

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 2023

Sentinel-Times



Juniors carve out Woolamai

Sandy Point's Eva Bassed waited with Surfing Victoria legend Max Wells of Inverloch for her chance to compete in tough conditions during the 2023 Woolworths Australian Junior Surfing Titles last Sunday on Phillip Island. The contest drew competitors from across Australia to the region with events running until Sunday.

Pothole petition – Sign up for safer roads

IT'S not just the potholes. A lack of funds for road maintenance and road safety messaging is contributing to the road toll.

The constant pounding and traffic movement you'd expect on busy secondary roads, like the Bass Highway stretch between Inverloch and Leongatha, is leaving the road surface treacherously polished, with linear depressions that retain water long after the rain has stopped, like it did last Friday night.

The sides of the roads aren't being graded to allow surface water to escape easily, with road-side grass keeping the water on the road for longer, producing an immediate risk to drivers and allowing long-term damage to the roads.

Incompressible under pressure from passing trucks and cars, water exploits any weakness in a road surface to produce potholes. And leaving the water on the road longer leads to more damage.

On Friday night, outside the koala park on Phillip Island, one car rear-ended another in a relatively minor accident which still required a response from police, ambulance and the local fire brigade.

But there were more serious accidents over the weekend, including a fatality at Loch.

Gippsland South MP Danny O'Brien isn't surprised that cutting \$230 million from road safety programs, across the past two years, while at the same time failing to meet road maintenance targets, the State Government is directly contributing to more collisions and more deaths on the road.

Continued page 3

SMOKE SHOP FEARS

– Come forward if you're 'in too deep', say police

THE specialist smokes shop in your town may not be linked to the "Middle Eastern Organised Crime groups and Outlaw Motorcycle Gangs" running the illicit tobacco trade that's rife across the state.

In fact, senior police have warned the community against drawing such conclusions, not only because they may actually be legitimate businesses, but also because these local operators might be the victims themselves of standover tactics.

But if they aren't involved,

they're in the minority.

As revealed by Acting Commander Jason Kelly of the Victoria Police Crime Command, at a media conference last Friday, November 24, after a major bust of regional Victorian tobacco outlets, as many as 500 to 600 of the 800-plus specialist tobacco outlets in the state are selling illicit tobacco.

And that's a problem for two main reasons; those buying illicit tobacco products and vapes are lining the pockets of organised crime, and those selling

the products are exposing their towns to arson attacks.

"The VIPER Taskforce yesterday (Thursday) conducted six searches of tobacco stores in the west of the state including Horsham, Stawell, Ararat, War-racknabeal and Nhill," said Acting Commander Kelly.

"A total of seven people were arrested, and police subsequently seized more than 134,000 illicit cigarettes, 43kg of loose tobacco and 3655 vapes from the businesses, believed to be valued at over \$350,000 in total."

Those raids could easily have taken place in Gippsland, in fact, police conducted associated operations at Metung, Lockwood and Churchill last week.

They also arrested a 40-year-old Williamstown man who police will allege was delivering illicit tobacco to a Horsham store that day. His vehicle was then searched and illicit tobacco, e-cigarettes and \$40,000 cash were seized. He was interviewed and is expected to be charged on summons.

Continued page 3

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ea

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Smoke shop fears

From page 1

As part of Taskforce Lunar's investigation, the VIPER Taskforce has conducted over 60 searches of tobacco stores across the state since the beginning of October. At this time, Taskforce Lunar investigators believe the arson attacks on tobacco stores are the result of criminal syndicates in conflict due to competition for profit derived from the illicit tobacco market.

"Police believe the syndicates are comprised of personnel from Middle Eastern Organised Crime groups and Outlaw Motorcycle Gangs, including the Finks OMCG. The current conflict includes both the physical placement of illicit tobacco into stores, as well as demands for stores to sell the syndicate's illicit product and to pay a 'tax' per week to operate.

"There has been an immense focus on illicit tobacco and associated offending here in Victoria, particularly in relation to the reckless and dangerous arson attacks and firearms related violence.

"We created Taskforce Lunar to lead that investigation and they have been working closely with a number of specialist units as well as regional police," said Acting Commander Jason Kelly.

"The operation this week has been about putting pressure on those organised crime groups we know are linked to illicit tobacco, no matter what state they are in or what part of the state they are in," said AC Kelly.

"Regional areas are certainly not immune to this type of offending and those committing these offences in rural locations will absolutely face the same scrutiny.

"Again, I want to be clear that police will continue to do everything we can to target those criminal syndicates involved and those who are choosing to benefit from fear and harm to the community.

"We will continue to conduct these operations across Victoria and also work closely with other states to disrupt this criminal activity and hold those involved to account," he said.

"What we are seeing across Victoria is that illicit tobacco is a problem, statewide and nationally, and what we are doing is identifying linkages between the illicit tobacco trade and Outlaw Motorcycle Gangs. So, I am not going to articulate what we know but we do know there is a connection and through the days of action we have just conducted we have targeted both the illicit

tobacco retailers, the organised crime syndicates and the Outlaw Motorcycle Gangs."

He also made an appeal to those who buy illicit tobacco and those who may be "in too deep" selling it.

"My message to anyone running a store is if you are in too deep, then it's time to come forward. We appreciate that it's difficult and anyone considering going down the route of selling illicit tobacco, think twice. It's very difficult to get out of organised crime once you're in it.

"To those in the tobacco retail industry who have provided information about organised crime, I thank those who have come forward to date and I would encourage those members of the public to come forward via Crimestoppers, which can be done anonymously. Any piece of information could be key to bringing the ongoing disruption we are seeing in the illicit tobacco trade brought to a halt and I say that a lot of the activities conducted to date has been based on information provided by the public.

"We know that from our store visits over the past couple of months that not every store, as I have said, is involved in these disputes however, it does have

the potential to impact every store across Victoria, including innocent parties.

"For those who purchase tobacco, including illicit tobacco from stores... they are putting money directly into the pockets of organised crime that then funds other activities, including illicit drug importation and firearms activity. So, I would ask members of the public to think twice about buying illicit tobacco."

Acting Commander Kelly acknowledged that the Health Department through local councils also have a role to play in enforcing the law.

However, the Herald Sun has reported in recent days that some council workers have had "heavies" turning up at their doorstep in an effort to discourage them from acting. It has thrown the onus back on government to introduce protective legislation.

Acting Commander Kelly said he would also welcome a beefing up of government legislation that would impact the sale of illicit tobacco and vaping products by tobacco retailers but "that legislation is a matter for government".

If you have information about the illicit sale of tobacco in your area, you can contact Crimestoppers anonymously on 1800 333 000.

Police ask Schoolies to stay safe, be respectful

ONE TO two thousand school leavers were expected to start descending on Phillip Island last weekend continuing into this week to celebrate the end of their final exams and school life.

Although accommodation bookings are well below previous years at the North Pier Hotel, local police were gearing up to make sure school leavers and the local community are safe and that all have an enjoyable time.

Senior Sergeant Brent Muir from Bass Coast Police Service said local police welcome all Schoolies to the area and congratulate them on their efforts.

"We want Schoolies to come and enjoy the area... and enjoy the sights and sounds that Phillip Island has to offer. We want them to be safe and respectful of the local community."

The Senior Sergeant reminds Schoolies to take particular care and responsibility while swimming, relaxing and partying around water.

"Water and alcohol don't mix and we'd encourage Schoolies not to enter water after dark, to swim between the flags... and refrain from entering the water if alcohol has been consumed."

Fires on the beach and fireworks anywhere will not be tolerated due to the high fire danger risk.

Bass Coast Police crews have been bolstered by an additional 30 officers from Latrobe Valley, the Public Order Response Team and the Offender Management Team over the Schoolies period from Friday November 24 to Sunday December 3.

These patrols will be operating over twenty-four hour periods and include dedicated foot and road patrols.

Foot patrols will monitor public behaviour around popular areas and licenced venues.

Highway Patrols will be targeting speeding, alcohol, drugs, seatbelts, mobile phone use and driver distraction on local and arterial roads.

"We will be very active to keep the community and tourists safe as a whole," said Senior Sergeant Muir.

Bass Coast Police are working in collaboration with the Bass Coast Shire Council, Ambulance Victoria, Red Frogs and DanceWize, who will be set up over the weekend at the Jetty Triangle.

Senior Sergeant Muir would like to see all Schoolies have a great time, be safe around water, respect the local community and look after each another.

"We encourage school leavers to look after themselves and their mates and try to limit excessive alcohol use... and to call 000 if their friends need help."

Pothole petition – Sign up for safer roads



Polished and potholed road surfaces became skating rinks last weekend across South Gippsland and Bass Coast leading to numerous accidents.

From page 1

Evidence tendered to the Public Accounts and Estimates Committee (PAEC) in the past week revealed that \$150 million was cut from the Transport Accident Commission (TAC) funded Safer System Road Infrastructure Program, said Mr O'Brien.

In another alarming revelation, the marketing and road safety spend of TAC also fell \$81 million short of its budget in the past two financial years.

Mr O'Brien said this comes as Victoria is facing another horror road toll, with road deaths already 20 per cent higher than the same time last year.

It was also revealed that road pavement resurfaced or rehabilitated was 30 per cent below the Government's target, which Gippslanders are seeing directly in the appalling state of our roads.

Mr O'Brien, the Shadow Minister for Roads and Road Safety,

said his office is regularly contacted by road users who have faced near-miss accidents and suffered vehicle damage due to unacceptable road surfaces.

"The government's road safety cuts and a 45 per cent reduction in road maintenance spending since 2020 is endangering lives, especially those traveling in regional areas like Gippsland," Mr O'Brien said.

Mr O'Brien has launched a petition calling on the government to provide the necessary funding and maintenance to fix our roads.

"I recently launched this petition at the Sale Agricultural Show where it was overwhelmingly supported, and I was doing the same at Yarram on Saturday."

Mr O'Brien said those wanting to sign his petition online can do so at new.parliament.vic.gov.au/get-involved/petitions/funding-and-maintenance-to-fix-our-roads/.

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6 Day
Weather
Forecast

SOUTH
GIPPSLAND



TUE | Nov 28
Cloudy.
Wind AM: E 25-40km/h
Wind PM: E 25-40km/h
13° 22°



WED | Nov 29
Rain.
Wind AM: E 30-40km/h
Wind PM: E-SE 25-35km/h
13° 19°



THUR | Nov 30
Shower or two.
Wind AM: SE 20-30km/h
Wind PM: SE 20-30km/h
13° 19°



FRI | Dec 1
Partly cloudy.
Wind AM: SE 15-20km/h
Wind PM: SE 15-20km/h
12° 20°



SAT | Dec 2
Partly cloudy.
Wind AM: Light
Wind PM: S-SW 15-20km/h
12° 19°



SUN | Dec 3
Partly cloudy.
Wind AM: Light
Wind PM: E-SE 15-25km/h
11° 21°

IN BRIEF

Grants celebration
at Berninnet

DOZENS of happy local organisations will be turning out at the new Berninnet cultural centre this Tuesday, November 28 for the presentation of Bass Coast community grants rounds one and two.

The presentation event is an opportunity for councillors, shire staff and community groups to get together and acknowledge the fantastic projects that groups are undertaking with the assistance of Council's Community Grants Program.

The event will be held in the new Cowes cultural centre from 4.30pm to 6.30pm, MC'd by the mayor Cr Clare Le Serve with live music by the Bass Coast Chorale.

Last year council awarded \$282,823 in community grants.

Police investigate
fatality at Loch

POLICE are investigating the circumstances surrounding a fatal collision which occurred in Loch last Saturday.

Investigators have been told a motorcycle and ute collided on the South Gippsland Highway about 9.50am on November 25.

The rider was taken to hospital with life-threatening injuries but later died.

The driver of the ute stopped at the scene and spoke to police.

The exact cause of the crash is yet to be determined and investigations remain ongoing.

Police will prepare a report for the coroner.

Anyone who witnessed the incident or has information is urged to contact Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000 or submit a confidential report online at crimestoppersvic.com.au.

Police investigate fatal
E-bike crash in San Remo

POLICE are investigating following a fatal E-bike crash in San Remo on Sunday, November 5.

It's understood a 40-year-old Officer man left a residence on Laurett Avenue, San Remo, to ride the E-bike to a nearby petrol station on Phillip Island Road about 10.30pm.

The man returned home a short time later and informed family he had crashed the bike.

The man soon became unresponsive and was treated by paramedics and taken to hospital where he later died.

The exact circumstances surrounding the incident are yet to be determined and investigations remain ongoing.

Anyone who witnessed the incident, has dashcam/CCTV footage or any other information is urged to contact Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000 or log onto crimestoppers.com.au.

Farm burn-off gets
away near Cape

CAPE Paterson farmers were concerned to hear the sirens of local CFA brigades after they were called to a farm burn-off, that was threatening to get away into coastal bush, heathland and grassland near the Cape Paterson-Inverloch Road, at about 10.30am last Thursday, November 23.

Smoke and flames were clearly visible from a burn-off on private property, between Fulton Road and Marine Park Drive, about 1km east of the Cape Paterson township.

Crews from Wonthaggi, Inverloch and Cape Paterson turned out, however, while an area of grass had been burnt around the fire, it was mainly a monitoring role for firefighters, some of whom were turned back after assessing the scene.

While fire restrictions have already been introduced in many

municipalities across the state, none are currently in force in Bass Coast. Similarly, there are no fire restrictions presently in force in South Gippsland.

Army deals with
'training grenade'

POLICE were called to the scene of an incident in Wonthaggi on Monday this week after a 'grenade' was located in the garage at a residence in the town's north.

It is understood that the grenade, which has since been identified as an unarmed, training grenade, was located during a clean-up after a resident of the house had passed away.

A cleaner found the grenade in a toolbox, and immediately alerted police.

Bomb Response Unit officers assessed the scene and deemed the device was not dangerous, who in turn called in the support of an army ordinance officer who collected and disposed of the piece of equipment around lunchtime on Monday.

At no time was there any danger to the community but police have praised the caution shown in reporting the incident.

Minister to decide
Kongwak project

HOT ON the heels of planning approval, by the Minister for Planning, the Hon Sonya Kilkenny, for a new secondary school near Foster, comes news that the would-be developers of the old Kongwak Cheese and Butter Factory are going the same direct route to the Minister.

According to the 'Save Kongwak Group: "We have had it confirmed that the developers of the old Kongwak Cheese and Butter Factory site have submitted their permits to the Victorian Government's Development Facilitation Program.

"This process," they say, "bypasses your local Council and puts the decision-making authority with the relevant Ministers. This is why we have seen no submission of permits to

South Gippsland Council."

However, while some have concerns the project is "completely inappropriate for our tiny town", for others, it's quite the reverse.

"Can't wait to see this venture up and running. It's just what the area needs. Well done and good luck!"

The project developers are looking to develop an accommodation and hospitality business featuring the restoration of the old buildings.

\$1 million for shire
asbestos cladding

NEW cladding will soon be installed at South Gippsland Shire Council's office building in Smith Street in Leongatha.

The project will involve the removal of asbestos-containing materials and the renewal of the current exterior which is aged and deteriorating.

According to the council, the works will also help to improve the aesthetic and provide a modern update for the 70s era building.

"Although there is no immediate risk to staff or customers from the asbestos containing materials, it is good practice to have these materials removed as soon as practicable and before there is a risk to the public," said shire CEO Kerryn Ellis.

"The new cladding will ensure the building remains safe, and modernise the exterior and increase street appeal," she said.

"The works will be undertaken over a number of months, and disruption to the customer service area will be minimised as much as possible."

A contract for the cladding works has been awarded to MDC Building Group Pty Ltd for \$988,954.

Works are expected to commence early next year and be completed mid-2024. Access to the Woolworths carpark will be maintained during construction and measures will be in place to ensure the safety of pedestrians.

Speeding drivers won't get far.

If you think you can drive over the speed limit, think again. Speeding drivers face a minimum fine of \$240 and 1 demerit point. So with police and speed cameras across Victoria, chances are you will be caught.

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Support the campaign against gendered violence by saying what respect is and having your portrait taken with PollyannaR in Wonthaggi and Leongatha this December.

Big respect with PollyannaR

LOCAL Gippsland Artist PollyannaR is inviting anyone who wants to show up and make a pledge and a public show of support against gendered violence to come and have their portraits taken.

The United Nations international campaign, 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence takes place each year from November 25 (International Day for The Elimination of Violence Against Women) until December 10 (International Human Rights Day).

PollyannaR will be sticking up a white backdrop across Gippsland towns and all locals have to do is get their picture taken with her sign – Respect Is...with a message of what respect means to you.

Last year, 54 reasons, Gippsland Women's Health (GWH) and DHHS approached PollyannaR to use her art and her photo booth to help promote awareness around domestic violence and gender based violence.

"I'm a woman and growing up in Australia, I've experienced violence. I've seen violence. I've seen my friends go through domestic violence as well."

"As a woman in society, you're just aware that this is something that happens to us and we have to be vigilant around it."

PollyannaR ran the campaign with her photo booth predominantly in East Gippsland and this year with GWH and Community Demand it has expanded to 12 photo booths across Gippsland and to towns in Queensland.

"It's really exciting to see that people who saw the campaign last year really advocated to have it in their towns this year."

"From Gippsland to Queensland, the campaign is growing really fast which is exciting."

PollyannaR is hoping the campaign and her work as part of it, will help to raise awareness, thought and discussion among people about what respect is.

"We want to stop this from happening and to stop that from happening you have to understand what respect is."

Participants of the Big Respect campaign will receive a photo on the spot and a digital one will be uploaded to the PollyannaR Facebook page to be shared online.

"Feel free to come down, see what it's about and get a photo taken by me and also have the conversation as well about what respect means to you," said PollyannaR.

PollyannaR will be at Apex Park, Murray Street, Wonthaggi on Monday December 5 from 1pm - 4pm and at Leongatha Memorial Hall Laneway, 6-8 McCartin Street, Leongatha on Wednesday December 7 from 12pm to 3pm.

For more information go to pollyannar.com/big-respect-gippsland and look out for the social media campaign #LetsChatGippsland.

Ending gendered based violence

"LET'S Chat Gippsland" is a community focused campaign that aims to prevent men's violence against women and gendered violence across Gippsland.

Family (domestic) violence crime reporting in Gippsland continues to be some of the highest in Victoria with 184 women per 10,000 revealing violence in the home, compared to the state average of 114 women per 10,000.

This equates to approximately 800 women across Bass Coast and 600 women across South Gippsland, and on average, 10 women per day in Gippsland are hospitalised for assault injuries related to family violence.

Gendered violence is also the leading contributor to death, disability and illness for women aged 15 – 44.

The Let's Chat Gippsland campaign is part of the annual international United Nations (UN) 16 Days of Activism campaign to prevent gendered violence initiative that runs from Saturday November 25 to Sunday December 10.

This is the third year Gippsland Women's Health has partnered with local communities, government and organisations to bring awareness to the campaign.

The campaign theme of Let's Chat seeks to support and remind people that men's violence against women and gendered violence is preventable.

"Every member of the community can play a role in putting a stop to men's violence against women and gendered violence in



Kate Graham, CEO of Gippsland Women's Health believes everyone can play a role in stopping men's violence against women.

their community," said Kate Graham, CEO Gippsland Women's Health.

"Not all men are violent, but all men can play a role in preventing violence against women and this starts with respect."

Gippslanders are encouraged to attend the events happening across Gippsland where they will learn that social and attitude change can start with a simple conversation, whether it be with their family, friends, colleagues, classmates or neighbours.

This year, GWH want the community to tell them what respect in the community should look like.

Minister for Prevention

of Family Violence Vicki Ward is proud to support the Gippsland community in its determination to prevent gender-based violence.

"Local organisations have a critical role in to play in breaking down the barriers women and gender divers people face, which is what our Investing in Women's Grassroots Grants Program is all about," she said.

Visit the Let's Chat website 16daysgippsland.com.au for more details on how you can get involved in an event near you.

Also, look out for the social media campaign #LetsChatGippsland.



Shining a light on family violence

MANAGER of Milpara Community House, Jenni Keerie, spoke of the need to shine a spotlight on the issue of gender-based violence, something that for a long time was not discussed, while adding that violence is not a good option in any circumstance.

Milpara has again created an orange-themed display to promote the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Based Violence campaign, featuring eye-catching artificial flowers.

"The installations have been conversation starters; people ask about the flowers and that leads into

the conversation about family violence, the human toll, and the financial cost," Jenni said.

"We've created booklets and cards to give people an understanding, so that they can read where they can go and what they can do if they're impacted by family violence."



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Mayor's Message

I TRUST this message finds you well and that you are looking forward to the vibrant summer season that lies ahead. As we gear up for an exciting period of community engagement and events, I am pleased to share some noteworthy updates with you, encompassing everything from surfing titles to community-centric initiatives that enhance our beautiful region.

Surf's Up: Australian Surfing Titles

One of the highlights of our upcoming events is the Australian Surfing Titles, a spectacle that promises to bring the best young surfers from across the nation to our shores. The Bass Coast has long been a haven for surf enthusiasts, and hosting this prestigious event further solidifies our commitment to promoting water sports and coastal lifestyle. Whether you're a seasoned surfer or someone who enjoys watching the awe-inspiring maneuvers from the shoreline, these titles are sure to captivate and celebrate our community's deep connection to the sea.

However, with the excitement of the surfing titles, it is crucial to emphasise the importance of our community and visitors to be beach-ready and ensure swim safety. Our coastline is both beautiful and powerful, and we want everyone to enjoy it responsibly. Familiarise yourself with local conditions, swim between the flags, and never underestimate the strength of the ocean. Let's ensure that the joy of our surf is coupled with a commitment to safety.

Shopfront Improvement Program: A facelift for our community

In our ongoing efforts to enhance the aesthetic appeal and economic vitality of our local business districts, I am delighted to see the latest round of the Shopfront Improvement Program. This initiative not only supports local businesses but also contributes to the overall charm and attractiveness of our towns. The facelifts and improvements not only create a more visually appealing environment but also foster a sense of community pride. I encourage all eligible businesses to take advantage of this program, as the benefits extend far beyond the storefront itself, positively impacting the entire community.

Village Feast in Inverloch: A culinary celebration

Recently, we celebrated the success



of the Village Feast in Inverloch, an event that showcased the diverse culinary talents within our community. From local produce to international flavors, the Village Feast brought people together to savor the richness of our region's gastronomic offerings. This event not only highlighted the exceptional culinary skills of our local chefs but also provided a platform for community engagement and celebration.

Plan San Remo

We have a huge project underway with community engagement in San Remo. If you go to our Engage page you can 'pin' comments on the page ensuring true collaborative spirit for the way San Remo is planned out. This is a brilliant innovation and another excellent way for community involvement. Visit <https://engage.basscoast.vic.gov.au/sanremoplan>

Summer fun for residents and visitors

As we approach the summer season, our region is gearing up for a multitude of activities and events that promise entertainment for residents and visitors alike. From outdoor concerts to arts and crafts markets, there will be something for everyone. Our pristine beaches, charming townships, and welcoming community make the Bass Coast an ideal destination for those seeking a perfect summer getaway. I encourage everyone to explore the various offerings and make the most of the upcoming summer tourist and event season.

I invite each of you to be an active participant in our shared journey. Whether you are cheering on the surfers at the Australian Surfing Titles, enhancing your business through the Shopfront Improvement Program, relishing the culinary delights of the Village Feast, becoming a mental health first aid responder through our Council run programs, or simply enjoying the summer festivities, your presence and engagement contribute to the vitality and spirit of our community.

Thank you for your ongoing support, and I look forward to seeing you at the many exciting events that lie ahead.



Local MP, Jordan Crugnale with the SES Unit, Wonthaggi who were one of the recipients of funding under the Victorian Emergency Services Equipment Program.

Funding boost for local emergency services

FOUR local emergency service organisations in the Bass electorate have received \$226,696 in funding to support their ongoing service to the local community as part of the Victorian Emergency Services Equipment Program (VESEP) grants.

Minister for Emergency Services Jaclyn Symes announced the 2023-24 VESEP grant recipients that will share in almost \$15 million to purchase equipment and enhance emergency response capability to ensure community safety.

VESEP is an annual grants program that helps Victorian emergency services volunteer groups purchase essential operational equipment, vehicles and appliances as well as undertake minor facility improvements.

Local MP, Jordan Crugnale congratulated the SES Units of Phillip Island and Wonthaggi as well as Inverloch SLSC and Cape Paterson SLSC and acknowledged their respective financial contributions.

"This is such great news as now our local SES's can upgrade their vehicles and our Surf Lifesaving Clubs can purchase equipment needed for rescues like boards, outboard motors, defibrillators and lifejackets."

• Phillip Island SES and Wonthaggi SES received \$87,426.61 and \$83,641.70 respectively to upgrade their support vehicles to a Toyota Hilux.

• Cape Paterson Surf Lifesaving Club received \$24,290 for foam and fibreglass rescue boards, defibrillator and AED trainers.

• Inverloch Surf Lifesaving Club received \$30,338 to purchase a Polaris Ranger, outboard motors, rescue boards, lifejackets, AED Trainers, radios and First Aid Kits.

In addition, South Gippsland's Waratah Beach Surf Life Saving Club received \$18,917.00 for a Thundercat Rescue Craft and two outboard motors and Kongwak and District CFA \$899 for minor facilities improvements including security cameras.

Through this round of grants, CFA brigades have received more than \$10.8 million, Victoria State Emergency Service units received more than \$2.4 million, Life Saving Victoria's surf lifesaving clubs received more than \$850,000 and Marine Search and Rescue crews received more than \$350,000.

Playspace projects taking shape

COMMUNITY feedback on local playspace projects is closing soon.

The following playspaces are scheduled to be replaced in 2024: McKenzie Views Park in Cowes, Outtrigger Reserve in Inverloch and Woolamai Park in Cape Woolamai.

Bass Coast Shire Council would like to know which designs you prefer.

There are two options for each site.

Designs for the new playspace and fitness area in Anderson Street Reserve in San Remo are on the way and will open to the community before the end of the year.

Mayor Cr Clare Le Serve said it was fantastic to have

so much community engagement and feedback incorporated into these draft designs.

"We've compiled all the feedback and drawings we received to come up with the draft designs – each unique to its location. Each location has two options, which is exciting," she said.

"In Inverloch, we heard that our community wanted lots of climbing elements, natural colours and some boat themes, which is what you'll see in the design options for Outtrigger Reserve.

"For McKenzie Views Park in Cowes, the ideas were for logs to balance on and incorporating more trees into the

design – so again the designs reflect this.

"Cape Woolamai has a ninja course and nature area for smaller children.

"Local level playspaces are the smallest of all our parks and they're designed to cater for the community who live within walking distance of the park, so unfortunately it wasn't possible to incorporate every idea, but we've done our best to include as much community feedback as possible."

You can check out the designs and provide your feedback about which design you prefer at engage.basscoast.vic.gov.au/playspace.

Consultation closes on Sunday, December 3.

Takeaway coffee cups and lids go in your Landfill bin





Visit basscoast.vic.gov.au/whichbin to find out more

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Community spirit raises \$30K for Tim

AFTER a devastating workplace accident that left Timmy Hanley with life changing injuries, the tight knit community of Cape Paterson and surrounds came together raising more than \$30K towards his recovery.

The Cape Tavern was jam packed with supporters on Sunday, November 26, with a fundraiser featuring raffle prizes, a silent auction, barbecue and even live music.

While Tim now lives in Byron Bay, he still has strong connections to Cape Paterson, with the Hanley family and friends showing how much they care about him, describing Tim as someone who would always give a helping hand to others.

Organisers decided to string the event together after Tim's friends in Byron Bay also held a fundraiser.

Nick Hanley, Tim's cousin, explained that Tim had fallen off a ladder landing on his back.

"He went straight to the hospital and it was pretty bad from the start, he's paralysed from the pelvis down," he said.



Fundraiser organisers Trevor, Zoe Blundell, Kylie Graham, Bree Hanley and Jess Cuman were delighted with the turnout and support they received towards Tim Hanley's recovery. Ns28_4823

"He's working hard at recovery and he's doing well - going to therapy; he's been in the spinal injuries unit at the Brisbane Hospital for the last four or five months.

"He's only just moved back home, which they're also getting fixed up as it was devastated by

floods a couple of years ago."

Nick highlighted they were very thankful to the various companies that got on board for the day, donating loads of items to make it a success.

"There's a barbecue and lots of raffles, we're expecting a lot of people," he said.

"All the funds will go towards Tim but there is five per cent going towards the spinal injury unit."

While the rain was on and off, organisers highlighted they were ultimately thrilled with the turnout and response from the community.

First nursing students start at Wonthaggi Hospital campus of Fed Uni

NURSING careers are now more accessible in Bass Coast and South Gippsland with the help of Bass Coast Health (BCH) and Federation University.

BCH has welcomed the first Federation University Nursing students in an exciting partnership which will see Bachelor of Nursing students undertake their educational learning activities at Wonthaggi Hospital - now a flexi-campus of FedUni.

The first year Bachelor of Nursing students are now at BCH after FedUni obtained accreditation from the Australian Nursing and Midwifery Accreditation Council to undertake their program at BCH.

The first year Nursing students are currently enrolled through Federation University's Berwick campus however, from 2024 students will directly enrol in the Wonthaggi Blended campus.

The nursing program is located in the BCH Learning and Development team's tutorial room and clinical skills



New Nursing student Lucy Veal (centre) with Bass Coast Health staff members Sarah Hogan and Gabrielle O'Connor cut a cake to mark the first intake of nursing students at BCH. They are with fellow students, Andrea Evans-McCall from Country Universities Centre Bass Coast and Ligi Anish from Federation University.

lab. Students can also attend the Bass Coast Country Universities Centre in Wonthaggi to receive study assistance and access online lectures and tutorials. The future plan is to have 20 students across each of the three

Bachelor of Nursing year levels undertake their clinical unit studies at BCH.

Student Lucy Veal of Wonthaggi was bubbling with enthusiasm about her new adventure.

"It's the most amazing opportunity. I won't have to travel

to Berwick and I'll have all the support of the Learning Skills Advisor Program through Country Universities Centre to learn academic skills," she said.

"I've always wanted to be a nurse to help people."

Bass Coast Summer Show calls for 2024 exhibitors

The Bass Coast Summer Show will kick off on January 6 and organisers are welcoming exhibitors to be part of the competition in farm and garden produce with scarecrows and decorated gum boot and amateur photography, plus a backyard chook display and information for those interested in that hobby.

The Wonthaggi Garden Supplies amateur photography and Inverloch Garden Supplies Farm and Garden produce entries are free for all classes, with a children's 12 and under category available for both exhibitions.

Organisers are looking forward to hosting the 2024 Show Shed. Hoping that gardeners and photographers will embrace going back into the competition section again this year.

All photography classes will be judged by Kilcunda local Paul Riviere with a \$50 cash prize and best Rosette for the judge's choice.

The annual show is a family friendly event at \$5 entry for adults and free entry for children 12 years and under.

The grounds of the Wonthaggi Recreation Reserve will host Barn Babies Mobile Farm, Sandy Creek Clydesdales and a blacksmith display, roving stilt fairy with bubbles, circus workshops and a free face painting artist.

There will also be a full equestrian program including driven horses and ponies with carriages. The carnival will include rides, novelties, fairy floss and amusements, and lots of show bags.

Visitors are encouraged to spend the afternoon enjoying the selection of food and beverages available from vendors and at the grandstand live music will be performed by Imogen Price.

Motor enthusiasts can stroll the grounds viewing the Ute and 4x4 Show organised and hosted by Jarrod Witherow of Leongatha. The Bass Coast Historical Automobile Club will be nearby in front of the grandstand.

The show will also host an emergency vehicle display from SES and CFA educating bystanders on their contribution to a safer community.

The committee would like to thank the sponsors for their generosity to the Bass Coast Wonthaggi Summer Show as well as Wonthaggi branch RSL, Wonthaggi Evening View Club, Wonthaggi Angling Club, Wonthaggi Rotary Club, and Inverloch CWA.

Entry forms for show shed exhibitors should be emailed to basscoastagshow@hotmail.com by Tuesday, January 2. Follow the events page on Facebook - Bass Coast - Wonthaggi Summer Show.

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John Mutsaers flows with creation

AT 81 John Mutsaers is a man brimming with creative thoughts, ideas and energy that flow from him like the oils from his paint brush.

Forty years as a successful full time artist has seen John produce a great depth and breadth of work.

This is evident in his 42nd and final solo exhibition at Wonthaggi Artspace where visitors will be treated to new paintings and drawings, and some favourites from the past.

While John favours painting portraits, enjoying the company and stories of his sitters, his work spans sculptures, landscapes, animals and birds, nudes, still life and two collaborative series - Looking Back and The Infinite Birdcage.

Having now the liberty to paint whatever he wishes, without the constraints of having to make a living, John is revelling in this freedom that he wished for, for many years.

“..now, the stuff I’ve painted, I don’t care whether people like it or not. I mean, I prefer for them to like it but if they don’t, that’s OK too.”

Works of realism hang on the wall of the straw bale living room John built himself ten years ago.

A man on a red bicycle pops out of the canvas with joy and movement. A still life of a very Parisian room where John and his wife Mary spent time together has a lovely sense of nostalgia.

A landscape of a cow grazing in a field hangs opposite, with a soft, ephemeral dream like quality.



John Mutsaers is holding his 42nd and final solo exhibition at Wonthaggi Artspace until Sunday December 10. ob10_4823

John is currently working on black backgrounds – tonalism - a hark back to when he was first learning to paint and an exploration back into tones.

He sits down next to a clay sculpture of a bust, a man whistling with a bird on his shoulder, also whistling, a homage to Harry Belafonte and his quote, “You can stop me singing but you can never stop the music,” John recites.

John admits that his work has become more introspective since he experienced cancer.

“It was the most brilliant experience,” and he talks about the enormous amount of generosity and kindness he came across while undergoing treatment.

He speaks of his early years and the adventure of moving to Australia from the Netherlands at the age of 14 and losing connection to cousins but maintaining a strong Dutch identity.

“I am very Dutch. Dutch to the core.”

John talks of the injustice of the potato famine and the iron sculpture of people leaving Ireland.

“With pig iron, everything always looks awful and it has kind of an attitude behind it that says we’re not having a good time here.”

He talks of immigration, the importance of ancestry and culture, turning Wonthaggi into a sculpture town, and writing a play about the

interactions between Rembrandt and Van Gogh.

He talks about the reconciliation movement, the deterioration of his aging artist friends, and collaborating with writers in his work.

He talks about death and he talks about creation.

“I’m in my last decade. I’m not worried about that, but considering this is my last go. I have to do something interesting.”

As Harry Belafonte said, no one can stop the music and John’s music is his art.

“If being an artist is somehow special, then I can’t let it stop being special to me,” said John.

John Mutsaers work is on exhibition at Wonthaggi Artspace until Sunday December 10.

Reforms to boost confidence in local government

MINISTER for Local Government Melissa Horne announced legislation to be introduced early next year will elevate governance and integrity standards in the state’s 79 councils, encouraging quality candidates to put themselves forward at local government elections to be held statewide in October 2024.

Local government leaders and members of the community have called for action after confidence in local government in some areas has suffered due to poor councillor behaviour and ineffective performance.

The Local Government Culture Project has been a key driver in the reform process, drawing more than 140 submissions from residents, mayors, councillors, council staff and peak bodies.

Reforms will introduce mandatory training for elected representatives, a uniform councillor code of conduct and strengthened powers for the Minister to address councillor conduct.

Good governance is critical to ensure councils make sound decisions and deliver the services their communities need. Expanded powers to address councillor misconduct will discourage poor behaviour.

The Government will consult with the sector in coming months about the legislation and throughout next year on developing regulations for the councillor model code of conduct and mandatory training. Legislation is planned to be introduced in the first quarter of 2024.

The amendments to the Local Government Act 2020 will address recommendations made by integrity bodies such as the Independent Broad-based Anti-corruption Commission (IBAC) and the Chief Municipal Inspector.

Now taking Christmas orders

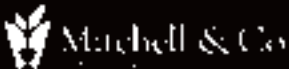


Order your family Christmas favourites including:

- Otway Australian Ham**, boneless, bone in and nugget
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- Otway Natural Australian Pork**, pork leg bone in, pork leg boned and rolled – plain or seasoned, loin boneless – plain or seasoned, new fashion scotch boneless – plain or seasoned
- Free Range Chicken**, whole chicken, boneless – plain or seasoned
- Fresh Australian Seafood**
- Christmas Pudding** Razor’s famous pudding
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Our holiday trading hours are:

- Wednesday, December 20 – 6am – 1pm
- Thursday, December 21 – 6am – 5pm
- Friday, December 22 – 6am – 5pm
- Saturday, December 23 – 6am – 3pm
- Sunday, December 24 – closed**
- Monday, December 25 – closed**
- Tuesday, December 26 – closed**
- Wednesday, December 27 – 6am – 5pm
- Thursday, December 28 – 6am – 5pm
- Friday, December 29 – 6am – 5pm
- Saturday, December 30 – 6am – 3pm
- Sunday, December 31 – closed**
- Monday, January 1 – closed**



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South Gippsland
Shire Council

South Gippsland Shire Council News

Korumburra Railway Precinct Mural

The Korumburra Railway Precinct features a heritage listed railway station, and a nearby underpass.

Since closure of the railway line in 1993, the Precinct has been vacant and now is being transformed into a space for all to enjoy. As part of the revitalisation of the Korumburra Railway Precinct, Council put a call out for qualified artists or artist collectives to design an immersive, creative and fun mural that will go on the external wall of 42 Commercial Street.

The Korumburra mural project has been funded through an external grant that Council successfully received.

Artists were required to create their initial concepts based on the theme of local community, landscape, flora and fauna, which was developed through consultation with students from Korumburra Secondary College.

To capture interested artists, an Expression of Interest was released a few months ago, resulting in 18 impressive submissions in September. This was then narrowed down to just three by representatives from South Gippsland Arts Advisory Committee, Korumburra Secondary

College and Council's Arts Development Officer

The shortlisted artists are:

- Matt Ling.
- Magic Lantern Studio.
- Melanie Caple.

It was expected that the concept designs would be a contemporary take on the theme, rather than recreate the type of historical murals previously seen across South Gippsland.

We are now looking to you, our community, to make the final decision on which artist/artist's will be given the opportunity to create an innovative mural transform this space. To place your vote or to find out more on the artists and their concept designs, please visit: yoursay.southgippsland.vic.gov.au

Voting closes Monday 2 December and is limited to one per person.

Please note: The three designs are currently in the concept phase and a final piece for the Commercial Street wall will be developed once the favoured artist or artist collective has been appointed by the public.

Great Victorian Bike Ride



The Bicycle Network's Great Victorian Bike Ride is coming to South Gippsland this December.

The Great Victorian Bike Ride is an incredible journey spanning from Orbost to Wonthaggi.

This year, riders will be setting up camp in Fish Creek on Saturday 2 December. With approximately 2,000 riders participating in the event and support from 500 staff and volunteers, the Great Vic Ride is a great opportunity to showcase our regions warm hospitality through organised events and activities.

For information about scheduled road closures, events and more, please visit: www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/GVBR

COUNCIL MEETINGS

Wednesday 15 November 2.00pm
(Council Chambers, Leongatha)

Dates are also listed on Council's website at:

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

Please contact the Governance Team for questions about Council Meetings.

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

IMPOUNDING OF VEHICLE

Council impounded a silver 2010 Holden Sedan in accordance with Schedule 11 of the *Local Government Act 1989* on Friday 17 November 2023.

Registration Number: N/A

Engine Number: 6G1EK5E75AL448734

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

For enquiries, please contact Mez Manners, Local Laws Officer on 5662 9200 during office hours.

REQUEST FOR TENDER

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

RTF/388 – Simons Lane, Leongatha; Road Realignment

Tenders close at 2.00pm AEDT on Tuesday 5 December 2023

RTF/390 – Construction of Retaining Wall; 18 Smith Street Loch

Tenders close at 2.00pm AEDT on Tuesday 12 December 2023

EOI/392 – Leongatha Memorial Hall Precinct Feasibility Study

Tenders close at 2.00pm AEDT on Tuesday 19 December 2023

Documentation is available from Council's e-Tendering Portal

www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/tenders

CONTACT US

9 Smith Street, Leongatha

03 5662 9200

www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au

Clare Williams declared South Gippsland Shire Council mayor

COUNCILLOR Clare Williams was appointed South Gippsland Shire Council mayor on Wednesday, with her predecessor Nathan Hersey returning to the deputy mayor post he held in the first year of the current council's term.

Expressing her appreciation of the contributions of Cr Hersey and Cr Mohya Davies during their terms as mayor, Cr Williams said each brought their own strengths to the role and she will do likewise.

Cr Williams told the Sentinel-Times she will have a strong focus on making herself accessible to people around the shire.

"I'll show my strength through a deeper connection," she said, noting she is one to wear her heart on her sleeve.

The new mayor looks forward to continuing to work with the rest of the councillor group.

"I'm team orientated, and I concentrate on growth within the group making sure we've got a succession plan in place and setting up the next term for success, whoever that may be," Cr Williams said, looking ahead to the council election in a year's time.



New South Gippsland Shire Council mayor Clare Williams, council CEO Kerry Ellis and deputy mayor Nathan Hersey. A27_4823

She believes the fact she is ready to embrace the responsibility of mayor is testament to the high-quality induction for the inexperienced councillor group and the ongoing support provided.

"Absolutely not," Cr Williams declared when asked if she imagined at the beginning of her first time on council she would be mayor by last year of the current term.

"I just wanted to come in and learn as much as I could but this organisation and (council

CEO) Kerry (Ellis) has shown that a well-inducted councillor can achieve so much because they have access to information and opportunities within the sector to grow themselves, and that's what I've done," Cr Williams declared.

She gave the example of joining the Australian Local Government Women's Association (Victoria), of which she is a director.

CEO Ellis said it has been a privilege to work with all nine current councillors.

"It was fantastic to have Mohya as mayor in the first year (of the council term) with the experience she brought but it's been terrific to see how quickly the other eight councillors have invested in the community and learnt so much about the role," she said.

Cr Hersey looks forward to supporting the new mayor and appreciates the support of other councillors in backing him for a leadership position in all three years of the council term.

Mayor's Message



Cr Clare Williams

HELLO South Gippsland. What an amazing privilege to be the Mayor of South Gippsland Shire, to work with an organisation that has fostered an environment of collaboration, education and support and makes sure we have all the information needed to continue the success story of South Gippsland.

This Council is a group that thrives because of our diversity, but we all have one thing on our minds – the prosperity and longevity of our home.

South Gippsland is a key agriculture and tourism area that has plenty to offer the rest of the state, and indeed the nation. We are a significant player and we will be making sure everyone knows exactly that.

I have no doubt that the next 12 months will be busy. The work certainly doesn't stop here. I look forward to the opportunities and challenges of this role and everything ahead of us making sure that accessibility is at a whole new level.

I want our community to know that we will continue advocating for better outcomes for South Gippsland. We will be getting the job done. We will continue being transparent and engaged.

We will deliver on our Community's Vision and Council Plan. We will always seek better outcomes – getting comfortable with discomfort. We will continue to make decisions – they may not be popular, but they will be right.

We will be communicating well and often, keeping you well informed about what we are doing. My hope is that when someone starts talking about Council, your response will be 'yes I know'. So let's get down to business.

The process of the General Local Law review continues and Councillors are all currently working through reading every submission made by the community. We thank you all for your feedback.

Council is always keen to have feedback from the community, and there are a range of other feedback opportunities now available online:

- Draft Children and Families Plan – closes November 30, 2023.
- Korumburra Railway Precinct Mural – closes December 4, 2023.
- Mirboo North Kindergarten – closes December 3, 2023.
- Princes Street, Korumburra – closes December 8, 2023.

Please continue to give your feedback via the Your Say South Gippsland website: <https://yoursay.southgippsland.vic.gov.au>

Events

I'd like to congratulate the organising committee and volunteers who brought us Fishy Stories 2023. Congratulations on another successful event that fosters authors, illustrators, performers and special events in story-making and storytelling bringing literature to life in Fish Creek.

The second annual Council **Stakeholder Breakfast** was held last week. It brought together a huge amount of knowledge from around South Gippsland to chat about renewable energy, advocacy and how we can take advantage and benefit from multi-generational investment and turn it into a legacy for our community. Thanks to everyone who attended and provided input.

We have a vibrant group of young people that have been working on their priorities and what can be achieved in the next 12 months as part of the **Youth Council**. If you would like to join, please contact Council on council@southgippsland.vic.gov.au

The **Great Victorian Bike Ride – Snowy to Sea** will be coming through South Gippsland with approximately 2,000 riders arriving and staying in Fish Creek on December 2.

I will be hosting a **Councillor Catch Up** on Tuesday, December 5 between 10.00am and 2.00pm. Come and see me at the Mirboo North and District Community Foundations Co-Space!

Opportunities for artists in South Gippsland

MEENIYAN will have its turn hosting the Art Cubes in town for three months from February 2, 2024.

Local artists are invited to apply for a two or four week residency in one of the cubes during this period.

The Art Cubes are an initiative of South Gippsland Shire Council and Meeniyang Progress Association are proud to accept their invitation to host the cubes for this period.

The proposed location is alongside the Great Southern Rail Trail on Tompkins Road.

Artists who would like to showcase their work in one of the cubes will need to submit an expression of interest (EOI) that explains what they would like to exhibit, their connection to Meeniyang and the surrounding area in addition to the other selection criteria defined in the EOI document.

Successful artists will be eligible for a payment of up to \$150 per week, per cube to assist with their residency,



Ann-Maree Gentile stands in the ArtCube she has brought to life with her striking origami birds.

dependent on the scope of the project.

Expressions of interest close on Friday, December 8.

Email applications or questions to artcubes@meeniyang.org.au.

Coal Creek's 50 years Exhibition

AS PART of Coal Creek Community Park and Museum's 50th anniversary in March 2024, an exhibition

of works will be held at Coal Creek with the theme of "What will South Gippsland or the world look like in 50 years?"

Continuing the theme of 50, up to 50 works will be chosen to be displayed as part of this exhibition.

Expression of interest can be completed for up to three works per artist or group and are open now until January 31, 2024. The EOIs will then go to a selection committee.

Artworks must have been created after December 2022 and works must be complete at the time of submission.

For further details and requirements for artworks and eligibility, and to submit an EOI go to southgippsland.vic.gov.au/coalcreek50.

Tweet in Foster

THE STOCKYARD Gallery is calling on all artists to submit work for their 'Tweet' show next year.

Anything avian inspired is welcome including sculpture, painting, drawing, ceramics mixed media and photography.

Prizes will be awarded and a special photographic exhibition will be held in conjunction with Tweet.

Think outside the birdcage and get creative.

Entries are limited to two per artist and each entry is \$10.

Submissions are due at the gallery on Tuesday 27th Feb.

Go to stockyardgallery.au for more information.

Korumburra Business Association ready for new challenges

KORUMBURRA Business Association (KBA) is ready to power on representing local business operators after a spectacularly successful special general meeting saw the organisation's committee double in size and its previously vacant executive posts filled.

Jack Gilchrist, owner of the town's Area Specialist Real Estate business, is excited to take on the KBA presidency.

While he was already keen to contribute to KBA, it was the cancellation of the town's Christmas shopping night due to the organisation's inability to fill executive positions that prompted him to put his hand up for the presidency.

"Someone's got to do it and I'm more than happy to,"



Robyn Van Hamond (treasurer), Jack Gilchrist (president), Lauren Whittingham (vice president), Alma Morrison (secretary) and committee members Elyse Fisher and Ali Smith are looking forward to working together to represent Korumburra businesses.

Jack said.

While he doesn't know how the entirely new committee will compare to the previous one, the president looks forward to working with others and seeing their fresh ideas put into action

to boost local businesses and the appeal of Korumburra.

"The business community needs to know that someone's representing them," he said of the importance of KBA continuing and thriving.

He praised the contribution of the previous committee.

"It would be such a shame to see all their hard work just go; they've done wonderful things, and if no one put their hand up it would all be gone," Jack said.

Lauren Whittingham of JB Automotive Repairs has stepped into the position of KBA vice president, Robyn Van Hamond from the Old Corner Post Office is the new treasurer and Alma Morrison of Pure Fitness is now secretary.

Arborist Evan Enbom of South Gippsland Tree Care, Steven Kovacs from Orange Beacon Security and Technology, Elyse Fisher of Korumburra Middle Hotel and Burra Brewing's Ali Smith are the other committee members.

Newspapers on BorrowBox for Myli Members

MYLI members now have an exciting addition to their digital library – newspapers on BorrowBox. This popular feature is gaining widespread acclaim among patrons, thanks to its user-friendly interface and seamless accessibility across various devices.

BorrowBox, renowned for its extensive collection of e-books, e-audiobooks, and e-magazines, has expanded its offerings to include prominent newspapers. Myli members can now enjoy reading The Age (weekday and weekend editions), The Monthly, and The Saturday Paper, all within the same familiar platform that they already trust for their reading and listening activities

The Age, a stalwart in Australian journalism, offers a comprehensive coverage of national and international news on both weekdays and weekends.

For those with a penchant for in-depth analysis and cultural commentary, The Monthly is an excellent choice. Myli members can explore this thought-provoking publication at their leisure, gaining access to its rich content that covers politics, society, and culture.

For a leisurely weekend read, The Saturday Paper is the perfect companion. With its engaging mix of news, analysis, and commentary, members can stay informed and entertained. You will find these newspapers on BorrowBox under the 'e-press' tab alongside a huge range of e-magazines.

One of the key attractions of BorrowBox is the accessibility it provides. BorrowBox ensures that patrons can access their chosen newspapers, e-books, e-audiobooks and digital magazines effortlessly on a range of devices, from smartphones and tablets to computers. This adaptability enhances the reading experience, allowing users to stay updated on the latest news and insights wherever they go.

New to BorrowBox? BorrowBox provides a one-stop digital library experience, making it a preferred destination for readers of all preferences. Signing up is simple – all you need is a Myli membership. For more information on accessing BorrowBox, drop into your local Myli library in Bass Coast, Baw Baw, Cardinia or South Gippsland Shire, or visit myli.org.au.

• OBITUARY

The extraordinary life of Kevin Mortensen

Kevin Christian Mortensen • 4 November 1939 – 10 November 2023

WHILE Kevin Mortensen didn't refer to himself as an artist, his works left a significant mark on the art world and the Venus Bay local was much loved and admired, a full Tarwin Lower Memorial Hall for his Thursday funeral testament to his popularity.

The figurative and abstract sculptor, printmaker, painter, performance artist and art teacher passed away on November 10 just after his 84th birthday.

Cr Sarah Gilligan, who lives in Venus Bay, paid tribute to Kevin during the November council meeting, describing him as "an extraordinary man who lived an extraordinary life", and the eulogies at his funeral proved that was no exaggeration.

Funeral director Jenny Milkins acknowledged at the start of the service that she didn't know Kevin, saying she was increasingly peeved not to have done so the more she heard about his love of art and his personality.

"I've learned that he was loving and he was loved," she said.

Kevin formed many connections throughout Victoria and Australia and his diverse works feature in a broad range of galleries.

One of his sons, Christian,



said as he commenced his eulogy that it is difficult to encapsulate all the laughter and adventures people shared with Kevin.

Attendees got a taste of those adventures, including Kevin's enjoyment of trout fishing and his camping exploits.

One of the latter involved Kevin creating gliders from cigarette paper and powering them with March flies, leaving a visiting park ranger in a state of consternation when one of the tiny aviators winged its way past him.

Kevin had a fascination with flight from boyhood and was

an expert in creating small gliders.

Birds featured prominently in his work, including in his performance art.

Known as 'The Birdman', he participated in many solo and group exhibitions including representing Australia at the 1980 Venice Biennale.

While a significant achievement, with his performance declared a critical success, there was a humorous run-in with an impatient Italian photographer who pulled 'The Birdman's' beak, earning a slap in response.

Christian said Kevin was

assigned a decrepit building for his Biennale performance, perhaps reflecting the European attitude towards Australians.

"It didn't help that dad performed nude," he added.

While Kevin devoted much time to creativity, he was dedicated to family and broader issues.

As well as being concerned for the welfare of family, Kevin developed a strong consciousness of issues such as climate change, and racism, prompting Christian to acknowledge the traditional owners of the land on which the Memorial Hall sits, saying it's a gesture of which his father would approve.

Kevin's other son, Caleb, soldiered on bravely despite overwhelming emotion, delivering a few of the treasured stories his father shared over the years, including one about a fox creating a giant furball and tricking all his fleas into climbing onto that before allowing the furball to float off downstream.

Daughter Greta reflected on the challenge of speaking about her father Kevin.

"It felt impossible to put the largeness of what this means to me into words," she said.

However, she soon spoke of his bravery, authenticity and honesty as a person.

Christmas joy at St Laurence O'Toole Primary

FORTUNATELY, stalls at St Laurence O'Toole Primary School's Christmas Market were located inside, with rain arriving on Friday.

However, the wet weather held off long enough for attendees to enjoy the festive singing of students, those from Grades 3 and 4 strikingly Christmassy in Santa and elf hats, and tops featuring festive designs such as reindeer, Father Christmas and a gingerbread man.

A pair of students even had 'naughty' and 'nice' covered, their tee-shirts revealing which was which.

It wasn't only the outfits setting the Christmas mood, with the bubbly and energetic performance of carols and festive songs filled with joy.

On the ride front, youngsters

could select a fast-moving option or the gentler mini ferris wheel, with other entertainments including balloon designs and facepainting.

Some also ended up with blue mouths from sampling a vibrant hue of fairy floss.

A French theme intertwined with that of Christmas, the language taught at St Laurence by the popular and quirky Madame Gatehouse.

Inside, there were plentiful Christmas presents available, with art, pottery, books, jewellery, fragrant wax melts, candles and honey among the diverse range on offer.

Members of the ever-enthusiastic Leongatha Men's Shed crew were on hand, mixing their humour with selling their impressive woodwork, including toys and bowls.



David Gerrard, Jim Hendry, Ron Campbell and David Brereton of Leongatha Men's Shed display handmade wooden items ideal for Christmas gifts. A19_4823

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Leongatha Primary School students take part in Friday's orange walk. A20_4823

Trio of schools teach importance of respect

RESPECT was the key message as Leongatha Primary School, Leongatha Secondary College and South Gippsland Specialist School students took to the oval on Friday to mark Saturday's start to the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Based Violence campaign.

Stephanie Martin, a teacher at the primary school and co-organiser of the four-lap orange themed school event along with secondary school nurse Bec Cooke, spoke about the value of involving kids in the campaign.

She explained the schools initially became active in the 16 Days of Activism campaign through the Respectful Relationships program, a State Government initiative and part of the school curriculum.

Through Respectful Relationships, students learn about

gender and identity, with Stephanie saying the activism campaign is consistent with the values taught at school through that program.

She reflected on the Royal Commission into Family Violence, and the importance of people learning respectful behaviour from an early age.

"We need to start at this level to teach kids how to be respectful and teach respect in relationships," Stephanie said, adding it is believed that approach will eventually eradicate family violence.

She noted the need to eliminate gender stereotypes that contribute to family violence.

"This is all about bringing it to the community's attention," Stephanie said of the 16 Days of Activism's role in shining a spotlight on family violence and ways to reduce it.

Anglicare representatives were

at the oval to provide information for those impacted by family violence.

Peta Speight is the organisation's 'program manager for family safety and children' across Gippsland and highlighted the role Anglicare plays.

"I work with women, children and men who are either affected by or using violence in the family home and we have a number of programs designed to intervene, work with families, and provide safety, in particular for women and children."

Peta said there are men who realise they need to change their behaviour and Anglicare works with them to prevent violence and protect women and children.

"We are open to referrals from men themselves or their partners, schools, and members of the community," Peta said.

As well as its efforts in the area of family violence, Anglicare offers services for those doing it tough financially in the current economic climate, with financial counselling and an energy assist program that helps people reduce their energy bills.

Anglicare is also involved in arranging foster care for children in need and in the provision of free legal advice through an association with Gippsland Legal Service.

During Friday's oval walk, students heard announcements about respectful behaviour.

Help is available for those experiencing or perpetrating family violence:
Anglicare Victoria can be contacted on 1800 809 722.
Orange Door Inner Gippsland can be reached on 1800 319 354.

Community keen to have say on mural

THE DESIGN of a planned mural near the Korumburra railway underpass has generated tremendous public interest with over 300 people having their say on the three artworks in the running during the voting process that ends on December 3.

South Gippsland artist Melanie Caple is well known for her work around the shire, highlighting local native birds and botanicals, with her shortlisted design taking inspiration from the Korumburra Southern Lights Festival, using a glow-in-the-dark paint that will radiate softly.

Magic Lantern Studio, consisting of South Gippsland artists Lucy Parkinson and Gonzalo Verela, is in the running with its design centred around trees that are abstractions of local flora such as silver wattle, banksias and paperbarks.

Local fauna such as kookaburras, crimson rosellas and magpies also feature, with Korumburra's famous Karmai the giant earthworm making an appearance.

Like Melanie's design, there is a glowing element to that of Magic Lantern Studio, with that aspect to be brought to life with a UV light due to the use of a UV paint layer.

Melbourne-based artist Matt Ling draws inspiration from his experience of South Gippsland, his design incorporating elements of native flora and fauna, mingling with a tribute to Korumburra's railway heritage in the form of a locomotive and carriages.

Native gums, elderberry, wattle, spinebills and yellow-tailed black cockatoos are among the local natural delights highlighted.

Visit South Gippsland Shire Council's 'Your Say' site to inspect the trio of shortlisted designs and vote for your favourite.

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The pottery is also open weekends, public holidays and most weekdays.
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Throwing demonstration 11am & 2.30pm
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Robert Barron

Musicians support Noah's Gift

ENJOY a night of entertainment supporting local charity Noah's Gift this Friday night (December 1).

Local band Standing Room Only is hosting the event, with musical acts Leigh and Mauz, and Captain Tasty and the Filthy Horns also performing at The Clubhouse.

Proceeds from the event will go towards Noah's Gift, a charity established by the Jones family to support the Royal Children's Hospital's cardiac ward.

The charity was created to honour son Noah.

Standing Room Only's Darren Parker said the decision to support Noah's Gift with the musical showcase was a "no brainer".

"I've had the pleasure of knowing the Jones and Plumb family for a long time, so we felt it was appropriate to give our support to Noah's Gift," he said.

"We like to support charities as part of our end of year event. It's something we've been doing for a number of years."

Previously, the event has donated funds to the Peter MacCallum Cancer Foundation and local fun run Keeping Kids on Track.

Emma Jones thanked Darren and his fellow musicians for their support.

"We were really touched that they wanted to support Noah's Gift. Hopefully we'll see a good crowd on the night," she said.

"It was really nice to have someone jump on board to help us."

In the future, Noah's Gift is hoping to extend its support to the local hospital as well as the Royal Children's Hospital.

Darren said he'd love to see the event raise \$2000 for Noah's Gift.

"We've had some terrific sponsors come on board and have had some great things donated for the door prizes," he said.

Noah's Gift merchandise will also be available for purchase and will go toward the overall donation to the Royal Children's Hospital.

The event will kick off at 8pm with an entry fee of \$10.

Annual giving back at Cardell Accountants

EVERY year the team at Cardell Accountants make numerous donations to both local and national organisations. Recently staff and clients were encouraged to enter two organisations - one local and one national - into a donation box with two organisations to be drawn.

This year the recipients drawn were Bass Coast Adult Learning-Migrant English Program in Wonthaggi and Good Shepherd Organisation supporting Women. Each recipient was donated \$1000.

Over the past 12 years, Cardell Accountants have donated more than \$54,000 to various local and national charities. This is in addition to numerous sponsorships of local clubs and discounts to not-for-profit organisations.

Marcus Bond - Principal stated, "Cardell Accountants owe so much to the community and as a firm we value being able to give back and make a difference to the lives of others".

Woorayl Lodge fete a stunning success



Woorayl Lodge residents Barbara Taylor and Judy Tyson sell raffle tickets. A06_4823



David Thompson and Marius Vandeligt of Leongatha Lions Club serve up golden chips. A07_4823

WHILE rain didn't stay away for the whole of the annual Woorayl Lodge fete on Saturday, the event began in glorious sunshine and a big turnout of Lodge residents and Leongatha community members ensured it was a great success.

President of the Woorayl Lodge Auxiliary, Kaye Warren, was anxious when she woke in the early hours of Saturday morning to discover rain still falling, but was delighted how the day turned out, saying cake stall sales were at a record high, with the raffles also popular.

"I'm amazed with the support from the entire community; we haven't got final figures in yet but we're up to our expectations that we've had other years, which I'm amazed at," Kaye said.

That is despite the rain that began to tumble well before the scheduled end of the fete.

The residents sold raffle tickets and their festive craft creations, with many spilling out of the lodge while the sun was shining, enjoying the uplifting sounds of the South Gippsland Shire Brass Band as it mixed Christmas numbers.

The Gatha Rock dancers provided colour and movement before they were washed off the dance floor.

Although Woorayl resident Judy Tyson joked that, "We're out of detention," it's clear the lodge is a much-loved home.

"We're all happy here and well cared for," Alma Williams said

after buying some lavender bags at one of the fete stalls.

The positive vibe at Woorayl Lodge no doubt influences the many community members and organisations that pitch in to make the fete a fundraising success.

Leongatha's three supermarkets all contributed to the cause, enabling hams to be auctioned along with ducks donated by the town's Ryan family.

Leongatha Lions Club served up golden chips, members of the Woorayl Lodge Auxiliary, staff and others contributed cakes, biscuits and other treats for sale, and enthusiastic volunteers manned the barbecue.

Eziway, salary packaging provider to Woorayl Lodge staff, jumped at the opportunity to be involved in the fete, sending a coffee van from Melbourne when Kaye was unable to find any local ones without existing engagements.

The company donated coffee and the barista services of sociable Bella, so that funds raised would go to the lodge and improvements for residents.

Kaye was delighted to see many of the lodge staff members come in on their day off to escort residents outside and ensure they enjoyed the occasion.

This scribe relished the Woorayl Lodge chef's tasty Devonshire tea, also stocking up on relishes, jam, and Christmas cards, with the only complaint about the fete that it is held just once a year.

Community backs local education

ANOTHER contribution was recently made to the Steve Plumb Memorial Fund.

CWA Wonthaggi Owl Women donated \$1000 to the fund earlier this month.

The Steve Plumb Memorial Fund was created by Bass Coast Shire Council in honour of its late business manager.

The money from the fund goes towards supporting students and families who face financial disadvantage.

Introduced after the pandemic, the fund has allowed students struggling through financial hardship to enjoy the same opportunities as their peers.

"The fund allows students to access camps and subsidies for other extracurricular activities, ensuring everyone has the opportunity to participate," college principal Darren Parker said.

Money may also go towards access to computers to ensure

every student gets the best out of their education.

The fund recognises the contributions of Steve Plumb, with the school believing the purpose of the fund aligned nicely with his values and the way he worked with the students.

"Steve played a key role in supporting our students and this was our formalised way of recognising his legacy and ensuring his work continued on," Mr Parker said.

"It's become a practical way for students to access avenues of support to get the best education possible."

Mr Parker said the school is thankful for the community groups that have given its support to the fund.

The fund has benefited a number of students since its establishment and is a celebrated initiative within the school.

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Open gardens for community funds

THE CWA Woodleigh Vale branch organised two open gardens last weekend to raise funds for the community.

CWA members Dicky Dikkenberg and Susan Hawker both opened their gardens up to visitors in Kernot and Poowong.

With over sixty people attending, it was a successful event with tea and the fare that CWA is famous for, served for morning tea.

Dicky's garden in Kernot was open on the Saturday.

"Dicky has the most beautiful garden in Kernot. There's not another one like it, said current CWA President Agnes Veldhuizen.

"It's got many beautiful flowers and trees."

While Susan's garden in Poowong delighted visitors on the Sunday with its unusual features.

"It has lots of beautiful statues made from old farm machinery, boots with flowers in it and little dams, just beautiful," said Agnus.

Funds raised by the CWA go towards local organisations with Milpara and Mitchell Houses and local schools benefiting in the past.

The ladies haven't decided where the money will go from the Open Gardens event but will see who is most in need.

They are also happy for more women to join them and their small team of nine members.



Susan Hawker, Dicky Dikkenberg, Agnes Veldhuizen and Pam Mawson at Dicky Dikkenberg's garden in Kernot for the CWA Open Garden fundraiser.



Susan Hawker and Agnes Veldhuizen, CWA Bass Group President, at Susan's garden in Poowong for the CWA Open Garden event.



Pam Mawson, past state president of the CWA, serving morning tea and homemade CWA treats in Kernot at the Open Garden event.



Thea lights up the houses for Christmas

The idea to make Christmas houses out of cardboard came to 81-year-old Thea Dent one day after moving home.

She had left behind a shed full of wood-working equipment where she had constructed bird houses.

Thea couldn't bring her tools with her because of space, but she still had the desire to create.

It wasn't until she was doing a jigsaw of a house and thinking about sending a Christmas card that the idea to build with cardboard formed.

"I thought rather than a Christmas card, I'm going to give him this house and say Merry Christmas on the house as well."

It evolved from there and Thea's lounge room became her new workspace, using cardboard to make houses.

Recycling cardboard from purchases that came in boxes or scrounged from the recycling bin at the \$2 shop (with permission), the owner said to Thea "go for your life," she got to work.

At first painting the houses in Christmas colours, the structures have continued to evolve to have intricate doors, windows and rooflines and gardens with trees, snow, sleds and presents.

"In some of them I've got a Christmas tree that lights up because I put a light behind the tree so is it really shows up when the lights are on in the dark and you can see it all."

Thea began selling them for at the market for \$20 each, which everyone told her was too cheap, but she said she doesn't do it for the money and she doesn't want too many orders.

"What I do it for, is to buy more paint, glue and lights so I can make more houses. It's my hobby."

Thea made a replica of the Korumburra train station complete with train and within five minutes at the market, it was gone.

She builds lighthouses, farm cottages, halloween houses and castles, as well as bead bugs and spiders.

"I don't know why I do all these different models and stuff. It just keeps coming out in my head. I see a picture and I just do it," she said of her wonderful creations.

This year Thea has a little helper, her nine-year-old grandson, Harvey, who created a house himself, besides cutting out the windows, which requires the use a sharp knife and a steady hand.

"He likes it, he's learning and he's getting ideas," said Thea, who plans to continue expanding her hobby as far as the space will allow.

Unique gifts and decorations at Leongatha Art Gallery

CELEBRATING their 50th anniversary this year, the Leongatha Art and Craft Gallery showcases some of the finest work of talented local art and craft creators. The Gallery has become well-known and highly valued for the quality and diversity of work featured.

It is a popular space for both locals and tourists to visit, to be inspired by exhibiting artists and to find that perfect gift.

Recent renovations have created a bright, warm and welcoming space, making it a pleasure to browse and shop.

Local artists use an extensive range of modern and traditional techniques, to produce a wide variety of creative and artistic works. Visitors will find paintings, prints, ceramics, jewellery, photographs, books, woodwork, glass, fabric and textile

items, plus many other artistic styles, all of which feature in ever evolving displays. Many lovingly handmade Christmas decorations, cards and gifts are also available at this time of year.

A not-for-profit venue, the Leongatha Art and Craft Gallery relies on volunteers to run the Gallery and gift shop. New volunteers and artistic members are always welcome.

Further information can be found on the Gallery's website leongathagallery.com.au, or you can call the Gallery on 5662 5370.

The Gallery is open Tuesday to Friday from 10am to 4pm and Saturdays from 10am to 1pm, subject to the availability of volunteers.

Visitors may like to call ahead to confirm opening hours.



Find beautiful, locally-made, hand-crafted gifts that are unique, quirky and distinctive at The Leongatha Art Gallery this Christmas. Local artist Caz Gray with gallery display committee member Jill Wright. ob03_4823

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Newhaven College – a haven of opportunity

NEWHAVEN College is about hands-on sensory learning. Whether it be outdoor education, music lessons or a maths class, teachers are actively present ensuring each young person's unique learning path is enriched. Newhaven's educators are at their peak professionally, resulting in students receiving the best possible education.

With a proud academic record, many Newhaven College students go on to further education, however, the College also offers a wide range of VET subjects and unique programs to complement the curriculum.

Some of the highlights of an education at Newhaven College include a wide range of co-curricular activities, from sports to an exceptional performing arts program. Sports include House and inter-school competitions, plus out-of-the-box opportunities such as the coveted Surfing Academy and Equestrian Team. Some of our riders and surfers have achieved extraordinary results in 2023 with National Championship wins in a range of disciplines. The Performing Arts Wing is outstanding, with one-on-one lesson spaces, a rehearsal studio, sound rooms, collaboration spaces and the Black Box theatre. This facility, along with an exceptional music teaching team, provides a nurturing and encouraging space for music students to explore their talent.

Looking out over Westernport Bay, the open space and healthy atmosphere of the unique learning space of the Year 9 Environmental Centre helps to shape a student's mindset. Wearing their special Year 9 'ranger-style' uniforms, students are ready to move between the classroom and outdoor activities as opportunities arise. Head of Year 9 Ric Pearce puts it perfectly, "The Environmental Centre is a busy, ever-changing place of learning. Our specialised team provide professional dedication and commitment to supporting Year 9 students as they pass through the challenges of adolescence."

An education at Newhaven College is grounded, well-rounded and nurturing. The result is young adults armed for their future with confidence and an open mind.



Karen Pearce's parents Louk and Keith Thiele accepted the cheque for \$8600 on behalf of Australian Red Cross Lifeblood from 2023 College Captains Niamh Moore, Brinn Hamley, Gabe Pascoe and Oscar Healey.

Students raise \$8600 for Red Cross Lifeblood

EACH year, Newhaven College Year 12 Leadership select a charity to support.

This year, Australian Red Cross Lifeblood was selected in memory of much-loved teacher Karen Pearce who passed away in 2022 after a battle with leukemia. The Year 12 Leadership team led the College community to raise over \$8600 for Australian Red Cross Lifeblood and were thrilled with the participation and enthusiasm from students, staff, and parents right across the school.

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

the College staff organised a cake baking competition.

Mrs Pearce's parents, Louk and Keith Thiele attended a Senior School assembly to accept the cheque for \$8600 on behalf of Australian Red Cross Lifeblood.

In his address at a recent whole school assembly, Principal, Mr Tony Corr spoke of the Year 12s' fundraising efforts.

"Red Cross Lifeblood was chosen as a tribute to the students' former teacher Mrs Karen Pearce. It was appropriate that the fundraising cheque was presented to Mrs Pearce's family. In accepting the cheque Karen's mum, Louk, spoke very emotionally

about the gratitude she felt to the students. It became clear that this was so much more than funds for Red Cross Lifeblood. This was a powerful and symbolic gesture of love and care from our students. And it meant so much to Karen's family. For me, it said a lot about this group of Year 12s. Of whom you are. You deeply care – for one another, your school, and your community. It is the care that you demonstrate that we as a school are most proud of."

The College would like to congratulate the 2023 Year 12 Leadership team. They showed dedication, determination, and exceptional leadership skills to produce such

a fantastic result. Fundraising for 2024 will be decided by the incoming Year 12 Leadership team early next year.

Red Cross Lifeblood Chief Financial Officer, John Brown, said on receiving the donation, "Australia has one of the safest blood supplies in the world, and a donation such as this will assist Lifeblood in ensuring we continue to provide life-giving blood, plasma, transplantation and biological products for world-leading health outcomes for Australians."

Red Cross Lifeblood always welcomes financial or blood donations. More information can be found at lifeblood.com.au

We honour and enrich each young person's unique learning path



Newhaven College is committed to creating a vibrant culture where students thrive. Whether your child is one of our youngest Preps or one of our Year 12s preparing for life beyond school, we nurture the needs of each student to ensure their unique gifts and talents can flourish.

Come and find out more about our College. Call our Registrar Belinda Manning on 03 5956 7505 or email belinda.manning@newhavencol.vic.edu.au



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Inverloch RSL secures two grants

The Inverloch Returned and Services League (RSL) Sub Branch is celebrating a momentous achievement, having successfully obtained two grants from the Victorian Government Department of Families, Fairness and Housing (DFFH). The grants aim to enhance the support provided to veterans and their families in the local community through a comprehensive fitness and wellbeing program and the creation of a meaningful mural.

The first grant, awarded to Inverloch RSL in collaboration with Broadbeach Inverloch Health Club, ensures full access to the gym facilities. This 12-month program offers veterans and their families the opportunity to maintain their physical health and overall wellbeing. In addition to regular gym usage, two exclusive RSL Active classes will be provided, tailored to the specific needs of veterans. By promoting an active lifestyle and fostering a sense of community, this initiative aims to improve the lives of those who have served the nation.

"We are thrilled to partner with Broadbeach Inverloch Health Club and the Victorian Government to provide an outstanding fitness and wellbeing program for our veterans and their families," said Ross Gabb, President of Inverloch RSL.

"This grant enables us to support their physical health goals while nurturing a strong network of camaraderie and



Inverloch RSL in collaboration with Broadbeach Inverloch Health Club will be offering two exclusive RSL Active classes tailored to veterans specific needs.

support within the community." The second grant awarded to Inverloch RSL will facilitate the creation of a beautiful mural at the newly blessed commemorative garden in the heart of Inverloch Cemetery. The thoughtfully designed mural will pay tribute to the exceptional service and sacrifices made by veterans

throughout the years including the Women's Land Army. It will serve as a poignant reminder of their dedication and selflessness while offering RSL members and their families a peaceful space for reflection. The commemorative garden, adorned with the mural, will not only honour the past but also inspire future generations

to appreciate the contributions of veterans. The tranquil atmosphere will provide a comforting sanctuary where families and fellow servicemen and women can gather to remember, pay respects, and find solace amidst the hustle and bustle of everyday life.

"Inverloch RSL is deeply indebted to the Victorian Government for their generosity and understanding in granting us the funds to create this beautiful mural," expressed Lindsay Guerin, Secretary of Inverloch RSL.

"The commemorative garden will be a place of solace and gratitude, allowing our community to not only remember but also celebrate the lives of those who have served selflessly. We appreciate the support we get from Jordan Crugnale, our local MP."

The Inverloch RSL is committed to continuing its unwavering support for veterans and their families, recognising the importance of physical and emotional well-being. With these grants, the RSL aims to build a strong foundation for the future, fostering an environment of inclusivity, respect, and appreciation.

The grants from the Victorian Government DFFH serve as a testament to Inverloch RSL's dedication and the broader community's commitment to honouring and nurturing the well-being of those who have served our great nation. Together, they are working to make a positive impact on the lives of veterans and their families.

Memorial garden misunderstood

THE recent act of defacing a shed at the Inverloch cemetery has sparked controversy and shed light on a misunderstanding surrounding the purpose of commemorative gardens. By suggesting that these gardens glorify war, the defacer fails to acknowledge the true intention behind such respectful spaces. It is essential to recognise that the brave men and women who served were not responsible for the decision to go to war; instead, they paid the ultimate price, giving their lives to protect our freedoms.

One cannot deny that war entails heartache, loss, and sacrifice. The brave soldiers who fought on the front lines faced unimaginable traumas, risking their lives for the greater good.

These gardens serve as a sombre reminder of the sacrifices made by those who lived through the horrors of war and, ultimately, paid the ultimate price.

The truth is that not all veterans pay with their lives in a single moment. Some carry the physical and emotional scars long after the battles have ended. They endure a lifetime of sacrifice, often facing challenges that go unnoticed by society. Commemorative gardens serve as a symbol of gratitude towards all veterans, recognising the immense toll that their selfless service has taken.

Whoever was responsible, we at the Inverloch RSL would like an opportunity to have a chat, wherever you wish, to better explain our intent of the garden.

The recent defacement serves as a reminder that the purpose of commemorative gardens is often misunderstood. These serene spaces exist not to glorify war but to honour and remember the brave men and women who paid the ultimate price.

By recognising their sacrifices and providing a place for reflection, we ensure that their memory lives on, which is necessary for building a more peaceful future. It is through understanding and education that we can ensure the respect and preservation of memorial sites, ensuring that the legacy of our fallen heroes endures.

we can

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Grantville CWA creates beautiful bags for patients

PATIENTS of Bass Coast Health (BCH) and their families have been touched by the generous donation of bags, handmade by the members of the Grantville branch of the Country Women's Association (CWA).

The bags were initially given to the families of Palliative Care patients when they pass away and contained their loved one's possessions. A pocket sewn on the front of the bag also has information for families about formalities to attend to upon the passing of a relative.

The program was so successful that it has expanded throughout BCH, with bags now given to patients in our Dialysis, Armitage House Sub-Acute service and Integrated Care Unit cancer service, as well as Social Work clients.

Grantville CWA Branch Vice-President Pate Tuchtan said, "Our members are so proud to be able to help our local health service and have decided to make this an ongoing project."

"For the last three years we have also been making one of our annual donations to the Integrated Care Unit."

"We are keen to give to the health service because we know that, individually, we all will likely need its services in some way."

The CWA also wishes to acknowledge Wonthaggi Fabric and Beads' significant donation of a large quantity of fabric towards the bag project.

Residential care centres star

BASS Coast Health's (BCH) residential care centres have received outstanding results in the most recent Star Ratings survey.

The surveys are completed by residents and their families.

Kirrak House at Wonthaggi received five stars overall and Griffiths Point Lodge at San Remo received four stars overall. Both centres rated highly for compliance, quality measures, residents' experiences and staffing.

The surveys are conducted quarterly and the Star Ratings help older Australians and their families compare the quality and safety performance of different services.

BCH CEO Jan Child said Bass Coast Health's care facilities were literally reaching for the stars.

"These outstanding results reflect the dedication and enthusiasm that our staff show for our residents. They treat them like they were their own family and as such the care they provide is second to none," Ms Child said. "Our staff take great pride in the work they deliver. For them, their work is far more than just a job."

Renovations at Griffiths Point Lodge are nearly complete and Kirrak House has been renovated in recent years.

BCH now has vacancies at both Griffiths Point Lodge and Kirrak House. For potential residents and their families contact Griffiths Point Lodge - 5678 5311 and Kirrak House - 5671 3250. Personalised tours are available.

Meeniyan Primary School learn robotic and coding basics

MEENIYAN Primary School (MPS) students are among those in the region to have tried a Korean robotic and coding product named Edminds, introduced by a Leongatha business, with the five enthusiastic youngsters experimenting with the STEM technology recently.

"With Edminds, we aim to provide an early introduction to DIY robotics and coding education to children through an interactive medium," Rema Banerjee of IT Solutions Gippsland said.

The group of Meeniyan Primary School kids experimented with a UARO Series kit, which is the entry level for Edminds, designed for those aged four to 10 and intended to introduce children to the fundamentals of coding and robotics.

The kit includes frames, nuts and bolts, a battery pack, various sensors, along with motors and wheels to allow dynamic movements.

An assembly manual and workbook feature colourful illustrations and step-by-step instructions for 12 robot design ideas.

Years 3 and 4 MPS teacher, Eloise O'Brien, was interested to see the selected students interacting with the STEM tool, saying the manual was like those for Lego with which



Meeniyan Primary School students Max Giliam, Jonathan Tuckett, Ellie Symington and Sarah Potter learn about coding and robotics.

children are familiar.

While the children followed the instructions to create a dog, they also tried a freestyle approach.

"The kids were allowed to experiment," Eloise said, noting that through trial and error they discovered they could make the robot go backwards as well as forwards.

Three boys and two girls participated in the

student-led session.

"Learning through play is a high value concept within education, and particularly at Meeniyan Primary School, because it offers so many opportunities for any age group and ability," Eloise said.

That outlook previously prompted the school to invest in a separate educational resource known as a Nudel Kart, a hotdog stand sized

kit that can be used to create many things, such as a submarine or a hospital operating theatre.

While the Nudel Kart is on a large scale and can engage a whole class, it is completely different to the Edminds product because it doesn't involve robotics or coding.

Edminds UARO Series is 'unplugged', meaning one can build and code without a computer.

The series has four levels of DIY robotic kits that introduce new accessories and hand-held coding elements to engage children while adding dexterity.

Sam Embuldeniya of IT Solutions Gippsland said he was inspired to introduce the Edminds product in the final semester of his MBA studies at Monash University.

"I thought this is a great product for the school environment and I did a lot of research in the Australian market and found out there are gaps there we can fill with this product," he said, adding the focus is on launching for the local community first.

Edminds Aikiro Series furthers robotic and coding understanding for children at an intermediate level, with the Robotkit Series for those at the most advanced level and tailored to children up to 15.

National honour for Bass Coast Health Emergency doctor



Dr Jonathan Henry is a friendly face in the Emergency Department at Wonthaggi Hospital.

BASS Coast Health (BCH) Emergency Doctor Dr Jonathan Henry has been named Australasian Humanitarian of the Year by the Australasian Society for Ultrasound in Medicine for his work in enhancing medical care in Vanuatu and throughout the Pacific.

Dr Henry visited Vanuatu in 2022 to deliver a course, teaching doctors how to use an ultrasound for specialist medical matters.

The course was named PEARLS (POCUS for Emergency and Acute care in Resource-Limited Settings), with POCUS standing for Point-of-Care Ultrasound.

After the course, doctors in Vanuatu continue to scan and upload images to a secure online cloud, so doctors in the broader PEARLS medical

network, including our own Dr Darsim Haji, can provide review and feedback.

The course has now been run at multiple sites throughout the Pacific.

Dr Henry was thrilled to accept the award on behalf of the entire PEARLS medical community, who are using ultrasound to save lives every day.

"It's a great honour but I dedicate it to the inspiring local clinicians who I've worked with throughout the Pacific in resource-limited settings, who love their work and have a deep dedication to their patients," he said.

"It's a privilege to learn from international colleagues working in resource-limited settings who have taught me so much and I've been able to bring that to Bass Coast Health," he said.

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Students celebrated at Bass Coast College



BASS Coast College celebrated the outstanding achievements of its Year 10 and 11 students recently. An assembly was held on Thursday, recognising the efforts of the students throughout the school year. Campus principal Ross Bramley congratulated the students on their efforts and encouraged them to continue working hard as they enter their final years of school. School has almost wrapped up for 2023 at Bass Coast College. The former Year 11 students just finished a week in Year 12. The Year 10 students will be heading into their first week of Year 11 classes this week.



The Year 11 Key Learning Area Awards went to Connor Maher Lemaitre (English), Amy Scott (Literature), Olivia Bramley (Health and PE), Jas Williams (Health and PE), Lucy Dean (Humanities), Louisa Poll (Commerce), Lorenzo Lepiten (Languages), Dillen Andrighetto (Physical Sciences), Ciara McCraw (Life Sciences), Mia Boost (Product Design and Technology), Ned Brown (Food Studies), Harry Gough (Furnishing) and Asha McMahon (Performing Arts). Absent: Dylan Cleary (Mathematics) and Mak Krause (Visual Arts).



The TAFE Gippsland Outstanding Student Award went to Eliza Wintle at Bass Coast College.



Bass Coast College principal Darren Parker presented the Year 10 Outstanding Academic Achievement Awards to Judson Battye, Henry Ferguson, Harvey Green, Bella Gude and Milla Laub.



Presented by Watersure's Julien Tavvry, Year 11 students Shaye Brown, Lacie Phillips, Louisa Poll and Charlie Slater received the Watersure Scholarships at Bass Coast College. Absent: Dylan Cleary and Jade Ricardo.



Bass Coast College's Year 10 Key Learning Area Awards went to Milla Laub (English, and Health and PE), Evie Camenzuli (Health and PE), Neva Cleary (Humanities), Stirling Hamilton (Commerce), Annabelle Birt (Languages), Bella Gude (Mathematics), Lana Brusamarello (Maths Extension), Lorenzo Lepiten (Physical Sciences, and Product and Design Technology), Sarah Seuren (Life Sciences), Jasmine McDonald (Food Studies), Henry Ferguson (Visual Arts) and Georgia Hamilton (Performing Arts). Absent: Amaya Charlesworth (English) and Qiarshi Adams (Furnishing).



Bass Coast College's Year 10 Special Award recipients were Lorenzo Lepiten and Milla Laub (coordinator's award), Sam Thexton (encouragement award sponsored by Inverloch Rotary) and Melinda Weir (Encouragement Award, ADF Future Innovators Award and Kwong Lee Dow Young Scholars Program), Chloe Lawson (ADF Long Tan Youth Leadership and Teamwork Award), Lucy Aylett (Kwong Lee Dow Young Scholars Program) and Harvey Green (Watersure Scholarship). Absent: Sophie Carter (Watersure Scholarship).



Year 12 student Kaitlyn Shepherd was presented with the John Lindsay Memorial Scholarship for the VCE Vocational Major student of the year at Bass Coast College.



Jack Hosking and Jessica McGuirk were the recipients of the Year 11 coordinator awards at Bass Coast College.



Bass Coast College's Year 11 VCE vocational major Outstanding Academic Achievement Award recipients were Jaxon Foon and Imogen Lockhart.



Bass Coast College Year 12 student Kayla Humphrey received a Watersure Tertiary Scholarship, presented by Watersure's Julien Tavvry. Absent: Jett Watson.



The Year 11 Outstanding Academic Achievement Award winners were Shaye Brown, Katie Fisher, Zac Mabilia and Louisa Poll. Absent: Dylan Cleary.



Year 11 Amelia Alderson and Tao King received encouragement awards sponsored by Inverloch Rotary at Bass Coast College.



AGA's Jo Dixon presented the Into Work Vibrant Futures Award to Year 11 student Madison Shepherd at Bass Coast College.

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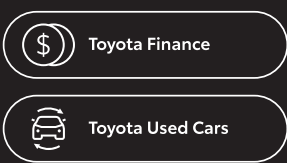


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Inverloch artist Fiona Kennedy is a household name in art circles locally, and prior to moving to a much-more accessible location at 12 Beaton Place (rear car-park off A'Beckett Street), she plied her trade at several rural studios and galleries. Working in oils, she incorporates 24 carat gold dust and natural crystals in her unique works. For the Inverloch Street Party on December 7 she is hosting a rock painting activity for children.



Baby care, baby wraps, baskets, bags, bath towels, bathroom essentials, bento boxes, bibs, blankets, body brushes, bottles and flasks, brushes and brooms... there's an enormous array of sustainably-selected giftware at That Eco Place, in the new location of 3 A'Beckett Street, Inverloch and that's just the Bs! Mother and daughter team Jac and Chelsea Wass have gone out of their way to source reusable, ethical, sustainable, low-waste, natural products to sell in fact, Jac is even doing her masters degree in sustainable practice at RMIT. They're offering the prize of a cute dinosaur for the 'Dinosaur Hunt' at the Inverloch Street Party on Thursday, December 7.

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INVERLOCH STREET PARTY

and late-night trading event

SAVE the date... The Inverloch Street Party is going to be huge, and we literally mean huge!

Have you heard?

The Inverloch Tourism Association was fortunate enough to receive a Bass Coast Shire Council Community Grant to add a bit more fun to the traditional Christmas late night trading event, so they have decided to make it huge.

Thursday December 7 from 5-8pm A'Beckett and William Street will come alive as the shops stay open late, live musicians play and after 126 million years of hiding, dinosaurs will once again roam the streets.

Newly appointed ITA President Glen Morris told us "The ITA was thrilled to receive a grant from the Bass Coast Council to enable us to run the Inverloch Street Festival this year. Our team of volunteers have worked tirelessly to bring

what is planned to be a huge event to town. The real winners of this generous council support and all the hard work will be the broader community who attend on the night and join in all the activities. There are so many fun and free events to entertain the children, in particular they certainly won't miss Toby the T-Rex as he is over two metres tall".

The Inverloch Street Party aims to:

- Provide a fabulous opportunity for you to shop local as the festive season draws closer
- Connect community
- Pump up the festive vibes
- Build on our town pride
- Be inclusive for all
- Make sure everyone has fun

Check out some of the fun that has been planned:

Inverloch shops and traders will stay open late plus there will be over 20 market stalls attending. You will be able to see what's new in all

the fabulous Inverloch stores such as Mookah, Treat Time, Paperplay and That Eco Place or pick up some lovely handmade beauties from talented local creators. Out of town businesses such as Greener Life Inverloch will also make the trip into town in case you want to grab something green.

If that's not enough over 10 community groups will be attending with demonstrations, information stands and of course a Scout sausage sizzle! What's more you will have the chance to give back to the community via various raffles with amazing prizes from fundraising groups.

The list goes on.

- Adults can get some shopping done then chill with drinks from Kombi Keg, in the adults-only fenced off area or on the deck of Green Heart Providore and Café whilst enjoying local musicians.

- Restaurants such as MK Thai and some cafes will be open, plus extra food trucks. Think Twista Spuds, roast beef rolls, and Gomathy's Kitchen Indian snacks plus delicious home baked treats from Invious Baked Goods.
- Real dinosaurs will roam and dance in the street with the kids from 5-6.30pm.
- Free dinosaur hunts and free pet rock painting in Fiona Kennedy's art studio (follow the dinosaur footprints and head down Artist Alley to find the studio).
- Colouring competition sponsored by Treat Time – pop in before the event and pick up your colouring page.
- Ranger Mike will be at the Bunurong Environment Centre talking all things dinosaurs.
- Loads of crafting activities around the Visitor Information Centre and library.
- Community demonstrations from the CFA, SES – with fire

truck and boat.

- GippsSport will be there with games and Inverloch Bike hire will have e-bike demonstrations.
- Santa will even come and say Hi.
- Carol singers will wander plus live local musicians in the adults-only chill out space.
- Don't forget to have your photo taken in front of the Dino mural before you head home

This is an all-inclusive community event; we hope to see you there.

Head to visitinverloch.co (yes .co not .com) for a full schedule of fun closer to the event.

For more information contact ITA President Glenn Morris 0413 159 666

ITA Vice President and Event Co-ordinator Nicole Griffiths 0420 935 189

Event Co-ordinator Monique Wilson 0421 054 667



A feature of Inverloch Paperplay's involvement in the Inverloch Street Party on Thursday, December 7 will be the opportunity to play Finska games out the front of their shop at 10 A'Beckett Street. According to Lara Campbell of Paperplay, they'll be the ancient wood-chucking game Finska, there'll be Kubbs (also known as Viking Chess) and Quoits but inside there's an enormous array of these fun, tactile, wooden games and toys.



Janine Eigenraam and Treat Time have been part of the A'Beckett Streetscape in Inverloch for the past eight years and like most of the retail outlets in the street, she goes to a lot of trouble to source the very best sweet treats from Australian manufacturers, and responding to her customers, from all over the world including New Zealand, Holland, UK, USA and North America, and Japan.

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INVERLOCH STREET PARTY

and late-night trading event

Christmas Cabaret with Warrawee

The Warrawee Club in Inverloch has a long history of providing entertainment for the over 50s in the Bass Coast. In 2024, there will be monthly concerts which cost members \$6 entry (\$8 for guests) which includes door prizes and afternoon tea.

The Warrawee Club website and facebook pages show all of the activities and events happening. If you have never been to the club, come along and participate in a few activities, they are a very friendly group!

The Warrawee Christmas Cabaret is the final music event for 2023. Eddie James and his Morning Melodies Team have been doing many shows in South Gippsland, which have been a great hit with audiences. The Warrawee Christmas Cabaret will be two hours of music tributes to artists such as Elvis, Tom Jones, Abba and Australian legends. There will be great music, costumes and sing-alongs. If you are partial to having a dance, this concert is for you.

December 1 – Tickets are \$20, doors open at 6pm for a 6.30pm start. Eating will be at long tables, and you are welcome to bring nibbles and drinks, tea and coffee will be available. Get your tickets early via dropping into the Warrawee Club or direct debit: BSB: 633 000 A/c: 167 210 939.

WarraweeClub.com.Face-book.com/WarraweeSeniorsClub. Office: 5672 5263



Monique Wilson's Greener Life was a big hit last year and is one of the co-ordinators for this year's spectacular event. B11_5022



Nicole (Inverloch Street Party co-cordinator) and Leisa will be on hand December 7 to help with all your Christmas gifts. With a curated collection of stunning independent designers under the one roof.

Inverloch Dinosaurs are coming back...

AFTER 126 million years of hiding, dinosaurs will once again roam the streets of Inverloch on December 7 as they come to visit and join in the Street Party Celebrations.

You certainly won't miss Toby the T-Rex as he is over two metres tall but from what we understand some of these shy giants have taken refuge and hidden themselves around A'Beckett and Wiliam Streets.

As part of the 2023 Street Party, we are hoping that you will be able to help us find them.

You just need to grab your map and pencil from the Inverloch Visitor's Centre, make sure you have a grown up with you if you need help crossing the road and start hunting.

Find a dinosaur and write its name on your map and when you have found as many as you can head to the Bunurong Environment Centre to collect your reward! We think there are 10 of them, but there could be more undiscovered ones – if you find an undiscovered one perhaps you could give it a name!

Plus, when you get to the Bunurong Centre there is another surprise for you, Ranger Mike, a real life dinosaur hunter will be there to say hello and talk to you about dinosaurs.

Don't miss out it may be 126 million years before they appear again.

Event schedule

- Real Life dinosaurs will be roaming from 5-6.30pm
- Dinosaur hunting from 5-8pm

This activity is sponsored by That Eco Place and RACV Inverloch.

Skate jam at Invy Street Party

BRING a board or borrow from the Y, it's all happening in Inverloch on December 7.

In conjunction with the YMCA and Freeza, older kids can have their own jam-packed adventures with great music, skating and fun at Inverloch Skate Park.

An all-inclusive event, Inverloch Street Party organisers realised there was a gap last year and have filled the void with the help of YES, Youth Hub.

So, bring along your own board or borrow one at the gate and skate till your hearts content.

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SHOP IN KORUMBURRA this Christmas

Tommy is wheely back for St Josephs Christmas raffle

FOR 30 years from 1968 to 1998, Korumburra's Tommy Brown pushed a wheelbarrow up and down the streets, selling tickets for St Joseph's Primary School Christmas Raffle, and this year, he is back.

After a long hiatus due to health issues and raffleing for other clubs and causes, Tommy will be selling tickets for the school and the children once again.

Tommy has a long and special connection to the school and remembers when Father Walsh and the nuns worked there and the antics he would get up to selling tickets for the yearly raffle.

He recalls getting caught up in a game of pool with the Hells Angels (who lost every game and had to buy two pots and \$2 worth of raffle tickets), to gate crashing a golf presentation night and selling tickets, to missing the fete and taking the wheelbarrow into church the next day - and selling more tickets to church goers, to taking the nuns out to the Korumburra pubs to sell tickets and who later told Tommy that it was the best night of their life.

While this year's ticket sales will be mostly made outside the Korumburra IGA and a couple of the pubs, anything could happen when Tommy wants to sell a ticket a two.

He also alludes to the idea that he might throw in a free ticket or two for those who are willing to spend a bit more.

Tommy's ticket tally certainly adds up, having raised between one and two thousand dollars



Tommy Brown is back on the barrow for St Josephs Primary School Christmas raffle after a 25 year hiatus. ob08_4823

every year for thirty years.

While he is not sure how much he will raise for St Josephs this year, his best efforts come straight from his big charitable heart.

"He's been working so hard on this and it's going to be a lovely addition and a little bit of extra support for our school, so that we can really support our kids even better than we do."

Sharon Anderson, Principal of St Josephs Primary School said they are beyond grateful for the huge amount of work Tommy has put in to raise money for them.

The winning ticket holder will get Tommy's wheelbarrow loaded with goods donated from local businesses worth

about \$500.

Tommy will be at the Korumburra IGA with his ticket book at the ready on Friday and Saturday, November 24 and 25, and December 8 and 9, from 9.30am to 3.30pm.

Buy one ticket for \$5 or three tickets for \$10.

Tickets can also be purchased online via sjkorumburra.cdfpay.org.au, and people who are not parents at the school can purchase a ticket as a guest by registering online until midday on Tuesday December 12.

The lucky ticket will be drawn on Saturday December 16 at The Middle Pub, Korumburra and the winner will be contacted.

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GG0950

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GG0913

Sentinel-Times
COMMENT

Why you should stop buying illegal tobacco

MAKE no mistake, the grasping tentacles of organised crime are among us.

It's one thing to suspect they're behind the drug trade locally but it's quite another for the police themselves to admit that "a fair percentage" of the specialist tobacco stores in the state have either been stood over by organised crime operatives or agreed willingly to sell illicit tobacco, either as unbranded loose-leaf tobacco or illegally imported cigarettes, and vapes.

In fact, they say 500-600 of the 800-plus specialist tobacco shops in Victoria are selling illicit tobacco. Of course, we know that figure could be higher.

And there are those that might dismiss the claims or try to laugh it off.

"If the government wasn't taxing cigarettes so much, there wouldn't be a black market," they say.

But the reality is that government is placing high taxes on cigarettes for two main reasons, to fund the cost of the health response generated by smokers, and to try and get people to quit or not take up smoking in the first place.

The tax revenue is a side issue, but certainly government should be more accountable for the funds they collect and perhaps they should be putting more of that revenue into policing.

Police hit six tobacco stores in the state's west last Thursday, including at Horsham, Stawell, Ararat, War-racknabeal and Nhill but they could just as easily have hit tobacco shops in Gippsland, likely with the same result.

They arrested seven people and seized more than 134,000 illicit cigarettes, 43kg of loose tobacco and 3655 vapes from those businesses, believed to be valued at over \$350,000 in total. It's the tip of a dirty iceberg.

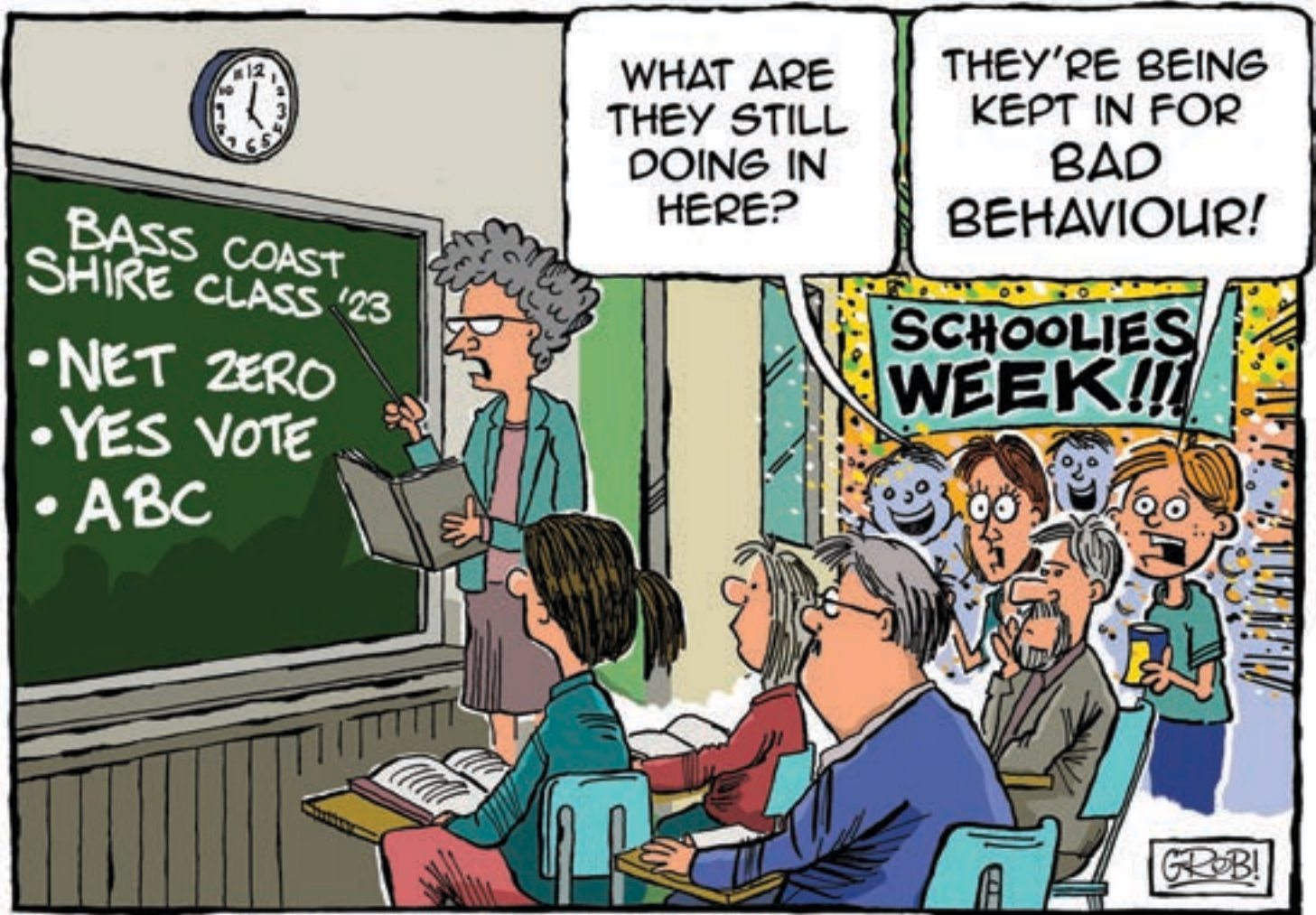
Clearly the police know the extent of the illicit tobacco trade and who is involved. In fact Acting Commander Jason Kelly of the Victoria Police Crime Command has warned smokers not to buy illicit tobacco because it is directly lining the pockets of organised crime figures, who are in turn using the profits to import drugs and to carry out other nefarious activity.

The problem is this, the government has completely dropped the ball on crime and public safety.

While they've been pursuing their woke agenda, they've failed to properly resource the police, and they've also failed to properly manage immigration to this country.

And if you think that's an unfounded remark, read this line from the police media release last Friday, about the state's illicit tobacco market: "Police believe the syndicates are comprised of personnel from Middle Eastern Organised Crime groups and Outlaw Motorcycle Gangs, including the Finks OMCG."

We're going to hell in a hand basket folks and no amount of political spin can cover up the fact that the police know what's going on but simply haven't got the resources to deal with it, beyond keeping a lid on it, which they were doing until the stupid crooks themselves got greedy and started fire-bombing each other.



Cartoon by Glenn 'Grob' Robinson.

Mayoral merry-go-round

BASED on unsolicited feedback from a number of South Gippsland constituents, I am not the only one troubled by the recent change of mayor.

Against the backdrop of the embarrassing ousting of Council by the State Government, ending two years ago, we are now about to embark on our third mayor!

I am well aware that the idea of sharing the top job around is common in many Shires, but I would have thought, in our case, retention of the existing mayor, Cr Nathan Hersey, for a second year, would have signalled a cohesive and consistent Council, rather than one focused on self interest. I believe change, simply for the sake of it, isn't always good, especially if it means replacing a highly experienced mayor, with federal Government experience, and a great track record in the role, not being reappointed, simply so remaining Councillors 'can have a go'.

This is not a symbolic role, it is vital to the effective performance of the Council/Shire, consequently, the criteria should be who is most qualified rather than whose turn it is.

In other Shires effective mayors have held the role for two years or longer. Here, it seems, as in politics at the state and federal level, self-interest trumps the primary reason for being a councillor - representing the best interests of those who voted them in.

Ron Barnacle, Loch

Bass Coast shenanigans

THE shenanigans at Bass Coast's mayoral election demonstrate that our community should not expect any sincere improvement in transparency or accountability as councillors head into their final year.

The public widely expected that Rochelle Halstead would be elected unopposed. Geoff Ellis had nominated Rochelle for mayor and had declared support for her.

But at the eleventh-hour Clare Le Serve emerged to make a grab for the top job. Geoff immediately proceeded to vote against Rochelle.

The action blindsided almost everyone, apart presumably from those who had concocted the last-minute coup.

The Sentinel-Times reports that some

insiders have described Geoff's move as "treachery." Yep, that's how I would describe it also.

Geoff appears unwilling to explain his motives for voting against Rochelle. No transparency there then.

And perhaps Clare was equally surprised to be elected? Uncharacteristically she seemed ill-prepared and had several procedural missteps. Clare herself acknowledged the need for improvement.

Clare's backers include several councillors who previously attempted to remove public question time at council meetings. Perhaps now, with Clare in the big chair, another attempt will be made?

Yes Geoff, perhaps it is as you say. Perhaps not everything is as appears on the surface.

Kevin Griffin, Wonthaggi

'Thank you' for surf rescue at Kilcunda

TO THE Editor, I wonder if it is possible for you to say a 'Thank you' to a group of local surfies who rescued two people from a rip earlier this afternoon (Friday) at Kilcunda beach.

My husband and I were walking on the rail trail when from the railway bridge we noticed a group of people in the water. They were not too far out at that point. Further down the track it was evident that two of the swimmers were very far out on the edge of a rip, and not able to swim back in.

Luckily, a gent named 'Dave' came along with his board, just as a couple on bikes came up and indicated that the swimmers were in trouble. Dave and another gent, returning from the surf, immediately headed down to the beach and were joined by a group of other surfies closer to the bridge.

These men reached the man and woman in trouble, in an incredible display of rapid and co-ordinated team work. I know one of the other gents was named 'Jeremy', but I would like to thank all of them for their selfless bravery and skills in averting what could easily have become a lethal situation.

They were so swift it clearly wasn't the first rescue for them, and I wonder how many other lives have been saved by surfies. Well done to the guys and gals in wet-suits!

Annette and Gary Bradshaw, North Wonthaggi

Vox Pop

What is your favourite Christmas carol and carols event?

*Some comments have been edited due to space constraints.



Claire Wilkinson
"My favourite carol is Jingle Bells and I love going to the Inverloch carols, arriving from the beach and returning there afterwards."



Linda Dunlop
"Silent Night and it's great to go to the Middle Tarwin Hall carols event where the Buffalo Boys play and everyone comes."



Paige Biggs
"Winter Wonderland is my favourite and I like the snowman part, while the carols event in Inverloch is always enjoyable."



Breanna Endres
"All I want for Christmas; I've listened to it every year putting up the tree. I grew up in Corinella and went to carols there but it is lovely at the Leongatha carols."

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.

2024 Leongatha Art & Photography Show

CALLING all artists and photographers! The highly anticipated 2024 Leongatha Art and Photography Show, hosted by the Rotary Club of Leongatha, announces that entries are officially open for submission, but close soon at 6pm on Friday, December 8.

Celebrating over 47 illustrious years, this esteemed event has evolved into a cornerstone of artistic expression within the Gippsland and regional Victoria communities.

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 esteemed sponsors, the 2024 edition will award over \$9200 in prizes and awards, continuing the tradition of acknowledging and fostering artistic brilliance. Many of our sponsors have remained steadfast supporters of the Art Show, contributing to its flourishing legacy.

Set within the iconic Leongatha Memorial Hall this accessible venue invites visitors from various regions.

For submission guidelines and more information, please visit leonartshow.com.au or contact rotaryleongatha.artshow@gmail.com.



Last year's Phil Ridley People's Choice Award winner 'African Princess' by artist Monika Barbican.

~ NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE & ADULT LEARNING NEWS ~

WONTHAGGI NEIGHBOURHOOD CENTRE

GREAT news for our Bass Coast Refugee Support Group – the new family they have sponsored has arrived! And, after initially struggling to find accommodation for the family, a place has been found and the process of settling in and 'finding their feet' can properly begin. If the success of BCRSG's last project is anything to go by, the group and the new family will be very busy over the next few months. We'll keep you updated with how things are going.

As you may know, the Fixit Café has finished for 2023. This very popular service will

definitely return next year. As ever, it will be on the third Sunday of the month, starting from February 18. This year saw the addition of a mower fixit service as well as sewing repairs. Clocks and electrical items continue to be part of the service as does other types of repairs – if you can carry it in, they'll give it a go! So, if you've something that needs fixing, just call us at Mitchell House on 5672 3731 to book in.

Wonthaggi Neighbourhood Centre will be closing over Christmas/New Year. Our final day for 2023 is Friday December 22 and we will be reopen-

ing on Monday January 15, 2024. Not all groups will be up and running from the 15th, but we will provide a list of those restarting before the beginning of the 2024 school year.

A big thank you to Leongatha Rotary for another donation of toiletries to add to our food shelf. We all know that being on a tight budget can mean that it's the 'extras' we might have to forgo. Feel free to pop over to Mitchell House and if you can't see any of these bags at our pantry, just come inside and ask.

And a date to save – Saturday February 17 is the date

of the Wonthaggi Neighbourhood Centre 40th Anniversary celebration. We are planning an amazing family fun day in Apex Park, so keep a look out over the next couple of months for more information about this exciting event.

Don't forget to check out our website wonthaggi-neighbourhoodcentre.com/ for updates, copies of our latest program and Connections newsletter.



6 Murray St, Wonthaggi PH: (03) 5672 3731 www.wonthaggi-neighbourhoodcentre.com

BASS COAST ADULT LEARNING

BCAL's popular hairdressing course, Certificate II in Salon Assistant, is wrapping up for this year. Some graduates have already received their certificates. But BCAL is already getting ready for next year and so can you. Next week, there will be an introductory course in Hair and Beauty to give people a taste of the industry and provide a no-risk warm-up to next year's Certificate course. Presented by a qualified hairdresser and beautician, the course will give participants an overview of hair styling, salon treatments, makeup design, and customer service. People who choose to continue

to the Certificate course will receive a discount on their enrolment fee. For more information on all BCAL's courses and services, please visit www.bcal.vic.edu.au or call 5672 3115 to learn more.

WONTHAGGI COMMUNITY GARDEN

Volunteers are prepping the garden for a warmer, drier summer season. It requires plenty of compost to improve the soil – in particular its moisture holding capacity, mulch, and edible plants that can tolerate some heat. Shade is important for plants and people in the garden, as is watering carefully,

as early as possible on warm days. Meanwhile, members and helpers have planted tomatoes, carrots, cucumbers and hardy lettuces. Volunteers are also enjoying the first strawberries, straight from the plant, as well as a few early garlic bulbs and the last of the cool season's cauliflowers. There's a lot to do and enjoy at the garden. For more information contact tgordon@westnet.com.au or visit on a Thursday between 10 and noon, to see what's happening.

WONTHAGGI WOODCRAFTERS

The Woodies had a great day hosting the Bunning sausage

sizzle last Saturday hitting almost a record in fundraising. The new Bunnings site has definitely been a boon for community organisations. The proceeds will go towards general operations of the club and specifically the installation of a new secure timber storage unit. Sadly, this has become necessary since some recent thefts. For more information about joining the Woodcrafters, visit www.wonthaggi-woodcrafters.com.au or pop in to the workshop.



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

MILPARA COMMUNITY HOUSE

AND we're up and running! Please come visit us in our new home on the lower floor of the Korumburra Community Hub.

Most of our regular programs and activities are now taking place in the Hub. If you have been coming along to an activity that is outside of business hours, these will continue to run from 21 Shellcot Road until the end of the year.

When you come to visit, you may also meet one of several

new part time Milpara staff – Caroline, Val, Bonnie, Christine and Sarah. Please say hello.

We extend our thanks to all the people who have worked, and are continuing to work, to make the Hub a fantastic place to meet, relax and learn. Our extra special thanks to the fabulous volunteers who have worked so hard to set up the emergency food bank, transfer stationery and files, welcome visitors and support

Milpara staff throughout. You are so valued and appreciated.

We also wish to thank the members of our community who have donated items and funds toward the emergency food bank. Together with Milpara volunteers, your generosity and kindness make the operation of the food bank possible and mean that people experiencing tough times can access essentials.

We look forward to showing you through the Hub, and to

hearing your ideas about programs and activities for next year. Let us know if you have a skill to share, a group to promote or a vision for something you would like to see in our community.

See you soon.



21 Shellcot Rd, Korumburra PH: (03) 5655 2524 www.milparacommunityhouse.org.au

LIFE Moments



Pippa Dulcie Sabbatucci was born at Wonthaggi Hospital on November 7, weighing 3.42kg. She is a daughter for proud parents Kristopher and Paige Sabbatucci of Pioneer Bay.

Send your photos to news@sgst.com.au

• FAITH FACTOR

If you could change one thing in life what would that be?

By Rev. Graeme Liersch Anglican Parish of Wonthaggi/Inverloch

SOME may say, get rid of 'world hunger' and others may say 'bring about World Peace', each of which are great ideas, and I commend you if you've come up with that response.

Unfortunately, such achievements are beyond us, especially as individuals. Some may say that corporately it may be achievable if all world leaders would come together and work for a common goal, but history on the other hand says that won't happen. Many, including the United Nations, have tried to bring about the eradication of 'World Hunger' and 'World Peace' over the centuries with the result being failure after failure.

Take 'World Peace' for instant, World War one was described as the 'The Great War' to end all wars, yet less than 20 years later the world was at it again and wars have continued since the end of World War two. What a tragedy.

The current wars in the Middle East and Ukraine highlight this inability of humans to achieve the goals of 'World Peace' and the eradication of 'World Hunger'.

Yet, despite the failings, we find people who are contented with their situation, whether they have little, nothing or much. And we find amongst them people who are generous, caring, and thoughtful who are prepared to give up what they have, to help someone else.

Despite the many wars over the centuries, it is a sobering reminder that in the Middle East, one night roughly 2000 years ago we find a baby lying in a manger who has become the catalyst for 'Eternal Peace'.

He was born during the occupation by the Roman Empire to an unmarried woman who was engaged to be married to a carpenter. And yet He is still remembered today and Christians around the world put their undying faith in Him knowing that they will have peace when they die knowing him.

It may seem ludicrous to you, but unless you've opened yourself up to Jesus Christ and asked him to lead you, you won't know.

Please take a chance this Christmas, if you haven't already, and ask Jesus Christ to be part of your life.

Merry Christmas.



Noah Wynne and Oscar Verboon of Leongatha enjoy the St Laurence O'Toole Primary School Christmas Market. A14_4823



Ruby Shields and Ivy Reidy of Leongatha embrace the French theme at the St Laurence O'Toole Primary School Christmas Market on Friday. A15_4823



St Laurence O'Toole Primary School students Thisili and Dihen Wickramasinghe and mum Prabha enjoy Friday's Christmas Market. A16_4823



Cousins Samuel and Tex Christensen of Leongatha at the St Laurence O'Toole Primary School Christmas Market, with Samuel coming as Napoleon. A17_4823



Norma Pritchard, Annie Lewis (Lifestyle Assistant) and Alma Williams get into the Christmas spirit at the Woorayl Lodge fete. A09_4823



Nick Arnup with children Wade, Lydia and Brody at the Woorayl Lodge fete. A11_4823



Dennis Ryan, Robert Bruce and John Pellicano are happy to help at the Woorayl Lodge fete. A13_4823



Ellen Taylor was happy to support the fundraiser for Tim Hanley at the Cape Tavern on Sunday with Frankie Warren-Taylor. nsSnap1_4823



Peter, Simon and Mavis enjoyed a chat as the rain held off at the Cape Tavern for Tim's fundraiser.

Snapped Out

Pictures of you and your friends at St Laurence O'Toole Primary School Christmas Market, Woorayl Lodge fete, Fundraiser for Tim Hanley at the Cape Tavern and the Stony Creek Racing Club's season launch.



David, Archie, Daniel, Zoe, Michael and Trevor were all proudly sporting their 'Timmy you are loved' t-shirts.

Sentinel-Times

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Looking forward to the first Stony Creek Racing Club meeting on Friday, December 29 are Mark Kringle, Shane Devlyn, Joy Devlyn and Tracey Kringle. SnapStonyRacing1_4823



Enjoying the Stony Creek Racing Club's season launch last Saturday night were Jenny Mountford, Ralph Hubbert, Trevor and Rosie Angwin.



Among those attending the launch of the Stony Creek Racing Club's season last Saturday night were Tony Livingstone, Joyce Livingstone, Paul Boag, Mary Hefel, and Phillip Cavill.



Supporting the event to launch the Stony Creek Racing Club's season last Saturday night were Ray Sullivan, Simon Sullivan, Allister Dowling and Kevin Dowling.



Cass of Wanderlust Chefs, who helped supply food items for the day, enjoyed the fundraiser with Leo.



Chatting with guest speaker at the Stony Creek Racing Club launch, on Saturday night, Matt Hill right, are Race-day Co-ordinator Jessica Odgers and Vice President Graeme Ward.



Enjoying the season launch last Saturday night for the Stony Creek Racing Club were Jim Wilson, Sue Fythe, Ken Fythe, Phil Symmons, Greg Cox and Alana Cox.

Santa and lots more at Loch Village Christmas Market

SANTA is heading to Loch Village for the town's inaugural Christmas Market, a festive event blending carols, present shopping and family fun on Friday, December 1.

In addition to the town's regular retail and hospitality businesses, which will all be open for the evening, there will be 25 market stalls specialising in Christmas gifts and decorations.

Local craft and produce items will feature, with the latter including tasty treats such as preserves and olives.

Poowong Scouts will sell Christmas trees.

In the country tradition, Santa is giving Rudolph and the rest of the team a break, riding into town in style on the Loch CFA truck, from which well-behaved children can expect to get tasty lollies.

Loch Community Development Association (LCDA) has helped traders pull the first Christmas Market together.

LCDA president Ron Barnacle explained the motivation behind introducing the event.

"It was to start celebrating the Christmas spirit, get more people into Loch to support the town's businesses, and display and promote Gippsland produce, so everything Gippsland has to offer but, on this occasion related to Christmas," Ron said.

Strzelecki Lions Club will sell Christmas cakes and there will also be a barbecue.

Loch Primary School Choir is ready to sing carols, accompanied by the South Gippsland Concert Band.

The Loch Village Christmas Market runs from 5pm until 8pm with Victoria Street closed between Smith and Clarence Streets, and entry is free.

Nick Barker presents Exoskeleton

CARAVAN Music and the Archies Creek Hotel proudly present Nick Barker and The Fading Lights with special guests Sean McMahon and The Owls on Saturday, January 6.

Barker made the album with his good friend and producer Shane O'Mara.

"Nick is a singular musician with a unique approach," Shane says.

"The sound of the guitar and bass are remarkable – wandering, tough bass lines, and incredible angular, sinewy guitar. And, of course, the arrow-straight vocal makes you take notice and listen. This was such a rewarding album to make. I found the songs heartfelt, captivating and musically always surprising."

"If you saw us in a 17th century London Street," Barker says, "I'd be the raggedy-arsed beggar and Shane would be the well-dressed court troubadour. But he's a great producer, he just freed me up and let me do my thing."

Lyrical, the record is raw and revealing.

"The lyrics are a lot darker," Barker explains. "I wasn't joking around as much."

"You want it easy," he sings in 'Hand in The Lake', one of the album's many standout tracks, "but I don't do easy."

"I guess I was trying to



theme the record. I was going for set pieces. To me, this album is about the lyrics – I wanted the music to match the emotion."

Exoskeleton features Barker's most personal song to date, 'Unravelling World' – the first time he's written about the passing of his mother, a seismic event that rocked

his world when he was still a teenager.

The artist frames the song as a letter.

"Dear Mum," he sings, "I got scared when you died ...and I still feel like a kid feels."

"The song was a long time coming," Barker notes.

"That's what songwriting is to me now – it's confessional.

You go in and you go, 'Right, if you won't tell anyone else, then tell yourself.'"

"This record is a lot of that. There's a lot of shouting at the mirror. Let's face it, as you get older, that's all that's left really. Instead of being an insular, inward-gazing teenager, you're that but as a middle-aged man."

The singer laughs. "That creative midlife crisis: just shouting at your younger self."

After his mum's death, Barker left home, relocating to a squat in St Kilda.

"It was a bleak time in a lot of ways," he reflects.

"But it made me who I am, and it's a path I probably would have gone down even if I had the choice now."

Exoskeleton comes 35 years after Barker's first single with the Reptiles, 'Another Me'.

It's been a long, strange trip, with many highs and lows in between, countless nights on the road, as well as writing songs with Paul Kelly, Jimmy Barnes, Mick Thomas, Felicity Urquhart and, yes, Tim Rogers.

And the artist has accumulated a few scars along the way.

Nick Barker delivers one of the finest albums of his career with tickets available at archiescreekhotel.com.au.

Talking pictures by Bill Ten Eyck and Paul Coulter

Napoleonic epic has local French connection

RIDLEY Scott's latest period epic drama "Napoleon" (MA15+) is storming the box office.

But there is a local connection with Napoleon! In 1800, Napoleon as First Consul commissioned a scientific expedition comprising two ships Géographe and L'Naturaliste to explore the unknown great southern land. After four years, the ships returned to France with animals, including kangaroos, emus and swans and more than 100,000 plant specimens. The now Empress Josephine pioneered the planting of acacia, melaleuca and eucalyptus throughout France.

During the voyage, the ship L'Naturaliste sailed into Western Port Bay and circumnavigated charted a large island. The expedition's leader decided to name it Île de Françoise. Decades later when settlers

arrived on the island, the name morphed into the 'French Island' we know it as today.

Prom Coast

On Friday December 1 at 7.30pm, the Prom Coast Film Society screens "The Banshees of Inisherin" (M) at the Fish Creek Memorial Hall. Subscription required, check website.

Phillip Island

The Phillip Island Movie Club wrap their current season with a special screening of "Summerfield" on November 30 at St Philips Hall. Two weeks later, they launch their 2024 season with Celine Sang's "Past Lives"(M) – a must-see story of lost loves – on Wednesday December 13, 7pm at the Berninnet, Cowes. Subscription required, check website. Tickets available at the door for "Past Lives".

ARCHIES CREEK HOTEL

AND THE CARAVAN MUSIC CLUB PRESENT

Dec	FRI 8 DEC	M WARD & THE UNDERTAKERS • FOLK BITCH TRIO
	SAT 9 DEC	COURTNEY MARIE ANDREWS • ROBERT ELLIS
	SUN 10 DEC	CAR WHEELS ON A GRAVEL ROAD - 25TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION
	FRI 15 DEC	SUNSHINE TIP BAND - ALICE GARNER, DEE HANNAN & DAVE BOWERS
	SAT 16 DEC	MARK SEYMOUR & THE UNDERTOW
	FRI 22 DEC	SAND BROTHERS
	SUN 31 DEC	NYE BALL FEATURING KYLIE AULDIST & 7 PIECE BAND
Jan	MON 1 JAN	NEW YEARS DAY WITH MICK THOMAS' ROVING COMMISSION, BLACKBIRDS FC • MISTY HARLOWE TRIO
	SAT 6 JAN	NICK BARKER & THE FADING LIGHTS ALBUM LAUNCH
	SUN 7 JAN	THE BLACK SORROWS
	SAT 13 JAN	ASH GRUNWALD
	SUN 14 JAN	ELLA HOOPER & BAND
	SUN 28 JAN	RICHARD CLAPTON
Feb	SAT 3 FEB	SNARSKICIRCUSLINDYBAND
	SUN 4 FEB	FRANK YAMMA • DAVID BRIDIE
	SUN 4 FEB	CLAYMORE & DARREN COGGAN
	SUN 18 FEB	MODELS
	SAT 24 FEB	CHECKERBOARD LOUNGE
	SAT 24 FEB	CLAIRE ANNE TAYLOR • JETHRO PICKETT
	SUN 25 FEB	LUKA BLOOM
Mar	SAT 16 MAR	GABY MORENO
	SUN 24 MAR	STEVE POLTZ

SHOWS BEING ADDED DAILY SO BEST TO CHECK THE WEBSITE!!!

89-91 ARCHIES CREEK ROAD / WWW.ARCHIESCREEKHOTEL.COM.AU

WONTHAGGI

BINGO

WEDNESDAY 1pm - 3pm

THURSDAY 8pm - 10pm

Wonthaggi Workmen's Club, 75 Graham Street

Come and join in the laughs at South Coast FM Bingo

★ RAFFLES ★ DOOR PRIZES ★ LUCKY NUMBER JACKPOT

Social housing stock dwindles

SOCIAL housing stock in Gippsland has decreased, despite the State Government's much-touted Big Housing Build program.

According to data recently released by the Department of Families, Fairness and Housing (DFFH) social housing stock across the six local government areas that make up Gippsland has decreased from 4874 when the State Government formed in 2015, to 4834 as of June 30, 2023.

The Nationals Member for Gippsland South, Danny O'Brien said this data was evidence of a government that gives with one hand and takes away with the other.

"The State Government has been touting its Big Housing Build and giving the impression that it is doing all it can to increase the availability of homes for those at risk of homelessness, but this data shows a different story.

"In my electorate of Gippsland South, the Government has claimed that Big Housing Build has seen 42 new homes in the Wellington Shire and six for South Gippsland.

"In reality there are actually three less social houses available across the two local government areas than there were when in 2015.

"This data suggests that the government is merely shifting current clients around and moving them into new homes as they demolish or sell their previous home."

Mr O'Brien said the availability of social housing is crucial to assist the most vulnerable residents of our community who are at risk of homelessness for a variety of reasons.

"Anecdotally, I am regularly contacted by constituents who claim their social housing has become unliveable because of a lack of routine maintenance that has led to much larger issues with their property.

"Under the State Government we have seen a very consistent two-year wait for social housing and this data shows that despite a lot of big talk, we cannot expect that number to reduce any time soon."

A little Ray of giving



A little Ray of giving at Leongatha this Christmas – drop in your donations to go to those in need this Christmas.

THIS festive season, Ray White will continue its successful charity drive 'A Little Ray of Giving' for the twelfth year running.

This holiday campaign is a tradition for the brand, and serves as an opportunity for hundreds of local branches to connect with their communities while raising awareness and much-needed resources for worthy causes.

As a charitable initiative, the campaign will see Ray White Leongatha partner with Anglicare Victoria to help people, families and groups who may need some extra support and care during the festive season.

"This campaign is a real highlight of our year. It gives us a chance to reach out to the people around us directly in a way that benefits people with less advantages, and get them things they need during a demanding time of year," said Paige Matthews.

The Ray White Leongatha team is calling on the Leongatha area to show their generosity and give to Anglicare Victoria, by sending their donations to Ray White Leongatha for collection and safe storage.

Some gift ideas include: toys, gift cards, board games, arts and crafts, sports equipment etc.

Ray White Leongatha located at 15 Bair Street will have their special giving tree in their front window and will be collecting gifts from November 22. This year we are also excited to announce our very own Ray White Christmas Elf – Little Ray, will be visiting our office this Christmas.

The gifts are safely stored on the premises and are collected by Anglicare Victoria.

Ray White has run this initiative since 2012, and every year, offices from across Australia and New Zealand have collected thousands of gifts and donations for not-for-profit organisations and charities and uplifted hundreds of communities in the process.

Contact: Ray White Leongatha – 5662 5800

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Elizabeth Moss – 0416 814 691

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RIVERSIDE

Local house prices remain steady

THE MEDIAN Victorian Regional house and unit prices remained relatively stable in the September 2023 quarter, having seen declines over the previous 12 months.

According to REIV, despite the overall annual declines in regional Victorian house values, prices have risen 0.6 per cent since, with prices stable in the September 2023 quarter.

The median sale price of a house in Regional Victoria was \$605k, and on the market for an average of 53 days.

Rental levels in regional areas have remained resilient.

The average weekly house rental rate was \$450 while units increased over the year by 5.7 per cent to \$370 as at September 2023.

The vacancy rate for Regional Victoria remains very tight at 2.1 per cent, slightly lower than the metropolitan average of 2.4 per cent.

In Wonthaggi the median sale price of a house was \$620k and a four-bedroom home was valued at \$649k compared to \$715k regionally. Properties were on the market for an average of 51.5 days.

The median rent in Wonthaggi is \$420, with a rental yield of 3.5 per cent.

The median sale price in Leongatha is lower than average at \$535K with the town seeing an unusually high price drop compared to the previous quarter and regional averages at 11.6 per cent.

A three-bedroom home in Leongatha is worth approximately \$516k compared to the regional average of \$539k. The median price of rentals is also lower than average at \$390 per week with a 3.8 per cent yield.

Korumburra house prices only dropped 0.8 per cent compared to last quarter and median values are \$576k, with a four-bedroom home valued at \$720k and on the market for an average of 52.5 days.

The median rental price in Korumburra was \$450 per week with a higher than average rental yield at 4.1 per cent.

Cowes house prices remain higher than the regional average with a median sale price of \$775k and no quarterly price change.

A four-bedroom home on the island is worth \$807,500 and properties are on the market for longer at 60 days.

Rental prices in Cowes come in line with the average at \$450, however yield is lower at three per cent.

The vacancy rate for Regional Victoria remains very tight at 2.1 per cent.

30 | TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 2023 | SOUTH GIPPSLAND SENTINEL-TIMES



Potential Development Opportunity!

LOCATED just two blocks from the CBD of the Leongatha township is this excellent opportunity to secure a great property with the option to speculate or renovate.

Positioned in a highly sought-after area, the block is flat and presents loads of potential to the discerning buyer.

Features of the property include:

- A two-bedroom weatherboard home
- Central bathroom/laundry
- Cosy lounge
- Separate kitchen/dining area
- Generous sized block of approximately 625m²
- Lock up shedding

Don't miss the chance to secure this property in a great location! Please call Kellie Thomas on 0438 647 449 for any additional information or to arrange an inspection.

Open for inspection: December 2 from 10.30 - 11am and December 9 from 10am - 10.30am.

Auction will be held on December 9 at 10.30am on site.

2 1 3 625m²

57 Peart Street, **Leongatha**
Auction Saturday, Dec. 9
at 10.30am on site
Agent Nutrien Harcourts
Kellie Thomas 0438 647 449
kellie.thomas@nh.com.au



Nutrien Harcourts Leongatha

47 Bair Street, Leongatha
(03) 5662 2292
Scan the QR code to visit our website



LEONGATHA 3 1 1

JUST LISTED
Attention Downsizers!

- Immaculate home on 650m² flat block.
- Generous sized bedrooms with BIR.
- Spacious kitchen with loads of good storage.

\$525,000



LEONGATHA 3 1 2

FOR SALE
Gorgeous Home on Floraston!

- Gorgeous family home full of character features.
- Spacious kitchen with walk in pantry.
- Master bedroom with walk in robe.

\$695,000 - \$710,000



LEONGATHA 3 2 2

FOR SALE
Spectacular Family Home!

- Turnkey home perfect for families on 2,094m².
- Master bedroom with walk in robe & ensuite.
- Peaceful location & large 3 bay shed.

\$1,200,000



MARDAN 3 2 2

FOR SALE
Serene Countryside Haven!

- Exquisite 3 year old home in an elevated setting.
- On approx. 114.13 acres of undulating land.
- Disused dairy/workshop, fencing & shedding.

\$2,300,000



LEONGATHA 3 1 2

FOR SALE
80s Home with Endless Potential

- Solid & neat brick veneer home on 751m² block.
- Spacious kitchen and central family bathroom.
- Great location close to the shops.

\$545,000



BARRY REDMOND
Director / Estate Agent
0477 622 292



KELLIE THOMAS
Licensed Estate Agent
0438 647 449



MATT REDMOND
Licensed Estate Agent
0418 357 341



MONIQUE WIGHTMAN
Marketing Manager
& Office Admin

We get results!



MARDAN 3 2 2

FOR SALE
Beautiful 'Bringa'

- Sandstone residence on approx. 23 acres.
- Contemporary kitchen, WI pantry, breakfast bar.
- Separate studio, 4 bay shed and great views.

\$1,600,000



Serene coastal living

IMMERSE yourself in the serene coastal lifestyle at 2 Coast Mine Road, Kilcunda. This exceptional corner allotment spanning 647 square metres embraces the charm of native gardens in a tranquil corner of Kilcunda, within walking distance of the pristine shores of Shelly Beach, scenic coastal walks, and the local hotel and cafe.

The crowning jewel of this property is the architect-designed two-level home, meticulously crafted to harmonise with its surroundings and offer the ultimate in modern coastal living.

Step into the ground level, where two spacious bedrooms with built-in robes and a large living zone, featuring a cosy wood heater and a split system for year-round comfort, await. The modern bathroom, with its separate bath, invites relaxation and convenience. Expansive sliding doors open onto an undercover outdoor area, complete with a built-in BBQ, perfect for alfresco dining and entertaining amidst the beautiful native gardens.

Ascend the stunning staircase to the upper level, where an open-plan living area bathed in natural light invites you to indulge in its welcoming ambiance. The kitchen is a chef's dream, boasting ample storage, beautiful stone benchtops, and top-quality appliances,

including a double oven and dishwasher. A butler's pantry provides added convenience, while extra-height raked ceilings exude a sense of space and airiness. An additional outdoor eating area provides an idyllic setting for enjoying meals.

The upper level further hosts the master bedroom, featuring an open robe and a stunning ensuite with a spa bath for luxurious relaxation, a second outdoor terrace allows for quiet nights with a book. Completing this level is a powder room and a second bedroom.

This property also offers a double garage with internal access, complemented by a large double garage off the side street, complete with a workshop, a man cave, and a convenient toilet and shower. The backyard is a veritable oasis, featuring an outdoor shower for those post-beach moments of relaxation.

Moreover, the property's location is a dream for convenience, just 15 minutes from Wonthaggi's shopping, 20 minutes from Philip Island, and a comfortable 90-minute drive from Melbourne's Southeastern Suburbs.

This stunning property offers an unparalleled opportunity to experience a harmonious blend of coastal living, modern comfort, and natural beauty in a prime location.



4 2 4 647m²

2 Coast Mine Road, **Kilcunda**
For Sale \$1,650,000
Agent Alex Scott & Staff
Mick Chambers 0418 349 783
Cal Nation 0439 334 163

Overlooking the town

IN A quiet no-through street on a spacious 816sqm block, this amazing property is sure to impress. An original miner's cottage, renovated throughout, the home now boasts four bedrooms, all with built-in robes and an ensuite to the master. A large lounge area at the front of the home maintains the cottage ambience with a solid fuel heater and split system for comfort during winter or summer. Vinyl floorboards and dado rails on walls carry on the original style of the home. At the rear of the home is the family bathroom and laundry.

The highlight of the home is the modern kitchen and dining area with stainless steel appliances, dishwasher, gas cooktop and polished timber benchtops, as well as a breakfast bar and plenty of room for a large dining table. And the views across the town from here aren't bad either!

When you step outside, you'll be greeted with a huge undercover, fully paved, entertaining area which comes complete with a built in BBQ and full kitchen with stainless steel sink, hot and cold water and timber benchtops.

A full-length concrete driveway is covered with a double carport and there is a separate workshop/mancave or sleepout with a full-length deck on one side. The property also includes a battery ready 13.2kw Solar System.

If you're looking for a family home that ticks all the boxes, or an investment with guaranteed growth into the future, look no further!

Contact Scott McKenzie to arrange an inspection – 0427 552 898



4 2 2 816m²

18 William Street, **Korumburra**
For Sale \$599,000
Agent Alex Scott & Staff
Scott McKenzie 0427 552 898

LEONGATHA  28 Horn Street • Iconic Leongatha Residence • 4 bedroom, 2 bathroom, 3 living area • Stunning residence on 3445m² allotment \$1,550,000 - \$1,650,000 Contact: Leongatha Office	KORUMBURRA  14 Isabella Boulevard • 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom, brick home • Open plan kitchen, meals & living • Close to schools & shops \$639,000 Contact: Korumburra Office	SURF BEACH  184 The Esplanade • Corner allotment with views of the ocean • Private courtyard with saltwater heated pool • Fully self-contained guest pavilion EOI by 4pm Thursday, December 7 Contact: Cowes Office	DALYSTON  185 Dalyston - Glen Forbes Road • 7.5 acre lifestyle property • 4 bedroom country home • Self contained bungalow \$2,145,000 Contact: Wonthaggi Office
LEONGATHA OPEN THUR. NOV 30, 5-5.30PM  7 Silverback Place • 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom (2 car) • Very private home with loads of natural light • Level site with easy access, secure rear yard \$690,000 Contact: Leongatha Office	KORUMBURRA NEW PRICE  18 William Street • Cottage charm • 4 bedroom, 2 bathroom • Views \$599,000 Contact: Korumburra Office	SILVERLEAVES  302 Coghlan Road • Vacant block of 753m² (approx.) • Double garage, enclosed veggie garden • Close to everything Silverleaves has to offer Auction: Sat. December 16 at 2pm Contact: Cowes Office	WOOLAMAI  195 Mill Road • Approx. 10 acres, renovated country home • Great shedding • 10 minutes from Wonthaggi \$1,850,000 Contact: Wonthaggi Office
LEONGATHA  10 Bent Street • 4 bedroom plus study • Massive family home on large block • Opposite McIndoe Park \$1,195,000 Contact: Leongatha Office	KORUMBURRA  5/31 Jumbunna Road • 2 bedroom brick • New carpet • Single lock-up garage \$389,000 Contact: Korumburra Office	COWES  26 Boobook Grove • Open plan living opening onto covered deck • Rear access to walking track to beach • 795m² (approx.) with landscaped gardens \$1,190,000 Contact: Cowes Office	LANCE CREEK  30 Lolands Road • 163 acres approx, country style home • 4 bedroom, 2 bathroom • Easy drive to Wonthaggi \$2,500,000 Contact: Wonthaggi Office
LEONGATHA  19 Lee Parade • 5 bedroom home • 2 living, 3 bathroom, 2 car • Huge under house storage \$680,000 Contact: Leongatha Office	KORUMBURRA  132 Isabella Boulevard • Ready to build - 738m² • Plans available • Soil Test completed \$225,000 Contact: Korumburra Office	COWES  59 Redwood Drive • Modern townhouse close to everything • Established, low maintenance garden • 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom \$649,000 Contact: Cowes Office	KONGWAK  1045 Bena-Kongwak Road • Approx. 75 acres, 2 titles • Building approval on 5 acres • Fantastic views \$1,100,000 Contact: Wonthaggi Office

LEONGATHA

5662 0922

41 Bair Street

Andrew Newton 0402 940 320

Emily Clifford 0422 622 299

Tony Giles 0407 528 192

KORUMBURRA

5655 1133

36 Bridge Street

Scott McKenzie 0427 552 898

COWES

5952 2633

113a Thompson Avenue

Greg Price 0419 337 441

Brian Silver 0407 347 509

Chase Waters 0423 272 819

Maree Malloy 0408 316 715

WONTHAGGI

5672 1911

Cnr Murray & Billson Streets

Dan Huther 0418 334 801

Cal Nation 0439 334 163

Mick Chambers 0418 349 783

Phil Hanley 0417 140 508

SOUTH GIPPSLAND SENTINEL-TIMES | TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 2023 | 33

HML0385-V22



Seven hay sheds, each with 800 bales of hay, caught on fire in Kerang following hot northerly winds. Photo: Swan Hill Fire Brigade.

An early start to hay season prompts caution

AN EARLIER hay season has Victorian farmers and CFA talking about the dangers of high moisture content in hay as they begin cutting, baling and storing it in warmer conditions.

Recently we saw the repercussions of hot northerly winds, when seven hay sheds, each with 800 bales of hay, caught on fire in Kerang following a damaging ember attack.

Kerang Captain Ramon Steel said crews arrived on scene to just one hay shed engulfed in fire, before an unexpected wind change initiated an uncontrollable firestorm.

“Several hours later we were hit with an ember attack and the fire spread to a further six sheds,” Ramon said.

“We had 26 CFA units on scene and were able to utilise the appliances and volunteers available to save the other 13 sheds.

Unfortunately, a haystack fire is not unusual to CFA, having responded to almost 52 haystack related fires between July 1, 2022 and June 30, 2023.

CFA Chief Officer Jason Heffernan said if hay is baled with high moisture content and is green, it can heat up like compost, which can lead to spontaneous combustion weeks or months later.

“Farmers who have decided to carry on with hay production need to be extra vigilant this year to make sure conditions are right for making hay and for the future storage and transport as well,” CO Heffernan said.

“Hay fires are a real threat to properties and stock in primary production areas.

“Whether you’re a seasoned hay grower or switching to hay this year, it’s imperative to take care of your hay and crops this fire season.

“Consider the storage of your hay to avoid spontaneous combustion which can lead to ignition.”

Haystack fires can also start easily from lightning strikes or sparks from equipment.

“You should regularly monitor your

haystacks by using a temperature probe or a crowbar to detect heating hay,” CO Heffernan said.

“By being vigilant, you’re protecting yourself from the financial impact of losing valuable fodder and protecting your property and family from the potential danger of hay fires.”

Haystack Tips

- Ensure hay is well cured before baling.
- Know the history of the hay you purchase.
- Keep haystacks to a limited size and separate your haystacks.
- Monitor moisture and temperature of your hay regularly.
- Watch for unusual odours such as pipe tobacco, caramel, burning or musty smells.
- Store hay in separate stacks or sheds away from farm equipment and other buildings.
- Keep your hay dry. Protect it from rain, leaking rooves or spouts, and runoff. Cover stacks with tarps or hay caps.
- Don’t stack hay right to the top of a hay shed. Allow some air to circulate at the top - this helps to carry away moisture.

Temperature Guide – what to do when your hay is overheating Use a thermometer in a probe or insert a crowbar into the middle of the stack for 2 hours.

- Less than 50°C Can handle the crowbar without discomfort. Check temperature daily.
- 50°C - 60°C Can only handle crowbar for short time. Check temperature twice daily.
- 60°C - 70°C Can touch bar only briefly Check temperature every two – four hours. Move hay to improve air flow.
- Over 70 °C Bar is too hot to hold. Potential for fire. Call 000 immediately. Avoid walking on top of haystack. At this stage pulling apart the hay may provide the oxygen it needs to ignite.

For more information please visit: cfa.vic.gov.au/plan-prepare/hay-and-fire-safety



Gippsland farmer Chris Dunne will use his Young Farmers Scholarship to upgrade his irrigation system and study a Certificate IV in Horticulture.

Dunne awarded young farmer scholarship

GIPPSLAND farmer Christopher Dunne recently received an Upskill and Invest Young Farmers Scholarship.

The State Government awarded 14 agriculture scholarships to inspire innovative projects and learning opportunities.

“The young farmer programs reflect our desire to develop the next wave of agricultural professionals and we will continue to provide them with the tools they need to enhance their expertise,” Minister for Agriculture Ros Spence said.

“These young Victorians are not only passionate about farming, but also possess the skills and insights needed to drive positive change within the agriculture industry.”

The scholarships awarded farmers \$5000 to

explore new learning opportunities and another \$5000 for on farm equipment technology upgrades, or further professional development.

Chris intends to use his scholarship to create healthy pastures for cattle and grow quality trees, so his nursery remains environmentally sustainable.

He will update the nursery’s irrigation systems to utilise water saving methods.

He will also invest his scholarship funds in a Certificate IV in Horticulture, covering soil quality, pest control, irrigation, propagation and revegetation.

“I’ve been around the nursery for some time now, but I’ve had no formal training. I’ve learnt on the job,” Chris said.

“I’m hoping this will give

me a few new ideas. It’d be good to learn a bit more about the academic side and see what we can put into place.”

Chris is a Gippsland local who grew up, completed his schooling and played football in the region, and is now living and working in Ripplebrook at Urban Tree Growers.

He grew up around the farm business and the nursery before moving away before returning with his wife, Beth.

His aim for the nursery is to start selling locally.

“A lot of what we sell goes to New South Wales, so I wouldn’t mind breaking into the local market,” Chris said.

For more information on the young farmer program, visit agriculture.vic.gov.au/youngfarmersscholarships.



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Livestock Sales

KORUMBURRA		FOSTER	
David Ryan	0408 311 895	Dick Faulkner	0408 595 174
Dean Bailey	0438 531 672	Brian Vuillermin	0429 436 040
LEONGATHA		WONTHAGGI	
Dane Perczyk - Livestock Manager	0408 176 063	Rob Ould - Livestock Manager	0408 595 183
Kaleb Jans	0487 155 471	David Holden	0428 749 390
WARRAGUL		Alan Bolding	0419 723 255
Neil Darby - Livestock Manager	0418 595 265	Dale Atherton	0428 888 300
Terry Ahearn	0438 562 816	PAKENHAM	
Jordan Sim	0448 058 435	David Setches - Livestock Manager	0409 443 473
Mark Malacarne	0418 654 590	Glenn Barwick	0408 975 476
		Morgan Croucher	0457 001 877
		Tim Gibson	0420 306 599

Real Estate Sales

KORUMBURRA		LEONGATHA		INVERLOCH	
Scott McKenzie	0427 552 898	Andrew Newton	0402 940 320	Marni Lee Redmond	0403 525 413
		Peter Dwyer	0428 855 244		
WONTHAGGI		Emily Clifford	0422 622 299	COWES	
Phillip Hanley	0417 140 508	Tony Giles	0407 528 192	Greg Price	0419 337 441
Dan Huther	0418 334 801	WARRAGUL		Maree Malloy	0408 316 715
Cal Nation	0439 334 163	Alan Steenholt	0409 423 822	Chase Watters	0423 272 819
Mick Chambers	0418 349 783	PAKENHAM		Brian Silver	0407 347 509
		Tom Gibson	0438 574 472		
GRANTVILLE		LANG LANG		VENUS BAY	
Greg Kane	0477 020 267	Scott McKenzie	0427 552 898	Daniel Lawrie	0417 631 252
		MELBOURNE LAND		Sue Lawrie	0419 885 489
BERWICK		Matt Koster	0474 781 711		
Michelle Gibson	0439 707 252	KOO WEE RUP			
		Michelle Lunney	0457 120 277		

SUCCESS THROUGH SERVICE

Lardner Park Calf Market Report
Monday, November 20, 2023
Jersey & Jersey x\$34 to \$50
Friesian Bulls\$42 to \$70
Friesian Heifers\$140
Beef Bulls\$42 to \$250
Beef Heifers\$58 to \$120
Number of Calves: **74**
Number purchased to rear: **22**

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- Auctions Plus Sales
- Live Heifer Export Orders
- O/Hooks sales to Processors
- Rural Property Real Estate



Jake Anthony 0467 297 794

Simon Henderson 0428 740 750

David Phelan 0429 050 349

CLEARING SALE

Monday, December 11

at 10.30am

A/c The Estate of RJ & DJ Wilson

8760 Sth Gippsland Hwy, Kardella 3951

Massey Ferguson 240 4WD tractor-registered; grader blade; poly pipe; calf feeders; boxes of tools; ladders; household shelving and effects; New Holland 69 square baler; Taarup 204 4disc Hay Mower; 3pt linkage super spreader

Outside vendors: 2008 Triton Ute-5mths rego; fuel pod; 50 teat trailing calf feeder; Amazone KG 3000 Superseed drill; Reversible mouldboard plough; Antique scales; roof rack; pallet racking; Roller Bar hay rake; 2 Furphy water carts; antique milk cans; John Deere 1120 2WD tractor

GST where applicable

Terms: Cash, Cheque & Eftpos on day of sale.

Photos Nutrien Ag Solutions website

Facebook - Nutrien Leongatha

South Gippsland Livestock

Inspections via appointment

Full ad to follow next week



Contact: Stuart Jenkin 0447 602 302

Vietnam welcome new animal welfare standards

NATIONAL animal welfare standards consistent with those applying to imported Australian-bred cattle have been announced in Vietnam, as part of the Australia-Vietnam Beef Cattle Symposium.

The Symposium ran from November 13 to 15 in Hanoi.

It featured the Australian Ambassador to Vietnam Andrew Goleczinski, Vietnamese and Australian government officials, representatives of Meat and Livestock Australia (MLA), the Australian Livestock Exporters' Council and LiveCorp.

Vietnam has become a significant partner for the live export industry in the past decade, importing almost two million head of cattle in that time.

It is now Australia's second largest market for beef cattle.

Vietnam's welfare standards were developed over three years by the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development.

The process included



Australian Agriculture Counsellor to Vietnam Tony Harman, Market Development Manager – Asia Pacific at MLA Spencer Whitaker, Deputy Head of Public Veterinary Division – DAH Tang Anh Vinh, and LiveCorp CEO Wayne Collier welcomed recent changes to animal welfare standards in Vietnam.

consultation with national and provincial government officials as well as industry to ensure easy and practical adoption.

Information campaigns and training resources for the Vietnamese cattle and beef industry have also been developed and will showcase the various components of the new standards.

Australian assistance has been provided through the Livestock Export Program, a collaboration between LiveCorp and MLA, which provides professional development and training for works in feedlots and abattoirs in the market, along with activities to support market access and regulatory compliance.

Meat Standards Australia set records

MEAT Standards Australia celebrated 25 years with \$259 million return to industry in 2022-23.

Australia's quality grading program for beef, Meat Standards Australia (MSA), set a record for estimated farmgate returns for the Australian beef industry.

This is according to the MSA annual outcomes report for 2022-23, which was recently released.

MSA program manager David Packer said this improvement is a direct result of the year-on-year growth of the program and the value captured and shared along the supply chain.

"In this milestone year of 25 years of MSA, the program's value and benefits are reflected throughout the red meat supply chain from producers through to consumers," he said.

"The MSA system is based on over 1.7 million consumer taste tests by over 250,000 consumers from 13 countries and considers the factors that affect eating quality from paddock to plate.

"In the past year, more than 3.39 million cattle were presented for MSA grading through 39 Australian beef processors. This equates to 54 per cent of all cattle slaughtered in Australia, which is an incredible effort, with 3.23 million cattle meeting the MSA requirements.

"Behind this excellent compliance rate are

producers who continue to build on their MSA performance. In 2022-23, the average MSA Index that represents the eating quality of a carcass, for MSA compliant carcasses was 57.52, an increase of 0.15 from the national average MSA Index of 57.37 in 2021-22, and an increase of 0.48 from 10 years ago."

An additional 2882 cattle and sheep producers became MSA registered in 2022-23, taking the total number of MSA producers to 49,688.

Important to the success of the MSA program are its adoption strategies.

In the past year, the MSA team delivered a range of training workshops and information sessions across the country, enabling more than 1200 beef and sheep producers to make on-farm changes towards improved outcomes.

A key component of the MSA Strategic Plan 2020-25 is an increased focus on supporting business development activities with processors and brand owners, to expand awareness of MSA on the international stage.

Key supply chain stakeholders also participated in MSA education and training, with more than 700 industry service providers, processor representatives, advisors and livestock agents attending events.

MLA has been undertaking research with

Australian independent butchers and wholesalers for over a decade to understand their perceptions of, and satisfaction with, MSA graded meat.

Survey results for 2022-23 show 78 per cent of butchers rated their satisfaction with MSA graded meat as 'very good to excellent', up from 73 per cent in 2021-22.

More than 2.31 million sheep followed MSA pathways through 14 MSA licenced processing facilities across New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia and Western Australia, which was 200,000 more the 2021-22.

Of the total lambs processed in Australia, 71 per cent were processed through MSA licenced processing plants that follow processes to improve eating quality.

MSA carried out benchmarking activities with 10 sheep meat supply chains, which comprise 68 per cent of national lamb slaughter, to understand the range in eating quality of the commercial flock through these supply chains.

This was done by utilising newly available technology to measure intramuscular fat, in sheep meat coupled with lean meat yield measurements, to provide eating quality scores for nine cuts by cooking method – grill or roast – outcomes.

To view the full MSA annual outcomes report, visit mla.com.au.

Weaner's prices improve at store sale

Report by Michael Foote, SGSAA

WITH widespread rain falling across the driest parts of southern Queensland and northern NSW, typically between 30ml and 100ml, there has been an instant and welcome lift in cattle prices.

That's if you were selling rather than buying.

At last Friday's store cattle sale at VLE Leongatha, agents and breeders served up another good yarding of just over 3000 head.

Prices improved for all steers and heifers with the biggest lift seen in the lighter weighted angus weaners which improved 30 to 50 cents and reached a top of around \$3.50 per kg.

The heavier 500kg-plus steers rose by 10 cents with local bullock men securing these types. The mid-weighted 420kg to 500kg steers improved a few cents with the usual buyers from JBS and Charlton not in attendance.

The lighter 250kg to 400kg steers and heifers saw strong demand from locals as well as commission buyer orders to go into NSW after the good falls of rain.

Crossbred and dairy steers held firm to a little better on a smaller offering. Cows and calves still look reasonable buying for those in that market.

Leongatha Store Sale on Friday, Nov. 24, 2023

Grown Steers

P & S Campbell 17 Angus	675kg	\$2.40	\$1620
P & S Campbell 18 Angus	625kg	\$2.49	\$1560
Copperleaf Pty Ltd 11 Angus	569kg	\$2.40	\$1370
Comeragh 19 Angus	562kg	\$2.27	\$1280
Copperleaf Pty Ltd 12 Angus	516kg	\$2.51	\$1330
G & G Thompson 16 Angus	494kg	\$2.48	\$1230
B&G Missen 21 Angus	475kg	\$2.48	\$1180
L & L Mccrorey 10 Angus	441kg	\$2.49	\$1100
Riverdean 12 Angus	435kg	\$2.48	\$1080
G & G Thompson 11 Angus	419kg	\$2.62	\$1100
B&G Missen 20 Angus	399kg	\$2.88	\$1150

Weaner Steers

S & L Campbell 22 Angus	440kg	\$2.63	\$1160
B & R Cashin 14 Angus	429kg	\$2.56	\$1100
Melaleuca Past 15 Angus	414kg	\$2.77	\$1150
A & A Missen 22 Angus	411kg	\$2.74	\$1130
B & S Phillips 20 Angus	407kg	\$2.67	\$1090
D Semmens 11 Angus	406kg	\$2.75	\$1120
S & L Campbell 22 Angus	406kg	\$2.80	\$1140
A Pocklington 14 Angus	380kg	\$2.92	\$1110
KL Shotttek &			
EF Semmens 20 Angus	373kg	\$2.81	\$1050
Fineline Merinos 11 Angus	372kg	\$3.09	\$1150
D & P Burns 22 Angus	358kg	\$3.04	\$1090
Copperleaf Pty Ltd 20 Angus	357kg	\$3.47	\$1240
Doonagatha 20 Angus	355kg	\$3.32	\$1180
Copperleaf Pty Ltd 12 BBP	336kg	\$3.51	\$1180
Doonagatha 20 Angus	335kg	\$3.19	\$1070
D & P Burns 12 Angus	324kg	\$2.96	\$960
Copperleaf Pty Ltd 13 Angus	319kg	\$3.44	\$1100
P & J Sibly 17 Angus	316kg	\$3.35	\$1060
P Norman 10 Angus	316kg	\$3.16	\$1000
M Berry 24 Angus	309kg	\$3.46	\$1070
Luc Bianchi 11 Angus	305kg	\$2.65	\$810
Lily Park 12 Angus	287kg	\$3.06	\$880
M Berry 22 Angus	268kg	\$3.35	\$900
M Berry 19 Angus	262kg	\$3.20	\$840
M Berry 15 Angus	231kg	\$3.67	\$850

Heifers

G & G Thompson 11 Angus	473kg	\$2.30	\$1090
Wallenbeen 17 Angus	441kg	\$2.38	\$1050
G & G Thompson 12 Angus	407kg	\$2.35	\$960
Riverdean 11 Angus	402kg	\$2.73	\$1100
B & S Phillips 15 Angus	385kg	\$2.75	\$1060
S Bare' 18 Angus	385kg	\$2.51	\$970
P,H & M Thompson 35 Angus	375kg	\$1.68	\$630
A Pocklington 10 BB	362kg	\$2.37	\$860
G Francis 13 BB	358kg	\$1.50	\$540
P & J Sibly 16 Angus	330kg	\$2.54	\$840
Mccaughan 11 Limo	306kg	\$2.25	\$690
Copperleaf Pty Ltd			
13 Angus & Angus x	292kg	\$2.50	\$730
Luc Bianchi 12 Angus & Angx	275kg	\$2.54	\$700
P & J Sibly 13 Angus	269kg	\$2.63	\$780

Xbred & Dairy Steers

L Tumino 12 Angus X	389kg	\$2.26	\$880
T & N Pouw 7 Angus X	452kg	\$1.74	\$790
R Laurie Rhodes 5 Angus X	518kg	\$2.12	\$1100
R Laurie Rhodes 8 Angus X	515kg	\$1.70	\$880

Cows & Calves

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Save a life, first aid

WHETHER you're involved in running Landcare events or out and about on your own property, knowing the basics of first aid can literally save a life.

That's why the South Gippsland Landcare Network is running a "First Aid Training for Landcarers" workshop on Tuesday, December 5.

Western Section of South Gippsland Landcare Network facilitator Jane McKenzie-Smith said the day was an ideal opportunity to update important skills.

"We have organised for HealthGuard First Aid Training Services to deliver a four-hour first aid training session tailored to Landcarers. The training will be held in Leongatha," said Jane.

Date: Tuesday, December 5, 2023

Time: 10am-2pm

Where: 2 Bellingham Street, Leongatha
RSPV: November 29 to Jane McKenzie-Smith or register via EventBrite.

Cost: \$150 per person (SGLN will invoice you on registration).

SWTAFE to help address ag industry shortfall

OPPORTUNITIES for people to find a career in agriculture are expanding across Victoria as farming industries struggle to find suitable trained employees.

SWTAFE Agriculture Teaching Education Manager Bec Toleman said the Victorian Government had expanded access to Free TAFE courses in agriculture to meet the demand for employees.

"The Government has recognised the ongoing skills shortage in agriculture and is now offering a free pathway, starting with a Certificate 2 in Agriculture and continuing with Certificate 3 and then either the dairy production certificate or the Certificate 4," Ms Toleman said.

"As long as you've finished one agricultural course, you can enrol into the next and keep moving through for free, which we've never done before."

The Free TAFE offer has encouraged South West TAFE to expand its agriculture staff and course offering.

"We've got more staff on board and have courses in Hamilton, Colac, Warrnambool and Glenormiston," Ms Toleman said.

South West TAFE is planning to introduce a Certificate 4 in Agriculture in Colac next year and a Certificate 3 in Hamilton and is also offering a series of compliance short courses, including use of tractors, quad bikes, front end loaders and a free chemical handling course.

Ms Toleman said there had been a lot of interest in the Free TAFE agricultural certificates, but farmers were crying out for more workers.

There are also financial incentives on offer for farmers who put students into traineeships through South West TAFE.

Permaculture with Penelope

PENELOPE Swales was a musician turned lawyer and a home gardener for about 30 years until a permaculture design course changed her life.

"It blew my mind and made me realise how much more is possible on a property or in a garden, even in very small gardens."

"It's really about getting everything you've got to work together as if it's its own ecosystem and to produce the maximum yield for yourself, but also to provide beauty and habitat and nourishment to the natural world as well."

Penelope started holding Introduction to Permaculture workshops in 2019 across Bass Coast and South Gippsland.

"A lot of us discovered in the pandemic how dependent we were on supply lines, and supermarket chains, and being able to have just a bit of food, a bit of fuel and even fibres depending on what you're growing, that you can create for yourself and nourish yourself, just makes you a little bit more resilient."

Design principles are discussed in the course, including creating circular systems and finding solutions to see that all elements are supportive of another.

"For example, you might have your kitchen scraps coming out of your kitchen, and you're going to put those into your chickens, and then your chickens are going to produce eggs and they're going to produce manure, and eggs come back to the kitchen, and the manure goes on to the garden. Then the garden produces vegetables, which go back to the kitchen," explains Penelope.



Penelope Swales is bringing permaculture to people across the region with comprehensive introduction workshops. Photo: Heather Downing.

With the rising costs of all goods and services, growing food and resources has become vital for some, and an investment for others with an interest in creating more sustainable, organic and regenerative systems at home.

"It's better for the environment, it's more sustainable, and it makes your household more resilient. It also offsets how expensive everything's getting at the moment," Penelope said.

"You can go down to the supermarket and spend \$20 or \$30, every week on vegetables, or you could spend that amount of

money on seeds and get a lot more for it."

Planning and placement and putting the right things together to create efficiency and generate maximum output for minimum work is what the workshops are about.

Problem solving, good hands-on skills, hot composting, no dig gardening and seed saving are also covered.

To make the course widely accessible, Penelope encourages everyone who wants to do the course to get in touch.

To find out more information email Penelope at: infopigrp@gmail.com.

Research finds farmers motivated by productivity not credits

AGRIFUTURES Australia have found that farmers are more motivated to improve productivity from increasing soil organic carbon than simply from the allure of carbon credits themselves.

The \$2m Carbon Initiative Program funded 15 research projects across the country examining barriers to carbon farming and identifying practical solutions.

With more than half the land mass managed by farmers, Australia is in a unique position to sequester carbon in soils and vegetation and avoid or reduce greenhouse gas emissions through established or novel management practices.

Findings challenge the notion that carbon credit income has been a primary motivator for farmers and was one of the many valuable insights that flowed from the research.

Other factors that emerged as a result of the research were perceived complexity and risk, the cost of soil sampling, not knowing which information to trust, and how information is communicated.

Key findings and potential solutions were:

Farmers are hungry for knowledge and the development of educational resources is needed from trusted sources.

There is a lot of confusion and The Australian Farm Institute has developed an online decision-making tool to help weigh up the risks and benefits of different carbon farming options.

Economic sustainability and soil health is critical and interest is primarily on increased productivity and profitability rather than simply reducing emissions and gaining carbon credits.

Farmers are more likely to jump on board with a few documented success stories of carbon farming given in each region.

Big companies are increasingly looking for low-emission farmers and suppliers and recommended farmers communicate with them about carbon projects.

Rural valuers need help with imparting information and a guidance paper was developed.

Previous negative experiences of farmers requires education and promotion of arrangements which allow limited stocking.

Overall, an increase the awareness of the benefits and risks of carbon management is needed to allow farmers to make their own informed choices.

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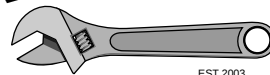
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'Commission Only/Sales,' training courses
and employment services should be
submitted under those headings.

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.



ELECTORATE OFFICER - GRADE 2

Jordan Crugnale Member for Bass, Labor Party

Electorate Officers play an important role in
providing services to the Victorian community and
require a high degree of trust and integrity.

We are looking for a community minded,
highly organised, super motivated person with
excellent communication and written skills to join
our team working with and for the communities in
the Bass District.

Focus areas include:

- Media and Communications
- Community Engagement
- Parliamentary Duties

The position is 4 days per week, based in
Wonthaggi with consideration for flexible work
arrangements.

Position Description with key attributes, salary
and terms of conditions posted by the
Parliament of Victoria on Seek or contact
bass@parliament.vic.gov.au or (03) 5672 4755

Applications close 6 December.

jordan
crugnale mp

SITUATIONS VACANT

Solahart Electrician

Solahart Greater Gippsland
is on the lookout to expand our team.
We require a qualified electrician with solar
experience, or solar system installers.

Working across Central,
West and South Gippsland.
Wage/Rates negotiable.

Please forward your interest to
info@solahartgg.com.au
Ph: 5127 8954

LB1182

Sentinel-Times COVERING SOUTH GIPPSLAND AND BASS COAST

Administration/Accounts

The South Gippsland Sentinel-Times
is looking to employ an administration
accounts person to work in its busy
Wonthaggi office.

The position is Monday-Friday, with flexible
work hours offered.

The ideal candidate will have excellent
organisational skills and the confidence to
work unsupervised.

Duties include:

- General administration
- Accounts payable & receivable
- Payroll & BAS
- EOM processing and reporting
- Accounts reconciliation
- Classified advertisement bookings

Experience essential.

Please email cover letter and resume to
michael@sgst.com.au

Only suitable applicants will be contacted,
and an appointment will be made as
soon as the right person is found.

JAZ2010

DEADLINES

Classified single column

Mondays 12.30pm

Classified double column

Fridays 4.30pm

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

SITUATIONS VACANT

Join Our Crew At Wonthaggi



Whether it's a first job, a job before the
dream job, or the job that turns into a
career. See what we can do for you. To
apply to work in this restaurant use the QR
code or visit apply.mcdonalds.com.au

LB0566

Drivers

CLEANAWAY

Drivers x2 - Multi Systems Operators - South Gippsland Street Litter 10 year contract - HR License required

- Casual positions (weekend work involved) – Leongatha, VIC
- Above award rates + overtime
- Overtime/Penalty Rates paid for weekends and Public Holidays
- Uniforms and PPE provided
- Discounts on private health insurance

Your new role:

- Operation of company collection vehicles and equipment
- Deliver loads to nominated recycling and disposals facilities
- Daily pre-starts and maintenance checks on vehicles and equipment
- Client interaction and safe loading and unloading of truck

Skills and experience:

- An unrestricted HR licence as a minimum
- Must be available for an early morning start
- Clean driving record
- A professional presentation and manner with strong customer service ethic
- A strong commitment to safety; and a willingness to work as part of a team

How to Apply:

Cleanaway encourages and values diversity and inclusion. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander
people are encouraged to apply. Applicants for this role will be required to meet Cleanaway's
employment criteria which will include providing evidence of your right to work in Australia

Please email your resume and cover letter to the attention of

The Branch Manager
Email - Tony.McCann@cleanaway.com.au
Phone - +61 3 5133 6872
Reference - 517639



PROPOSAL TO UPGRADE MOBILE PHONE BASE STATION LOCATED AT TIDAL RIVER

Telstra plan to upgrade the existing telecommunications facility comprising a 34.6m steel lattice tower at 12 Wilsons Promontory Road, Tidal River, Victoria 3960 (Lot 1 on Plan 2938)
www.rfnsa.com.au/3960001

1. Telstra Limited (A.C.N 051 775 556) are currently upgrading existing mobile network facilities to allow for the introduction of 5G to Telstra's network. As part of this network upgrade, Telstra propose the installation of NR850 (5G), LTE1800 (4G) and LTE100 (4G) technologies at the Tidal River service area.
2. The proposed facility upgrade at the subject site includes the removal of existing antennas and installation of new panel antennas (each no more than 2.8m in length) to provide 5G mobile coverage and connectivity for our customers in the Tidal River area.
3. Telstra regard the proposed installation as a Low-Impact Facility under the *Telecommunications (Low-impact Facilities) Determination 2018* based on the above description.
4. In accordance with Section 7 of C564:2020 Mobile Phone Base Station Deployment Code, we invite you to provide feedback about this proposal. Further information and/or written submissions should be directed to Michael Cheung, Aurecon Australasia Pty Ltd (A.B.N 54 005 139 873) via email to: Michael.Cheung@aurecongroup.com or via post to: Michael Cheung, Aurecon Australasia, 25 Grenfell Street, Adelaide SA 5000 by 5pm on 12/12/2023.

Interested in a Career in Early Childhood Education?

Cowes Primary School
Phillip Island Early Learning Centre

Study while you work.

A traineeship opportunity is available at Phillip Island Early Learning. A great pathway to Diploma and Bachelor.

38 hours per week, Monday-Friday

Certificate III in Early Childhood Education and Care.

Starts January 2024.

Copies of the Position Descriptions can be obtained from accounts@pielc.com.au

Written applications should be submitted in writing by COB Friday, December 1, 2023.
ph. 03 5952 1747

PIELC is committed to Child Safety

LB1170



Would you like to make a difference and impact?

Newhaven College is an independent co-educational school on Phillip Island offering quality education for students from Prep to Year 12.

We are seeking applications for a

FOOD TECHNOLOGY ASSISTANT

Permanent - Full Time

Applications close 4pm Friday 8 December 2023
Applications (cover letter & CV) to be submitted to: recruitment@newhavencol.vic.edu.au

For details on requirements, duties and responsibilities, visit our website newhavencol.vic.edu.au/about/work-at-newhaven

Additional details, please contact Leisa Lomax, Human Resources Manager on 5956 7505

Newhaven College is a child safe environment. Every child has a right to be safe, and at the College we have a zero tolerance for child safety risks (including child abuse and reportable conduct). As such, preferred applicants will be subject to child protection screening, background and reference checks, verification of identity checks and must adhere to the College's child safe practices, as outlined in the Child Protection Program policies available on the College website.

LB1185

PUBLIC NOTICES



GIPPSLAND SOUTHERN HEALTH SERVICE

31ST ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

YOU'RE INVITED

The Board of Directors request the pleasure of your company

Join us as we reflect on the 2022/2023 year and celebrate our achievements.

OUR GUEST SPEAKER

Dr. Swati Mukherjee, Cardiologist, will share information on Cardiac Disease in South Gippsland.

Followed by light refreshments.



Thursday 30th November, 4.00pm
IPCC Meeting Room, Leongatha Campus

RSVP

By: Friday 24 November 2023

Email: dallas.surace@gshs.com.au | Phone: 03 5667 5514

*Please note, there will be no virtual meeting arrangements.

Visit our website: www.sgst.com.au

Is your employment opportunity listed online?

Advertise your job vacancy
in the Sentinel-Times and get a
FREE listing in our online
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www.sgst.com.au

Email your job adverts to:
ads@sgst.com.au

DEADLINE: Fridays 4.30pm

Sentinel-Times



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

HM7077



Vineyard Worker

Background

Established in 1979, Bass Phillip Wines is based in Leongatha South, South Gippsland. Bass Phillip Wines is known as one of Australia's leading Boutique Pinot Noir and Chardonnay producers. Under new ownership since 2020, we are currently in an exciting and evolving chapter with the Winery, already well established in Australia rapidly gaining international recognition and with the construction of a progressive Winery Facility recently commencing.

Role Brief – Vineyard Assistant Worker

An opportunity for a Vineyard Worker is now available due to an existing staff member relocating. Working closely in the small and tight knit team, the role requires a person who loves working outdoors, is motivated, a great communicator and has excellent attention to detail. The tasks detailed below are the primary focus however at Harvest time you will also step into in the Winery to assist with Harvest Operations. Whilst experience is beneficial it is not required as we support new entrants seeking to start their career in the Wine Industry. The Position is Casual with the opportunity to move to Full Time.

Routine Requirements and Tasks

- Vehicle Licence to get oneself to Vineyard sites required
- Motivated, energetic with the ability to work autonomously
- Must be physically fit & able to safely lift, bend, reach, etc and work with repetitive tasks
- Attention to detail including to monitor health of vine and soil, pest and disease management/prevention
- Vine Training, Canopy Management and Pruning
- De-suckering shoots from Vine trunks
- Vineyard monitoring
- Mowing
- The flexibility of working some occasional longer hours throughout the growing season & harvest
- Machinery Operation, maintenance & cleanliness of machinery & equipment.
- Demonstrated verbal communication & problem solving skills
- A Chemical Handling certificate would be advantageous
- Keeping records/vineyard data entry through our systems
- A commitment to Workplace Health & Safety
- Spraying Vines in Tractor
- Adherence to WHS practices and ethics.

All interested applicants must have an Australian citizenship/residency or a valid existing Australian work visa. If you are interested, please send through your cover letter and resume to Dimity at the below contact. To learn more about our Winery please visit: www.bassphillip.com

Dimity Francis

Head of Administration and Logistics
E: admin@bassphillip.com

LB1186



The girls' finalists were Amelia Mahon, Sola Heenan, Scarlett Rennie and Tiffany Clarke.

Students star in surfing contest

TWENTY-SIX local primary school students and many of their parents, friends and teachers attended the South Coast Primary Schools Sports Association District Surfing Contest held at YCW beach, Phillip Island.

The competition involved students from 10 local South Coast Primary Schools from Grades 4 to 6.

Surf conditions were superb with light offshore winds, sunshine and 2ft swell peeling down a right-hand bank.

Students were scored on their best two rides in each heat with the top two competitors progressing through to the next round.

For many students this was their first opportunity to surf in a competition event. Students were also able to learn about heat format, judging, water safety and surf etiquette.

The results on the day were:
Boys' Champion: 1. Dusty Rayner (Inverloch Primary School) 2. Jack Barry (Inverloch Primary School) 3. Teo

Parmington (Coves Primary School) 4. Angus Farman (Newhaven Primary School)

Girls' Champion: 1. Scarlett Rennie (Newhaven College) 2. Amelia Mahon (Coves Primary School) 3. Tiffany Clarke (Newhaven College) 4. Sola Heenan (St Josephs' Primary School)

Encouragement Award: Autumn Ross (Bass Valley Primary School)

Overall winner: Inverloch Primary School

South Coast Primary Schools Sports Association would like to thank Bass Coast College (BCC) for supplying all the contest equipment and to Travis Osmond and Brendan Webb the BCC Year 10 VET Surfing students who helped organise and run the event including judging all the heats and putting the contest site together.

Also, a thank you to our local sponsors Vortex Surf Skate Snow (Wonthaggi) and Island Surfboards (Phillip Island) for donating surf prize packs on the day.



The boys' finalists were Dusty Rayner, Teo Parmington, Jack Barry and Angus Farman.



Indie Pop artist from Korumburra, Kaylah Thomas unveils her debut EP 'Tiny World', following the release of two singles from the EP, 'Try' and 'Darwin.'

Kaylah release debut EP

INDIE Pop artist from Korumburra, Kaylah Thomas unveils her debut EP 'Tiny World', a musical journey of reflection and resilience.

Scheduled for release on December 1, 'Tiny World' marks Kaylah Thomas's debut EP, an enchanting indie/pop body of work that delves into the intricate complexities of forgiveness, reflection, and the resilience to move forward.

Crafted from the emotional wellspring of heartbreak and love, 'Tiny World' captivates with its driving drums, electrify guitars, and emotionally charged melodies and lyrics.

Featuring four compelling tracks - 'Try,' 'Tiny World,' 'Darwin,' and 'To The Bone' - Kaylah's highly anticipated debut EP serves as a honest representation of vulnerability.

In collaboration with Melbourne-based producer, Sam Swain, 'Tiny World' immediately captures the listener's attention.

Kaylah recognises Swain's instrumental contribution, stating, "Sam has been instrumental in

the creation of this EP; it simply wouldn't be what it is without him."

With her debut body of work, Kaylah aspires to etch a mark on the hearts of her audience.

Having already unveiled two singles from the EP, the release of 'Try' and 'Darwin,' the latter accompanied by a mesmerizing music video set in East Arnhem Land, has set the stage for what promises to be a remarkable EP journey.

In the anticipated release of Kaylah's EP, there will also be a music video for the title track 'Tiny World', further showcasing the depth and versatility of Kaylah's artistry.

'Tiny World' stands as a vivid testament to Kaylah's narrative artistry and an authentic reflection of her personal and artistic growth.

Its essence beautifully encapsulates the bittersweet echoes of Kaylah's journey of growth and letting go of the past. With sincerity, Kaylah hopes her music resonates deeply with her listeners, inspiring them to be vulnerable and grow.

How BCH is helping mums and babies to sleep

FAMILIES struggling to create a sound sleeping routine for their babies or toddlers can get help from the Maternal and Child Health team at Bass Coast Health (BCH).

Here the staff have all undertaken evidence-informed sleep and settling training and they'd be delighted to pass on the benefits.

The MCH team now delivers a free 'Sleep and Settling' program that includes individual phone and face-to-face consultations, and sleep and settling groups that offer parents and caregivers sleep and settling information and strategies.

Child Health Nurse Hayley Blundell wants families to ask for help sooner rather than later so that everyone in the household can enjoy a good night's rest.

"The program helps families to learn what to expect across different age groups, as well as strategies and solutions to sleep concerns so they are better equipped to manage sleep and settling concerns," she said.

Mother Hannah Main, her partner Sean and baby Esme benefited from taking part. Hannah wanted to resettle Esme without needing to feed her to sleep each time she woke.

She also wanted to reduce the amount of times Esme woke during the night and create a better night-time routine.

"This program was fantastic for my family as it gave us the knowledge to resettle our baby without having to feed overnight, as well as having longer stretches of sleep during the day," Hannah said.

"We have a better and consistent routine and our baby really responded well to the changes."

Happy days!

For more information or bookings, please phone 5671 4275.

MCH advice for families or support around sleep and settling can also be provided via the 24-hour Maternal and Child Health Line: 13 22 29. Parents can access the sleep tips sheets here: tweddle.org.au/our-work/sleep-and-settling-your-baby-toddler-and-preschooler

LIFE Moments



Happy 90th Birthday Gwen!

GWEN Milnes (nee Oates) celebrated her 90th birthday in November at Rose Lodge with her sisters Dorothy, Gladys and Janice, and family.

Gwen spent many years nursing, training at Bethesda, then at the Western General, Royal Women's Hospitals as well as Wonthaggi Hospital.

As a Triple Certificate nurse Gwen worked in Yallourn, Wonthaggi and Cowes as the Infant Welfare Sister. She also did private nursing in England and for some time in New Guinea.

Gwen was married to Max Milnes (dec.) in 1976, spending their time farming at Ryanston until retirement.

Thanks to Rose Lodge and Marg Ware for hosting the event.



Victorian Open Series Round 2 will be held on Phillip Island from Feb 17-18. Photo: Noah Clifford | Surfing Victoria.

2024 Surfing Victoria State Titles event calendar announced

SURFING Victoria is excited to announce the 2024 Victorian State Titles event calendar across Shortboard, Longboard and SUP disciplines.

“Our state title events are at the core of what we do and offer to our members,” said Surfing Victoria CEO Adam Robertson.

“They provide great opportunities for surfers from all walks of life to compete and be part of the surfing community.”

“We look forward to crowning state champions across all divisions and seeing some great surfing in hopefully great waves.”

All events are now open for entry via www.surfingvic.com/events

- Surfing Victoria State Title Calendar:
- Woorangalook Victorian Koori Surf Titles - Urquharts Bluff
 - February 10-11 Victorian SUP Race and Tech Titles - Mornington Peninsula
 - February 10-11 Victorian Open Series Round 2 - Phillip Island
 - February 17-18 Victorian Longboard Titles Round 1 - Phillip Island
 - February 24-25 Woolworths Victorian Junior Surfing Titles Round 1 - Bells Beach
 - March 2-3 Victorian Teams Titles - Mornington Peninsula
 - March 16 Victorian Open Series Round 3 - Mornington Peninsula
 - March 17 Woolworths Victorian Junior Surfing Titles Round 2 - Mornington Peninsula
 - April 20-21 School Sport Victoria Teams Titles - Phillip Island
 - May 2 Independent Schools Teams Titles - Phillip Island
 - May 3 Woolworths Victorian Junior Surfing Titles Round 3 - Phillip Island
 - May 4-5 Victorian Longboard Titles Round 2 - Pt. Impossible
 - May 11 -12 Victorian SUP Surfing Titles - Pt Impossible
 - May 18 Victorian Masters Titles - Jan Juc
 - May 19 Surfing Victoria is proudly supported by major partners the Victorian Government, VicHealth, WorkSafe URBNSURF and Bass Coast Shire as well as supporting partners Rip Curl, Woolworths, Play it Safe by the Water, Kieser, Surf Coast Shire, Stop the Coward Punch Campaign, earLAB, VicRoads and Cancer Council Sunscreen.

Surfing showdown at Cape Woolamai

ON SATURDAY November 25 the Phillip Island Boardriders Club hosted 10 hours day surfing for their second aggregate event of the year, showcasing the surfing skill of local surfers ahead of the Aussie Titles.

Mother Nature played her part in creating a challenging yet exhilarating competition environment, as surfers from the Phillip Island Boardriders Club faced everything from perfect offshore conditions to sudden rain showers, gusty winds, and moments of calm and sunshine.

Phillip Island surfers had to adapt to the changing and unpredictable conditions throughout the day, each eager to make their mark on the competition. Seasoned surfers and emerging talents alike showcased their commitment to tackling the ever-changing waves of Cape Woolamai.

Early morning surfers and spectators were treated glassy offshore conditions, with some epic early rides including tube rides from Billy Hosking to a combination of turns from the juniors as the high tide produced some long rides.

In the afternoon, the wind shifted on shore and the tide had dropped, making conditions tricky for some, but experienced surfers Harry De Roth and Carl Wright saw this as an opportunity to do some aerial manoeuvres.

In a closely contested competition, Harry De Roth, emerged as the day's standout performer in the Open Men's division, Sarah Seuren had one of the highest wave scores of the day,



Harry De Roth secured the win in the Open Men's division on Saturday. Photo: Peter Fogarty

winning the Open and U18 Junior Womens, and Tate Russell took out the hotly contested U18 Junior Men's division, smashing big power turns out the back.

Phillip Island Boardriders Club Captain Ash Easton said, “seasoned surfer Adrian Maier was a stand-out on the day, winning both the Seniors and Masters Divisions and young Cadet surfer Hamish Farman won his first ever shortboard event.”

“I encourage the kids to watch experienced surfers like Adrian and Carl for their powerful vertical turns, and the mix of turns and other manoeuvres that they squeeze into their waves.

“As a Club, we want to push surfers to get out of their comfort zone and we have instructed the judges to reward surfers

who display commitment to their manoeuvres and perform difficult and progressive manoeuvres out the back.

“It was great to see some of the Supergroms making the jump to competition and surfing in the Cadets division, paddling out in waves considered double overhead.”

The Phillip Island Boardriders Club extends its appreciation to all participants, sponsors, and spectators who contributed to the success of the event. As the club looks ahead to the remaining events for the 2023-24 season.

All the results:

Cadet Females (U16): 1st Lilian Bassed, 2nd Scarlett Rennie and 3rd Evie Lutz.

Cadet Males (U16): 1st Hamish Farman, 2nd Angus Kennedy and 3rd Tavis Mahon.

Junior Females (U18): 1st Sarah Seuren, 2nd Jade Hilford and 3rd Zoe Scott.

Junior Males (U18): 1st Tate Russell, 2nd Sam Patterson and 3rd Toby Davies.

Senior Women's (35+): 1st Zoe Adams, 2nd Dannielle Baylis and 3rd Natalie Van Der Heyden.

Senior Mens (28-45): 1st Adrian Maier, 2nd Sam Fullarton and 3rd Adam Vyva.

Masters (45-60): 1st Adrian Maier, 2nd Mark Patterson and 3rd Dumpy.

Legends (60+): 1st Mal Gregson, 2nd William Yusko and 3rd Brian Tancheff.

Open Women: 1st Sarah Seuren, 2nd Sophie Fletcher and 3rd Jade Hilford.

Open Men: 1st Harry De Roth, 2nd Ash Easton and 3rd Carl Wright.

Woolamai Beach plays up for Australia's best juniors



Jesse Siedmiogrodzki of WA calls to his team mate in Under 19 schools all-star teams event at the 2023 Woolworths Australian Junior Surfing Titles on Phillip Island at the weekend.

WHERE Cape Woolamai can often present as one of the best beach breaks in the world, it was anything but that at the weekend.

The weather was fine enough on Saturday for the 2023 Woolworths Australian Junior Surfing Titles opening ceremony, until a blustery squall hit the area in the afternoon.

But by Sunday, a stiff westerly was blowing sideways along the beach producing very challenging on-shore or cross-shore waves which the competitors nonetheless attacked with enthusiasm.

“It's less than ideal and you'd usually see a break in the weather after a couple of days but unfortunately, we're not going to see that this week,” said Surfing Australia official Max Wells.

“But they're used to surfing in all conditions and they're doing pretty well considering.”

The competition was loosely located on the “clubhouse right” at Woolamai but with waves breaking every which-way, it was a matter of taking off on anything with a bit of shape and trying to link a few turns for a decent score.

And highly skilled juniors

from all over Australia, including WA, were able to do just that, somehow finding clean faces on the waves to produce some thrilling rides.

But according to Max, they're going to have to get used to it because the conditions look set to be similar right through the week.

Contest Director, Liam Robertson, was upbeat.

“We're stoked to kick off the Woolworths Australian Junior Surfing Titles at Cape Woolamai on Phillip Island this morning. There is 3-4ft of increasing swell and moderate onshore winds today with tomorrow expecting to have similar swell and lighter winds. The sand banks are in excellent condition and the surfing we have seen so far has been amazing.”

The Woolworths Australian Junior Surfing Titles encompass individual divisions for U14-U18 Junior Men and Women as well as school surfing divisions for U16-U19 (Allstars & MR Shield) Junior Men and Women and is the final major counting event on the National Junior Rankings, awarding 10,000 points to every age division winner.

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 28	
▲ 1.20am	1.66m
▼ 6.51am	0.77m
▲ 12.51pm	1.40m
▼ 7.00pm	0.20m

WEDNESDAY November 29	
▲ 2.12am	1.72m
▼ 7.43am	0.73m
▲ 1.41pm	1.42m
▼ 7.46pm	0.17m

THURSDAY November 30	
▲ 2.59am	1.75m
▼ 8.27am	0.69m
▲ 2.27pm	1.43m
▼ 8.30pm	0.18m

FRIDAY December 1	
▲ 3.40am	1.74m
▼ 9.07am	0.66m
▲ 3.10pm	1.43m
▼ 9.14pm	0.21m

SATURDAY December 2	
▲ 4.19am	1.70m
▼ 9.47am	0.64m
▲ 3.50pm	1.41m
▼ 9.54pm	0.25m

SUNDAY December 3	
▲ 4.55am	1.64m
▼ 10.26am	0.62m
▲ 4.30pm	1.38m
▼ 10.32pm	0.32m

MONDAY December 4	
▲ 5.30am	1.58m
▼ 11.05am	0.62m
▲ 5.10pm	1.33m
▼ 11.09pm	0.39m

Email us your
fishing photos
news@sgst.com.au



Elite underwater hockey players even paid a visit to Wonthaggi to show how it's done including (from left) Luis David, Días Cuy, Zadi Romy Keppel, Hamish Scothern, Lacie Philips, Angus Lamin and Victoria Johansen. [Ns26_4823](#)

Underwater hockey making waves

UNDERWATER hockey may be an underrated sport locally but there's no doubt it's popularity is growing rapidly.

On Sunday, November 26, Wonthaggi Underwater Hockey Club hosted their first tournament at the Bass Coast Aquatic and Leisure Centre.

The event attracted competitors from throughout the state and Australia-wide, including elite players from Columbia.

Beginners were also able to have a shot at the sport.

Coordinator Jacqui Walsh said competitors were put into their appropriate categories and split off into teams.

"Essentially, the puck is on the bottom of the pool and it's weighted, and it's just like hockey," she said.

"Players use fins and snorkels

and a hockey stick, which is quite short, and they've got to be able to hold their breath for quite a long time."

Jacqui highlighted the sport has become popular with families, including her own children.

"We moved down here about three years ago and we joined... since then I've been pushing it on social media and we've grown our juniors to about 30-35, which is great," she said.

"Us (Wonthaggi) along with Geelong and Monash Uni are the three major underwater hockey teams in Victoria, and a lot of the crew are going up to Cairns to play nationals."

The tournament included two divisions for under 15s and open, with a round robin tournament held followed by finals.



There was plenty of juniors keen to give the sport a go. [Ns27_4823](#)

Thieves steal Bass Valley Primary's pool pump

SWIMMING at Bass Valley Primary School had to be cancelled last week after thieves broke into the school and removed the school's pool pump.

Staff arrived at the school on the Tuesday morning to start preparing the pool for the daily swimming lessons only to find that their pump had been removed.

Thieves entered the locked area overnight, disconnected the pump and made off with the pump valued at over \$3000.

Jon McCormick, the schools swimming, and PE teacher said, "It is disappointing for the students, we are fortunate to have a pool onsite for our swimming program which eliminates the 30 minutes of travel each way to the nearest pool at Wonthaggi."

"It is the students who miss out, the pool really is the centrepiece of resources at Bass Valley Primary School. They were really upset when they were told they won't have swimming until the pump is replaced."

Further to their problems, the school's annual fete and 'Ducklotto' was scheduled on Friday night where the pool is again part of their fundraising campaign. Kylie Lansdown, one of the fete organisers said that "Thankfully, we were able



PE Teacher Jon McCormick, Maverick Loughridge, Zoe Cartmel, Kalani Knaap and swimming teacher Kylie Lansdown at the Bass Valley Primary School onsite Swimming Pool.

to do some makeshift arrangements to make the pool safe for a short period of time to go ahead with Ducklotto, so students and families did not miss out on this community event."

Assistant Principal Ben Hallas said, "Bass Coast Pumps and Electrical have been fantastic is assisting us with sourcing and locating a pump replacement and we are hoping that we can resolve this problem soon and the students can

get back into the pool and be ready for our school swimming sports in the coming weeks."

Bass Valley Primary School is in a rural space away from any townships, which allows for great grounds and space for the students to enjoy.

"Unfortunately, the benefits of having amazing school grounds are now coming at a cost and it is disheartening to hear that thieves would target a small, community primary school like ours," said Mr Hal-

las.

"Our pool area is always locked, as are other parts of our school grounds, so to access resources like the pool people need to use force. Now, we are having to investigate surveillance and greater security measures for the school which is both expensive and not what we expected to be doing for a school space. It is a shame, because now we must spend money on security and not on teaching our kids."



Friends Claudia and Miah celebrate their achievements after swimming at MSAC.

Swimmers up for the challenge

SUPER Saturday brought many great results for the South Gippsland Bass swimmers as they competed at two events – the Victorian Qualifying Competition in Melbourne and GSI 6 at Sale.

Sixty swimmers competed at the two separate events, with them coming home with National, State and Country qualifying times, as well as personal bests for the newer swimmers.

At Sale, swimmers battled the conditions at the outdoor pool, where the weather ended up coming through and the last 10 races had to be cancelled but the officials did such a great effort to ensure that most of the program was completed before the weather hit.

Coach Lorri, who was there, was really pleased with the swimmers, many of them newer to competing, given the conditions made it harder to swim.

At MSAC, swimmers were swimming to try and get qualifying times for upcoming meets, with several swimmers achieving their goals and looking forward to attending a range of meets over the coming months.

The friendships made in the pool really shone on the weekend, as swimmers supported each other after each race helping motivate each other after a tough race and celebrated each other's success when they came.

South Gippsland Bridge

NOVEMBER 14: Seven tables competed at Wonthaggi RSL.

North/South in the master points:

In first place were Alan Johnston and John Sutton with a very healthy 61.61 per cent followed by Greg Nicholson and Jean Barbour on 51.19 per cent and in third place John French and Deb Anglim with 50 per cent.

East West winners: First: Kathy Dowd and Anne Somerville 54.46. Second: Mary Brewis and Carol Sowden 53.87. Third: Hannah Martin and Maureen Stiles 52.68.

November 21 at Wonthaggi: five tables. First with a great score of 66.67 were Anne Gibson and Deb Anglim. Second: Alan Johnston and John Sutton 59.52. Third: Philip and Nev Chapman 54.76. Fourth: Faye Rowlands and Richard Poole 51.79.

November 24 at Inverloch: event one for competitors with over 50 master points accumulated. First: Clive Hope and Alan Johnston on 62.5. Second: Anne Gibson and John Sutton 53.24. Third: John Farr and Bronwyn Sund 51.85. Fourth: Faye Rowlands and Deb Anglim.

Event two for competitors with under 50 master points accumulated: Congratulations to a new partnership of Julie Perriam and John Currier, who were first with an excellent 62.5.

In second place were Ruth Harvey and Susan Edwards with 60.42.



Foster Golf Club's A Grade winner Rae Knee with trophy sponsor Rachael Brown.



Korumburra golfers, Shelley Snooks and Trudy Olden won the Ritchie Beecroft Four Ball Handicap.



Merrissa Cosson and Karen Sorrell from Korumburra won the Ritchie Beecroft Four Ball Scratch event.



Leongatha Golf Club's winners of the Esplanade Hotel event were Cheryl Borg and Fay Guilford.

FOSTER Ladies

IT was pleasing to have a bit of run in Foster ladies' par event, though the newly cored and sanded greens proved a slight challenge.

Thank you to trophy donor Rachael Brown.

Rachael also donated the raffle, which was won by Helen Fulton.

The A Grade winner was Rae Knee (27) square on a C/B.

B Grade's winner was Jenny Alexander (39) +2.

NTP on 17th was Rachael Brown, who was unlucky not to hole out.

BDTL went to Elisa Nudelman +1 (29) and Rachael Brown square (21).

The nine-hole comp went to Suzanne Anderson (37) 14 points.

Next week, December 6, is Medal Day.

KORUMBURRA Ladies

IT was a big week of golf with the annual Tournament.

The Ritchie Beecroft 4BBB Stroke event was held on Wednesday with some great scores recorded.

Much appreciation is extended to Korumburra's Terry White Chemmart for generously sponsoring this event and providing wonderful trophies.

Well done to the Scratch winners Merrissa Cosson and Karen Sorrell who finished with 82 and runners up were Heather Grist and Kerri Besley, 85.

Julie Hillberg and Sherrin Solly were next best, 86.

Trudi Olden and Shelley Snooks were the Handicap winners, 62 net, after a three-way c/b with Julie and Sherrin who were runners-up and Merrissa and Karen.

NTPs went to Merrissa first and 13th, Kerri seventh and Pam Eyers 10th.

The Thursday Twilight nine-hole comp was won by Don and Julie Hislop 24 points with Bob and Carol Stiff the runners-up 21 points.

Carol was also NTP on the 10th.

On Friday, the club welcomed members from the surrounding clubs for the Shirley Johnson Memorial Four Ball Stableford event.

Thank you to Peter and Carol Johnson who sponsor this special day and presented splendid prizes to all the winners.

Again, there were some super scores on the day.

Merrissa Cosson and Rena Casey (Lang Lang) came in with 45 points to win the Shirley Johnson Memorial Day.

A Grade was won by Leon-

gatha's Trish Owen and Colleen Touzel, 42 points on a c/b.

B Grade winners were Trudy Olden and Maree Wittingslow, 43 points.

BDTL winners were Jenny Alexander/Barb Britten (Foster), 42 points, and on 41 points, Jenny Fraser/Delia Perry (LGatha), Viv Enbom/Deb Wrigley and Ann Poole/Jo Fennell (Woorayl).

NTPs went to Merrissa, first, Elly Berryman (Woor) seventh, Helen Coghlan (Ph Is), 10th Jenny Fraser (LGatha), 13th and the straightest drive on the ninth won by Judy Webb.

Thanks to Drummond Golf for sponsoring Saturday's Stroke event, which was won by Shelley Snooks with 91.

Aliesha Wrigley (23) was runner up with 96, and also the winner of the Handicap event with 73 net.

Runner-up on a c/b was Shelley also having 73net.

Deb Wrigley won the Burra Brewery award for NTP on the first.

The tournament week wrapped up on Sunday with Mixed Canadian Foursomes and the club extends a big thank you to Djinta Djinta Winery for the support and generous sponsorship for this event.

Visitors Julie King and Alf Jessop (Traralgon/Newry) won the gross with 83 off the stick and Merrissa and Blake Cosson were runner up, 85 after a 3-way c/b.

A Grade net winners were Aliesha Wrigley and Zac Scholte 34 points.

Merrissa and Blake were the runners up 33 points, after a three-way c/b with Kerri and Ross Besley and Deb and Mat Wrigley.

B Grade winners were Colette Pearl and Tim O'Neill 34 points with Judy and Murray Webb next best 33 points.

NTPs first Jill White (Morwell) and Mat Wrigley, seventh Tim O'Neill, 10th David Enbom, 13th Jill White and Murray Webb.

LANG LANG

TUESDAY: Stableford – field of 60.

Division 1: Winner: Steve Johnson 40 points by countback. Second place: Clive Taylor.

Division 2: Winner: Steve Bray 39 points. Second place: Peter Moore 37 points.

Ball rundown to 34 points.

Nearest the pins: Fifth: Wayne Kennedy. Ninth: Daryl Barker. 12th: Ian Farrer. 15th: Rod Cameron.

Wednesday: Ladies Stableford.

Winner: Sharon Cox 36 points (by countback). Runner up: Cheryl Stockdale.

Ball rundown to 30 points.

Nearest the pins: 12th: Maureen Nankervis.

Thursday Stableford – field of 76.

Division 1: Winner: Perry O'Connor 36 points. Runner up: Bill Lucas 35 points.

Division 2: Winner: Robert Garrett 36 points. Runner up: David Fahey 34 points.

Ball rundown to 33 points.

Nearest the pin: Fifth: Rod Cameron. Ninth: Mark Ando. 12th: Darren Rooke. 15th: Noel Boyd.

Saturday – Final Round Club Championships.

Winners as follows:

Men's A Grade Gross: Bart McDonald.

Men's A Grade Net: Frank De Pasquale.

Men's B Grade Gross: Josh Rietman.

Men's B Grade Net: Colin MacLean.

Men's C Grade Gross: Kevin Curtis.

Men's C Grade Net: Kevin Curtis.

Junior Gross and Net: Levi Perkins.

Senior Gross: Richard Briggs.

Senior Net: Kevin Curtis.

Ladies A Grade Gross: Jennifer Sullivan.

Ladies A Grade Net: Jennifer Sullivan.

Ladies B Grade Gross: Sue O'Connor.

Ladies B Grade Net: Sue Van Gaal.

Sunday: Stableford.

Winner: Callum White 44 points.

Runner up: Matthew Skinner 21 points.

Congratulations to all the Club Champions, and what a finish it was in many grades.

Saturday saw plenty of rain, plus the forecast thunderstorms also halted play several times.

The course was in fantastic order despite the heavy rainfall and once again our appreciation to the grounds crew is given.

In men's A Grade, Bart McDonald and Wayne Kennedy went in as equal leaders, with Casual Walker only one shot behind and Richard Briggs only two shots behind.

Bart was the eventual winner by two shots after a very tight tussle all day.

In ladies' A Grade, Jennifer Sullivan came from behind leader Rena Casey to win for the second year running.

The seniors provided much entertainment for everyone with Richard Briggs and John Beveridge finishing round three in a deadlock.

A play off followed, with Richard Briggs coming off best to snare the trophy.

It has certainly been a Championship full of excitement and drama, and some tough conditions especially in the final round. Well done to the 2023 Club Champs.

In the coming weeks, the club has some more exciting events to look forward to.

Saturday, December 9, will see the men's Foursomes Board event, and the following Friday night on December 15, the club has a social night booked in with a \$500 cash prize for nearest the pin, eight-hole individual event, dinner and live music. See the club's socials for more details or contact the club to book your spot.

LEONGATHA

TUESDAY, November 21: Stableford.

Fifty-eight members and guests tackled the course in warm conditions for Tuesday's Stableford round.

A Grade winner: Doug Clemann (15) with 41 points.

A Grade runner up: Renato Monacella (15) with 39 points.

B Grade winner: John Mclennan (24) with 44 points.

B Grade runner up: Neil Mackenzie (31) with 41 points on a countback.

Doug Clemann scored a magnificent eagle two on the second hole.

NTP 14th: Gary McGrath at 1.70m. NTP 16th: Renato Monacella at 3.55m.

NTP second shot fifth: Doug Clemann at 4.50m.

Extra Balls Comp prizes went to Michael Hill, Gary Sharrock, Anthony Hunt and David Richards.

Thursday, November 23: Stableford.

Eighty-three members and guests played in Thursday's Stableford round.

A Grade winner: Russell Williams (8) with 41 points.

A Grade runner up: Alan Starkey (14) with 40 points.

B Grade winner: Wayne Keen (18) with 40 points on a countback.

B Grade runner up: Peter Walsh (16) with 40 points.

C Grade winner: Alan Briggs (24) with 40 points.

C Grade runner up: Malcolm Legge (23) with 37 points on a countback.

D Grade winner: Hans Hoefler (33) with 38 points on a countback.

D Grade runner up: Geoff Maher (27) with 38 points.

NTP 14th: John Mcleenan at 1.80m. NTP 16th: Peter Waters at 0.61m. NTP second shot fifth: Glenn Marshall at 0.75m.

Extra Balls Comp prizes went to Steve Foster, Barry Atwood, Jon Smith and Gerald Free-stone.

Saturday, November 25: Stableford.

Sixty-one members and guests played in hot and humid conditions for Saturday's Par event

with more great scores returned.

A Grade winner: Max Scott (15) with +7.

A Grade runner up: Patrick Mitchell (15) with +3.

B Grade winner: Mark Anderson (17) with +6.

B Grade runner up: Andrew Hendley (16) with +4 on a countback.

C Grade Winner: Ben Comeford (41) with +9.

C Grade runner up: Gerry Carcour (23) with +4.

NTP 14th: Gordon Allen at 2.32m. NTP 16th: Russell Williams at 3.60m.

Extra Balls Comp prizes went to Wayne Keen and Tim McCarthy.

Sunday, November 26: Kevin Castwood Top Gun Trophy Final.

After an eight-week qualifying period, the top 19 qualifiers, ably managed by Trevor Steer and an entourage of helpers and observers, hit off at 9am on the first hole.

One player was eliminated on each hole until only the Top Gun remained.

After a 13-way chip off on hole one, the player with the dubious honour of Pop Gun was Lianne Adamson.

In third place, eliminated on hole 17 was Gordon Allan.

Runner up, eliminated on hole 18 was Philip Edwards.

Congratulations to Doug Clemann for winning the Kevin Castwood Top Gun Trophy 2023, sponsored by BJS Insurance.

This was Doug's third win in a row of this trophy.

Ladies

ONCE again, the women's Stableford event was generously sponsored by the Inverloch Esplanade "Invy Espy" Hotel.

The recently cored greens were favourable for those that like a slower pace, and the course was in magnificent condition after a very wet winter.

Fay Guilford (28) had an excellent 38 points, which earned her an Invy Espy voucher and an A Grade win on a count back from runner up Karen Bear (30).

Cheryl Borg (43) was also the recipient of an Invy Espy voucher with a great score of 42 points.

Nan Meagher was runner up, just one point behind.

Down the line balls went to Marg Griffiths, Jenny Teasdale, Neryl Hopcraft, Jenny Fraser, Delia Perry, Sue Woods, Karen de Groot and Shirley Welsford.

Nearest the pin second shot on the fifth was won by Deb Miller and Wendy Parker was the closest on the 16th.

Mel Wilder won the nine-hole competition with 18 points with Karen Murchie, Marea Maher and Teresa Bennett earning a ball each.



The Shirley Johnson Memorial winners at Korumburra last Friday were Colleen Touzel, Trish Owen, Carol Johnson (sponsor), Merrissa Cosson, Rena Casey, Maree Wittingslow and Trudy Olden.



Some of Lang Lang Golf Club's Club Champions from Saturday were Josh Rietman (men's B Grade), Levi Perkins (Junior), Bart McDonald (men's A Grade), Richard Briggs (Senior) and Jennifer Sullivan (ladies' A Grade).

MEENIYAN

Ladies

FANTASTIC weather greeted the 13 players who set off for an aggregated Stableford round – the fun of not knowing who will be your partner till the day's end. I am sure there were a few apologies at the end of play. The winners for the day were Heather McCaughan 38 points and Gail Browne 28 points with a total of 66 points. Down the line balls went to Jo Graeme 31 points and Sue Hoskin 29 points total 60, along with Heather Poletti 29 points and Jo Graeme 31 total 60. It was nice to welcome Gwen Heppell's daughter Annette Ballard from Smoky Bay Golf Club S.A who joined the competition. Thanks to Nancye Hammet for sponsoring the day.

MIRBOO NORTH

THURSDAY November 23: Stableford. A Grade: T. Whitelaw, (11) 41 points. B Grade: R. Jenkins (26) 37 points. DTL: G. Renwick 39, R. Robbins 37, T. Bradshaw and R. Matthews 36 c/b. NTP: fourth G. Renwick, sixth R. Robbins, 13th T. Bradshaw and 16th R. Robbins. Birdies: fourth G. Renwick and 16th R. Robbins. Saturday, November 25: Stroke, round three Championship. A Grade: G. Shandley (14) 72. B Grade: S. Hill-Smith. (20) 66 DTL: R. Scurlock 72, G. Dawson, B. Bradshaw, C. Dawson and Tim Traill 73 c/b. NTP: fourth D. Taylor, sixth P. Cummaudo, 13th C. Dawson and 16th R. Matthews. Birdies: fourth R. Matthews and 16th M. McKay.

Championship: A Grade scratch: Tim Traill 240. A Grade hcp: T. Bradshaw 218. B Grade Scratch: M. Payne 258. B Grade hcp: S. Hill-Smith 213. C Grade scratch: M. McKay 287. C Grade hcp: M. McKay 224 c/b. Vets scratch: R. Matthews and R. Scurlock play off next week 18 holes. Vets hcp: R. Scurlock 143.

PHILLIP ISLAND

TUESDAY, November 21: Men's Stroke Midweek Monthly: Overall winner: Chris Zderski (28) 68. A Grade winners: A-1 Daniel Pearce (7) 69 and A-2 Tony Gay (12) 70 C/B. B Grade winners: B-1 Warren Hahnel (18) 70 and B-2 Danny Hibbert (17) 71. C Grade winners: C-1 Christian Zderski (28) 68 and -2 John Savas (21) 69 C/B. BDL to 74 C/B. NTP: fifth Ian Rowell, seventh Gerrard Ferrari, 10th Dave Egan and 17th Bez Moustafa. Men's nine-hole Stableford. Winner: Noel Thomas (34) 21 points from Peter Matthews (34) 20 points. BDL to 16 points. Wednesday, November 22: Women's 18-hole stroke: A Grade winner: Helen Coghlan (16) 75. B Grade winner: Mary Taylor (27) 67. C Grade winner: Robyn Chipperfield (40) 74 C/B. BDL to 77 C/B. NTP: fifth Miyuki Yamaguchi, seventh Jane Sellenger, 10th Miyuki Yamaguchi and 17th Miyuki Yamaguchi. Women's nine-hole Stableford: Winners: Pauline Scoble (45)

21 points and Trish Jamieson (35) 18 points C/B. BDL to 18. Thursday, November 23: Open Stableford: Overall winner: John Maglica (28) 41 points. A Grade winners: A-1 Brodie Mabilia (16) 36 points and A-2 Brady Ross (13) 34 points C/B. B Grade winners: B-1 Vince Colella (18) 39 points and B-2 John Savas (21) 38 points. C Grade winners: C-1 John Maglica (28) 41 points and C-2 Mark Davey (32) 39 points. BDL to 34 points C/B. NTP: fifth Shane Harding, seventh Danny Hibbert, 10th John Savas and 17th Ron Young. Open nine-hole Stableford: Winner: Graham Robinson (34) 23 points from Brian Carvell. Saturday, November 25: Men's 18-hole Stroke, round two Championships. Overall winner: Paul Russo (11) 66. A Grade winners: A-1 Paul Russo (11) 66 and A-2 Steven Duggan (8) 69. B Grade winners: B-1 Daniel Hall (17) 68 and B-2 Greg Holland (18) 70 C/B. C Grade winners: C-1 Dave Egan (22) 69 and C-2 Robert Dean (22) 70. BDL to 75 C/B. NTP: fifth Athol Hill, seventh Brent White, 10th Athol Hill and 17th Ron Young. Women's 18-hole Stableford. Winners: Lorraine Hammon (21) 36 points C/B Janice Baker (33) 36 points. BDL to 31 points. NTP: seventh Adrienne Anglin and 17th Lorraine Hammon. Nine-hole Open Stableford. Winner: Clive Hill (28) 18 points. BDL to 16. Sunday, November 26: Open 18-hole Stableford.

Winners: Brady Ross (13) 36 points and Brodie Mabilia (15) 28 points.

WOORAYL

Ladies

THE golfers were fortunate to have beautiful weather for the final round of the Perrett Family Foursomes Aggregate board event, with the daily event sponsored by Tricia Berryman. The daily event was won by Elly Berryman and Pauline Lancaster 91-19.5-71.5. Runners up were Sharyn Rayson and Joan Smith 106-30-76. BDL went to Kath Davis and Jo Fennell 78, and Inge Giliam 79. NTPs were on eighth Anne Grist and 17th Heather Sullivan. Everyone gave it their best with the top three scores close together after round one. The winners of the prestigious event were Elly Berryman and Pauline Lancaster finishing with a total of 147 closely followed by Sharyn Rayson and Joan Smith with 149.

WONTHAGGI

RESULTS: November 23, SR. 71. Competition: Stableford 18-hole. Winner: Stephen Judd 40. Runner up: Graeme Crawford 39. BDTL to 34 C/B. Ball sweep: Andrew McAllister 38, Jonathon Wade 37, Frank Huber 37, Andrew Hooton-Shandley 35 and Jim McEachern 34 C/B. Results: November 23, SR. 34.5. Competition: Stableford front nine-hole. Winner: Paul Cornelis 21. BDTL to 17. Ball sweep: Kevin Bayley 20,

Blake Cornelis 18, Willy Williams 17, Dio Apostoloulos 17 and Andrew Hooton-Shandley 17. Results: November 25. Par 18-hole: Winner: A: Kevin Jamieson +4. B: Andrew Hooton-Shandley +5. C: Blake Cornelis +3. Ball sweep: Ross Yann +3, Bruce Betts +3, David Ricardo +2. Andrew Cox +2, Kevin Loughran +2, Stephen Judd +1, Steven Brann +1, Ross Lovett +1, Miles Foster +1 and Peter Liddle +1 C/B. NTPs: Bruce Betts second, Matt Dawson fourth, Michael Scott propin eighth, Luke Burne 13th and Peter Dell money hole 17th.

Ladies

WEDNESDAY saw a busy day with the ladies annual general meeting, semi-finals in the Foursomes Board event, 18-holes of Canadian Foursomes and nine-holes of Stableford as usual. In the knockout foursomes, Marg Johnson and Yvonne Everitt had to go up the 19th holes before they won one up from Patsy Britt and Andrea Grenville. In the other match, Heather Wintle and Robyn Wilkinson were the winners over Anne Walker and Anne Tschiderer. The winners in the daily event of Canadian Foursomes were Layla Robertson and Geraldine Prentice 70 net from runners up Jan Beaumont and Judy Berry 74 net. BDL went to M. Dear and C. Sartori 76, M. Ryan and A. Poulton 76, and C. Bolding and W. Cross 77. NTP on the second and eighth was Irene Walsh, and 17th Lisa Brusamarello. Nine-hole winner was Kathy Geyer 22 points.



The Kevin Castwood Top Gun Trophy Final was played out at the Leongatha Golf Club on Sunday.



Perrett Family Foursomes Aggregate board event winners Pauline Lancaster and Elly Berryman with Chris Perrett and runners up Joan Smith and Sharyn Rayson.



The Top Gun prize winners at Leongatha Golf Club were Philip Edwards, Gordon Allan, Lianne Adamson and Doug Clemann.



South Gippsland Midweek Bowls Group winners were Phil Wright (S), Margaret Hoy (3), Pauline McWilliams (2) and Max Summers (L).



Thursday's South Gippsland Midweek Bowls Group runners up were Peter McWilliams (co-skip), Lindsey Russell (co-skip), Raff Merante (3) and Claire Sheers (L).



Luke Monckton (3), Cheryl Floyd (L) and John Nicholson (S) were South Gippsland Midweek Bowls Group's best one game winners.



Thelma Kavanagh, Mary Spooner and Marg Morgan were the Wonthaggi Seniors Indoor Bowls winners on Friday.



Craig Selby (skip), Graham Turton and Chris Nevill were Inverloch Bowling Club's social bowls winners.



H. Rees, J. Garnham and K. Watson were the Triples winners at Leongatha Bowls Club.



Wonthaggi Bowls Club's Wednesday winners were Ray Hin, Jay Allen Dale and Allan Gilmour.

INVERLOCH

MIDWEEK Pennant: Division 1: Inverloch 74 Corinella 40. Division 2: Meeniyen 56 Inverloch 59. Division 3: Foster 36 Inverloch (4) 38; Inverloch (3) 42 Fish Creek 42.

Saturday Pennant: Division 2: Inverloch 49 Phillip Island 74. Division 3: Meeniyen 65 Inverloch 54. Division 4: Tarwin Lower 51 Inverloch 59.

Social bowls: Social bowls saw 42 players front up for a wonderful afternoon of bowls.

There were six teams of fours and six teams of triples.

Runners up for the day with two wins and 33 points was the team of Bill Selby (skip), Carol Hughes and Jill Kennedy. Winners on the day with two wins and 35 points was the team of Craig Selby (skip), Graham Turton and Chris Nevill.

KORUMBURRA

THE club had a very successful week with both midweek teams having a good win.

In Division 1, Korumburra hosted Toora with two out of three rinks getting up.

Jenny McVeigh won 39 shots to seven, Judith Nicholl also won 20 shots to 19 while Jo Lomagno went down 22 to 24.

In Division 3, Korumburra travelled to Phillip Island and both rinks were successful.

Cheryl Moore won 22 shots to eight and Lena Harfield won 22 shots to 16 – well done to all.

Saturday Pennant saw Division 1 travelling to Toora.

Shane O'Loughlin won 41 shots to two, Rob Cosson won 14 shots to 11 and Peter Spark had a 15 all draw.

Division 2 hosted Leongatha, but unfortunately got washed out after about six ends.

Don't forget money for Christmas counter tea must be paid this Friday night.

Also, if you have not got raffle books for the Christmas hamper, see Judith.

LEONGATHA

ROUND four of the Midweek Pennant Division 1 competition was played at the Leongatha Bowls Club and the opponents were a side representing the Foster Bowls Club.

The home side was successful on one rink but scored a loss on the other two rinks.

Individual rink scores were as follows:

Marj Pearson skip (Leongatha) was defeated by Jenny Roffey skip (Foster) 18/19 shots.

Susan Symmons skip (Leongatha) was defeated by Maureen Taylor skip (Foster) 11/24 shots.

Rosa James skip (Leongatha) defeated Bev Tyers skip (Foster) 18/17 shots.

On Wednesday, the club staged the Monthly Triples event with 24 teams (72 players) competing for the enjoyment and a possible prize for being successful.

The winning team was Jim Garnham, H. Rees and Kevin Watson with a score of four wins + 24 shots.

John Newcombe's team with a score of three wins one draw and 18 shots was a close second followed by the third placegetter skipped by Rod Jackson with a score of three wins +23 shots.

The ladies who worked in the kitchen providing food of a high standard to the bowlers deserve the acknowledgement they received.

Last Saturday, the weather in the morning looked threatening and that was proved to be the case in the afternoon when the heavens opened across South Gippsland dumping heavy rain and hail stones on the South Gippsland greens.

For safety reasons, bowlers were asked to head for the shelter of the

clubhouse and the message was not repeated when the lightning and thunder was close to the action, as the bowlers bolted like some canine animals.

Division 1 travelled to Wonthaggi and were humiliated by a side that produced the goods despite the weather conditions.

The match was completed with a final score of 81/43 shots and 16 points to Wonthaggi.

Individual rink scores were as follows:

Benjamin Mattock skip (Wonthaggi) defeated Anthony Collier skip (Leongatha) 25/16 shots.

Frank Seaton skip (Wonthaggi) defeated John Hall skip (Leongatha) 32/13 shots.

Bryan Donohue skip (Wonthaggi) defeated Jenny Miller skip (Leongatha) 24/14 shots.

The Leongatha Division 2 side made the journey to the Korumburra Bowls Club to enjoy the hospitality of the opposition but unfortunately the game had to be abandoned because of water on the green which was escaping slowly.

The decision was made after reviewing the rules of play.

Leongatha Division 4 side travelled to the Meeniyen Bowls Club, which is situated within a sporting complex that has a very pleasant outlook and the hospitality is to be enjoyed.

The availability of players in the lower grades is becoming a concern but both clubs managed to select 12 registered bowlers each that would enable the game to proceed.

The standard of the game may not have been to one's liking as a spectacle and Meeniyen made less errors and on completion had their nose in front with an overall score of 57/52 shots.

Individual rink scores were as follows: John Hocking skip (Meeniyen) defeated Janice Sing skip (Leongatha) 21/16 shots. Dawn Poletti skip (Meeniyen) defeated John White skip (Leongatha) 21/19 shots. Chris Kelly skip (Meeniyen) was defeated by Ron Symmons skip (Leongatha) 15/17 shots.

Coming events are the following: Business bowls: November 28, and December 5 and 12.

Medley event: December 7- contact Janice Sing 0429 436 991 for booking.

Corporate events: December 1, 8 and 15.

MIDWEEK BOWLS

WHAT a day it was at Corinella.

Forty-two bowlers turned up for the weekly challenge.

The weather was looking perfect, and the company was also looking perfect.

The bowling once again was excellent with almost no wrong bias bowls.

There was still some happy laughter around the green as some tried hard to keep up with the high quality.

Once again, thank you to Peter, Pauline and John for their hard work each week.

Also thank you to Phil in the bar and Gwen in the kitchen.

This week, the winners on 36 points were Phil Wright (S), Margaret Hoy (3), Pauline McWilliams (2) and Max Summers (L).

Runners up on 34 points were Peter McWilliams/Lindsay Russell (co-skips), Raff Merante (33) and Claire Sheers (L).

Best one game on 21 points were John Nicholson (S), Luke Monckton (3) and Cheryl Floyd (L).

Next week, the bowlers will be heading to San Remo.

Everyone who is playing should be on site by 10am to allow time for Peter to work his magic getting the teams set up.

Meanwhile, have a great week and to all pennant players, the club hopes you have a good weekend of playing.

WONTHAGGI

TUESDAY saw both Pennant teams

travel to Phillip Island on a fine but cool day.

Division 1 played well to win one rink, draw another, but just go down in the other.

The final scores Wonthaggi 59 Phillip Island 66.

Division 2, also at Phillip Island, were playing to keep their place in the top four.

All rinks played well all day with the result going down to the wire.

The final scores Wonthaggi 56 Phillip Island 57.

Tuesday Bare Foot Bowls went off well with a few more teams and warmer weather to make conditions perfect.

Wednesday social bowls saw a good number of bowlers grace the greens on a fine sunny day.

There were teams of triples with one team of four to round off the numbers.

There was one two game winner, and that was the team of Ray Hin, Jay Allen Dale and Allan Gilmour with a score of two wins and 30 points.

Thursday is going from strength to strength with better weather, and a lot of happy bowlers having a good morning.

Saturday Pennant saw Division 1 play host to Leongatha at home where the weather was going to play a part at some time. True to form, there was a break with rain but after the break, the weather fined up and the bowlers were able to finish the match.

All three rinks played well to record a solid win.

The final scores Wonthaggi 81 Leongatha 43.

Division 2 travelled to the seaside town of San Remo, looking for a win to keep their season on track.

Once again, all three rinks played well to get a good result.

The final scores Wonthaggi 67 San Remo 49.

Division 3 travelled in the other direction to Tarwin looking for a win.

Luck was not on Wonthaggi's side as it just got pipped on the line.

The final scores Wonthaggi 59 Tarwin 62.

Division 4 went even further to Fish Creek with the weather still being a threat.

The day took a nasty turn when one bowler Lorraine Day had a fall and had to be transported to hospital.

As a result, Lorraine has two fractures in her forearm, which is not good.

The match was called off as that was the only thing to do.

The club would like to thank Fish Creek for all the care and attention they showed Lorraine.

Bowls this week: Tuesday Midweek Pennant, Tuesday evening Bare Foot Bowls from 5pm, Wednesday social bowls at 1pm, Thursday social bowls at 10am, Friday coaching at 10am and Saturday Pennant.

Don't forget the Christmas lunch on Sunday, December 10, with sheets up in the clubhouse.

Have a good week and good bowling.

WONTHAGGI INDOOR

AS Christmas draws closer, there are only a few more weeks of bowling to go.

A reminder the presentation Christmas dinner is on December 6 at 6.30pm at Dalyston.

The results from this week's bowling are Tuesday the winners with a plus 16 were Rhonda Rattenbury, Sylvia Mattock, Jim Rodhi and John Postlethwaite.

Runners up on plus six were Judy Sweetnam, Jim Wilson and John Stewart.

On Friday, 29 players competed. The winners on plus 18 were Marg Morgan, Mary Spooner and Thelma Kavanagh.

Runners up on plus four were Jean Wylde Rhonda Rattenbury, Jos Kemper and Chris Rose.

All teams for the week won two games each.



Pictured are some of those who won awards at the Wonthaggi Table Tennis Association presentation night recently. They are, from left, Sean Michael, Brad Andrew, Leigh Allamby, Charley Donohue, Dirk Holwerda, Siobhan Buxton, Luke Hiddle, Poppy Duff, Brayden Andrighetto, Trish Denier, Andy Chetcuti, Warren Wilson, Justin Licis, and Michael Steenbergen.

Awards night wraps up Wonthaggi Table Tennis

THE presentation night signals the setting of the sun on yet another year of Wonthaggi Table Tennis.

A mostly successful year but heavy-hearted too with the loss of two cherished and beloved favourites, Nancy Pat-
tinson and Michael Ede.

The membership embodied all that is good with the human condition including competitive joy, sweaty effort and

dinkum mateship.

We look skyward to our departed shepherds and pay tribute to Nancy and Michael's glorious legacy. Their contribution on and off the table was long and profound. Proud smiles and double thumb salutes delivered and received.

Social play continues every Wednesday and Saturday at noon. Mondays at 6.30pm.

- Results:**
- Autumn Competition - A Grade winners Justin Licis and Andy Chetcuti, runners-up Michael Chang and Sean Michael. A Reserve winners Sean Michael and Leigh Allamby, runners-up Michael Steenbergen and Luke Hiddle
 - Spring Competition - A Grade winners Dirk Holwerda and Brad Andrew, runners-up Justin Licis and

Luke Hiddle. A Reserve winners Siobhan Paxton, Poppy Duff and Jack Aischelmann, runners-up - Fred Debono, Trish Denier and Rhyder O'Neill.

- Club Championships: A Grade Singles Justin Licis. Doubles Justin Licis and Charley Donohue. A Reserve Singles Fred Debono. Doubles Warren Wilson and Michael Steenbergen.

RIVERSIDE TENNIS ASSOCIATION

ROUND seven results:

Section 1/2 Doubles:

Warragul 2 - 38 defeated by Drouin Maroon 7 - 52; Moe 8 - 52 defeated Neerim District 1 - 12; Hallora 9 - 54 defeated Trafalgar 0 - 12; Poowong 4 - 35 washout Drouin Gold 1 - 29.

Team and Points:

Drouin Maroon 60, Moe 54.5, Neerim District 42, Hallora 40, Warragul 38, Poowong 32.5, Drouin Gold 21, Trafalgar 20

Section 1 Singles: Moe White 4 - 8 - 48 defeated Trafalgar 0 - 1 - 22; Moe Blue 3 - 6 - 41 defeated Drouin 1 - 2 - 28; Moe Red had the bye.

Team and Points:

Moe Red 26, Moe White 26, Moe Blue 22.5, Drouin 8.5, Trafalgar 4.5

Section 2 Singles: Warragul 0 - 3 defeated by Trafalgar 6 - 48; Drouin Gold 4 - 40 defeated Moe 2 - 40; Drouin Maroon 3 - 30 defeated by Pax Hill 3 - 35.

Team and Points:

Trafalgar 45, Pax Hill 42, Drouin Maroon 29, Moe 24, Drouin Gold 18, Warragul 1

ALLAMBEE MIRBOO & DISTRICT

RESULTS: round seven.

Section 1:

Westernport 6.42 defeated Koonwarra 2.24; Leongatha v Inverloch - wash out; Korumburra bye.

Ladder:

Westernport 50, Inverloch 45, Koonwarra 28, Korumburra 26, Leongatha 25

Section 2:

Baromi v Leongatha - wash out. Outtrim v Korumburra - wash out.

Westernport and Koonwarra were the only match to finish this week being played at San Remo.

Koonwarra managed to win two ladies sets.

All other matches were washed out, with many matches having to attend their respective venues before they could call them a wash out.

Next week the tournaments will be held in Leongatha.

Players are asked to be at the venue by 9.30am for a 10am start (or once the juniors have finished).

If you would like to put in a pair for either the doubles or mixed doubles, please message or call Chris Amor on 0407 362 972 by Thursday, November 30.

All clubs, please try to have representation at the tournaments.

With low attendance the past few years, it would be great to see some extra people come along and enjoy the day of tennis.

Roll up your sleeves and get rolling

LEONGATHA Bowls Club held two successful 'come try days' to help encourage community members to get involved in the great social sport of bowls.

While the weather wasn't kind, there were still plenty of interested attendees on Sunday, November 26, at the club.

Speaking with the Sentinel-Times was coordinator Jeff Pendergast, who was pleased with the turnout.

"There's been about 16 adults and four kids (today) which are great numbers," he said.

"Down the track we may get about six or seven members, and out of that there will be three or four that stay on with the club and help out with all the functions."

Jeff explained the events were a first for the club in a long time, highlighting they hope to make it more regular.

"There was a few of us that were concerned that membership was dropping away, but we had a meeting and decided we would do this," he said.

"And also with the business and barefoot bowls, we thought we would run two sessions of that this year.

"We then took our proposals to the board and got approval; we've formed a sub-committee for organising these things."

Jeff further highlighted that many bowls clubs in the area were struggling for members, and many had to get creative.

"There's been some that



There were plenty of fresh faces interested in giving bowls a try on Sunday. Ns23_4823

have had good success in recruiting, but most clubs and memberships are dwindling," he said.

"A lot of times with clubs, most people don't seriously play bowls until they retire.

"And without those retirees that we're not getting in, and the rest of us are getting too old, let's face it, the average membership of the club is getting pretty close to 80."

However, Jeff remained optimistic that the club will turn its fortunes around as they look to explore more options to attract members.

The club is hosting sessions on a Monday that require no bookings and those interested can just turn up and receive coaching lessons.

For more information, visit leongatha.bowls.com.au



Coordinators Jeff Pendergast and John O'Connor hope to attract more members to the club and were pleased with the turnout for the come try day. Ns22_4823



Run the Ridge

A FUN time was had by all on a somewhat steamy Saturday morning at the Grand Ridge Rail Trail.

The Grand Ridge Rail Trail park-run Mirboo North is a free, fun, and friendly weekly 5k community event. Walk, jog, run, volunteer or spectate - it's up to you.

For more information visit park-run.com.au/grandridgerailtrail.



Tony enjoys his latest success in the meat tray raffle.

Phillip Island & Districts Darts League wraps up Spring Series

By Chris Chivers

WITH 17 players enjoying a cosy setting, the Phillip Island & Districts Darts League concluded its Spring competition, which ran for eight weeks, and while the group may have been smaller than usual, the camaraderie and friendly competition remained as vibrant as ever.

Di and Bruce emerged as the stars of the evening, securing a convincing 5-2 victory in their team game.

Unfortunately, their enthusiasm to enjoy the sweet taste of victory meant there was no time for a winner's photo, as they hurriedly made their way home to indulge in some well-deserved chocolates.

Adding to the festive atmosphere, Tony found himself in high spirits as the fortunate winner of the meat tray raffle, again!

The league is grateful to San Remo Butchers for their steadfast support, a gesture that contributes to the success and enjoyment of each Monday night's competition.

League president, Scott Lethbridge, expressing appreciation, said, "A big thank you to all our members, both longstanding and new, for making Monday nights a consistently friendly and enjoyable competition; your participation and enthusiasm truly define the spirit of our league."

As the league bids adieu to the Spring competition, there's a sense of anticipation for the upcoming post-Christmas season.

Plans are underway for a Christmas drinks catch-up in December, where the individual winners of the Spring competition will be officially announced.

It promises to be an evening filled with holiday cheer, laughter, and the celebration of a season well-played.

"We're looking forward to our Christmas gathering, and it's not just about the darts; it's about the friendships we've forged and the joy we've shared throughout the Spring competition, and here's to more good times ahead," Scott declared.

New players are always welcome, so if you are interested in being involved and enjoy a friendly environment with young and old alike, male and female, please contact Scott Lethbridge on 0407 543 154 or at scott@glpc.com.au



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Poowong Basketball Grand Finals



Blue 41 defeated Purple 25 in the U13 girls' competition. Pictured back from left, Zara Murray, Pia Pask, Briley Staben, Isabel Barraclough, Lila Griffiths, Ruby Brighton, Madison Van Den Broek and Lillian Hancock, front, Olivia Maddocks, Willow McDonald, Sophie Bleazby, Phoebe Moriarty, Jade Comer, Bridget West and Nancy Carroll. Grand final MVP: Bridget West.



Kookies and Kareem 33 defeated Celtics 24 in the Poowong Basketball men's competition. Pictured back from left, Zac Gray, Rhys Butler, Mitch DeKleuver, Reide Macqueen, Jake Peacock and Lochie Haverkamp, front, Zack Follett, Glenn Attenborough, Rob Moxon, Brenton Rundle, Daniel Johnson and Jake Follett.



Blue 35 defeated Green 15 in the U12 boys' competition. Pictured back from left, coach Leonie Singh, Kaiden Evans, Jack O'Brien, Angus Tumino, Archie Tumino, Braxton Falkingham, Levi Bowey, coach Jane Adams, front, Matthew Hoffmann, Flynn White, Luke Macdonald, Jacob Brighton, James Macdonald and Cohen Maynard. Grand Final MVP: Jack O'Brien.



Big Baller's 35 defeated Stars and Scars 25 in the Poowong Basketball women's competition. Pictured, back from left, Ishka Butler, Bianca Monson, Livinia Mandemaker, Tiarna Blackwood, Katie Cronin and Emma Henshall, front, Courtney Miller, Hannah Staben, Jade Comer, Kylie Van Den Broek, Stacey Adams and Sara Mills. Grand Final MVP: Courtney Miller.



Purple 47 defeated Blue 31 in the U15s boys' competition. Pictured back from left, Matthew Churchill, Lachie Moriarty, Jett Felgate, Brodie Drury, coach Kristy Moriarty, front, Oaklin Brown, Brock Warren and Lincoln Hancock.



Lachie Moriarty was the U15 boys' grand final MVP.



Special thanks went to Fay Hay for many years of working and helping at the stadium. There wouldn't be a job she hasn't done and the stadium may be her second home. Thank you for everything you have given to Poowong Basketball, the association will miss having you in the kiosk welcoming everyone in the community.



The Noah Peacock Memorial Award went to grand final MVP Lochie Haverkamp. Lochie is pictured with Michelle Peacock.

Local delight for popular new Roo Wil Dawson

SUPPORT for North Melbourne footy club has skyrocketed at Leongatha Primary School (LPS) since the Kangaroos drafted young Parrot Wil Dawson, but it's not his footy prowess that makes him popular with students.

As part of his VCE Vocational Major, studying early childhood education, Wil undertook a weekly placement working with a grade 5 class at LPS, also spending a day a week at TAFE Gippsland and the other three days at Leongatha Secondary College (LSC).

While his placement required him to work at LPS once a week, since completing Year 12 he has been volunteering there twice as often, continuing to help the kids with reading, writing and maths.

"These kids idolise him not because of his football ability but because he's such an outstanding young adult," Grade 5 teacher Craig McCaughan said. LSC principal Brad Hutchinson reflected on Wil's development at the school.

"He's made immense growth in his last few years here at the secondary college as a person, which has been a delight to see and we're very happy for him," he said.

Not all the LPS kids are into footy but there were a couple of North Melbourne supporters among the 25-strong class, with that figure now jumping to about 10.

Craig spoke of the reaction of those within the LPS

community when Wil was named as Pick 22 in Monday night's opening round of the AFL National Draft.

"I got a few messages that night from parents in regard to how excited these kids were; it was pretty late for Grade 5s to be staying up, but they did," Craig said.

Plans were quickly adapted after initial expectations Wil would be drafted on Tuesday evening and visit the kids on Wednesday, with that visit happening a day earlier.

One student not able to be there on Tuesday was so disappointed to have missed out, the affable draftee returned to the school on Wednesday.

"This is the calibre of the guy," LPS principal Dot Coghlan said.

While Wil has maintained a strong focus on getting drafted, including eating during class to boost his strength, his VCE Vocational Major has ensured he has built other life skills and his employability.

In addition to weekly TAFE and work placement, the three days at LSC involved studying literacy, numeracy, work related skills and personal development skills.

There's no doubt Wil has the work ethic and determination to give himself a shot at senior action with the Kangaroos next season, perhaps taking the field with North Melbourne's Foster recruit Zane Duursma, a Gippsland Power teammate.



New North Melbourne recruit, Wil Dawson received warm congratulations from Ty Beavis on his draft selection to the Kangaroos.



Victorian race caller Adam Olszanski, the CEO of the Stony Creek Racing Club, hosts a Q&A session with Australia's premier race caller Matt Hill at the launch of the local racing season.

Matt Hill calls it like he sees it

PREMIER Australian horse racing and sports caller Matt Hill was the special guest of the Stony Creek Racing Club for its season launch last Saturday night.

And, typically, he called it like he sees it when providing commentary on the state of the industry.

Hill said Melbourne's spring racing carnival was still the best festival of racing anywhere in the world and while others have tried to emulate it, it's still the envy of racing authorities the world over.

Melbourne is easily the best sporting city in Australia, he said, after 15 years calling sports in Sydney.

And pound for pound, we offer the best prize money, which is the lifeblood of a healthy industry, unlike the English industry which he says "races for ribbons" and was suffering accordingly.

But he does see warning signs locally.

He said it was a mistake for the Melbourne Racing Club (Caulfield) to be moving the centrepiece of its raceday, the mounting yard, away from the front of the grandstand.

And its latest promotion, "It's Time to Re-Wild" (whatever that means) was misplaced.

He said racing authorities needed to be promoting horse talent and the industry's great stories ahead of partying.

He fears for the future of "the theatre of the mind", race calling on the radio, with the advent of sports viewing on smartphones and tablets.

But he said the Stony Creek racecourse was "an iconic part of Victorian racing" where it was well-known, that if you could win a race at Stony Creek, you could win in Melbourne.

And he announced on the night, that in March next year he hopes to tick off another of the items on his personal wish list by calling a Ladbrokes' Stony Creek Cup ahead of going to Paris to call the rowing at the 2024 Olympics.

As the "Voice of the Melbourne Cup" for the past seven years, the only caller of the great race for TV, radio, livestreaming and on-course racegoers, it's been a wild ride for the boy from Altona and those who attended the Stony Creek Racing Club's launch last Saturday night heard all about it.

They also heard plans for a fantastic five-meeting season from new Club President John Schuijers, who revealed plans to add a new semi-automatic irrigation system to the track, in place by the cup meeting, a bigger mounting yard in its present location and improvements to race club facilities including a new female jockey's room, while maintaining existing facilities.

The club, he said, had added 25 per cent more members last year and was hoping for a similar increase in numbers this year, with any additional funds going towards the refurbishment of facilities for racegoers and industry stakeholders.

The first race meeting of the new season will be on Friday, December 29 with another to follow on Tuesday, January 9.

If you would like to join as a member of the Stony Creek Racing Club for season 2024, go to: stonycreek.membership.countryracing.com.au.

Fireworks, Santa, Sprintcars and local sedan heroes

By Dean Thompson

NYORA Raceway has a huge show this Saturday from 4pm, packed with family fun, the Sprintcars headlining the racing portion of the program in the 'Battle at the Bullring', while club president Marcus Reddecliffe has made a special call to Santa Claus who will make an appearance at the track.

The fun doesn't stop there with Standard Saloons, Ladies Standard Saloons, Junior Standard Saloons, 1200cc Junior Sedans and Sports Sedans, and a spectacular fireworks show to close the night.

In Sprintcar action, early signs are that all of Gippsland's best drivers will be in town to compete for the \$2000 cash up for grabs for winning the race.

Koo Wee Rup local Thomas McDonald and Frankston man Kim Gosling, who both call Nyora Raceway their home track, come up against the likes of Victorian champion Nigel Laity from Wiseleigh in East Gippsland, Alistair Bastian from Lucknow, and Adam Greenwood from Sale.

Competing with Chevrolet LS CT525 engines these machines make all the noise that we come to expect from any Sprintcar, no matter the powerplant.



Sprintcars headline the racing action at Nyora Raceway on Saturday. Photo: Louise Norman of Napier Photography.

Nominations in the sedan classes are set to feature drivers from all over Gippsland and Melbourne's South-East suburbs, with plenty of entertainment to be delivered in the Standard Saloons after some elbows were lifted on track at the last event in November.

Drivers will be told to be on their best behaviour by event

stewards, however one senses there might be some scores to settle.

Mark Miles from Catani leads the charge for Nyora with brothers Andrew, Chris and Jay making it a family affair, and others such as Kacey Ingram, and Owen and Harry Cecil will be right in amongst the action and vying for the top spot.

Junior Standard Saloons, and Junior 1200cc Sedans competitors are looking forward to the opportunity of battling it out at Nyora for the first time this season, whilst the Ladies Standard Saloons and Sports Sedans return after appearing on Melbourne Cup long weekend.

Tom Braz, a winner at Bairnsdale in Junior Standard Saloons this past weekend, leads the field while Bryce Leek, Ella Sheedy and Chase Doherty are a few of the drivers in the 1200s to watch, while in Ladies Standard Saloon's expect Caroline Allen to compete with the likes of Maddison and Bronwyn Miles.

Racing begins at 4pm.

Pre-event online ticket purchase prices are \$25 for adults, \$10 for pensioners, and children aged up to 16 are \$5.

A pre-purchased family ticket for two adults and two teenagers is \$55.

Purchase of tickets at the track cost \$30 for adults, \$10 for pensioners, with those aged 12 to 16 years \$10 and kids up to the age of 11 \$5 dollars.

A family ticket for two adults and two teenagers is \$60 at the track.

Eftpos is available at the Raceway.

For enquiries contact 0428 847 888.

South Gippsland Kookaburras topple Glen Waverley

By Graham Wightman

THE South Gippsland Kookaburras braved rain as they strove for further glory, accomplishing just that in their away clash with Glen Waverley Warriors.

South Gippsland skipper ‘Marvelous’ Mitch lost the toss, with Glen Waverley choosing to wield the willow.

‘Master Blaster’ Loos and ‘Flight Merchant’ Francis took the wet pill, with both bowling tighter than the South Gipps Shire Budget.

Then it was the president, Neil ‘Bulls-eye’ White, who proceeded to clean bowl three Warriors in as many overs, with the pitch more slippery than an icy pole and helping to create the tumble of wickets.

Best of the Trundlers were ‘Bulls-eye’ White (3/12), ‘Stats Guru’ Brendon Thomas (1/2), Ol Grayza Wighty (1/4) and Robby Francis (1/20).

The Kookas then set about a highly gettable target of 70.

Peter the ‘Magnificent’ Miller, fresh from winning the National Championships, with Huck, LDCA Lej, Cleeland, flayed the Warriors in a Travis Head like effort for 24 not out.

Other contributors were ‘Ol Grayza’ (13 no), ‘Burkey’ Burke (11no), and Robbie Francis (9no).

It was another masterful performance by the Kookas, quickly slamming on 0/78.

Next it’s the Big Bash against the star-studded Goannas at Scorpion Park.

So come on down and see the heavyweights title match.

The hearts and thoughts of all Kookaburras are with the Great Tiga Boy, Treva Wilson, with all getting behind him.

Spinners have Warragul entranced

By Liam Durkin

WARRAGULS batsmen succumbed to Sale-Maffra’s spinners on a Stratford pitch offering purchase, leading Sale-Maffra to a 43-run win.

The home side batted first, Stefano Di Bartolomeo (65) and Charlie Morrison (38) helping the Sharks to 165.

James Wilcock (2/14) got the first two wickets for Warragul, while left arm wrist spinner Harvey Jupp took 2/24.

The reply started positively for the visitors, the score ticking along to 1/59 but the match turned once the spinners came on.

Off spinner Isaac Love got one through James Vela, who scored 26, before Sale-Maffra skipper Dylan Bolton took the next two wickets, his side in charge thereafter.

Yashan Samarasinghe scored a brisk 51 but fell to Bolton (5/30). Love took 3/19 as Warragul was skittled for 122.

The victory keeps the Sharks unbeaten.

Bairnsdale scrapes home } against Latrobe Valley

BAIRNSDALE got over the line against Latrobe Valley by one wicket at Lucknow.

The winning side bowled first in helpful conditions, the visitors managing 9/161 with Latrobe Valley captain Nathan Freitag making 75 not out.

Needing someone to ignite things with the ball, Latrobe Valley found an answer in Mitch Harris. The bustling quick knocked over two of the biggest wickets in the Bairnsdale camp, Rohan Blandford and Frank Mostert to see the home side in early trouble at 2/5.

Bairnsdale sank into further difficulty at 5/29, then 6/47 when Brodie Anderson fell for 24.

The match took another turn with Bairnsdale slipping to 9/127, stalwart Reagan coming to the rescue with an unbeaten 23, with number 11 Steve Bertino managing 12 not out.



The LDCA representatives in this season's GCL Under 18s have formed a well-balanced side exhibiting depth with bat and ball.

LDCA U18s impress against Sale-Maffra

By Scott Checkley

LEONGATHA & District Cricket Association (LDCA) engineered an impressive 66-run win in Round 2 of Under 18s Gippsland Cricket League (GCL) action after skipper Tadgh Gannon (Nerrena) chose to bat at East Campus against visitor Sale-Maffra.

The game was moved from Leongatha Recreation Reserve after it was deemed unplayable due to overnight rain.

Matt Dakin (Glen Alvie) and Harry West (Wonthaggi Club) got the strong Leongatha outfit off to a great start, with

Dakin scoring at a good rate, and solid partnerships featured throughout the 50 overs, with a solid total of 203 posted.

Isaac Seuren (Inverloch) top scored with 43, batting at number five.

Mitch Croatto (Nerrena) made 24, Noah Christensen (Korumburra) 21no, Tadgh Gannon 19, West 13, Jesse Dugard (Inverloch) 12no and Harry Scrimshaw (KLRS) 11.

When LDCA took the ball, Tim Niven (Phillip Island)

opened up with Aydan Williams (Imperials) and they claimed an early wicket each.

Every time the Sale-Maffra batters looked to be getting on top, the Leongatha bowlers managed a breakthrough to keep the pressure on in a tidy display, and good fielding resulted in two run outs, culminating in a good win.

Isaac Seuren backed up his batting exploits with 2/17 off five overs, Aydan Williams took 2/28 off just under six overs, while Harry Butcher (Inverloch) Tim Niven, Jesse Dugard, Tyson Harris (Nerrena)

all claimed a wicket.

LDCA 8/203 def Sale-Maffra 137 all out

The LDCA has an excellent group this season with a lot of depth in batting and bowling and this was on display on the weekend.

The U18s now play a double header of T20s on December 17.

The assistance of Imperials Cricket Club in making the East Campus ground available at short notice was appreciated as was the contribution of Foster Cricket Club in providing catering.



Beau Glenn and Amity Puncher competed for the ball in Wednesday’s Go Fives game.



Lulu Richards keeps possession of the ball with Caitlyn Goodwin in pursuit.

Go Fives summer series a hit

LEONGATHA Knights Football Club’s Go Fives summer series is well underway.

The competition – now heading into its third round – will run for eight weeks, with a break after week five for Christmas.

Play will resume on Wednesday, January 10.

The Leongatha Knights have been thrilled with the turn out, experiencing an 80 per cent growth of registrations.

“Sixty per cent of those players didn’t play for this year, so they are from other clubs, are new to the sport or they are returning to the sport,” Knights coach Bethany Milkins said.

“We took a risk running extra competitions, but it has proved there is a lot of enthusiasm for the sport locally.

This summer, the club is running competitions for junior girls, U12s mixed, U14 mixed, women’s, senior social and senior competitive, introducing more opportunities for women and girls to get involved.

There were 28 registrations for the junior girls’ competition.

“We are really keen about getting a junior girls’ team into the league,” Bethany said.

“It’s looking good. We’ve got a women’s sub-committee, and that’s focused on getting more opportunities for women and girls.

“There’s a lot of enthusiasm, and a lot of the credit goes to the coaches. There are a lot of coaches on board for the junior girls’ team to fill a need. They’ve created opportunities for their daughters, which is wonderful.”

The women’s competition – also running for the first time, the senior socials, and the junior girls’ games are played on Wednesday night.

Thursdays are packed with games played for U12 mixed, U14 mixed and senior competitive.

All games are played at Mary Mackillop Catholic Regional College.

“We’ve maxed out in a couple of the competitions, namely the senior competitive and the U14 mixed,” Bethany said.

“It’s been wonderful, and it just shows how much passion there is for the game, especially off the back of the Matildas. All the girls’ teams are named after Matildas players, which they are very excited about.”

Bethany said the beauty of the Go Fives competition is the fact that there’s no formal training required.

“You just rock up and play. There’s no experience needed, it’s all about having a kick and having fun,” she said.

“It’s about creating friendships – it’s a really beautiful environment to be in.”

One player enjoying the Go Fives experience is Beau Glenn.

Beau has been playing soccer for two years with Korumburra City Soccer Club and Southern United.

She said she loves everything about soccer, and has been enjoying the Go Fives program as a way to play the game she enjoys with her friends.

Beau aims to continue working hard on her soccer skills and one day become a Matilda.

Good battle in Inverloch

C GRADE

INVERLOCH came off their first win of the season and were back at home when MDU came to town on Saturday, when the two teams were able to play out the most overs in any match for the day with 57.

The Demons won the toss and chose to bat first and found a strong early contribution from Wayne Cocksedge (23) before a decent Invy' fightback removed much of their top and middle order.

The Dees' tail wagged though and saw them reach 194 before being dismissed, behind strong performances from Glen Cocksedge (48) at number eight and Stephen Riley (28) at number 10.

Matt Marston (3/34 from 15) was again superb for the

Stingrays, after bowling a mega spell in their win a week prior.

Strong clash brewing in Koony'

KILCUNDA-BASS made their way down to the Koonwarra Recreation Reserve on Saturday and got a good 19 overs of play in on the day.

The Sharks won the toss and chose to bat first and Paul Cornelis (25 off 21) again got off to a good start but fell.

This left Mathew Whitby (23* off 41) to pick up where he left off and he did so, reaching the conclusion of play with his wicket intact, seeing multiple teammates depart, he finished alongside Joe Reilly (1* off 18).

Spencer Chadwick (2/26 from 6) was the pick of the bowlers for the Cougars.



Harper Cocksedge looked to make his mark against his rivals. Ns06_4823

Korumburra negotiates shortened day

B GRADE, DIVISION 2

OUTTRIM Moyarra Kongwak's bowlers were able to bowl just over 19 overs for the day at Digger Park, containing Korumburra to a laborious 0/38 by the time rain wiped out the remainder of proceedings.

Justin Greenwood proved the meanest of the OMK bowlers, allowing 11 runs off nine overs, Michael Whiteside conceding the same number of runs from three overs less.

While Cobra Peter Churchill's undefeated 24 from 68 balls was accumulated at a Chris Tavare like pace, that was positively blistering compared to opening partner Caleb Turton who managed five not out from 51 balls.

However, both did their jobs on a day when little could be gained on the runs front due to the weather.

Phillip Island capitalises during shortened day at Foster

PHILLIP Island won the toss and made its decision to insert home team Foster count, grabbing 4/82 on a weather-hit day.

Just 28 overs were played, Phillip Island's Matthew Parsons bowling half of those in an outstanding effort that earned him 3/32.

Justin Tran was the Sharks' other wicket taker with 1/11.

Despite Phillip Island clearly taking day one honours, Foster showed fight as Tim Garvey (22 not out) and Brett Gay (14 not out) began to build a partnership before the weather gods took over.

Opener Jack Gay earlier fell for 18, one of Parsons' wickets.

Glen Alvie and Nerrena to settle it in a day

NO DAY one play was possible at Glen Alvie Recreation Reserve with Nerrena and Glen Alvie now set to battle it out in a 40 over a side one day match on Saturday.

Kilcunda-Bass and Wonthaggi Club to slug out one day game

WITH the opening day of their planned two day game washed out, Kilcunda-Bass and visitor Wonthaggi Club will play a 40 over per team one day game.

Women and girls celebrated in cricket

LAST week women and girls were celebrated in cricket and Inverloch girls have the opportunity to try out, learn about and meet others interested in playing cricket.

Women and Girls Week celebrates the contribution of women and girls at every level and role in cricket and coincides with the Women's Big Bash League finals.

On Wednesday afternoons from 3.30pm Cricket Victoria will be holding introductory sessions for girls aged 5 - 12.

These sessions are part of a strategy launched by Cricket Victoria last year aiming for a 100 per cent increase in girls' participation across cricket to 30,000 participants.

Peter Ciavarella from the Gippsland branch of Cricket Victoria will be hosting the Inverloch girls sessions and said these events are part of an effort to expand girls and women's involvement in all areas of the sport.

"We brand ourselves as a game for all, and it's not true if we do not offer opportunities for everyone to play, so we are opening up those opportunities for all to



Peter Ciavarella from Cricket Victoria with Jackie Newman from the Inverloch Stingrays Cricket Club Women's team will be hosting introductory sessions to cricket for junior girls in Inverloch. ob06_4823

play in a grade and competition that suits them," he said.

Cricket Victoria are also hoping to start a junior league across Gippsland for January next year.

The Inverloch Stingrays Cricket Club have fielded a women's side for the second year in a

row, with 18 players between the ages of 15 and 50 participating in the open women's competition.

The team plays in the Leongatha and District Cricket Association along with six other women's sides, Kilcunda-Bass, Leongatha, Nyora, Koonwarra,

Foster and Phillip Island.

Jackie Newman, player and organiser of the Inverloch Stingrays Cricket Club women's team said their numbers have continued to grow and they are looking to go into a proper rules competition within one to two seasons.

The female competition currently has heavily modified rules so everyone of all skill levels can be involved, engaged and enjoy the social aspect of the game, and,

"We've unleashed a few beasts in the women's side," laughs Jackie.

While women are welcome to play in men's teams, the all female sides provide a non-threatening way for girls and women to become involved in the sport.

It also provides an easier, more streamlined pathway for younger female members to transition into a rep' side, if they are keen, according to Jackie.

As there are many strong female sports now on offer, Peter said that Cricket Victoria want to provide opportunities for women and girls of all ages and abilities to play cricket.

For more information go to Facebook page: Inverloch Stingrays CC.

Koonwarra women played host to Nyora



Nyora's Natalie Henry prepares to launch this delivery to the leg-side. Ns21_4823



Shona Lynch maintained her composure to top score. Ns20_4823

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LEONGATHA & DISTRICT CRICKET ASSOCIATION

A1: Damon Ginnane (Imperials) 26* ; Callum Ashbury (Inverloch) 1/3

A2: Josh Toner (Foster) 81 ; Todd Smith (Kilcunda-Bass) 3/38

B1: Tharidu Asurumuni (Phillip Island) 30 ; Peter Dell (OMK) 4/38

B2: Peter Churchill (Korumburra) 24* ; Matthew Parsons (P-Island) 3/32

C: Paul Cornelis (Kilcunda-Bass) 25 ; Spencer Chadwick (Koon L/RSL) 2/26

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B GRADE

DIVISION 1

Phillip Island 140 v OMK 2/37

Phillip Island – 1st INNINGS: K Beaumont 0, T Asurumuni 30, T Blackwell 15, O Duggan 17, J Manning 0, J Williams 15, T Hornsby 14, K Lane 0, S Angelo 18, A Tolley 15*, H Arceo 16
Bowling: P Dell 4/38, S Taylor 0/40, B Maguire 3/30, K Kerr 3/22
OMK – 1st INNINGS: J Cuman 23, B Furness 1, B Maguire 11*, K Kerr 0*
Bowling: J Williams 1/18, H Arceo 0/19, K Lane 1/0

MDU 1/14 v Korumburra

MDU – 1st INNINGS: G Webster 5*, M Martin 0, T Sinclair 7*
Bowling: M Olden 1/10, S Head 0/3

Inverloch 7/88 v Town

Inverloch – 1st INNINGS: R Harris 12, J Rowe 11, A Mankhong 0, J Richardson 28, I Seuren 14, C Newman 8*, D Cashin 11, S Hayes 0, M Foote 0*
Bowling: L Hickey 1/12, L Ashton 1/25, V Peiris 0/14, E Smith 1/16, C Bruce 3/14, Y Ratnaike 0/6, N Fixter 0/0

Imperials 2/53 v Koonwarra L/RSL

Imperials – 1st INNINGS: F Materia 6, R McLennan 18*, C Honeysett 12, K McGrath 6*
Bowling: W Cashin 1/27, P Buckley 1/10, B Smith 0/11, L Read 0/4

B GRADE

DIVISION 2

OMK v Korumburra 0/38

Korumburra – 1st INNINGS: P Churchill 24*, Caleb Turton 5*
Bowling: M Whiteside 0/11, J Greenwood 0/11, H Sorensen 0/12, G Lomagno 0/0

Foster 4/82 v Phillip Island

Foster – 1st INNINGS: J Gay 18, J Pilkington 12, B Coates 6, B Busuttill 4, T Garvey 22*, B Gay 14*
Bowling: M Parsons 3/32, T Allan 0/27, J Tran 1/11, S Sirirathnag 0/9

Glen Alvie v Nerrena

Day 1 abandoned.

C GRADE

Koonwarra L/RSL v Kilcunda-Bass 4/68

Kilcunda-Bass – 1st INNINGS: K McLean 3, P Cornelis 25, M Whitby 23*, A McBride 5, A Joseph 0, Joe Reilly 1*
Bowling: S Chadwick 2/26, R Collins 0/24, S Paterson 1/1, M Boswell 1/12

Glen Alvie 2/16 v Town

Glen Alvie – 1st INNINGS: D McGuirk 8, R Luke 8, VK Gopal 0*, Jarvis Hynes 0*
Bowling: C Dowling 1/13, T Strybosch 1/3

Inverloch v MDU 194

No results supplied.

Phillip Island v Nyora

Day 1 abandoned.

Korumburra v Club

Day 1 abandoned.



Koonwarra/Leongatha RSL's Louis Reid sends down a delivery with Will Cashin on standby, ready to catch. Photo: Jodie Arnup.

Phillip Island hits back late in day against OMK

B GRADE, DIVISION 1

WHILE Phillip Island was knocked over for a modest total of 140 after choosing to bat at home, capturing a couple of Outtrim Moyarra Kongwak wickets has the Sharks back in the hunt entering the second day of the match.

While a few Phillip Island batsmen got a start, Tharidu Asurumuni's 30 was the top score.

Five others fell on scores between 14 and 18 and number 10 batsman Andrew Tolley showed defiance with a brisk 15 not out.

Peter Dell starred with the ball for OMK, taking 4/38 off 14 overs, along with his skipper Kris Kerr (3/22) and Ben Maguire (3/30).

It didn't take long for the Sharks to bite back, Jobe Williams bowling OMK opener Brock Furness for just 1.

Opening partner Joel Cuman skipped to 23 at quicker than a run-a-ball but Phillip Island captain Kurt Lane struck with just his second delivery, and the day's final ball, having Cuman LBW on that score.

That has set up an intriguing day two.

Stingy Town makes day tough for Inverloch

INVERLOCH'S batting line-up fought hard at Thompson Reserve but could manage only a touch under two runs an over, finishing day one on 7/88, John Richardson's patient 28 the Stingrays' top score against the tight



Isaac Seuren looks for a big swing. Ns12_4823

Leongatha Town bowling.

Young leg spinner Ethan Smith accounted for Richardson.

Colin Bruce (3/14) was the multiple wicket taker for the Scorpions.

None of the seven Town bowlers used proved easy to score off, Levi Hickey and skipper Luke Ashton joining Smith with a wicket apiece.

Just 45 overs proved possible for the day but Town looks in the box seat for first innings honours when the action resumes.

Honours even between Imperials and Cougars

JUST 18 overs could be played at Leongatha Secondary

College before the turn in the weather from bright sunshine to rain and poor light, Imperials on 2/53 against Koonwarra Leongatha RSL when storms were drawn.

Opener Rowen McLennan established himself at the crease for Imperials, working hard to finish the day unbeaten on 18 off 56 balls.

His opening partner Flynn Materia succumbed for just 6 to a caught and bowled by Cougar Paris Buckley.

Buckley sent down six overs, taking 1/10.

William Cashin was the day's other wicket taker but proved more to the liking of the Imperials batsmen who took him for 27 runs off five overs.

Hopefully the sun will shine on day two.

Limited action between MDU and Korumburra

MEENIYAN Dumbalk United chose to bat first at home and made it to 1/14 off five overs before play was abandoned.

Matt Martin was the Demon sent on his way, failing to score when he was bowled by Mathew Olden.

Olden finished with 1/10 off three overs, Scott Head delivering the other couple of overs bowled and conceding just three runs.

The match now becomes a 40 over a side one day game, with scores starting from scratch.

Local cricket

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It was nearly game off but the A1 match between Korumburra and Phillip Island was fortunately able to continue on Saturday. Ns14_4823

Sharks and Cobras the only premier action

A GRADE, DIVISION 1

THE rain returned around the LDCA on the weekend and claimed its fair share of matches. Up to eleven games across the league's five grades were left abandoned after they each saw less than 15 overs of play.

All these matches will turn into one day affairs and be played out this Saturday as the same fixture.

As for those 13 matches that did go ahead, play will resume this Saturday as normal.

Korumburra hosted the reigning premiers Phillip Island at the Korumburra Recreation Reserve where they managed to play 25 overs.

The Sharks won the toss and chose to bat first and found the conclusion of play one wicket down with Heath Womersley (18* off 85) and Daniel Mock (24* off 30) at the crease.

Lachlan Cleeland (18 off 35) was the one Island wicket to fall, at the hands of Hemal Rathnayake (1/9 from 3) who bowled exceptionally well before rain stopped play.

A GRADE, DIVISION 2

Toner finds time to score at McMahon's

FOSTER travelled to McMahon Reserve to face off with Wonthaggi and the two sides did well to play out just over 42 overs.

The Tigers won the toss and chose to bat first and it looked as though it would be another ton for their superstar skipper Josh Toner (81 off 106) before he was cut short by Sean Roche (1/22 from 3.2).

Mitchell Jones (25* off 90) dug in and stuck around until the conclusion of play and will resume alongside Ben East (0* off 5), with their side 3/121.

Heath Dobbie (1/24 from 17) will again lead the attack.

Smith gets busy for Bass

NERRENA hosted Kilcunda-Bass at the Nerrena Recreation Reserve which saw just over 22 overs of play for the day.

The hosts won the toss and chose to bat first but found themselves 4/72 at play's end, with Caine Salmon (31 off 43) top scoring on the day but didn't see the end of play unbeaten.

Instead, James Kelly (13* off 42) and Tyson Harris (0* off 7) kept their wickets as Todd Smith 93/38 from 11.2) loomed large with the ball.



Foster's Jake Best shows good footwork to crack this delivery through square leg. Ns01_4823



Korumburra's Tom Crocker kept the Island batsmen guessing. Ns16_4823



Phillip Island's Heath Womersley played every delivery on its merits. Ns17_4823

A GRADE	DIVISION 1
Club 1/6 v Inverloch	
Club – 1st INNINGS	
Stewart Beaumont not out	1
Mitch Thomas c: J Butcher b: C Asbury	1
Ben Walsh not out	3
Extras (1nb)	1
Total 1 / 6 (6.2 Overs)	
Bowling: C Asbury 3.2-2-3-1 (1nb), H Butcher 3-1-3-0	
Town v Imperials 1/53	
Imperials – 1st INNINGS	
Damon Ginnane not out	26
Timothy Sauvarin c: A Ratnaïke b: F McLennan.24	
Jack Ginnane not out	0
Extras (1w, 2nb)	3
Total 1 / 53 (14.2 Overs)	
Bowling: PG Rajapakshage 5-1-15-0, DLMP Gallage 4-0-19-0 (1w), F McLennan 3-0-15-1 (2nb), A Ratnaïke 2.2-0-4-0	
OMK v Nerrena 1/20	
Nerrena – 1st INNINGS	
Mitchell Clark c: A Busana b: A Trotto	1
Loc Roberts not out	3
Hayden Funnell not out	13
Extras (2w, 1nb)	3
Total 1 / 20 (8.1 Overs)	
Bowling: M Riaz 0.1-0-0-0, J Lamers 4-0-7-0 (1w, 1nb), A Trotto 4-0-13-1 (1w)	
Korumburra v Phillip Island 1/68	
Phillip Island – 1st INNINGS	
Lachlan Cleeland c: J Whiteside	18
b: H Ratnayake	18
H Womersley not out	24
Daniel Mock not out	8
Extras (5 w, 2lb, 1b)	
Total 1 / 68 (25 Overs)	
Bowling: J Whiteside 10-0-32-0 (1w), L Gooch 5-2-9-0, H Ratnayake 3-0-9-1 (1w), T Crocker 7-0-15-0 (3w)	
A GRADE	DIVISION 2
Club v Foster 3/121	
Foster – 1st INNINGS	
Mitchell Allott c: ? b: S Williams	4
Josh Toner c: ? b: S Roche	81
Jake Best lbw: H Dobbie	9
Mitchell Jones not out	25
Ben East not out	0
Extras (1nb, 1lb)	2
Total 3 / 121 (42.2 Overs)	
Bowling: S Williams 4-0-8-1, J Williamson 12-1-50-0, H Dobbie 17-6-24-1, L Anstey 6-1-16-0 (1nb), S Roche 3.2-1-22-1	
Nerrena 4/72 v Kilcunda-Bass	
Nerrena – 1st INNINGS	
D Trotman lbw: Todd Smith	5
Caine Salmon c: A Conron b: C Peckett	31
James Kelly not out	13
Mitchell Croatto lbw: T Smith	0
Joel Renden c: R Duff b: T Smith	11
Tyson Harris not out	0
Extras (6w, 4nb, 2b)	12
Total 4 / 72 (22.2 Overs)	
Bowling: T Smith 11.2-1-38-3 (5w, 1nb), H Berry 6-0-22-0 (1w, 3nb), C Peckett 5-0-10-1	
Nyora v MDU	
Day 1 abandoned.	
Koonwarra L/RSL v Glen Alvie	
Day 1 abandoned.	



Inverloch-Kongwak tall forward Archer Reid is on his way after being taken at pick 30 by the West Coast Eagles in last week's AFL National Draft.

Young Eagle flies west

IT'S been a whirlwind week for young Inverloch-Kongwak footballer Archer Reid.

Taken at pick 30 in the AFL National Draft by the West Coast Eagles last Tuesday, he met with the Eagles' recruiting team on Wednesday, including Player Wellbeing and Development Manager, Drew Petrie, a former assistant coach at the Eagles and 332-game legend at North Melbourne and West Coast, and was winging his way to Perth on Friday.

Temperatures last Friday: Inverloch 19°C, Perth 39°C.

But despite being 3500km away, Western Australia isn't altogether an alien location for the Gippsland Power graduate, one of five recruited in a stellar 2023 draft for the Power.

Archer's father Craig, a former Leongatha premiership player, also played for Perth in the WAFL in the early 1990s, and then spent time in the fabled gold mining town of Kalgoorlie, so Archer didn't have to go far for a local reference point.

Underscoring its talented crop in 2023, Gippsland Power produced five draftees this year including Foster's Zane Duursma (pick 4 North Melbourne), Leongatha's Wil Dawson (pick 22 North Melbourne), IK's Archer Reid (pick 30 WCE), Morwell's Tew Jiath (pick 37 Collingwood) and Bunyip/Warragul tall Lachlan Smith (pick 47 Western Bulldogs).

"Just looking forward to getting over there," said Archer last week, while also congratulating his teammates for getting

the opportunity among just 64 named from around Australia.

"I met with the recruiting team on Wednesday. Simmo had already gone back to Perth for training, but I've met him previously," said Archer.

"I leave on Friday, and I'll be there for three weeks before we get a break and I'll come home for Christmas," he said.

"I go to Melbourne on the 10th of January for the AFL induction and then back to Perth the following Monday to continue the preseason."

A car drives past on Ramsey Boulevard as we're heading to the beach for a photo and former Leongatha premiership coach, Colin Boyd, himself a 44-game AFL player with Essendon and Footscray, calls out his congratulations.

Others also offered their best wishes.

It's been like that the whole week, according to Archer, with messages on the phone and people up the street stopping for a chat.

It's hardly surprising the hometown boy would be well-recognised, not just for his 203cm height, but also for his role in Inverloch-Kongwak's 2023 premiership win over Phillip Island where he helped set them alight with an early goal.

"Yeah, it was awesome," said Reid about being able to apply an exclamation mark to his local football journey with a senior premiership after first lining up for the IK Sea Eagles in the Under 11s back in 2015.



Gippsland Power players Archer Reid and Zane Duursma were both drafted to AFL clubs last week together with former teammates Wil Dawson, Tew Jiath and Lachlan Smith in a stellar year for the Power.

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