Doolan, Ryan Marshman, Eddie Kratz, Archie Casey, Angus McInnes, Burke VanderZalm, Tim Hibberson, Cohen Harrison, Harry Scrimshaw, Lucas Duvoisin, Billy Trotman, Bailey Taylor, captain Hunter Fennell, coach Mark Lafferty, Kyra Helms and Lochlan Webb. tk11_3824



Angus McInnes kicked a whopping six goals out of MDU's 12 goal-haul in the U18s premiership match. McInnes is pictured kicking the first of the second quarter. tk05_3824



MDU captain Hunter Fennell and coach Mark Lafferty with the U18s premiership cup. tk10_3824



MDU's U18 premiership players Cohen Harrison, Eddy Kratz, Lincoln Hamilton, Lachie Hibberson, Jordan Cleator, Tim Hibberston and Josh Doolan with the cup. Tk44_3824



2024 MID GIPPSLAND LEAGUE GRAND FINAL

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 14 • MEENIYAN RECREATION RESERVE

Roos soar to glory

From page 68

Fish Creek coach Jarrod Walker fell to the pressure, an indiscretion seeing him leave the field and highlighting the frustration felt by his side, as they struggled to stay in touch.

Kane Grinstead-Jones continued to be a handful for the opposition; his set-up of team-mate Josh Bugeja to goal had his team and supporters up and about.

It was only a rare indiscretion by Yinnar that led to a fifty-metre penalty for Fish Creek to goal after the halftime siren, Darcy Berryman's second, that had his side stay in touch just ten points behind.

McGannon for the Kangaroos got the first goal of the third quarter and all of a sudden it was "game on" in the 2024 Grand Final.

Yinnar's forward-fifty pressure opened the door for Will Robertson to respond quickly before Fish Creek's Blaine Coates also converted nicely as the game's momentum seesawed between the two sides, the Magpies leading by just three points at the last break.

"Huge game, the conditions made it a real slog but it meant two extremely willing teams could go toe to toe," Jarrod Walker, Fish Creek coach said.

"It was a hot footy all day and to Yinnar's credit they played the ground really well but tough hard footy is what grand finals are made of."

Ben Cheffirs put in a contender for goal of the year against the run of play early in the last quarter that put his Magpie's side nine points in front.

Fish Creek needed a winner, and quickly, as time was starting to slip away, Roland Di Biase responded accordingly, his goal pulled the margin back to just three and when Thomas Vuillermin goaled, Fish Creek hit the lead for the first time in the afternoon at the twelve-minute mark of the last quarter.

A courageous clash deep into the last personified the commitment of both sides, one point the margin favouring the Kangaroos, seven minutes to go, the arm wrestle continued for the entirety of the final quarter, Fish Creek clinging on and winning by just two points in one of the league's great grand finals.

"Absolutely shattered," Sam McCulloch, Yinnar coach stated.

"Could not fault any of the boys' efforts. Gave it everything we had and felt like we were on top for a fair part of the game but didn't capitalise. Full credit to Fish Creek who certainly made the most of their opportunities and took their key moments in the game. Some skill errors and decisions didn't go our way and momentum certainly shifted at different stages throughout the day. Proud of the group throughout the season and was certainly an achievement to give ourselves the opportunity to win a premiership. But inevitably there's only one winner and we will have to get back to work and come back bigger and better next year."

"Super proud of our group, when the going gets tough the tough get going," Walker said.

"Massive thanks to the league, it's a great league to be a part of, also hats off to the umpires, (they) did a great job."

The legend of Fish Creek not only continues but grows.



Jack Hayes, Jarrod Walker and Tom Cameron claim the cup for Fish Creek following their Senior premiership win. tk32_3824



It was a mixed bag in the weather on Saturday with rain making for a tight clash. Photo: David Bradsworth.



Matthew McGannon kicks a goal for Fish Creek in the Seniors grand final. tk26_3824



William Brydon and Roland De Biase were thrilled to see Fish Creek bring home the win. Tk49_3824



Tom Valenta and Sarah Jordan following Fish Creek's premiership victory. Tk50_3824

MID GIPPSLAND LEAGUE RESULTS

GRAND FINAL



46



44

FISH CREEK

Fish Creek	0.0	3.1	5.3	7.4 (46)
Yinnar	2.3	4.5	5.6	6.8 (44)

GOALS, Fish Creek: Darcy Berryman, Roland De Biase 2, Blaine Coates, Kairon Dorling, Matthew McGannon 1 each

BEST: Roland De Biase, Lachlan Gale, Thomas Cameron, Matthew McGannon, Sam McGannon, Tom Valenta

GOALS, Yinnar: Kane Grinstead-Jones 2, Josh Bugeja, Ben Cheffers, William Robertson 1 each
BEST: Brendan Chapman, Josh Bugeja, Chris Witchell, Thomas Robertson, Luke Cheffers, Adam Bailey

RESERVES

Newborough	3.1	4.2	6.3	7.3 (45)
Yinnar	0.0	0.6	0.7	1.7 (13)

GOALS, Newborough: Lachlan Gilroy, Ben van Dyk 2, Joshua Bland, Brodie Burgess, Jack Edebohls 1 each

BEST: Robert Wilson, Jack Duncan, Jake Bowden, Jack Edebohls, Joshua Bland, Daniel Smith
GOALS, Yinnar: Cameron Le Page 1

BEST: Daniel Webster, Matty Nardino, Lachlan Alexander, Ryan Mayo, Kyle Alexander, Jack Findlay

THIRDS

MDU	1.2	7.5	9.8	12.10 (82)
Yinnar	1.4	1.5	1.6	3.7 (25)

GOALS, MDU: Angus McInnes 6, Cameron Bruce, Joshua Doolan, Hunter Fennell, Cohen Harrison, Alex Johnston, Harry Scrimshaw 1 each

BEST: Angus McInnes, Hunter Fennell, Raph Jefferis, Cameron Bruce, Timothy Hibberson, Burke VanderZalm

GOALS, Yinnar: Xavier McCafferty 2, Luke Douch 1

BEST: Jay Rogalsky, Grady Ryan, Xavier McCafferty, Luke Douch, Harvey McKay, Harry Bugeja

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WEST GIPPSLAND COMPETITION	
GRAND FINAL	
Seniors: Nar Nar Goon	14.3.87 d Phillip Island 10.3.63
Reserves: Nar Nar Goon	7.6.48 d Tooradin-Dalmore 6.6.42
U18: Phillip Island	3.6.24 d Warragul Industrials 2.5.17
U16: Warragul Industrials	4.8.32 d Phillip Island 3.1.19

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WEST GIPPSLAND COMPETITION RESULTS

GRAND FINAL	
 63	 87
PHILLIP ISLAND	NAR NAR GOON
Phillip Island	2.0 7.0 10.3 10.3 (63)
Nar Nar Goon	5.0 7.1 10.2 14.3 (87)
GOALS, Phillip Island: Daniel Pearce 3, Thomas Baulch, Charlie Bruce, Mark Griffin, Orlando Kane Gillard, Cameron Pedersen, Billy Taylor, Jack Taylor 1 each	
BEST: Aaron Harris, Daniel Pearce, Hayden Bruce, Cameron Pedersen, Jaymie Youle, Charlie Bruce	
GOALS, Nar Nar Goon: Harrison Brain 3, Troy McDermott, Jarrod Smith, Dermott Yawney, Taylor Whitford, Aidan Picicelli 2, Nate Picicelli 1	
BEST: Trent Armour, Aidan Picicelli, Flynn Parker, Ryan Bromley, Harrison Brain, Jarrod Smith	
RESERVES	
Nar Nar Goon	0.0 3.1 5.3 7.6 (48)
Tooradin-Dal	3.4 4.5 5.5 6.6 (42)
GOALS, Nar Nar Goon: Cooper Pursell 2, Nicholas Bransgrove, Jack Gribbin, Jacob Keyzers, Max McGreal, Zac Smith 1 each	
BEST: No players named.	
GOALS, Tooradin-Dal: Julian Suarez 2, Brett Coffey, Nicholas Lang, Jake O'Donnell 1 each	
BEST: No players named.	
THIRDS	
Phillip Island	2.4 2.4 2.4 3.6 (24)
Warragul Ind	0.0 1.1 2.4 2.5 (17)
GOALS, Phillip Island: Oliver Duggan 3	
BEST: Oliver Duggan, Noah Forrest Mabilia, Timothy Niven, Darcy Thompson, Finn O'Brien, Charles O'Garey	
GOALS, Warragul Ind: Campbell Gibbons, Jarrod West 1 each	
BEST: Jarrod West, Campbell Gibbons, Regan Awty, Damian Leslie, Zac Tepper, Brody Turner	
FOURTHS	
Phillip Island	1.0 2.0 3.1 3.1 (19)
Warragul Ind	0.0 2.3 2.6 4.8 (32)
GOALS, Phillip Island: Sam O'Garey 2, Ethan Rhee 1	
BEST: Cade Wragg, Lachlan Eastwood, Archie Ross, Harrison Carlon, Sam O'Garey, Harry Arceo	
GOALS, Warragul Ind: Mathew Cornwall 2, George Morgan, Steward Oling 1 each	
BEST: Melvey Podmore, Alex Ingham, Mathew Cornwall, Cohen Dent, George Morgan, Rylan Butler	

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Island fall short to the Goon



Nar Nar Goon players revel in the Senior Premiership after seeing off Phillip Island by four goals. A48_3824



Phillip Island's Orlando Kane-Gillard attempts a flying tackle as Nar Nar Goon's Ryan Bromley releases the ball. Photo: Carol Ratcliff.

THE Bulldogs had once again made the grand final for the fifth consecutive year. Two changes were made to the team that accounted for Cora Lynn. Max Walton and Jordy Patullo returned to strengthen the side.

Garfield was windy and wet conditions greeted players at the start of the game. The Goon jumped out of the blocks and soon were up 24-0. The Island settled through captain Jack Taylor and soon after added another. Hayden Bruce, Jaymie Youle and Charlie Bruce were getting busy around the ball. Quarter time sat with the scores 30-12 with a four-goal breeze.

The coaching panel of coach Peder-sen, Daniel Larsson and Scott Huther rallied the troops and explained what needed to change.

It worked as the Island piled on five goals in the second quarter to even up the contest. The backline of Harris, Griffin, Duyker, Holmes, McKenzie, Olarens Shaw and Jesse Patullo were starting to get on top. Half time and there was only one point in it.

The third, with the wind advantage starting to decrease brought an arm wrestle. Goal for goal both teams went at it. Tom (Prime) Baulch was having an impact as was Orlando Kane-Gillard who kicked a freakish goal from the boundary.

In a surprise move forward Daniel Pearce slotted three goals for the game and was looking a match winner; with Pedersen and Taylor marking strongly and delivering to team mates the game was in the balance as the Bulldogs took a one point lead into the final quarter.

The Goon found another gear, after the break, using their size and speed to full advantage they took an early two goal lead.

The Island drove the ball forward numerous times, but Nar Nar Goon's defence was resolute, running out four goal winners.

It was not meant to be for the island, heartbreaker after a great year that saw all four teams make the finals and under 18s leave victorious on the day.

A big thank you to all the support staff, families of the players, wives, girlfriends for making it such an enjoyable year. Finally, a huge shoutout to Chris Ross as he steps down as president after eight years of terrific service. The Dogs will lick their wounds and be back better than ever next year.



The Phillip Island support crew of trainers and water carriers prepare pre-game. Photo: Nici Cahill. Snapshot Photography.



Phillip Island players break through the banner for the Senior Grand Final against Nar Nar Goon. Photo: Carol Ratcliff.



2024 WEST GIPPSLAND COMPETITION GRAND FINAL

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 14 • GARFIELD RECREATION RESERVE



Phillip Island players and officials show their delight after winning the Under 18 premiership against Warragul Industrials. Back row: Eden Goldsbury, Finn O'Brien, Charlie O'Garey, Scott Huther (coach), William Hill, Leo Savona (captain), Benji Chihotski, Heath Womersley, Cha Cha Fischer, Jack Briggs, Bailey Hennessey and Sonny McMillan. Middle row: Gabriel Caffieri, Jasper Cashman, Alex Barbarti, Oliver Hibbert, Daniel Caffieri, Noah Williams, Beau Davies, James Lewis, Max Arceo, Cooper Walton and Stephen Duggan. Front row: William Peppard, Tim Niven, Jack Huther, Noah Forrest Mabilia, Oliver Duggan, Max Taylor, Finnis Gibson, Darcy Thompson and Jack Kennedy. Missing – Yianni Cafierri. A35_3824

Dogs edge out Industrials in tight clash

IN A fiercely contested match at the Garfield Recreation Reserve, Phillip Island Under18s narrowly defeated Warragul Industrials by seven points, securing a 3.6 (24) to 2.5 (17) victory in the West Gippsland Football Netball Competition on Saturday morning.

The first quarter saw Phillip Island take early control, with Oliver Duggan making his mark early. Duggan slotted two crucial goals at the 13-minute and 18-minute marks, helping Phillip Island establish a 16-point lead by the quarter's end. Warragul struggled to penetrate Phillip Island's defence, failing to score in the opening term.

Warragul mounted a fightback in the second quarter. Jarrod West brought them to life with a goal just seconds into the term, and despite some missed opportunities, the Industrials reduced the deficit to nine points at halftime. Phillip Island, on the other hand, couldn't add to their tally in the second or third quarters as Warragul began to claw their way back.

The third quarter provided further drama. Warragul's captain Campbell Gibbons levelled the scores at 16-16 with a goal at the start of the term, capitalising on Phillip Island's scoring drought. But despite Warragul edging closer, they couldn't convert several chances into goals, adding only behinds for much of the quarter.

As tensions rose in the final quarter, Phillip Island's Duggan once again came to the fore. He kicked his third goal with three minutes left on the clock, extending Phillip Island's lead. Warragul fought hard but could only manage a single behind in response. Duggan's goal ultimately sealed the game, earning him a spot among the day's best players alongside Timothy Niven and Finn O'Brien.

Warragul's best efforts were led by Gibbons and Jarrod West, but missed opportunities throughout the match left them just short. Both sides showed great promise, but Phillip Island's early surge and Duggan's accuracy proved decisive.



Coach Scott Huther and captain Leo Savona of Phillip Island raise the Under 18s premierships cup. A34_3824



James Lewis was best on ground, helping guide Phillip Island to victory in the Under 18s Grand Final. A33_3824



Phillip Island's Noah Forrest Mabilia is sandwiched between Industrials Joshua Bradley and Benjamin Allsop. A31_3824



Phillip Island and Warragul Industrials players compete fiercely in the wet during Saturday's Under 18s Grand Final won by the Bulldogs. A29_3824



Phillip Island's Charlie Bruce can only look on as Jeconiah Peni charges clear with the footy. Photo: Carol Ratcliff.



Phillip Island's Lachlan Eastwood goes for a good mark against Dusties in the Under 16s grand final. Z12_3824



Phillip Island's Jaymie Youle is wrapped up by Nate Pipicelli of Nar Nar Goon. Photo: Carol Ratcliff.



The 2024 Seniors premiers for the Mid Gippsland Football and Netball League Fish Creek. Pictured, Blaine Coates, Jack Hayes, Jarrod Walker, Tom Cameron, Lachie Gale, Mat Watkins, Darcy Berryman, Tom Vuillermine, Roland De Biase, Jake Anderson, Harry Smith, Tim Gavenlock, Tom Valenta, Kairon Dorling, Matt McGannon, Willem Voorham, Sam McGannon, Pat Pekin, Tom Buckley, Belle Cocksedge (trainer), George Bovell (trainer) and Jordan Shaw. tk33_3824

Roos soar to glory

GRAND finals can be so unforgiving and no two are ever the same, but the contrast for players and clubs between winning and losing is vast.

Win and there is an immediate bond that compels players to organise reunions and relive the moment for a lifetime, lose and it becomes no more than an opportunity lost and at best a brief discussion if ever the game might be brought up.

The pressure of participating in a Grand Final is enormous, but what a privilege it is for

By Rob Popplestone

players to have earned that pressure throughout a season.

A great analogy once told to me by a coach was "Imagine I placed a board in the middle of the oval, ten metres long and just thirty centimetres wide and asked you and your teammates to walk across it, seems easy enough and if you did happen to slip off, well you are safe as the board is on the ground, but imagine now I place that same board between two ten-storey buildings and asked you to

walk across it, the task remains the same, but the consequences of a mistake or lack of concentration can be disastrous – welcome to Grand Finals!"

Fish Creek and Yinnar, first and second on the MGFNL ladder after the home and away season were deserving of their place in the 2024 Grand Final, and despite Fish Creek being warm favourites the very wet conditions promised that the contest might well be tighter and tougher, even with the Magpies missing one of their inspirational leaders in

Nathan Rowley with a knee injury.

Early, there were no real surprises as the intensity and attack on the football was fierce, Yinnar getting their first major through Flynn Schill and taking the early initiative to make a statement by continued pressure that helped get their second through Kane Grinstead-Jones.

The heavy rain and hail caused even greater problems early for the Kangaroos as the game became a real street fight, Yinnar leading at the first break 2-3-15 to Fish Creek yet to score, a rare

feat by the Magpies, to keep the reigning premiers scoreless for a quarter.

It's hard to keep a champ down however and it was Darcy Berryman that got the first score, a goal for Fishy.

The Kangaroo's excitement short-lived as Yinnar bounced back, a great piece of play started by a look-away Flynn Schill handball that ended with a nice conversion by Kane Grinstead-Jones, his second kept some space between the two sides.

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