

# Sentinel-Times

COVERING SOUTH GIPPSLAND AND BASS COAST

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2024

PRICE \$2.00



## SUN SHINES BRIGHT AS CUP WEEKEND DELIGHTS

Wonthaggi's Toby and Riley Beckerleg displayed their 1971 Holden HG Premier at the Tarwin District Lifestyle and Automotive Festival. Tk19\_4524

# FUNDING ABSENT

ON THE eve of the summer fire season, pressure is mounting on the State Government to provide urgently needed funding to rebuild the dangerously outdated Foster and Mirboo North fire stations.

The Nationals Member for Gippsland South, Danny O'Brien said the need for the new stations has long been known, and it is well past time for the Minister for Emergency Services to stop delaying and put the money on the table.

"I understand that a lease arrangement has finally been signed off on for Foster CFA to build on a new site, which is on former railway land in Foster," Mr O'Brien said.

"This is great news - I know that Captain David Jones and his volunteers have been waiting for this for many years, but it is only a small step that cannot progress without the State Government

delivering the much-needed funds to facilitate the construction of a new station."

Captain David Jones, from Foster CFA, backed those sentiments, and said the fact the land for the new station is leased, rather than purchased, provides a substantial saving to the State Government, money that could go towards the new station required.

Mr O'Brien said Mirboo North CFA was in the same boat with the need for a rebuild being acknowledged for a long time and even promises made, but to date no funding provided.

"Captain Trent Venten and the team at Mirboo North have had promises made - in fact we celebrated before the last election as the CFA gave advice that they were providing capital funding, but the money has been nowhere to be seen in subsequent budgets."

Mr O'Brien acknowledged that apart

from the need to bring them up to modern standards, there are clear OH&S concerns with both of these brigades having trouble literally getting the trucks that they have into the stations.

"You can go to either side of the folding doors and see the chips on the brickwork, because the trucks simply do not fit.

"Indeed, both brigades are limited in the trucks that they can get because some of the newer trucks simply will not fit in their outdated and very old stations," Mr O'Brien said.

Captain Jones described the hazardous conditions his team faces noting Foster CFA has three appliances, parked one behind another, with members forced to change in a confined space alongside the vehicles; breathing in exhaust fumes as trucks are readied to respond to callouts.

Continued page 3

Carjacker offered 3 months' jail

A FEARFUL incident at Leongatha South on Tuesday afternoon, December 13, 2022, when a 44-year-old carjacker from the Latrobe Valley crashed a stolen car into a tractor being driven by a local farmer, during a two-day crime spree through the region, had its sequel in the Morwell Magistrates' Court last Friday.

Leigh Wade of Yallourn North, who has been in custody since the incident (687 days), was facing some of the 21 charges which arose out of a day of car stealing, speeding and careless driving which started on the South Gippsland Highway at Ruby at 12.03pm, when he was clocked doing 169km/h, in a 100km/h zone and finished when he crashed a stolen car into a power pole back in Yallourn North at 2.50pm.

Along the way, at 12.15pm, the unlicensed driver, who was on a Community Corrections Order at the time, drove a Toyota Landcruiser on Tosch's Road at Leongatha South at a fast rate of speed towards local farmer, Michael Landry, who was on his tractor at the time.

Wade crashed into the front of the tractor in the Landcruiser ute before leaving the scene in a stolen Mitsubishi Pajero back along Tosch's Road.

According to the police prosecutor, Senior Constable Dehavilland, who read a summary of the incident for the court, Wade later emerged at Yallourn North in a stolen white Toyota Kluger where he was seen by a witness crashing the car into a power pole causing significant damage to the car and the pole.

Continued page 3

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## 'Tragedy' fears at busy San Remo jetty

IN STATE Parliament last week, the Member for Eastern Victoria, Melina Bath called on the State Government to adopt a safety plan for the San Remo Jetty, to address public and workplace risks, before it's too late.

The plan proposed by the San Remo Fisherman's Co-operative (Co-op) 12 months ago, seeks to manage identified risks on the shared-use facility as visitation continues to grow.

Ms Bath who is also Shadow Parliamentary Secretary for Public Land Use told parliament, the San Remo Jetty required improved traffic management and safety upgrades.

"One year ago, the Co-op proactively wrote to Parks Victoria with its plan to improve safety, yet there's been no action from the state government," Ms Bath said.

"With the closure of the nearby Newhaven Jetty in May, more land-based anglers have migrated to the San Remo Jetty."

Ms Bath said the San Remo Jetty is a busy shared space supporting commercial fishing, recreational boaters, ferries, wildlife cruises, land-based anglers, swimmers and sightseers.

"The Co-op even offered to fund the upgrades to improve safety for the public and its fishing fleet. With summer just around the corner, the area's summer population will swell from 12,000 residents to 60,000.

"WorkSafe recently raised safety issues with all marina businesses, reminding operators of their obligations under the OH&S Act.

"This jetty is integral to the region's fishing industry; I commend the Co-op's 30 members for their support of locals and tourists.

"As the town's largest employer, the Co-op's request to improve and pay for safety measures, should not be ignored by Labor.

"I am calling on the Minister for Ports to intervene and give the San Remo Fisherman's Co-operative plan the green light by the start of summer before there is a serious incident."

**Read full details of Ms Bath's address to parliament on the Sentinel-Times' website.**



Winners of the Learn Local Awards include Manna Gum and BCAL.

## BCAL and Manna Gum, local award winners

BASS Coast Adult Learning, in conjunction with Coldon Homes and Capeview Building Products, has been awarded the 2024 Learn Local Innovation award for its new collaborative approach to workplace communication and leadership training.

Whilst down the road in Foster, Manna Gum Community House won the Victorian Learn Local Pre-Accredited Program award.

The accolades were presented at the annual Learn Local Awards event on Friday, October 25 at the Melbourne Convention Centre.

For Bass Coast Adult Learning it recognises the Centre's

successful partnership with Coldon Homes and Capeview Building Products.

The award-winning training program, developed over the past year, combined cutting-edge teaching methods with practical applications in a real-world setting. Designed to enhance communication skills among employees, the program utilised an engaging blend of workshops, peer-coaching, and interactive activities tailored specifically for the construction industry.

"Communication is essential in every workplace, especially in construction, where teamwork and clarity can significantly impact project

outcomes," said Olivia Hurrell, Partnerships Coordinator at Bass Coast Adult Learning Centre, and co-designer of the course.

On Friday Member for Eastern Victoria Tom McIntosh congratulated community house Manager Rebecca Matthews, along with all the staff and volunteers, for winning the Victorian Learn Local Pre-Accredited Program Award, in the small providers category.

"This is an incredible outcome for a community house which provides so much value to locals looking to upskill," Member for Eastern Victoria Tom McIntosh said.



### Bushfire practice makes perfect on Phillip Island

FIRE Danger Period (FDP) for the 2024-2025 season began on October 28 for some municipalities in the west and northwest of the state and while the declaration might be a few weeks away in this area, local brigades are already hard at their preparations for the looming bushfire season.

At Phillip Island, those

preparations extended to a draughting exercise at a local farm dam, with a big turnout of CFA personnel practising filling their trucks from available water resources, which they are required to do when fighting bush, scrub and grass fires over the summer, or when sending trucks and volunteers away on regional strike teams.

"We're getting prepared for bushfire season and we would urge the community to do the same by clearing away fire hazards on their properties and revisiting their fire response plans," said Lino Drazzi, Captain of the Phillip Island Fire Brigade.

See special fire feature in the Sentinel-Times this week (pages 33-45).

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## Funding absent for fire stations

### From page 1

"We can't keep going the way we're going; our trucks are getting outdated, and our Foster community members are worthy of better equipment than what we've got," he said, with modern trucks too big to fit into the current 1957 fire station.

Mr Jones added that a new fire station will help reinvigorate the brigade, something that remains important due to the ongoing challenge of getting people re-engaged after the pandemic.

The story is no different up the road in Korumburra where members are also in desperate need of a new fire station in a new location.

"Where we are currently is really dangerous, and we actually are reversing trucks into the station across the highway, with vision really bad, so, we can't see people and people can't see us until they're on top of us," said Korumburra CFA captain Shane Maskell. "It's very cramped for room where we are inside the station and it's a hazard, and where we park our trucks is not really suitable anymore."

Mr O'Brien is doubling down as he continues to campaign for appropriate facilities.

"We urgently need funding, and I urge the Minister to ensure it is provided as quickly as possible," he said.

## Carjacker offered 3 months' jail

### From page 1

He was observed leaving the scene of the accident in a grey Toyota Hilux, registered in the name of his mother, to the Yallourn North Hotel.

Police attempted to intercept Wade driving the Hilux however he reversed the car at police on several occasions before accelerating away.

The next day, on Wednesday, December 14, Wade caused more havoc, at 4.15pm on Dargo-High Plains Road at Dargo, when he forced one car to pull to the side as he passed them at a fast rate of speed, before clearing a cliff drop on the dangerously narrow road as he passed another car on the inside, around a blind corner before crashing into a rocky cliff face.

Wade left the damaged vehicle at an address in Briagolong before catching a taxi to Morwell. He was arrested by police the following day.

Among the charges levelled at Wade were several accusing the offender of stealing one of the cars while "seeking to put another person in fear of force" with a knife, however no account of the alleged incident was put to the court.

After seeking a sentence indication from Magistrate Andrew Halse, on three charges of careless driving, one of unlicensed driving and two of failing to stop as directed by police, Wade was offered \$2000 fines on the careless driving charges and 24 months loss of licence. The indication was three months jail on the two failing to stop charges.

The man's lawyer, Roisin Pryor, asked for some time to put the offer to her client who remains in custody ahead of a County Court hearing later this month when he will be facing carjacking charges.

Ms Pryor listed mental health issues and a severely disadvantaged upbringing as mitigating circumstances.

## CONTENTS

Entertainment	<b>48-51</b>
Puzzles	<b>54</b>
Real Estate	<b>55-61</b>
Farming	<b>62-65</b>
Trades & Services	<b>66-67</b>
Classifieds	<b>68-70</b>

## FEATURES

Remembrance Day	<b>28-31</b>
Be Fire Ready	<b>33-45</b>

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## ADVERTISING DEADLINES

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# Down to the wire in local elections

VOTERS in the Bass Coast and South Gippsland Council elections will have to wait until Thursday this week, November 7, before the final make-up of their local councils are known.

And in several of the seats, the results are expected to be decided by a handful of votes.

In the Tarwin Valley ward of the South Gippsland Shire, covering the population centres of Leongatha and Mirboo North, John Schelling (2028 votes) and Clare Williams (1470) have emerged as likely winners after the counting of 'Group A' first preference votes, completed last Friday.

But former mayor, Don Hill (721) has emerged as a live chance to return to office, in race against Brad Snell (447), who is expected to be favoured by Schelling preferences, and Rosemary Cousin (488).

Scrutineers have estimated there'll be fewer than 50 votes in the outcome.

In the Bass Coast seat of Bunurong, covering the population centres of Inverloch, Cape Paterson and half of Wonthaggi it's a similar scenario with Brett Tessari (2089) the clear leader with 25.9 per cent in the nine-person contest, and left-leaning candidates Mat Morgan (1454) and Leticia Laing (1291) next best but with centre-right candidate Meg



**John Schelling has topped the poll in the South Gippsland council elections, easily being returned in Tarwin Valley ward but the results aren't quite so clear elsewhere.**

Edwards (1030) still considered a chance on preferences from Les Larke (450) and others.

Ms Edwards has been an outspoken critic of the efforts so far to address Inverloch's erosion woes, favouring the trialling of "hard engineering" solutions rather than accepting the "retreat" option advocated by authorities.

The election result could be seen as a referendum on the issue.

Elsewhere in Bass Coast, sitting councillors Ron Bauer and Rochelle Halstead are set to romp in at Phillip Island and Western Port respectively while Scott Rae and Nathan Hersey look home and hosed in South

Gippsland's Coastal Promontory and Strzelecki wards.

Counting will continue after Melbourne Cup day with results declared in South Gippsland at 3pm on Thursday and 5.30pm in Bass Coast, also on Thursday.

## First preference counting so far in South Gippsland:

### Coastal Promontory

Emma McKay	789
Steve Finley	1254
Sarah Gilligan	1364
Scott Rae	1525
Michael Poore	320
Total counted	5252
<b>Strzelecki</b>	
Nathan Hersey	1582
Bron Beech	1321
Total counted	7481.

### Strzelecki

John Trigt	723
Tim O'Brien	993
Total counted	7466
<b>Western Port</b>	
Jon Temby	1235
Rochelle Halstead	2439
Glenda Minty	887
Brian O'Farrell	878
Nikole Shellekens	939
Jan Thompson	1083
Total counted	7481.

Jenni Keerie	684
Jim Forbes	792
John Kennedy	1417
Total counted	5796
<b>Tarwin Valley</b>	
John Schelling	2028
Clare Williams	1470
Rosemary Cousin	488
Brad Snell	447
Kathleen Murray	222
Aaron Taylor	207
Don Hill	721
Total counted	5583

## Counting so far in Bass Coast:

### Bunurong

Caitlyn Robertson	499
Brett Tessari	2089
Meg Edwards	1030
Pru Scholtes	381
Brian Robinson	607
Eddie Halajian	256
Mat Morgan	1454
Leticia Laing	1291
Les Larke	450
Total votes counted	8057

### Island

Ron Bauer	2606
Darrell Silva	555
Marnie Chadwick	870
Tracey Bell	850
David Rooks	869
John Trigt	723
Tim O'Brien	993
Total counted	7466

### Western Port

Jon Temby	1235
Rochelle Halstead	2439
Glenda Minty	887
Brian O'Farrell	878
Nikole Shellekens	939
Jan Thompson	1083
Total counted	7481.



## POLICE BRIEFS

### Head on collision causes fatality on South Gippsland Highway

A TWO vehicle head-on collision on the South Gippsland Highway last Tuesday morning sadly ended with one fatality and a Poowong man being airlifted to hospital.

It is believed a male driver in a Holden sedan was travelling along the South Gippsland Highway when they collided head-on with a silver Mazda hatchback at the intersection of Nyora-St Helier Road.

Brad Steer, Senior Sergeant for South Gippsland Police spoke to the Sentinel Times on the morning of the accident.

"This morning at about 5.20am two vehicles were travelling along the South Gippsland Highway in Nyora when unfortunately, both those vehicles have had a head-on collision and unfortunately one of the drivers of those vehicles is now deceased."

"At this point in time, we know that there were three people involved. The driver of the other vehicle has been airlifted to hospital with serious injuries to the abdomen and the other party is assisting police with their enquiries."

The other party was a passenger in the deceased's vehicle, according to Senior Sergeant Steer.

Other witnesses in a separate vehicle who were at the scene were also assisting police with their enquiries.

The exact cause of the collision is yet to be determined and Bass Coast Highway Patrol is investigating.

### Three airlifted after collision on South Gippsland Highway

JUST hours after a fatal collision occurred on the South Gippsland Highway last Tuesday morning, another serious car accident occurred, resulting in three people being airlifted to hospital.

It is believed two vehicles collided head-on while travelling along the highway in Lang Lang at about 2.45pm on Tuesday, October 29.

Upon arrival at the scene, emergency service crews found three occupants trapped inside their vehicles. The occupants were extricated and transferred into the care of Ambulance Victoria.

Two people were airlifted to the Alfred Hospital and one person was airlifted to Royal Melbourne Hospital; one with critical injuries, one with life-threatening injuries, and the third with serious injuries.

Paramedics from Ambulance Victoria worked alongside seven CFA units from multiple local brigades, the SES and Victoria Police.

The Major Collision Investigation Unit detectives are investigating, and the investigation remains ongoing.

Anyone with information, CCTV/dash cam footage or who witnessed either incident is urged to contact Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000 or log onto [crimestoppers.com.au](http://crimestoppers.com.au)

## Answers sought on South Gippsland Highway works

THE NATIONALS Member for Gippsland South and Shadow Minister for Roads and Road Safety Danny O'Brien is seeking much-needed maintenance works on the South Gippsland Highway.

Speaking in Parliament, Mr O'Brien asked the Minister for Roads and Road Safety to explain what works will be undertaken on the South Gippsland Highway as part of the annual road maintenance schedule.

"I am aware that a staggering 2739 potholes were filled in on this highway over the space of just four months last year," Mr O'Brien said.

"In spite of this work, the highway has continued to deteriorate and remains in an appalling state, just like most of our state-owned roads across Gippsland.

"I am seeking assurances



**The Nationals Member for Gippsland South and Shadow Minister for Roads and Road Safety Danny O'Brien wants maintenance works on the South Gippsland Highway.**



Department of Health

### Board chair and director opportunities in the Victorian Public Health Sector

The Minister for Health and the Minister for Ambulance Services, the Hon. Mary-Anne Thomas MP, is pleased to invite applications for part time board chair and board director positions on Victorian government hospital boards. The positions start on 1 July 2025 and appointments are for up to three years.

These positions provide an exciting opportunity for Victorians to contribute to the health and wellbeing of our communities. Applicants are selected for their capabilities, including personal and professional experience, knowledge, and skills that contribute to the strategic leadership and oversight of health care for the Victorian community.

The Victorian Government is committed to ensuring that government boards reflect the rich diversity of the Victorian community. This includes diverse leadership of the health system that represents the variety of backgrounds and cultures of Victorian communities to enable the vision of achieving the best health, wellbeing and safety for everyone.

To build an empowered and engaged leadership across the health system, our priority areas are people of all ages, First Nations people, people who live with a disability, people from culturally diverse backgrounds, people who identify as LGBTIQA+, the promotion of gender equality and upholding human rights.

Applicants must be able to demonstrate the capabilities identified in their applications.

Applications close at **midnight Sunday 24 November 2024**.

Further information about Victorian health service boards and how to apply can be found at [www.health.vic.gov.au/board-applications](http://www.health.vic.gov.au/board-applications)

## Melina Bath MP

### THE NATIONALS MEMBER FOR EASTERN VICTORIA REGION



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## Annual warning of deadly mushrooms merited says Coroner

THE death of a Bayswater woman after she and her son were poisoned by a homemade meal has prompted Victorian State Coroner, Judge John Cain, to call for improved public awareness about the dangers of consuming wild mushrooms.

On 22 May 2024, Loreta Maria Del Rossi, 98, passed away at Eastern Health Wantirna, seven days after having consumed a meal made with mushrooms foraged from her own garden.

In the finding, released for the first time last week, Judge Cain found that Mrs Del Rossi died from multi-organ failure due to poisoning from amatoxins — the toxin found in lethal 'death cap' mushrooms.

It's the same cause of death listed for Korumburra trio Heather Wilkinson, her sister Gail and brother-in-law Don Patterson, who died on August 4 and 5, 2023 in the Austin Hospital in Melbourne after consuming a meal of beef wellington, allegedly laced with death cap mushrooms.

The circumstances surrounding the meal, resulting in three charges of murder being levelled at the Pattersons daughter-in-law Erin Patterson, will be the subject of a Supreme Court Trial expected to commence in Morwell on April 28 next year.

Erin Patterson has maintained her innocence of any wrongdoing in the preparation of the lunch.

Mrs Del Rossi, who lived with her adult son, grew her own vegetables and regularly collected wild edible grasses such as dandelion and milk thistle.

In April 2024, Mrs Del Rossi located a patch of wild mushrooms growing in her front yard and advised her son that she would collect, clean and test them. They then consumed the mushrooms and did not experience any negative effects.

On May 15, 2024, Mrs Del Rossi found more mushrooms growing in the same patch of yard and prepared them for dinner as she had done the month prior. That night Mrs Del Rossi and her son fell ill and, following a call to 000, were transported to hospital for treatment.

While Mrs Del Rossi's son survived, her condition deteriorated, and she entered palliative care on May 20, 2024.

The case promoted Judge Cain to recommend that the Department of Health, in conjunction with the Victorian Poisons Information Centre, design and run an annual advertising campaign that can be released each autumn, to warn Victorians about the dangers of consuming wild mushrooms.

The death cap mushroom, which contains amatoxins, are usually whitish, yellow, pale brown or green in colour and often grow under oak trees.

# Parking or people? Island's \$8M question



The Block Island contestants Courtney McInnes and Mimi Belperio enjoy a break in Thompson Avenue, Cowes soon to be the location of almost \$10 million in streetscape redevelopment works. Nationwide publicity from the Channel Nine reality renovation show is believed to have supercharged visitation to Phillip Island.



The Federal Minister for Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, and Local Government, the Hon Catherine King MP with Bass Coast CEO Greg Box for the announcement of an \$8 million grant for the Cowes streetscape. Z04\_4524



Cowes main street will be transformed into a pedestrian-friendly township. Z06\_4524

A MAJOR stoush is looming for the new Bass Coast Shire Council, the make-up of which is expected to be revealed at 5.30pm this Thursday, November 7, after the Federal Government handed the shire \$8 million last week for its Cowes Foreshore Precinct project.

Part of the work proposed within the \$25 million Cowes Streetscape Master Plan, and first envisaged as far back as 2015 when the Cowes Activity Centre Plan was adopted, the Foreshore Precinct plan includes the section of Thompson Avenue from Chapel Street to the Foreshore and the Esplanade.

Parking or a lack of it, is the sticking point.

A plan to have one-way traffic down Thompson Avenue (from Chapel Street) and into The Esplanade might also be news to some.

While the work is expected to "enhance connectivity between the township and the foreshore, providing improved pedestrian safety, accessibility, and amenities... to support further commercial activity within the Foreshore Precinct", a key component of the overall master plan is giving pedestrians priority over private cars.

This could equate to significantly less car parking in the town's CBD. How much? That's yet to be decided, according to Bass Coast CEO Greg Box.

Speaking during an interview following last week's visit to Cowes by the Federal Minister for Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, and Local Government, the Hon Catherine King MP, he said the council is yet "to work through the detailed design of it".

"We're not really talking about net losses and gains (of car parking) at the moment. There's a whole lot of detail still to be done on that," Mr Box said.

Which is where the new council could come unstuck

with those Island ward candidates presently leading the count, including Ron Bauer, Marnie Chadwick and Tracey Bell expressing concerns about a loss of centrally located parking at a candidates' forum organised by community group Island Voice prior to the election.

"We must not remove any of the existing car-park spots in Thompson Avenue. We desperately need to expand the Transit Centre carpark. There also needs to be more wheelchair-disabled spots in Thompson Avenue," said Cr Ron Bauer at the time, now with 35 per cent of the Island vote.

But, in an interview during Minister King's visit, Mr Box underscored one of the key goals of the Hansen Partnership master plan for Cowes (November 2022), that "the principles and design directions are based upon a hierarchy which gives pedestrians the highest modal priority and private vehicles the lowest priority".

"As the Minister said, really, what we're trying to do is prioritise people in the space. We already experience an enormous amount of people in this space, and letting them be able to interact both with business and community is incredibly important."

We certainly saw that over the Melbourne Cup Weekend, crowds supercharged, they say, by The Block Island effect.

Mr Box revealed some of the plans for the precinct promising more shade and curb extensions, encouraging people "to walk and sit and contemplate".

"It's the only north-facing beach in Victoria. It really is an iconic spot and we're experiencing that today with the sun on us. It's really a magnificent spot to actually stop and engage in local culture," Mr Box said.

**Read the full story on the Sentinel-Times' website at sgst.com.au.**



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**Danny O'BRIEN**<sup>MP</sup>  
State Member for Gippsland South

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**NATIONALS** for Regional Victoria



# Weekend V-Line bus chaos as supply falls short of demand

"SORRY bus full" has become an all too familiar sight on the popular V-Line Wonthaggi/Inverloch to Melbourne bus route via the Anderson bus interchange.

Limited seating for country passengers on V-Line buses has created a bottleneck at interchange points on the Bass Highway such as Koo Wee Rup and Anderson.

Buses arriving at Anderson from Phillip Island and Koo Wee Rup from Yarram and Leongatha, particularly on weekends have forced some passengers to use taxis.

"Even when taxis are called some passengers seeking a long journey to Yarram for example, are often overlooked," said one regular passenger.

Bus drivers have joined the call for more buses on the route.

"Saturday mornings are the worst," said one driver.

The 8.15am V-Line bus is often half-full when it leaves Wonthaggi and by the time it gets to Anderson the bus can fill up with passengers from Phillip Island.

"Passengers could be left waiting at least two-and-a-half hours for the next bus to arrive," said the driver.

"When the Wonthaggi bus meets the bus from Yarram at Koo Wee Rup often no more seats are left."

"No seats for passengers travelling to Southern Cross Station."



**Phillip Island bus driver John Williams said long weekends are always busy.** B40\_4524

Stranded passengers have no choice but to go to Cranbourne or Dandenong and use a Metro train to reach the city.

"It's an absolute shambles." Phillip Island bus driver John Williams said the MotoGP weekend was particularly busy with every service full.

Country Victorians are being neglected under the Allan Labor Government according to Shadow Minister for Public Transport, Matthew Guy.

Bus drivers are not happy at having to tell passengers there is no more room.

"Passengers end up being argumentative," said one regular bus driver on the route.

"Or they burst into tears."

The Bass Coast and South

Gippsland Highway bus routes are a vital and time-critical connection to Melbourne Airport, but the V-Line attitude seems to be 'bad luck'.

Reduced fares for V-Line destinations while very popular have only increased the pressure on bus services according to drivers.

Anderson passenger Maree said it is a great service.

Another passenger adding the route needs more than one bus in the middle of the day.

"Last weekend I had to wait for taxis to arrive," said Chris.

"I was stranded at the interchange."

"The last bus on weekends

is at 5.45pm," complained another passenger.

"Only two buses come back in the afternoons and often there are not enough seats at Koo Wee Rup."

On one occasion at Koo Wee Rup the passenger waited an hour for the next bus, only to find it was full too.

"They oversell the tickets," claim passengers.

"The bus only seats fifty-two."

All return seats can be booked from Melbourne and the Anderson interchange.

"V-line pays for a taxi but people travelling to Wonthaggi, Inverloch, Yarram and beyond can be left stranded at Koo Wee Rup when taxi drivers choose fares closer to Melbourne."

"You can't blame the taxi drivers for not wanting a long, return journey empty."

"V-line needs to put on more services."

The last six months have been especially bad according to frustrated passengers.

"Usually, it is an absolutely brilliant service."

"Only way to travel to Melbourne."

"The drivers and the buses are great but there are just not enough services."

"Don't drive to Melbourne," the passenger tells her friends.

"Take the bus, it's like travelling on a plane but we need more services on weekends."

## Deck the halls for Bass Coast festive facades competition

IT'S BEGINNING to look a lot like Christmas in Bass Coast stores with festive shopfronts spreading holiday magic throughout the shire.

As part of Council's Shop, Eat, Love Local campaign Bass Coast Shire has launched a holiday shopfront display competition inviting local businesses to turn their storefronts into a showcase of Christmas wonder through November and December.

'Tis the season' with generous prizes are on offer for both businesses and shoppers.

The top-voted display will receive a prize valued at two hundred dollars, one-hundred-and-fifty dollars for second place, and one hundred dollars for third.

Follow the festive trail and keep an eye out for the creative displays showcasing the Festive Facades poster and QR code.

By voting for your favourite display, you will be entered to win one of two, one-hundred-dollar prizes, a merry bonus for shopping local.

The holiday season is the busiest time of year for Bass Coast and there's no better way to support local traders than by shopping local.

Council encourages businesses to embrace sustainable decorating options, whether by re-using existing decorations or sourcing eco-friendly materials.

Festive Facades encourages locals and visitors to explore and vote for Bass Coast's shopping precincts decked out in their holiday best. Registrations and voting has already kicked off with the winners to be announced in January 2025.

Businesses can spread the holiday cheer by registering their shopfront at [basscoast.vic.gov.au/FestiveFacades](http://basscoast.vic.gov.au/FestiveFacades).

Stroll through our Bass Coast towns and vote for your favourite shopfront by scanning the QR code in-store or by visiting [basscoast.vic.gov.au/FestiveFacadesVoting](http://basscoast.vic.gov.au/FestiveFacadesVoting).

To find out more about the Bass Coast Festive Facades competition go to [basscoast.vic.gov.au/FestiveFacades](http://basscoast.vic.gov.au/FestiveFacades).

You can now receive certain healthcare treatments at a local pharmacy, without having to get a prescription first.

The Victorian Government's Community Pharmacist Pilot is making healthcare more accessible. Here are some other treatments you can access.

**Speak to our specialist pharmacist today**

**INVERLOCH**

P: 5674 1652

**LEONGATHA**

P: 5662 2183

 **TerryWhite Chemmart**

Dedicated to Care



### Treatment for shingles

If you have one of the following symptoms, you may have shingles:

- painful blistering rash
- a tingling, burning sensation on the skin.

If you are aged 18 years and older, you may be eligible for treatment.



### Treatment for a flare up of mild plaque psoriasis

If you are aged 18 years and older, and currently have a flare-up of mild plaque psoriasis, speak to a participating pharmacist to check if you can get a resupply of your cream or ointment.



### Treatment for urinary tract infections

If you have any of the following symptoms, you may have a urinary tract infection:

- stinging or burning when passing urine
- feeling the need to pass urine frequently or bladder still feels full after passing urine.



### Resupply of an oral contraceptive pill

If you are aged 16-50 years and currently take an oral contraceptive pill, speak to a participating pharmacist to check if you can get a resupply.



### Travel and vaccines

If you are travelling overseas or need a public health vaccine, pharmacists participating in the Pilot can administer a range of travel vaccinations as well as hepatitis A, hepatitis B, poliomyelitis, typhoid vaccines (for people aged 5 years and older).



For more information and to find a local pharmacy providing these services visit: [go.vic.gov.au/49C6sFc](http://go.vic.gov.au/49C6sFc)

These treatments are part of the Community Pharmacist Pilot, funded by the Victorian Government.

 **VICTORIA**  
State Government

## Dreamnight at the Zoo is back at Maru

IN EARLY November, Maru Koala and Animal Park is excited to welcome special guests from the local community for its annual Dreamnight at the Zoo! This cherished evening, by invitation only, is a free event designed especially for children with special needs and their families from our region.

The evening includes free entry to the animal park and mini golf, along with lots of fun activities like face painting, a jumping castle, a carnival ride, and a delicious BBQ dinner. Families will also receive a souvenir showbag filled with donated goodies, and a special photo with a koala to remember the night.

Dreamnight at the Zoo is all about providing a joyful experience for children who face physical or mental challenges or are living with a life-threatening illness, and each child's immediate family is invited to share in the fun. To respect privacy, Maru sends invitations through healthcare providers, support workers, and support groups, so families don't need to disclose personal information. Families who have joined the fun before are warmly welcomed to return each year.

This special evening is open to children under 18 from the greater Gippsland area, including the Shires of Bass Coast, Casey, Cardinia, East Gippsland, Wellington, Baw Baw, Latrobe City Council, and South Gippsland.

If you know a child who would love to join, or if you are a healthcare or support worker, please reach out to Maru to arrange an invitation which contains further information. Only those with completed invitation forms will be able to attend.

For more details or to request an invitation, please email Maru at [dreamnight@marukoalapark.com.au](mailto:dreamnight@marukoalapark.com.au) or call 5678 8548.

# Doors to beloved PICAL saved, as closure successfully avoided

PHILLIP Island Community and Learning Centre (PICAL) is not going anywhere, not anytime soon that is after announcing they are on a "clear path to stability" last Thursday (October 31).

Earlier this month the much-loved PICAL called crisis talks as historic debt rendered the organisation "technically insolvent."

Key among the issues was that "due to the incorrect classification of certain roles, which led to some individuals being paid on an incorrect pay scale" a large debt accrued in the form of staff wages and entitlements.

But in a statement Thursday afternoon, Graeme Turner, President PICAL Committee of Management announced that PICAL was "pleased to announce that we have successfully avoided closure", as they thanked those "who rallied behind PICAL, making it possible for us to continue our mission and serve our community."

The Special General Meeting that was called for November 14 has since been cancelled.

Graeme Turner, President PICAL Committee of Management full statement:

The Committee of Management of Phillip Island Community and Learning Inc. (PICAL) is relieved and pleased to announce that we have successfully avoided closure and are now on a clear path to stability. Our deepest gratitude goes out to all those who rallied behind PICAL,



Phillip Island Community and Learning Centre (PICAL) secures future amid financial struggles, pledges path to stability.

making it possible for us to continue our mission and serve our community.

Some weeks ago, we shared the financial challenges that placed PICAL at risk of insolvency. At that time the exact details of the impact were yet to be confirmed, but the potential impact was estimated to be greater than PICAL's reserves. However, following thorough independent legal advice, we have confirmed that our historic financial liabilities are lower than initially estimated. Although past obligations remain to be addressed, we are optimistic that the reduced burden presents a viable way forward, allowing us to draw on our reserves to both

manage our liabilities and preserve PICAL's vital services.

The community's response to PICAL's situation has been nothing short of remarkable, with countless individuals and groups offering assistance and support. With our future now secured, we warmly welcome financial contributions from those who wish to help us rebuild and strengthen our financial footing.

We extend our thanks to Neighbourhood Houses Gippsland (NHG) and Bass Coast Shire Council (BCSC), who were prepared to step in to support the continuity of services had PICAL been forced to close. Their commitment

highlights the shared dedication to maintaining essential services for our community.

In light of these positive developments, the previously scheduled Special General Meeting for November 14, 2024, has been cancelled. Instead, we look forward to hosting community events and fundraisers that will provide opportunities for everyone to support PICAL's ongoing recovery and growth.

To our staff, volunteers, clients, and the wider community, thank you for standing with PICAL through this challenging period. Your unwavering support inspires us as we work toward a more secure, resilient, and impactful future for all.



**Wonthaggi Hospital**

**BCH**  
Bass Coast Health

Board Chair Ian Thompson and the Board of Directors request the pleasure of your company to celebrate our people and partners at

**Bass Coast Health's Annual General Meeting**

Thursday 5 December 2024, 10.30am-11.30am.  
Marquee in Ambulatory Care car park,  
Wonthaggi Hospital.  
*Light refreshments to follow.*

Please contact: [publicrelations@basscoasthealth.org.au](mailto:publicrelations@basscoasthealth.org.au) to RSVP by close of business Friday, 29 November 2024.

## CAFE LEASE OPPORTUNITY

Expression of interest or enquiries, for cafe space lease at Leongatha Hospital, close Friday, November 8, 2024.  
Contact Vicki Riley.



**GIPPSLAND SOUTHERN Health Service**

Contact Vicki Riley  
c/o Jason O'Reilly  
Director Finance & Corporate Services  
Gippsland Southern Health Service  
Phone: 03 5667 5555  
Private Bag 13, Leongatha 3953  
Email: Vicki.Riley@gshs.com.au

Leongatha Hospital  
66 Koonwarra Road, Leongatha

# Leongatha Secondary College well drilled for English paper

By Andrew Paloczi

PREPARATION was the key for Leongatha Secondary College (LSC) students tackling Tuesday's VCE English exam, the Sentinel-Times hearing positive views of the paper from Year 12s after they left Mesley Hall.

College leader Montana Kranen was pleasantly surprised when she saw the contents of the exam.

"I thought the article was going to be more difficult and I also thought the prompts would be more difficult, but they were really specific and easy to unpack, so I liked it," she said.

Montana did product design last year, studying history, psychology, health and human development, and English this year, with psychology her favourite, being a subject she can apply in everyday life.

Fellow college leader Alana Lopez-Freeman was also pleased with the English paper, acknowledging there was some trepidation beforehand but a real sense of release after sitting the exam.

"A lot of hard work was put in and it definitely paid off and I feel good," Alana said.

With the current VCE cohort having done Year 12 practice exams since year 10, she felt ready.

"It's all about preparation and timing," Alana said.

She was set to continue the English theme, with literature her second exam.

In addition to those subjects,



Assistant principal Tanya Chalmers, Cameron Sumalinog, River Thomas and college leaders Alana Lopez-Freeman, Montana Kranen and Chloe Challis after the VCE English exam. A01\_4524

Alana studied art making and exhibiting last year, with psychology, biology and maths her other Year 12 subjects this year.

While biology is her favourite, she takes an active interest in everything.

River Thomas was pleased with how he went in the English exam.

"It's pretty stressful walking in but once you get it done, it's a big release, and it's worth all the study and all that time," he said.

While art is his favourite subject due to the scope it provides for creativity, River said English

lends itself to that too.

He also studied psychology and physical education.

Assistant principal, Tanya Chalmers, outlined the extensive preparation the current crop of VCE students had to enable them to perform at their best during the exam period.

"Over the last couple of years, but especially this year, all the VCE teachers have been working really hard to prepare them more thoroughly with what we call their exam literacy skills," Tanya said.

She explained that includes students' understanding of the

questions and how to answer them correctly, and ensuring their timing is on track so they can successfully complete the exam paper.

Fortnightly study sessions with teachers focused specifically on exam literacy.

"This morning when I was speaking to the students, they were calm, knew what to expect and were prepared," Tanya said as the English exam neared its conclusion.

While some nerves were unavoidable, there's no doubt the preparation put the VCE group in good stead.

LSC Vocational Major Students achieving too

AS WELL as those currently facing VCE exams, Leongatha Secondary College (LSC) has a strong contingent of VCE Vocational Major (VM) students, with the assistant principal Tanya Chalmers chatting to the Sentinel-Times last Tuesday about the program.

While the spotlight that day was on the VCE students sitting their English exam, the accomplishments of the VM group deserve acknowledgment.

All this year's VM students completed their requirements, receiving lots of support along the way.

Tanya explained those studying the VCE VM wasted no time gaining practical experience.

"As soon as they start on all of their requirements, most of them are out working already," she said.

Around a third of the group have been in school-based apprenticeships, enabling them to step into fulltime apprenticeships now Year 12 is over.

Tanya suggested that in the Inner Gippsland Region, LSC has the largest cohort of VCE VM students doing school-based apprenticeships, apart from the substantially bigger Drouin Secondary College.

"Our program in VCE VM is really growing over the past few years and people are seeing that it is a fantastic pathway for young people wishing to go into apprenticeships and work in our communities," Tanya said.

## YOU CAN'T CONTROL FIRE, BUT YOU CAN PREPARE FOR IT.

The best way to keep you and your loved ones safe this fire season, is to make sure you have a fire plan.



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# NOMINATE NOW!



**South Gippsland  
Shire Council**

## South Gippsland Shire Council News

### Australia Day Awards

Time is running out to cast your nominations for the 2025 South Gippsland Australia Day Awards.

Let's celebrate South Gippsland's outstanding achievers! The individuals and events who make our community stronger through their selfless efforts.

Nominating is easy and anyone can put forward an individual or event for an award.

Before starting the nomination, you will need your nominees name and contact details, and a brief explanation of why you are nominating. Your nomination will also need to include:

- A minimum of two Letters of Support and;
- At least one photo of your nominee.

All nominees will be celebrated at the South Gippsland Australia Day Awards Ceremony held at the Meeniyuan Mechanics Institutes (Hall) on Wednesday 15 January 2025 from 6.00pm.

Nominations close Wednesday 6 November.

To submit your nomination, please visit:  
[www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/australiaday](http://www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/australiaday)

**SOUTH GIPPSLAND SHIRE COUNCIL**  
Impounding of Vehicle



Council impounded a silver 2024 Mazda sedan in accordance with Schedule 11 of the *Local Government Act 1989* on Friday 25 October from Patersons Road, Nyora.

**Engine Number:** JM0GG103100142058

Unless the vehicle is collected and relevant fees paid within 14 days of the date of this notice, the vehicle will be offered for sale to the public.

For enquiries, please contact our Community Safety team on 5662 9200.

#### COUNCIL MEETINGS

Wednesday 20 November 2.00pm (Council Chambers, Leongatha)

Dates are also listed on Council's website at: [www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/meeting-dates](http://www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/meeting-dates)

To watch the 'open' part of the meeting live or when it suits you, visit:

[www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/live](http://www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/live)

#### EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

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

[www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/vacantpositions](http://www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/vacantpositions)

#### GREEN WASTE AMNESTY

Dispose of your green waste for free until the end of December at any of Council's transfer stations.

The Green Waste Amnesty aims to encourage residents to prepare their properties for the fire season by removing potential fire hazards.

Before you drop off your green waste, please check the list of plant species that are not accepted as part of the Amnesty at:

<https://www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/greenwasteamnesty>

#### REQUEST FOR TENDERS

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

##### RFT/410 – North Poowong Road Gravel to Seal

Tenders close 2.00pm AEST on Tuesday 3 December 2024.

Documentation is available from Council's e-Tendering Portal

[www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/tenders](http://www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/tenders)

#### CONTACT US

9 Smith Street, Leongatha  
15 Little Commercial Street, Korumburra  
03 5662 9200

[www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au](http://www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au)

# South Gippsland local recognised in 2024 Victorian Senior of the Year Awards

By Nicole May

HELEN Millison was acknowledged for her support for seniors in her community and volunteering efforts in the South Gippsland Shire.

Helen is a lively member of the South Gippsland community, volunteering her time for three local organisations, Probus Korumburra, Carinya Lodge and Grow Lightly.

As part of her volunteering efforts, she has served as Secretary for Probus Korumburra for five years. Helen is renowned for her positivity and enthusiasm, whether she is packing fruit, running meetings or organising raffles, Helen can be found with a smile on her face!

A Council on the Ageing COTA Victoria Senior Achiever Award recognises Victorian seniors for their significant contributions to local communities. The Awards are presented annually each October as part of the Victorian Seniors Festival.

For more than 25 years, the Victorian Seniors Festival has recognised the volunteer work and community contributions of older Victorians – the Victorian Senior of the Year Awards is just one way the festival celebrates the vibrant lives of older people in Victoria.

"In 2017, we made the life-changing decision to move to Victoria after retiring. Our daughter was about to welcome her second child, and we wanted to be closer



**Helen Millison was awarded a Council on the Ageing (COTA) Award at the 2024 Victorian Senior of the Year Awards.**  
A04\_1524

to family. Settling just outside of Korumburra on a small property, we quickly became involved in the community," Helen explained.

Receiving this award was an incredible honour for Helen.

"I'm one of a team; I'm volunteering with like-minded people that are warm and caring, and we are contributing to simply help in our community."

A particularly memorable moment in her years of volunteering for Helen was when the volunteers faced the uncertainty of Grow Lightly's future; receiving notice that the team might have to vacate their space by June. Alarmed, they rallied as a community,

raising awareness through a campaign to find a new home for the not-for-profit initiative.

"It was incredibly rewarding to witness the outpouring of support from the community, ensuring that our work could continue," she noted.

"Our Wednesday team, a small group of six, works tirelessly to ensure that residents have access to fresh, locally sourced food, and we are grateful to have the community support behind us as we find a new home for Grow Lightly," said Helen.

Additionally, Helen has been involved with Probus Korumburra for the past six years. Joining a

lovely group of friends and stepping into the role of secretary five years ago, she manages minutes, newsletters, and presentations at the Probus Club meetings.

Her additional work with Carinya Lodge too started four years ago, where she participates in organising monthly afternoon teas for residents.

"The warmth of the magnificent staff and the joy of connecting with the elderly is very rewarding," said Helen.

"I've helped lead initiatives like raffles to raise funds for essential items, including a weighing chair for residents at Carinya Lodge and funding outings to explore the beautiful local area.

"We've successfully raised over \$1000 through two raffles, thanks to the generosity of local businesses and the community," Helen shared.

"My contributions, while meaningful, are part of a larger team effort. The people I work alongside are kind and dedicated."

However, volunteering isn't without its challenges. One significant hurdle has been the ongoing need for more volunteers. Helen has learned that it's essential to engage and encourage others to join.

"The work is fulfilling and now part of my day-to-day life – on top of being a grandmother to four beautiful grandchildren. So, to seniors who are hesitant about volunteering, I say: just do it! It's one of the best decisions you can make."

## CEO Message



Kerryn Ellis

HELLO South Gippsland.

It was fantastic to see the Honourable Gayle Tierney, Minister for Regional Development back in Mirboo North last Saturday morning to see how the town is recovering from the February 13 storm event. Minister Tierney has previously visited the town since the storm and has been a wonderful partner in getting financial support from the Victorian Government.

Thank you to Ruth Rogan, Jess Graffe and Kelly McCarthy for all taking time out of their weekend to meet with the Minister and share your perspectives.

## Australia Day Award Nominations

Looking for a way to recognise an outstanding person from South Gippsland? The Australia Day Awards are the perfect opportunity to shine a light on the people that make our region tick, that get events happening, and so much more.

The 2025 South Gippsland Australia Day Award nominations close on Wednesday 6 November, so make sure you get a nomination in for at least one of the following categories:

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

All nominees will be recognised at a ceremony on Wednesday, January 15, 2025 (6.30pm) at the Meeniyan Mechanics Institute (Hall).

For more information and to submit your nomination, please visit: [www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/australiaday](http://www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/australiaday)

## Green Waste Amnesty

The Green Waste Amnesty is run by Council every year from the Saturday before Melbourne Cup until December 31. The Amnesty aims to encourage residents to prepare their properties for the upcoming fire season by removing potential fire hazards.

To check what species are not included in the Amnesty, and tip locations and opening hours, please visit: [www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/greenwaste-amnesty](http://www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/greenwaste-amnesty)

## Congratulations Coal Creek!

The spookiest day of the year made for another amazing sold-out Halloween event at Coal Creek. The Park saw 1,500 ghouls from far-and-wide descend to enjoy a night of scary fun.

Congratulations to all the volunteers and staff that worked so hard to make this event a success, despite some damp weather during the day.

## Election Update

We are getting closer to knowing who our new Councillor group will be, with vote counting now taking place. The final count is taking place on Thursday, November 7, 3pm at the Victorian Electoral Commission Office at 6-12 Smith Street Leongatha. Members of the public are welcome to attend this event, or the official Declaration of the Polls on Friday, November 8, 3pm at Memorial Hall, Leongatha.

## Sanders Pavilion to continue serving Korumburra community

OPENED in 1966, the Sanders Pavilion at Korumburra Showgrounds has been undergoing a spruce up, getting a new roof and insulation.

Work got underway on Monday, October 28, to be completed the following week.

BlueScope Steel in Hastings generously donated all the roofing materials.

The project was aided by a \$10,000 Community Grant from South Gippsland Shire Council, with the Korumburra Agricultural & Pastoral Society contributing significantly more through

its fundraising activities.

While the grant was initially intended to assist in building a storage shed, that project proved impractical, with council happy for the money to go towards the roof replacement instead.

Korumburra A&P Society president Danial Robbins expressed his appreciation to BlueScope Steel, council and all those who helped raise funds.

Leongatha-based Shield Master has carried out the roof installation.

The Sanders Pavilion will be

used during the upcoming Eastern Victorian Sheep Dog Trial.

It will also play a key part in the relocated South Gippsland Garlic Festival in March, the event having outgrown Meeniyan.

The pavilion continues to be an important feature of Korumburra Agricultural Shows, housing sheep, alpacas and poultry over the years, along with entertainment such as shearing displays.

The building will now be attractive to hire for events, with no leaking and the comfort of

insulation that the building previously lacked.

Danial is delighted with the latest improvement to Korumburra Showgrounds.

"I'm driven to make the showgrounds a 'go to' venue for Gippsland and South Gippsland," he said.

While leaks in the old roof led the A&P Society to replace it, there won't be any wastage.

The removed materials are heading to Canberra to be used in the restoration of a 1906 shearing shed, helping create the desired vintage look.

## Graduation tree a lasting remembrance of Mary MacKillop's Class of 2024

IT WAS a big final week of school for Mary MacKillop Catholic Regional College Year 12 students recently.

While the cohort's classes ended on Wednesday, October 16, the group squeezed in a staff versus students netball game, a final college assembly, a breakfast prepared by staff, Graduation Mass and a Valedictory Dinner.

The Year 12s claimed victory in the netball.

The group left behind a lasting reminder of its time at the school, planting a Graduation Tree along the college's driveway, a relatively new tradition that began in 2019, with each tree being marked with a plaque including the college's annual theme.

"Be faithful in little things: All will be right with time and a little patience," was this year's theme.

The Thursday, October 17 whole of school assembly followed the breakfast and proved a moving and joyous occasion with Year 12 students entering

Pioneer Hall, dancing and celebrating on the stage to the applause of staff and pupils from other year levels.

Each of the Year 12 students was individually acknowledged and given a commemorative gift.

Principal John Freeman paid tribute to the departing group, urging them to keep learning throughout their lives, and to always be welcoming of others and maintain Christian values of helping those in need.

"So, as you go forward from here, be patient and persistent, ask for and accept help, celebrate successes, realise mistakes are an opportunity to learn and improve, be kind and gentle to all you encounter on the way, and all will be right in time with a little patience," Mr Freeman said.

On the night of Thursday, October 17, the students gathered for the final time, first at the Graduation Mass at St Joseph's, Wonthaggi, and then at the Silverwater Resort in San Remo for the Valedictory Dinner.



**This year's Graduation Tree is planted.**



An 'unacceptable neighbourhood character' impact was one of the reasons given by council for refusing a 14-lot subdivision at the Sandy Point Caravan Park which has now been upheld by VCAT.

## VCAT no to Sandy Point subdivision

ON WEDNESDAY, October 23, 2024, the Victorian Civil and Administration Tribunal (VCAT) upheld South Gippsland Shire Council's decision to refuse the subdivision of 89 Beach Parade, Sandy Point, commonly known as the Sandy Point Caravan Park.

The Planning Application was first submitted to South Gippsland Shire Council in February 2021, with a plan to subdivide the Sandy Point Caravan Park.

The application received a significant number of objections from the community resulting in 51 submissions to Council. The objections included topics such as concern for the environment, neighbourhood character, traffic management and pressure on public open space.

At South Gippsland Shire Council's regular Meeting in June 2023, the Planning Application to subdivide 89 Beach Parade into 14 lots was refused, resulting in the applicant choosing to appeal Council's decision at the Victorian Civil and Administration Tribunal.

This has been refused as well and the original council decision stands.

"It is pleasing to see VCAT's decision is consistent with Council's and supports the needs of both the environment and the Sandy Point community," said South Gippsland Shire Council CEO Kerryn Ellis.

"The future of the Sandy Point Caravan Park lies solely with the owners of the site. The refusal of the application does not exclude any further planning applications being applied for on the land."

Among the reasons for council's refusal of the application included "inadequate consideration of future climatic conditions and access concerns raised by the West Gippsland Catchment Management Authority".

"Insufficient effluent and stormwater management," was another.

# Is retreat the best option for Inverloch?

THE erosion crisis at the Inverloch Surf Beach has certainly got the attention of the State Government, as the Labor Member for Eastern Victoria, Tom McIntosh, said in State Parliament last Wednesday, October 30.

But has it got the sense of urgency that the Inverloch Surf Lifesaving Club President Glenn Arnold managed to inject into the debate, initiated by a petition signed by 2575 people in five days, when he was quoted by the Member for Northern Victoria Gaelle Broad during her speech.

"We are literally metres from dropping a multimillion-dollar building into the ocean. That is crazy behaviour when we could be dropping rocks in front of it and protecting it right now," said Mr Arnold, who Ms Broad acknowledged was sitting in the public gallery.

Also in the Legislative Council gallery, visiting from the 'other place' the Legislative Assembly, was the Member for Bass Jordan Crugnale, who Mr McIntosh noted "has been very active" on behalf of the local community.

The debate was led by Melina Bath, Member for Eastern Victoria, who sponsored the petition so that the issue might be debated at the highest level.

But what has been achieved as a result? Not a lot, if you take what Mr McIntosh MP had to say during his speech.

As some have done before him, he seemed to pour doubt on hard engineering solutions when he noted that "the geotextile seawall (in front of the surf club) caused erosion at the end into the dune, called terminal scour..."

Instead of promoting the trialling of other hard engineering solutions, such as a rock wall that might protect the multi-million dollar surf club building right now, as favoured by Mr Arnold, he's putting his faith in a large-scale sand replacement project, not due to



The authorities seem to accept that the Inverloch Surf Lifesaving Club, and over time, nearby houses and infrastructure will fall into the sea as part of the "retreat" option for addressing Inverloch's erosion problems. (Aerial photo of surf club contributed).

commence until late 2025, at the earliest.

"Since 2018 the Labor government has invested more than \$1.7 million in installing coastal protection structures on Inverloch surf beach to protect public infrastructure and assets," said Mr McIntosh during the debate in State Parliament last Wednesday.

"This includes the geotextile seawall, which was a \$450,000 investment by DEECA; Cape Paterson-Inverloch Road rock revetment

emergency works and engineered revetment, which cost \$950,000; and \$25,000 of work at Wreck Creek.

"DEECA and other agencies are continuing to actively monitor erosion on Inverloch's coast.

"Land managers, including Parks Victoria, have been supporting short-term mitigation and protection works while the long-term research and planning of the strategic project continues.

"On 7 October DEECA staff met with local community

groups, including the lifesaving club alongside the regional and strategic partnership members and member for Bass Jordan Crugnale. The ongoing plan for Inverloch surf beach and the consequences of the recent storms were discussed throughout, and coastal engineers were available to provide the community with additional information.

"The geotextile seawall caused erosion at the end into the dune, called terminal scour, which is expected with the way wave energy behaves at the end of coastal protection structures during high-energy events.

"Bass Coast Shire Council undertook emergency works following the August-September storms to bring sand back to this area, rebuild the dune around the seawall and reinstate the beach.

"DEECA is preparing to engage a coastal engineer consultant to design the large-scale dune reconstruction and beach renourishment, which

is funded through a \$3.3 million grant from the Commonwealth coastal and estuarine risk mitigation program.

"This large-scale engineered construction work, involving approximately 100,000 to 150,000 cubic metres of sand supporting revegetation, is intended to be undertaken in 2025.

"I look forward to seeing this work beginning soon to help protect this much-loved part of Victoria for future generations, and I want to finish by again acknowledging all those who have signed this petition and the surf club volunteers for the tireless work they are doing."

But the sponsor of the petition, Melina Bath, fears the "do nothing" approach actually equates with accepting "retreat" and the loss of the surf club building and potentially infrastructure and homes fronting Surf Parade and Cape Paterson-Inverloch Road.

**Read the full story on the Sentinel-Times' website at [sgst.com.au](http://sgst.com.au).**

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Produced on site there is a wide array of timber products available from Dan Bright of Amber Creek Sawmill. A102\_4524

## Infuse your space with the natural beauty of artisan-crafted timber

STUNNING rustic timber beams frame the roof, impressive and full of character, the exposed timber brings a warmth and unique natural beauty unlike any other, as one sits in the space at Phillip Island Winery. Gurneys Cider in Foster is no different, a casual drink as the setting sun bounces off the beautiful timber features, the frame, the doors, the lining, the front gate.

It's otherworldly. A craft that is as unique as the once-growing trees.

The man behind the elegant timberwork is Dan Bright of Amber Creek Sawmill, a local mill based in Fish Creek.

"I bought a sawmill about 15 years ago to mill timber," Dan explained.

"I wanted to mill the timber from trees that had fallen as we were building our own home and shed on the farm."

One day, a neighbour stopped by, curious if Dan could mill some logs he had lying around, and as the story goes the rest is history.

"I never thought of it as a business opportunity, but I did his job and then started reading books and teaching myself. It wasn't long before we were selling feature pieces at craft markets and showcasing the structural timber we could create."

Through word-of-mouth, the business grew as Dan started creating structural heavy timber frames, with requests coming from across Gippsland and further afield.

Collaborating with clients, the results are beautiful, solid, well-designed spaces.



High-quality shiplap cladding is available from Amber Creek Sawmill

"We take a lot of pride in doing a good job," Dan said.

Since those early days, the team has grown (to five), and so too have the products available, with timeless rustic shiplap cladding the latest addition.

"In recent years, we've invested in a new sawmill, a kiln, and a moulding machine. We've been milling timber for cladding, decking and lining boards for a few years now, but are at a point where we have ironed out our processing and are producing aesthetically striking materials like the sought-after shiplap cladding."

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Creek's timber is its authenticity.

"At Amber Creek, we strive to make the most of every part of the log, creating high-quality timber that showcases its natural beauty and character."

Milling Southern Bluegum, Macrocarpa Cypress, Silvertop Ash, Radiata Pine, Iron Bark and Sugar Gum, the sawlogs are sustainably sourced from local farms, agroforestry, plantations and arborists. Each piece of timber in Dan's own home can be traced to within 50 kilometres of the building itself.

"As well as private builds, it has been incredible working on projects such as Gurneys Cider and Phillip Island Winery. Bringing our skills and materials to achieve high standards for clients who really do appreciate the craftsmanship; the beautiful joinery where there are no metal brackets. It's really rewarding."

Dan and his team's work speaks for itself. His years of experience, which run well over a decade, and the fact his home and sheds are still standing on top of a hill, even after the storms that have flattened nearby buildings. The proof, as they say, is in the pudding.

So whether you are building from scratch and looking for authentic, high-quality impressive structural framing, require dressed timber, landscape and veggie bed timbers, garden and tree stakes, firewood, character-rich decking, lining boards, cladding or other special carpentry, explore the timeless quality of Amber Creek's natural timber and see the difference authentic craftsmanship makes for yourself.

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## Terry White offers broader range of services

TERRY White Chemmart in Leongatha and Inverloch continues to expand its range of services under the 'community pharmacist pilot program', enabling the business to provide specific extra services previously only available through a GP.

The Victorian Government initiative of expanding the range of services pharmacies can provide is intended to improve access to health care for Victorians, with pharmacies receiving government funding.

As previously reported, extra services include being able to issue a resupply of contraceptive pills without a new prescription and providing antibiotics for uncomplicated urinary tract infections (UTIs) in women aged 18 to 65.

A travel clinic service, and treatment of mild skin conditions such as plaque psoriasis are more recently added services, as is administering of medicines by injection.

Treatment of early stages of shingles is now also available.

Consultation will take place to ensure people are eligible for services and that those who are, receive the right treatment.

If not eligible, you will be referred to an appropriate service provider, such as a doctor or specialist.

Pharmacist Zac Timpano, based at the Leongatha store, underwent special training to participate in the pilot program and is excited to be able to offer a broader range of services.

He said the pilot program is going really well and he has received lots of positive feedback.

Zac outlined what the travel clinic service offers.

"We're able to do a travel consultation, which includes looking through vaccination history and making sure you're up to date; if there are any gaps in that vaccination history, we can provide vaccinations," he



Pharmacist Zac Timpano

said.

Specific health safety advice is available for your intended destination.

Zac said the new medicines by injection service is distinct from the pharmacy's vaccine program, with Ozempic an example.

He explained that intramuscular injections such as vitamin B12 are not easy to self-administer and people would previously get their prescription filled and then return to the medical clinic to be injected by a nurse or doctor.

Pharmacist Ailu Liu has been trained to deliver medication by injection.

She recommends people book online or by calling Terry White in Leongatha or Inverloch for that service and for the travel clinic.

For other services under the pilot program, Ailu encourages people to just drop in.

Most of the services are free apart from paying for vaccines and medications.

The medicines by injection service costs \$24.95 plus the cost of the medicine, while there are charges for travel vaccinations.

Pharmacist Jungho Oh will provide pilot program services in Inverloch, having completed the required training.

Victoria-wide, the program has been running for just over a year, with the government recently extending the trial period.

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# 2024 U.S. Election

## - Implications for Policy, Markets, and Global Investment

By David Caporale,  
Chief Investment Officer of RELIcapital

As the United States approaches its pivotal 2024 presidential election, both domestic and global observers are assessing the potential outcomes with keen interest. The two leading candidates, Vice President Kamala Harris and former President Donald Trump, offer starkly different approaches on major issues. The results of this election will influence fiscal and trade policy, the green transition, and global economic stability, all of which will have significant effects on international markets, including Australia.

### Current Polls and Key Policy Differences

Polls indicate a close race, with Vice President Harris and former President Trump nearly tied in many key battleground states. Harris' campaign largely represents continuity with the Biden administration's agenda, focusing on green energy transition, controlled immigration, and trade policies aimed at balancing U.S. industrial growth with environmental commitments. Conversely, Trump has emphasised a return to his "America First" stance, promising aggressive trade policies with tariffs and reduced economic dependence on China.

The green energy transition represents one of the most pronounced policy distinctions between the two. Harris is likely to uphold the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) and its substantial green energy subsidies, spurring investment in renewable infrastructure. Trump, on the other hand, may seek to dismantle or weaken such policies, as he did by withdrawing the U.S. from the Paris Agreement during his previous tenure.

### Impact on U.S. and Global Markets

Historically, the U.S. stock market reacts differently based on which party wins the White House. Democratic administrations, like Biden's, have typically seen robust investments in tech, healthcare, and clean energy. If Harris prevails, we may expect further growth in sectors linked to renewables and decarbonisation. However, a Trump victory could shift the focus back to fossil fuels and defence, potentially slowing the momentum of green

investments globally. His "America First" approach could also reintroduce tariffs, impacting trade-dependent economies like Australia.

For Australian investors, both parties' approaches to trade and energy matter. Harris' policies would likely continue to support renewables and technology sectors, presenting opportunities for Australian companies involved in green energy exports. Trump's potential return to protectionist policies might instead heighten market volatility and reduce trade stability. Such changes could fragment global markets, with trade conflicts potentially escalating, especially with China, which is a major trading partner for Australia.

### Economic and Market History by Party

Analysing past economic performance offers some insights. Historically, the U.S. stock market has seen higher growth under Democratic presidents, driven by spending in technology, healthcare, and infrastructure. A re-elected Democratic administration could further strengthen these sectors, providing continuity and predictability for investors. Under Trump's previous term, however, his administration prioritised tax cuts and defence spending, bolstering traditional energy and military industries. This approach could once again lead to short-term gains in those sectors but also risks increased federal deficits and trade imbalances, impacting long-term economic stability.

### Conclusion

As the U.S. 2024 election nears, global markets are on edge. The outcome will set the tone for fiscal policies, regulatory priorities, and trade relations. For Australian investors, a Democratic win could mean continued growth in renewable investments and steadier international relations. A Republican win might favour traditional industries but could amplify trade tensions, especially with China. With both parties' policies diverging sharply, international investors are bracing for potential market shifts. This election thus represents a watershed moment, shaping not only the U.S. economic trajectory but also its global economic relations, with Australia keeping a close watch on how these decisions may impact its own economic fortunes.

*The information above does not constitute financial or other professional advice and is general in nature. It does not take into account your specific circumstances and should not be acted on without a full understanding of your current situation and future goals and objectives by a fully qualified financial advisor. Before you make any decision about whether to acquire a certain financial product, you should obtain and read the relevant product disclosure statement.*



The packhorse sculpture was carefully transported by the Council.

## Poowong pioneer packhorse removed for restoration work

By Courtney O'Brien

HAVING weathered storms, frosts and summer heat for the past 25 years, the Poowong packhorse has seen better days, with faded and peeling paint and cracks and dents covering it from nose to tail.

It was time, decided the Poowong Community Consultative Committee (PCCC) that the life-size red gum replica had a spell and got some attention in the form of repair and restoration.

"It's got to the point where it's got a lot of rot in it, and it's going to need a full upgrade and renovation," said PCCC member Lorraine Brunt.

"We have earned a bit of money to do the restoration, which is quite a substantial amount."

The horse was harnessed and removed from its place in Poowong's main street last week and carefully transported by the Council to a shed in Ruby where it will dry out before being tended to.

Talented local wood-worker and artist, who

people passing stop to have a look and kids have a walk around it," added Lorraine.

The Pioneer Packhorse statue was originally donated by Alex Scott & Staff and Scott family members to honour James and Elizabeth Scott, the first settlers of Poowong.

They unveiled the statue alongside Mr Bruce Gibson on April 18, 1999, to mark the 125th anniversary of the settlement of Poowong.

The statue pays tribute to the town's rich history as a hub for packhorse transportation and was created by Rod Sheehan and underwent restoration by Ken Blum in 2006.

It is estimated that the restoration work will take about 12 months to be completed.

"I think it'll be magnificent and I'm looking forward to it coming back. As I say, probably the rest of the community will also be grateful to see it once it's all done," said Lorraine.



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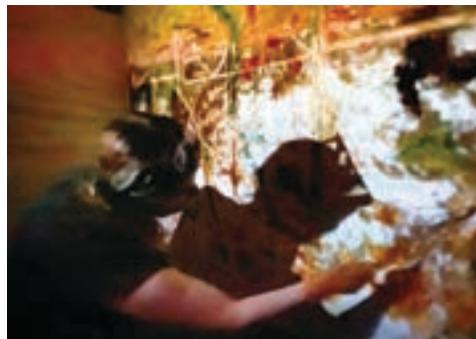
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CG130914



Using her homemade transportable camera obscura Karen worked in the dark drawing and painting the images projected inside.



Karen completed her final art project on the destruction of nature from the storms in Mirboo North.

## Using art to heal the loss of nature in Mirboo North

By Courtney O'Brien

TO PROCESS her grief and heartache about the loss of the trees, forests and nature from the storms in Mirboo North earlier this year, emerging artist Karen Zipkas channelled her creative side.

A third-year visual arts student at Federation University, Karen is anxious about climate change and was devastated by the ruin the storms wreaked on the area and decided to base her final project on this.

Initially, she literally looked away when confronted with the destruction.

"I was just so devastated by the loss of all the trees and forests around Mirboo North. It's my favourite area. Mark and I always go walking there, we go shopping there, we hang out at Lamezleighs, we are in Thorpdale but spend a lot of time in Mirboo North.

"I thought it just makes absolute sense to focus my work in that area and record it and it was just kind of a way of processing it and acknowledging my grief, rather than pretending; because I'd come to Mirboo North and not look at anything."

The idea to create a camera obscura came to Karen when she was lying in bed on a hot day with the curtains closed.

"We got a little pinhole camera effect on the wall and then I thought, oh, imagine having one in the room, and then I went, imagine having one that

you could drive around everywhere."

After a short search, Karen found a box trailer, bought it, put a hole in the wall, added black-out curtains and successfully converted it into a transportable camera obscura.

"You shut the little trailer door, pull it down, and it makes a totally dark space and then the image will come through the hole in the wall."

Karen hooked up the trailer and with her iPhone set up inside on a tripod, recorded the projected images while driving slowly past the swimming pool, the forests and the streets of Mirboo North.

"We didn't know what we were going to get," she admits.

"It's got this incredible weird footage because it's upside down (it inverts in the box). So, it's inverted, but also colours are muted and it's kind of fuzzy, so it looks like a blurry painting or photograph."

Karen parked outside some of the big trees that had fallen on Dickies Hill and projected the image onto a large sheet of drawing paper inside the camera.

Initially, she was disappointed with the result as she imagined she would be able to recreate the scene perfectly.

"I shut myself in there with acrylic paints, and just

tried to paint in the dark. To paint over what I was seeing and then open up the lights and see what I've got, and I just have sort of scrappy, abstract marks."

Karen then took a photo of the projected scene with her phone and was amazed by the final result.

"You get these incredible images, because you get the layering of the paint and the actual original image of the embedded image, and they're just stunning. They're really abstract, kind of like painterly, a bit weird, like old photos, but kind of weird colours everywhere, and it's really effective."

Working this way, in the dark, also allowed other things to emerge.

"It kind of was all about me just sitting there (in the dark) and acknowledging that all these trees are being destroyed and it's really sad, and it just helped me process it by painting it," explains Karen.

"And it's okay, because I was more interested in capturing the moment rather than a perfect picture."

"It's been really healing."

Karen's artwork, including drawings, paintings, photos and videos will be on display, together with her camera obscura so people can go in and do their own drawings if they want to.

The exhibition opening will be held on Wednesday, November 13, 5pm, at the Switchback Gallery, Federation University, Churchill.

## GSHS enhances residential model of care

GIPPSLAND Southern Health Service (GSHS) is enhancing its residential model of care with the introduction of a new 'household' model.

While clinical quality will remain an intrinsic part of GSHS's residential aged care, in the new model holistic person-centred care is key to how services are delivered to residents.

GSHS Manager Transformation and Community Engagement, Sandra Panagiris, said the aged care sector had been in rapid reform over the past decade with heightened reform following the Royal Commission into Aged Care Quality and Safety.

New Strengthened Quality Standards to be released on July 2025 will place older people at the centre of aged care, increase protections for older people, support people living with dementia,

better include people from diverse backgrounds and provide stronger requirements for clinical care and food and nutrition.

Ms Panagiris said this provided GSHS an opportunity to review the existing model and create a more contemporary model of care that aligns with the direction of the reform and the intended outcomes of the new quality standards.

"The new model of care we're working towards is a household model where holistic person-centred care is key to how we deliver services to our residents," she said.

The introduction of a 'household' model aims to provide care and support that is evidenced-based, person-centred and provides a social model with a balance between creating a 'home-like' environment and high

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Please refer to the NOPSEMA brochure Consultation on offshore petroleum environment plans brochure.pdf (nopsema.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.

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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>



All the above sessions will run from 5.00pm - 7.00pm with a presentation about decommissioning.

We encourage you to come along and ask questions or to raise any concerns you may have. Please register your attendance by emailing: [consultation@exxonmobil.com](mailto:consultation@exxonmobil.com)

If these dates and times don't suit, please contact us at [consultation@exxonmobil.com](mailto:consultation@exxonmobil.com) or by phone on 03 9261 0000.

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

- Gippsland Basin Geophysical and Geotechnical Investigations
- Kipper - Sub-Sea Drilling
- Turrum Phase 3 Drilling
- South-East Australia Carbon Capture & Storage (SEA CCS) Project.

## Partnership to save plovers

WEST Gippsland Catchment Management Authority (the CMA) is excited to announce a new \$1.5 million project aimed at saving one of our region's much-loved native birds from extinction.

Eastern Hooded Plovers — affectionately known as 'Hoodies' — are tiny shorebirds that nest along the Victorian coastline where the adults, their eggs and chicks are highly vulnerable to disturbance by humans, coastal weeds, rough weather, off-lead dogs and their number one predator — foxes.

Together with BirdLife Australia, Bunurong Land Council Aboriginal Corporation, Bass Coast Landcare Network, South Gippsland Landcare, Parks Victoria and the community, the CMA is embarking on a four-year project to help the survival of Hoodies.

Toward Zero Extinctions: Protect the Eastern Hooded Plover will involve protecting nests during breeding season, controlling foxes and other introduced pests, and engaging the community about the plight of the plover — and how they can help its survival.

"There are only around 3000 Hoodies remaining in south-eastern Australia and less than 2.5 percent of Hooded Plover eggs make it to adult stage," said Shayne Haywood, the CMA's Manager — Land and Biodiversity.

"The coastline between San Remo and Inverloch is home to the second largest population of Hooded Plovers in Victoria so it's vital that we work together to protect these vulnerable native species whose survival depends on having safe, protected breeding sites," said Shayne.

During breeding season, Hoodies face many threats to survival, from people accidentally trampling their nests to off-lead dogs scaring the birds and eating their eggs. Even if the eggs successfully hatch, Hoodie chicks can't fly for the first five weeks of their life, making them highly vulnerable to predators, particularly foxes.



**New \$1.5M project unites Gippsland in saving Eastern Hooded Plovers from extinction.**

To reduce this threat, the CMA and partners will undertake a coordinated approach to fox control across public and private land, conducted in partnership with landholders and Parks Victoria.

"By reducing fox numbers, we can help increase the chance of survival for eggs and fledglings and help boost the population of Hoodies overall."

Enclosing vulnerable breeding sites to protect nests and chicks and signage at beaches are also key activities of the program, supported by BirdLife Australia's monitoring program and population counts.

"Many people in our community already know about the plight of plovers and are actively involved in their protection by avoiding nesting sites, keeping dogs on leads at the beach and volunteering through BirdLife Australia's Beach-nesting Birds Program."

"This partnership project is an exciting next step in the protection and recovery of plover populations in West Gippsland. The CMA is thrilled to be involved in this important work as part of our role in catchment health and protecting the region's unique biodiversity."

This project is funded by the Australian Government Natural Heritage Trust and delivered by West Gippsland CMA, a member of the Commonwealth Regional Delivery Partners panel.

## Seniors festival success

WHAT a month it's been celebrating the 2024 Victorian Seniors Festival!

This October, Bass Coast Shire Council joined with local seniors to celebrate the 2024 Victorian Seniors Festival in style. With the theme "Explore. Engage. Evolve," the festival was packed with events that inspired connection, creativity, and pure enjoyment.

The Johnny Cash and June Carter Show in Berninnett, Cowes, was a major hit, with the husband-and-wife duo Mark and Joanne Caliguri delivering a sold-out performance that had everyone singing along. Attendees enjoyed free transport, arriving in style.

Next, the Invy Horn Jam lit up Warrawee Seniors Club with bold tunes and colourful energy. Based in Inverloch and South Gippsland, this lively street band filled the venue with a fusion of brass, sax, and percussion that brought out smiles and a lot of dancing. The Warrawee Club, an over-50s community, offers weekly activities and events, and their 'Live Music Monday' was no exception, complete with a raffle, afternoon tea, laughter, and plenty of toe-tapping.

Arts and crafts were in full bloom at the Corinella and District Community Centre, where participants let their creativity shine. This cherished Waterline community spot was bustling with creativity, and everyone left with a new plant and colourful pot to bring home and brighten their space.

Meanwhile, the Victorian Concert Orchestra treated the Wonthaggi Union Community Arts Centre to an afternoon of musical magic, performing an array of classics that included everything from Bach to Broadway. With a 50-piece ensemble, the orchestra catered to a wide range of musical tastes, creating a memorable experience for all.

In the words of Lesley, a returning participant from 2023's festival, "Use it or lose it!"

Since last year, she's been attending L.I.F.E. classes at CrossFit Bass Coast and loves the difference she feels.

"I love how much stronger I feel in my garden and on walks," she says, proving that the festival's energy doesn't stop with October.



**There wasn't a plain shirt in sight as bold colours and bolder tunes filled the Warrawee Seniors Club.**



**Lucky members of the sold-out audience were invited onstage to Get Rhythm during the Johnny Cash and June Carter Show.**



**Attendees at the Corinella and District Community Centre had a tire-iffic time upcycling planters.**

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## Forrest Caves stairway and beach access upgrades

ACCESS to Forrest Caves Beach will be restricted as works are undertaken to upgrade the main beach access stairways.

The stairway structure was identified for upgrades after strengthening works to eroded staircase footings in 2022 and in a subsequent infrastructure audit.

The works, which will be completed by Phillip Island Nature Parks and local contractors in two stages, will involve a redevelopment of the north and south stairways to address structural slumping and deteriorating materials and fixings.

In addition, the stairs and landings will be reconfigured to meet compliance standards.

The main staircase to Forrest Caves beach will be closed during the works and access to the shore redirected via the Bruce Avenue track.

The first stage is scheduled to start in late October and will conclude in mid-December before the peak summer holiday period. Once complete, beach access will be re-opened. The second stage will be undertaken next year, with exact dates still being finalised.

Phillip Island Nature Parks General Manager Infrastructure and Planning, Jarvis Weston, said Forrest Caves beach had seen a significant increase in recent visitation and the works were necessary to ensure the safety of beachgoers.

"The planned reconfiguration of stairs and landings upon the existing alignment will provide a significant improvement to access and egress to Forrest Caves beach so the local community and visitors can continue to enjoy this beautiful location," Mr Weston said.

"The impact on vegetation and cultural heritage will be minimised as the upgrades will occur on the existing structure alignment.

"We envisage increased patronage of the Bruce Avenue access and parking may be limited, so we ask beachgoers to plan ahead and please be patient."

"We will continually assess safety around the area and will open access if it is safe to do so on weekends and public holidays."

Download the Surf Life Saving Beachsafe app and access important information available on the Life Saving Victoria website and throughout the Visitor Information Centres.

Warning swimming is not advised at Forrest Caves or Forrest Caves (Bruce Ave), visit [penguins.org.au/](http://penguins.org.au/) visit/safety for more information.

Visit [penguins.org.au/about/our-community/projects-and-maintenance/](http://penguins.org.au/about/our-community/projects-and-maintenance/) for the latest project updates.



Helen and Peter Wright, third and fourth from the left, at the Australian International Olive Awards.

## Grassy Spur Olives recognised for tasty and high-quality oil

GRASSY Spur Olives of Stony Creek took out the Best in Show award for Boutique Volume Frantoio Extra Virgin Olive Oil (EVOO) at the annual Australian International Olive Awards held recently in Bendigo.

The Frantoio EVOO was also awarded the Best of Victoria, and Champion Italian Varietal olive oil.

Grassy Spur Olives Picual EVOO was named the Champion Spanish Varietal.

After a bumper harvest this year, recognition of the boutique South Gippsland olive grove's high-quality products was a testament to the commitment and passion of owners Helen and Peter Wright.

"It is nice to get recognised for good quality," Peter said, adding it helps sales.

The business gets orders from all over Australia.

Approximately 80 per cent of this year's harvest is Frantoio, with Helen describing the award-winning oil as "peppery and full of flavour".

The judges' tasting notes provided a detailed description.

"A light mouthfeel, with lovely freshness, balanced bitterness and a warm spicy white pepper hit" are among the characteristics they noted, observing the explosion of flavours linger on the palate.

Less than 5000 litres of the oil was produced, making it eligible for the Boutique Volume category.



Peter Wright and dog Milly in an olive grove. A04a\_4524

Spanish Varietal Picual won Grassy Spur Olives 'Best in Show' in 2013 and continues to earn recognition.

"It's a consistent gold medal winner and a beautiful oil," Helen said.

While a more mellow oil than Frantoio, this year's judges were impressed with what they tasted in choosing Grassy Spur Olives Picual as Champion Spanish Varietal.

They described it as "complex with obvious flavour", also finding "herbal notes" and a "creamy mouthfeel with appreciated bitterness and the presence of dry fruit aromas".

At Grassy Spur Olives, Picual is used as the pollinator throughout the grove, with pollination driven by wind and bees.

Peter explained that in wet conditions wind pollination is not effective, prompting the decision to have bee hives in the groves, which adds an extra string to the business' bow, 'Grassy Spur Pure Honey' being unblended and not heat treated.

Grassy Spur Olives, sitting in a hilltop location overlooking Stony Creek Racecourse, consists of four groves, on 26 acres, and a total of 1524 olive trees, with the initial plantings taking place in 2005.

Helen and Peter bought the land, which had been used as a dairy farmer's turnout paddock, in 2004, having no knowledge of olives at the time but doing extensive research and gaining vast experience since.

While they expanded by buying a small farm next door, there is no intention to get any larger.

Helen and Peter's oils are mostly single varieties, with one premium blend.

Peter processes all the oil during the olive harvest which usually runs for around six weeks.

He also processes olive oil for others with groves in the area, including Devon Siding Olives north of Yarram, which joined Grassy Spur Olives among this year's Platinum Award winners.

During processing, olives are cleaned, crushed and rotated to extract the oil that is then stored and allowed to settle.

Nothing left over in the production process goes to waste with olive leaves scattered in the groves and the paste produced during oil extraction also eventually returned to the groves once its acidity has broken down.

Grassy Spur Olive Oil is available through South Gippsland and Bass Coast Shire food retailers listed on the business' website.

You can also purchase online through the website or visit by appointment and look around, with a tasting room to sample the products, and onsite sales.

Please call Peter or Helen if wanting to visit Grassy Spur Olives.

## Phillip Island is springing to life

Welcome new life on the island at the **Penguin Parade**, **Koala Conservation Reserve** and all the farm excitement on **Churchill Island**.



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# Wonthaggi Toyota Service Department



## MEET THE NEW TEAM



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Parts Manager



**Jessica Palmer**  
Service Advisor



**Ryan McGuirk**  
Service Advisor



**Sarah Prowse**  
Parts Interpreter



**Jonathan McKenzie**  
Workshop Foreman



**Mitchell Roberts**  
Technician



**Michael Carroll**  
Technician



**Colin Stanbury**  
Technician



**Andrew Suckling**  
Trade Assistant



**Michael Suckling**  
Apprentice



**Molli Brusamarello**  
Apprentice



**Matthew Carver**  
Apprentice



**James Wilson**  
Apprentice



**Hemant Kumar**  
Detailer



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**OH WHAT A FEELING**

# Newhaven College School Fete coming up this Friday

NEWHAVEN College's Parents and Friends Association (PFA) have been working hard to prepare for this year's annual Newhaven College School Fete to be held at 3.30-7.30pm on Friday, 8 November. The local community are encouraged to come along. The day promises to be bigger and better than last year, with plenty on offer, including:

Food trucks, such as Twisted Potato, OMG Decadent Donuts, The Jersey Milkshake Van and delicious arancini balls from Isola di Capri.

Food stalls including fairy floss, popcorn, snow cones, the canteen, BBQ sausage sizzle and a wonderful preserves and lemonade stall.

Amusement rides including Chair-O-Plane, Rockwall, Tea Cup Ride, King Croc Slide, Jungle Adventure and a petting zoo, Lucky Bottles, Lucky Dip and Chocolate Coin Toss.

Stalls such as crazy hair, face painting, showbags, second-hand book and uniform stalls.

Musical entertainment from our students and teachers, bar stocked with the best local beers and wines, market stalls, a silent auction with amazing offerings, local CFA and police and a Teacher Sliming for students who won a PFA Colour

Run award!

Entry to the fete is free, however, attendees are encouraged to pre-order via TryBooking [trybooking.com/CVRJV](http://trybooking.com/CVRJV).

Cash passports in \$10 or \$20 denominations allow children the ability to purchase items or play games at school-operated stalls only.

Discounted ride wristbands for \$15 allow for unlimited rides and entry to the animal petting zoo. Wristbands can be purchased on the day for \$20.

\$10 entry into the Newhaven College Stars Lotto for entry into our annual raffle for the following amazing prizes:

- 1st Prize: \$500 Cash Gift Card & 3 Park Super Pass (Penguin Parade, Koala Conservation Reserve & Churchill Island) from Phillip Island Nature Parks
- 2nd Prize: Amaze'N Things Family Attraction Pass
- 3rd Prize: Wildlife Coast Cruises Family Cruise
- 4th Prize: A hamper from Engaging Engraving
- 5th Prize: Family Pass to Grumpy's Golf

The Newhaven College PFA sincerely thank all sponsors and contributors for their generous donations and assistance in making this an event to remember!



Lachie, Anette, Abbey, Joanne and Julie get set to welcome brave children to the Witches Coven. A06\_4524

## Spooky joy at Coal Creek



Emily Hulls and Cooper and Hamish Price go on a quest for treats. A08\_4524

A TERRIFIC community effort made the Coal Creek Halloween celebration a great success on Thursday, kids and their adult companions having a ball visiting the spooky treat stations, with the impressive bonfire another highlight.

All attendees, no matter what Halloween costume they wore, proved to be witches, the presiding judge appearing quite accepting of that given his companions were all witches too.

Attendees followed a map, answering questions on the back of it related to each treat station.

In addition to all the treats they collected on the way around, their efforts

earned them a Halloween colouring book and pencils.

The book contained a collection of jokes for the occasion, such as "Why didn't the skeleton like his Halloween Treat?"

"Because he didn't have the stomach for it."

People visited the 'Spectral Spinners', 'Creepy Carriageworks', 'Corpse Courthouse', and the 'Devil's Store'.

They dined with 'Dr Death', survived the 'Chapel of the Ghouls' and enjoyed more substantial food offerings alongside All Hallows Hub.

Korumburra Lions Clubs sold sausages in bread, with the local Rotary Club offering hot chips.

the two organisations raising funds for the valuable services they provide.

Friends of Coal Creek president Roger Powell was delighted with the combined efforts of the community groups who made the event a success.

He also praised the contribution of the Coal Creek Management Team from the South Gippsland Shire Council who did an amazing job of preparing the Park, organising the trail and event.

There were 72 volunteers on the night, many dressed in Halloween attire and all providing a joyful experience for the approximately 900 children and 600 adults who attended.

Eight community clubs

contributed to the \$2600 purchase price of treats for the children, with a further seven groups helping on the day.

Organisations involved were: Lions Club Korumburra, Rotary Club of Korumburra, Friends of Coal Creek, Korumburra Community Development Association, Korumburra Koringal Auxiliary, Korumburra Italian Social Club, Korumburra Basketball Association, A&P Society Korumburra, Coal Creek Shire Volunteers, Coal Creek Spinners and Weavers, Lyric Theatre, Men's Shed Korumburra, Milpara Community House, Lions Club of Inverloch, and Korumburra Round Table.

NEWHAVEN COLLEGE

# School FETE

FRIDAY 8 NOVEMBER 2024

3.30 - 7.30PM

EVERYONE IS WELCOME TO JOIN IN THE FUN!

- AMUSEMENTS, RIDES & GAMES
- MUSICAL ACTS
- PETTING ZOO • FOOD TRUCKS
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## Consumer Representative Recruitment



### Want to Make a Difference in Local Healthcare?

Join Gippsland Southern Health Service as a Consumer Representative! At GSHS, we're dedicated to building a healthier local community, but we can't do it alone.

We're inviting community members to partner with us as Consumer Representatives—an essential role where your voice directly influences the quality and safety of our care.

### Why Become a Consumer Representative?

If you're passionate about improving healthcare for our community, your unique insights and experiences are invaluable to us.

### As a Consumer Representative, you'll:

- Review brochures and guides to ensure they meet community needs.
- Advise on programs and services in collaborative working groups.
- Share your health journey to educate staff and fellow consumers.
- Provide a consumer perspective in key governance discussions.
- Contribute to shaping healthcare strategies and policies for our local community's future.

### Current Opportunities

We're currently seeking committed individuals to fill two Consumer Representative roles:

#### 1. Consumer Safety and Quality Committee

- Work alongside the GSHS Board and executive staff to ensure the highest standards of care and safety. This role involves 4-6 meetings a year (virtual and in-person) with paid attendance.

#### 2. Best Care and Consumer Safety Committee

- Join senior leaders and executives to bring the consumer voice to GSHS's care decisions. This position requires a commitment to 6 face-to-face meetings per year, with paid attendance.

No health industry experience? No problem! We provide ongoing support to ensure you're comfortable and effective in your role.

### Interested in Joining Us?

Be a part of a meaningful change in your local community's healthcare.

Take this opportunity to make a difference, support your community, and help GSHS deliver the best possible care for all. Your voice matters—join us in shaping the future of local healthcare.

For more details, contact us today:

0419 921 908 or

03 5667 5504

[kate.ginnivan@gshs.com.au](mailto:kate.ginnivan@gshs.com.au)



# Meet Gippsland's offshore wind developers

**Offshore wind energy is a new opportunity to continue electricity generation in Gippsland, bringing jobs and investment to the region.**

Come and meet the developers behind Gippsland's proposed offshore wind projects. Meet locals already working in the industry, hear about project plans, view maps and share your ideas and feedback.

Government agencies VicGrid, Offshore Wind Energy Victoria and the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water will also be there to answer questions about transmission and energy plans.

We look forward to seeing you there.

## Proposed Gippsland offshore wind projects

- **Star of the South** (Southerly Ten)
- **Kut-Wut Brataualung** (Southerly Ten)
- **Great Eastern Offshore Wind** (Corio Generation)
- **Gippsland Dawn** (BlueFloat Energy)
- **Navigator North** (Origin and RES)
- **Gippsland 01** (Orsted)
- **Gippsland 02** (Orsted)
- **Gippsland Skies** (AGL, Direct Infrastructure, Mainstream Renewable Power, Reventus Power)
- **Aurora Green** (Iberdrola Australia)
- **Blue Mackerel** (JERA Nex/Parkwind)
- **Kent Offshore Wind** (RWE)
- **High Sea Wind** (Ocean Winds)

## Foster

Wednesday 13 November 3–6 pm

Free BBQ provided

Manna Gum Community House

## Traralgon

Thursday 14 November 4–6 pm

Free BBQ provided

Gippsland Performing Arts Centre,  
Meeting Room 1 & 2

## Yarram

Saturday 23 November 8:30 am – 3:30 pm

Yarram Agricultural Show



## Embrace the spirit of giving this Christmas

WONTHAGGI VIEW Club is calling on the community to embrace the festive season spirit of giving and help raise funds for The Smith Family's Christmas Appeal, to ensure thousands of students experiencing disadvantage can be supported in their education in 2025.

The charity aims to raise \$4.91 million nationally through the appeal, which will provide more than 11,700 children with access to critical learning and mentoring programs to help them stay engaged and motivated at school.

This includes programs like student2student, which pairs younger students with young reading buddies, and after-school Learning Clubs, where students get support with their homework from trained volunteers – many of whom are VIEW Club members.

Wonthaggi Evening VIEW Club president Carmel said this work is more important than ever as families face the ongoing effect of cost-of-living increases.

"Today in Australia, one in six children are growing up in poverty, limiting their ability to make the most of their education. Everyone is feeling the on-going effects of the cost-of-living crisis, but it is not felt equally."

"For families who were already doing it tough, the higher cost-of-living means having to make tough choices between everyday bills and being able to support their children's education."

"All funds raised through donations to the Christmas Appeal will ensure students can take part in The Smith Family's evidence-based numeracy, literacy, tutoring, digital and mentoring programs to help them catch up and keep up at school," she said.

Nationally VIEW Clubs currently support more than 1785 students on the charity's flagship Learning for Life program, which provides educational, personal and financial support.

"We love hearing about how well our students are doing on the program and receive several letters a year which detail their achievements, hopes, and dreams. We are so proud of the young people we support, and there's no better time than Christmas to show them our generosity."

VIEW (Voice, Interests and Education of Women) is a national women's organisation and support network, bringing together women to enjoy social activities, develop skills, and make connections – all while supporting Australian children experiencing disadvantage.

For those who are interested to find out more about VIEW or who would like to join visit [view.org.au](http://view.org.au) or call President Carmel on 0418781544

For more information on the appeal, go to [thesmithfamily.com.au](http://thesmithfamily.com.au) or call 1800 024 069.

# The romantic allure of Rosa 'Pierre de Ronsard'



Don Griggs from Ruby's key to success is "Prune, deadhead and train the rose at the right time. We feed a bit of rose food twice a year and mulch madly."



Maureen Quigley of Drouin loves the full rounded blooms, "he is very generous with them, usually masses of flowers with each burst, I always know I can pick a lovely bunch at a time and he is very vigorous."



Wendy McDonald of Leongatha's Pierre de Ronsard wraps spectacularly around her porch.

THIS year, Leongatha's Rose Spectacular celebrates the charm and resilience of Rosa 'Pierre de Ronsard', one of the most beloved climbing roses worldwide. Known for its abundant, timeless blooms and impressive hardiness, Pierre de Ronsard has captivated gardeners and rose lovers alike since its introduction in 1985. Originally bred by Meiland International in France for warm, Mediterranean climates, the rose has found a strong following in Australia, thriving in the country's hot, dry conditions. The rose's strength and beauty have won it accolades, including being named the "World's Favourite Rose" and an induction into the Rose Hall of Fame by the World Federation of Rose Societies in 2006.

The rose takes its name from Pierre de Ronsard, a celebrated French Renaissance poet known for his lyrical odes. Meiland dedicated the rose to Ronsard in honor of the 400th anniversary of his death in 1585, a fitting tribute given his famous poem, "Ode to Cassandra," where he likens a fleeting rose to the beauty of youth. Originally named Eden Rose '85, this rose was later renamed to commemorate Ronsard.

The creation of Pierre de Ronsard reflects both art and precision, bred from a deliberate crossing of two unique rose varieties. Its seed parent, Danse des Sylphes, was combined with Handel, a climbing rose, and then crossed with Climbing Pink Wonder to produce this rose's remarkable structure and colour palette. The result is an exquisite flower with creamy pink petals that deepen to carmine at the centre, containing over 60 petals in each bloom. The flowers bend gracefully under their own weight, enhanced by

glossy dark green foliage and a growth habit well-suited for arches, trellises, and pillars.

The classic Pierre de Ronsard bloom is creamy pink, but it also has several beautiful variations. Rosa Blushing Pierre de Ronsard displays delicate creamy white blooms with subtle pink blushes in cool weather. The Red Pierre de Ronsard variety produces vibrant crimson flowers, a captivating option for those seeking a 'old world' bold addition to their garden.

The rose thrives in sunny positions with well-draining, organically rich soil. During dry spells, deep watering helps sustain strong roots, although Pierre de Ronsard is notably drought-tolerant once established. This variety benefits from regular feeding, mulching, and deadheading to encourage continuous blooming throughout the season. Pruning in late winter or early spring promotes new growth, while tying its long, arching canes ready for next season's flowers.

Local growers in Leongatha, like Glenice and Don Griggs, adore this rose for its cheerful colour and growth habit.

"We love the colour and growth habit of this rose, it's bright and cheery, it's a good rose," they shared.

Wendy McDonald loves the rose's pink-and-cream blooms and disease resistance. "Regular feeding, mulching, summer deadheading and late winter pruning keep the rose healthy. Don't let the aphids take over – I use an eco-oil and fish emulsion spray to keep pests at bay."

Check out what promises to be a spectacular display featuring the Pierre de Ronsard amongst other rose's at Leongatha Garden Club's 51st Rose Spectacular on November 16 and 17 at The Dakers Centre, Leongatha.



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# 51st Rose Spectacular

Saturday, 16th November 2024 / 12pm - 5pm  
Sunday, 17th November 2024 / 9am - 4pm

The Dakers Centre, Cnr Watt & Smith St, Leongatha

The 51st Leongatha Rose Spectacular, featuring stunning displays, large cut flower section, posies and a plant stall

Admission \$5 / Children free

Phone Sue: 0417 686 336 or email [suethompson3953@gmail.com](mailto:suethompson3953@gmail.com)

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2021 Renault Trafic Premium  
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FINANCE AVAILABLE

2014 Ford Focus Sport LW MkII  
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96,978kms, 6 speed sports auto hatch  
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2013 Holden Calais V VF  
**28,990** DRIVE AWAY

140,777kms, 6 speed sports auto wagon SN: W101888



LOW KMS

2021 Hyundai Venue Active  
**24,990** DRIVE AWAY

15,587kms, 6 speed auto SUV  
SN: W101869



PRICE DROP

2019 Honda Odyssey VTi-L  
**33,990** DRIVE AWAY

79,855kms, 7 speed CVT auto people mover SN: W101808

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2014 Ford Ranger XLT PX  
**20,990** DRIVE AWAY

165,227kms, 6 speed CVT auto 4x4 double cab SN: L101239



FINANCE AVAILABLE

2019 Toyota Fortuner GXL  
**44,990** DRIVE AWAY

88,620kms, 6 speed CVT auto 4x4 SUV SN: L101228



FINANCE AVAILABLE

2016 Mitsubishi Triton GLS MQ  
**19,990** DRIVE AWAY

258,356kms, 5 speed CVT auto 4x4 double cab SN: L101190



FINANCE AVAILABLE

2019 Toyota Hilux Rogue  
**49,990** DRIVE AWAY

90,100kms, 6 speed CVT auto 4x4 double cab SN: L101221



FINANCE AVAILABLE

2019 Ford Everest Trend UA II  
**27,990** DRIVE AWAY

178,324kms, 10 speed CVT auto SUV SN: L101133



DEMO

2023 Ford F-150 Lariat LWB  
**139,990** DRIVE AWAY

22kms, 10 speed CVT auto 4x4 utility DBA 246



FINANCE AVAILABLE

2019 Toyota Camry Ascent  
**33,990** DRIVE AWAY

62,570kms, 6 speed CVT auto sedan SN: L101194



FINANCE AVAILABLE

2023 Mitsubishi Outlander Aspire ZM  
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**OH WHAT A FEELING**

# Bass Coast College



Bass Coast College's graduating 12E class. Tk27\_4424



Special awards went to Shaye Brown (Gippsland Veterinary Clinic Science Award), Louisa Poll (ADF Long Tan Youth Leadership and Teamwork Award), Raphael Spiteri-Stevens (ADF Long Tan Future Innovators Award), Romi Purdey (The Miners Dispensary John Lindsay Memorial Scholarship VCE VM Student of the Year) and Eliza Wintle (TAFE Gippsland VET Award). Tk33\_4424



Bass Coast College's graduating 12F class. Tk28\_4424



Bass Coast College's Year 12 student leaders were congratulated for their contributions to the school in 2024. The student leader team included Connor Maher Lemaitre (student leader), Amy Scott (sport leader), Kalahni Barnes (library leader), Connor Orchard (Environment Club), Zac Mabilia (student leader), Asha McMahon (arts leader), Shaye Brown (student leader), Richie Arnold (VCE VM leader), Louisa Poll (student leader), Ciara McCraw (student leader), Dillen Andrigutto (student leader), Dylan Cleary (arts leader), Jessica McGuirk (arts leader) and Charlie Slater (sport leader). Tk35\_4424



Bass Coast College's graduating 12G class. Tk29\_4424



Key learning area awards went to Harry Gough (Materials Technology), Jas Williams (Health and PE), Sonny Merryfull (Humanities), Ciara McCraw (Life Sciences), Louisa Poll (English), Ned Brown (Food Studies Technology), Raphael Spiteri-Stevens (Physical Sciences and Mathematics), Mak Krause (The Arts - Visual Henry Hammond Award), Katie Fisher (Business Commerce), Kira Mascaros (Outdoor Education) and Asha McMahon (The Arts - Performing). Tk32\_4424



Bass Coast College's graduating 12B class. Tk24\_4424



Bass Coast College's graduating Vocational Major class 12M. Tk31\_4424

# congratulates class of 2024

BASS Coast College's class of 2024 graduated recently.

The official graduation ceremony was held at the Wonthaggi Union Community Arts Centre, with celebrations following on at the Wonthaggi Workmen's Club.

Around 170 students graduated, including two classes of Vocational Major (VM) students.

Acting college principal Leith Cummins said the graduation was a culmination of hard work, growth and resilience shown by the Year 12 students.

She said the graduation was about celebrating the achievements of the Year 12 students who navigated their way through one of the most formative and challenging stages of their lives.

Year 12 coordinator Vaughan Gleeson said many of the students were graduating after years of hard work, and were well prepared for their upcoming exams and their futures ahead.

"I'd also like to acknowledge the students who haven't found such a direct path," he said.

"Some have struggled, particularly through the COVID period. The idea of them finishing school might've appeared quite challenging. They found ways to persevere and get through with the support of their friends, classmates, teachers and family, and here they are."

Senior campus principal Ross Bramley congratulated the graduating class on a highly successful six years of schooling.

"They've been a wonderful group through all their experiences, right from the Year 7 Adventure Camp in Phillip Island to the Year 12 Tertiary Camp, to all of their sport, art and music events, the excursions, and all the different classes they've tried and the teachers and staff they have worked with," he said.

"I do hope that the class of 2024 looks back on their time at Bass Coast College with fond memories that will only get better with time."

Mr Bramley also thanked the sponsors of the scholarships, which were presented to some of the students on the night.



Bass Coast College's graduating 12A class. Tk23\_4424



Bass Coast College's graduating 12C class. Tk25\_4424



Bass Coast College's graduating 12D class. Tk26\_4424



Watersure asset manager Greg Board with scholarship recipients Antonella Sepulveda Olmedo (Watersure Community Scholarship), Amy Scott (Watersure Tertiary Scholarship) and Dillen Andrigutto (Watersure Tertiary Scholarship). Tk34\_4424



Bass Coast College's graduating Vocational Major class 12L. Tk30\_4424



Jasmine Crutchfield graduated from Federation University recently.

## Graduation celebrated

FORMER Mirboo North resident Jasmine Crutchfield recently graduated from Federation University with a Bachelor of Community and Human Services.

The graduation ceremony held on October 15 ticked off five years of hard work.

"The degree was skewed towards community human services and working with vulnerable cohorts, including people impacted by family violence and youth homelessness," Jasmine said.

"I've already been in the community service sector for 15 years and I hold a senior management position with the Salvation Army in Gippsland. This has consolidated that role and was an opportunity to revisit some of the theory.

"It's something I've wanted to do for a while, and it's really exciting and very rewarding now that I've completed it."

Jasmine had completed advanced diplomas prior to studying with Federation University, and some of the credits went towards her degree.

Jasmine said it was great to have the formal recognition of the graduation ceremony and was proud to share the moment with her mother and daughter.

"It was a good bookend experience and it's nice to now be certified," she said.

"I heard a lot of encouraging words from my family and friends, who are all very proud."

She will now be focusing her energy on her new business, which she launched with her partner Ben Plozza and another couple from Traralgon.

The Traralgon-based business is called The Collective Cospace, and it provides people with a unique and inclusive working environment to conduct business-related endeavours. It offers a functional range of workstations, meeting rooms, and communal office spaces.

"It will allow me to continue my passion of leading and supporting people in a business framework. I want to help people feel empowered," she said.

Jasmine also works part-time with Gippsland Women's Health.

She feels there was a lot of merit to returning to study with more life experience, and encourages others thinking about going back to study to do the same.

"Studying later in life is a lot different to studying straight out of school. For me, I had problems applying discipline right after school and hadn't had the right life experience yet," she said.

"Coming back to study was easier because my work experience prepared me with more of the knowledge I needed."

"I think it's a pathway more students should consider. When I was at school, the only pathway to a good career was university. It's important to understand now that there are other pathways to get good jobs, and that should be supported and encouraged. Adult learning is just as rewarding."

She thanked her family for providing the support she needed to finish her degree.



Cancer Council cheque – 2024 College Captains Max Arceo, Alice Mabilia, Tom Bird and Tahlia Williams presented a cheque to Cancer Council representative, and longtime parent of Newhaven College, Kelly Fuery.

## Newhaven College Students raise nearly \$12,000 for Cancer Council

EACH year, Newhaven College Year 12 Leadership selects a charity for the College to support. This year, Cancer Council was chosen on reflection of the impact cancer has on our lives. The Year 12 Leadership team led the College community to raise \$11,931 for Cancer Council and were thrilled with the participation and enthusiasm from students, staff and parents right across the school. This was the largest amount raised in College fundraising history, so the Captains were very pleased.

The whole school community enjoyed participating in the fundraising, with dress-up days, a Junior School disco, trivia night, raffles and a College staff

cake baking competition.

At the Year 12 final assembly, 2024 College Captains Max Arceo, Alice Mabilia, Tom Bird and Tahlia Williams presented a cheque to Cancer Council representative, and longtime parent of Newhaven College, Kelly Fuery.

On accepting the cheque at the College assembly, Kelly Fuery said, "I know that selecting Cancer Council Victoria as this year's charity was a deeply personal choice for many students in the Year 12 leadership team, so I extend a heartfelt thank you for your thoughtfulness and generosity. This gift will help fund much-needed cancer research, it will help educate and inform

the community about how we can all help prevent cancer, and it will help ensure that no cancer patient, or their friends or their family, go through a cancer journey alone.

"So, a huge thank you to all college students, staff, families and the extended Newhaven community for all of your hard work to raise this incredible amount. You should be really proud. Cancer Council Victoria is truly grateful and I am extremely proud of you all."

Principal Mr. Tony Corr expressed his admiration for this year's fundraising efforts, stating, "Our Year 12 student leaders chose the Cancer Council as the College charity for 2024

because our school community has been profoundly affected by cancer. They were eager to support an organisation that strives to reduce the impact of cancer on everyone. I am incredibly impressed and proud of our students' dedication to fundraising in such a meaningful area. They deserve to be congratulated."

The College would like to congratulate the 2024 Year 12 Leadership team. They showed dedication, determination and exceptional leadership skills to produce such a fantastic result. Fundraising for 2025 will be decided by the incoming Year 12 Leadership team early next year.

## TAFE Gippsland welcomes new appointments to board

TAFE Gippsland has welcomed a new appointment to its board of directors, along with three re-appointments by the Minister for Skills and TAFE Gayle Tierney.

Experienced board director Meghraj Thakkar is the new appointment, bringing with him extensive experience in industries such as healthcare, telecommunications, banking, transport, software, aviation, media, utilities and government.

He is also a widely published author, international keynote speaker and developer of numerous software products.

The Minister has also re-

appointed board chair Paul Buckley PSM for a further three years, along with Alison McClelland and Darren McCubbin.

Board chair Paul Buckley PSM welcomed the re-appointments and also the new appointment of Meghraj Thakkar, who replaces David Williams who served on the board for almost eight years.

"I pay tribute to David Williams for his significant contribution to the TAFE Gippsland board over many years," Mr Buckley said.

"It is also with great pleasure that I welcome the appointment of Meghraj, who brings

with him a wealth of expertise across a wide variety of sectors, including significant board experience."

Mr Buckley said the future was bright for TAFE Gippsland, which had worked hard to cement itself as a leading vocational training provider throughout Victoria.

"TAFE Gippsland is a trusted provider of quality vocational training not only in Gippsland but across the state," he said.

"Our board is committed to supporting the progress and growth of TAFE Gippsland into the future and we are very much looking forward to a successful 2025."



Meghraj Thakkar was recently appointed to TAFE Gippsland's board of directors.



## Tarwin Lower Primary celebrate World Teacher's Day

WORLD Teacher's Day was a great opportunity for the students and wider community to acknowledge and celebrate the hard work and dedication Tarwin Lower Primary School teachers put in each and every day. The day was celebrated with a special morning tea and each teacher was presented with a card that included a personal thank you from all the students.



Organising fun games and activities for the groups of girls is one of the things a Girl Guides leader does.

# Have fun volunteering with the Girl Guides

By Courtney O'Brien

BEING enthusiastic and having fun with a group of girls is one of the key parts of being a great Girl Guides leader and the Leongatha group are on the lookout for women who can bring this energy to them.

Girl Guides leaders gather with the girls one night a week and organise games, activities and small celebrations such as the recent Halloween-themed night, they organise weekends away, for example, the guides recently went to the Healesville Sanctuary and stayed overnight at the guide camp in Yarra Glen.

The older group are also interested in doing their Queen's Guide Award, so finding opportunities for them to develop their leadership skills and problem-solving is also a part of it.

Chris Oliver has been involved with Guides and Brownies since 1990 and is one of the current leaders of the Leongatha Girl Guides, she is also a District Manager, a camp skills assessor and trains new leaders.

"It keeps me active. It keeps me in touch with the girls, with the younger generation (they laugh at my technology skills) and you get to go out and do fun things," said Chris.

"We've got people there to support you, and we offer all the training for free. It doesn't cost anything.

"It gives people a chance to work with a lovely bunch of girls and build your own leadership skills and practice programming, practice running

games, just having some fun with the kids."

The group are also looking for volunteers more broadly, any females over the age of 18 can start as unit helpers and grow into leadership roles, and there are many other opportunities.

"It would be lovely if those volunteers developed into leaders, but if not, we'd love a PR/social media person. We'd love someone to run fundraising and grant writing. We'd love someone to do some of the finance work. There's all sorts of other jobs that people could fit into if they want to," explained Chris.

There are currently two groups of Girl Guides, one group is grade four to grade seven (the lizards) and the other is year eight to year 11 (the lorikeets).

"We'd also love to get the junior group for grades one to three going again, but we're the only leaders at the moment. We run on a Wednesday night, but if we had a couple of new leaders that wanted to do it on another night, we could be flexible with that too," said Chris.

"It's good to see the girls develop because we've got some older ones now that have been in guides for seven or eight years, kids that wouldn't stand up in front of the group and talk about what they'd done, or the latest badge they've got, are now pretty confident kids and can run a program themselves."

For more information on becoming a leader or volunteering with the Leongatha Girl Guides email Chris Oliver at chris.oliver@guidesvic.org.au.

## 25 years of giving with Wardy's Newhaven College Christmas Tree

WARDY'S Newhaven College Christmas Tree is a cherished tradition of giving that has brought joy to the community since 1991. This year, the College once again invites everyone to help brighten the experience of Christmas for many.

New, unwrapped gifts for children of all ages are welcome.

Please place gifts under the tree in the College's main reception before Monday, December 2. The gifts will be distributed to local families in need by St. Vincent de Paul, sharing the spirit of Christmas and extending support throughout our wonderful community.

Wardy's Newhaven College Christmas Tree began 25 years ago when teacher and Deputy Principal John Ward (retired) called upon Newhaven College families to think of others at Christmas by donating a gift to families in need.

"After attending a conference in Wonthaggi where a participant spoke on the hardship some people in the Bass Coast Shire region face, I put up a Christmas Tree where



Students Isabella Whyte, Ava Marshall and Tavish Mahon show off some of the gifts already donated under Wardy's Newhaven College Christmas Tree.

we collected donated gifts from the College and local Phillip Island communities. They were then given to local children in need at Christmas time," Wardy reflects.

The number of families donating gifts increases each year and members of the public are also welcome to come in and place gifts under

the tree. The tree is located at Newhaven College's main reception and the students visit regularly to see what has been donated.

"Learning about the giving tree encourages our students to think of others", John said. "It is a living example of our College values of Respect, Empathy and Responsibility

that they can relate to."

Newhaven College thanks San Remo IGA and Aldi Cowes for their support, along with the College and broader communities. Every year the College is overwhelmed by the generosity of families and community members who place gifts under our tree and thank you for your support.



Mirboo North Cubs Rhoden and Phoebe helped to plant a garden at the entrance of the town.

## Scouts bring growth and beauty back to town's entrance

IN SEPTEMBER the Mirboo North Scout Group got together and planted out over 100 natives at the entrance to the town to beautify it and uplift local spirits as the plants flourish and bloom.

"We had a number of members who were impacted by the storms, personally or through the group, where a large tree fell on top of the Scout Hall," said Susan Koci, Adult Support for the Mirboo North Scouts.

"Some of them had really suffered through the whole thing so there was a feeling that we wanted them to see that things can be healed, and we can heal from that trauma."

The group also wanted to get the Joey Cubs and Scouts back out into the environment and to help bring a bit of colour and positivity back, both to the group and to the community.

"The reason that the site was selected is because as you're coming into Mirboo North from Leongatha, you're sort of hit in the face by the damaged trees and the dead trees and trees that have been cut down and removed because of the damage they sustained," said Susan.

"It retraumatises people and also it's pretty stark and ugly. The idea is that as the garden grows it'll just provide a nicer entry to town as to what we're facing at the moment."

The Scouts got the go-ahead from owners of the Mirboo North Nursery and Garden Centre, Karen and Gino to plant the garden along a section inside their fence, with native plant species that will provide a beautiful visual display and habitat for insects and birds.

About 15 Joey cubs and scouts helped out on the day with the plants purchased with a grant from the Mirboo North Community Bank.

"We'll be maintaining that garden for the next five years. We'll be going and re-mulching it or weeding it or whatever is required so that we can keep it looking really nice," said Susan.

The Scouts have also planted some Mirboo lilies in the garden, which is their floral emblem.

In other good news for the Scouts, the hall has finally been repaired after it was damaged in the storm and last week they were able to have their first meeting there after eight months.

The Mirboo North Scouts would also encourage any male youth who are interested in joining to come along to a meeting.

## BreastScreen Gippsland saving lives

THE THIRTIETH anniversary of BreastScreen Gippsland has been acknowledged in State Parliament by Nationals' MP, Melina Bath. Congratulating BreastScreen Gippsland Melina Bath paid tribute to the organisation's employees and volunteers.

BreastScreen Australia opened in Gippsland in 1994 and now has clinics in Traralgon, Bairnsdale, Sale, Wonthaggi and Warragul providing vital preventative health screening for local women. Small rural communities are reached by a satellite bus service. Ms Bath told parliament that in the past twelve months there had been over seventeen thousand screens conducted on women in Gippsland with seven-hundred-and-fifty women called back for further assessment and one-hundred-and-forty receiving a confirmed diagnosis. To book a BreastScreen appointment telephone 13 20 50 or go to [breastscreen.org.au](http://breastscreen.org.au)

## - Local services -

EVERY YEAR at the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month Remembrance Day Services honour those who gave their lives in service.

Monday November 11 marks one-hundred-and-six years since the signing of the Armistice that ended the First World War in 2018.

### COWES

A service will take place at the Cowes Cenotaph on Monday from 10.45am. Wreath laying welcome.

### FOSTER

The Foster Sub-Branch of the RSL is holding a Remembrance Day Service and wreath laying ceremony at 10.45am at the Foster Cenotaph in Main Street.

### GRANTVILLE

Bass Valley Friends of the RSL will be hosting a service commencing at 10.15am at the Memorial Wall, Grantville Memorial Park, corner Bass Highway and Pier Street. This will be followed by light refreshments.

### INVERLOCH

A Remembrance Day service will be hosted at the Inverloch War Memorial, A'Beckett and Reilly Streets, Inverloch Hub from 10.40am with wreath laying. A light lunch/refreshments will follow at RSL Inverloch Sub-Branch, 15 Bolding Place.

### KORUMBURRA

Korumburra RSL will be conducting its annual Remembrance Day service at Coleman Park, commencing at 10.45am, all welcome.

### LANG LANG

A service will be held at the monument from 10.30am. For more details refer to Lang Lang RSL Facebook page.

### LEONGATHA

All are welcome to the Leongatha RSL Remembrance Day service at Leongatha Cenotaph (6-8 McCartin Street) with the ceremony commencing at 10.45am.

### LOCH

A Remembrance Day service will be held at the Loch Memorial Reserve from 11 am. Presidents of the Loch Memorial Reserve and the Loch Community Development Association will both be doing presentations. There will be a bagpiper playing and there'll be laying of wreaths from local groups and individuals.

### MEENIYAN

A short commemoration will take place at the town's Cenotaph, gathering at 10.45am and concluding with wreath laying. Followed by lunch at the pub. For more information contact Tarnya Wilson 0427 647 473.

### MIRBOO NORTH

A service will be held at the town's RSL Hall to commemorate those who have served and honour the brave individuals who have defended and continue to defend our country. Gather for a meaningful ceremony at 10.30am at Mirboo North Community Monument on Ridgeway, followed by light refreshments.

### TOORA

Toora RSL will hold a Remembrance Day service at the Toora Cenotaph corner of Welshpool Road and Stanley Street, Toora followed by a light lunch by donation at the Toora RSL Club in Stanley Street.

### WONTHAGGI

A service will take place at the Wonthaggi Cenotaph at 10.30am. A light lunch will follow the service at the RSL sub-branch.

### YARRAM

Yarram RSL Sub-Branch will hold a Remembrance Day service and wreath laying ceremony at 10.45am on November 11 at The Cenotaph in Commercial Road, Yarram. Members of the public are invited to lay a floral tribute.

For more information on Remembrance Day activities and services go to [rslvic.com.au/events/2024-sub-branch-remembrance-day-services](http://rslvic.com.au/events/2024-sub-branch-remembrance-day-services).

## Remembering the service of our heroes

By Jillian Durane

MONDAY, November 11 is Remembrance Day. This day commemorates nationally (and worldwide) the end of the Great War on the eleventh hour of the eleventh day and the eleventh month of 1918. With so many Australians dead on the battlefields of Gallipoli, France, Belgium and the Middle East, the people at home sought to honour those who had so willingly gone to the front. Thus began the great memorial building movement throughout the nation: statues, cenotaphs, honour rolls, memorial buildings and avenues of honour, in particular.

The Kongwak Avenue of Honour is the longest Avenue of Honour of the eight we have in South Gippsland. From its beginnings in August 1918 (even before the Armistice was signed on November 11, 1918), it has been consistently maintained and renewed by the people of Kongwak. It contains some of South Gippsland's most 'Significant Trees', including the magnificent Bunya Bunya Pine at the entrance of the Kongwak Hall.

This tree was the first planted by Charles Tulloch, the Hall Committee's president on August 15, 1918, while the other 41 were planted by the family members of the soldiers associated with Kongwak, who answered their country's call to fight in the Great European War of 1914-1918. Among them on that day at the opening ceremony were Kongwak's school children, some of whom had lost brothers, uncles and cousins to the war. The trees were called 'living memorials' and stretched from the Hall right down to the bridge over Foster Creek.

After the Second World War, the Avenue of Honour was extended westward along both sides of the Wonthaggi - Korumburra Road from the bridge to the edge of town. In this planting about sixty men and women who served were commemorated. Later their names were listed on a cairn just near the Hall where the annual Anzac Day and Remembrance Day ceremonies



**Kongwak's Avenue of Honour holds not only a special place in the hearts of local residents, but of the greater South Gippsland area.**

take place.

This year, November 11 also commemorates the fifteenth anniversary of the planting of the Church Road Avenue of Honour in Kongwak, an extension of the World War One Avenue of Honour on the main Wonthaggi - Korumburra Road.

The seven trees with their memorial cairn were dedicated to the memory of seven young men of Kongwak who lost their lives in service to their country between 1939 and 1945.

All were known, as childhood friends and mates, to the late John Gow OAM and ex-serviceman of World War II. John initiated the planting, seeking assistance from the Department of Veterans Affairs: he wanted their lives and sacrifices to be especially remembered.

The seven trees, all hardy pin oaks commemorate the lives of Norman Rippon and Christopher Graham, both members of B Company 29/22 Battalion of the local militia who were killed in 1939 in an accident as they made their way into training in Korumburra; Lawrence Scott, Alan Bell and Arthur Graham, all airmen of the RAAF who lost their lives in Europe; and James Elmore and Wesley Williams who died as prisoners of war of the Japanese. (Two of 22,000 Australian servicemen who were held in captivity in World War II.)

The Church Road extension to

Kongwak's World War I Avenue of Honour, while less invisible and less known, is still an important reminder of how much wars have affected the lives of South Gippslanders right into the present day. The families of those men still live among us; they still tell their stories and sense their absence in their homes. The integrity of this part of the Avenue of Honour is threatened by an access road into the proposed Kongwak Butter Factory Development.

It seems hard to imagine those times now, but these trees are a reminder and testimony to a sense of service and duty to one's country, and a willingness to sacrifice one's life: they were all volunteers.

On November 11, the school children still observe the traditional one-minute silence and lay their poppies at the memorial cairn in the enduring and beautiful Avenue of Honour in Kongwak's Valley of Peace.

*Jillian Durane will speak on Kongwak's Avenue of Honour as well as tracing its development from the early days of 1918. The talk will highlight the importance of this special war memorial to the local community and to the overall heritage of South Gippsland.*

*The talk takes place on Thursday, November 7 at 7 pm at the Community Hub in Korumburra. All welcome.*

## Remembrance Day is a time to pause and reflect

By Tony Moon

THE 11th of November is fast approaching, a day recognised around the world to pause and reflect on those who, at a time of need put on a uniform and served their nation.

Originally designed to remember those who served and fell in WWI, and then known as Armistice Day, more recently the day reflects all those who served, and is now known as Remembrance Day.

Our district has a proud heritage of serving our nation in times of conflict. Equally, we have a proud tradition of volunteering our service in the many forms of the "Part-Time" army. This tradition stretches back to 1912 with our first militia unit (H Coy 48th Militia Bn) established in Korumburra. This tradition continued for 90 years until the final unit located in Korumburra (3 Recovery Coy) moved to a new depot in Dandenong in 2002. We are lucky in our district to have several generations of part-time soldiers, with their service spanning many decades.

Recently, one of those old soldiers was kind enough to drop into our RSL for a long overdue catch-up



**Korumburra RSL was blessed to receive a visit from part-time soldier Bdr Trevor Nicholas (22 Fld Regt SP) recently. Pictured with the uniform he donated to the RSL a couple of years ago. Trevor holds his Army licence.**

over a cup of tea and some biccies. We were privileged to spend some time with Trevor Nicholas, who, like many of his generation, completed his National Service Training with the 22 Field Regiment (SP), when this unit was deployed in Korumburra in the mid-1950s.

Trevor was proudly wearing his service medals and showing his

Army driver's licence. (I suspect that Trevor is the only bloke I know who is still qualified to drive a Grant tank!). Trevor was also keen to inspect the Battle Dress uniform that he kindly donated a couple of years ago.

Over a cuppa, we chatted about his time in the Army and some of his experiences. I always find it interesting, just how similar these stories are, irrespective of which generation of soldier you talk with. Trevor rose to the rank of Bomber and was trained as an artillerist.

So, with that in mind, I noticed that Trevor had a bit of a sparkle in his eye when we mentioned that the Korumburra RSL has been the recent recipient of a 25 Pdr Field Gun and that we were in the process of restoring it for display purposes. Just maybe, we can invite Trevor to return and run our members through some gun drills once it goes on display.

Thanks for spending some time with us Trevor, it's always great to chat with old soldiers. The service that you and your generation provided to our nation is always worthy of remembering and we thank you for it.

# Guerilla warfare and Wilsons Promontory

By Barry Higgins

THE approaching Remembrance Day on Monday, November 11 is observed in Australia and around the world.

Originally marking the end of World War 1, a lesser-known annual event will take place the day before on Wilsons Promontory.

Referred to as the Tidal River Pilgrimage, this year is the 60th anniversary of the inaugural dedication of the Commando Memorial Cairn at Tidal River, the hub of the Prom National Park. Its origins go back to the early days of World War II and Australia's role as a member of the then British Empire.

When Germany invaded Norway and Denmark, Britain planned to raise groups to carry out guerrilla warfare. Following the evacuation of its army from Dunkirk in 1940, Britain was the last country in western Europe not to have fallen to Hitler's forces. Small independent units were created to carry out raids deep inside occupied territory. Based on Boer War history, they were eventually named 'Commandos'.

In 1940, a British Military Mission brought the same message to Australia. The Australian Army needed to quickly reinforce its military strength and decided to raise 'Independent Companies' – soon after known as Commandos – to be based at Wilsons Promontory.

No 7 Infantry Training Centre, so named for security purposes, was established in February 1941. Its headquarters was at Darby River, with a New Zealand camp at the present Tidal River location and the Australian camp adjacent to the now Lilly Pilly Gully car park. The concrete bases of the camps' water supply tanks still remain on the hill at the rear of the Parks Victoria information centre.

The area was remote, at the end of the road system and the mainland, with rugged terrain and coastal boundaries that provided both the security and the demanding terrain required to carry out training in guerrilla warfare. Training was conducted by experienced British and Australian Officers and non-commissioned officers.

The men were twice volunteers, originally enlisting and then volunteering again for Commando



**The Governor of Victoria, Lieutenant General Sir Edmund Herring unveils the memorial cairn in November 1964. Then serving Commando Company soldier, Sergeant Tom Nicholas (right) was one of the catafalque party.**

training. Emphasis was placed on physical fitness and endurance. Without warning, on arrival at Tidal River the men were told to climb the steep and challenging Mount Oberon nearby. Those who fell by the wayside were returned to their parent unit.

The Commando Units carried out training raids on the nearby Foster township. The local Volunteer Defence Corps would 'defend' a designated building, such as the post office, from the 'enemy'. They would stretch lengths of wire approximately 15cm off the ground in strategic positions, with jam tins attached containing pebbles. If the wire was touched the tins would rattle; this would warn the locals of the 'enemy' presence.

Some 3000 men in 12 Australian 'Independent Companies', trained at Tidal River and later at Canungra in Queensland, fought in some of the bloodiest campaigns of WWII against the Japanese in the South West Pacific. For the first six months of 1942, the Independent Companies were the only Australian units to fight the Japanese on land.

After Japan entered the war, operations in the Pacific were under tropical conditions in a jungle environment. More suitable training areas on the Tablelands

in North Queensland were developed. The need for strict security had ended, so No 7 Infantry Training Centre was closed and the wartime association of the Independent Companies with the Promontory also ended. During the war period, the Independent Companies were re-named Commando Squadrons.

Following the end of hostilities, the WWII Commando Association (Victoria) was formed. Commando veterans in other Australian states began their own state-based associations.

Con Bell, a veteran of the 2/7th Commando Squadron, said although there was much awareness of Wilsons Prom from 1946 onward, especially among the "originals" of the Independent Companies, there was no formal "Return to Tidal River" after the war until the inaugural dedication of the memorial cairn in 1964.

After a memorial plaque was dedicated in 1956 at the Shrine of Remembrance, on the initiative of the WWII Commando Association members, thoughts moved on to a memorial at Tidal River.

John 'Curley' Papworth is credited with creating the memorial design. He was an Intelligence Sergeant with the 2/4th Commando Squadron in Borneo, Tarakan and Buna and in his military role

did numerous sketches during the war. Some of his works in the Australian War Memorial can be viewed online. Max Chester was the design architect. The cairn featured the iconic Commando Double Diamond emblem on top.

The Age newspaper featured the headline 'Obelisk honours Commando deeds' (16/11/1964).

The article reported: "The green berets of Australia's Commando Corps were seen again yesterday at Tidal River, Wilsons Promontory, where the nation's first Commandos received their basic training."

Lieutenant/General Sir Edmund Herring, who commanded the Commando squadrons during the war, unveiled a 24-foot stone monument of commemoration. The monument is in a rugged area of mountains and sea cliffs.

"More than 500 ex-Commandos from (all states) marched past Sir Edmund. Many had arrived at Tidal River the night before and had camped near the site of their initiation into jungle warfare more than 20 years ago. Yesterday morning they saw a demonstration of present-day training methods, when a group of post-WWII Commandos completed a difficult mountain-climbing exercise.

"Unveiling the memorial, Sir Edmund paid tribute to the role played by the Commandos in the Pacific theatre of WWII. He said they figured in two actions which hastened the end of the war by at least nine months. They were the first to defeat the Japanese in their drive southwards towards Australia."

In November 2007, the memorial was renovated and then Victorian Premier and Minister for Veterans' Affairs, John Brumby, re-dedicated the 'Australian Commando Memorial'. He said the memorial acknowledged the devotion to country and service shown by Commandos who trained at Tidal River in 1941 and 1942.

The renowned military historian and sculptor Dr Ross Bastiaan detailed the Commando story on a bronze plaque, fixed on a granite boulder mined at Wilsons Prom and placed it near the renovated cairn.

In 2011, Honour Rolls were placed on the Cairn and dedicated in a formal ceremony, fittingly on the 70th anniversary of the raising of the first Commando units.

Research by Lindsay Lorrain and Keith Larner gathered the names of more than 600 Commandos who paid the ultimate sacrifice during WWII, and in recent conflicts in Afghanistan, as well as those who died in training in the intervening years.

The 60 years of annual visits to the cairn in November each year by the WWII Commandos and their families, supported by the post-WWII serving and former Commandos, continues to confirm the history of the Prom as both a WWI and WWII area of significance for the Navy, Army and Air Force.

With falling numbers and the ageing of members, the WWII Victorian Commando Association closed in mid-2010 and all WWII veterans became members of the post-WWII Australian Commando Association Victoria.

A few years ago, a WWII Commando veteran said to a post-WWII Commando Officer, "How long do you think you will keep coming down here to the Tidal River pilgrimage?"

Major Pilmore replied, "As long as one of you remains alive, we will come here... and when you have all gone – we will still come."

Forever Lost.  
Forever Changed.  
Lest We Forget.



jordan.crugnale@parliament.vic.gov.au  
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9 McBride Avenue Wonthaggi VIC 3995

**Melina BATH MP**

THE NATIONALS MEMBER FOR EASTERN VICTORIA REGION

**Remembering those servicemen and women who served for our country.**

*Lest we forget*



03 5174 7066

MelinaBathMLC

2/181 Franklin St, Traralgon VIC 3844

melina.bath@parliament.vic.gov.au



Wonthaggi RSL sub branch president Dan Lucas is one of many volunteers out and about raising funds in the Poppy Appeal. C40\_4524

### Buy a red poppy today

WITH funds supporting the veteran community, both locally and within Victoria, stop by and have a chat with one of the many veterans or volunteers out and about in the community selling poppies and other memorabilia for the Annual Poppy Appeal. In Wonthaggi the local sub-branch are out and about at Bunnings and in Wonthaggi Plaza, with the assistance of the CWA Wonthaggi Owl Women's team. Over the island, Phillip Island RSL have stands inside Woolworths, Coles and the newsagent between now and Sunday, November 10, and in San Remo this Friday and weekend (November 8 – 10). In South Gippsland, Leongatha RSL will be selling at Michael's IGA and ALDI from Wednesday, November 6 through to Saturday, November 9. With poppies available in most districts, contact your local RSL sub-branch to find out where and when they'll be out and about.

## Lone Pine tribute to be unveiled in Korumburra

THE BATTLE of Lone Pine is remembered in history as a defining moment for the Australian Armed Forces.

An attack by Australian troops on Lone Pine, a plateau south-east of Anzac Cove was planned as a diversion to keep Turkish reserves from the main allied advance on the Gallipoli Peninsula.

The attack began in the late afternoon of August 6, 1915.

Despite a heavy artillery barrage, the Australian troops found timber roofs still covering many Ottoman trenches when they reached the enemy line.

With the evening sun shining into the eyes of the enemy, Australian troops charged from above bombing and bayoneting as they moved forward.

By nightfall, Australians had taken over most of the enemy front line and established outposts in former Ottoman communication trenches.

Despite fierce fighting underground Australian engineers dug a safe passage across no-man's-land so that reinforcements could enter the captured positions without being exposed to enemy fire.

The Turks desperately tried to eject the attacking force, but the Australian force held on.

Private John Gammage wrote 'The wounded bodies of both Turks and Anzacs were piled up three and four deep,



RSL Past President Perry Neil and Legatee Amanda Ford paying homage to Korumburra's Lone Pine. B20\_4524

the bombs simply poured in but as fast as our men went down another would take his place.'

Despite the brief victory at Lone Pine the overall August offensive failed, a stalemate developing around Lone Pine until the evacuation of Australian troops four months later.

South Gippsland Legacy and Korumburra RSL will pay homage to Lone Pine with the unveiling of a plaque on a lone pine tree in Coleman Park adjacent to the Korumburra Cenotaph in Queen Street, Korumburra on Remembrance Day.

Past President of the Korumburra RSL and long-standing member of South Gippsland Legacy, Perry Neil has worked with Legatee Jane Ross, daughter of South Gippsland Legacy founding member Bill Ross and Legatee Amanda Ford to prepare the plaque for Coleman Park.

A Vietnam veteran, Perry Neil is described as an RSL luminary.

The 'Lone Pine' plaque notes the planting of the tree in 1981 by South Gippsland Group President Legatee Geoff Burton and Melbourne Legacy representative Legatee, Frank

Doolan who was responsible for the planting of many similar Lone Pine trees.

Up until this year there had never been a plaque explaining how the Lone Pine tree in Coleman Park had been planted by Legacy, so this year South Gippsland Legatees decided it was time to recognise the historic tribute.

South Gippsland Council will lay the plaque on Remembrance Day.

Korumburra Legacy widow Helen Maguire whose father served at Gallipoli will be among those unveiling the plaque.

The Korumburra district has a proud heritage of serving the nation in times of conflict including a part-time army.

The part-time army tradition stretches back to 1912 when the district's first militia unit was located in Korumburra and continued, almost continuously up until the final unit from Korumburra (3 Recovery Coy) was moved to a new depot in Dandenong.

Korumburra boasts several generations of part-time soldiers with their service spanning many decades.

The unveiling of the Lone Pine plaque will take place after the Korumburra RSL Remembrance Day Service at The Cenotaph in Queen Street, Korumburra at 10.45am on November 11.

## RUSSELL BROADBENT MEMBER FOR MONASH



Remembrance Day  
honours the sacrifices  
of those who served  
for our nation.

Lest We Forget.

(03) 5623 2064

46C Albert St Warragul VIC 3820

russell.broadbent.mp@aph.gov.au

Authorised by Russell Broadbent MP, Independent Federal Member for Monash, Warragul

30 | TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2024 | SOUTH GIPPSLAND SENTINEL-TIMES

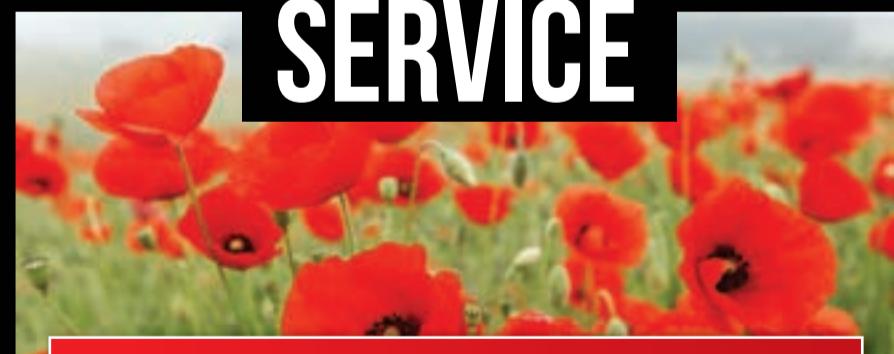
## WONTHAGGI RSL SUB BRANCH



60 Graham Street  
Wonthaggi Victoria 3995

President Dan Lucas – [secretarywonthaggirsl@gmail.com](mailto:secretarywonthaggirsl@gmail.com)

## REMEMBRANCE DAY SERVICE



MONDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2024

10.30AM WONTAGGI CENOTAPH

*They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old:  
Age shall not weary them, nor do the years condemn,  
At the going down of the sun and in the morning,  
We will remember them.*

FOLLOWING SERVICE  
LIGHT LUNCH AT THE RSL SUB BRANCH

HM12100

# Poppy Day always special at the Inverloch RSL

*Warning: This article contains references to mental health and suicide, contact details and information on support services are provided at the end of the article.*

REMEMBRANCE Day at the Inverloch RSL holds special significance with a new poppy frame to be unveiled at the Inverloch Cenotaph this year.

Twelve months in the making, the new poppy frame holds hundreds of poppies painstakingly hand-crocheted by Kellie Gabb and the ladies of the Inverloch RSL.

Each poppy takes an hour to crochet.

Lynn Shaw took on the onerous task of fitting the poppies to the frame.

The aluminium frame was designed and constructed with the assistance of Bill Damm from the Inverloch Men's Shed and built locally in Wonthaggi.

The weather-proof poppy frame replaces a previous frame which had seen more Remembrance Days than most can remember.

Apart from ninety-nine-year-old WWII veteran and Inverloch RSL member Trevor Scott who will speak at the Inverloch Cenotaph as part of the Remembrance Day service.

The red poppy is an enduring symbol of remembrance from the First World War whilst the purple poppy is a symbol of remembrance for animals such as horses, dogs and pigeons that have served, suffered and often died during wartime.

"Even today horses and dogs are still used in war," said RSL President Ross Gabb.

The Inverloch RSL has two-hundred-and-thirty members with the majority aged from seventy-five to eighty years of age.

"We are a progressive club and do a lot of work for veterans," said Ross Gabb.

In addition to Trevor Scott's service during the Second World War Inverloch RSL veterans have served in Korea, Vietnam, Timor and Afghanistan.

Inverloch is heavily involved in 'RSL Active' a program by RSL Victoria designed to get people together to support the physical and mental health of veterans and their families.

"We held a gun club shoot recently for veterans in Wonthaggi," said Ross.

The mental health of veterans continues to be of concern to the RSL.

"Three veterans die every fortnight from suicide in Australia," said Ross Gabb, who

was involved in the submission by the Inverloch RSL to the Royal Commission into Defence and Veteran Suicide.

The Inverloch RSL is open nightly from 4pm to 6.30pm except for Tuesday, with extended trading hours for raffle night every Friday.

Remembrance Day and Anzac Day attendees are always welcome to join veterans for lunch after the services at the RSL clubrooms in A'Beckett Street, Inverloch.

The Remembrance Day service at the Inverloch Cenotaph begins at 10.30am on Monday, November 11, you can follow the Inverloch RSL on Facebook.

Veteran care is often needed outside of business hours.

The following list of agencies and contacts can help when your local RSL branch is unavailable.

Open Arms is a free 24/7 counselling service for veterans, call any time on 1800 011 046 or go to [openarms.gov.au](http://openarms.gov.au)

StandBy National is a 24/7 program dedicated to assisting people and communities impacted by suicide, call anytime on 1300 727 247 or go to [standbysupport.com.au](http://standbysupport.com.au)

Lifeline is a 24-hour crisis support and suicide prevention service, call 13 11 14, text 0477 13 11 14 or chat online 7pm to midnight, 7 nights a week at [lifeline.org.au](http://lifeline.org.au)

Kids Helpline provides support for kids, teens, young adults, parents and teachers, call 1800 55 1800 or go to [kidshelpline.com.au](http://kidshelpline.com.au)

The Department of Veterans Affairs has an all-hours support line on 1800 628 036 or online at [dva.gov.au](http://dva.gov.au)

Suicide Call Back Service is a 24/7 phone and online counselling service for people affected by suicide, call 1300 659 467 or go to [suicidecallbackservice.org.au](http://suicidecallbackservice.org.au)



Inverloch RSL President Ross Gabb with poppy crocheter and media officer Kellie Gabb. B13\_4524



## LEONGATHA REMEMBRANCE DAY SERVICE

Leongatha Cenotaph,  
6-8 McCartin Street, Leongatha

**November 11, 2024**

Ceremony at 10.45am  
Laying Wreath 11am  
ALL WELCOME.



## Inverloch RSL Sub Branch REMEMBRANCE DAY

NOVEMBER 11, 2024

at Inverloch Cenotaph

Commences 10.40am

Wreath Laying

A light lunch will be held after  
the service at the RSL Hall  
Bolding Place.



# REMEMBER to remember



## BASS VALLEY FRIENDS OF THE R.S.L.

Are holding a  
Remembrance Day Service on

**Monday, November 11**  
Commencing at 10.15am

In the Memorial Gardens Grantville  
(Cnr Pier St/Bass Hwy)

Followed by light refreshments

**You are invited to lay  
a wreath or flowers.**



## Korumburra REMEMBRANCE DAY CEREMONY

The Korumburra Sub-Branch will conduct a Remembrance Day Service on

**Monday 11th November, 10.45am**  
at the Cenotaph  
Coleman Park, Korumburra

Schools, Community groups and the public can lay floral tributes throughout the day at their leisure.

**Lest We Forget**



Darren Talbot's *Get Back* acrylic on canvas was on display over the weekend for Berninneit's 1st birthday as part of the ASPIR exhibition. C21\_4524



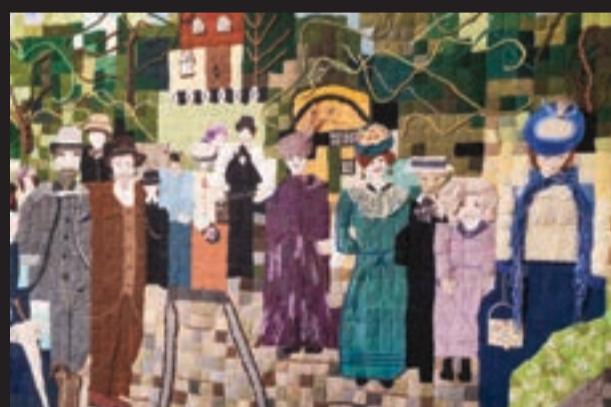
Nick, Sarah, Karen, Jordan and David wait in anticipation ahead of Offshore Theatre's preview on Friday after enjoying the exhibitions and nibbles on offer downstairs. C22\_4524



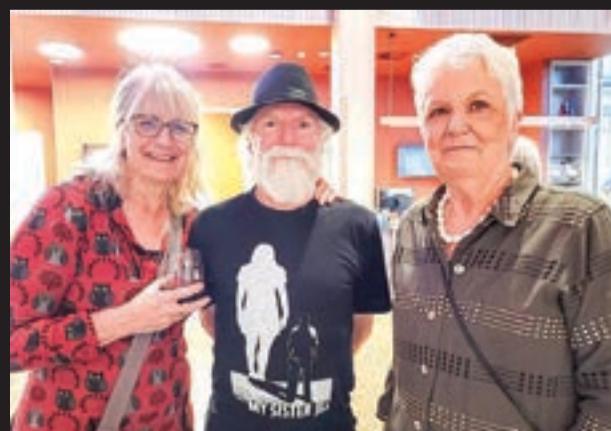
ASPIR Best in Show 'Natives & Crystal by Heather Towns, French Acrylic. Photo: Phillip Island & San Remo Advertiser.



A wide array of artwork was on display over the weekend at Berninneit. C23\_4524



A huge mixed media and knitted synthetic yarn mural 'Phillip Island Textile Mural' was on display by the Arts Society Phillip Island Region Textile Art Group in the Cup Weekend Exhibition. C24\_4524



Eva and Ashley Reed were deep in conversation with Barbara Owen ahead of the opening performance of *My Sister Jill*. C29\_4524

## 1st Birthday celebrations kick off at Berninneit

LOCALS filled Berninneit to the brim on Friday evening, as Bass Coast Shire Council celebrated Berninneit's first birthday.

The creative flair of Artist Society Phillip Island Region (ASPIR) was on full display in the community spaces for their annual Cup Weekend Exhibition, whilst down in the intimate gallery space the thought-provoking "Unseen" Exhibition series by internationally acclaimed local artist Matthew Bagley came to life.

Nibbles were scattered around and enjoyed before a sold-out preview of Offshore Theatre's 'My Sister Jill' took place (see our review on page 48).

Bass Coast Shire Council CEO Greg Box took to the stage before the show to thank the local community for their support over the past twelve months, noting the awards won and naming process.

"Over the course of the last year, our customer service staff have had around 20,000 customer interactions with visitors. MYLI have had 70,000 visitors into the library and these numbers kind of just keep adding up. We've had 52 live productions with more than

15,000 people being in those and participating, and held over 400 cinema screenings with over 13,000 attendees," Mr Box said.

"And the gallery itself has had eight absolutely fantastic exhibitions.

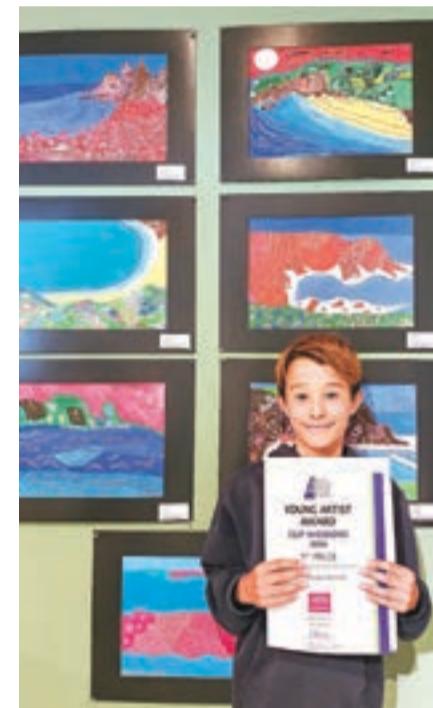
"I don't know whether you've seen the exhibition down there this evening, but there is this sense of connection between the gallery and this place.

"And again, thanks to people like yourselves, who come here and participate, that we're enjoying that success."

Mr Box went on to acknowledge the deep sense of pride he has knowing the team have "worked incredibly hard with our local community and artists to bring everyone together and really amplify" the work in the community.

"Offshore Theater, they've spent years at the forefront of theatre in Phillip Island, as many of you would know. And I'd really like to thank Offshore Theatre for the joy they bring, and you as audience for supporting them," Mr Box continued.

"Thank you for being here tonight. Thank you for being arts and culture ambassadors and thank you for your continued support."



Sam Bowtell won the Young Artist Award in ASPIR's Cup Weekend Exhibition. C20\_4524

## Training in all situations to keep the community safe

BERNINNEIT has seen it all since opening twelve months ago, and that includes a brilliant training night by local fire brigades spearheaded by Phillip Island Fire Brigade on July 30.

Stepping behind the scenes, firefighters were put into multiple scenarios that saw breathing apparatus donned, and dummies hidden in various locations in the building; replicating a potential fire situation.

"It was a fantastic opportunity to work alongside brigades that support us, and a great opportunity to train in one of our new local assets," Phillip Island Second Lieutenant, Joe Myall said.

"It also gave members within our brigade the opportunity to practice breathing apparatus and familiarise themselves with the location of fire panels and other important points of interest.

"Our firefighting skills have been tested recently with grass, scrub, and building fires. The more we train across a variety of scenarios, the better prepared we are to respond effectively. Berninneit is one of the largest structures on Phillip Island, so it was fantastic to work in with council for the specialised training event."

It's just one of many distinct training situations firefighters have the opportunity to train in with other Bass Coast Fire Brigades undertaking live-fire training on hot fire props



Firefighters don breathing apparatus ahead of entering Berninneit during a training night. C31\_4524

recently, and South Gippsland firefighters sharpening their firefighting skills in a group District 9 training event at Pound Creek a couple of weeks ago, which included a pole fire, hazardous material spill and runaway grass fire.

Up in Loch, firefighters are familiarising themselves with their new road rescue vehicle, a specialty for the brigade.

"CFA provides all the training, including mentoring, and brigade members will always help guide you

along on the fire ground. It's a great feeling to help your local community," Wonthaggi Fire Brigade Second Lieutenant, Kevin Else added.

Training is varied, and roles can include both operational firefighting and non-operational roles, which includes administration, fundraising and the likes, but with many fire brigades appealing for new members, it's never been a better time to head online ([cfa.vic.gov.au/volunteers-careers/volunteer-with-cfa](http://cfa.vic.gov.au/volunteers-careers/volunteer-with-cfa)) and sign up to volunteer with your local brigade.

# YOU CAN'T CONTROL FIRE, BUT YOU CAN PREPARE FOR IT.

Go to [fireplanner.vic.gov.au](http://fireplanner.vic.gov.au) to create your personalised fire plan now.

Authorised by the Victorian Government, 1 Treasury Place, Melbourne

**VICTORIA**  
State  
Government



Kilcunda CFA volunteers Shay Davis, Nathan Belsar, Andrea Bolch, new owners of The Ocean View Hotel Paula Doody and Brett Crellin, with CFA general firefighters Allan Richardson and John Westby during Friday night Local's Night. Z28\_4424

## New locals night supports local brigade

A NEW chapter for community engagement is unfolding in Kilcunda thanks to a dynamic partnership between the Kilcunda CFA Brigade and the Ocean View Hotel, affectionately known as 'The Killy Pub.'

Under the enthusiastic ownership of Brett Crellin and Paula Doody, who took over earlier this year, locals' nights have been transformed into lively monthly events that bring residents together to support their firefighters and enjoy local music.

Paula Doody expressed the hotel team's pride in supporting the dedicated volunteers of the Kilcunda CFA, who play a crucial role in ensuring the community's safety.

"It's our way of giving back to our vital volunteers," Paula shared.

"We want to create a space where

locals can come together, enjoy a meal, and engage with each other and the CFA in a relaxed environment."

Captain David Wingfield of the Kilcunda CFA echoed this sentiment, expressing gratitude for the support from Brett and Paula.

"Their commitment to fostering community bonds is invaluable," he said.

"This fundraiser not only provides a fun night out but also offers a platform for locals to ask fire-related questions they might not otherwise have the chance to address."

With funds raised from the monthly raffles, the Kilcunda CFA recently purchased new UHF radios to improve communication during operations. "These radios are essential for keeping all our members connected,

especially during emergencies," Wingfield noted.

The brigade has plans to acquire even more radios to ensure comprehensive communication among all volunteers.

Moreover, the monthly event serves as an informal gathering for community engagement, helping to recruit new members for the CFA.

As interest grows, the brigade has witnessed an increase in community involvement and pride, all thanks to the positive shift brought about by the new management at the Ocean View Hotel.

So, mark your calendars for the last Friday of every month – join your neighbours at The Killy Pub, indulge in a hearty meal and participate in the raffle.

## Firewise garden information and demonstration in Loch

THE TOWNS of Loch and Meenyan have had experimental gardens planted using local indigenous species that have fire-retardant and/or fire-resistant properties in a research project by the South Gippsland Landcare Network (SGLN).

Locals in Loch recently had the chance, during a seminar, to learn about firewise shelterbelts and gardens they can incorporate into their own properties, as well as have a walk through the newly planted demonstration site.

Testing and demonstrating how local indigenous species can be used in strategic ways or grown in strategic places to help protect homes, sheds and properties from fires will be one part of SGLN's 18-month project, sharing information and developing tools and resources another part.

During the seminar, local ecologist Kate Bennet (Fire, Flood & Flora) discussed how certain indigenous plant species can be used in gardens to act as physical barriers from radiant heat, reduce wind speed and trap embers and sparks carried by the wind and slow fire's travel.

Kate explained that where people are located is important when planning and planting a firewise garden, with the elements of risk and protection to consider.

Being an area of high rainfall, fires in South Gippsland are generally of the grass and house kind, rather than bushfires.

"So that's what you might be



Kongwak Fire Brigade have a firewise garden available to view all year round at the front of the station. C03\_4524

planning for in your planting," Kate advised.

Considering elements on and around properties such as elevation, the contours of land, the direction a fire might travel and where assets such as houses, sheds and buildings are located, as well as paddocks, animals, power supply and areas of conservation, is important.

Being aware of how fires might start in the yard or around the house and sheds together with existing plants, fuel types, the layers, the arrangement and the sources of fuel is also key.

Safety features that exist on the

property should be part of the plan and include roads and tracks, dams and waterways, existing vegetation and wetter areas that already form natural barriers and help to minimise fire threats, including embers.

Kate explained how a planting regime that consists mostly of species with a high moisture content that are green, thick and fleshy takes the energy from the fire, and a possible firewise garden could start with an outer row of succulents, a row of small shrubs, larger shrubs, trees in the middle and plantings mirrored on the other side with some strappy foliage potentially in another row.

## Clean up with free green waste

IT'S fee-free green waste time again at your local tip ahead of the bushfire danger period.

At Bass Coast, the annual fee-free green waste disposal period runs from Saturday, November 2 to Sunday, November 24, 2024 so don't waste time getting started on your annual clean-up.

At South Gippsland, you get a little longer, starting last Saturday prior to the Melbourne Cup and running through until the end of December.

At South Gippsland, they want to remind you that certain weeds aren't welcome.

"To improve the quality of the mulch produced, there are several plant species that are not accepted as green waste, including blackberry, ragwort; broom, mirror bush; kikuyu grass; hawthorn; cape weed; gorse; agapanthus; blue butterfly bush; and pampas grass. Plant species that are difficult to mulch properly are also not included in the amnesty such as palm fronds, cordylines, yuccas and related species."

Bass Coast also excludes weed species including blackberry, English ivy, agapanthus, mirror bush and plants that cannot be mulched such as palm fronds are not accepted as green waste at any of our locations, however, these can go in your kerbside Organics (green lid) bin at any time.

Those are also some restrictions for those visiting Cowes Recycling Bank. To book your drop-off time at Cowes Recycling Bank or learn what's accepted, locations, and hours visit [basscoast.vic.gov.au/greenwaste](http://basscoast.vic.gov.au/greenwaste)



Andy Teitge and Phillip Clark - Loch Fire Brigade Volunteers.

## Busy Loch Fire Brigade always ready to welcome new volunteers

IF YOU live in a rural Victorian town, you undoubtedly know your local CFA.

Loch Fire Brigade rolled up their doors to show others what giving time to your local fire brigade looks like and how fulfilling it can be.

Volunteering with Loch has been the link to getting to know the local community for Andy Teitge, who joined only two years ago.

He said Loch is a busy little fire station, doing road rescue as well as fire response.

Andy came from the UK, where he spent 22 years in the army.

"Australia welcomed me with open arms so I thought I'd give back," he said in a recent Loch Fire Brigade recruitment video.

Phillip Clark who has been a volunteer with CFA since his junior years, credits his long-term involvement with CFA for his passion for emergency services – having also volunteered with Ambulance Victoria and now through his current employment with Victoria Police.

In the video, Phillip reflected on what keeps him involved with his local CFA.

"I'm still here because I love serving my community," he said.

If you're interested in joining CFA or learning more about volunteering, head to [cfa.vic.gov.au/volunteer](http://cfa.vic.gov.au/volunteer) to 'Give Us Hand'.

“

*Preparedness is key ahead of the summer season. There is a lot of growth out there and it is crucial not to become complacent. Whilst it is still green take the opportunity to clean up your property and remember to register your burn offs. Please exercise care when cleaning up as burn offs are getting away despite the seemingly green landscape.”*

DAMIEN O'CONNOR,  
Bass Coast Group Officer

## • CORINELLA FIRE BRIGADE



Members of Corinella CFA Les Smith, David Jarratt and Martin Griffin. Z02\_4124

## Corinella CFA prepares for fire season ahead

AS THE fire season looms, Corinella CFA is ramping up preparations to ensure the safety of the community and the effectiveness of its firefighting efforts.

Captain David Cox shared the idea of collaboration and training among neighbouring brigades, highlighting that understanding each other's strengths and skills could be fundamental for effective response during emergencies in Bass Coast and South Gippsland.

"We need to work together as a unified force," said Captain Cox.

"Cross-crewing for strike teams is something we're addressing as this could potentially allow us to become familiar with each brigade's qualities and skills. This understanding could make a significant difference when lives and property are on the line."

Captain Cox stated that these joint training exercises would foster a spirit of teamwork and improve overall operational readiness.

In addition to crew preparedness, Captain Cox urges residents to take proactive steps to protect their properties.

"Simple actions, like clearing vegetation and ensuring driveways are accessible, can significantly reduce the risk of fire damage," he noted. Homeowners are encouraged to create defensible spaces around their properties, which can serve as a buffer against approaching flames.

For community members, a designated meeting point for coordination during a bushfire has been established at the Corinella Community Centre. This location will serve as a hub for information and resources, ensuring that residents can stay connected and informed in the event of an emergency.

## • BASS FIRE BRIGADE



Bass CFA volunteers Andrea Rieniets, Andy Stewart (Captain), life-long volunteer (and Ex-Captain) Barry Dakin, Marty Baker and Anthony Schellekens (3rd Lieutenant). Z20\_4424

## Join the Bass CFA as they stand ready to protect

LOCATED just off the Bass Highway, the Bass Country Fire Authority (CFA) stands ready to protect and serve. Under the leadership of Captain Andy Stewart, the brigade is committed to not only safeguarding the town but also to fostering a vibrant, inclusive culture within their ranks.

The brigade faces significant challenges that require the support and involvement of the community – challenges that they can overcome together with a team of volunteers.

Like many local fire brigades, Bass CFA has seen an ageing membership and a decline in numbers.

The reduction in volunteer activity during the pandemic left Bass brigade with lower numbers and together they recognise the urgency to revitalise their unit.

Captain Stewart stressed the necessity of attracting new recruits, particularly younger individuals and women, to diversify the team and inject fresh energy into the operations.

"Like the CFA itself, Bass brigade is committed to broadening its cultural base. It's not just about numbers; it's about building a team that reflects the community we serve."

As a firefighter, you'll be on the front lines, making a tangible impact in emergency situations. The skills you gain will empower you to help others in their most challenging times.

"At Bass CFA, we invest in our members. New recruits will receive comprehensive training that covers essential firefighting techniques, emergency response, first aid and safety protocols," said Andy.

"We also assist in obtaining necessary qualifications, such as truck licences, ensuring our team is well-equipped and effective. It's even better if a volunteer already has a truck license."

Andy and the team recognise the challenges that come with firefighting, from physical demands to emotional strains and time; however, Andy explains "that even if prospective members can only respond to callouts a few times a year – it's better than none at all!"

"Our brigade is dedicated to fostering a supportive community where all members – especially women and younger recruits – feel empowered to contribute."

So, whether you're a seasoned firefighter or someone considering this path for the first time, the Bass members welcome you to join their brigade.

## • KILCUNDA FIRE BRIGADE

### Teamwork and community connections ahead of fire season

BRETT Holmberg, 1st Lieutenant and Training Officer of the Kilcunda CFA Brigade volunteers alongside captain David Wingfield with a dedicated team of operational and non-operational members.

"My focus is being a team," Brett explained. "Most importantly, it's about having a good relationship with one another, because trust and connection are essential."

At Kilcunda CFA, the team pride themselves on being a welcoming unit for anyone interested in volunteering. Whether you're looking to jump into the action or simply want to support the brigade, everyone is valued in the day-to-day operations.

"We believe that every individual who shows interest adds to the strength of our brigade," said Brett.

"One of our most significant advantages is the strong bond we share with the local community, and we'd like to build that further. We're fortunate to have fantastic support from businesses like the Ocean View Hotel, which helps us extend our training efforts beyond the brigade."

"During our fundraisers, we'd encourage locals to engage with us about their properties, discussing how they can best prepare for the fire season."

This proactive approach to fire safety cultivates a deeper understanding of what needs to be done in case of an emergency.

"We're a small community made up of various zones," Brett explains. "This includes running grass fires



Kilcunda CFA secretary and treasurer Andrea Bolch, firefighter Hayley Conway, firefighter Allan Richardson and firefighter John Westby in training at the Kilcunda station. Z27\_4424

and residential fires. Prevention is crucial, and it starts with ensuring that properties have adequate access and water points, making them defendable if a fire strikes."

At Kilcunda CFA, the volunteers don't just react to emergencies; they prepare for them. Their training sessions are designed to equip both operational and non-operational members with the skills they need.

"Our training is vital," Brett said.

"It prepares our volunteers for the event of a fire. Recently, we had a car fire on the Bass Highway that mirrored our training scenarios and highlighted the value of our training sessions in preparing our active members. The unpredictability of

grass and bushfires means we must be continuously prepared. A roster of members also attends the station every Sunday Morning at 10am to ensure our operational preparation is adequate. We encourage locals to come have a look for familiarisation and discuss the season ahead."

Grass fires are particularly concerning in the area.

"Having a significant fire break around homes is essential," Brett noted. "Access and dependability is crucial for effective firefighting. We continue to train diligently to ensure we're ready for the season ahead."

Being a small community means the volunteers can offer personalised support.

• DALYSTON FIRE BRIGADE

Do you have four metres height clearance?

PRACTICING what you preach is the first step, and that is exactly what Dalyston Fire Brigade Captain Roger O'Brien was doing last week, clearing the grass around his own property and cleaning up ahead of the fire season.

"One of our big focuses is on ensuring we can get into people's properties," Captain O'Brien said.

"Making sure the fire trucks can get to the incident, particularly on farms. Ensuring the tracks and gateways are wide enough to let our tankers in; at least 3.5 metres wide, and also clear of overhanging branches and structures.

"A lot of driveways have trees with overhanging branches that can impede access. We need about four metres height to get a fire truck in and often people forget about that; even if they have sufficient width." "A lot of driveways have trees with overhanging branches that can impede access. We need about four metres height to get a fire truck in and often people forget about that; even if they have sufficient width."

With a letterbox drop happening on rural properties this year, following a highly successful letterbox drop in the



Dalyston Fire Brigade have been busy training ahead of the fire season.

residential areas of Dalyston and Archies Creek last year Captain O'Brien is keen to ensure landowners are prepared and have their fire plan ready.

"Deciding what you are going to do if the worst happens. Whether that is to leave early, before it's too late, or if you decide to stay and defend then being prepared."

Kept busy by a number of small jobs of late, Dalyston firefighters have completed all their compulsory pre-summer training, with additional skills and training now being undertaken.

"There has been a fair amount of training happening in the area, so we've been availing ourselves of all those opportunities, which has been good," Captain O'Brien explained.

Particularly in relation to wildfire suppression courses and one member has just finished a course for the wildfire thermal imaging camera."

And with much of the emphasis on clearing your property ahead of the fire season, Captain O'Brien is also reminding those in residential areas that often the safest thing to do is to walk two streets back from the edge of town if a grass and scrub fire breaks out.

Always on the lookout for new volunteers, those thinking of joining the brigade can sign up online at [cfa.vic.gov.au/volunteers-careers/volunteer-with-cfa/apply-to-volunteer](http://cfa.vic.gov.au/volunteers-careers/volunteer-with-cfa/apply-to-volunteer) or are welcome to pop into the station on a Monday night and have a chat in the first instance.

• WONTHAGGI FIRE BRIGADE



John Simmons, Wonthaggi CFA Community Safety Coordinator has been busy out and about in Harmers Haven and Cape Paterson undertaking Summer Fire Briefing Sessions. C11\_4524

Stay ahead of the weather and act

PRE summer briefings are well and truly underway for Wonthaggi CFA, who take care of the seaside villages of Harmers Haven and Cape Paterson. The Melbourne Cup long weekend saw two Summer Fire Briefing Sessions conducted, one in each village, with a third scheduled for Wonthaggi Library on November 23 – head to Wonthaggi CFA Fire & Hazmat Facebook page for more details on the session.

"Now is the time to start thinking about what summer will look like and what they need to prepare," Wonthaggi CFA Community Safety Coordinator John Simmons said. "Summer, at the moment, looks like it will be reasonably average temperatures and weather – we're in a La Nina watch.

"In winter, fire safety goes out of your mind, but we are coming into the fire season and we are looking to re-engage with people."

John explained that locally we are likely to see the fire danger period start before Christmas, as it usually would.

"It's already started in the western parts of Victoria, and that will probably be the main area where fires will happen over summer, but we are not immune – we will get hot days with

elevated fire danger, so people do need to think about how they're going to prepare, and everyone should have a fire plan."

If you don't have a fire plan, John explained that the easiest way is to jump online to [fireplanner.vic.gov.au](http://fireplanner.vic.gov.au), where it takes as little as 10 minutes to complete.

"It will step you through a very simple fire plan, which will help you start to think about what your fire plan should look like and what's going to work for you."

John also recommends downloading the VicEmergency app.

"Together with the BOM (Bureau of Meteorology), and VicEmergency, you can get a pretty good idea of what's coming (in the day's ahead) and fit it into your fire plan."

As for preparing your property...

"We've got free green waste in Bass Coast Shire, so it's a good opportunity to clean up around your home, making sure guttering is clean, overgrown shrubs are cut back, weeds and grass are lowered and wood piles from winter are moved away from your home."

"We've set up a new community fire guard at Harmers Haven, there's already one at Cape Paterson, and we will be conducting maintenance there soon."

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## Be bushfire ready

IT'S bushfire season, and Westernport Water has prepared its people and water supply networks the best it can to cope with extreme conditions.

However, it is important to remember Westernport Water cannot guarantee its ability to maintain water pressure or an uninterrupted water supply in the event of a bushfire.

Westernport Water has:

- Dedicated portable generators on standby, to return power quickly to fire-damaged pumping stations and water sources.
- Installed deluge systems at our key sewerage pumping stations and treatment facilities.
- Water carters on standby to transport emergency water supplies.

Loss of electricity may cause loss of power to the pumps, which transfer water across the region.

Extreme increased demand for water from residents and the CFA during a bushfire may cause a reduction in pressure or total loss of water.

What you can do:

If you intent to defend your property, be prepared with another source if town water becomes limited or unavailable.

Westernport Water recommend you consult the CFA about preparing your family and home for a bushfire.

Visit the CFA website or call 1800 240 667 for more information.

You can also help by 'adopting' a fire hydrant near your home.

It is essential that firefighters have quick and easy access to hydrants for water during a bushfire.

You can help keep the hydrant nearest your property clear, visible and accessible at all times by:

- Clearing soil grass and shrubs from around the hydrant.
- Keeping vehicles clear of the hydrant.
- Reporting any visible faults, damage or missing markers to your local council or Westernport Water on 1300 720 711.



### • PHILLIP ISLAND FIRE BRIGADE

## How they're meeting the challenge on Phillip Island

IT'S been a very busy year for the Phillip Island Fire Brigade from the opening of their fantastic new fire station in Ventnor Road last December to a busy round of fires in the past few months.

There's never a dull moment.

And given the surging popularity of our island home, with its major events, big long weekends and extended holiday periods, the pressure is on throughout the year.

Right now, according to Captain Lino Drazzi, the emphasis is firmly on preparing for the looming fire danger period, a time that not only demands action from the firefighters and their support team but also a response from the general community as well.

"Practice night this week involved draughting water from a local dam, not only to refill our trucks but also as an exercise because over the summer we might need to refill from any available water source when we're out in the scrub," said Captain Drazzi.

"It won't be long before Fire Danger Periods are declared in this region. We're probably a bit behind the west of the state in the curing process, but we're moving towards that now."

It's the time of the year when the Phillip Island Fire Brigade "hopes for the best but prepares for the worst", with an increased threat from grass and scrub fires across the island, especially in town interface areas and along the coast, but also getting ready to form strike teams as they have done in the past when other areas need support.

"While we get prepared for the



The correct use of Compressed Air Breathing Apparatus sets has been a priority for Phillip Island and surrounding fire brigades, not only for more effective fire fighting but also as protection from smoke inhalation.

bushfire season ourselves, we're also urging the community to take the opportunity of the free green waste period to clear away long grass, scrub and fire hazards and to revisit their own fire plans ahead of the summer."

Taking in an area from Sunderland Bay Road, to Rhyll and the Summerland Peninsula, the Phillip Island Fire Brigade covers a diverse area, working in well with the likes of San Remo, Kilcunda, Wonthaggi and the other nearby brigades to provide the coverage the area needs.

Phillip Island has 58 members, 47 of whom are operational, and thanks to a recent recruitment drive, they'll get to their target of 50 active firefighters, as well as filling most of those vital support roles, not only

fundraising, station cleaning and all the rest.

"There's always new and replacement equipment needed and at present we're replacing some of our petrol-powered equipment with some of the excellent, new battery-powered equipment on the market.

"But the new fire station is really functioning well and we've certainly got to be thankful for the effort that went into getting that much-needed new facility for the area."

Right through the year, there has also been a focus on training and skills development, combining with other brigades in exercises, not only to boost skills but also the teamwork between local brigades that's so crucial in the field.

### • INVERLOCH FIRE BRIGADE

## Inverloch fire brigade's proud legacy and commitment

INVERLOCH CFA has a proud and long history in the town.

The current fire station in A'Beckett Street was built just over a decade ago, but the Inverloch fire brigade dates back to the Country Fire Brigades Board (CFBB), the forerunner of the Country Fire Authority (CFA).

In 1944 the Inverloch brigade had neither a fire station or a fire truck and water was hauled around the fast-expanding coastal hamlet on a private vehicle.

In 1954 the Rocket Shed, which had lain empty near the present site of the South Gippsland Yacht Club since 1928 became a temporary base for an Austin tanker. Later that year an emergency water supply was donated to the brigade by the Foreshore Committee and installed at the Rocket Shed.

In those days meetings were advertised on the movie screen at the Mechanics Institute the preceding Saturday night.

According to the Inverloch Historical Society it was not until 1972 that any major changes were made, the faithful old Austin being replaced with a modern, brand new International D-1610 tanker with the call-sign 'JR22', later renamed 'Inverloch Tanker'.

It was one of the first International tankers in the Leongatha-Korumburra group of fire brigades and the envy of brigades such as Pound Creek, Tarwin Lower and Kongwak.

Inverloch was one of a few brigades in Victoria to experiment with a junior



Inverloch CFA Lt. Steve Limb, Capt. Shane Frogley and Lt. Michael Guest. B22\_4424

fire brigade. To join the Inverloch Fire Brigade in the early seventies boys had to be at least eleven years old.

The biggest coup for the Inverloch Fire Brigade was paying \$3500 for an ex-metropolitan International AB-160 metropolitan pumper in 1980 which took the call-sign 'JR20' later renamed 'Inverloch Pumper'.

The pumper was vital for carrying auxiliary equipment to fires including lighting plants, breathing apparatus, quick-fill pumps, a foam unit and two hundred feet of extra canvas hose.

The Inverloch pumper was later repurchased by the MFB for their museum, reportedly for more than they had sold it to Inverloch for when it was

found to be the only pumper of its type left in Australia with a working pump.

With summer and the bushfire season almost upon us, you can start preparing for fire season ahead with an information session conducted by the Inverloch brigade at the Inverloch Library on Thursday, November 7, from 5pm to 7pm. The information session is particularly tailored to residents living in and around Inverloch and juniors are more than welcome. Go to [eventbrite.com.au/e/prepare-for-fire-season-with-the-cfa-inverloch-library-tickets-1043305233037](http://eventbrite.com.au/e/prepare-for-fire-season-with-the-cfa-inverloch-library-tickets-1043305233037) to register.

You can contact the Inverloch CFA on 5674 3393 or send an email to [inverlochfirebrigade@hotmail.com](mailto:inverlochfirebrigade@hotmail.com)

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## • SAN REMO FIRE BRIGADE



San Remo CFA Captain Mark Thiele takes recruit Daisy Symons through her first training session. Z25\_4424

### Strength in recruitment at San Remo

THE San Remo Fire Brigade, under the leadership of Captain Mark Thiele, is making significant strides in recruitment and training following the objective in welcoming more female volunteers, to foster a balanced culture.

In recent months, the brigade has launched a series of initiatives aimed at increasing volunteer numbers and enhancing diversity within its ranks. Captain Thiele, who has been with the brigade for over a decade, has spearheaded these efforts, recognising the need for a robust and inclusive firefighting community.

"Post-COVID, we noticed a decline in volunteer numbers, which is why we've focused on reconnecting with the community," Thiele said.

"Our aim is not only to recruit more volunteers but to create a brigade that reflects the diversity of San Remo."

To achieve this, the brigade has focused on community engagement, attracting families and potential recruits eager to learn about firefighting and fire safety. The events featured demonstrations of firefighting equipment, safety techniques, and educational sessions on the importance of having a bushfire plan.

The response from the community has been tremendously positive.

"It has been amazing to see so many people engaged and excited about fire safety," Thiele noted. "We're particularly encouraging women to join, as we believe a diverse team is a stronger team."

Training has also been a priority for the brigade. New recruits undergo a comprehensive three to four-month training program, which includes firefighting techniques, pump operations and teamwork exercises. Training sessions are held on Tuesdays and Sundays.

As the fire season approaches, the San Remo brigade is ramping up its safety initiatives. The team has implemented their annual burnover drills and tree hazard awareness courses to ensure that all members are equipped to handle potential emergencies effectively.

"It's amazing to see so many members of the community giving up their time for training and learning new skills," Thiele stated. "Their hard work and dedication makes all the difference for when they're in action, because it's not just the fire season ahead that we're focused on but the house fires that occur throughout the year!"

## • KERNOT-GRANTVILLE FIRE BRIGADE



Kernot-Grantville CFA volunteers Allan and Joan Kerr during a training session at the unit. Z03\_4524

### Celebrating 80 years of service

THE Kernot-Grantville Brigade is travelling well for a relatively small community and the members are keeping busy planning their Station Open Day on Sunday, November 10 from 10am at Grantville Station with fun activities for kids and the chance for locals to meet with their local CFA volunteers whom this year celebrate 80 years of service.

"In the last 12 months, we have had four new members of the public approach us and express their interest in joining," Captain Jason Duck said, highlighting they are always on the lookout for new members to join both operational firefighters and non-operational support members particularly those available during the day and in the Kernot area.

The unit's training has recently swung into bush and grass fire scenarios with members practicing their entrapment drills.

"Our Brigade members pride themselves in making sure that the vehicles and equipment at both Kernot and Grantville Stations are in good working order," said Jason.

The Brigade have been lucky with

obtaining grants and donations from the Grantville Market Committee, Bass Valley Lions Club, Grantville Bendigo Bank branch and donations from the public, and recently purchased two Thermal Imaging Cameras, torches and lighting stands, and are replacing the blinds at Grantville Station.

"Areas of higher risk in our primary response area which is from Peacock Road to our North, up to Loch-Wonthaggi Road to the east then heading west down through parts of Glen Forbes to the intersection of Bass Highway and Corinella Road to the south of Grantville and incorporating the towns in between where houses are located in treed areas like The Gurdies and Adam's Estate as well as the open grass areas."

Farmers and residents can prepare their properties by maintaining lower grass levels, cleaning spouting/gutters on and around buildings, removing flammable items away from buildings, storing hay bales correctly and checking temperatures.

There is a 'Place of Last Resort' at the Grantville Memorial Park behind Grantville Transaction Centre.



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## • RUBY FIRE BRIGADE



Just recently, Ruby Fire Brigade's newest and youngest member, Cody, responded to his first fire after having completed his general firefighting training.

## Ruby Fire Brigade looking forward to getting a new tanker

THE RUBY Fire Brigade are picking up about two new recruits every year and currently have over forty volunteers on their books.

While most of these volunteers are operational, Ruby CFA Captain Andrew Verboon said they still struggle for people at times, particularly for calls that might come in at unusual hours.

"It's still hard. There's still not as many people these days, not as many farmers available around to do those late nights."

Many of the new members are also young and inexperienced and the brigade is looking to train volunteers up to eventually take over the more senior roles in years to come, especially as older members retire.

The training coordinators work hard to get members attending training with a solid dozen members going to Leongatha to complete their training components for the year.

The Ruby crew is also looking forward to getting an updated tanker next year, which they've been waiting on for ten years now.

With the new tanker, the space in the station will be cramped and Andrew hopes to have this rectified in the future to properly accommodate the vehicles, equipment and people.

"We're going to struggle for room in the shed. So, we'll probably need a little bit of work in time, but we will make do for now."

"We're only a rural brigade, but we do back up quite large towns, and now we've got a second tanker we'll probably do a lot more summer callouts, the strike teams and that," predicts Andrew.

Being situated in a valley in a rural area, Andrew said the teams also occasionally face radio problems due to lack of reception.

"Reception is not always perfect, and we're a bit of trouble with portables, they don't work in the hills very well, that's probably our main concern at the moment," he said.

Coming into summer Andrew advises locals to clean up anything that's lying around on properties and to make sure there's not long grass to reduce the fuel load.

## • POUND CREEK FIRE BRIGADE

### Three generations of CFA volunteers at Pound Creek

NEWLY recruited seventeen-year-old CFA volunteer Caleb Mee heralds three generations of CFA volunteering by the Mee family with the Pound Creek brigade.

Grandfather Merv Mee could not be prouder of his grandson Caleb.

Pound Creek CFA boasts forty volunteers aged from seventeen to seventy, with a centrally located brigade station on the Inverloch to Venus Bay Road housing a tanker, and big fill, with the Pound Creek pumper and South Gippsland ultralight housed at Inverloch.

Local firefighters Darryl Mullett, Mark Pardoe, Ken Harris, Mick Hughes, Allen Archbold and Ivan Smith were part of the Long Haul Strike Team deployed to Raglan south-west of Avoca earlier this year to fight the Beaufort fires.

A major concern for the Pound Creek brigade this summer will be the influx of visitors to the area particularly Venus Bay and the enlarged boat ramp and jetty at nearby Mahers Landing.

Pound Creek has a close association with Tarwin Lower and District Fire Brigade working with Inverloch and Tarwin Lower to cover the high fire risk areas of Venus Bay and Walkerville.

Pound Creek firefighters also conduct regular training sessions with Tarwin Lower.

Consistently having thirty to forty operational firefighters Pound Creek recently welcomed their two youngest members to the brigade, both grandchildren of serving members.

"Our station and reserve are looking terrific at the moment," said Pound Creek Fire Brigade Captain, Ivan Smith.



Pound Creek CFA volunteers Mark Pardoe, Paul Kennedy, Julian Walker, Merv Mee with Captain Ivan Smith. B18\_4424

"We have bought and constructed a new storage shed and the station has been fully insulated and reclad, all thanks to CFA and a huge commitment from our members."

"We also continue to develop our reserve area as a training ground for other brigades in the district."

CFA training equipment has been stored at Pound Creek and courses for general firefighting, chainsaw and low structures have been run over the past year.

South Gippsland CFA Training Group ran a combined exercise at Pound Creek involving forty firefighters from District 9.

To fund the improvements at Pound Creek volunteers run a regular Bunnings sausage sizzles and other fundraising events.

You can find the Pound Creek Brigade at 686 Inverloch-Venus Bay Road, Pound Creek with public parking available next to the brigade station fifty metres from the station entrance.

## • KONGWAK FIRE BRIGADE

### Prepare for the worst, hope for the best this Summer

"Everyone is no doubt tired of being warned about what's going to happen, could happen and may happen, but it's our job to make sure we prepare for the worst and hope for the best," Kongwak Fire Brigade Captain Tony Reade said.

"Please make a fire plan, and make sure you incorporate your animals."

With many volunteers living on farms themselves, Kongwak Fire Brigade members have been busy preparing for the summer season ahead.

"Make sure you have enough food, water and clothing for at least 24 hours, and do not forget the essentials, like toilet paper. When you're at a public facility, it's likely supplies will run out."

Captain Reade is also urging land and homeowners around the hamlet and district to ensure the grass is kept low around the house, sheds and other buildings, and spouts are cleaned out.

"Talk to someone about getting your spouts blocked up, so you can clean them at the end of the day and incorporate a stop pipe and release valve in your downpipes."

"And please just be safe."

Firefighters Ross Olden and Nigel Braithwaite are also urging the community alongside Captain Reade to be cautious when burning off.



Kongwak firefighters Ross Olden, Captain Tony Reade and Nigel Braithwaite are prepped and ready for the season ahead. C01\_4524

"Although South Gippsland is not a notoriously high-risk area we've had a few burn-offs in the last couple of weeks, that have gone array. Wind changes and lack of attention have caused them to escape and resulted in us attending."

It's also worth bearing in mind what is in the surrounding districts, not just neighbouring homes.

"If you look at Google Earth everything is joined now, we are connected, particularly through the road network,

and it's up to people to create fire breaks and take all the precautions they can. If a fire started in Grantville for example, it could easily make it to us, and go past us through to Mirboo North," Captain Reade explained.

With their Firewise Garden on full display and firefighters and members of Kongwak usually at the station on a Sunday, pop in and ask the team any questions you may have about the upcoming season, your fire plan or about joining the friendly brigade.

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## • KORUMBURRA FIRE BRIGADE



Chris Gaskett, Graham Denney and Kevin Griffiths on duty and keeping locals safe around the bonfire during Halloween at Coal Creek. ob03\_4524

## Korumburra need a new, safer station

THE KORUMBURRA Fire Brigade have been in their current location since 1961 and they are in desperate need of a new fire station, in a new location.

"Where we are currently is really dangerous, and we actually are reversing trucks into the station across the highway," said Korumburra CFA Captain Shane Maskell.

Fortunately, the crew do have state-of-the-art equipment and good people power, with about 28 active members and a couple of new recruits coming on board this year.

Pre-fire season drills and skills maintenance, such as burnover drills have begun, with most of the volunteers completing this training for the year.

While the Korumburra area is still quite green, Shane mentioned that a few warm weeks could see it dry out with other parts of the state already drying out.

"There are neighbouring areas where they have an increased risk. So, we're always conscious of what's going on around us in the event of anything starting up and we're ready to go and help and do what we need to do."

Shane advises anyone who calls in a fire to make sure they are confident they know exactly where it is and what it is.

"We get a lot of people call in a fire that they can see 300 metres away, and they don't really know where it is, so it sends brigades out unnecessarily on a wild goose chase to try and find a bit of smoke that could be under control, and most of the time it is."

"Obviously, if it's necessary, then absolutely call us out."

Shane also advises people to be vigilant about cleaning up their properties; and if having a burn-off make sure the fire is fully extinguished and cold to touch.

## • TARWIN FIRE BRIGADE



CFA Captain Tarwin Lower Mick Moore with young firefighters Cara Munnings and Nelson McMillan. B23\_4324

## Memories of Venus Bay NYE fire still vivid

NEW Year's Eve 2021 and a large grassfire ignites in farmland along the only road into and out of the idyllic seaside hideaway of Venus Bay.

"We were just returning from a grass and scrub fire at Wattle Bank, driving into Inverloch when we could see a plume of smoke rise over Venus Bay," remembers veteran Tarwin Lower & District CFA Fire Captain Mick Moore.

"It was more than a plume of smoke."

A wildfire, possibly ignited by early NYE fireworks was racing down towards Jupiter Boulevard the main entrance to Venus Bay, threatening dozens of homes backing onto farmland.

Holidaymakers and residents fleeing to safety gathered at an emergency refuge centre at the Venus Bay Surf Life Saving Club.

"Thank God you're here," cried local residents as CFA units pulled into Venus Bay one after the other and took off across burning paddocks.

It took firefighters four days to black out the fire, which was finally doused by much-needed rain, filling water tanks and cooling down weary firefighters from twenty-five separate units.

"It was the biggest fire in the district for sixteen years," said Mick.

Thanks to the hard work of the CFA, Jill Macpherson-Smith and forty-two others were grateful to be able to return to the safety of their homes.

"Everyone helped out including catering," said Mick. "There was a shortage of drivers for dozers and excavators."

Forty hectares of grazing land and a small number of century-old pines were lost to the fire, but all stock and adjacent properties were saved.

It is now approaching that time again.

"Check smoke alarms and make a fire plan first," said Mick.

Over the summer, Mick opens the satellite fire station at Walkerville on the last Friday of the month to share his experience and help local residents with fire plans. Mick also conducts community engagement sessions in the park at Venus Bay over January and attends a free information session and community lunch over summer from 10am to midday at the Venus Bay Community Centre.

"Number one, have a plan," said Mick. "Make sure you have an evacuation kit with first aid items, prescription medications, legal documents, battery radio, phone charger, double adaptor, toilet paper and basic food items."



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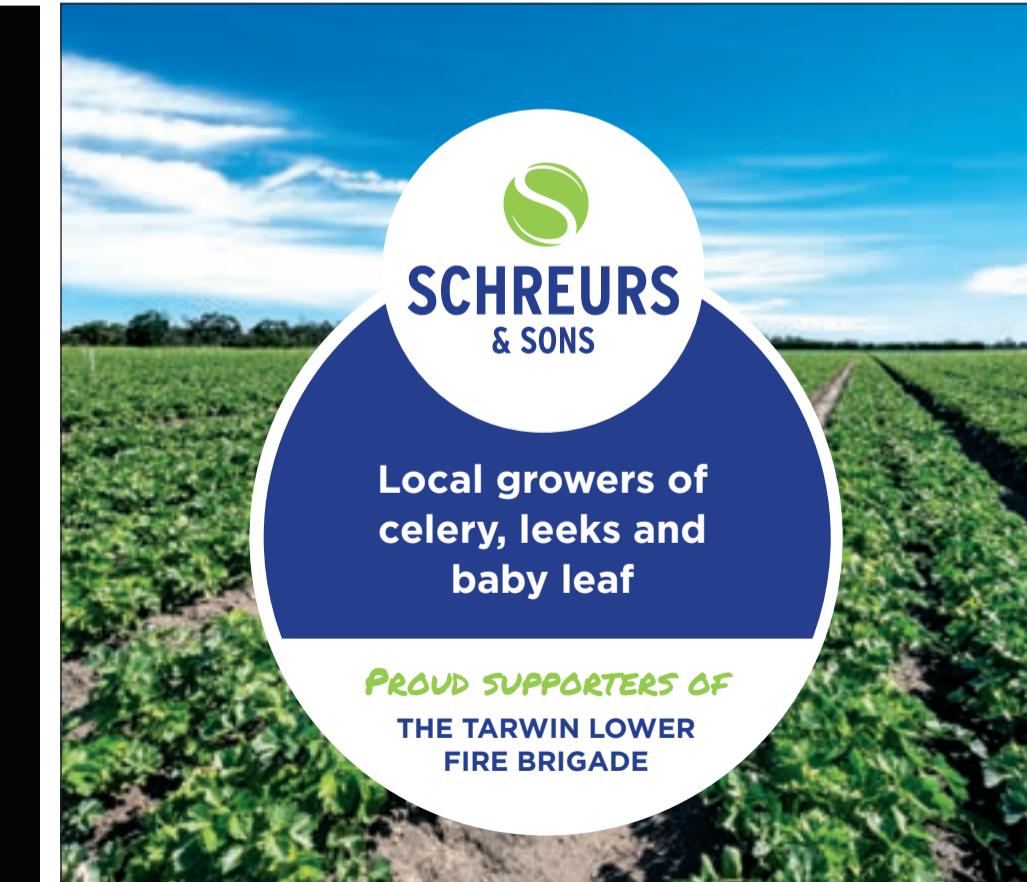
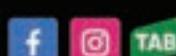


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“

*In South Gippsland, as brigades and as a group, we've been working really hard to prepare for this fire season, to make sure that we're going to be safe on the fire ground. We just want our community to do the same.*

*Be aware of risk areas in your property, and especially aware of trees in bush areas around your property, because the biggest hazard we get now are hazardous trees. We want everyone to do what we do, a lot of safety preparation before the fire season starts.”*

ROB HIGGINS,  
South Gippsland Group Officer

## • NERRENA FIRE BRIGADE



**Nerrena CFA is looking for more volunteers ahead of the upcoming fire season.**

## Nerrena CFA ready to educate the community

THE Nerrena CFA will be hosting a Community Open Day on November 17. The open day will help the community prepare for the upcoming fire season.

“We will be available to help people understand and prepare a fire plan,” Nerrena Captain Samantha Smith said.

“October is fire preparedness month, so Nerrena has also been getting ready by working on entrapment and hazardous tree drills to get ready for the coming seasons.”

Nerrena CFA is also open to new members, with 10 active members at present.

The brigade meets at the station every Sunday from 10am to 11am for training.

To help the brigade protect the community, the public is asked to avoid dumping trash – particularly in the Kindellan Reserve area.

“We usually burn off the Kindellan Reserve at the start of the year. However, this year it was too dry and then it became too wet,” Captain Smith said.

“The CFA is wary of this area and people are asked to stop dumping trash to avoid the risk of fire. Roadside dumping has become a major issue.”

The public can also play their part by cleaning their gutters, keeping lawns short and removing any timber from around the house.

Due to the wet weather, the CFA is concerned the community will be complacent.

It has been drier than people realise, and the hot weather is soon expected to impact the soil.

Come along to the Community Open Day on November 17 to learn more.

## • LEONGATHA SOUTH FIRE BRIGADE

### Leongatha South Fire Brigade offers farm safety advice

FARM safety is a key area for Leongatha South Fire Brigade, with safety coordinator Jodi Butler speaking about how risks such as tractor and machinery fires and haystack combustion can be minimised.

Farmers are advised to visit [cfa.vic.gov.au](http://cfa.vic.gov.au) and click on 'Fire Safety on the Farm', then read the 'Your Guide to Farm Safety' booklet.

Hard copies of the guide will be placed in the brochure holder outside the Leongatha South Fire Station.

Jodi said farm fire safety is a year-round activity, highlighting the importance of maintaining and inspecting tractors and farm machinery.

Jodi said many tractors have been sitting in the shed for some time and rats and birds may have built nests around the exhaust pipe area that are readily combustible with the heat from the exhaust system.

“Birds can build nests fairly quickly this time of year,” she warned.

As well as ensuring tractors are in good running condition, it is necessary to maintain other machinery such as hay balers, being mindful of wheel bearings that can spark a fire if they have deteriorated.

“We have attended fires caused by overheating wheel bearings getting into dry vegetation around them,” Jodi said.

Having plenty of water at hand when out on the tractor enables the farmer to tackle a fire while it is still small.

“Most tractors, particularly over the fire danger period are required to have a nine-litre water extinguisher on them, whether it's an actual extinguisher or just a pump pack,” Jodi said.

It is crucial to ensure your property is clearly identifiable with large



**Tractor fires often result in the loss of both the tractor and equipment it is towing, such as this hay baler, with farmers encouraged to take steps to minimise the risk.**

numbers that can be seen at night and that there is access for today's large fire trucks, being mindful of impediments such as locked gates and overhanging tree branches.

Clearing obstacles and planning to have someone unlock gates if the fire brigade is needed are recommended actions, and it may be a good idea to have someone out the front of your property to direct arriving brigades.

It is critical to ensure your fire plan is up to date and includes livestock such as cattle and horses and where to transfer them to in the event of a fire.

Hay shed fires are devastating for farmers and time-consuming and unpleasant for fire brigades.

They may be triggered by hay that is cut too green or becomes damp during or after bailing.

Ensuring hay is sufficiently dry

before stacking is essential.

Hay can be monitored with a temperature probe, and rising steam or unusual odours are telltale signs there is a risk of a hay fire.

In the event hay does combust, fire brigades do what they can to preserve any surrounding buildings and save machinery and other valuable equipment but generally, all hay in the shed is destroyed.

Leongatha South Fire Brigade has again undertaken standard training such as burnover drills and hazardous tree awareness.

It completes a range of other training, varying from month to month, and conducts general checks of trucks and other equipment to ensure it is ready for the fire season.

Chat with members of the Leongatha South Fire Brigade to learn about joining.

## • MIRBOO NORTH FIRE BRIGADE

### Clean up your property before summer arrives

WITH much of the storm debris still on the ground in Mirboo North, local CFA Captain Trent Venton is urging locals to clean up and prepare their properties before summer.

That includes registering any burn-offs with the CFA and monitoring fires, rather than leaving them unattended, as the Mirboo North crew often attend burn-offs that have gotten out of control.

Trent also recommends having sufficient water and tools on hand during burn-offs and for the season ahead.

With fifty volunteers on Mirboo North's books and about 25 of these active, the crew have fortunately reached their capacity for volunteers.

Much time has been spent over the cooler months training the new recruits and this will continue into pre-summer training.

“They're all about to pass their GFF (General Firefighter course). The last one, he's going through his GFF at the moment and then that's all 25 done,” said Trent.

“We've started our pre-summer training, which will go into November training as well. So, we'll look at Baths Road Reserve, do plans on that, and the other areas in Mirboo North – the higher risk areas with



**Mirboo North CFA Captain Trent Venton is urging locals to clean up around their properties before summer arrives. ob14\_4423**

fuel loads around them.”

The brigade have also received a new second-hand pumper tanker that has recently arrived, which replaces their light pumper.

The pumper tanker's features include a 3000-litre water tank, 2500 litres per minute water pump, 30-metre live hose reel, a 200-litre Class B and 50-litre Class A foam capability and full stowage capacity.

“We're doing training on it so we can make it operational in the

coming weeks. Then we can put it online, so that's a bonus for the brigade,” explained Trent.

While there is still much debris around the town which the Shire and associated contractors are currently cleaning up, the CFA will meet with other agencies to discuss plans for these areas and will have more information to share with the community once plans are in place.

The Mirboo North CFA will also be celebrating their 80th anniversary on Thursday, November 7.

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## • KONWARRA FIRE BRIGADE



Koonwarra Fire Brigade members practise using a gas tank training prop.

## Alleviate fire risk in Koonwarra

KOONWARRA residents need to be vigilant in preparing their fire plans and clearing their properties, with local CFA captain Peter Hanly stressing that the town is in a high-fire-danger area.

"It's heavily treed", he said of Koonwarra's surroundings, with that presenting a serious threat from embers.

That makes it all the more important to ensure fuel loads on your property are minimised before the hot weather arrives, including clearing the gutters of your house and other buildings.

Grass is currently growing prolifically and needs to be kept down to reduce risk, especially with potentially hot, dry weather approaching.

"Prepare your property and have a plan in place," Peter said, with his family planning to leave early rather than defend their home, while he would likely be on the fire truck wherever it is most needed.

It is important for people to develop their own fire plan tailored to their circumstances and ensure they and their family understand it.

Those at Koonwarra Fire Brigade

are always happy to provide guidance.

Simply pop into the station at 7.30pm on a Monday night when the brigade trains, or visit the Koonwarra Farmers Market on the first Saturday of the month at which members man the barbecue and are happy to chat and offer friendly advice.

Recruitment is going well, with four new members joining in the last 12 months, a fantastic result for a small brigade.

More are always welcome, and you don't have to become a firefighter to be part of the CFA community and help.

"They can assist with training, clean up around the station, or do basic tasks," Peter said of the variety of volunteer roles, with people encouraged to come and have a chat and a cuppa.

Information on volunteering and registration is available through the CFA website.

Koonwarra Fire Brigade has been busy with burnover drills, and practising drafting from the truck and pump trailer, as well as hazardous tree training.

## • GLEN ALVIE FIRE BRIGADE



Glen Alvie CFA's Laura Matthews, Heather Andrews, Peter Clark, captain Craig Matthews, Hans Kamphius and Paul Bird are hoping to see as many members of the public as possible at the Community Open Day on November 17. Tk01\_4524

## Be fire ready with the Glen Alvie CFA

THE community is encouraged to come along to Glen Alvie CFA's Community Open Day on November 17.

This is an opportunity for the public to learn more about fire safety in the lead-up to the fire season.

The brigade is also hopeful the open day will inspire new members to volunteer.

"Our truck still gets out when it needs to, and we are doing the job we need to. We're ticking along out here," Captain Craig Matthews said.

"However, membership is probably a big thing for us. We're all aging, and we've had a few retirements in the last 12 months. In another five years or so there will probably be more retiring from the CFA. It would be great to get some younger members in."

The Glen Alvie CFA currently has 18 active members.

They have been training hard in the lead-up to the fire season, generally meeting at the station on a Wednesday night or Sunday.

Recently, the group participated

in a joint exercise with the Kongwak CFA in the Kongwak bush.

The brigade is looking to do more of these group trainings with neighbouring brigades and will be participating in the group training scheduled for November 24.

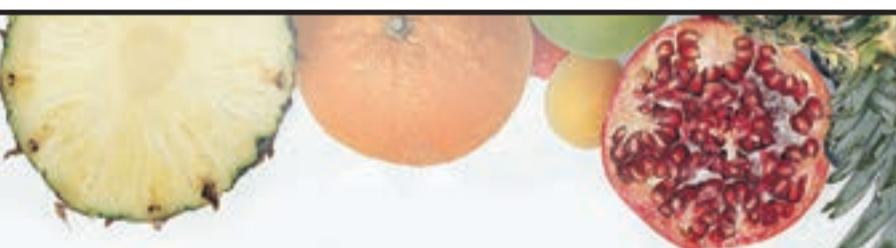
All members have honed their basic skills and have had to complete entrapment drills.

They will also be brushing up on their first-aid training.

The Glen Alvie CFA is now equipped with a TIC (thermal imaging) camera, which helps the members identify hotspots when out on the job.

Whilst overseeing all of Glen Alvie and helping to respond to incidents in neighbouring areas, the brigade will be keeping an eye on important infrastructure such as the reservoir.

The Glen Alvie CFA advises all home and property owners to clean up around their property, have a plan and keep extinguishers in the home and in sheds.



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## • POOWONG FIRE BRIGADE



Poowong crews are involved in community engagement at the Poowong Little Market.

### Check conditions before burning off, says Zed

THE Poowong CFA have had a busy year, particularly assisting other emergency services with the storm clean-up in and around Mirboo North in February and again in August this year.

It's also an area the crews will be keeping an eye on and helping out with again if needed over the warmer months.

"There's concern for a few no-go zones and exclusion zones because of tree hazards that haven't yet been properly assessed," explained Zeb Mitchell, Poowong CFA Captain.

Over winter the crew have been focusing on in-charge roles and the chain of command, as well as indoor training.

More recently the volunteers have been carrying out their pre-summer training and drills, including entrapment drills and burnovers, and running grass fires.

The Poowong Brigade undertook a recruitment drive earlier in the year and secured a couple of new members, one of who is currently in the process of doing general firefighting training; and with those skills under her belt will be ready to go by the end of the year.

"We've got a couple of new members, but we're always actively seeking new members," said Zeb.

"We've got 28 and there's about 12 that are operational, but probably constantly we only see about eight, so a few more would be helpful."

The daytime crews is where the brigade primarily needs members, as it used to be local farmers who would fill these roles which unfortunately has dropped off over the last few years.

Zeb urges all locals to clean up their properties now before restrictions come in over the next few months.

He also recommends everyone register their burn-offs coming into summer so they don't receive an unwanted visit by the CFA crew and to be mindful of the local conditions when they are burning off.

"Because time and time again you get people burning off when it's blowing at gale force and they're like, we've registered, we're fine," said Zeb.

## • LOCH FIRE BRIGADE



The Loch CFA crew are always on the lookout for new members to help keep their town and surrounds safe.

### The Loch CFA needs you on their crew

WHILE Loch CFA has about 20 members they are always on the lookout for more and welcome all those who might be interested and willing to come and join the crew.

"We've got a good crew, but we could do with some more," said Len Wyhoun, Captain of the Loch CFA.

They have recruited three new members in the past twelve months but Len fears they will struggle to maintain crew numbers in the future.

"Fortunately, we retain members really well, but, like many brigades, we have struggled in recent years with low recruitment," Len explained.

"If anyone has ever thought of joining, reach out, you may find it's the perfect opportunity and way to give back to your community."

The crews have been focussing on their road rescue training, particularly with the arrival of their new rescue truck which will come online in the next few weeks, and are starting to get through their bushfire training with preseason briefings, entrapment drills and reviewing tree hazard awareness skills.

The brigade's biggest concern for the coming season is the Nyora area, particularly around Cherry Tree Road, as well as escape burn-offs.

"I think one of our biggest problems with fires is people's understanding of burn-offs. We've had a lot of escaped burn-offs in our area," said Len.

"Watch your burn-offs. Just because it's a good day to burn off doesn't mean it's a safe day to burn off."

"There's never really a big fire

danger in South Gippsland compared to the rest of the state because it's really nice and green," said Len, adding that it becomes a problem because people become blasé about fires.

Len advises people to check farm machinery, have them serviced and remove any debris from machinery before using, and prepare properties now.

"Prepare before the fire restrictions come in, they're better off to clean up now, clean up their blocks and make sure we can access their blocks," advises Len.

"Register the burn and don't forget that registering your burn and having a permit are two different things. You don't need a permit just yet but when the fire danger period comes in you do."

## • BERRYS CREEK FIRE BRIGADE



The Berrys Creek CFA currently has 10 active members.

### Berrys Creek CFA advise vigilance in dry conditions

BERRYS Creek CFA is warning the community to stay safe and reconsider burn-offs as summer approaches.

Second Lieutenant and community safety officer Mark Bourke said conditions are already drier than people realise.

"It's been a funny sort of year with a lot of out of control burn-offs," he said.

"It's drier than people think. We responded to an out-of-control burn-off in Mirboo North recently. The farmer had done everything right – he was keeping watch and had water on hand – however, the wind picked up and the burn-off took off into the bushland."

"Embers are also causing people

headaches. We're asking people to consider whether they need to burn off and to reduce fuel. It's shaping up to be a hot summer and soil is already pretty dry."

Homeowners are advised to clean up their properties to avoid the risk of fire.

Berrys Creek is gearing up for the upcoming fire season and currently has 10 active members.

In the last 12 months, the brigade recruited two more members, who are both young and keen to do what they can to protect the community.

Training has been going well, held once a month with good attendance.

Berrys Creek CFA also often join up with other brigades such as Mirboo North and Mount Eccles for

training sessions.

These are the brigades they will often support during callouts.

Berrys Creek CFA was also recently invited to join training with local ambulance members.

The station has had no upgrades in the last 12 months, but the brigade is seeking assistance to put in a new kitchen. They have received quotes and are in the process of applying for grants. In the meantime, the CFA ensures all equipment is up to date.

The area Berrys Creek CFA covers is mostly grassland, but the brigade will be keeping a particular eye on Forresters Road into the Hallston bush.

Discussions around fire restrictions will be taking place soon.

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## • MEENIYAN STONY CREEK FIRE BRIGADE

Meenyan Stony Creek Fire Brigade is ready, are you?

PREPARING for the fire season ahead, registering burns and ensuring they are not left unattended are among the key messages from Meenyan Stony Creek Fire Brigade captain Paddy Eldred.

He stressed that with climate change things tend to dry out quicker and that even when surroundings appear largely green, there can be drier areas that present a fire risk.

The brigade has already been in action, well ahead of summer's arrival.

"We had an outburst the other day at Mirboo North around the golf links area and we didn't expect that," Paddy said of the unseasonably early incident, explaining that a burn off got out of hand and five tankers were required.

February's ferocious storm has increased the risk of such occurrences due to large quantities of fallen trees building fuel loads on the ground.

With local farmers having a good season, there is also lots of grass around, presenting potential fire danger, and people are advised to keep grass down around electric fences to prevent arcing from igniting a blaze.

Paddy encourages people to take account of conditions when planning to burn off.



**Are you ready for the fire season? Is your fire evacuation plan in order?**

"Pick your day and pick your time," he said, adding that evening is often best due to reduced wind and lower temperatures.

Ensuring there is a sizeable clear area around the burn is also important, as is not leaving the fire unattended and having plenty of water on hand in case it is needed.

Registering your burn helps ensure volunteer firefighters won't be called out unnecessarily.

It's just a matter of calling 1800 668 511 and answering a few simple questions.

Paddy noted fire brigades prepare for the worst every year and members of the public need to do the same.

"Have your evacuation plans in order," he said.

As well as clearing fuel loads from your property well before the hottest weather hits, it's advisable to remove

flammable items from near the house, such as firewood on your verandah.

Like those from other brigades, Meenyan Stony Creek Fire Brigade members have been undertaking mandatory yearly training, including burnover drills and hazardous tree identification.

Paddy explained that burnover drills simulate a crew being trapped by a fire, having to take refuge in their truck, activating its sprinkler system and heat curtains, with firefighters practising various roles throughout the exercise.

New members are always welcome, with the public invited to attend Meenyan Stony Creek Fire Brigade meetings or training nights.

Meetings are held on the second Wednesday each month, with training on the fourth Wednesday, both commencing at 7.30pm.

## • DUMBALK FIRE BRIGADE



**Dumbalk Fire Brigade Captain Dallas Campbell urges the community to ready their properties for summer by updating fire plans, clearing fuel loads, and ensuring clear access for emergency vehicles.**

**Pay attention to burn offs, says Dumbalk Brigade**

DUMBALK Fire Brigade captain Dallas Campbell urges people to prepare for summer by having an up-to-date fire plan and cleaning up around their houses and sheds to reduce fuel loads.

"Make sure you've got your address clearly marked on the gate at the front so we can find you quickly, and have access to water if possible," he said.

Having a safe place to go in the event of an emergency and ensuring your property allows access for fire trucks, which are larger than in the past, are important considerations.

Remember to ensure smoke alarm batteries are replaced if necessary.

Dumbalk Fire Brigade has already been called into service well ahead of summer, helping extinguish an out-of-

control burn-off in Mirboo North.

Dallas urges people to be mindful of conditions when considering lighting a burn off, taking into account factors such as wind and warmer weather.

People are encouraged to register their burns, ensuring brigades aren't called out needlessly.

Fuel load around Mirboo North and the vulnerability of trees in the area following February's storm are of concern to the region's fire brigades.

As with other brigades, Dumbalk members have been refreshing their skills for the fire season ahead, with burnover drills and hazardous tree training. Drafting and use of Class A Foam are other important training focuses.

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**Let's do our part for  
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**Authorised by Russell Broadbent MP, Independent Federal Member for Monash, Warragul**

**SOUTH GIPPSLAND SENTINEL-TIMES | TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2024 | 43**

## • FISH CREEK FIRE BRIGADE



There are many years of service at Fish Creek, as demonstrated at the brigade's recent 80th birthday celebrations on Sunday, October 20, when Captain Ray Poletti was presented with his 55 year service medal.

## Summer at Sandy Point is a hotspot for the Fish Creek Crew

EACH year before summer, the Fish Creek and District Fire Brigade go back to basics in fire training and refamiliarise themselves with the layout of Sandy Point, as it's a hotspot for fires.

The crews are required to pass burnover drills annually and polish their basic equipment, procedures and radio communication skills.

"We do a whole lot of different training, but most of it is a fairly basic stuff that you use when you join a fire brigade. That's what gets you through a fire season. There's lots of other fancy stuff, but it's more the basics to fight fires," said Mike O'Mara Secretary of the CFA Unit.

The crew also train in Sandy Point as that's often where they're called out to during summer and they hold community education sessions over the holidays.

"It's a community that swells up to quite a few thousand people. Very few of them are local. So you've got a situation where you've got one road in, and you've got a lot of people who probably don't know much about fire protection or fire restrictions," explained Mike.

The Fish Creek CFA have two tankers, one each in Fish Creek and Sandy Point. They also have a support vehicle, and a road rescue vehicle.

The station has also undergone recent renovations and a new sign has been installed.

To prepare for the fire season, Mike advises people to clean up around their properties, clean out gutters, and remove any rubbish or debris that's around including undergrowth and overhanging branches.

"Make sure everything's clean and clear. Don't have things against the house. Woodsheds should be separate from the house. Keep your place tidy."

The crew advises people to leave early if a bushfire is headed their way and on code red days to leave the area until it's safer.

A couple of new recruits have joined the team recently, but they always need more volunteers and encourage anyone interested to come and have a chat with them about what's involved.

## • FOSTER FIRE BRIGADE

# Fire brigade ready to defend Foster

FOSTER Fire Brigade is working hard to ensure it is prepared to protect the community ahead of the fire season.

With around 20 active members, the brigade is seeing excellent attendance at training each week and at group exercises with neighbouring brigades.

"We had two new members join recently," Captain David Jones said.

"One just completed their (General Firefighter Course) and the other is in the process."

However, the brigade could always do with more volunteers and encourages community members to get involved.

The Foster Fire Brigade is currently advocating for a new fire station.

The brigade secured a lease on a block of land and is shovel-ready when funding becomes available.

"(Gippsland South MLA) Danny O'Brien is pushing hard for it through the State Government," Captain Jones said.

"The CFA knows a new station is something we need, and we are in line for one along with Mirboo North."

A new station would allow the brigade to build separate change rooms and would create space to house new equipment.

In the coming weeks, the brigade will be conducting a fire-ready meeting for residents in the northeast area of Foster.



The Foster Fire Brigade has been working hard at training to prepare for the fire season.

"We ran this meeting last year and it was very successful. A surprising amount of people came along," Captain Jones said.

"We advise people on how to look after different situations in the initial stages, as it can take 15 to 20 minutes for the CFA to arrive. It helps them to help us."

"Our members will also be helping its elderly residents change the battery in their smoke alarms."

The Foster Fire Brigade has a duty of care across Foster and has been working with Parks Victoria and the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (DEECA) to manage fire risks.

The brigade also worked with Forest Fire Management to do a burnoff near New Zealand Hill, offering some protection to the water treatment plant.

Homeowners and farmers can do their part by keeping their properties clean and maintaining machinery.

Birds and rats can make nests in machinery, which can contribute to fires and cause devastation – particularly in the lead-up to hay season.

"Don't wait until the last minute to clean up and be prepared," Captain Jones said.

"Also, remember to call in and register if you plan to burn off."

## • WELSHPOOL FIRE BRIGADE



South Gippsland Group coordinated exercise at Port Welshpool Jetty.

# Get involved with the Welshpool CFA brigade

WELSHPOOL CFA has recruited well over the last 12 months but is still looking for more volunteers to step up to protect the community.

The brigade has been attending local events to garner interest and to help the community prepare for the upcoming fire season.

It is recommended that landowners keep their properties clean and have a plan in case of an emergency.

"There's always concern for wildfire across farmland. Port Welshpool also has a lot of crown land, so the CFA has worked in with Forest Fire Management Victoria to conduct burn-offs recently," Welshpool CFA captain David Grylls said.

"We recommend people make sure their pumps are serviced and

they have fire extinguishers. It's also advised that people have a plan ready, especially for stock and pets.

"We can help assess people's fire preparedness."

The brigade has been preparing for the fire season by updating its equipment.

"We've got a TIC (thermal imaging) camera – which has been an asset – and we've had breathing apparatuses for a while. The TIC camera is a benefit for blackouts," Captain Grylls said.

"We've also had new phones put in and some of our guys have become fuse-pulling accredited."

The Welshpool CFA also meets up for training on the last Thursday

of the month and participates in cluster trainings with neighbouring brigades.

The Welshpool hall is the main evacuation centre should a major incident occur.

"It's not something we always encourage due to safety reasons, but it is a place of last resort," Captain Grylls said.

"The CFA has a handy generator to help people charge their devices and use microwaves and toilets."

There's never been a better time to join the Welshpool CFA.

"You don't have to be on the ground. There are other roles people can get involved in, such as community education and admin," Captain Grylls said.

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## • LEONGATHA FIRE BRIGADE

# Have a plan and keep up to date with fire risk at all times

LEONGATHA Fire Brigade captain Peter Quill urges community members to ensure they have a clear fire plan and to take ownership of their own outcomes while making clear there is plenty of support and information available to help them do so.

"You need to have a plan for those hot fire-danger days, stay informed and up to date, and understand your plan and trigger points to activate it," he said.

"Never wait for an official warning before you leave as you may not get one."

CFA recommends talking to family and friends about how you'll know when to leave, where you'll go and how you will get there.

Deciding to leave after a fire has started creates the risk of confronting hazards such as thick smoke, fallen trees and powerlines.

Visibility is likely to be poor, making it hard to know where the fire is.

CFA stresses the need to include your animals in your fire plan, determining how you will keep them safe, noting people have died trying to save their animals.

People are advised to monitor fire danger ratings and any potential fire threats.

Downloading the Vic Emergency app, listening to local ABC radio and



A Leongatha firefighter ensures an area is fully extinguished.

monitoring the CFA Facebook page and website are among the ways in which you can keep abreast of what is happening.

The ABC is the official emergency broadcaster and will interrupt programming to broadcast warnings.

If travelling through bush or grasslands during summer, check the conditions for your destination and areas you will be travelling through and listen to local radio for warnings and advice while you're on

the road.

Never travel into bush or grassland areas where a Catastrophic Fire Danger Rating has been forecast.

Community members are urged to clean up and prepare their properties now before summer hits, and to register any planned burn-offs by visiting [firepermits.vic.gov.au](http://firepermits.vic.gov.au) or calling 1800 668 511.

The CFA website is a great spot to look for tips on preparing your fire plan and getting your place in order,

including [cfa.vic.gov.au/prepare](http://cfa.vic.gov.au/prepare).

Leongatha Fire Brigade is always on the lookout for new members.

Completing General Firefighter training takes about three months.

Non-operational roles are often available.

Peter is always happy to have a coffee and chat with anyone interested in helping the brigade and learning more about what's involved.

He explained that people often have misconceptions about what is required to be a firefighter and discover they are suited despite believing that wouldn't be the case.

Leongatha Fire Brigade can be contacted on 5662 3240.

Information about volunteering and registration is available through the CFA website.

Leongatha CFA trains weekly and is regularly in action whether fighting fires or dealing with other incidents, operating in both rural and urban settings.

It has a Hazardous Materials Response Unit for which extensive training is required.

The brigade has undertaken burn-over and hazardous tree training in the lead up to the fire season and will be involved in group exercises, including one in November.



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## Sentinel-Times

### COMMENT

#### Did you pick a winner in the council cup?

THEY'RE in the home straight in the race for the Bass Coast and South Gippsland council cup.

And the punters have been right on the money this time with the favourites well out in front and only a furlong or two to go.

Little Ronnie Bauer is back to basics on Island Magic as he passes the celebrations in the carpark, and Brett Tessari has managed to overcome his difficulties last start on Northeast Housing to resume on the tried and true Sport And Recreation.

Rochelle Halstead has taken a leaf out of Michelle Payne's book 'Life As I Know It' to secure a superb rails run through the field and will be challenging for the top spot when the whips are cracking.

But it's not at all clear who'll fill the all-important placings for your trifectas and other multiples.

Last start winner David Rooks has hit a sticky patch on his mount Dogs On Beaches and is now trailing the field, whereas stable mate Tim O'Brien is making every post a winner On A Grantville Shore and both Marnie Chadwick and Tracey Bell could still be in the finish.

Elsewhere, Leticia Laing has shaken off some nasty trouble early and is taking Bunurong for a ride through the field, trailed up by Mat Morgan who has really hit a green patch in the middle of the track on Stolen Land.

Out wide on the Western Port rail, Jan Thompson has run a savvy race on her mount Corinella and successful city jockey, John Temby, has Woodlands well in hand.

But it's still anyone's race for the minor placings.

The South Gippsland Cup is going as expected with the top weight in the field John Schelling well clear on Community Pride, and both Scott Rae and Nathan Hersey running strongly on Coastal Promontory and Strzelecki.

Champion jockey Claire Williams has survived a scare on past winner Media Puzzle to be right in the finish and Sarah Gilligan has done nothing wrong with Venus Bay. But outside of those, the placings look set to be filled by a new batch of runners including Bron Beech and John Kennedy in the outside division and a roughie Rural Views ridden by Steve Finley.

You could throw a blanket over the rest with the possible exception of Don Hill, despite his mount Taj Mahal being a scratching last time out.

Following the euphoria of the cup win, all placegetters will have to line up for the Brainwash Stakes at their home tracks, a gruelling affair over four days from which some promising mares, colts and geldings never reemerge.

Instead of the stewards having all the say about how the winning riders should conduct themselves going forward, the punters would like to see Island Voice, BCRRA and other top stables organising their own briefings for the jockeys so they're clear about exactly who they are riding for in the future.

There's a lot on the line.



Cartoon by Glenn 'Grobb' Robinson.

#### Higher standards must ensure

HAVING watched the last council meeting of the Bass Coast Shire council, which was live streamed on October 16, it was interesting to see how all the Councillors listen to each other as they give a short speech about their time in council, until it was Councillor Rochelle Halstead's turn.

I was rather horrified to witness the blatant disrespect by Councillor Micheal Whelan for her while she was giving her speech, looking for his glasses, having constant page turning whilst coughing and even turning his back to her while she was speaking.

This wasn't political, this was personal, as I have seen this rude behavior at other times during council meetings. And to make it worse our CEO and Mayor did nothing, they just let him continue with his nasty behavior.

In closing I sincerely hope that the CEO will in future hold all our Councillors and themselves to a higher standard.

**Levinus Van Der Neut, Coronet Bay**

#### Urging responsible pet ownership

IT WAS interesting to read two different articles in the local paper. One was a whinge about not having enough dog space in Inverloch and not having the privilege of space in the bin to empty your dog's crap.

That is the responsibility of the owner, take it home if you have no space to dump it.

A dog has a right to space as much as everyone and certainly are not entitled. Use your lead and the dog can be taken anyway to explore and respect that there are others besides dogs in our community.

I feel for the lady in Jumbunna only because I know what it is like to be attacked by a dog. It is never the dog's fault, but we need to have more educated owners. Why is someone else's pet not important? I witnessed one owner in my street have their chickens attacked by two dogs that had broken out of their property.

I thought cats were supposed to be enclosed. There was one sitting on my fence and fortunately the birds showed it that they were entitled to the space as well. Alpacas are precious animals and if I were her, I would be suing not only the owner for all the damage, but also the Council because it is a breach of their duty of care considering they take the registration fees, they should be taking more action to avoid dangerous dogs in proximity of other animals and people. The dog should be removed from the property.

There should be rules around people owning dangerous dogs and they should not be

registered to rural and regional properties. Get yourself a good lawyer, sue the owner for damages and the Council for negligence because I know it takes numerous attempts for Council to act when a complaint about a dog is brought to their notice.

Be a responsible dog owner. Do not own what you cannot control and put yourself in other people's shoes. Do not own a dog to complete yourself. It is a lifetime responsibility not only to yourself and the dog, but to everyone else in the community.

I think if more people start making Councils responsible, the attacks will stop happening. I am appalled at the article about a woman losing her beautiful alpacas and no one taking responsibility for that. I feel for her and obviously that owner does not deserve to own a dog.

**Dilene Hinton, Inverloch**

#### Forgiveness

TO ERR is human to forgive is divine  
But when I forgive the true gift it is mine  
No more effort protecting my face  
I can make my world a better place  
No thoughts of revenge chewing up all my time.

So more time for friends and perhaps write some rhymes.

**Kevin Walsh RFD, Cape Paterson**

#### Action not 'retreat' needed for Inverloch

THE Allan Labor Government has let Inverloch down. After years of ignoring the coastal erosion crisis, their latest "solution" is to retreat rather than protect our beaches and community assets.

Let's not forget, a petition signed by over 2500 residents in just four days shows how desperate locals are for real action — not a plan that leaves Inverloch more vulnerable.

Instead of committing to practical engineering solutions, Labor's draft plan offers sand renourishment, a temporary fix that does nothing to secure our coastline.

The beach, lifesaving club, and homes are at risk, and Labor's so-called "consultation" feels like a tactic to push their agenda, not protect the town.

Inverloch deserves better than a government that turns its back in times of need. It's time for action, not more excuses.

Labor can't manage money, can't manage coastal erosion and Inverloch residents are paying the price.

**Melina Bath, MP Member for Eastern Victoria Region**



**Lorraine Powell**  
Buninyong  
"Plants equal life, you can't not have them."



**David Powell**  
Buninyong  
"If there's nothing to do in the garden, you're dead."



**Amanda Carnes**  
Foster  
"I love gardening, it's therapeutic."



**Toni Smith**  
Welshpool  
"I think it is essential to our wellbeing. I even like fertiliser."

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

## Vox Pop

What are your thoughts about gardening?



Stewards Joyce Locke and Kate Crowl with pink cluster rose Best Rose Exhibit at the Welshpool 'Spring Wedding' flower show. B14\_4524



Resham and Leila from Welshpool PS. at the Welshpool flower show. B17\_4524

# Spring Wedding at the Welshpool flower show

THE invitations had been sent and the seating arranged.

No, not a spring wedding it was the 64th Annual Welshpool and District Horticultural Society 'Spring Wedding' flower show last Friday and Saturday.

Spring weddings were definitely in the air at Welshpool with a dazzling display of delicately perfumed bouquets, men's buttonholes and flower girl baskets in the Welshpool Memorial Hall.

The Welshpool and District spring flower show is always a visual feast and this year's 'Spring Wedding' theme was an inspired choice.

A constant flow of keen gardeners over two days marvelling at the prolific blooms.

Stewards judging on freshness, open buds, scented petals and blooms free of disease or pests.

"It's been a very good year for roses," said Steward Kate Crowl.

The show was opened by TreeProject Manager, Susie Millton.

Keen gardeners soon swarmed through the doors marvelling at the exhibits on show while keeping a keen eye out for unique Welshpool plants to buy.

TreeProject gets urban and rural communities working together to put trees back on the land using a network of trained volunteers growing indigenous seedlings for rural landholders and Landcare

groups who need help with re-vegetation.

Best Exhibit in the Show went to Sue Thompson from Leongatha with a floral art design.

Section A was won by Margaret Stokes with her arrangement of cut flowers.

Jane Millard won Section B for 'Roses', Fran Grills Section C 'Containers', Lorraine Mumford Section D 'Pot Plants', Sue Thompson Section E 'Floral Art', Jan Gyles Section F 'Fruit and Vegetables', as well as Section G 'Home Preserves', and Helen Baud Section H 'Photography'.

You can follow the Welshpool And District Horticultural Society on Facebook.

## Results:

- Best Exhibit in Show: Sue Thompson (floral art)
- Best Exhibits in Each Class:
  - Class A - Margaret Stokes (cut flowers, shrubs and trees)
  - Class B - Jane Millard (roses)
  - Class C - Frances Grylls (cut flowers, shrubs and trees in containers)
  - Class D - Lorraine Mumford (plants growing in pots in containers)
  - Class E - Sue Thompson (floral designs)
  - Class F - Jan Gyles (fruit and vegetables)
  - Class G - Jan Gyles (home garden produce)
  - Class H - Helen Baud (snapshots/visual arts)

## Gippsland line-dancers toe'n the line and loving it

By Bruce Wardley

DANCING can be fun especially if it's line dancing.

Every Wednesday and Friday at the Dalyston Community Hall dancing instructor Marion Huckett gathers her classes of beginners and improvers for one, two or three hours of pure line dancing enjoyment.

Marion Huckett ensures she has a good mix of music genres including pop, blues, Latin and a little bit of country, but mainly modern.

How long has Marion Huckett been conducting her dance classes in Wonthaggi and Dalyston, probably longer than Marion would like to remember.

"I've been line dancing since the mid-1990s and teaching in Bass Coast for eight years," said Marion.

"Line dancing is fun."

Marion Huckett said meeting like-minded people for line dancing is good for your physical and mental health.

An added bonus according to Marion is you don't need a partner.

"We encourage all ages, from twenties through to eighties."

Line dancing has never been more popular with regular classes also held by Bass Coast Line Dancers in Cowes, Inverloch and Korumburra, and Footloose Bootscooter in Poowong.

Just don't tap your feet to those perennial favourites try line dancing to Baby I'm Burnin', Stand By Me Line, Green Door and Bad Day's Fishin'.

Line dancing classes are



Boot scootin' delight at Dalyston Community Hall. B07\_4524

conducted at the Dalyston Community Hall from 11.30am on Wednesdays, and 6pm on Fridays.

Contact Marion Huckett on 0448 282 369 if you would like to join a class in Dalyston or email [mazzhuckey@tpg.com.au](mailto:mazzhuckey@tpg.com.au).

Beverly Huntley from Bass Coast Line Dancers conducts regular line dancing classes at the Blue Gum Reserve Scout Hall in Dunsmore Street; Cowes every Tuesday at midday and 2pm, except during school holidays and at the Inverloch Community House on Thursdays at midday, 1pm and 2pm but again not during school holidays.

You can also find Bass Coast Line Dancers at the Anglican Church Parish Hall in Bridge Street, Korumburra on Friday at 9.30am, 11am and midday.

Beverly Huntley has been line dancing for many years, starting in the western suburbs of Melbourne nearly

thirty years ago before moving to Inverloch.

In 2007 Beverly started dancing with Roslyn Uren and Julie Foote in Korumburra as part of R&J Line Dancers.

In response to an advertisement from the Inverloch Community House in 2007 seeking a tutor for a line dance class, Beverly started a ten-week beginners' course at the Inverloch Angling Club Hall with nine students.

Over time, as class numbers increased, and the Angling Club became a little too crowded the classes were relocated to the Inverloch Community Hub.

In 2012 Beverly started helping out with R&J Line Dancers in Korumburra before taking full responsibility for the classes three years later.

Beverly Huntley was also asked to run a line dancing class at Cowes.

The line dancing classes on Phillip Island became so

popular that in a matter of weeks they were made a permanent fixture.

Bev enjoys line dancing so much she also dances with Good Time 'N Bootscooter in Melbourne and the LV Country Line Dancers in Newborough.

Contact Beverly Huntley on 0421 328 690 if you would like to join line dancing classes in Cowes, Inverloch or Korumburra or go to [rbh49.com/BCLD/index.php](http://rbh49.com/BCLD/index.php)

For Poowong line dancers Footloose Bootscooter can be found at the Uniting Church Hall in Main Street, Poowong every Friday from 9.45am to midday.

Contact Lyn Hatch on 0429 376 046 or Emma on 0415 155 547 for more information.

To check out line dancing classes in your neighbourhood, or wherever you live in Gippsland go to [dancesheets.net/classes-vic.html](http://dancesheets.net/classes-vic.html)

## CONVERSATION with Claire



Are you ready for summer?

By author Claire Chitty

SPRING has truly arrived and so has the increase in relentless weeds and grass that literally grows overnight. Add in wild winds to dislodge branches and leaves that accumulate; sometimes that's a good thing in the right environment as it can add mulch to the soil. Naturally, in more remote areas there's an increased fire hazard risk when timber becomes tinder dry.

It's hard to imagine that the Gippsland region was once covered in thick forests. The Tarra-Bulga National Park is one of the few remaining areas representative of this. Timber was highly valued and transported by ferry from Lang Lang and Grantville jetties to Melbourne, and the land clear for agriculture.

Closer to home, we have the advantage of overlooking the Coronet Bay Recreation Reserve and let's just say that council is somewhat slack at maintaining the area. During major winds in early October, a number of trees collapsed from termite damage including a sizable eucalyptus limb that hung dangerously over a path for three days, until a local resident sawed off the offending branch.

We observed various council employees inspecting the area with no actual physical action. Then another two weeks passed before the overgrown grass was cut, and despite asking a driver of one of three caged trucks (which had the capability to remove the now dead timber), the branches remain. I get it, there are numerous parklands to maintain, yet, it isn't rocket science to streamline resources. Personally, it's reminiscent of the poem, 'Whose job is it? This is the story of anybody, somebody, everybody and nobody. Anybody could have done it but nobody did. Somebody got angry about that, because it was everybody's job. Everybody thought that anybody could do it, but nobody realised that everybody wouldn't do it. It ended up that everybody blamed somebody when nobody did what anybody could have done.'

Talking about grass, are you aware when it exceeds 30 centimetres on a residential property footpath this can be reported to council, who in turn, notifies the owner. After several letters and failing a 'nil response,' council advises the landowner the verge will be trimmed by a private contractor with the cost added to the property rates.

But the issue of waist height grass is more serious when it obscures vision on the Bass Highway and arterial roads. Residents in Tenby Point and Corinella have been heard to complain about the intersection of Argent and Guy Roads. One corner, including the bus shelter were mown; the other side left to continue its unruly growth. The issue is complicated by the issue of some roads maintained by local council whilst others are VicRoads responsibility.

It's a given with summer only a month away, temperatures will increase. A fire can happen anywhere, at any time and it's important to take preventative measures, such as raking up fallen leaves, trim branches where necessary and ensuring house gutters are free of debris.

To avoid loss of life and property damage, know how to respond to a fire hazard, keep calm and take sensible precautions.

Living in regional Victoria, it's great to see that the Corinella Country Fire Authority has secured a second fire truck through funding from the Victoria Government and San Remo District Community Bendigo Bank. The local CFA social events were well supported by the local community.



# MY SISTER JILL

Patricia Cornelius



NOV 1, 7, 8, 9

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It was a roaring success for *My Sister Jill* on Friday night, as Offshore Theatre took to the stage in celebration of Berninneit's first Birthday. Photo: Nici Cahill, Snapshot Photography.

## My Sister Jill takes on Berninneit

THOUGHT-PROVOKING. A universal tale of the Australian spirit set against the backdrop of 1950s to 70s suburban Melbourne, *My Sister Jill* is a powerful coming-of-age story from one of the country's most dynamic theatre collaborations, Patricia Cornelius and Susie Dee.

Christine idolises her father, fascinated by his wartime experiences. The rest of the family does not share these sentiments.

Multi-award-winning theatre group, Offshore Theatre delighted a sold-out audience in a sneak-peek preview on Friday evening, ahead of the official show weekend this week.

Running from Thursday, November 7 to Saturday, November 9 take a journey into the hearts and household of a veteran and his family under the talented direction of Melissa McMillan.

Spectacular acting was on display as Berninneit celebrated its first birthday on Friday and alongside two incredible exhibitions, guests packed into the theatre at 8pm.

The entire cast deserves immense credit for their high-energy performances, bringing each character to life with authenticity and depth. Particularly, the portrayals of the two lead characters – youngest sibling Christine and her father, Jack.

Both actors bring an incredible depth to their characters, capturing the complexity and nuance of their roles with remarkable skill.

Christine's portrayal is rich with layers of vulnerability and resilience, making her struggles and triumphs deeply relatable. Her performance captures the essence of a young girl growing up amidst family turmoil with a quiet strength and sensitivity that shines on stage.

Simon Furniss, in his portrayal of Jack, delivers a powerful performance, navigating the character's flaws and inner conflicts with a subtlety that avoids caricature. His moments of anger, tenderness, and introspection feel raw and real.

showing a broken yet profoundly human father figure. On the surface, he's a quintessential Aussie, underneath a struggling ex-POW.

The interactions between Christine and Jack are electric, filled with both palpable tension and tenderness. Their shared scenes carry a natural, lived-in quality that conveys the full spectrum of a complex father-daughter relationship – love, disappointment, and unspoken understanding.

It would be remiss not to mention the rest of the cast.

Antonio Castello, 'Johnnie' and his struggle for his father's love in a character that is lost, confused and angry, with a masculinity that is not yet embraced by society at the time.

Kate Bindley as Martha, an exhausted, yet tender mother, who has a quiet resilience and strength that must not be undermined.

Twins Mouse and Door, played by Steven Boon and Steve Burchell, really shined in the second act, for reasons that this writer will not reveal, so not as to give away any plots, or spoilers.

And last but not least, Jill, played by Remi D'Agostin, the title-named character reminds one of a lass who will not be put down, and is determined to stand up for what she believes in. One of the women who would have been fighting the suffragette if she was around then, instead she stands up for herself within the family and on matters she believes in.

"The smiles, the energy, the laughs," Offshore said on Saturday following Friday night's performance.

"It's an absolute dream for our small, local theatre group to be performing in such a beautiful building in front of such a supportive community. We are blown away."

With tickets available do not miss your opportunity to see *My Sister Jill*. Visit [trybooking.com/events/landing/1234743](http://trybooking.com/events/landing/1234743) to book your tickets.

## Halloween fun at Hillside Lodge

By Andrew Paloczi

HILLSIDE Lodge residents were having as much fun as the visiting trick-or-treaters when Halloween hit Korumburra.

Kathleen Yamm got into the spirit, wearing an outfit for the occasion.

"I am enjoying it," the Lodge resident said, having never celebrated Halloween before.

Natalie Roy also looked the part, being much more familiar with the tradition of the day.

"I have an American son-in-law, so Halloween is big with them," she said, happily preparing to give away the chocolate frogs she won at bingo to trick-or-treating youngsters.

Acting nurse unit manager Kerri Mowbray and residents happily greeted the costumed arrivals.

Lollies were donated and biscuits were decorated with spider web patterns by those who call the Lodge home.

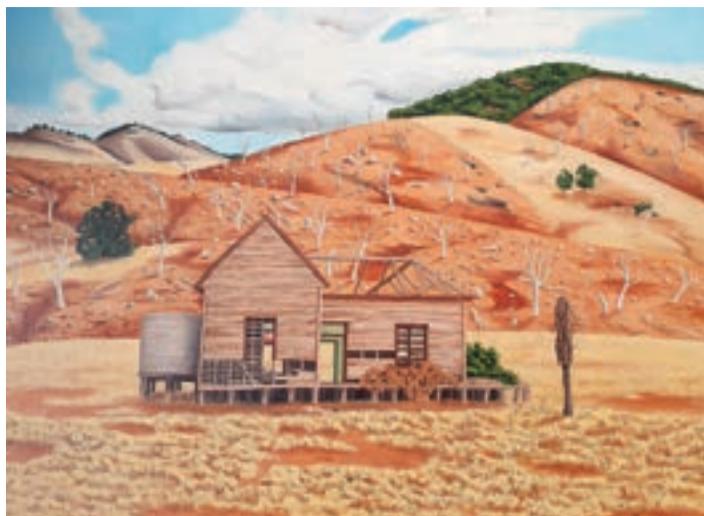
Staff provided decorations and set up the Halloween photo station inside.



Acting nurse unit manager Kerri Mowbray and Peter Austin await trick-or-treaters. A12\_4524



Russell Kent's **Looking for the Tiger** 1998 Oil on Canvas.



Russell Kent's **Contemporary Landscape** 1984 Oil on Canvas.

### Looking for the Tiger, an exhibition of art by Russell Kent

LOOKING for the Tiger is an exhibition of selected artworks over four decades by Russell Kent. Showing at Berninnett, Cowes from November 15 to 26, 2024.

Inspired by the title of a 1998 painting Russell created about the demise of the Australian Thylacine, over 24 works have been selected from 1976 – 2016, including paintings, drawings, and a couple of cameo sculptures.

Russell, a fourth-generation Kent from Dalyston, was born on Phillip Island and lived most of his life in Ventnor, except for his early childhood years in Wonthaggi and five years in Perth in his early twenties. He died in Wonthaggi

in December 2019.

In Perth, he found his feet as an artist living in studios, a disused office space in the city, and High Street, Fremantle.

Working in proximity with other artists, Russell developed his distinctive self-taught style. A blend of realism, imagination and storytelling. Sometimes, quirky and other times factual.

In 1980 he moved back to Phillip Island and wrote in a Journal in 1986: "In Perth my ideas had been more surreal and do with city living, landscapes were regarded with contempt. Now I am living within a landscape and like it or not it is exerting its

influence on me."

Russell's art shows this fascination with the surreal with a romantic bent. Talks of the surrounding landscape and its history, the demise of species and wish for a better return. His practice of life drawing and landscapes blend where bare hills simulate bodies.

He strived for mastery of medium and truth to his initial vision and made studies from past sketches, photos and his imagination.

Josephine Allen, curator, widow and fellow artist says: "I choose the art from those available at home and in good condition that showcased his journey as an artist. It will

be an intimate exhibition in the small community space. There are some pieces that have never been exhibited before, some golden oldies and a few tigers!"

The majority of the art is for sale and the exhibition will run between November 15th to 26th at Berninnett 91-97 Thompson Avenue, Cowes, Monday-Friday 9.30am-5pm, Weekends 10am-4pm.

In partnership with Bass Coast Shire Council. Exhibition Celebration: Looking for the Tiger by Russell Kent | BC Cultural Venues. For more information visit [islandinfluence.com.au/russell-kent](http://islandinfluence.com.au/russell-kent) and [islandinfluence.com.au/exhibitions](http://islandinfluence.com.au/exhibitions).

Get your entries in before it's too late

Calling all artists and photographers! The highly anticipated 2025 Leongatha Art & Photography Show, hosted by the Rotary Club of Leongatha, have announced that entry submission for the 2025 Show is now open, until 6pm on Friday, December 6, 2024.

Celebrating over 48 illustrious years, this event has evolved into a cornerstone of artistic expression within the Gippsland community. Expanding from its humble origins to a 21-day extravaganza held during the peak of summer in South Gippsland, the show has continuously attracted over 500 exceptional entries annually from local, Victorian, and interstate talents, competing across sixteen distinctive award categories.

This cultural spectacle encompasses a diverse array of artistic mediums, spanning from paintings and photography to sections specifically dedicated to young talents, All Abilities, and an expanding range of captivating 3D works.

Generously supported by our supporting sponsors, the 20245 edition will award over \$8900 in prizes and awards.

Proceeds generated through art sales commissions, entry fees, and raffle sales contribute significantly to supporting the Rotary Club of Leongatha's impactful projects on local, national, and international scales. As part of Rotary International and its charitable arm, the Rotary Foundation, the club remains committed to making a difference and fostering positive change.

For submission guidelines, on-line entry, or a printable entry form along with more information, please visit [leonartshow.com.au](http://leonartshow.com.au) or contact us at [rotaryleongatha.artshow@gmail.com](mailto:rotaryleongatha.artshow@gmail.com)

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## Grab a bargain at the Garage Sale Trail in South Gippsland

SOUTH Gippsland locals can clear out and cash in over two big weekends as the Garage Sale Trail is held right across the shire on November 9 – 10 and 16 – 17.

The trail is part of the nation's biggest second-hand treasure hunt where locals can host a sale or shop the trail and make or save a buck.

There are 17 garage sales that have been registered across the shire from Nyora across to Mirboo North and down to Koonwarra with sales to be found in most towns in between.

Bargain hunters and treasure seekers can find out what each and every one of these sales has to offer by going to the map at [garagesale-trail.com.au/South-Gippsland](http://garagesale-trail.com.au/South-Gippsland).

Registered sellers create a list of the items that they have on offer which may include antiques and collectables, art, craft and design, homewares, books, toys, furniture, clothing, tools, plants and gardening equipment and other things that might be a bit unusual.

Some are small and tailored to specific items such as vintage Tupperware or babies clothing or toys, while others advise they have thousands of items in their shed and are offering free tea and coffee for those who need to take a break from the hard work of bargain hunting.

Most sellers are looking to offload unused or unwanted items while others have bigger ideas in mind, with one holding a big sale to go into retirement and another making space and money to start a flower farm.

One clever local from Bena has titled their sale – Bena Ours, Now Yours! While there are others such as Lucky Duck Finds, Vintage People, Poowong Pickers and Farmlet Sale.

With demand for second-hand items on the rise given the cost of living crises, the Garage Sale Trail has proved popular with over three million pre-loved items going up for sale over two big weekends of garage sales nationwide.

Last year over 400,000 Australians shopped or sold at more than 14,000 garage sales across the country with households, community groups and charities raising over \$3.6 million.

This also led to 4.8 million kilograms of stuff being reused and saved from going into landfills, maximising the value of all the energy and resources that go into making the things we buy.

# Dalyston Recreation Reserve set to roar again for 2024 Show and Shine

ON SUNDAY, November 17, Dalyston Recreation Reserve will once again come alive as the Bass Coast Historical Automobile Club (BCHAC) teams up with the Dalyston Football Netball Club for the second annual Show and Shine event. After last year's spectacular debut, this year's gathering promises even more excitement and a few new elements that are sure to rev up car enthusiasts and families alike.

This year's Show and Shine builds on last year's success while introducing special tributes and exclusive categories. Among the displays, attendees will find an expanded lineup of American vehicles, a tribute to local car enthusiast, the late Dave Trotter.

"Last year's event was beyond what we thought we could do. We're thrilled to bring even more unique vehicles this year, and we know the community will enjoy this tribute," BCHAC president Keith Tonkin shared.

Gates open at 8am, with the awards ceremony to be held at noon, celebrating the finest vehicles in categories that include crowd favourites like Best Muscle Car, Best Hot Rod, and President's Choice. To honour Dave's memory and his love for American cars, there will be additional trophies presented in the "All American" category. Winners will be presented with their trophies by local MP



Brian Reed of Bass Coast Historical Automobile Club proudly showed off his 1993 968CS Porsche with a top speed of 260km/ph at last year's event. C06\_4723

Jordan Crugnale.

Beyond the vehicles, the event will again feature a diverse selection of independent vendors offering items for sale. A range of food and drink options will also be available, thanks to the Dalyston Football Netball Club.

A gear up for a new live car rescue demonstration by the State Emergency Service (SES) during the day.

With a lineup of stunning vintage and classic cars, hot rods, motorcycles, and this year's American-inspired additions, there will be plenty to admire.

The club remains grateful to its sponsors, including Autopro Wonthaggi, RACV Wonthaggi Tyrepower and Bass Coast Shire Council, whose support has helped make this event possible.

Whether you're a car enthusiast, a history lover, or just looking for a fun family outing, this year's Show and Shine at Dalyston Recreation Reserve promises something for everyone.

And should you feel that you want to be part of the club, please make contact with the BCHAC club members who will be in their Club marquee – you will be warmly welcomed.

If you have any problems with works in progress, ask one of our members, if they cannot help you themselves may well be able to point you in the direction of someone who can.

The Club is also VicRoads accredited for issuing Club Permit Scheme Registrations.

The BCHAC holds a monthly General Meeting open to all Club members on the first Tuesday of each month (except January) at 7.30pm at the Wonthaggi Workmen's Club. Members are updated on new regulations, club events, reports and general discussions with guest speakers when available.

This is followed up with a raffle and tea and coffee giving members a chance to catch up and discuss projects that they may be working on. Visitors are most welcome to join. New members are always welcome to join; you do not have to have a vehicle to become a member, just enthusiasm and passion for older vehicles.

## Book of our times at Phillip Island literary luncheon



ASKED what he felt he nailed best in his latest novel, Cherrywood, author Jock Serong, a Port Fairy resident and a Phillip Island regular, said it was his homage to the "brilliant neighbourhood" of Fitzroy and its 'pubs on every corner' culture.

Although we haven't yet read the book, a flip through its pages reveals you can practically taste the froth and hear the bubble of conversation as you enter the Standard, The Napier, The Union or whatever your favourite old Fitzroy watering hole in Jock's fictional

pub the Cherrywood.

Jock Serong was the special guest at a Literary Luncheon on Friday, October 25 at the Phillip Island Winery organised by the Book Club of Phillip Island and supported by Turn the Page Bookshop which offered copies of the book for sale and signing at the luncheon but also had copies available in the shop in Thompson Road Cowes.

Jock spoke about the book, some of his other high-acclaimed novels and also reminisced about learning to surf when he came Phillip Island as

a kid.

"I started surfing at Phillip Island in 1981 and I'll be having my next surf here tomorrow," said Jock, in the company of Island Surfboards' legend Matt Ryan, and well-known locals including Greg Price and Steve Fullarton and three long tables of book group supporters.

**LEFT:** Phillip Island regular, Jock Serong, brought his latest novel, Cherrywood, to a highly-successful literary luncheon at the Phillip Island Winery on Friday, October 25.

**WEDNESDAY 1pm - 3pm**  
**THURSDAY 7pm - 9pm**

Wonthaggi Workmen's Club, 75 Graham Street

Come and join in the laughs at South Coast FM Bingo

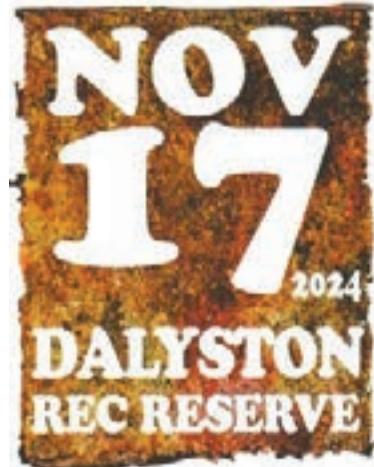
★ RAFFLES ★ DOOR PRIZES ★ LUCKY NUMBER JACKPOT

## BASS COAST HISTORICAL AUTOMOBILE CLUB



• Kids under 16 FREE • \$10 per head • \$5 per judged car

**FOOD AND DRINK AVAILABLE**  
**FURTHER INFORMATION [www.bchac.com.au](http://www.bchac.com.au)**





International man of magic, Luigi Zucchini will be bringing his delights back to Fish Creek this November.

### A world of magic at Fishy Stories with Luigi Zucchini

THE international man of magic, Luigi Zucchini, is back at Fishy Stories on November 17!

This year, Luigi and his furry friends bring a brand-new bag of tricks to the Fishy Stories family festival, guaranteeing laughter and wonder with jaw-dropping magic from around the world.

Fishy Stories Festival, held on November 17, invites children to dive into the world of story-making and storytelling. With free sessions hosted by acclaimed authors, illustrators, and performers, it's a day packed with inspiration for young imaginations.

Adding to the excitement, the Alison Lester Gallery will celebrate its 10th anniversary with a special event.

"Alison has been a wonderful supporter," said Fishy Stories Committee member Deb Bray.

"We're grateful for her time and thrilled to be celebrating this milestone alongside her."

Luigi Zucchini is our only ticketed performance on the festival day. Don't miss the international man of magic in action! Tickets are available on Trybooking.com at \$12.50 for children, \$20 for adults, and \$60 for a family of four.

Visit FishyStories.org for the full festival program, and mark your calendars on November 17, dreams and stories truly come to life at Fishy Stories Festival!



The ArtCubes have arrived in Foster ahead of the Summer season with plenty on offer.  
Photo: Jarl Line Photography.

## ArtCubes arrive in Foster for Summer

AND just like that, the ArtCubes have journeyed from Toora to Foster.

Foster will be hosting the ArtCubes for the next three months (from Thursday, October 31 to Saturday, January 18) and will be located at Manna Gum Community House, 33 Station Road, Foster.

Their residency in Foster brings with it an exciting line-up of artists, events and activities including Halloween exhibits, Christmas displays and everything in between.

The ArtCubes are also a great place to learn a thing or two. From phone photography basics and vision boarding to wreath making and gardening, there are endless opportunities to learn within the Cubes.

The line-up of artists and community groups presenting in the ArtCubes include: Manna Gum Community House, Charmaine Reader, Kate Smiley, Natalie van Aken, Manna Community Garden, Elizabeth Collins and Victoria Johnson, Deb Bray, Dana Hughes, Kath O'Neil, Marie Larkin, Peter Jordan, Sandy Bucello, Kerry Strauss, Robyn Cerratti, Foster Secondary College, Silvia Cardona, Trevor Smith, Daria Bryers, Beth Arnold, Cathy Hayward, Foster Primary School, Margaret Balfe, Marc Eggleton, Janine Gravey, Ann-Maree Gentile, Myli Community Library (Foster), and Janine Durston.

"It is fantastic to see the ArtCubes continue their journey around South Gippsland," Kerryn Ellis, CEO South Gippsland Shire Council said. "The Cubes boost creativity wherever they go and give our artists an opportunity to showcase their work in a completely different environment. "It's been over a year now since the ArtCubes have been introduced to South Gippsland and I enjoy observing their every move.

"I would like to thank all the towns and artists who have participated so far, and I look forward to seeing what else can be brought to the Cubes."

To see a schedule of who will be presenting in the ArtCube's over the coming months, please visit [southgippsland.com.au/artcubes](http://southgippsland.com.au/artcubes)



Offtrack Acoustics will be performing in South Gippsland for the first time in Arawata on Saturday, November 9.

### Dance the night away at Arawata

THE Arawata Community Hall will be hosting a dance night on Saturday, November 9.

Performing in South Gippsland for the first time will be Offtrack Acoustics – a four-piece acoustic cover band.

Offtrack Acoustics will be playing all the favourites from the 70s to today.

The venue will open from 6.30pm, when attendees can enjoy BYO finger food, nibbles and drinks.

From 8pm, the music and dancing begins.

The cost is \$35 per head, plus a 50c booking fee.

Tickets are available at [trybooking.com/CVGSD](http://trybooking.com/CVGSD).

The Arawata community is looking forward to seeing you there.

### Choirs in Union

A MASSED choir will present a unique concert for lovers of fine choral music when the Australian Welsh Male Choir, South Gippsland Singers and Bass Coast Chorale combine in Memorial Hall, Leongatha on Sunday, November 24.

For the Australian Welsh Male Choir, Melbourne's original Welsh Male Choir, singing in pubs is an important tradition and the Welsh Choir now returns to South Gippsland, having recently completed its 50th Anniversary Outback Pub Tour. With a repertoire including Welsh favourites, popular pieces from musical theatre, opera and gospel, the Australian Welsh Male Choir always takes the audience on an uplifting journey.

The South Gippsland Singers, formerly The Village Singers, is in its 43rd year.

Jen Holm has been Music Director since 2012 and Dorothy Warren Accompanist since formation. This choir has a well-established reputation for sustained and impressive choral performances across wide ranging music genres.

The Bass Coast Chorale, 'new kids on the block', was formed in 2006, under Music Director Larry Hills and is accompanied by Karen Vincent. Larry had led the South Gippsland Singers from 1989 until 2011. Bass Coast Chorale has built an extensive repertoire, crossing all music genres, including Larry's many original compositions.

The afternoon promises to be a feast of massed choral delights.

The Australian Welsh Male Choir will thrill with a set of their favourites.

The South Gippsland Singers & Bass Coast Chorale will combine for a set, including 'Africa', 'Bohemian Rhapsody' and 'Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy', that will have the audience wanting to boogie in the aisles.

The concert will come to an inspirational climax when the three choirs unite to sing three rousing anthems, including 'World in Union'.

A Massed Choral Collaboration like this is rare and not to be missed.

'Choirs in Union' – Sunday November 24 at 2pm. Memorial Hall, 6-8 McCartin Street, Leongatha. Adults \$30 (under 16 free). Tickets: [trybooking.com/CWNDQ](http://trybooking.com/CWNDQ)

**WONTHAGGI Strikes GOLD BINGO**  
**SUPER Saturday Session**  
**Saturday 23rd November 2024**  
**Eyesdown 7.00pm • Door sales from 5.30pm**

**SESSION 1** 15 games \$5.00 book 14 x \$200.00 1x \$500.00  
**SESSION 2** 10 games \$5.00 book 10 x \$250.00  
**SESSION 3** 15 games \$6.00 book 14 x \$200.00 1x \$10,000  
**plus** **Viking RAID**  
**BIG \$10,000 Game**

PRIZES SUBJECT TO TICKET SALES

**and SUPER Raffles**

WONTHAGGI WORKMEN'S CLUB | 78 GRAHAM STREET, WONTHAGGI VIC 3955

**WONTHAGGI BAPTIST CHURCH**  
**COUNTRY FAIR & OPEN GARDEN**  
**Saturday, November 16**  
**10am-4pm**

at Peter & Jeanette Clark's Garden  
21 Coastview Lane, GLEN ALVIE.

Stalls - Cakes, plants, craft work,  
Sausage sizzle & Hot Dogs  
Pony rides available  
Entry \$10 includes Devonshire Tea.  
ALL WELCOME

JA22718



Helen Baud with her prizewinning photograph at the Welshpool and District Horticultural Society 'Spring Wedding' flower show. B51\_4524



Murphy, Cash and Jack were in the Halloween spirit at Inverloch Childcare on Thursday.



Tanisha and Saylah joined in the witching Halloween festivities at Inverloch Childcare on Thursday.



Spooky, fun times were had by Sadie and Ella on Thursday at Inverloch Childcare.



Welshpool and District Horticultural Society President Prue Fleming with TreeProject Manager, Susie Millton at the opening of the Welshpool 'Spring Wedding' flower show. B53\_4524



Nola Anketell of San Remo and Christine Munro of Cowes were looking forwards to seeing Offshore Theatre. C25\_4524



Lynne and Mike Clements of Rhyll enjoyed the ASPIR Cup Weekend Exhibition. C26\_4524



Anne Davie and granddaughter Lily Christopher spent quality time together at Berninneit's first birthday celebrations. C27\_4524



Danny, Gaye and Darren were having a blast on Friday with Gaye coordinating ASPIR's exhibition. C28\_4524

# Snapped Out

Pictures of you and your friends at Welshpool 'Spring Wedding' flower show, Halloween festivities, Berninneit's first birthday, Loch Open Gardens, Coronet Bay Fun Run and the Koonwarra Farmers Market.



Miners' Dental Clinic Wonthaggi were in the Halloween spirit last Thursday with nurse Sarah, receptionist Kylie, and dentists Kevin and Vishi dressing up for the occasion. C10\_4524



Josh Latham pulls of the Joker for the BCAL Halloween party.



Jaide and Megan dressing up for the BCAL Halloween Party.



West Creek's Grace McRae, Mitch Hewitson and Murph planned a day out in the beautiful spring weather, starting with the Koonwarra Farmers Market. Tk08\_4524



Allison and Claire Jones explored an open garden in Loch on Saturday. Tk09\_4524



Megan Robinson and Pablo Pleydell travelled from Melbourne to take part in the Coronet Bay Fun Run. Tk12\_4524



Coronet Bay's Gemma Schumack participated in Sunday's Coronet Bay Fun Run, supported by Paige O'Brien. Tk11\_4524



Mirboo North's Marlo, Aoife and Kit Duncan-Jones enjoyed the open gardens, pictured in a garden in Loch, on Saturday. Tk10\_4524

## Many hands make lights work!

SUNDAY, November 17 is the date to keep free because this is your last chance this year to check out what happens at the WMS Fixit Café. Even if you have nothing to fix, you're welcome to meet our electrical fixers, sewists, clock mender, and Men's Shed members who volunteer their time to fix goods. To date this year approximately 110 kilograms have been saved from going to landfill. It is understood that repairs are not always possible.

There is always a friendly vibe at the sessions. New volunteers are most welcome and the core of volunteers have put in a mighty effort for the last five years. If you have a skill we can use, feel free to offer a couple of hours

**By Hilary Stuchbery**

a month whenever you can spare the time.

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



'King Trevor' of Wonthaggi Men's Shed.

## WONTHAGGI NEIGHBOURHOOD CENTRE

'TIS the season to get crafting, fa-la-la-la, la-la-la etc. Yes, it does seem to be too early to be thinking of a time in late December, however when it comes to crafting, making things do take time. Time available in November may not be so available in December. Using your creative side to make loving handmade gifts can be greatly cherished by the recipient and so be very rewarding. Perhaps you would like to take on a project such as making a quilt. Then picture yourself putting one together with the help and cheery company of the quilting group on Mondays, 9.30am to 12.30pm.

To keep on track or if you have other craft gift ideas then get along to the Craft n Cuppa Group on Fridays 10am 12noon and perhaps garner some ideas and skills from these friendly craft loving people.

Is the creative soul inside you wanting to get out and spread the joy of what you give to your art? The Art Group may be more your style. Perhaps expressing it in gifts for others would be an excellent thing to do. They meet on Wednesdays from 1.45pm to 3.30pm. It doesn't matter where you are in the arts scape, be it experienced or not, all are welcome. So, bring your paints, a canvas, rocks or whatever you would like to work on or paint or draw.

The Parkinson's Peer Support Group also meet this week on Friday 1pm to 2.30pm. This neurological disorder has a complex range of symptoms unique to each individual. Living with Parkinson's can be very isolating and challenging for individuals and their families and while it is a deeply personal experience it need not be done alone. To enrol contact Fight Parkinson's Vic. On 1800 644 189. Note that this group meet on the second Friday of the month.

Don't forget the Wonthaggi Food Collective is at Mitchell House on Saturday from 11am to 1pm. It is a local group who buy food in bulk and distribute it at a low mark up to their members. Stockists and other information is available from Michael Nugent (0416 039 933 or by email [WonthaggiCoop@gmail.com](mailto:WonthaggiCoop@gmail.com)).



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

## BASS COAST ADULT LEARNING

LAST Thursday and Friday, BCAL was represent at the annual Learn Local Conference in Melbourne.

As part of the conference, BCAL partnerships coordinator Olivia Hurrell gave a presentation on the Learn Local Community of Practice. The project involves Learn Local centres across Victoria and aims to connect them with local businesses to provide relevant and flexible training.

The conference also featured some great talks from guests like George Megalogenis and Mark Rose.

After the second day of the conference, representatives of BCAL attended the Learn Local Awards where they received some exciting news.

For more information on all BCAL's courses and services, please visit [bcal.vic.edu.au](http://bcal.vic.edu.au) or call 5672 3115 to learn more.

### ■ WONTAGGI COMMUNITY GARDEN

Garden volunteers hosted a steady stream of visitors last Thursday. First to arrive were three students from BCAL's hair and beauty class

Early for their class, they were keen to explore the garden. They left with lettuces picked to order by volunteer Lorraine.

Next were father and son from an NDIS cooking class, sharing in the garden's broad bean harvest.

Then came a big group of preschoolers from Bass Coast Child Care, just over the road. They lingered to watch Marisa plant tomatoes in their patch and have morning tea on the grass. They left with flowers to take back to kids and staff at the childcare centre.

All are welcome at the garden. To find out more contact [tgordon@westnet.com.au](mailto:tgordon@westnet.com.au) or BCAL on 5762 3115 or drop in for a visit on Thursdays between 10 and noon.

### ■ WONTAGGI WOODCRAFTERS

Last week, the Woodies put the finishing touches on a picnic table and bench.

The outdoor furniture is a commissioned piece for the Bass Coast Country Universities Centre in Wonthaggi. It was made with timber kindly provided by Wonthaggi Bunnings.

The table and seats will be installed in the CUC grounds for a lovely, peaceful place for learners to take a break.

For more information, visit [wonthaggewoodcrafters.com.au](http://wonthaggewoodcrafters.com.au) or visit the workshop.



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

## LEONGATHA COMMUNITY HOUSE

WOW our Community Bus trips have absolutely taken off! Upcoming trips that still have vacancies are filling fast so book early:

Phillip Island – Nobbies/Cowes RSL – Tuesday, November 12, 9am, \$20, plus lunch money if eating at the RSL. Here you will see the highest population of Fur Seals in Australia, and there's no better place to view them than from the boardwalk that circles around the headland. Enjoy lunch at Cowes RSL.

Noojee Hotel lunch with a stop at Yarragon vintage market – Tuesday, November 26, 9am, \$30 plus lunch money. We'll enjoy a delicious lunch at the historic Noojee Hotel, followed by a stop at the charming Yarragon Vintage Market.

Heronswood Gardens – Tuesday, November 19, 9am – \$30 plus entry fee \$15. Heronswood is a breathtaking historic property situated on two hectares of formal gardens in Dromana. It is the home of the Digger's Club and Foundation dedicated to preserving heirloom seeds and the best gardening traditions.

Fountain Gate Shopping Centre – Tuesday, December 3, 9am, \$20. This does not include lunch. Finish your Christmas shopping at Fountain Gate Shopping Centre, where you'll find everything you need in one place for a seamless shopping experience.

Mornington Botanical Gardens – Tuesday, December 10, 9am, \$20, free entry. This does not include lunch. Located between two art galleries on the Mornington Peninsula, Mornington Botanical Rose Gardens provide a peaceful space to explore and enjoy.

Christmas Light Tour – Monday, December 16, 8pm, \$10. Join us for a festive evening exploring the best Christmas lights in Leongatha and surrounding towns starting with a hot chocolate!

Don't forget to visit our website [leongathacommunityhouse.org.au](http://leongathacommunityhouse.org.au) to keep up with our current program and regular groups and activities and also what is coming up. Follow us on Facebook or Instagram and spread the word.

Leongatha Community House AGM rescheduled to Thursday, November 7, 3.30pm RSVP [info@leongathacommunityhouse.org.au](mailto:info@leongathacommunityhouse.org.au) or 5662 3962



16 Bruce Street, Leongatha  
PH: (03) 5662 3962 [www.leongathacommunityhouse.org.au](http://www.leongathacommunityhouse.org.au)

## MILPARA COMMUNITY HOUSE

NEXT week, in addition to all of our regular classes we will be Celebrating National Recycling Week. On Monday, November 11 (1.30pm-3.30pm) you can bring your item needing repair to our Fix It Café. Our techno, sewing and carpentry experts will be here to help you reuse, recycle and repair your items. Bring them in to in the flexi space at the lower level of the Korumburra Community Hub, have a cuppa and go home with advice or a complete repair.

Are you looking to build your computer skills? There are some great one-day workshops and information sessions coming up – Introduction to myGov talk on Monday, November 11 and Introduction to Canva graphic design workshop on Sunday, November 17.

You can book for any of these activities online via our Milpara website course bookings page – [milparacommunityhouse.org.au/bookings-and-activity-page](http://milparacommunityhouse.org.au/bookings-and-activity-page) or phone 5565 2524

Please get in touch, we're happy to help.

Our Centrelink agent is at the house Monday to Thursday; and the Emergency Food Bank is available Monday, Tuesday and Friday.



15 Little Commercial St, Korumburra

PH: (03) 5655 2524 [www.milparacommunityhouse.org.au](http://www.milparacommunityhouse.org.au)

## YES YOUTH HUB

THE YES Youth Hub delivered another incredible week of fun and activities this week, starting off with our Monday Meal! We served up delicious fluffy pancakes, complete with fruit, whipped cream and sprinkles for 10 very appreciative young people. Tuesday saw the crew getting creative with air-dry clay, and we saw many amazing figurines and ideas being created. Wednesday saw decorating for Halloween, and the spooky-fying of the YES Youth Hub and decorating of the previously made air-dry clay sculptures! Thursday was our annual Halloween event – and we thank our incredible community partners headspace Wonthaggi, Maxima, Gippsport Street-games, and the Y Bass Coast for all their support and encouragement, and of course providing young people of Wonthaggi a plethora of lollies and fun during our Trick-and-Treating event! The YES Youth Hub also hosted a Halloween Party at the YES Youth Hub on Thursday, embracing spooky season to the fullest with the support of the Bass Coast Youth Advisory Council.

The Youth Community Pantry and Laundry was open and available this week, and saw several young people who needed assistance come through to utilise the services. We are very proud to be able to offer such supports for the Bass Coast youth community, and extend our heartfelt thanks to the YMCA Charity "Open Doors" for their ongoing funding to ensure that these programs remain available to young people.

Don't forget to check out our socials for some of our upcoming events and programs, including our final BreakOut 2024 event at Bass Coast Paintball (free for young people aged 12 – 17), and supporting young people to attend the Gippsland Ranges Roller Derby Pride Cup! Be sure to keep an eye on our socials as the year wraps up – we're going to get even busier!

The YES Youth Hub is open and available to young people of the community on Monday to Thursday between 2.30pm – 5.30pm.



76 Watt Street, Wonthaggi  
PH: 0477 224 430 [@YESYouthHub](http://@YESYouthHub)





Local residents and business owners touring House 1 – Maddy and Charlotte. Z12\_4524

## Fans flock to The Block

THE excitement was building as executive producers of The Block Phillip Island extended an invitation to supporters of the 2024 season, opening the five homes and communal space from 10am until 4pm on Thursday, October 31.

Nearby residents and local business owners were welcomed through the gates of the Justice Road, Cowes site, where local estate agents opened the doors to the five homes prior to the auction on Saturday, November 9.

Executive producer Justin Sturzaker shared that this viewing provided those who have been huge supporters of the season the opportunity to view the homes and engage with some of the contestants.

"This was a community event for those that have been supportive of the show or those who we've engaged with over the past six months, including the very tolerant local residents," said Justin.

"We extended the invite to the local winery, local food stores, Mitre 10 and many more, as well as some special requests – including some passionate fans."

This was a unique opportunity for supporters to get an insider's view of the competition

while celebrating the artistry behind each modern design and interior finish.

The homes showcased art from local artists, as well as design pieces from local boutiques.

Each agent welcomed the local viewers into the five properties after only holding private inspections for interested buyers over the past three weeks.

Despite only having private inspections, due to the logistics of the location – including limited parking, Justin confirmed that the homes have had great interest.

"The Block is never a standard campaign with weekend open for inspections, our agents have held VIP nights, and the contestants have hosted special evenings to talk with buyers specifically about each home."

O'Brien Real Estate Cowes is selling House 1, Ray White Phillip Island selling House 2, Ray White Sunbury selling House 3, Alex Scott & Staff selling House 4 and Stockdale & Leggo Cowes selling House 5.

This year is a little different than the other series, with Block Island selling not just each home but retreat-style living.

"We've sold communal areas

before but nothing like this where we had a whole extra week to come in and build specific facilities," said Justin.

"The existing swimming pool and tennis court was an initial main attraction to buying this property, as well as the fact that it came with some beautiful established trees – so we thought we could upgrade the existing features, and that's when we brought in the all-stars to join our contestants and divided the project into five separate areas."

The Block Phillip Island is inclusive of the communal space, a cabana, a gazebo area with fireplace, a games room, a cinema with kitchenette and a day spa – inclusive of two baths, two saunas, locker rooms and showers.

"This space is very much the same as facilities in a gated community, and it will be up to the buyers to decide how they want to share this space. The homes in themselves are stunning with everything you need, but the feedback has been that 'it's a dream to have a space like this' – it is truly something special on Phillip Island."

The Block auction will be held privately to registered bidders onsite on Saturday, November 9.



The Block held an invite-only tour on Thursday afternoon to the supporters of the 2024 season on Phillip Island. Z11\_4524



Nat Res is thriving in the supportive Elders team and takes pride in providing professional service as a property manager.

### Nat Res relishing property manager role

LEONGATHA based Nat Res is delighted with the support she receives at Elders, enjoying the challenge of her role as a property manager, having previously worked as a receptionist during her three years with the business.

She is dividing her time between the Leongatha and Korumburra offices, and has much experience under her belt having supported property managers both at Elders and in previous businesses.

While there is always more to learn, Nat felt well prepared for her new responsibilities.

Contrasting property management with reception, she said becoming more involved with tenants and owners is a major

change, and she is relishing the extra challenges involved.

They include finding the right tenant for the property, making sure the owner is happy, and working with tradesmen to ensure required jobs get done and offer value for money.

"That's something I take pride in," Nat said of her commitment to achieving those objectives.

Getting out and meeting people and understanding their needs is crucial to being a successful property manager.

Nat loves the friendly environment at Elders.

"Elders are the best team," she said, adding she is lucky to be a part of it.

### Tax break for The Block buyers

THE BLOCK celebrates the end of its twentieth season this weekend with the auction of the contestant's homes on Saturday, November 9 and the airing of the auction episode one night later.

According to specialist quantity surveyors, BMT Tax Depreciation the transformation of the once-neglected resort in Cowes on Phillip Island has created not just five luxury homes but an unparalleled investment opportunity.

Potential buyers have been inspecting the properties for some weeks but it is not just their prime location and design that appeals to investors but the remarkable tax deductions that may also be available.

BMT Tax Depreciation has revealed that the estimated total depreciation deductions claimable for these properties range from four-point-four million dollars to five-point-two million dollars for each house. These depreciation figures dwarf the conservative price guides provided by agents which start from around two million dollars for each property.

Tax deductions could be a decisive factor at auction making the properties even more attractive to savvy investors according to BMT Tax Depreciation.

CEO of BMT Tax Depreciation, Bradley Beer said tax depreciation can significantly enhance the investment value of a property.

"For Block properties these potential tax deductions will outweigh the purchase price, offering an exceptional investment opportunity," said Mr Beer.

"The Australian Taxation Office allows owners of income-producing properties to claim deductions for the wear and tear on their properties over time.

"The substantially renovated properties on The Block have been meticulously assessed by BMT to uncover these hidden values."

While all properties hold substantial depreciation benefits Kristian and Mimi's property has been

calculated to hold the highest total estimated deductions.

The BMT assessment shows estimated deductions on Kristian and Mimi's house range from between four-point-eight million dollars to five-point-three million dollars.

Kylie and Brad's house comes in fractionally lower but still at between four-point-eight million to five-point-three million dollars as does Ricky and Haydn's house.

The BMT assessment revealed Maddy and Charlotte had the property with the lowest estimated amount of total tax deductions ranging from between four-point-two and four-point-six million dollars.

Courtney and Grant's house came in at four-point-two million dollars to four-point-seven million dollars.

Kylie and Brad's property stands out with the largest, average first-year claim of one-hundred-and-seventy-six thousand dollars compared to an average of one-hundred-and-sixty-six thousand dollars across all properties.

It is important to note that depreciation deductions are not an indication of the homes' values but are based on construction costs.

In the case of a gated community, the construction costs will also include a proportion of renovations and upgrades to shared facilities like a communal pool or tennis court.

Mr Beer said new owners will be able to depreciate their part of the communal areas.

"Cash flow is always a key consideration for investors and tax depreciation plays a significant role," said Mr. Beer. "Understanding these values can help buyers make informed decisions that will maximise their returns."

BMT Tax Depreciation has worked with The Block for nearly twenty years ensuring that investors purchasing these properties can maximise depreciation deductions if they choose to rent them out.



## Dream retreat in Boolarra

WELCOME to your dream retreat in Boolarra! This recently renovated three-bedroom, two-bathroom home sits on five acres in a serene, leafy setting, offering the perfect blend of comfort and tranquillity. As you enter, you'll be greeted by a bright and airy open plan living area that seamlessly connects to the modern kitchen, making it ideal for both relaxation and entertaining.

Step outside to discover beautifully landscaped gardens, providing a picturesque backdrop to your outdoor activities. The property features a spacious three-bay machinery shed, perfect for storing tools and equipment, along with a fully enclosed workshop or office – perfect for hobbyists or those needing a productive workspace. The outdoor space includes three fenced paddocks, tank fed troughs, cattle yards and crush.

Enjoy leisurely afternoons on the expansive deck that wraps around the front of the house, where you can take in stunning views of your natural surroundings. The undercover carport adds convenience and protection for your vehicles.

Whether you're seeking a peaceful family home or a private getaway, this property offers a unique lifestyle surrounded by nature. Don't miss the opportunity to own this slice of paradise in Boolarra. Come and experience the charm and tranquillity for yourself!

For further information or to inspect the property, please contact Sharon Turton on 0447 604 796 or Ben Townsend on 0400 594 487.

For a Due Diligence Checklist go to: [consumer.vic.gov.au/duediligence-checklist](http://consumer.vic.gov.au/duediligence-checklist)

3 | 2 | 2 5 acres

16 Antonia Road, **Boolarra**

**For Sale** \$990,000

**Agent** Elders

Sharon Turton 0447 604 796

Ben Townsend 0400 594 487



Real Estate

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### Korumburra

#### As New 3BR Townhouse

- 3-bed, 2-bath townhouse
- Large spacious open plan living area
- Private landscaped courtyard

Web ID: 300P163035

*new price*

**\$498,000**



### Korumburra

#### Brick Home with Views

- 3-bed, 1-bath home
- Kitchen with adjoining dining area
- LU double garage & spacious backyard

Web ID: 300P130475

*new price*

**\$500,000**



### Toora North

#### Tranquil 26 acre Property

- Spacious 4-bed, 1 bath home
- Stables, arena & 3 horse boxes
- Lock up shed, garage & feed/woodshed

Web ID: 300P137639

*new listing*

**\$795,000**



### Strzelecki

#### Beef Cattle Farm

- 4-bed, 2-bath brick home
- 18 paddocks, annually fertilised
- Hay & Machinery Shed, yards and crush

Web ID: 300P138403

**\$1.95 Million**



**Elders Korumburra**  
11 Commercial Street  
Ph 5658 1894

**DON OLDEN**  
Licensed Estate Agent  
0417 805 312

**BEN TOWNSEND**  
Licensed Estate Agent  
0400 594 487

**SHARON TURTON**  
Sales Consultant  
0447 604 796

**HELEN ARRESTIA**  
Sales Support  
03 5662 3523

**NATALIE RES**  
Property Manager  
0439 383 091

**Elders Leongatha**  
37 Bair Street  
Ph 5662 3523



## River frontage, mountain views, multiple income streams

"FRANKLIN Park Farm," a rare gem comprising approximately 172.4 acres across five lots, is on the market for the first time in over 70 years. This extraordinary property, steeped in history with a rich tapestry of tales from gold rush days, pioneers and the water race. Nestled amidst the mountain range and bordered by the pristine waters of both the Franklin and Little Franklin Rivers, this is your chance to secure a truly special slice of nature, with over a kilometre of river frontage- rocky pools inhabited by platypus and trout. Well-maintained bush tracks invite exploration, camping, and wildlife spotting in your own private sanctuary.

Around 40 hectares of cleared, sheltered pasture provide ample grazing land, with undulating to steep terrain fenced into seven paddocks plus a dedicated bull paddock. The farm is set up for mixed grazing with the capacity for 30 head of cattle plus calves. Supporting infrastructure includes a 4-bay machinery/shearing shed, 4-bay hay shed, stock yards, race, and a circular driveway with plenty of flat parking space. The property boasts exceptional water security, with a river licence, six dams, troughs, and an impressive annual rainfall (1130mm).

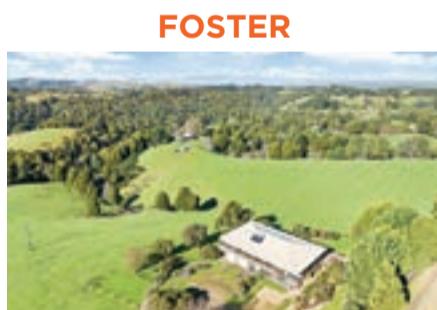
The long access track leads to a private, comfortable three-bedroom cottage, offering stunning rural vistas that stretch to Mount Squaretop, Mount Fatigue, and the surrounding farmland and forest. The cottage is perfect as a farm stay or guest accommodation, adding yet another potential income stream. Additionally, 19 hectares of Shining Gum plantation are ready for harvest or to retain and enjoy. Whether you're looking for a full-time farming operation, a recreational escape, or a unique investment opportunity, "Franklin Park Farm" offers it all. Conveniently located just 15 minutes from Foster and Toora, with a school bus service at the end of the driveway, this property is a blend of rural tranquillity and easy accessibility.



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Livestock Specialists  
[www.sej.com.au](http://www.sej.com.au)

ANDREA ADAMS  
0429 822 801  
aadams@sej.com.au  
FOSTER  
Ph 5682 2800

IRENE WALKER  
0429 045 632  
iwalker@sej.com.au  
LEONGATHA  
Ph 5662 4033



- Spacious homestead
- Panoramic views - country to coast
- 3 BRs, master with ensuite
- Yards, race, disused dairy, 2 dams

### POA

Contact Andrea Adams 0429 822 801



- 24ha/60 acres (approx.) Grazing in productive South Gippsland
- Ideal beef fattening or dairy turnout block
- Flat to undulating, exceptional soil, with hay/silage paddocks
- A warm sheltered block, lovely established trees and great views
- Good stockyards with crush and small water tank
- Good fencing (3) paddocks and a fully fenced grass paddock laneway

**\$745,000**



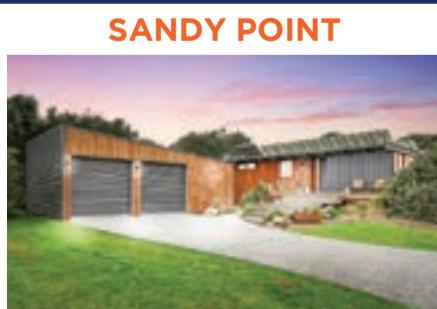
- Total privacy on approx. 26 acres
- Renovated 4BR residence, 2 WCs
- Exceptional shedding including stables.
- Solar & mains power, solar HWS

**\$795,000**



- Total privacy on approx. 26 acres
- Renovated 4BR residence, 2 WCs
- Exceptional shedding including stables.
- Solar & mains power, solar HWS

**\$795,000**



- 200m walk to the sand
- Stylish modern design, luxury finishes
- Garage with storage, boat parking
- Solar mains and battery, solar HWS

**\$915,000**

Contact Andrea Adams 0429 822 801

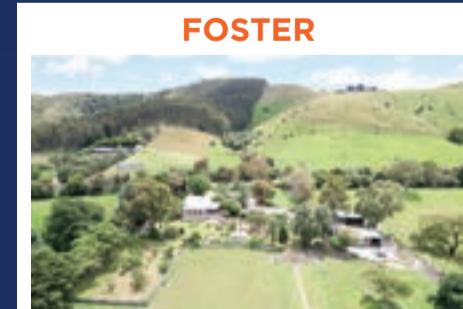


- Exceptionally built by local builder, B/V home in quiet court
- 3 bed, 2 bath, 2 living, 2 car on 920m<sup>2</sup> block with spacious rear yard
- New fully appointed kitchen with Caesar stone benchtops & Belfast sink
- Smeg induction cooktop/ovens and Smeg rangehood
- Beautifully updated, modern & light filled with natural gas heating & RC/AC
- 20 panel solar system with storage capacity, solar & electric hot water

**NEW PRICE \$675,000**



Contact Irene Walker 0429 045 632



- Renovated, approx. 5 acres
- Extensive shedding incl. commercial kitchen
- 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms
- Fenced paddocks w/water

**\$875,000**

Contact Andrea Adams 0429 822 801



## Unlock the coastal lifestyle with SJD Homes' Knockdown Rebuild services



Could the award-winning Portsea 376 be your new home? Why move location when you could utilise SJD Homes' Knockdown Rebuild service.



Cook up a storm in the Maldiv 223.



Relax and unwind in your new master.

FOR those who love their neighbourhood but long for a fresh, modern home, or for newcomers eager to embrace the peaceful coastal lifestyle, SJD Homes' knockdown rebuild services provide the ideal solution. Imagine keeping the familiar sights, sounds, and community spirit you love, while stepping into a brand-new, customised home crafted for the way you live today. That's the power of a knockdown rebuild – and SJD Homes brings unparalleled expertise to make it happen.

SJD Homes is a local leader in the industry, recognised with multiple awards for quality and customer satisfaction, including our recent accolades at the 2024 HIA and Master Builders Victoria Awards for Best Display Homes (The Portsea in Wonthaggi, The Morrison in Drouin, and The Savanna in Clyde North). With years of experience building homes across Victoria, we are committed to delivering outstanding results for clients in the Bass Coast.

Our knockdown rebuild services let you stay rooted where you love, with the added benefit of a contemporary home designed just for you. Whether you're looking to capture the ocean

breeze with open-plan living or need versatile spaces for family life, SJD Homes works closely with clients to create a home that feels truly their own. For those new to the Bass Coast, our knockdown rebuild services are perfect for creating a home that makes the most of the local landscape. With thoughtful designs that connect seamlessly to coastal living, we're here to bring your dream home to life in this beautiful part of Victoria.

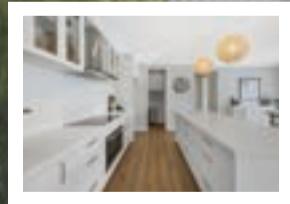
Supporting the community is at the heart of what we do. SJD Homes proudly sources materials and partners with local tradespeople whenever possible, giving back to the very community we're helping to grow. Our team understands the unique appeal of the Bass Coast and strives to enrich it by creating homes that add lasting value.

From first consultations to final handovers, SJD Homes is committed to providing a seamless, stress-free experience. We handle all stages of the knockdown rebuild process, ensuring each project meets our high standards. With a reputation for excellence and a love for the Bass Coast community, we're here to help you create the perfect home, right where you are.

## SJDhomes

# YOUR DREAM HOME RIGHT WHERE YOU ARE..

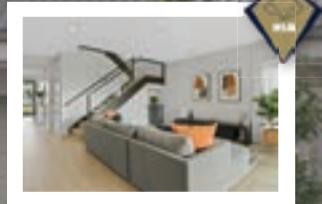
### KNOCKDOWN REBUILD WITH SJD HOMES



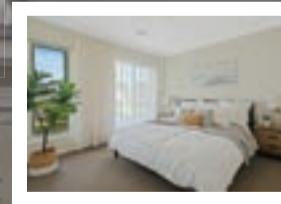
Caversham 314



Patterson 332



Portsea 376



Maldiv 223

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- Knockdown Rebuild Homes
- Irregular Block Specialists

# Real Estate

## Top of the town

South Gippsland and Bass Coast



REFRESHED and ready for a new chapter.

Discover this captivating, elevated brick veneer home in the heart of San Remo where coastal ease meets charismatic charm. Just a short stroll from sandy shores and vibrant village cafes this unique single-level gem offers stunning northern views over the bay, extending to Newhaven Yacht Squadron and further along the coastline taking in French Island and beyond.

It's a prime opportunity to embrace a laid-back seaside lifestyle in a highly sought-after beachside market.

### Key Features:

- Welcoming Entrance: Step inside and be captivated by the spacious family lounge, featuring bifold doors and north-facing windows that showcase panoramic bay views. Relax on the built-in window seating or warm up by the Coonara wood fire, complemented by a split system and ceiling fans for year-round comfort.
- Charming Kitchen & Dining: The quaint alcove kitchen and dining area at the heart of the home enhance indoor-outdoor living, seamlessly connecting to a generous undercover alfresco entertaining deck that flows into the garden courtyard – perfect for relaxation, play and securing family pets.
- Comfortable Bedrooms: Three well-proportioned bedrooms await, with two featuring

built-in robes. The main bedroom boasts an ensuite and direct access to a sunroom, while the family bathroom features a spa for ultimate relaxation.

- Expansive Outdoor Space: Set on an expansive 998sqm (approx.) corner block with two secure access points, this property includes a high carport and a large workshop with sliding doors for easy access to accommodate a caravan or boat. The under-roof double extended lock-up garage provides additional convenience.

- Lush Surroundings: Established shrubs frame post-card-perfect views, offering privacy and enhancing the home's character.

- Location & Lifestyle: San Remo is a beloved coastal retreat, offering picturesque front and back beaches for swimming and enjoying the outdoors. The iconic fishing jetty, local shops and cafes are all within reach. With a kindergarten, primary school, supermarket and medical clinic close by, this property offers a quiet, family-friendly position. Situated in the magnificent

Bass Coast region at the gateway to Phillip Island, San Remo is just a 90-minute commute from Melbourne CBD and an easy drive to the larger townships of Cowes and Wonthaggi.

Don't miss this opportunity to make this delightful home your own and enjoy all that coastal living has to offer!



35 Bonwick Ave



3 | 2 | 2 998m<sup>2</sup>

35 Bonwick Avenue, **San Remo**

**Auction** Sat. Nov. 30 at 12 noon  
**Agent** Alex Scott & Staff  
Sharon Wintle 0405 575 332  
Greg Price 0419 337 441

**ALEX SCOTT**  
AND STAFF

*Est. 1886*

ALEXSCOTT.COM.AU

## FOR SALE

### 92 Mcfees Road, Rhyll



## PANORAMIC BAY VIEWS

First time offered, this magnificent farm situated at 92 McFees Road, Rhyll has been held by the same family since settlement.

43.9ha (108.5 acres approx.) with a natural North facing slope, adjoining foreshore reserve, and taking in sweeping views of Rhyll, French Island and Westernport Bay. Opposite the famous Purple Hen Winery, this property has so many options. Inspection by appointment only.

Call Alex Scott & Staff today on 5952 2633 to arrange your private inspection.

Contact Greg Price 0419 337 441



4 2 6 1.85ha  
**233 Racecourse Rd, Leongatha Sth**  
**Auction** Sat, Dec. 7 at 11am  
**Agent** Alex Scott & Staff  
 Emily Hillberg 0422 622 299  
 Andrew Newton 0402 940 320

## Spectacular bay views

DISCOVER the ultimate coastal retreat in this perfectly positioned three-bedroom, one-bathroom home set on a sprawling 1,400m<sup>2</sup> block. Located directly across from the boat ramp, this property offers unparalleled access to the bay, making it a dream for boating enthusiasts, fishing aficionados, or anyone seeking a peaceful seaside lifestyle.

Step onto the expansive verandah and take in sweeping views of the bay – a perfect setting for relaxation, outdoor dining, or entertaining with family and friends. The home's design embraces a comfortable, open flow, with ample natural light filling each room and easy access to outdoor spaces that make the most of the stunning surroundings.

Whether you're seeking a family home or a tranquil holiday getaway, this property offers abundant space for kids to play, future landscaping, or even potential for additional development (STCA). With proximity to local amenities, scenic beach walks, and only minutes from popular coastal attractions, this is a rare opportunity to secure a piece of prime real estate in an unbeatable location. Enjoy the best of coastal living – it's all about location, and this one is hard to beat!

3 1 1 1405m<sup>2</sup>

**141 Smythe Street, Corinella**  
**For Sale** \$1,100,000  
**Agent** Alex Scott & Staff  
 Angus Hall 0466 326 487

## Your country escape on small acreage

WELCOME to Minbalup, a stunning country retreat nestled on approximately 4.5 acres of beautiful land, just a five-minute drive from the town centre of Leongatha. This thoughtfully designed home, created by the owner, showcases exceptional craftsmanship with stone hand-picked from Castlemaine. As you approach the property, you are greeted by an impressive entry defined by stone pillars and large wire gates, leading you down a palm-lined driveway that sets the tone for the tranquillity that awaits.

Step inside to discover a spacious open-plan living area that seamlessly combines the kitchen, dining, and living spaces, bathed in natural light thanks to the large picture windows that frame breathtaking views of the front paddock. This picturesque setting features a charming dam decorated with waterlilies, complemented by a bridge and jetty that enhance the peaceful environment.

In the heart of the home, the kitchen features elegant Black-wood timber cabinetry, a dark stone bench, electric cooking, ample bench space, and a roomy walk-in pantry for all your culinary needs. The outdoor entertaining area which adjoins the dining space beckons for gatherings with family and friends, providing the perfect space for al fresco dining overlooking the back yard.

This well-appointed home boasts a formal entry that leads to three generous bedrooms plus a study or fourth bedroom, which includes a master suite complete with a walk-in robe and ensuite. Each bedroom is fitted with

built-in robes and carpet, while the rest of the home showcases polished floorboards for easy maintenance.

Additional highlights of the property:

- Reverse cycle air conditioning in the living room ensures year-round comfort.
- A family bathroom featuring a bath, vanity and corner shower accommodating family needs.
- An office or fourth bedroom offering versatility for growing families or those working from home.
- Convenience of an electric hot water service and NBN connectivity.

Outside, the property is a true paradise for nature lovers and those seeking privacy. With separately fenced paddocks, a chook run, a greenhouse, and established fruit trees, there's plenty of space for kids and pets to roam freely. The expansive grounds are perfect for gardening enthusiasts and provide a peaceful escape. Parking is abundant with a four-car carport attached to the house and a massive lock-up shed, catering to all your storage needs. A water tank and solar panels enhance the property's sustainability.

Minbalup is not just a home; it's a lifestyle. Ideal for growing families, downsizers from larger properties and/or farms, or anyone looking to escape to the countryside without sacrificing proximity to town amenities. For more information and to arrange a private inspection, please contact the friendly Alex Scott and Staff sales team today.

Minbalup will be going to Auction on Saturday, December 7 at 11am.



**LEONGATHA**



**101 McCartin Street**

- 2 bed, 2 bath plus study on 2,814m<sup>2</sup> block
- Subdivision potential (STCA)
- Walking distance to main street, playground

**\$780,000**

Contact: Leongatha Office

**POOWONG**



**13 Nyora Road**

- 3 bedroom, central location
- Breathtaking views
- 988m<sup>2</sup> block

**\$665,000**

Contact: Korumburra Office

**KOO WEE RUP**



**1/35B Moody Street**

- 2 bedroom, 1 bathroom
- Double bay garage
- Prime location!

**\$499,000 – NEW PRICE!**

Contact: Grantville Office

**WONTHAGGI**



**144a Reed Crescent**

- 3 bedroom 2 bathrooms
- Immaculate gardens
- Over 1 acre of land

**\$889,000**

Contact: Wonthaggi Office

**LEONGATHA SOUTH**



**233 Racecourse Road**

- Country escape on approx. 4.5 acres
- 3 bed, 2 bath plus study, open plan living
- 5 minutes' drive from town

**Auction: Sat, December 7, 2024**

Contact: Leongatha Office

**KORUMBURRA**



**Coming Soon**

- Charming Cottage
- 3 bedroom, 1 bathroom
- Carport and Garage

**\$435,000**

Contact: Korumburra Office

**GRANTVILLE**



**5 Hopkins Drive**

- 3 bedroom, 1 bathroom, carport
- Excellent renovation opportunity
- Priced to sell

**\$509,000**

Contact: Grantville Office

**WONTHAGGI**



**164 Reed Crescent**

- Over 1 acre
- 4 large bedrooms
- 3 bathrooms

**SOLD**

Contact: Wonthaggi Office

**LEONGATHA**



**10 Parkside Close**

- 3 bed, 2 bath, 2 car brick home
- Close to playground, hospital and rail trail
- Low maintenance living with a private yard

**\$720,000**

Contact: Leongatha Office

**BENA**



**Coming Soon**

- Approx 4.3 acres
- Outstanding views
- 2 bedroom, 1 bathroom

**\$920,000**

Contact: Korumburra Office

**CORINELLA**



**1 Kilburn Street**

- 3 bedroom, 1 bathroom, double carport
- Alluring family home
- Investment potential - room to grow!

**\$649,000 – NEW PRICE!**

Contact: Grantville Office

**NORTH WONTHAGGI**



**64 Fuller Road**

- 4 bedroom, 2 bathroom
- Large deck area
- Open plan living

**\$630,000**

Contact: Wonthaggi Office

**LEONGATHA**



**12 Sloan Avenue**

- Entry level property with 3 bed, 1 bath
- Good size yard with shed
- Walk to rail trail, hospital, park and reserve

**\$385,000**

Contact: Leongatha Office

**NEW PRICE**



**Units 1-4, 8 Ruddville Avenue**

- 3x1 bedroom and 1x2 bedroom
- Returning \$800pw (7.2%)
- Instant income

**\$525,000 (offers invited)**

Contact: Korumburra Office

**CORINELLA**



**84 Smythe Street**

- 3 bedroom, 1 bathroom, shed
- A stones throw away from the bay
- Large double shed/workshop

**\$549,000**

Contact: Grantville Office

**WONTHAGGI**



**69 Broome Crescent**

- Cute miners cottage
- 3 bedrooms
- Great corner location

**SOLD**

Contact: Wonthaggi Office

**LEONGATHA**

**5662 0922**

41 Bair Street

Andrew Newton 0402 940 320  
Emily Hillberg 0422 622 299  
Tony Giles 0407 528 192  
Dan Huther 0418 334 801

**KORUMBURRA**

**5655 1133**

36 Bridge Street

Scott McKenzie 0427 552 898

**GRANTVILLE**

**5678 8433**

1505 Bass Highway

Angus Hall 0466 326 487

**WONTHAGGI**

**5672 1911**

Cnr Murray & Billson Streets

Cal Nation 0439 334 163

Mick Chambers 0418 349 783

Phil Hanley 0417 140 508



## ELECTRIC FENCE ENERGIZER REPAIRS

**Paul Vassil**

(Formerly Vassil Electronics)  
38 Lower Gordon St, Korumburra  
**0408 515 184**

JA21217

**Phelan & Henderson & Co.**

## CLEARING SALE

**Saturday, November 9 at 10am**  
**A/c Carol Cashin**  
**87 Shingler Road, Inverloch**

John Deere 6140M tractor, 2016 model, 3585 hours, F.E.L., bucket, hay forks, spare tines, one owner; Deutz Fahr 20 tines tedder; Daken, 3PL super spreader; Flat-top farm / hay trailer, truck chassis, dual wheels; 1000 lt boom spray rig, towable, fold-out booms, 4m width, Robin engine and HP pump; 3PL backhoe attachment to suit 40-80 hp tractor; 3PL grader blade; Fabricated rectangular 1000 lt steel tank, never used; Bushman, 2500 lt poly rain water tank, unused; 80's Dodge tray truck parts, badges, side windows, complete dash cluster, heater, etc; Stihl MS390 20"chain saw, recent service; Husqvarna 61cc 20"chain saw; Arborist 12"chain saw and electric sharpener; 5.9kva Honda Gentech generator; 1.5kva Honda generator; 2.5kva ex-army generator, Wisconsin engine; Eze-Cut heavy duty 1.5hp 240 volt 10" table saw / planer combo, on shop trolley; Greenfields 32"ride-on mower, 11hp B&S engine; Rover 32" ride-on mower, 11hp Honda engine; Rover 32" ride-on mower, 11hp B&S engine; 20"push mower and catcher; Various electric drills; Electric angle grinders, 9" and 4"; Various hand tools; Socket sets; Buckets of bolts; Air compressor; wheelbarrows, plastic tubs, large capacity; Ute tool boxes, under tray aluminum boxes x 2 for ute; Qty of gal and colorbond iron; Qty scrap iron, old railway iron rail; Old timber shelves and steel welders cabinet with welding accessories; Electric pressure pumps, Onga, Davey; Overhead diesel bowser; 4 x 12ft x 6ft tandem trailer axles with wheels and tyres; 2 x 5ft x 3ft trailer axles and wheels; Galvanised stock feed troughs x 3, hay ring x 1; 50 x 4"x 6ft, 30 x 6"x 7ft treated pine posts; Galvanised mesh farm gates 4m x 2; Fencing wire; Cattle race headlock and side gates; Tools and workshop items, various; Suzuki Grand Vitara 5-door 4WD SUV, 10/16 model, 116,189 kms., 2.4 lt petrol, 5-speed manual, white, bull bar, one owner; 1985 Whittley, 5.3m, Impala cuddy cabin boat and tandem trailer, 85hp Suzuki outboard, Lowrance fish finder and accessories; 3m tinny with 4hp Johnson outboard, no trailer; Antique row boat oars; Norseman wood heater, flue kit, quantity of new fire bricks; Canvas awning blinds; Modern black leather two seater lounge suite x 2; 4 x cane chairs with hand made cushions, two seater Divan; 3 x pallets of house bricks; Euro Maid 60cm black stainless steel under bench dishwasher; 2 x chest freezers; Garden tool shed.

**Outside entries:** 3P. L. New Holland mower, model NH 442 -Gale Shearer 1460 Baler, Steel Cattle yard posts (approx 40), 52 Gal steel cattle yard rails, 6.1m x 115mm x 42mm, new treated pine posts, 6 ft, approx. 200, Hydraulic dehorners.

Terms cash or cheque on day of sale  
GST applicable

Number system to operate, buyers must provide photo ID to register, outside entries welcome, no buyers premium, light refreshments available provided by Pound Creek CFA.

Photos on PHC Facebook page.



Contact:

**Simon Henderson 0428 740 750**  
**Jake Anthony 0467 297 794**

HM12071-V3

# Changing the face of dairy farming with new tech and robotic milking

GEA'S ROBOTIC milking units are using tech and robotics to change the face of dairy farming and the units are becoming increasingly popular, especially in the face of staff shortages and changing lifestyles.

"There's no new milkers coming into the industry. Once they're gone, they're gone and that seems to be the issue out there. I often hear this story when I get that first phone call, somebody says, this year we had a milker who's retiring after 10 years, now we don't know what to do," said Jurgem Steen, GEA's new innovation manager.

Many dairies in Australia have gone 30 to 40 years without any improvements and with staffing being problematic when farmers are deciding whether to finance equipment or employ someone, the cost of a unit works out to a similar level when calculated by the cost per cow or cost per kilo of milk solid.

"So, the competitiveness is there, especially if you need to do upgrades to the dairy anyhow," said Jurgem.

The robotic milking units become super labour efficient as the only thing the farmer has to do is make sure the cows arrive at the stall and the rest is taken care of by the unit, thanks to a high-tech teat detection system.

A camera is in place that can identify the teat and the position of each individual udder, which can change from milking to milking.



**Jurgem Steen GEA's innovation manager explains how robotic milkers are changing the lives of dairy farmers.**  
ob46\_3724

The robotic arm then does the attachment, which is a great feat of engineering.

"It is really about creating an environment where the cows can milk themselves," explains Jurgem.

"You can have a voluntary system where the cows do present themselves (to the stall) and you create incentives like access to the next pasture or grain."

"They are identified by collars and a robotic system that takes

care of the milking process."

In the robot itself, milk volumes can be shown by quartering and milk quality aspects can be measured.

"This is the only milking unit in the world that can separate a quarter out during the milking process."

The collars for the cows, like a fit bit, are not a necessary component of the setup up and cows can also be identified through tags, however, the collars help to gather useful

and crucial data.

"The Fitbit can recognise how they're moving, how much they're moving, their activity patterns, and that helps farmers to identify when they're in heat, if they're feeling well, if they're ruminating enough, eating well, that sort of thing," said Jurgem.

"Because most of our clients usually do other things and spend time away from the cows, then this data information becomes really useful."

Jurgem explains the milking units are becoming more popular as the lifestyles of dairy farmers are changing.

"It's usually your small mum and dad operation that are after the lifestyle improvements. They want to spend time with the kids and be more flexible during the day. Larger operations have the labour issue, this way they can continue to milk more cows without having to employ labour to do so and then for the very large farms, we also have robotic carousels."

The robotic milking units can be installed in several different setups and configurations depending on herd and farming size. Taking up a very small footprint, they are easy to integrate into any facility.

The units require regular preventative servicing to maintain them up to a lifespan of about 15 years, primarily from a technology point of view, and one unit will set farmers back between five to six hundred thousand dollars.

## CLEARING SALE

Farm Machinery & Household Items

**Friday, November 15 at 10.30am**

**A/c A Walker**

180 Gwythers Siding Rd, Leongatha Sth

**Items include but not limited to:**

Case Farmall 70 tractor with Bucket & Forks, 1768 hours; Massey Ferguson 6245 tractor with Bucket, 8950 hours; reconditioned motor @ 1000hrs; Toyota Landcruiser 434,000kms (not registered); Miller Falls Black Diamond wood splitter; Silvan 50ltr spray tank; 200ltr Diesel pump tank; Suzuki Ozark 250 quad runner motorbike; Suzuki motorbike for spare parts only; Hardi 400ltr spray tank with boom; Howard Nugget 6ft slasher; Kuhn HRB 252 seeder; Claas Disco 250 mower; dual axle trailer (not registered); fence posts; assorted fencing accessories; calf feeders; farming sundries; assorted tools; assorted household furniture; sundry items too numerous to mention.

**Outside vendors welcome**

**TERMS: Cash, Cheque or Eftpos on day of sale. Number system & Photo ID for registration. GST where applicable.**

Light refreshments.

[www.nutrienagsolutions.com.au/clearing-sales](http://www.nutrienagsolutions.com.au/clearing-sales)



**For further details contact:**

Jack Ginnane 0458 322 615  
Stuart Jenkin 0447 602 302



**Campbell Czempinski (left) auctions for Elders DLP during Thursday's Leongatha Store Sale.** A15\_4524

## Campbell committed to cattle sales career

STOCK agent and auctioneer Campbell Czempinski of Elders DLP was in action at Thursday's Leongatha Store Sale, enjoying the responsibility of doing his best for vendors and representing the company.

He works for Anthony Delaney of Delaney Livestock and Property, which is in partnership with Elders, having come over to Leongatha with the Pakenham crew when the decision was made to close the Pakenham Saleyards.

Campbell has been an auctioneer for roughly three years and joined Delaney Livestock and Property early in 2024.

He was previously with Nutrien SGL, originally Landmark, for six years.

Campbell's background on his family's Tyers farm, an Angus breeding operation, led him into a cattle sales career, starting at the age of 15 or 16.

"I pretty much got stationed all around Victoria with an older mentor," he said of

how he found his feet in the industry.

Anthony Delaney was one of his mentors when Campbell worked for Rodwells in the early stages of his career.

He eventually got his driver's licence and fulltime work with Landmark Leongatha, progressing from there.

Campbell is now 23.

Drafting cattle, marking calves, drenching cattle and assisting clients are among his duties and he often works six days a week.

As well as Leongatha, Campbell sells at saleyards in Yea, Sale and Bairnsdale.

He spoke about the importance of learning how to know where to start the bidding to achieve the best results.

"It's all practice and experience," he said.

The young auctioneer gives his boss Anthony a lot of credit for his mentoring, saying he has taught him most of what he knows about auctioneering.



# Berry's Creek awarded Blue Cheese Champions

BERRY'S Creek Gourmet Cheese have done it again and taken home two new awards for their cheese at the 26th Australian Grand Dairy Awards, held at the Melbourne Showgrounds last week.

The master cheesemakers won Champion Best Blue Cheese with their Oak Blue and Champion Goat/Sheep/Buffalo and Camel Milk Cheese with their Riverine Blue.

Despite winning awards for these cheeses in the past owners and cheesemakers Barry Charlton and Cheryl Hull were surprised with their win this time around.

"To be honest, we didn't think we were going to win this year. It's just been a bit of a weird season weather wise and the cattle haven't really liked the season that much. It's been a bit up and down," said Barry, who mentioned many other cheesemakers he spoke to have had the same issues.

"We're really proud just to be part of the Australian dairy industry and feel that the hard work that we've done is kept to standard," said Cheryl.

"It makes us really proud to be continually doing it. This is the third year in a row that both the Oak and the Riverine won champion in their class."

Barry and Cheryl put much of their success down to having a hardworking and dedicated team.

"The whole team we've got was absolutely awesome," added Barry.

"The attention to detail and



**Cheryl Hull and Barry Charlton of Berry's Creek Gourmet Cheese with two awards from the 26th Australian Grand Dairy Awards, held last week.**

the passion from the ladies and the whole team has been amazing and helps make it work.

"It's been a big thrill for them. It's been a bit of a tough year, and it's a nice lift to have this come through."

Barry commented on why he thinks the judges keep on enjoying and giving the Oak Blue and Riverine Blue the top prize.

"The oak blue, there's a mixture of cultures used, and that comes in a four-and-a-half, five-kilo wheel which is matured longer. Obviously, it's a bit more of a stronger cheese, with a lot more blue in it. Just a combination of the cultures and the process of making it and maturing time adds to the

flavour," explained Barry.

"With the Riverine, it's actually 100 per cent buffalo milk. It has a lot higher fat content and protein with a very smooth texture, it's a sweetish kind of milk so I think that really adds to the flavour of it."

"I'd like to think that we can keep on winning awards but that's just the luck of the draw. You've just got to hope everything goes right," adds Barry.

The awards featured 406 entries across 22 categories, with each product evaluated on its flavour, aroma, texture, body, and appearance.

The 2024 winning Champions demonstrated the breadth of Australian dairy, spanning from traditional cheeses to

native and international flavours.

This year saw a new award category being introduced – which was won by Berry's Creek Gourmet Cheese – being Other Goat, Sheep, Buffalo, and Camel Milk products.

International Cheese Judge, Jill Allen, one of the expert judges on the panel, praised this year's entrants.

"This year we saw a wealth of products, all exceptional in high quality, everything spanning from beautiful yoghurts, wonderful milks, and amazing cheddars," Ms Allen said.

"This year, I've seen a lot of flavours that I haven't encountered before, especially from my past judging in the US, which speaks to the characteristics and diversity of Australian dairy."

"Australian consumers can feel confident knowing that when they purchase a product with a blue and gold medal, that they'll be experiencing the very best of Australian dairy."

For products to be eligible to enter the Australian Grand Dairy awards, the product must be produced in Australia with 100 per cent Australian milk and have won gold at a state qualifying competition.

Products must also be available to be purchased by consumers in Australian retail markets.

All Champion products were meticulously reviewed, subjected to a rigorous blind judging process, and selected by a distinguished panel of judges composed of international and national dairy experts.

## MARKET REPORT

Brought to you by...

CLAAS Harvest Centre 

### Prices hold steady

By SGSAA

AGENTS yarded 3000 head last Thursday's VLE Leongatha store sale in another good offering.

There was a smaller field of feedlot buyers in attendance which had minimal effect on the market with grazier orders keen to stock paddocks, which resulted in prices similar to recent sales around the state.

Most of the better steers in the 400kg to 600kg are generally making \$3.60 to \$3.90 with angus weaner steers making \$3.70 to \$4.20 for the top end.

**Leongatha Store Sale on Thursday, Oct. 31, 2024**

#### Steers

Fogarty Pastoral 10 Angus	655kg	\$3.65	\$2390
V Hodge 10 Angus	644kg	\$3.81	\$2460
W Anderson 13 Hereford x	622kg	\$3.40	\$2120
PJ & AL Scott 12 Angus	605kg	\$3.78	\$2290
G Murray 28 Angus	591kg	\$3.96	\$2330
P.M. Nation 26 Angus	506kg	\$3.98	\$2020
K Marsh 19 Angus	499kg	\$3.36	\$1680
J Guest 14 Angus	472kg	\$3.79	\$1790
JM Jarvis 14 Angus	470kg	\$3.61	\$1700
KJ & HM Nicklen 20 Angus	463kg	\$4.01	\$1860
JR & CJ Bermingham 12 Angus	462kg	\$3.13	\$1450
B.Rinaldi 15 Angus	457kg	\$3.82	\$1750
J Guest 14 Angus	450kg	\$3.94	\$1770
J Bishop 10 Angus	430kg	\$3.60	\$1550
I Campbell & R.Cromwell 11 Ang	425kg	\$3.69	\$1570
EJ & VM White 20 Angus	413kg	\$3.82	\$1580
G & D Smith 13 Angus	405kg	\$3.79	\$1540
JM Jarvis 16 Angus	401kg	\$3.41	\$1370
B Rinaldi 21 Angus	392kg	\$3.77	\$1480
P Miller 15 Char	390kg	\$3.79	\$1480
Oldham Pastoral Co 15 Angus	388kg	\$3.81	\$1480
Wells Ag 22 Angus	373kg	\$3.88	\$1450
C Martel 14 Angus	373kg	\$3.62	\$1350
Malanda Past 22 Angus	365kg	\$4.00	\$1460
Wells Ag 22 Angus	362kg	\$3.56	\$1290
JR Cromb 22 Angus	359kg	\$3.79	\$1360
Clark Cattle 17 Angus	351kg	\$4.20	\$1480
R & V Patullo 16 Angus	350kg	\$3.59	\$1260
A Garraway 14 Angus	346kg	\$3.46	\$1200
Wells Ag 20 Angus	341kg	\$3.57	\$1220
Fine Line Merinos 14 Angus	336kg	\$3.65	\$1230
Wiltshaw Farming 11 Angus	334kg	\$3.05	\$1020
GH & AJ Burston 14 Angus	332kg	\$3.31	\$1180
Wells Ag 19 Angus	329kg	\$3.58	\$1180
PL & BJ Bolding 22 Angus	328kg	\$3.90	\$1280

#### Heifers

JM Jarvis 10 Angus	449kg	\$3.27	\$1470
Abridge PL 10 Angus	439kg	\$3.43	\$1510
SW & SH Storr 14 BB	421kg	\$3.13	\$1320
P Miller 12 Char	409kg	\$3.05	\$1250
Malanda Past 21 Angus	397kg	\$3.67	\$1460
JM Jarvis 15 Angus	387kg	\$3.61	\$1400
J Knight 14 Angus	356kg	\$3.39	\$1210
Northside PL 27 Angus	349kg	\$3.55	\$1240
GH & AJ Burston 18 Angus	346kg	\$3.66	\$1270
Wiltshaw Farming 13 Angus	339kg	\$2.77	\$940
Stay Calm Farming 11 Angus	338kg	\$3.34	\$1130
T Richards & T.Rae 14 Angus	337kg	\$3.61	\$1220
R & V Patullo 13 Angus	321kg	\$2.95	\$950
SW & SH Storr 24 Hereford	320kg	\$2.81	\$900
Clark Cattle 19 Angus	312kg	\$3.29	\$1030
Bexcon Agriculture 20 Limo	310kg	\$3.93	\$12200

#### Xbred/Fries Steers

C Bulach 10 Friesian	488kg	\$2.70	\$1320
Y Warren 15 Friesian	408kg	\$2.69	\$1100
T Allott 10 Angus/FF x	370kg	\$3.05	\$1130
Meljar 21 Angus/FF x	301kg	\$3.36	\$1010

#### Xbred Heifers

Corlett Dairying PL	414kg	\$2.85	\$1180
15 Friesian x	379kg	\$2.93	\$1090
EA & EL Colvin 12 Angus/FF x	336kg	\$2.50	\$840

#### Lardner Park Calf Market Report

Monday, October 28, 2024

Jersey & Jersey x	.....	\$24 to \$40
Friesian Bulls	.....	\$28 to \$140
Friesian Heifers	.....	\$36 to \$76
Beef Bulls	.....	\$38 to \$410
Beef Heifers	.....	\$34 to \$250
Number of Calves: 134		
Number purchased to rear: 64		

**Phelan & Henderson & Co.**

### Specialists in Livestock and Rural Real Estate sales

- Operating at VLE Leongatha
- Auctions Plus sales
- Direct and private sales of Livestock
- Personal professional service



Simon Henderson 0428 740 750  
Jake Anthony 0467 297 794  
David Phelan 0429 050 349

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**KESTLE HARVESTERS**

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SOUTH GIPPSLAND SENTINEL-TIMES | TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2024 | 63

SUCCESS THROUGH SERVICE



## DAIRY SHARE FARMING OPPORTUNITY

### Inverloch

A dairy farming family is looking to engage a share farmer for what is a great opportunity.

The herd will be 300-400 cows on a farm that is fully developed. This includes a 20 SWO dairy and good infrastructure.

A fair share will be negotiated for the right applicant. Start date is flexible.

For further details, contact Brian Gannon on 0424 363 578 or via email on: [brian@gannonagribusiness.com.au](mailto:brian@gannonagribusiness.com.au)

LB1426

## FARM CLEARING SALE

TRACTORS, MACHINERY, FARM PLANT, ANTIQUES & SUNDRIES

**Friday, November 15, 2024 at 10am**

A/c B & A Slattery  
105 Island Road, Koo Wee Rup

### TRACTORS, VEHICLES AND MACHINERY:

M/F 4225 Tractor c/w FEL; Hay Forks, 4 in 1 bucket (1707 hours); M/F 65 diesel tractor; Tandem 8' x 5' stock trailer; 6' x 8' Tradesman Trailer; 19' New Age Tandem Manta Ray Caravan (as new); 2015 Isuzu DMax Space Cab Ute, 50,000 kms c/w bull bar, canopy, long range fuel tank, (Reg: 1FW2XR), R.W.C.

### FARM PLANT AND EQUIPMENT:

Munro telescope post rammer c/w side shift and augers; Boomerang mark 5 trailing twin bale feeder; Hardi 600 LT spray tank c/w 8m boom spray (new); Case 9 plate offset discs; 3 PL pallet forks; 3 PL bale carrier; New Holland 471 bale loader; PZ Rotary tedder rake; Murray stump jump harrows 17' (new); John Berends 6' H/D slasher; Jas Smith 3 PL P.T.O. saw bench with tungsten carbide saw blade; Taarup 2424 6 disc rotary mower; Berends 6' grader blade; Hitachi demolition hammer drill; Makita reciprocating saw; H.D. Pedestal drill; 5 KVA Dunlite generator; Stihl chain saws x 2; 6 x 14' heavy duty farm gates (new); farm gates various sizes; Pedestal grinder; grinding and sanding table; Hay rings x 3; Lg. qty. 5 x 4 rolls hay (shredded); 3PL Hustler soft hands.

### ANTIQUES & SUNDRIES:

Large assortment Butter churns of varying sizes; Qty. milk & cream cans; Milk separators (x 2); Antique Dairy parts; Magistrates leather chair; Lg. qty. Fowlers Bottling Jars; Qty. rabbit traps; Onga firefighting pump; Firefighting pump for tractor (new); Single cow milker; Stihl whipper snipper; Cow hip lifter/poly lifter; Greenfield mower with grass catcher (300 hrs); 3' x 20' steel girders; Calf collars; Steel shelving; 6 x 2 hardwood timer 15'; Tarps x 3; 1 1/2' Gal piping; Horse drawn mower parts (new); H.D. Woodworking lathe; Woodworking tools; hand planes; bow saw; sofa bed; cabinets; TV Stand; qty. garden tools, workshop tools and various other sundries.

### OUTSIDE ENTRIES INVITED SUBJECT TO AGENTS' APPROVAL

**AGENTS NOTE:** Our Vendor is downsizing following a long farming career.

Most items have been well looked after and are in good working order.

**TERMS:** Cash or approved cheque. ID essential. Number system to operate. Loading facilities available. Light refreshments available.

**VIEWING:** Thursday, November 14 2024 12 noon - 4pm

For updated entries and pictures visit our website: [www.esandb.com.au](http://www.esandb.com.au)

**ESB Everitt Seeley & Bennetts**

Office: 5997 1555  
Mike Everitt 0408 395 432

JA22686

# What dairy cows really want

SILAGE so good the cows lick the paddocks clean.

Hard to believe?

Not so hard if your passion is quality cheesemaking and you believe the best cheese comes from the best milk produced by the best cows in the district.

Welcome to the cow-friendly world of the Hales family, fifth-generation dairy farmers from Lance Creek and world-class cheesemakers at Prom Country Cheese in Moyarra.

The Hales family run one hundred and forty milking cows at the peak of the season all grass-fed without grain supplements.

"We're certified totally organic," said mother and grandmother Carolyn Hales.

The Hales family farm 'Glen Moidart' was settled in 1886 by Chief Cheesemaker Daniel Hales' Great, Great Grandfather.

The Prom Country Cheese factory at Moyarra came much later in 2012.

It's a family affair at Prom Country Cheese with Daniel Hales running the cheese factory under the watchful eye of his mother Carolyn Hales, sister Kate Thomas (Hales), Sales Manager and Chelsea Hales (Daniel's wife) running administration.

The rich organic milk at 'Glen Moidart' is produced from a happy herd of cows enjoying a one hundred per cent pasture diet supplemented, when not making raw cheese by silage made on the farm from multi-species clover, rye, chicory and native grasses wrapped in light green covers.

"We cut and store up to three hundred bales of silage every year," said Carolyn.

Sweet-smelling silage appeals most to cows.



**Dairy farmer and cheesemaker Carolyn Hales with Michelle from Prom Country Cheese. B25\_4524**

"So sweet you could eat it."

The silage is fed out in the paddocks and the cows lick it from the ground.

"They love it."

The Hales have large paddocks which allow the cows to selectively graze.

"Cows eat what they want to eat."

Each bale of silage can weigh up to eight hundred kilograms with the peak silage-making season in Spring from October to November.

"We've just finished making our silage this year," said Carolyn.

Dairy farming is not a life for sleepy heads.

Milking starts at 4.30am at 'Glen Moidart' and is usually finished by 7am.

"We milk once a day which gives the cows more time in the paddock."

The Hales' start mowing for hay in December but this year

the hay sheds are full.

"We will have a break at Christmas," said Carolyn.

Calving and the new milking season begins mid-January so the break will be short.

"The cheese factory is open every Saturday for over-the-counter sales."

The best milk for cheesemaking according to Carolyn is milk fresh from the farm high in fat and protein.

Prom Country Cheese was the first cheesery in Australia to gain approval to make cheese from raw, unpasteurised milk.

Silage is not fed when Prom Country Cheese is making raw cheese.

"Our recipes are simple," according to Daniel Hales.

"The cultures are selected to achieve a unique taste and texture."

"Our milk is complex in flavour which shines through in the cheese you are eating."

The range of cheeses at Prom Country Cheese is bewildering but the top-drawer cheese at the moment is 'Kongwak' which has just been entered in the raw cheese category of the World Cheese Awards in Portugal.

Competing against the best cheese European money can buy Moyarra's unpasteurised, certified organic 'Kongwak' cheese made from Lance Creek cow's milk is sure to impress.

Kongwak is aged for six months to develop a full, savoury, rich profile, infused with whole native pepper berries for a burst of spicy, floral notes and a delicious peppery finish.

As the world waits for its first taste of 'Kongwak' local cheese lovers may be well advised to stock up while stocks of the specialty cheese are still plentiful.

Other varieties at Prom Country Cheese include Brewer's Gold, a delicate, exotic, malty, ale-washed cheese, Granny's Blue with each two-kilogram wheel consuming eighteen litres of rich cow's milk, Victoria's first raw milk organic cheese Glen Moidart, a semi-hard gouda-style variety cellared for over five months, creamy, fudgy indulgence, luscious yoghurt-style inspiration, Powlett Picnic an intriguing semi-soft style, Tully's Gold a washed rind cheese with a luscious texture and delectable, complex flavour, and Prom Country's newest raw milk organic cow cheese St Clair, ideal for cheesecakes, stir through pasta, making a dip or baking a quiche.

Prom Country Cheese is located on Andersons Inlet Road, Moyarra, go to [promcountrycheese.com.au](http://promcountrycheese.com.au) or follow the latest postings on Instagram or Facebook.

## Small urban garden wins big

A SMALL urban garden in Cape Paterson has won the Australian Institute of Horticulture Green Space Award.

Judges were impressed with the quality of landscaping and the sustainable fashion in which horticulture had been used, benefiting the environment and promoting the well-being of residents.

Owners, Paul and Frances Kirkpatrick were humbled to receive the award from ABC TV Gardening Australia presenter, Costa Georgiades at a presentation night in Coffs Harbour.

"Many people believe that as blocks get smaller, there's no room for a garden" Paul said,

then explaining how he and Frances tackled that challenge.

"We purchased a typical small block in a new development in Cape Paterson and designed our building around biophilic principles, where the house fits within a plant-rich landscape with garden views from every window."

The 573 square metre block has over a thousand plants, including a native front yard, succulent collection, ornamental garden and rainforest atrium, as well as 27 fruiting trees and berries, plus a large four-bed vegetable garden.

"We were concerned that building and landscaping uses

a lot of our earth's resources, so our design had to give back to the environment," Paul said.

"The passive-solar designed house has solar power and battery backup charging an electric car while our garden feeds the body and the soul."

Paul and Frances have welcomed over a thousand visitors to their garden, 'Rhagodia', with more open days planned.

"Designing on a small block can be challenging as there is literally no room for error, but if we really put some thought into designing the house and garden together, we can create small urban oases," Paul concluded.



**Paul Kirkpatrick, centre, receives the Green Space Award from Michael Casey (sponsor) and Costa Georgiades (MC).**

## Words of wisdom from Gippsland dairying women

panel of speakers.

This year's event theme - Wise Words - aims to showcase the knowledge and lived experiences of a panel of local farming women, including Lyn Hornby, Thelma Hutchison, and Chris Anderson.

Through hard work and determination, all three women have built successful careers in dairy. They are guided by their passion for the industry and the development of the

next generation of farmers.

The panel session will be facilitated by GippsDairy's Farm Engagement Lead, Kim Price.

Event emcee, Allison Potter, grew up on her family farm in Poowong North, which her father converted from beef to dairy in 1997.

Allison has spent most of her professional career in Field Services roles and is currently the Head of Field Services for Bulla. She is an experienced

dairy and beef farmer and one of the founding members of the Gippsland Women in Dairy discussion group.

Registrations close on Friday, November 22 and the event is expected to be fully booked.

GippsDairy would like to thank its major sponsors Gardiner Dairy Foundation, and DLL Financial Solutions, with additional support from Bulla, GEA Australia, and Daviesway DASCO.



John Mason, Randy Winton, Jen Winton and Michelle Mason visited South Gippsland from Frankston to enjoy the open gardens in Loch, Poowong and Nyora. Tk05\_4524

## Gardens wow across Loch, Poowong and Nyora

SIXTEEN magnificent gardens were open to the community in Loch, Poowong and Nyora on Saturday.

The day presented an opportunity for like-minded green thumbs to swap ideas and advice and view the hard work of local gardeners.

The Loch Village Garden Club launched the open gardens event 17 years ago, to be held every year during the Cup weekend.

"We've linked in with the Poowong Garden Club's Flower

and Photo Show this year, so we have a few open gardens there, and one in Nyora," organiser Howard Booth said.

"There will be more coming on (in future years). There's a lot of people who are very proud of what they are doing with their gardens."

Showing her garden for the first time this year was Loch's Judy White, who also offered guests High Tea from 2pm.

The funds from the High Tea will be donated to the Royal Children's Hospital Renal Unit.

With perfect weather, people started turning out early in the day to check out the gardens.

"It's amazing where people come from. It's been a good spring, so everything is looking great. Even the roses are out," Mr Booth said.

"We often get a lot of families come along, which makes a nice outing for the day."

A plant store was also set up outside the Loch Village Post Office for those inspired by what they saw throughout the day.

## EPA drones can sniff out pollution

THE hi-tech aerial drones that EPA Victoria flies over industrial sites and pollution incidents can now sniff out air pollution too.

The state's environmental watchdog has equipped its existing drones with a new Aerial Air Pollutant Detection and Mapping system. It adds to existing uses, including collecting water samples, detecting hotspots and fire risks in waste stockpiles, as well as inspecting landfills, illegal dumping sites and spills.

EPA Executive Director Operations Joss Crawford says the gas detection system provides detailed information on the move, for EPA officers on the ground.

"The sniffer drone gives us real-time gas concentrations and distributions, that will help assess total emissions from the landfill, oil and gas refinery, wastewater treatment plant or other industrial site we're inspecting," Ms Crawford said.

"The new technology also enables us to pinpoint significant sources at these sites so we can then target the real cause of pollution and direct measures to do something about it," she said.

The arrival of the new technology fits in with EPA's increased regulatory focus on landfills this year. Operators can expect more direct engagement and education, backed by strengthened monitoring and enforcement.

all designed to prevent typical landfill problems with gas, leachate and contamination of the land and water.

The system will enable EPA officers to measure the typical pollutants Carbon Monoxide, Hydrogen Sulphide (noted for its rotten egg odour), particulates such as dust or smoke, and Methane, a common by-product of landfills.

The collected data is fed to software that provides real-time mapping or 3D visualisation of the pollutants to pinpoint the polluting source, enabling targeted and effective intervention by EPA officers on the ground.

"Each pollutant comes with its own challenges; hydrogen sulphide creates immediate problems with odour, while carbon monoxide is a poison with no smell at all, particulates mostly affect the old, people with heart or lung disease, pregnant women and small children, and methane is a greenhouse gas associated with climate change," Ms Crawford said.

With over 500 flights carried out across the state each year, EPA Victoria's drones are constantly in action; detecting, mapping and sampling pollution from the sky.

"EPA's drones give our frontline officers practical tools that make the job of detecting and stopping pollution faster and more effective," Ms Crawford said.

# VLE LEONGATHA STORE SALE 3000 CATTLE 3000

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2024 - Starting at 9am

PLEASE NOTE: 4PM WEDNESDAY CURFEW APPLIES

#### GROWN STEERS

##### A/c Blackwood Grazing, Trafalgar (NUTRIEN)

140 Angus steers, 14-15 mths, Pathfinder blood, NE Accred, GF & ABF, Bovilus X 1

##### A/c A Conisbee & Co, Glengarry (NUTRIEN)

150 Angus steers, 13 mths, Fernleigh blood, 2x5in1, GF, ABF, NE Accred, EU Accred

##### A/c DA & PM Conn, Hedley (PHC)

100 Angus steers, 18 mths, Central Tablelands Bred, "Kywarra" blood

##### A/c JD & NG Buckland, Fish Creek (SEJ)

80 x Angus steers, 14-16 mths, By Stud Dunoon Bulls 20 Charolais steers, 14-16 mths, By Pure Hayes Charolais Bulls

5 in 1 B12 Multi pour on 7/10/24, VB, GF, ABF, NE Accred

##### A/c D Land, Strath Creek (NUTRIEN)

50 Hereford steers, 16 mths

##### A/c Dave Harris Earthmoving, Tarwin (SEJ)

50 Angus steers, 14-15 mths, Battersby blood, Dectomax drenched, B12, Ade, 5-1, on 15th October, VB, GF

##### A/c Mountain Logging P/L, Traralgon (NUTRIEN)

18 Angus steers, rising 2yo

10 Red Angus steers, 17 mths

Drenched Cattlemax 15/10

##### A/c Latrobe Park Angus, Morwell (NUTRIEN)

25 Angus steers, 15-16 mths

##### A/c A & A Missen, Woodside (NUTRIEN)

20 Angus steers, 12-14 mths

##### A/c Melaleuca Past Trust, Ruby (NUTRIEN)

20 Angus steers, 16-18 mths

##### A/c G & S Semmens, Maffra (NUTRIEN)

20 Angus steers, 15-17 mths

##### A/c B & R McCulloch P/L, Jeeralang Juction (NUTRIEN)

16 Angus steers, 20 mths

##### A/c K & R Minahan, Korumburra (NUTRIEN)

16 Angus steers, 18 mths

#### GROWN HEIFERS

##### A/c Latrobe Park Angus, Morwell (NUTRIEN)

25 Angus heifers, 15-16 mths

##### A/c JD & NG Buckland, Fish Creek (SEJ)

20 Angus heifers, 14-16 mths, By Stud Dunoon Bulls 10 Charolais heifers, 14-16 mths, By Pure Hayes Charolais Bulls

5 in 1 B12 Multi pour on 7/10/24, VB, GF, ABF, NE Accred

#### ANGUS WEANERS

##### A/c The Ridge Pastoral, Rosedale (NUTRIEN)

250 Angus/Hereford X steers, 12-14 mths

150 Angus/Hereford X heifers, 12-14 mths

First draft

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##### A/c AG Landy, Walkerville (SEJ)

40 Angus & Hereford X steers

120 Angus & Hereford X heifers

11-12 mths, By Landfall & Te Mania AI Sires, weaned 4 mths.

##### A/c J Foot, Woodside (NUTRIEN)

60 Angus mixed sex, 12 mths

90 BB mixed sex, 12 mths

5in1, B12 & drenched

##### A/c G & P Giardina, Mirboo Nth (NUTRIEN)

100 Angus mixed sex weaners, 10-12 mths, weaned, Leewood blood

#### A/c M Telling, Woodside (PHC)

70 Angus heifers, 12-14 mths, Mawarra blood

30 Angus steers, 12-14 mths, Mawarra blood

#### A/c M & S Hunt, Maffra (NUTRIEN)

40 Angus Hereford & BB steers

28 Angus Hereford & BB heifers

7-8 mths, Latrobe Park & Newcomen blood, weaned, VQ

#### A/c Joroka Pastoral, Leongatha (NUTRIEN)

20 Angus steers

20 Angus heifers

12 mths, weaned, NE Accred

#### A/c J & R Mowat, Stradbroke (NUTRIEN)

10 Angus steers

25 Angus heifers

12-13 mths, Pinora blood, GF, VB & ABF

#### A/c MJ Jeffrey, Morwell (NUTRIEN)

30 Angus steers, 12 mths

#### A/c RA Jones, Glen Forbes (NUTRIEN)

30 Angus mixed sex calves, 10-11 mths By Stud Angus Bulls

#### A/c D & L White, Fernbank (SEJ)

30 Angus weaner heifers, VB, GF, ABF, NE Accred

#### A/c O'Loughlin Farms, Tarwin (NUTRIEN)

25 Angus steers, 12 mths, Kunuma blood, NE Accred

#### A/c Snowy River Angus, Bairnsdale (SEJ)

25 Angus steers, Alpine Angus blood, 13 mths, EU, GF & ABF

#### A/c Russell White, Fernbank (SEJ)

9 Angus weaner steers

13 Angus weaner heifers

NE Accred

#### A/c P & T Harris, Stony Creek (NUTRIEN)

21 Angus steers, 12 mths

#### A/c D & H Campbell, Mardan (NUTRIEN)

20 Angus steers, 12-13 mths, NE Accred, By Innesdale & Merlewood Bulls

#### A/c Briarsview Beef P/L, Mirboo (NUTRIEN)

20 Angus steers, 12-14 mths

#### A/c Mardan Lodge, Mardan (SEJ)

20 Angus + Angus Hereford X mixed sex, 7-8 Mths, had all treatments, weaned & very quiet, Sired By Top Alpine Angus bloodlines

#### A/c BJ Kuch, Darriman (NUTRIEN)

15 Angus steers, 12-14 mths, Landfall blood, NE & EU Accred

#### A/c AM Rizza, Caldermeade (NUTRIEN)

12 Angus steer calves, 10-11 mths, weaned, Kunuma blood

#### A/c G & B Morrison, Glengarry (NUTRIEN)

12 Angus heifers, 12-14 mths

#### COLOURED WEANERS

##### A/c M & M Lee, Bundalaguah (PHC)

30 Hereford mixed sexes, 12 mths, Mawarra / Karoonda blood, weaned

##### A/c Tablelands Pastoral, Briagolong (PHC)

30 Hereford heifers, 8-10 mths, Benambra bred, Mawarra blood, weaned

##### A/c C & D Wight P/L, Leongatha (NUTRIEN)

15 Hereford steers, 12 mths

#### BRED & DAIRY

##### A/c B. Silvey, Foster (SEJ)

30 Montbeliarde & Angus X steers, 2 yo

##### A/c P. H & M Thomson, Fish Creek (NUTRIEN)

25 Angus Sp heifers, 14-15 mths

20 Friesian Angus Sp steers, 14-15 mths

##### A/c Tablelands Pastoral (PHC)

15 Angus/Friesian-x steers, 10-12 mths, bucket reared

##### A/c "Dusty & Roger", Kardella (SEJ)

12 Angus Friesian X steers, 12-14 mths, bucket reared

##### A/c I Webb, Orbost (NUTRIEN)

100 Friesian steers, 18-20 mths

##### A/c Jelbart Dairy P/L, Leongatha Sth (NUTRIEN)

40 Friesian steers, 16 mths

##### A/c Wall

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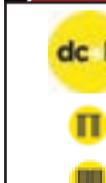
  
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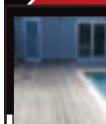
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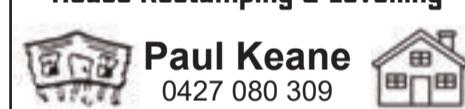
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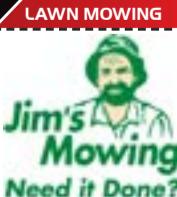


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The logo for Handley & Anderson Funeral Directors. It features a large, stylized ampersand (&) in the center, with the word 'Handley' to the left and 'Anderson' to the right. Below the ampersand, the words 'FUNERAL DIRECTORS' are written in a smaller, sans-serif font. Underneath that, it says 'SERVING SOUTH TASMANIA & PIMPING ISLAND'. To the left of the ampersand is a close-up photograph of a purple flower, likely a lilac or similar. The overall design is elegant and professional.

<p>and Vera Thomson, and brother to June and Dorothy (all dec.).</p> <p><b><i>He is now resting in peace.</i></b></p>	<p>of Margaret. Respected uncle of their family.</p> <p>A long life well lived.</p>
	
<p>EST 1530 UK 1882 AUSTRALIA ABN 83 076 028 790</p>	
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FUNERALS	FUNERALS
<p><b>BELLINGHAM:</b> A Memorial Service to Celebrate the Life of Mrs. Cynthia Bellingham will be held at Saint Andrews Uniting Church, 16 Peart St, Leongatha on Wednesday November 13, 2024, commencing at 2pm.</p> <p>This service will be live-streamed. To view please visit our website at <a href="http://www.handleyfuneralservices.com.au">www.handleyfuneralservices.com.au</a></p>	<p><b>THOMSON:</b> A graveside service for Mr. Charles William (Bill) Thomson, of Korumburra, will be held at the Korumburra Cemetery on Monday November 11, 2024, commencing at 1.30pm.</p>
<p>All are welcome to join the family at the Korumburra Golf Club, Warragul Road, Korumburra, for afternoon tea following the service.</p>	
<p><b>DOBSON:</b> The Funeral Service for Mr. Clive Dobson, will be held at Handley and Anderson Chapel, 3085 Loch-Wonthaggi Road, Wonthaggi on Monday November 11, 2024, commencing at 2pm.</p> <p>At the conclusion of the service the funeral will leave for the Wonthaggi Cemetery.</p>	<p><b>WARDLE:</b> The Graveside Committal for Mr Walter John (Wally) Wardle will be held at the Drouin Cemetery, 160 Longwarry Rd, Drouin on Friday November 8 at 10am.</p>
<p>Handley &amp; Anderson Wonthaggi 5672 1074</p>	<p>This will be followed by a Service to celebrate Wally's life at the Nielsen Funeral Chapel, Korumburra Rd, Warragul at 11am.</p>
<p><b>HOGAN:</b> A Graveside Funeral Service for Mrs. Lynette Therese (Lyn) Hogan will be held at the Korumburra Lawn Cemetery, Kardella Road, Korumburra on Tuesday November 12, 2024, commencing 11am.</p>	<p>The Chapel Service will also be live-streamed. To view Wally's Service please visit: <a href="http://www.nielsenfunerals.com.au">www.nielsenfunerals.com.au</a></p> <p>In lieu of flowers, a donation in memory of Wally may be made to Fight Parkinson's. Envelopes will be available at the Chapel.</p>
	

<p><b>McCONAGHY</b> <b>(Sear):</b> A Service to celebrate the life of Mrs Barbara McConaghy will be held at the Nielsen Funeral Chapel, Korumburra Rd, Warragul on Thursday November 7, 2024, at 10.30am.  The Service will also be live-streamed. To view Barb's Service please visit: <a href="http://www.nielsenfunerals.com.au">www.nielsenfunerals.com.au</a>  A Private Family Burial will be held.</p>	<p><b>IN MEMORIAM</b></p> <p><b>CHURCHILL,</b> <b>Emily May:</b> In Loving Memory of a wonderful mother and Nanna Em, passed away November 7, 2007.  No space of time, no lapse of years, can dim the treasured past, our loving memories keep you near, you'll be forever in our hearts.  Your loving family, Wayne, Jennifer, Kaye, Trent, and Klarynda.</p> <p><b>TAYLOR,</b> <b>Neil Alexander:</b> 25.11.1953 - 04.11.2020.  Miss you dear. Still think about you every</p>
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The advertisement features a large, stylized serif font for 'Handley' at the top, with 'FUNERAL SERVICES' in a smaller, sans-serif font below it. Below the company name is the slogan 'Caring For Our Community'. The text 'Our experienced and qualified staff provide personal, dignified service to all areas' is followed by 'Pre-need Funeral Plans available'. A large phone number '5662 2717' is prominently displayed, with the text '24 hours - 7 days' underneath. To the left of the phone number is a blue square logo with a yellow starburst and the text 'Handley Funeral Services' and '24 hours - 7 days'. To the right of the phone number is a photograph of white lilies. At the bottom, the address '24 Anderson Street, Leongatha', email 'info@handleyfs.com.au', and website 'www.handleyfuneralservices.com.au' are listed, along with the Facebook logo and the code 'JENCS566'.

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# Sentinel-Times Classifieds

## BEREAVEMENT THANKS

**CAMPBELL OAM, Bruce K:**  
Sheila, Deb, Sally, Jane, Lisa and Kylie would like to express their heartfelt thanks to everyone who attended and watched the memorial service for the life of Bruce.

For the many plants, flowers, cards, words of sympathy, visits, phone calls, and care given to us at this sad time. Thank you.

We value the love and support of Armitage House in his last 2 weeks of life and would also like to thank Handley and Anderson and the Wonthaggi State Coal Mine catering group for their services on the day.

-- Sheila Campbell and family.

**HOROBIN Frank:**  
14.02.1937 - 11.10.2024. Thank you to everyone who attended Frank's Memorial Service on October 24.

It was a lovely service with many laughs throughout, and so uplifting, reflecting Frank's wonderful character. Frank was indeed a special person and undoubtedly would have enjoyed his farewell. Our thanks also to all those who phoned the family and who sent cards or messages on social media. Your kind thoughts and condolences were greatly appreciated.

We all miss you so much.

-- Jackie, Lee, Craig, Heath, Tara, and families.

## FOR SALE

**FIREWOOD:**  
Next Seasons. \$125/m 4 and 5m loads. Buy from a trusted local. Selling since 2016. Ph: 0456 844 322.

**HAY:**  
Small squares, this season, good quality, \$12 per bale, free delivery. Phone 5657 3291.

**OLD PORT POULTRY FARM:**  
Delivering 18 weeks old Isa Browns to your area on Sunday November 17. \$30 each. Ph: 0438 832 535.

**WANTED TO BUY**  
**HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE:**  
Good clean household furniture. Deceased Estates etc. Phone Andrew: 0410 471 387.

## GARAGE SALES

**WONTHAGGI:**  
3 Caledonian Cres, Saturday November 9, 2024. 8am - 2pm. No early callers. Lots of bargains to have by all.

## USED CARS TRUCKS & TRACTORS

**BASS COAST CAR REMOVALS**  
We pay you for your unwanted cars, 4x4's & trucks

We can remove farm scrap metal for free. Towing now available. Call Shane 7 days a week 5678 2002 or 0407 599 616

## NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS:

Advertisements offering a used motor car for sale must include in the advertisement:

- (a) The cash price of the motor car; and
- (b) Whichever of the following is applicable...

- If the motor car is registered, the registration number; or
- If the motor car is unregistered, the engine number of the vehicle.

## PUBLIC NOTICES

### ISLAND CRAFT MARKET

**Thompson Ave. Cowes**

**Saturday, Nov. 9 9am - 2pm**

Stall holders wanted - craft only

**Inquiries: Monica 0412 710 276**

### CORINELLA COMMUNITY MARKET

Community Market, Smythe Street, Harold Hughes Reserve

**Saturday, November 9, 9am-1pm**

All enquiries to 0490 852 753

### Lifeline

**HELP IS AS CLOSE AS THE TELEPHONE**

**13 11 14**

## TRAINING

### BOBCAT AND EXCAVATOR LICENSING

Same day training and certificates

**0414 691 193**

## PUBLIC NOTICES



**Making a real difference in the lives of people across Bass Coast.**

If you can give, please give where you live.  
[www.bccf.org.au](http://www.bccf.org.au)

HMF077

## PUBLIC NOTICES

### NOTICE PURSUANT TO SECTION 181(5)(B) LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1989 (VICTORIA)

TAKE NOTICE that the Bass Coast Shire Council of 76 McBride Avenue, Wonthaggi, Victoria, 3995, in accordance with Section 181 of the Local Government Act 1989 (Victoria), intends on or after 4 December 2024, to sell or transfer to itself, ALL THAT piece of land described in Lot 85 on Plan of Subdivision 053015, being more particularly described in Certificate of Title Volume 08474, Folio 025, being the land situated at 66 Bass Horizon Promenade, Coronet Bay, Victoria, 3984.

### CLH LAWYERS

Level 2, 577 Little Bourke Street, Melbourne, Victoria 3000 Ph +61 3 9628 2801; [mcc@clhlawyers.com.au](mailto:mcc@clhlawyers.com.au); Ref: 1138395

VV0154

## DEADLINES

**Classified single column**

Mondays 12.00 noon

**Classified double column**

Fridays 3.30pm

Please note that double column advertisements requiring a proof must be received at least two hours prior to deadline and proofs will not be provided for single column advertisements.

## TO ADVERTISE



Phone:  
**5672 1888**



Email:  
**ads@sgst.com.au**



In person:  
47 McBride Ave, Wonthaggi  
36 McCartin St, Leongatha



Mail:  
47 McBride Ave, Wonthaggi

**Office Hours:**  
9am-5pm Monday to Friday

**Payments accepted:**



## Advertising conditions:

Full name and address of advertiser must be supplied even though not necessarily included in advertisement.

The publishers reserve the right to omit and alter any advertisement. Please check your ad is correct the first day it appears. While every care is taken to ensure your ad is correct, errors can occur. We regret that we cannot be responsible for any errors beyond the first day if you fail to bring it to our attention.

All advertisements must be prepaid unless client has an existing credit facility. Accounts are due and payable on the due date as shown on the account.

## The Motor Car Traders Regulations:

States that from July 1, 1998 all advertisements for used vehicles including motorcycles must include the cash price of vehicle and registration number or engine number if not registered.

**Sentinel-Times**



**WANTED  
CLEANERS**

Holiday property cleaners needed for summer and ongoing periods including weekends. Must have ABN, own equipment and transport.

Please email expressions of interest to: **Abbey McCaughan - Property Manager** c/- **invrentals@alexscoff.com.au** Phone 5674 1602

**ADVERTISERS PLEASE NOTE:**

Much hardship and difficulty is caused to jobseekers by misleading advertisements placed in the employment columns.

Our Positions Vacant / Situations Vacant columns are reserved for advertisements which carry a specific and genuine offer of employment.

Ads for 'Business Opportunities', 'Commission Only/Sales', training courses and employment services should be submitted under those headings.

Placing misleading job ads is an offence against the ACL and all advertisements are subject to the publisher's approval. For further advice contact the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission on 1300 302 502 or Consumer Affairs Victoria.



South Gippsland Hospital

Positions Vacant

**Assistant Facilities Manger**

HS5 - Casual

**Handy Person**GH1/KH7 depending on qualification  
0.63 EFT, permanent part time**Transition Care Case Manager**Welfare Worker, Class 2A  
0.63 EFT, fixed term, part time,  
parental leave position**Podiatrist**Grade 1 or Grade 2  
0.84 EFT, permanent part timeFor more information  
<https://southgippslandhospital.com.au/employment-2/>

JA22697

**Celebrating 21 years of the Kongwak Market**

THE Kongwak Market celebrated its 21st anniversary on Sunday.

It was a fabulous day with a great turnout.

"We had a full house of stallholders, and a lot of our regulars came along, as well as some new faces who absolutely loved it," market founder and manager Jane Seaholme said.

The weekly market has become a go-to place for various goods and products including fresh fruit and vegetables, collectibles, plants, books, second-hand items and wood-crafted masterpieces.

It's also a hotspot for people to enjoy hot food and coffee with friends, surrounded by

the relaxing atmosphere provided by live music and contemporary artworks.

"Even during the weeks that might have less stalls, the vibe is never affected," Jane said.

"People know they can still come along and enjoy a coffee and a curry. It's become a fantastic catch-up place amongst families and friends."

Although it is now its 21st year, Jane has worked hard to keep the feel of the Kongwak Market the same as it ever was.

"Not much has changed, and that's the beauty of it. A lot of people move away and 10 years later they come back to a sense of disappointment because a place they once loved had

changed over the years. You can come to the Kongwak Market and be guaranteed it's the same, which is why it works. It's still such a friendly, welcoming environment," she said.

Jane was given the opportunity to launch the Kongwak Market when David Erlich purchased the general store and the grounds 21 years ago.

From the beginning, residents had never seen so many cars in Kongwak, and it continues to attract people from all over to this day.

"I'm thankful for the friendships that have been made at the Kongwak Market, as well as the memories created," Jane said.

"We had a wedding at the

market after we cleaned out the main shed and we had a couple get engaged. It's become a great destination for many people."

The market has also attracted well-known names such as Eat, Pray, Love author Elizabeth Gilbert.

Elizabeth Gilbert wrote a great review about the Kongwak Market on her Instagram account, comparing it to California in the 1970s.

Jane said she was grateful for the fantastic community support over the years.

"People come in from all over South Gippsland weekly. It has become a very special, friendly place to spend your Sunday," she said.

**• FAITH FACTOR: The trap of offence**

*Luke 17:1 Then He said to the disciples, "It is impossible that no offences should come....."*

MANY people have been crippled and hindered from fulfilling their full potential and functioning properly in their calling because of the wounds and hurts that offences have caused in their lives.

The Greek word for "offence" here in Luke comes from the word "Skandalon". This word originally referred to the part of the trap to which the bait was attached.

So the word would signify

By Ps Sandro Schietroma,  
Wonthaggi Baptist Church

"laying a trap in someone's way".

In the New Testament it often describes an entrapment used by the enemy.

Offence is a tool used by the enemy to try and bring people into captivity, trapped, imprisoned, held back – bound.

Anyone who may be familiar with traps to catch certain animals would know that a trap needs one of two things to be successful. It must be hidden, in the hope that the animal will stumble upon it, or it must be

baited to lure the animal into the trap's deadly jaws.

The enemy of our souls incorporates both strategies as he lays out his most deceptive and deadly traps. They are both hidden and baited.

Offence itself is not deadly if it stays in the trap, but only when we pick it up, and feed on it then we become "offended".

Offended people produce much fruit, such as hurt, anger, outrage, jealousy, resentment, strife, bitterness, hatred, and envy. Often when we are offended, we don't even realise that we are trapped. We are oblivious to the condition

because we can become so consumed on the wrong which has been done to us.

Jesus made it very clear that it is impossible to live in this world and not have the opportunity to become offended Luke 17:1... "It is impossible that no offences should come..."

If you breathe air and walk this earth, you will have a chance to become offended guaranteed. Therefore, it is important for us to be prepared and armed, for our response to offense determines our future. It's our choice to accept or reject the offence.

**SITUATIONS VACANT****Taxi Drivers wanted**  
*Come join our friendly team!*

South Coast Taxis is seeking Drivers to join our busy team. The positions would suit both those looking to earn some extra income or those looking for more a regular job. The shifts are available from both our Cowes and Wonthaggi Depots working the areas of Phillip Island, Wonthaggi or Leongatha with a mix of days, nights and weekends available.

The successful applicants must enjoy people, be experienced drivers and hold an appropriate Drivers licence. The Taxi Driver Accreditation and WAV endorsement can be sourced easily.

Please phone 5951 4600 or send your resume to Brendan At: [operations@southcoastbus.com.au](mailto:operations@southcoastbus.com.au) or post PO Box 946, Cowes, 3922

LB1429

**PUBLIC NOTICES****GIPPSLAND SOUTHERN  
HEALTH SERVICE**  
**32ND ANNUAL GENERAL  
MEETING**

**Primary Health Meeting Room,  
Thursday 28th November, 4.00pm**

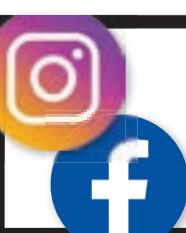
You are invited to attend the  
**32nd Annual General Meeting**  
Gippsland Southern Health Service

*Please join us as we review our journey and  
celebrate our achievements.*

*Included will be an overview of our Consumer Advisory  
Committee & presentation of our Staff Awards.*

Followed by light refreshments and chance to engage with  
our Board and Executive Team.

Please RSVP via: [rebecca.shaw@gshs.com.au](mailto:rebecca.shaw@gshs.com.au) or  
03 5667 5504 by 22nd November.



**Connect  
with us**  
@sentineltimes



Mirboo North's John and Marlene Austin with their 1912 T Model Ford. The car will be 113 years old this coming February. Tk18\_4524



Cheryl Nelson placed third in the car category of the people's choice award with her 2015 Ford Mustang. Tk37\_4524

## Lifestyle and auto festival excites

THE Tarwin District Lifestyle and Automotive Festival is proving to grow bigger and bigger each year.

A huge crowd turned out to the Tarwin Recreation Reserve on Sunday to take in the displays, browse the market stalls and enjoy a family day out.

The event is organised by the Venus Bay and Tarwin Lower Men's Shed in conjunction with the Tarwin Automotive Club.

As well as the main car, truck and motorbike display on the oval, festivalgoers were enticed by a wonderful range of lifestyle market stalls, free children's rides and activities such as face painting, novelty horse races and pony rides.

Stationary motors and vintage tractors were on display,

including representatives from the Harry Ferguson Tractor Club of Australia, and a tractor pull took place out the back of the recreation reserve.

Emergency services also made themselves available to do demonstrations for the public.

Live music completed the exciting atmosphere.

"There was plenty to see, and we certainly had more people coming through than last year," automotive club president Graham Kennedy said.

"The volunteers were excellent, and our sponsors and the South Gippsland Shire Council were very supportive."

Mr Kennedy thanked the sponsors, without which the event couldn't go ahead.



Nola Maxfield, Neil Rankine and Mark Robertson enjoyed being part of the Tarwin District Lifestyle and Automotive Festival on Sunday. Tk2024

## Birthday celebrations for much-loved centenarian at Rose Lodge



Edna Nicholson celebrating her 100th birthday at Rose Lodge with grandchildren Trina and Greg Scott.

ONE hundred years old and surrounded by loved ones birthday parties do not get much better than this.

Thirty family members gathered to celebrate Edna Nicholson's 100th birthday at Rose Lodge where she has been a resident for eight years.

Edna is the oldest and most senior resident at Rose Lodge.

Having lived through many significant historical events such as The Depression, World War II, the moon landing, cultural shifts and technological advancements Edna Nicholson does not need reminding of how old she is.

A significant, special and rare achievement only one in four hundred people reach one hundred years of age.

For the mathematically minded Edna Nicholson has lived for thirty-six thousand,

five-hundred and twenty-five-days.

Many guests travelled from interstate to attend Edna's birthday.

The adored mother of John and Ian Hales, Edna has lived her whole life in Wonthaggi.

Congratulations letters were received from King Charles III, Governor-General Her Excellency the Honourable Sam Mostyn AC, Prime Minister, Hon. Anthony Albanese, Minister for Veteran Affairs, Hon. Matt Keogh, Victorian Premier, Hon. Jacinta Allan and Victorian Governor, Her Excellency Professor the Honourable Margaret Gardner AC.

Edna Nicholson believes her longevity has been helped by homegrown vegetables, home-cooked foods, keeping active, and in particular having good Benetti genes.



Tim Martin and Marilyn van Kerkhoven enjoyed their morning at the Koonwarra Farmers Market on Saturday. Tk04\_4524

## Koonwarra enchants marketgoers

THE sun shone down on the Koonwarra Farmers Market on Saturday morning.

The promise of stunning weather and lovely atmosphere encouraged 22 stallholders to get involved with the November market.

Amongst the regulars was new stall Vicki's Homemade Preserves from Wonthaggi.

Market goers were also enticed by fresh herbs, beautiful locally grown vegetables, stunning plant options and Fish Creek Donuts, which no one can walk past.

"We try to keep our market as local as possible and a lot of our stallholders are regulars. It's a well-liked little market and we see people continue to come back month after month," organiser David Weymouth said.

"The market has been going quite well this year. The weather can make it a bit hard, but we anticipate summer will be a lot busier. People like to come out, grab a cup of coffee and something to eat. Our new stallholder had a look around and said the place was beautiful."

"We expected this month's market would be a busy one. It starts to fill up quickly once the parkrunners come in."

Geoff Waterhouse from Venus Bay provided some beautiful music for people to listen to while they browsed the stalls, and the Koonwarra CFA was out front providing the sausage sizzle.



Vicki Villella from Wonthaggi was a new stallholder at the Koonwarra Farmers Market on Saturday. Vicki's Homemade Preserves specialises in homegrown, good quality natural foods. Tk03\_4524

## Beyond the Secret Garden exhibition opens in Loch



On Clarence presents "The Secret Garden" for its third year, celebrating local artists with Beyond The Secret Garden - an exhibition of landscape-inspired art from plein air painters, potters, and OC collective members. The exhibition will run until November 24, Thursday to Sunday.

Pictured at Friday's opening from left, Regina Dudek 'The Mad Queen', Colleen Herbert, Lucy Hersey, Martine Zajacek, Michelle Robinson, Greer Arnott, and (front) Maddi Wilcox of Just a Teaspoon micro bakery.

## Cyclists prepare to take on the Bass Coast Cycle Challenge

CYCLISTS are gearing up for the Bass Coast Cycle Challenge next Saturday, November 9.

The event has been running in Bass Coast for 13 years, raising money to fund the amazing road safety program RYDA.

RYDA is an interactive program that has benefited around 3000 students, helping them to become responsible road users with important key messages and safety training.

The event also supports the L2P program, helping learner drivers gain experience with mentors.

"Gavin Slavin started the event years ago. A close friend of his passed away in a road incident while he was out cycling, so he wanted to raise more awareness for cyclists and other road users," organising committee member Katie Hodge said.

"We are anticipating around 500 riders this year and we've been thrilled with the community support."

The event will include five different rides – 40kms, 53kms, 85kms, 121kms and the 100km gravel ride.

The first ride heads off at 8am.

"All rider capabilities are catered for. The 40km ride is quite flat, but our longer rides include quite challenging hills like Mt Misery," Katie said.

The rides start and finish along Inverloch's Ramsay Boulevard.

Longer rides take cyclists through Wonthaggi and into the challenging climbs of the Strzelecki Ranges.

The gravel ride heads out towards Kilcunda along the Bass Coast Rail Trail.

"The scenery is spectacular for the cyclists and we've made it a fun day for the whole family," Katie said.

"We'll have a little market village in the Rainbow Park, including stalls of cycling gear and wellness products. There will also be food trucks, coffee vans and kids selling tie-dye shirts and jewellery."

There is still time to register for the event by heading to the website [basscoastcyclechallenge.com](http://basscoastcyclechallenge.com).



It was a spectacular snapper catch for Fishing Nanna, Amanda Keilar last week.



Ninety-three participants registered for the Coronet Bay Fun Run/Walk on Sunday. Tk17\_4524

# Impressive turnout at Coronet Bay Fun Run

NINETY-THREE people took part in the Coronet Bay Fun Run/Walk on Sunday morning.

Participants could choose to run, walk or pram the challenging course, which ran around Coronet Bay's Fred Gration Reserve, through the quiet streets and along the foreshore for three or five kilometres.

The top placegetters were rewarded with a medallion at the end of the run.

The event was founded by Laurie Black in 1997.

It has since been taken over by Ian Cole, who coordinated his ninth event on Sunday.

The funds raised go back into supporting the community and some of its great

events throughout the year.

The Coronet Bay Community Association was thrilled with the turnout.

"We started to see people come in big numbers. We had great weather this year – it was fine and cool, not as hot as it was forecasted," association liaison officer Kevin Brown said.

"This is our third event since we had to skip a couple of years during the pandemic, and we hope to see it continue."

Around 20 volunteers put their hands up to help make the day a success.

Runners were treated to food and refreshments at the Coronet Bay Community Hall once they had completed the course.



Daniel Begley, Claire Perazzo, Eric Begley, Naomi Begley and Josh Perazzo took part in the Coronet Bay Fun Run/Walk on Sunday. Tk15\_4524

## A successful day at the local Inverloch market for INVY Fishing

PARTICIPATING in Saturday's market at Inverloch proved a success for the Inverloch Fishing Club (INVY Fishing), and provided an opportunity to use its new marquee that was funded by a grant from the Bass Coast Shire Council's Community Grants program.

INVY Fishing is a young club, formed in July 2023 with the express purpose of creating a fishing club that is fully inclusive, provides a safe and welcoming environment and engages with all the community.

At the market, there was plenty of interest from prospective new members who were keen to learn about the new club, and from visitors

wanting to know about the local fishing scene.

The market was well-organised by the Rotary Club of Inverloch on what proved to be a bright and sunny day that brought plenty of visitors and locals into town.

The 'Very Fishy Quiz' was the highlight of the day for INVY Fishing, with a quality Rod/Reel combo generously provided by 'Inverloch Fishing and Outdoors', winner and local resident Shane Cross saying the success had "made my day".

This was music to the ears of the club members who had got up early that morning to set up the marquee, then happily answered people's questions.

Club secretary John Turner is looking forward to more people having the opportunity to fish next year through a new initiative.

"2025 will be an exciting time for the club as INVY Fishing is working to establish an 'All Abilities' recreational fishing program in Inverloch for South Gippsland," he said, encouraging anyone interested in participating or helping as a volunteer to get in touch.

The club meets on the third Sunday of each month at the Warrawee Club in Inverloch.

Those wanting more information about the club can visit:

[invfishing.com.au](http://invfishing.com.au), [facebook.com/groups/262521486221301](https://facebook.com/groups/262521486221301) or [ifcsecretary2023@gmail.com](mailto:ifcsecretary2023@gmail.com)



Inverloch Fishing Club secretary John Turner presents the quiz prize to delighted winner Shane Cross.

## 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  
November 5

3.26am 1.69m  
9.09am 0.67m  
3.05pm 1.42m  
9.07pm 0.27m

WEDNESDAY  
November 6

4.00am 1.70m  
9.43am 0.66m  
3.41pm 1.42m  
9.40pm 0.27m

THURSDAY  
November 7

4.35am 1.67m  
10.16am 0.66m  
4.17pm 1.41m  
10.13pm 0.28m

FRIDAY  
November 8

5.13am 1.63m  
10.50am 0.67m  
4.54pm 1.38m  
10.45pm 0.30m

SATURDAY  
November 9

5.52am 1.57m  
11.25am 0.68m  
5.33pm 1.35m  
11.22pm 0.34m

SUNDAY  
November 10

6.34am 1.51m  
12.02pm 0.68m  
6.20pm 1.31m

MONDAY  
November 11

12.05am 0.40m  
7.20am 1.45m  
12.46pm 0.66m  
7.17pm 1.29m

Email us your fishing photos  
[news@sgst.com.au](mailto:news@sgst.com.au)

# Lynne brings home three gold medals

LYNNE McIntyre did Leongatha proud after she brought home three gold medals early this year.

Lynne competed in the Eskrima event – a form of martial arts – at the World Championships in Cebu in the Philippines.

She has been interested in martial arts all her adult life and became the Australian champion in Taekwondo in 2004.

She qualified for the Philippines event in September last year, facilitated by her NDIS package.

In that time, she travelled to Frankston and Epping at least once a month to train for the big event.

Australia sent a team of 16 to the Philippines at the end of July and around 19 countries were represented.

Lynne competed in three events – Tradition Form, Knife Point and Padded Stick – and earned gold in each.

"When I won my first gold, I thought to myself 'wow, I'm a world title holder'. It's a surreal feeling," Lynne said.

Australia finished fourth on the medal tally overall.

Lynne enjoyed two weeks in the Philippines, enjoying some sightseeing before and after her event.

She also had the opportunity

to spend some time in Hong Kong and Singapore.

Lynne decided to try this form of martial arts after receiving advice from her taekwondo instructor.

"My taekwondo instructor had been to the Philippines and knew a little bit about this form of martial arts with a weapons component," she said.

"I've been doing it since the lockdown in Melbourne three years ago and I've really enjoyed it."

"I started martial arts when I was in my 20s for the fitness. I like that you're able to set goals for yourself and go up the belt ranks. It's an individual thing, all about improving yourself."

Lynne is currently a brown belt, working her way towards a black belt.

With this experience, she hopes to go into officiating and coaching in the future to pass down what she knows.

In the meantime, Lynne is looking forward to the next World Championship event.

The event is held every two years.

It is held in the Philippines every four years but is held in other places around the world every other year.

It is rumoured the event will be held in Los Angeles in 2026.



Leongatha's Lynne McIntyre proudly won three gold medals at the Eskrima World Championships event in the Philippines.

## Corner Inlet's rising boxing stars gear up for Annual Showdown

NEVER take your eyes off these boxers.

Superbly trained by Scott Bindloss and Brad Anderson at the Corner Inlet Boxing Club these young fighters are not to be taken for granted.

Training for his first fight as an open novice, twenty-six-year-old Luke Ollington can often be seen pounding the streets of Leongatha or running laps around local ovals.

Leongatha young gun Asha Olden also has the keen eye of a talented boxer along with Julian Lanagreer.

The stand-out fourteen-year-olds regularly glove up for training sessions with fifteen-year-old Edward Demness in the Corner Inlet Boxing Club gym.

School-age bouts are limited to three, one-and-a-half rounds, juniors a maximum of three, two-minute rounds, and youths or open elite fighters three, two-minute rounds, or three, three-minute rounds.

A novice fighter has up to five fights under their belt, intermediate fighters five to eleven bouts and elite fighters a minimum of twelve fights.

Training as a boxer comes with a lot of hard work.

"First join a registered boxing club," recommends Brad Anderson from the Corner Inlet Boxing Club in Leongatha and Foster.

"All boxing careers begin in a boxing gym."

A high level of fitness is essential with weight training,

cardio, skip-rope work, speed bag, heavy bag, running and regular sparring sessions all part of a successful fighter's training kit.

Boxing Victoria has responsibility for amateur boxing in Victoria including the training and accreditation of amateur boxing coaches, judges, and referees, registration of boxers, coaches, and officials and the enforcement of strict safety standards.

Regular local tournaments are held throughout Victoria creating a pathway to the Olympic and Commonwealth games through Boxing Australia.

The annual Corner Inlet Boxing Club tournament will be held at the Leongatha Memorial Hall on November 10 with sixteen to twenty bouts of three rounds, set to start from midday.

Reagan Lewis will be the main event before he makes his debut as a pro in December.

Julian Lanagreer will be having his third fight, and Gabe Saulwick his second bout.

Proudly sponsored by SportsPower, South Gippsland Concrete, South Gippsland Radiology and Engage Wealth Solutions, the Corner Inlet Boxing Club annual tournament will open its doors at 11am.

Adult, child and family tickets are all available at the door.

For more information on amateur boxing go to Boxing Australia at [boxing.org.au](http://boxing.org.au) or follow the Corner Inlet Boxing Club on Facebook.



Novice fighter Luke Ollington from the Corner Inlet Boxing Club training for his first fight. B05\_4524



Asha Olden gloves up ahead of the Corner Inlet Boxing Club annual boxing tournament. B02\_4524

## South Gippsland Bridge Club

OCTOBER 29 at Wonthaggi RSL:

First: Shirley Stewart and Ann Hodgson 60 per cent. First: John French and Deb Anglim 60. Third: Alan Johnston and Lois Dwyer 58.15. Fourth: John Farr and Bronwyn Sund 55.56. Fifth: Marney Myall and Caroline Shaw 53.33. Sixth: Mike Dooley and Anne Gibson 52.22.

November 1 at Inverloch Angling Club: North/South pairs:

First: Bronwyn Sund and Marie Sands 57.74. Second: Sue Edwards and Ruth Harvey 56.85. Third: Doug McIntosh and Clive Hope 54.45. Fourth: Carol Sowden and Mary Brewis 56.85.

East/West pairs:

First: Phillip and Nev Chapman 62.20. Second: John Quayle and Matti Shub 58.93. Third: Bruce Higgs and Sean Munley 51.49. Fourth: Denise Allitt and Tom Kudelka 48.51.

## Leongatha Small Bore Rifle Club

20m Bench Pennant - Section D

Round six: Mildura A 597.018 defeated Leongatha A 594.015. 199.006: Christopher Sargent. 198.006: Bradley Hall. 197.003: Kenneth Hart. 195.005: Jack Sargent. Ladder: Horsham 20, Leongatha A 16, Camberwell A 16, Mildura A 12, Brunswick 8

20m Bench Pennant - Section G

Round six: Frankston C 594.018 defeated Leongatha B 586.011. 198.005: Peter Galus. 195.004: Robert Spratt. 193.002: Lucy Bradbury-Ryan. 189.001: Michael Ryan. Ladder: Frankston C 24, Leongatha B 16, Sale C 12, Oakleigh C 12, Mildura B 8

20m Bench Pennant - Section I

Round six: Leongatha C 578.007 (bye). 196.004: Allan Ross. 194.002: William Ross. 188.001: Mathew Eldridge. 185.002: Cameron Davidson. Ladder: Benalla B 24, Camberwell B 16, Kyneton 16, Leongatha C 12, Portland 4.

The club shoots on Friday nights at 8pm at the rifle club on the Leongatha Recreation Reserve.

Any inquiries, please call R. Spratt 5664 2358.

## Wonthaggi Table Tennis

TEAMS White and Green have emerged as the two standouts after a titillating battle on the eve of the finals. The Prince of Swat Andy from Team White enjoyed a five set victory over Rocketballs Charley and Team Green's Sven four set win over Mark were gala performances but mere entrees to the thrilling main bout between Charley and Sven. Charley by day is a mild mannered, bespectacled and conservative bank teller. By competition night, she transmogrifies into a table tennis T Rex, snarling and thundering like an aggrieved Jurassic predator. Charley and Sven for five pulsating sets had the ball fizzing around like a Cape Tavern Sangria Cocktail. Charley raced to a handy lead in the fifth, but the engaged onlookers were expecting the heebie jeebies to kick in. However, Charley stayed cool, prevailed and fist pumped the air with exhilaration, advancing White to the finals. White def Green 6 to 5

Team Black, anchored by the evergreen Dirk and supported by a very handy contribution from Beau secured a fighting win over Team Yellow. Yellow limp into the finals and will need a lift from Captain Brad after this week's flop. So ineffective was he that a wee grape would have done better. At least the grape could have contributed a slip of joy with its nanoscopic wine amount. Blue def Brown 6 to 5

Team Blue's Justin won all his singles and doubles to inflict the wooden spoon booby prize upon Team Brown. Youngsters Bellamy and Cameron duked it out in a four setter that highlighted their marked improvement by season's end.

Ladder: Green 32, White 24, Yellow 20, Black 16, Blue 16, Brown 12.

Knock Out Semi Finals Monday, November 11: Green v Black. White v Yellow

# INVERLOCH-KONGWAK SEA EAGLES CONGRATULATE ITS STARS



Inverloch-Kongwak Football Netball Club's footy award winners.



Inverloch-Kongwak Football Netball Club's West Gippsland U15 and U17 award winners with the Leongatha and District Netball Association B Grade winners.



The Leongatha and District Netball Association Best and Fairest winners from Inverloch-Kongwak Football Netball Club.



Inverloch-Kongwak Football Netball Club's West Gippsland U11 and U13 winners.



Claire McNamara and Zak Box received Inverloch-Kongwak Football Netball Club's Best junior club person awards.

IT WAS another great year for IKFNC with the teams having a great season. While not as many premierships as last year, the club was pleased with the growth in the club, with the under 14s Girls Footy runners-up in the finals in their inaugural year, as well as the 17s WGFNL team, who won the title.

## LDNA netball:

- U11 Gold: Best & Fairest Evie-Lee West, Runner-up Best & Fairest Myah Hunt, and coach's award Mya Richer.
- U11 White: Best & Fairest Heidi McMillan, Runner-up Best & Fairest Mali Chaiyot and coach's award Josie Richer.
- U11: Best & Fairest Lawson Hawking, Runner-up Best & Fairest Molly Baud and coach's award Alana Eddy.
- U13 Red: Best & Fairest Ryda Smith, Runner-up Best & Fairest Jeorgia O'Halloran and coach's award Emily Croatto.
- U13 Gold: Best & Fairest Cruz Hill, Runner-up Best & Fairest Soul Van Stokrom and coach's award Mia Cruickshank.
- U13 White: Best & Fairest Kobia Effer, Runner-up Best & Fairest Hannah Baud and coach's award Mila Jenkinson.
- U13 Navy: Best & Fairest Indiana Matthews, Runner-up Best & Fairest Scarlett Denver and coach's award Kiara Spinks.
- U15 Gold: Best & Fairest Delphine Idon, Runner-up Best & Fairest Rylee Effern and coach's award Grace Barton.
- U15 Navy: Best & Fairest Ashleigh Kruss, Runner-up Best & Fairest Anabelle Friswell and coach's award Remy Charlesworth.
- U15 White: Best & Fairest Marasai O'Keffe, Runner-up Best & Fairest Isaac Richardson and coach's award Ruby Reynolds.
- B Grade: Best & Fairest Ana Heneghan, Runner-up Best & Fairest Bella Reich and coach's award Kate McLeod.
- A Grade: Best & Fairest Katrina Slidders, Runner-up Best & Fairest Michelle Chandler and coach's award Jessica Barrett.

## West Gippsland netball:

- U11s: Best & Fairest Zeke Boyd Metsealaar, Runner-up Best & Fairest Dae Anderson and coach's award Evie Foster.
- U13s: Best & Fairest Liam Jones and Runner-up Best & Fairest Maggie Fisher.
- U15s: Best & Fairest Daisy Soumilias.
- U17s: Best & Fairest Claire MacNamara.
- D Grade: Best & Fairest Alli Hayes, Runner-up Best & Fairest Emily Clarke, Coach's Award Brianna Puppetti.
- C Grade: Best & Fairest Jas Williams, Runner-up Best & Fairest Abbey Rimkevicius, Coach's Award Mairead Donahue.
- B Grade: Best & Fairest Amy Hodge, Runner-up Best & Fairest Jesse Mead/Tayla Robb.
- A Grade: Best & Fairest Lanni Pryor, Runner-up Best & Fairest Renee Pilkington, Coach's Award Ella Sadler.

## West Gippsland football:

- U16s: Best & Fairest Froley Anderson, Runner-up Best & Fairest Augustus Finsterer, coach's award Harry Ashmore, Most Improved Riley Harris, Most Determined James O'Neill and Most Consistent Harry Foster.
- U18s: Best & Fairest Lucas Allen, Runner-up Best & Fairest Zak Box, coach's award Bayleigh Cowell, Most Improved Bradyen Bertacco, Most Determined Luke Williams and Most Consistent Rem Dal Pozzo.
- Reserves: Best & Fairest Trent Bacon, Runner-up Best & Fairest Dale Lawton, Most Consistent Adam Cross, Most Determined Reagan Kemp.
- Seniors: Best & Fairest Paul Pattison, Runner-up Best & Fairest Luke Johnson, Most Consistent Ethan Park, Most Determined Xavier Hughes.
- Best Club Person: Claire MacNamara and Zak Box.



Winners and runners-up in the Hartley Wells Betta Electrics sponsored event at the Leongatha Golf Club were Jo McNaughton, Janet Monk, Maxine Eabry and Jo Miles.

## FOSTER

ON Saturday, a 41-player field took to the course for a round of stroke as the men contested their Monthly Medal.

Travis Manne (15), finished the day with 82 strokes, 67 net, to win the medal on a countback from Trevor "Kiwi" Jones (29). This was Travis's first-ever Monthly Medal win.

Along the way, he took out the A Grade trophy and made eagle on the par five 14th.

Kiwi Jones had 96 off the stick, 71 net, which projected him into winning the B Grade trophy along with claiming nearest to pin on the 17th.

With the large field, there were two runner-up awards – Neil Henry (20) 90 strokes, 70 net as well as Lloyd McKenzie (12) with 82, 70 net.

Jasmine Manne (33) was the best of the ladies on the day and walked away with the ladies' trophy after having 71 net.

Chris Buckland (+3) played well and won a ball down the line as well as scratch score (70) and putting (26 putts).

Four other balls down the line, Steve Vuillermin (17) 73 net, and Scott Rathjen (5), Simon Barwick (12) and Jenny Alexander (35) all had 74 net.

Nearest to pins went to Mick Connellan (sixth), Neil Coates (13th), Robin Smith (15th) and of course Tony "call me Tiger Woods" Vanin on the fourth.

Tony has been playing golf for almost 50 years and this was his first hole-in-one in competition – well done Tony.

This week, Chicken Run was played across the back nine.

Merle Barham (41) defeated 27 other entrants to win the week with a very impressive 24 points.

There were four players who all finished in a tie for second with 19 points, they were Bernie Esser (19), Gary Phelan (25), Bernd Amesreiter (35) and Travis Manne (13).

This week's competitions are quite different.

Chicken Run will be played across the front nine and there will be the usual Stableford played on Saturday with Stu Canning the generous donor.

On Wednesday, the ladies will begin their Club Championships – their second round being played on Friday.

On Thursday, there will be a two-ball Ambrose event.

The club is holding a special Melbourne Cup golf event on Tuesday.

On the day, there will be nine holes of Stableford, chicken and champagne lunch, and sweeps as well as the Melbourne Cup big putt.

Both Stableford events for the week saw some big scores.

On Thursday, Peter Cambridge (15) was exceptional and won the

day with 41 points.

There were 16 players on a day that saw Robert Fulton (19) win a ball down the line with 40 points.

Two further balls down the line were awarded to Neil Coates (21) and Randy Reusch (17) with 36 points.

Peter Dight was nearest to pin on the fourth, while Travis Manne was nearest on the 17th.

On Tuesday, Graeme Alexander (32) had a very impressive 40 points to win the day out of a field of 25.

Chris Buckland (sixth) and Issac Batty (15th) won the two nearest to pins on the day. Finishing second on the day was Elisa Nudelman (24) with 37 points.

Garry Buckland (16) played to his handicap and had 36 points, while Phil Worboys (19) and Peter Dight (9) won the remaining two balls down the line.

Continuing on her good form, Elisa Nudelman (23) won the day on Wednesday after finishing her round of par, square with the card.

Elisa also won herself nearest to pin on the 17th.

Rachel Brown was the trophy donor on a day that saw 10 players play in the 18-hole competition and three playing nine holes.

Alyene McKenzie won the nine-hole competition on a countback with 16 points.

Lyndell Shields (32) and Jan Best (24) received the two balls down the line with -2.

It was wonderful to have Barb Warren back playing as she found the green on the sixth and won nearest to pin.

As the ladies head into their championships this week, the club wishes them all the best of luck.

It's going to be a big week at the club, not only on the course but also in the rooms.

Members' draw yet again has jackpotted and now stands at \$1300.

Remember to be in the rooms on Friday night for your chance to take home the loot.

Until next week, keep the ball low and stay out of the wind.

The Caddy.

## KORUMBURRA

### Ladies

ON Wednesday, there were a number of matches between some of the members in the Singles Knock-out draw as well as a Stableford event.

Sherrin Solly (25) won A Grade with a great 38 points after a countback with Merrissa Cosson (13).

Kim Enbom (37) was the B Grade winner with 37 points and Julie Hillberg (24) was runner-up, 35 points.

Julie Hislop (54) won the nine-hole competition with 13 points.

NTPs went to Karen Sorrell first, Kerri Besley second shot on the 7th and Chris Rickard on the 13th.



Kerri Besley and Heather Grist won the All Gippsland Bronze Scratch Foursomes Championship (B Grade).



Tony "call me Tiger Woods" Vanin celebrating after his hole-in-one at the Foster Golf Club.

an eagle on the fifth hole.

Saturday, November 2: Monthly Medal Stroke event.

This Monthly Medal Stroke event always kicks off the new month off the black tees.

Eighty-four members/guests taking to the course in warm spring conditions.

A Grade winner: Alan Starkey (12) continues his fine form -1 on a countback. Runner up: David Newman (13) with a score of -1 on a countback.

B Grade winner: Bruce Christison (17) with the low score of the day with -4. Runner up: Renato Monacella (15) with a score of -3 on a countback.

C Grade winner: Bryan Roylance (20) with a score of -2 on a countback. Runner up: Philip Edwards (19) with a score of -2.

D Grade winner: Simon Kaiserman (31) with a score of -3. Runner up: Michael Delaney (28) with a score of -2 on a countback.

NTP fifth second shot: Mark Wilson at 1.65m. NTP 14th: Peter Clingin at 1.45m. NTP 16th: Rod MacKenzie at 2.14m.

### Ladies

FORTY-TWO women competed in the Stableford event last week sponsored by Hartley Wells Betta Electrics.

Winners and runners-up in both A Grade and B Grade received very generous Betta Electrics gift vouchers.

The cored greens still created a challenge for many.

The winner of A Grade Maxine Eabry (30) appeared to be undaunted by them, scoring 45 points, the top score of the day. This is also two consecutive wins for Maxine. The newly appointed captain Janet Monk was the runner-up with 36 points.

Joanna Miles (32) won B Grade with an excellent 42 points. Jo McNaughton (39) almost matched her handicap with 38 points to be runner-up.

Balls down the line went to Li-anne Adamson, Jill Steer, Teresa Bennett, Dot Stubbs, Marianne Leaver, Bev Reinhard, Trish Owen and Alison Strong.

Nearest the pin on the 16th was won by Sue Bowler and Fay Quilford's second shot on the fifth.

Congratulations were extended to Rebecca Thomas for her win in the All Gippsland Singles Championship played at Moe Golf Club recently.

Rebecca partnered with Andrea Thorson from Meenyan Golf Club to take out the All Gippsland Foursomes Championship on the preceding day.

## MIRBOO NORTH

TUESDAY, October 29: Stableford.

A Grade: P. Woodall (8) 41 points.

B Grade: (21) A. McCarthy 42

points.

DTL: C. Le Page, S. McKenzie 40, J. Woodall, 39 and G. Renwick 38 c/b.

NTP: fourth J. Kus, 13th P. Woodall and 16th J. Woodall.

Birdies: fourth P. Woodall and N. Baker, 13th P. Woodall, and 16th J. Woodall and Tom Traill.

Saturday, November 2: two-person Ambrose.

Winner: E. Woodall and D. Woodall (3) 63 net.

DTL: J. Robbins and R. Robbins 63.25, M. Payne and N. Rutledge 63.25, P. Draper and J. Hughes 64.75, and S. Woodall and J. Chilla 65.

NTP: fourth P. Woodall, sixth P. Smart, 13th D. Jerram and 16th J. Hughes.

## WONTHAGGI

RESULTS: October 31, SR. 71. Competition: Stableford 18-hole. Winner: Graeme Campbell 40. Runner up: Peter Magnussen 39. Ball sweep: Ian McNish 38, Jonathan Wade 38, Keith Ridout 36 and Craig Charles 36 C/B. Results: October 31, SR. 34.5. Competition: Stableford front nine-hole.

Winner: Willy Williams 20. Runner up: Ray Hender 20. Ball sweep: Bob Cornelis 18, Graham Ryan 18 and Bill Howard 18.

Results: November 2, S.R 72. Competition: Stroke Monthly Medal and putting.

A Grade: Kevin Nichol 69. B Grade: Geoff Huther 64. C Grade: Blake Cornelis 64 (Monthly Medal).

BDTL to 70 C/B. Ball sweep: Ben Martin 65, Gary Youlten 67, Paul Cornelis 67, Kevin Loughran 67, Craig Charles 67, Inoke Baudromo 69, Allan McLean 69, Peter Brewster 69, Seconde Tiziani 70 and Eric Van Agtmael 70 C/B.

NTPs: not claimed second, Allan McLean fourth, Glenn Hewlett propin eighth, Ben Martin 13th and Frank Huber money hole 17th.

Putting: Eric Van Agtmael.

### Ladies

AFTER the ladies' annual general meeting, the field of 32 players headed out for a round of Canadian Foursomes.

Again, the fine day and course conditions assured a great day for golf.

The winning team was Jan Beaumont (22) and Wendy Cross (38) with 72.5 net. Runners-up were Karen Sheerin (40) and Dawn Judkins (33) 73.62.

BDL went to Y. Everitt and I. Walsh 73.75, A. Tschiderer and C. Bolding 75.62, D. Brosnan and S. Lindsay 76.75, and H. Wintle and M. Ryan 77.

NTP was second Y. Everitt, eighth P. Britt and 17th A. Grenville.



Lia Smith, Laurie Culph and Thelma Kavanagh were the Friday winners at Wonthaggi Senior Indoor Bowls.



Wonthaggi Bowls Club's Wednesday winners were Stan Noad and Roger Lee.



The Jack Attack winners were from Not Kaboodle, Tania, Nicole and Ben at the Foster Bowls Club.



Jenny Smith (L), John Nicholson (S) and Sue Stansfield (3) were the South West Gippsland Midweek Bowls Group winners.



South West Gippsland Midweek Bowls Group's runners up were Lou Capsulis (L), Margaret Hoy (3) and Vern Elliott (S).



Jon Justin, Nancy Stephens and Bill Selby (skip) were Inverloch Bowling Club's Thursday social bowls winners.



Brian and Heather were the Bendigo Bank Pairs Day winners at the Foster Bowls Club.

## BREAKAWAY BOWLS

MONDAY was a great day of bowling, enjoyed by everyone and great company as usual.

Monday's winners: Peter Grenville and Les Stanbury +6.

Friday was another fun filled afternoon.

The raffles are going well.

New members are asked to call Linda 0487 424 131.

Friday's winners: John Clark, Graeme McAlpine and Marg Hender +8.

## FOSTER

IT was another great turnout for the second week of Jack Attack with 10 teams on the green again.

There's still room for more.

An optional Halloween dress-up theme for the night saw several players get into the spirit – no pun intended – of the night.

The winners were Not Kaboodle, Tania, Nicole and Ben.

The night's sponsor was Foster Pharmacy.

Runners-up were Fatter Bastards, Baden, Alan and Justin.

The chocolates were sponsored by Prom Kitchens.

Prizes for best dressed went to the BMF's, Stewie, Jen and Dion.

Ruby, Jaxon and Logan looked great glowing in the dark, along with the Robblecock's team making a great effort.

There was some great fun with the raffle too.

Wine was donated by Cellarbrations at Foster and other goodies from IGA Foster & Liquor.

It was an excellent night all round, with a big thank you to all sponsors.

The main six-week competition begins Wednesday, November 6.

The club is looking forward to a great season.

What a great day Foster had for its Bendigo Bank Pairs Day.

Twenty teams hit the greens for a very entertaining day of bowls.

The format of play added a bit of variety.

The weather was a little mixed but resulted in pleasant conditions.

Foster had two teams win all three of their games.

Surprisingly, the fill-in team that jumped in at the last minute won with 52 points.

The winners were Brian Roffey and Heather Ray – great work, guys.

Mick Morgan and Alan Watts from Yarram were the runners-up team with 47 points.

Foster had eight teams vying for third place with their two

wins and a loss.

Coming out on top with 41 points was the team of Nancy Parry and Linda Heywood.

The encouragement prizes went to the team of Lorraine Warren and Daryl Talmash.

A big thank you goes out to Bendigo Bank, Community Bank Toora and Foster for its continued support.

Melbourne Cup Day is coming up on Tuesday.

It will be a great lunch and fun afternoon for all.

The November Triples is on Thursday, November 14.

Foster is also fairing pretty good on the Pennant front.

It is best to follow the club's Facebook page for all the details.

## INVERLOCH

THURSDAY social bowls saw 38 bowlers attend the day's activities.

Two games of 10 ends were played.

The runner-up with two wins and 33 points was the team of Jeff Curwood, Paul Davis, George Scott and Jill Kennedy.

The winner with two wins and 35 points was the team of Bill Selby (skip), Jon Justin and Nancy Stevens.

Bowlers should register the names by 11am with play to start at 12.30pm on Thursdays.

The Club Championships are well underway, and bowlers are reminded to complete their matches by the due date.

Bowlers should also reacquaint themselves with the Club Championship Conditions of Play.

## KORUMBURRA

THIS week, pennant results were varied.

Division 1 midweek travelled to Toora and went down by the narrowest of margins.

Jo Lomagno got up 17 shots to 15, Katrina Evans lost 22 to 23 and Jenny McVeigh lost 16 shots to 18 – an overall one-shot loss.

Division 2 hosted Fish Creek with a better result.

Judith Nicholl got up 21 shots to 14, Phil Ashton lost 17 not 25 and Lena Harfield won 27 shots to 12 a good 15-shot win.

In Saturday Pennant, Division 1 travelled to Inverloch.

Rob Cosson won 24 shots to 18, Charlie Edgerton won 22 shots to 16, but unfortunately, Shane O'Loughlin lost 14 shots to 23 – an overall three-shot win.

Division 3 hosted Phillip Island.

Jenny McVeigh went down 18

shots to 19, Les Davis won 25 shots to eight and Jim Garnham won 23 shots to 19 – an overall 20-shot win.

Division 4 travelled to Phillip Island and the results were not good.

Peter Hearn went down 10 shots to 24 and Alan Cherrett lost 11 shots to 23.

The only bright light was Geoff Barber, getting up 21 shots to 20 – a 25-shot loss.

Don't forget counter teas this Friday night.

Also, if you have any club games to play, please get them done.

## SOUTH WEST GIPPSLAND MIDWEEK BOWLS

IT WAS another great day as the family of bowlers met up at Lang Lang to once again fight it out for team of the week.

The club was welcomed by Pauline and John with Peter and David arranging the teams.

It was great to see everyone either on time or early, which really does make it easier for the selectors to prepare the teams.

The weather was cool but pleasant with the sun shining through the clouds from time to time, and virtually no wind for the day.

There was lots of laughter around the green as the game progressed, but what a display of excellent bowling from all quarters.

One or two wrong bias bowls for the day, but the charity tin is full and close to overflowing.

The winners on a score of 38 were Jenny Smith (L), John Nicholson (S) and Sue Stansfield (3).

Runners-up on a score of 35 were Lou Capsulis (L), Margaret Hoy (3) and Vern Elliott (S).

Best one game on a score of 18 went to Peter McWilliams (S), Bev Elliott (2), Phil Wright (3) and Ron Hughes (L).

Once again, the club thanks Peter for looking after the thirsty bowlers behind the bar.

Also, thanks to Bev in the kitchen as well as David, Jenny, Vern and Laurie for cleaning up when everyone went home.

Next week, the bowlers will meet up once again at Corinella to continue the weekly challenge.

It's always a fun day at Corinella so please everyone show up on time, as large numbers are expected.

Till then the club wishes all players good luck with their pennant teams on Saturday and Tuesday.

Till next week, have fun and stay safe.



The best one game winners for the South West Gippsland Midweek Bowls Group were Peter McWilliams (S), Bev Elliott (2), Phil Wright (3) and Ron Hughes (L).

## WONTHAGGI INDOOR

IT WAS another fun week of bowling enjoyed with good friends.

On Tuesday, 23 players competed.

The winners with a plus 21 were Teresa Ireland, Jenny Bakker, Jim Rodhi and John Rook.

Second place went to Phylis Peterson, Sylvia Mattock and John Bird with a plus 11.

On Friday, there were 28 players with some very close finishes.

The winners with a plus 22 were Lia Smith, Laurie Culph and Thelma Kavanagh.

Two teams were equal second with a plus 20.

They were Maggie Scapin, Sylvia Mattock, Bill Featherton and John Bird, and Helen Rook, Barbara Culph, Jim Wilson and John Postlethwaite.

The club would like to welcome new member Faye McKenzie.

## WONTHAGGI

IT WAS another excellent week at the club.

Tuesday saw Division 1 travel to the hamlet of Foster on a cold morning, with a slight hint of rain.

Two rinks had wins, with the other having a battle all day, against some very good bowlers.

Overall, Wonthaggi came away with a solid win.

The final scores: Wonthaggi 70 Foster 53.

Division 2 played host

to Lang Lang at Wonthaggi on a cool morning.

All rinks played very well to cement their place on top of the ladder, along with Division 1.

The final scores: Wonthaggi 89 Lang Lang 33.

Division 3 ventured down the road to Inverloch looking for another win.

They came up against a strong Inverloch team.

They fought the match out but went down in the end.

The final scores: Wonthaggi 47 Inverloch 66.

Wednesday social bowls saw 20 bowlers grace the greens on a fine day, with a slight breeze.

Three bowl pairs were the order of the day, over two games of 12 ends.

There were three teams that were two game winners with Allan Lowe and Wally Leijen on two wins and 33 points, and Heather Blanch and Steve Bruynen also two game winners and 34 points.

The winners were Stan Noad and Roger Lee with a score of two wins and 37 points.

Thursday saw a fine morning for bowls, which saw a good number of bowlers enjoy a pleasant morning.

Saturday saw a fine sunny day for Pennant.

Division 1 played host to Phillip Island at Wonthaggi.

All rinks played well to record a hard-fought victory against a team that were eager for a win.

The final scores:

Wonthaggi 56 Phillip Island 52.

Division 2 travelled to Phillip Island to do battle against a team that is always hard to beat.

This week was no exception, with all rinks playing well to record a strong victory.

The final scores: Wonthaggi 57 Phillip Island 48.

Division 4 played host to Port Welshpool at Wonthaggi.

On a fine day with a slight breeze, all rinks played well to record a solid victory.

The final scores: Wonthaggi 65 Port Welshpool 37.

Division 5, also at home to Corinella, were looking to bounce back after a loss last week.

After a slow start, all rinks played well to record a good win, to make it four wins for Saturday Pennant.

The final scores: Wonthaggi 67 Corinella 48.

Bowls this week: Tuesday is Cup Day at 10am, Wednesday is Turkey Triples Day, Thursday Social Bowls at 10am, Friday coaching at 10am and Saturday is Pennant Day.

Saturday night is the Basket Cabaret.

Numbers are looking good, but there is always room for more people to enjoy good live music.

Friday night again went off well, even with a few people away.

Scott Miller and John Migliorisi were happy meat tray winners.

Have a good week and good bowling.



Rod Jackson, Bill Harry, Jeff Pendergast, Sue Symmons and John O'Connor look forward to people giving bowls a try in Leongatha. A02\_4524

## Give bowls a shot in Leongatha

WITH summer approaching, it's an ideal time to enjoy the social experience and challenge of bowls, starting with free 'Come and Try' sessions at Leongatha Bowls Club on Sunday, November 10 and 17.

The sessions will be run by club members Jeff Pendergast and Sue Symmons, with people of all ages and fitness levels welcome, equipment supplied and friendly advice available.

Participants can wear flat-soled shoes or play barefoot.

A sausage sizzle will be provided.

There will be plenty of opportunities for new bowlers to hone their skills after the Come and Try days, which have previously attracted healthy numbers of new members.

For those deciding to join, there is a special introductory deal available, offering full membership rights at just \$30 for the first year, with the club having bowls people can borrow.

"It was popular and well supported last year, so we're expecting big things from it again this year," the club's John O'Connor said of the Come and Try initiative, with last year's introductory offer helping achieve a record number of new

members.

"All we need is people to turn up; we've got everything organised," he said of this year's Come and Try days.

He explained how the chance to give bowls a shot in a relaxed and welcoming environment alters perceptions of the sport.

"When people get involved in barefoot, they realise how much fun it is and that it's not as easy as it looks," John said.

He noted some of those new to the club last year commented on how welcome they were made to feel.

As one of those in charge of the Come and Try sessions, Jeff looks forward to participants getting a bit of coaching, encouragement and enjoyment out of the first session so they return for another go the following Sunday.

People are also welcome to attend just one of the sessions.

Come along to find out what the sport is all about and make some new friendships along the way.

For those taking to the game, the club runs social bowls on Wednesday and Saturday afternoons as well as competing in two lots of pennant throughout the week.



## COME AND TRY BOWLS

*It's fun for people of all ages and levels of fitness*

### JUST BRING YOURSELF

Bowls, coaching and lunch will be provided

Wear flat soled shoes, or bowl in bare feet

**Sunday, November 10 and 17  
at 10.30am**

Ongoing coaching will be available

ALL WELCOME

**LEONGATHA BOWLS CLUB** 14-20 Hughes Street, Leongatha

FOR MORE INFO CONTACT:

Jeff Pendergast **0417 522 080** jeffandjoan@iprimus.com.au  
Sue Symmons **0409 165 064** symmo2@bigpond.com



Peter Grenville and Les Stanbury had a win at Cape Paterson's Breakaway Bowls on Monday.



The Friday winners of Breakaway Bowls were John Clark, Graeme McAlpine and Marg Hender in Cape Paterson.

# Goannas upset Warrandyte

## VETERANS

AFTER a delightful catch-up at the Traralgon Bowls Club on Monday evening, the Warrandyte Over-70 cricket team arrived at the Duncan Cameron Reserve, Traralgon, to play the Gippsland Goannas Over-70 team on Tuesday morning, to find that the local council had decided (that morning) to core and top-dress the ground.

Both teams wondered what was going on as president Neil Meredith attacked his contact list to find a vacant, and machine-free cricket ground.

They eventually lined up at the Traralgon Showgrounds #2 oval, affectionately known as 'Old Trafford', and Warrandyte won the toss and elected to bat on a park that had not seen a mower for some time.

Ian Southall and Gordon Cowling opened the bowling, with Southall bowling five overs for one run, and the score after 10 overs was 0/9.

In fact, the two opening batsmen retired after 30 balls each, for a total of six runs.

Barrie Nunn and Kel Bond were the next two bowlers, with Nunn, in particular, using the cross breeze beautifully, as he hit the stumps in his fourth over and Warrandyte were 1/36 at the 20-over drinks break.

Rob White, Over-70 International for Australia, hit out, with Steve Pascoe, as the score reached 82 after 30 overs, with Meredith and Ron Milnes having entered the attack.

Anton Devent bowled three overs before Cowling and Southall bowled the last few overs.

The Warrandyte score after 40 overs was 2/132.

Southall's seven overs for nine runs, Cowling's eight overs 1/16 and Nunn's six overs 1/30 were the best of the bowlers.

After adjourning back to Duncan Cameron for lunch, the players returned to the Showgrounds for the Goannas innings.

The Goannas' innings start was no better than Warrandyte's, as Warren Dummett and Donald Cameron were both dismissed without scoring and the score was 2/12 after 10 overs.

Ian Gibson and Derek Morris set about repairing the innings with Gibson caught on the boundary for 15 and Morris retiring for 12.

Devent was bowled for nine and the Goannas' score after 19 overs was 4/55.

Southall retired at 38 and Meredith at 40, as they put on 60 runs in 7 overs.

Milnes and Cowling came together in the 29th over and were able to pass the Warrandyte score after 32 overs.

The Goannas' final score was 4/135 as they defeated a team that had not been beaten since the 2022/23 season.

Well done, Goannas old men. The Geelong Veterans Cricket Club will bring two teams to Traralgon next weekend, to play a double-header at the Showgrounds, with the Over-60 team playing on the turf and the over-70 team on the artificial at 'Old Trafford'.

The Goannas hope they cut the grass before then.



Graham Ingle from Sale drives during the Over 60's game at the Traralgon Rec Reserve.

## Geelong Veterans take on Gippsland Goannas in thrilling double-header

### VETERANS

THE GEELONG Veterans Cricket Club brought two teams to Gippsland to play a simultaneous double-header against the Gippsland Goannas in the Latrobe Valley.

The weather was cool with a strong westerly breeze prevailing for most of the day.

The Over-60's game was on the main ground at the Traralgon Recreation Reserve.

Geelong won the toss and asked the Goannas to bat first.

The two Rays again opened the innings with Ray Floyd out in the first over to inherit the 'duck necklace'.

First gamer Graeme Ingle joined Ray Smith taking the score to twenty-six when Ingle was bowled by Phil Davis for fourteen in the eighth over.

Col Carmody and Ray Smith added thirty-seven runs when Carmody was run out for thirteen leaving the Goannas score on 3/68 at the twenty-over drinks break.

Smith retired for a well-made forty in the twenty-first over, Murray Moore made three, Peter Anton one and Jim Armstrong nine, while Rob Bacchetti watched on as the score reached 6/89 after thirty overs.

Bacchetti retired for thirteen before Bernie Symons took his score to nineteen (x) and Chris Devent to eight (x) seeing the innings through to the end of forty overs.

The Goannas final score was 6/129.

Symons and Ingle opened the bowling after lunch, Ingle breaking through in the sixth over with Moore taking the catch leaving Geelong at 1/23.

Symons limped off midway through his fourth over which was completed by Moore.

Bacchetti and Anton bowled the next ten overs with Anton striking twice just before drinks to have Geelong at 3/89 after twenty overs.

Moore resumed his bowling spell joined by Armstrong.

Mark Brown taking a catch



Goanna Geoff Phillips attacks the Geelong Over 70's bowling on the Number 2 oval at Traralgon.

from Moore's bowling, and Armstrong hitting the stumps had Geelong at 5/108 after twenty-six overs.

Geelong captain Michael Limb and wicketkeeper Tom O'Brien batted sensibly, and the Goannas score was passed in the thirty-second over.

The respective Over-70 teams lined up on adjacent number two oval with Goannas captain Neil Meredith winning the toss and choosing to bat.

Jeff Phillips and Warren Dummett opened the innings taking the score to twenty-two in the sixth over when Dummett was well caught by Ann Sing for thirteen runs.

Phillips, twenty-one, Andrew Smith, nineteen, and Kelvin

Bond, seven all retired as the score mounted to 1/87 at the twenty-over drinks break.

Fred Debono retired for twenty-four, Phillip Higgins was run out for four and when Meredith was caught for nine, the score was 3/108 in the twenty-sixth over.

Ian Southall retired on thirty-four, Ian Gibson bowled for five when the score was 3/129, Gordon Cowling retired for thirty-seven and Derek Morris was bowled for two as the score reached 4/171 in the thirty-seventh over.

Ted Addison remained at the crease and Phillips returned.

When the Goannas innings concluded Phillips was twenty-four not out and the score a

respectable 5/190.

Goannas' bats were retiring after thirty balls but the Geelong team decided twenty-five balls was their retirement target.

Southall and Cowling opened the bowling with Southy bowling the opening batsman in his fourth over.

After ten overs the score was 1/23 and Barrie Nunn and Meredith came into the attack.

Geelong captain Foster ran himself out in the fifteenth over and the score at drinks was 2/54.

Debono and Bond came on after drinks and the score mounted steadily as Ian Davis, a National Over-70 representative, hit out for forty-three from his twenty-five balls.

When the next wicket fell it was Southall taking a good catch from Smith's bowling and the score was 3/93 in the twenty-ninth over.

Geelong's last few were unable to increase the scoring rate but Ann Sing in her first game for the Vets was four not out as Geelong completed their innings at 5/108.

Debono hit the stumps for a run out and Southall threw to Bond for the last run out.

Southall, five overs 1/10, Smith four overs 1/4 and Meredith seven overs, 1/17 were the best of the bowlers as the Goannas over-70's recorded their third win of the season.

The Over-60 team will next play at Yarra Valley on November 17, as Rob Taylor heads off to represent Victoria in the National titles being held in Brisbane from November 11 to 17.

The Over-50 team will play a home game against the Ballarat Over-50 team next Sunday, November 10 with the Over-70 team playing Essendon/BarklyStreet at the Duncan Cameron Oval in Traralgon.

The Over-70 National titles will be held in Dubbo from November 21 with Ian Gibson and Ian Southall playing in the Vic1 side, and Gordon Cowling in the Vic3 side in Division 2.

## Clubs rewarded for road safety leadership

THE State Government and the Transport Accident Commission are recognising grassroots football and netball clubs across the state for their work campaigning to prevent road trauma during the 2024 season.

Minister for Roads and Safety Melissa Horne announced 233 community clubs will share in \$600,000 to promote road safety in their communities.

The successful local clubs included Korumburra, Dalyston, the Bass Coast Breakers, MDU and Poowong.

"Football and netball clubs are the heart of our communities, and we are fortunate to have so many people campaigning to prevent road trauma," Ms Horne said.

The clubs will receive up to \$10,000 through the program, which is delivered in partnership with AFL Victoria.

The program encourages clubs to engage with players, members and their communities on key road safety issues and promote safe behaviours.

Successful clubs are able to use the money for a range of initiatives including education programs, club transport initiatives, new equipment, uniforms, and facility upgrades and improvements.

Around 40 per cent of successful applicants have come from regional Victoria where serious road trauma risk is highest.

Players, officials and supporters from regional clubs often travel long distances on high-speed roads to get to training and games, and their leadership is critical to preventing road trauma.

AFL Victoria-affiliated clubs from across the state were invited to apply for the program and show how they supported road safety throughout the year, including taking part in the Transport Accident Commission's (TAC) Road Safety Round.

As part of this year's program, clubs were asked to start conversations and be part of the campaign to raise awareness of the dangers of speeding, with the tagline 'Show up for your team. Slow down on the road'.

"The power of peer-to-peer support, leadership and education cannot be underestimated – and I thank our local football and netball clubs for being road safety ambassadors and caring for their communities," TAC CEO Tracey Slatter said.

The TAC Club Rewards Program is part of the TAC's 32-year partnership with AFL Victoria.

It aims to empower clubs to develop a culture where all players and members are expected to be safe on the roads.

"The TAC Club Rewards Program is one of the most important initiatives for community football clubs across the state, providing a fantastic avenue for clubs to actively contribute to the safety of their community and generate valuable funding in the process."



Traralgon's Ted Addison plays to leg in the Over 70's game against Geelong.

### NEXT WEEKEND'S GAMES & UMPIRE APPOINTMENTS

ROUND 5 - SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 9 & 16, 2024

#### A GRADE, Division 1

##### Town v Korumburra

SCORPION PARK 1

Ashleigh Stride

##### Koonwarra L/RSL v Club

KOONWARRA

Ian Salmon

##### Imperials v OMK

LEONGATHA TURF

Shane Moore

##### Phillip Island v Nerrena

COWES

Ozzie Williams

#### A Grade, Division 2

##### MDU v Kilkunda-Bass

MEENIYAN

Neil Graham

##### Foster v Nyora

FOSTER GC

Les White

##### Glen Alvie v Inverloch

WONTHAGGI TURF

Brad Phillips

#### B GRADE, Division 1

##### Korumburra v MDU

KORUMBURRA

Steve Williamson

##### OMK v Phillip Island

OUTTRIM

Graham Wightman

##### Nerrena v Club

NERRENA

Michael Thomas

##### Inverloch - BYE

#### B GRADE, Division 2

##### Kilkunda-Bass v Koonwarra L/RSL

GLEN ALVIE

Glenn Plymin Wk 1

Geoff Wyatt Wk 2

##### Nyora v Imperials

NYORA

Geoff Parkinson

##### Glen Alvie v Town

GLEN ALVIE

Michael Ryan

##### Foster - BYE

#### Subject to Confirmation.

Any prospective  
umpires can contact  
Geoff Wyatt 0413 081 136  
or Doug Pell 0404 301 333



Goannas' Derek Morris from Churchill clean bowled in the Over 70's game against Geelong.

## Wombats go down in thriller

### VETERANS

TUESDAY, October 29, was the third round of the Veterans Cricket Victoria over 70's competition.

The West Gippsland Wombats played Mornington/Canterbury at the Outtrim Reserve.

Last time these two teams met, they played a tie at Mornington.

The Wombats won the toss and decided to bowl first.

Phil Mayne and Michael Loy opened the batting and in the fourth over Keith Houghton bowled Loy eight (14).

Mayne seven (30) and Ian Rowland 31 (30) both retired before the Wombats took the next two wickets, both were run-outs and Neil White was involved in both of them.

Russell Ferguson helped to dismiss Dick Stumbles five (13) and Fred Debono helped to dismiss Ian Sharp three (12). Mornington/Canterbury's score at 20 overs was three for 66.

The next four batsmen retired after facing 30 balls, Graham Dowling 18, John Kent 20, Michael Angwin 32 and Charles Morris 19.

The score was three for 148 in the 37th over when Vin Booth joined Ralph Catts, the pair added 20 runs in the three overs to take Mornington/Canterbury's score to three for 168 off 40 overs.

Catts 15 (17) and Vincent 5 (6) were both not out.

The Wombat's bowlers were not helped by five dropped catches and two missed run-outs, but all of them, tried hard:

Keith Houghton 5-1/19, Jim Gregory 6-0/24, Pieter Loos 7-0/26, Neil White 4-0/27, Rod Pallot 5-0/19, Fred Debono 5-0/7, Mike Newton 4-0/16, and Carl Muscat 4-0/28.

The Wombats were off to a great start with both openers retiring by the 10th over after facing 30 balls, with the score on 44, Carl Muscat 22 and Rod Pallot 20.

The score had reached 50 when the Wombats lost two wickets, Fred Debono 1 (4) and Keith Houghton 0 (4).

At the halfway mark, both teams had scored 66 runs.

Jeff Phillips 10 (30) retired before Pieter Loos 30 (30) was caught by Phil Mayne off the bowling of Vin Booth.

The Wombats were three for 105 in the 26th over, needing 64 runs off 14 overs.

Mike Newton 14 (30) retired before Neil White and Russell Ferguson added 32 runs in seven overs before Ferguson 7 (16) was caught by Tony Stancombe off the bowling of Ian Rowland and White 29 (30) retired.

It was up to Jim Armstrong and Gavin Sharp (who was playing his first over 70's game) to score the necessary runs, but unfortunately, they fell three runs short with Armstrong 7 (15) and Sharp 11 (12) both not out.

Jim Gregory and John Moore were not required to bat.

The Wombats were four for 165.

Mornington/Canterbury's Bowling: Tony Stancombe 8-0/32, Bill Hansen 1-0/7, Charles Morris 8-0/26, John Kent 7-1/22, Ian Sharp 6-1/25, Vin Booth 3-1/18 and Ian Rowland 7-1/27.

It was another exciting game of cricket between two great rivals that went down to the wire.

The Wombats' next game is on Sunday, November 10, at Iona against Yarra Valley/Ringwood.

SOUTH GIPPSLAND SENTINEL-TIMES

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2024 | 79

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Wade Arnup batting for Koonwarra Leongatha RSL.



Julian Riccardi batting for Koonwarra Leongatha RSL with William Buckley wicket keeping, watching on.



The Koonwarra LRSL/Leongatha Town U13s team plays on a Wednesday night. Photos: Jodie Arnup.

## Junior cricketers get the ball rolling

LEONGATHA and District Cricket Association's junior competition is off to a strong start.

The association has seen excellent numbers in the U11s and U13s, which are gearing up to play their second and third rounds respectively next week.

Although numbers are lower in the U15s and U17s, a solid foundation has been set up for an exciting competition.

"We are playing most of our underage teams on weeknights so it's easier for families," the association's junior chairman Scott Checkley said.

"The clubs have done really well to offer great programs to its juniors."

One of those programs is Woolies Blast, offered to children

between the ages of five and 10.

Woolies Blast is open to young children of all skills and abilities to learn the enjoyment of cricket through game-based activities.

"Due to the changes to the age range in the Woolies Blast program, the association has included the U11s team as an introductory competition. It's a soft ball competition that helps them to develop confidence and basic skills," Checkley said.

"The clubs have been working really hard to ensure their juniors have the opportunity to grow as players from the base up."

The clubs have seen a good mix of boys and girls getting involved in the junior program.

Rep sides will soon be selected,

with teams to be entered in the U15s and the U13s in the Gippsland Cricket League (GCL) competition.

However, for children who have been unsure about starting cricket, it's not too late to get involved.

"If more kids want to contact their local clubs, it's not too late to join in. We just want to offer them the opportunity to love the game," Checkley said.

"It's a good foundation to find enjoyment in the game and continue playing for years to come. We've had young cricketers come through to play for Victoria and recently we had Harry Hoekstra play in the U19s for Australia."

All junior draws can be found on Play HQ.



Young cricketers are gearing up for the Woolies Blast program.



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